

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FIRE
DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF
LOS
ANGELES, CALIFORNIA; FOR THE
YEAR ENDING, JUNE 30TH, 1920**

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VARIOUS

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
FIRE DEPARTMENT
OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



FOR THE YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30th, 1920

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Meredith P. Snyder, Chairman

A. C. Denman, Jr.

Walter C. Brinkop

C. E. McKeag, Secretary

R. J. Scott, Chief Engineer

"A" Division

Assistant Chief Engineer - - - - -	L. H. Davis
Battalion Chief, District No. 1 - - - -	I. B. Truesdel
Battalion Chief, District No. 2 - - - -	Chas. B. Casey
Battalion Chief, District No. 3, Acting -	C. J. Howley
Battalion Chief, District No. 4, Acting -	B. M. Blake
Battalion Chief, District No. 5 - - - -	S. H. Dodd
Battalion Chief, Harbor District, Acting -	J. C. Baly
Chief's Chauffeur - - - - -	Walter J. Shreves

"B" Division

Assistant Chief Engineer - - - - -	F. C. McDowell
Battalion Chief, District No. 1 - - - -	J. G. Johnson
Battalion Chief, District No. 2 - - - -	A. H. Moore
Battalion Chief, District No. 3 - - - -	L. B. Andrews
Battalion Chief, District No. 4 - - - -	F. O. Edwards
Battalion Chief, District No. 5 - - - -	John H. Atwell
Chief's Chauffeur - - - - -	R. W. Roberts

Headquarters

Secretary of Department - - - - -	H. M. Keegan
Executive Clerk - - - - -	Clarence O. Hively
Stenographer - - - - -	M. M. Barnes
Clerk - - - - -	L. Knoll
Machinist - - - - -	E. G. Henry
Captain - - - - -	Wm. H. Bryden
Lieutenant Drill Tower - - - - -	S. H. Calderwood
Fireman - - - - -	A. E. Valencia

Fireman Telephone Operator - - - - - A. T. Moriarty
Fireman Telephone Operator - - - - - Wm. Fort
Fireman Telephone Operator - - - - - S. V. Owen
Fireman Telephone Operator - - - - - John P. Home

Fire Prevention Bureau

Assistant Chief Engineer - - - - - John G. Todd
Captain - - - - - E. H. Enos
Lieutenant - - - - - V. E. Pierret
Clerk - - - - - G. W. Patterson

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1920

To The Honorable, The Mayor, The City Council, The Board of Fire Commissioners of The City of Los Angeles, California.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith, in compliance with the requirements of the City Charter, the Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Los Angeles Fire Department.

A record of the Department will be found in this report, showing the number of alarms to which response has been made, with the losses resulting therefrom; also the number and kind of improvements made during the year 1919-1920, together with recommendations for improvements that are necessary at the present time in order that proper fire protection may be given the residents and owners of the City.

During the fiscal year 1919-1920, the Los Angeles Fire Department has responded to 3334 alarms, 3035 of which were actual fires, being 248 more than for the preceding fiscal year, the property loss being \$1,468,792.00.

During the same period the companies at San Pedro, Wilmington and Terminal Island responded to 171 alarms, 162 of which were actual fires, with a property loss of \$131,925.00.

During the year one American LaFrance Triple Combination Pumping Engine, Chemical and Hose Wagon was placed on duty in East San Pedro.

10,000 feet of 2½" cotton-jacketed, rubber-lined fire hose and 4000 feet of 1½" cotton-jacketed rubber-lined fire hose and a small amount of minor equipment were purchased and placed in service.

The following apparatus was purchased and placed in service during the year:

Seven American LaFrance Auto Triple Combination Pumping Engine, Chemical and Hose Wagons.

One White Auto Chassis.

One Dodge Roadster.

One Cadillac five-passenger touring car.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City has increased rapidly in population, and consequently building activities have been stimulated to a great extent, and it necessarily follows that the fire hazard has grown proportionately. In order that adequate fire protection may be afforded, it is imperative that consideration be given the following recommendations:

That a one story bungalow type engine house be constructed on the lot owned by the City at Sawtelle.

That double, brick engine houses be constructed on lots owned by the City at the following locations:

10th and Gaffey Sts., San Pedro.

Engine Co. No. 1, 2507 Pasadena Ave.

Engine Co. No. 2, 2127 East First St.

That lots be purchased and one story bungalow engine houses be constructed on the same at the following locations: Bairdstown, Gardena, Harbor City, Palms, 10th and Norton Sts., Cypress and Pepper Sts., West Hollywood at Gardner Junction, and Owensmouth.

That ten motor driven triple combination pumping engines, chemical and hose wagons be purchased and installed with the necessary crews and equipment at the following locations: Sawtelle; 10th and Gaffey Sts., San Pedro; Bairdstown; Gardena; Harbor City; Palms; 10th and Norton Sts.; Cypress and Pepper Sts.; West Hollywood at Gardner Junction, and Owensmouth.

That ten motor driven triple combination pumping engines, chemical and hose wagons be purchased and installed to replace apparatus now in service at following houses:

Hose Co. No. 1, 113 South Griffin Ave.

Hose Co. No. 4, 129 South Loma Drive.

Engine Co. No. 2, 2127 East First St.
Engine Co. No. 18, 2616 Hobart Blvd.
Engine Co. No. 20, 2144 Sunset Blvd.
Engine Co. No. 21, 1187 East 52nd St.
Engine Co. No. 25, 2927 Stephenson Ave.
Engine Co. No. 29, 158 South Western Ave.
Engine Co. N. 32, 2930 West First St.
Engine Co. No. 35, 1314 North Vermont Ave.

That two 75-foot, motor-driven aerial trucks be purchased and installed at Truck Co. No. 1, 1615 South Hill St., and Truck Co. No. 4, 1819 West 7th St.

That six motor-driven city service trucks be purchased and installed with necessary crews and equipment at the following locations:

Engine Co. No. 1, 1901 Pasadena Ave.
Engine Co. No. 2, 2127 East First St.
Engine Co. No. 22, 4352 So. Main St.
Engine Co. No. 29, 158 So. Western Ave.
Engine Co. No. 30, 1401 Central Ave.
San Pedro, 10th and Gaffey Sts.

That one three-ton supply truck be purchased for the Store Room at 227 Aliso St.

That one chassis be purchased for a city service truck.

That one two-ton motor-driven chassis for combination chemical and hose wagon be purchased.

That four Ford roadsters be purchased for the Fire Prevention Bureau and the Store Room.

That eight roadsters costing not less than \$1800.00 each be purchased for use as follows: Five for Battalion Chiefs, one for the Assistant Chiefs, one for the Fire Prevention Bureau, and one for the Store Room.

That six village hand-drawn hose carts and two hand-drawn chemical tanks be purchased for use of volunteer companies.

That three new motors be purchased to replace worn out motors in present apparatus.

That six new electric starters be purchased to replace worn out electric starters now in use.

That 30,000 feet of 2½" and 5,000 feet of 1½" cotton-jacketed rubber-lined fire hose be purchased to equip new companies and to replace old worn out hose.

I would also recommend that, where necessary to provide adequate fire protection, the five water corporations be required to enlarge their mains, so as to permit more fire hydrants being placed in the territory served by them, as at the present time there is a large area of the City in which fire hydrants cannot be placed on account of the small size of the mains.

The growth of the City is phenomenal, the present area being approximately 385 square miles, and it has become almost impossible for the Fire Department to cover this large amount of territory without additional apparatus, all of which should be motor-driven, not only on account of the extent of the territory to be protected, over which buidings are widely scattered, but also from an economical standpoint, and as a matter of efficiency, and I also strongly urge that all horse-drawn apparatus be motorized as rapidly as possible.

I again urgently recommend the installation of a modern fire alarm to be commenced without delay. The need of such a modern system is becoming more obvious daily and the Fire Department cannot be expected to properly respond to alarms of fire unless a proper and efficient fire alarm system is provided whereby they may receive the alarm at once and with certainty.

The public should not be required to depend upon telephone service to transmit an alarm of fire to the Fire Department. An ample number of street boxes should be provided, and at least 1000 additional fire alarm boxes should be installed throughout the City to give the required protection to the public.

I also recommend that a street fire alarm box be placed at every schoolhouse in the City and that an auxiliary box, connected with said street box, be installed in the office of the Superintendent of each school; also, that a street box be placed in front of every theater, to further protect the patrons of such places of amusement.