

Mr. F. O. Stewart.



SCOTTISH HOME DEPARTMENT

Report of His Majesty's Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland

For the period ended 31st December,
1949

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Scotland to Parliament
by Command of His Majesty*

EDINBURGH

HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE: 1950

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Cmd. 8034

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Report

of

ANGUS D. WILSON, Esq.,
His Majesty's Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland,
for the period 16th May, 1948, to 31st December, 1949.

SCOTTISH HOME DEPARTMENT,
ST ANDREW'S HOUSE,

EDINBURGH, 1
August, 1950.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HECTOR McNEIL, M.P.,
His Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland.

SIR,

1. I have the honour to submit my first report on the Fire Services in Scotland. The period covered by the report is from 16th May, 1948, to 31st December, 1949. 16th May, 1948, was the date on which, under the Fire Services Act, 1947, responsibility for the administration of the Fire Services in Scotland reverted to local authorities, subject to a measure of control by the Secretary of State in the interests of co-ordination. No report was submitted for the short period from that date until the end of 1948. In future a report will be submitted in respect of each calendar year to record the work and progress of the fire brigades.

2. Section 24 of the Act of 1947 places upon me the duty of obtaining information as to the manner in which fire authorities perform their functions under the Act. During that part of 1948 covered by this report, which was a settling down period, no formal inspection of fire brigades was carried out. Since then, however, all Scottish fire brigades have been inspected.

Number of Fire Brigades

3. Prior to 1941 there were in Scotland almost 200 fire brigades, maintained by county and town councils. In that year the Fire Service was nationalised to meet wartime requirements. As from 16th May, 1948, the areas of the former fire authorities were grouped to form units sufficiently large to be economically administered and efficiently organised, and there are now eleven brigades. Glasgow maintains a separate brigade administered by the Town Council. Each of the remaining ten brigades is administered, in terms of schemes approved made by the Secretary of State under section 36 of the Act, by a joint committee representative of the counties and large burghs within the area.

4. The following is a list of the ten joint fire areas as they are constituted under the Fourth Schedule to the Act :—

COMBINED AREAS.

Lanark

Central

Western

COUNTIES AND BURGHS COMPRISED

The county of Lanark and the burghs of Airdrie, Coatbridge, Hamilton, Motherwell and Wishaw, and Rutherglen.

The counties of Clackmannan, Dunbarton and Stirling, and the burghs of Clydebank, Dumbarton, Falkirk and Stirling.

The counties of Argyll, Bute and Renfrew, and the burghs of Greenock, Paisley and Port Glasgow.

COMBINED AREAS
South Western

COUNTIES AND BURGHS COMPRISED
The counties of Ayr, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright and Wigtown, and the burghs of Ayr, Dumfries and Kilmarnock.

South Eastern

The counties of Berwick, East Lothian, Midlothian, Peebles, Roxburgh, Selkirk and West Lothian, and the county of the city of Edinburgh.

Fife

The county of Fife and the burghs of Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy.

Perth and Kinross

The joint county of Perth and Kinross, and the burgh of Perth.

Angus

The county of Angus, the burgh of Arbroath and the county of the city of Dundee.

North Eastern

The counties of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine, and the joint county of Moray and Nairn, and the county of the city of Aberdeen.

Northern

The counties of Caithness, Inverness, Orkney, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland and Zetland, and the burgh of Inverness.

5. Inevitably with such an extensive re-organisation there must be some give and take, and the former fire authorities co-operated well during the period under review to give the administration schemes a successful start.

Mutual Assistance and Fire Brigade Area Boundary Arrangements

6. The Fire Services Act recognises that administrative boundaries should not be allowed to interfere with attendance at fires, and that localities close to fire brigade area boundaries should be served and reinforced by the nearest suitable units, irrespective of the brigades to which they are attached.

Section 2 of the Act sets out the conditions under which fire brigades are to reinforce each other, and enables mutual assistance arrangements to be made. It does not provide for payment to be made in respect of any such arrangements, but consumable stores and materials can be replaced if necessary.

Section 12 of the Act deals with arrangements between brigades to provide for attendances at fires occurring close to brigade boundaries. Under this section all or part of the functions of one brigade may be undertaken by another in respect of all or any part of its area. In this case payment for services undertaken may be included in schemes entered into between brigades.

7. Fire authorities have readily accepted the responsibilities placed upon them by these sections. All brigades have made arrangements with their neighbours to give assistance where required, and formal schemes have been, or are being, drawn up under sections 2 and 12 of the Act. It is very satisfactory to be able to record that, notwithstanding the provision for payment under section 12, all fire authorities in Scotland in preparing their schemes have waived any question of repayment.

Establishment of Fire Brigades

8. On 16th May, 1948, of an authorised establishment of 1,831 whole-time firemen, 2,799 retained and volunteer firemen and 56 whole-time firewomen, there were available from the National Fire Service, or from outside recruiting, 1,786 whole-time men, 2,375 part-time men and 48 whole-time women. Included among the whole-time men were 136 temporary firemen from the National Fire Service, without the necessary qualifications for permanent employment.

9. Since the appointed day recruiting has increased the strengths of brigades and some of the temporary firemen have been released, so that at the end of 1949 only 57 of them remained in the Service. At the same time adjustments have been made in the authorised establishment of brigades as experience has been gained. The position as at 31st December, 1949, is given in Table 1 at the end of this report. The Table shows a deficit of 94 whole-time operational men and 537 part-time men. Table 2 shows the changes in actual whole-time strengths during the period and indicates the reasons for losses and gains of men in the brigades.

10. It should perhaps be explained that the establishments fixed for brigades have been determined in accordance with the number of fire appliances required. The normal crew of an appliance is five men, including the officer-in-charge, and to keep an appliance suitably manned twenty-one whole-time men are needed under the existing 60-hour week tours of duty. The number of appliances in turn depends on the extent of the fire risk. There are six categories of risk and for each a specified attendance of fire appliances is needed. For example, Category A risk, which exists in parts of Glasgow, calls for the initial attendance of four pumps (together with other appliances), whereas Category F risks, such as are presented by remote rural areas, can be satisfactorily covered by one pump.

Recruitment

11. Recruitment of whole-time men into the Service has been generally below expectations: during the period under review only 424 were recruited. Perhaps the foremost reason for this is competition from other services and from industry: the greatest difficulty has been found in the industrial areas. Because of the difficulty of recruiting in these areas, brigades there have tended to draw men from other parts of the country, and this has brought its own problem. Men are not inclined to serve away from their homes indefinitely, and are discouraged by the difficulty of finding homes near their new places of employment. This may partly account for the heavy wastage in the Service from among the newer members: 275 men with less than 10 years' service have resigned during the period to take up other employment, and of this number 77 had less than one year's service.

12. The type of recruit entering the Service has been satisfactory. Standards of physical fitness and educational attainments, and an age limit for recruits, were accepted by brigades—pending the making of regulations under section 18 of the Act—on the recommendation of the Scottish Fire Brigades' Advisory Council. The application of these standards, together with very careful selection, has been responsible for maintaining a satisfactory type of entrant. It may be noted that in order to obtain the 424 recruits Firemasters have had to consider 1,586 applications.

13. The recruitment of part-time firemen proceeded steadily, if somewhat slowly, but wastage kept pace with the intake into the brigades. The result is that the part-time establishment was, at the end of 1949, 537 men (i.e. about 18 per cent.) under strength. This was a serious deficiency, because part-time firemen provide fire cover for a large part of rural Scotland where reinforcing units are not always readily available.

14. The part-time Service is, in general, attracting a good type of recruit who shows real keenness and enthusiasm in his duties. In many areas the Service has reason to be grateful to the employers of these men for the facilities they afford to them and for the interest they take generally in the local retained unit: one or two part-time units are indeed drawn entirely from employees at a single works. In others, however, deficiencies could be more easily made good if employers were more ready to encourage their workmen to join the Service and also to release them when necessary to attend fires during working hours.

Training

15. An adequate training organisation is, of course, essential to the Fire Service. Its basis must be the day-to-day training given in the brigades. In addition, however, uniform standards must be set for the country as a whole, and facilities must be provided for training which is beyond the scope of local possibilities. In recognition of these needs the Scottish Fire Brigades' Advisory Council recommended (a) the establishment of a central training school in Scotland for recruits and junior ranks ; and (b) that Scotland should be associated with a central training institution for higher ranks serving the whole of Great Britain.

IN THE BRIGADES

16. Here the training of whole-time firemen is undertaken almost continuously at the stations. It has proceeded steadily and progressively in spite of difficulties arising from inadequate facilities and the need for time to be spent on maintenance work.

17. Retained (i.e. part-time) firemen are required to undertake drills and instruction for two hours each week, but at many stations they have put in considerably more than the stipulated training. They have generally made marked progress, more particularly at stations which are regularly visited by whole-time instructors. Much credit is due to these retained men for their keenness and enthusiasm in the performance of duties which are often arduous and exacting.

SCOTTISH FIRE SERVICE TRAINING SCHOOL

18. The School is temporarily housed in premises at Paisley, until suitable permanent accommodation can be obtained. It is administered by the Department, and the Commandant, formerly a fire officer, is a permanent civil servant. The Deputy Commandant and the four instructors are members of fire brigades seconded to the School for periods of one or two years.

19. The courses at the School are residential. Until quite recently it has been necessary to concentrate almost entirely on training recruits because of the large influx into the brigades. The recruits' primary courses lasted at first for six weeks, but have now been lengthened to eight weeks. Details of the courses to the end of 1949 are as follows :—

Course	Length of Course	Numbers of Courses	Numbers who Attended
Recruits	6 weeks	6	202
Recruits	8 weeks	3	103
Instructors	3 weeks	1	30

As circumstances allow, the activities of the School will be extended : courses will be added for leading firemen, section leaders, and retained men (for a week at holiday periods), together with refresher courses for recruits and firemen, and intensive fire prevention courses.

20. At the end of each course an examination is conducted by three senior officers from the local authority brigades. This arrangement ensures that the examinations are in line with the practical requirements of the Service and at the same time serves to keep the staff of the School in touch with developments in the brigades.

FIRE SERVICE COLLEGE

21. The College, for the training of higher ranks, is administered by a Board representing local authorities and the fire services in England, Wales and Scotland. It is at present situated at Saltdean, near Brighton. Until the end of 1949, 29 Scottish students attended the College: 10 took fire prevention courses (13 weeks), 3 a fire prevention refresher course (2 weeks), 15 a company officers' course (4 weeks), and 1 a retained officers' course (1 week).

ADDITIONAL COURSES

22. During September, 1949, an interesting and very useful series of short courses in the operation and maintenance of turntable ladder appliances was conducted, at stations convenient for selected members of brigades in Scotland, by a technical officer attached to the staff of H. M. Chief Inspector of Fire Services, Home Office.

Controls and Communications

23. All the brigades have established brigade control rooms, to which fire calls received at stations are notified. This ensures adequate attendances of fire appliances, and expeditious reinforcement should this be required. In the main the control rooms are staffed by uniformed members of brigades, either firewomen or operational firemen, as recommended by the Scottish Fire Brigades' Advisory Council, but some authorities still prefer to employ persons not enrolled in the brigade. Control is operated on a system so designed that it can be undertaken by mobilising officers, which leaves Firemasters and other senior officers free to attend fires on the ground. The work of a mobilising officer, however, is important and responsible, particularly in the larger towns, and in my view mobilising officers of higher rank should be employed at some of these controls.

24. The control rooms are linked with subordinate controls or station watchrooms, either by private wire telephones (in the larger towns) or by exchange telephone lines. Very high frequency wireless is also in use in the four cities for emergency communication either with subordinate controls or with vehicles, and further wireless schemes are being developed in other areas.

25. The early difficulties in the provision of call-bell systems in the houses of retained firemen, to summon them by night, and of sirens for calling them out by day, have been largely overcome, but unfortunately there are still one or two towns served by retained units where sirens have not been installed. The difficulty of finding persons willing and able to receive fire calls still remains in some places served by part-time units. This essential task has fallen mostly to those in charge of local police stations and post offices: chief constables and the managers of post office districts, together with their staffs, have been very helpful in this respect.

Appliances

26. It is, of course, essential that the fleets of fire appliances maintained by the brigades should be of the highest possible standard. Specifications for the different types of appliances are accordingly prepared by a technical committee, and, if endorsed by the Scottish Fire Brigades' Advisory Council, are recommended by the Scottish Home Department to fire authorities. In this way all appliances should ultimately reach the same high standard of design.

27. In the meantime, however, many of the appliances in use by brigades are obsolescent. This is a result of the war-time gap in the production of fire appliances of peace-time standard. Unfortunately, because of the general economic position, only a few of the deficiencies could be made good during the period to which this report relates: until the end of 1949 Scottish fire brigades had received only 3 new major appliances—2 turntable ladders and 1 pump-escape. To meet the situation the brigades have exercised considerable

ingenuity in converting emergency vehicles, and in maintaining the efficiency of the existing fire appliances. As a result, although the position is far from satisfactory, the appliances in commission are sufficient to provide reasonable fire cover.

28. With one exception, the brigades have appointed transport officers. Repairs and maintenance are either undertaken in a workshop established by the brigade, or by local garages, or—most often—by a combination of the two methods. The brigade workshops are staffed either by uniformed firemen or by civilians, and have succeeded in achieving a reasonable speed of repair.

29. On occasions the Home Office Fire Service Department's workshops at Wakefield have undertaken specialist work on the repair and conversion of appliances for the Scottish brigades, and this assistance has been appreciated.

Premises

30. The lack of suitable fire stations is a serious difficulty which fire authorities may have to face for some years. At the outbreak of war many stations were due for replacement, but during the war little permanent building was possible and all that could be done was to take emergency measures by requisitioning, erection of temporary structures, and adaptation of existing stations. The increase in establishments over pre-war strengths, and the introduction of the 60-hour duty system, have added to the accommodation difficulties. Fire authorities have had to face not only the replacements postponed by the war but also the provision of adequate accommodation to meet modern fire service requirements.

31. Authorities are alive to this problem, but progress in solving it has been delayed by the restrictions necessarily imposed in the national interest on capital expenditure. To the end of 1949 permission was given in principle for the erection of some 11 new fire stations throughout Scotland, and further building will be authorised as the capital investment programme permits. Unless, however, circumstances change radically, the programme of urgent building will not be completed for several years. In the meantime the brigades must work under difficulties which carry a constant threat to their efficiency.

32. The introduction of a shift system has considerably reduced the problem of providing residential accommodation for firemen. There is still some difficulty in housing officers and those firemen employed on continuous duty, but the position is gradually improving.

Hydrants and Water Mains

33. The Fire Services Act, 1947, and the Water (Scotland) Act, 1946, together simplified for fire authorities the arrangements for providing and installing hydrants and for fixing hydrant distinguishing marks. Co-operation between the fire brigades and the local water authorities has generally been very satisfactory, although not all fire authorities have taken advantage of the services required to be provided by the local water authorities under these Acts. The brigades are doing their best to improve water supplies for fire-fighting when new mains are installed or old mains replaced; and, in particular, the rural districts are benefiting by the installation of hydrants on water pipes laid as a result of various rural water schemes.

34. The British Standards Institution has adopted specifications for hydrants and hydrant outlets which have been agreed as standard for the British Fire Service. New hydrants and replacements are provided to these specifications, but it will take many years completely to standardise all hydrants in Scotland. Little work on the conversion of hydrant outlets has so far been undertaken in Scotland, and this is a cause for anxiety since there are at least seven different types of outlet in use by brigades.

Fire Prevention

35. This extremely important activity of the Fire Service is not a new development: the practice of fire prevention has always been an essential part of fire brigade work. The Fire Services Act, 1947, however, makes it obligatory for fire authorities to give, when requested, fire prevention advice, and increasing advantage is being taken of the resultant facilities as the knowledge of their existence spreads. Architects are being encouraged to approach the brigades for advice when planning new buildings or extensive adaptations, and where this has been done beneficial results have been achieved. Local publicity has been undertaken by the fire brigades in the interests of fire prevention in the home, by means of lectures and talks to schools and voluntary bodies, and also of displays at exhibitions. Fire prevention officers are also called upon by local authorities and others to advise on precautions and means of escape in places of public entertainment, factories, cinemas, hospitals, schools, and other buildings where numbers of people assemble. Table 3 at the end of this report gives an indication of the work undertaken by the fire prevention departments of brigades during the period under review; but the information it contains is by no means exhaustive since it includes only those types of activity which can be readily tabulated.

36. Fire prevention work calls for specialised training, and the conduct of fire prevention courses was the main activity of the Fire Service College during the period covered by this report. The specialist officers trained in this way have mostly been absorbed into fire prevention work in their own or other brigades. The number of officers employed on fire prevention in brigades is shown in the following table:—

Rank	FIRE BRIGADE AREAS											Totals
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanarkshire	North Eastern	Northern*	Perth and Kinross	South Eastern	South Western	Western	
Senior Company Officer ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Company Officer ...	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	9
Section Leader ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	5
Totals ...	1	1	1	2	3	2	—	1	1	1	2	15

* NOTE.—The Northern Fire Area Joint Committee have since appointed a fire prevention officer.

As the work of the fire prevention departments is constantly increasing, both in scope and volume, additions to the staffs are required, and several fire authorities were at the end of the period considering new appointments.

Fires, and Other Occurrences

37. Table 4 at the end of this report sets out a summary of fires that have occurred during the period under review. None of these fires has been of such a nature as to tax a brigade to the limit of its resources, and at no time have large fires occurred either simultaneously or at such frequent intervals as to overburden a brigade. Brigades on the whole have handled fires well, and during

the period there was no instance of loss of life or increased fire damage due to indifferent fire-ground work, notwithstanding the incidence of several very difficult fires. Fire brigade appliances and equipment have generally stood up to the demands made on them at fires.

38. It will be seen from the Table that the incidence of chimney fires is very high. These, and heath and heather fires, form too great a proportion of the work of brigades. Notwithstanding the advice repeatedly given by firemen everywhere I should like once again to stress the importance of not burdening brigades with these unnecessary fires.

39. Loss of life due to fire during the period was appallingly high, as a result mainly of the tragic loss of 13 lives at a fire at the premises of Graftons, Ltd., Argyle Street, Glasgow, on the 4th May, 1949. 76 lives were lost as a direct consequence of fire, and, of these, 50 persons died, or received the injury which subsequently resulted in death, before the arrival of fire brigade appliances : in some cases the fire brigade was not called at all. 98 persons were rescued during the period.

40. A feature of the post-war operations of the Fire Service is the salvage work undertaken during and after fires. The brigades are provided with salvage equipment and, wherever fire-fighting operations allow, precautions are taken during fires to minimise water and other types of damage to the contents of buildings. After fires are extinguished, particularly those in dwellings, a great deal of attention is paid to clearing up so that as little inconvenience as possible is caused to the occupants.

41. Any reference to fires in this report would be incomplete without reference also to the valuable work which part-time firemen are doing. Most of the fires which occur in rural areas and the smaller towns are attended in the first instance, and very often wholly, by part-time units. Shortage of water and difficulty of access make many of these fires difficult to handle and fire-fighting hard and protracted. Part-time firemen accept these hardships with fortitude and are earning for their work a great deal of respect from the unfortunate victims of the fires.

42. The Fire Service is called upon from time to time to undertake other than fire-fighting work, where their equipment or training is appropriate to the rendering of such special services. Special services carried out by fire brigades vary from the pumping of water into reservoirs during droughts to the rescue of cats from trees. During the period under review 1,211 special services have been undertaken. The practice of calling on fire brigades to undertake special services is tending to increase and carries dangers because of the reduction of fire cover which it so often entails.

Discipline

43. Discipline on the whole was well maintained in the brigades over the period under review, and morale in the Service was good. Nowhere was the discipline code employed excessively, technical offences being responsible for the majority of charges brought. During the period 109 charges for offences under the Discipline Code were found proved, with the following results :—

Punishment Awarded	Number of Cases
Dismissal from Service	1
Being required to resign as an alternative to dismissal	—
Reduction in rank	—
Stoppage of pay	49
Reprimand	32
Caution	27

Health

44. The health of the Service has been satisfactory during the period under review, and no deaths amongst serving personnel have occurred at fires or from any other cause. Injuries while on duty have occurred to 1,280 members of brigades, and, of these, 156 men were injured to the extent that they were off duty for one or more days. Sickness has been responsible for the loss of 25,051 on-duty days for the whole Service over the period.

Auxiliary Fire Service

45. The Civil Defence (Fire Services) (Scotland) Regulations, 1949, made under Section 2 of the Civil Defence Act, 1948, provide for the enrolment, for civil defence purposes, of auxiliary members of brigades. Recruiting for this purpose, in company with that for other civil defence services, commenced on 15th November, 1949. The recruiting position as at 31st December, 1949, was as follows :—

	Men.	Women.
Number of applicants	238	72
Number accepted for service	153	52
Number of applications received but not dealt with at 31st December, 1949	59	22

Conduct of Inspections of Fire Brigades

46. Inspections of fire brigades during the period covered mainly organisation and administration of brigades, control arrangements, and efficiency of personnel, appliances and plant. Much of the leeway occasioned by the war years has yet to be made up and, with the present restrictions on expenditure, progress is naturally slow. It was necessary, therefore, to bear these circumstances in mind when assessing the degree of efficiency of brigades. Generally brigades have made such progress as can be expected under the circumstances and are efficiently carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

47. A feature of the inspections was the enthusiasm shown in them by the firemen in brigades, as well as by the Firemasters and officers. On all occasions, regardless of the inconvenience sometimes caused, fire appliance crews responded with great keenness to all demands made on them, the part-time crews no less than the whole-time crews. Senior officers were always present during inspections, which was a courtesy much appreciated, particularly since staff officers are not a feature of Scottish brigades and in consequence Firemasters and other senior officers have little time to spare from their normal duties.

Appreciation

48. Together with the Assistant Inspector I have received at all times the greatest consideration from members of fire authorities and from the Firemasters, officers and men and women of the fire brigades. Every assistance has been given us during inspections and other visits to fire brigades, sometimes at considerable inconvenience to those concerned. Accordingly I should like to record our appreciation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. WILSON,

H. M. Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland.

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH

31st December,

TABLE 1

BRIGADE	MEN : OPERATIONAL																			
	Whole-time											Retained					Volun- teer			
	Authorised Establishment											Authorised Establishment					Authorised Establishment			
	Firemasters	Assistant Firemasters	Deputy Firemasters*	Divisional Officers	Column Officers	Senior Company Officers	Company Officers	Section Leaders	Leading Firemen	Firemen	Total	Actual Strength	Company Officers	Section Leaders	Leading Firemen	Firemen	Total	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength
Angus ...	1	—	D.O.	1	1	—	6	10	10	84	113	109	—	5	12	108	125	94	—	1
Central ...	1	—	D.O.	1	—	1	6	8	13	75	105	102	—	3	21	181	205	158	24	23
Fife ...	1	—	D.O.	1	—	—	6	7	10	47	72	68	—	2	21	157	180	139	—	—
Glasgow ...	1	1	—	2	4	3	26	41	56	469	603	563	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lanarkshire ...	1	—	D.O.	1	1	1	8	12	19	111	154	148	—	—	11	99	110	93	124	22
North Eastern ...	1	—	D.O.	1	1	—	5	10	8	73	99	99	—	11	44	385	440	378	35	32
Northern ...	1	—	S.C.O.	—	—	1	2	3	2	16	25	22	—	6	24	125	155	147	187	196
Perth and Kinross	1	—	S.C.O.	—	—	1	1	3	4	24	34	31	—	2	17	143	162	143	—	10
South Eastern ...	1	1	—	—	2	1	16	25	26	212	284	278	1	6	33	274	314	247	—	—
South Western ...	1	—	D.O.	1	1	1	5	9	12	80	110	98	1	4	44	373	422	336	50	14
Western ...	1	—	D.O.	1	1	—	10	17	16	130	176	163	2	7	25	205	239	200	141	143
Totals ...	11	2		9	11	9	91	145	176	1321	1775	1681	4	46	252	2050	2352	1935	561	441

* This column shows the rank of Deputy Firemasters (where not otherwise shown).

D.O.—Divisional Officer.

S.C.O.—Senior Company Officer.

OF FIRE BRIGADES

1949

CONTROL AND WATCHROOM STAFF												ADMINISTRATIVE—UNIFORMED OR CIVILIANS (Not included elsewhere in this Table)												Gross Total	Gross Total
Men						Women						Office and Stores		Work-shops		Other Employ-ees		Men	Women	Men	Women	Gross Total	Gross Total		
Authorised Establishment					Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment					Total Authorised Establishment	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Total Authorised Establishment	Total Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Establishment		
Company Officers	Section Leaders	Leading Firemen	Firemen or Watch-room Attendants	Total		Senior Leading Firewomen	Leading Firewomen	Firewomen	Total	Actual Strength															
—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	8	8	8	2	3	1½	—	—	4	3	7	2	7	256	221		
—	—	—	6	6	6	—	—	3	3	3	9	1	4	1½	—	—	—	2	4	2	4	349	298		
—	—	—	—	—	3†	—	—	8	8	3†	8	2	3	1½	—	—	2	3	5	1	4	268	218		
—	—	—	39	39	35	—	—	17†	17†	17†	56	5	10	1½	—	7	—	13	10	13	10	682	638		
—	—	—	3	3	3	1	—	7	8	8	11	3	6	1½	—	4	—	8	6	8	6	413	288		
—	—	—	3	3	3	—	1	7	8	8	11	2	4	2½	—	—	1	4	5	2	5	594	527		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	371	369		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1½	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	200	187		
—	—	—	9	9	9	—	4	4	8	8	17	2	9	8	—	3	—	13	9	13	8	637	563		
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	4	4	3	4	2½	—	—	—	5	4	5	5	595	462		
—	—	—	7	7	7	—	3	6	9	9	16	1	7	6½	—	—	3	7	10	7	10	589	539		
—	—	—	67	67	66	3	9	63	75	70	142	21	55	24	—	14	10	59	65	54	63	4954	4310		

† Non-uniformed.

‡ Includes 2 civilians.

§ Includes 1 uniformed member of the Fire Brigade as Transport Officer.

CHANGES IN WHOLE-TIME STRENGTH DURING THE PERIOD
16th MAY, 1948, to 31st DECEMBER, 1949

TABLE 2

Brigade	LOSSES						GAINS			
	By Death	By Resignation	By Discharge	By Retirement on Pension	By Retirement on Gratuity	By Transfer to other Brigades	Totals	By Transfer from other Brigades	By Recruitment	Totals
Angus	—	7	—	5	—	—	12	—	9	9
Central	1	12	—	2	—	3	18	3	30	33
Fife ...	—	16	—	—	—	4	20	—	17	17
Glasgow	2	114	12	21	4	6	159	5	148	153
Lanarkshire	—	22	—	1	—	2	25	4	37	41
North Eastern	—	6	—	3	—	1	10	1	9	10
Northern	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Perth and Kinross	—	7	—	1	—	—	8	1	6	7
South Eastern	1	27	1	4	—	9	42	4	75	79
South Western	—	12	—	—	—	3	15	—	23	23
Western	1	56	—	2	—	—	59	3	70	73
Totals	5	280	13	39	4	28	369	21	424	445

FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY FIRE BRIGADES OVER THE PERIOD 16th MAY, 1948, to 31st DECEMBER, 1949

TABLE 3

Fire Area	(I) Industrial or Business Premises or Undertakings			(II) Local Authority Premises or Undertakings, other than headings (III) & (IV)			(III) Schools			(IV) Hospitals, Homes, etc.			(V) Cinemas, Theatres and other places of Public Entertainment or assembly		
	Survey	Specific	Routine	Survey	Specific	Routine	Survey	Specific	Routine	Survey	Specific	Routine	Survey	Specific	Routine
Angus ...	72	82	37	3	6	1	1	51	3	39	35	66	41	26	223
Central ...	34	—	91	61	—	14	77	1	27	9	—	9	52	—	591
Fife ...	16	58	21	2	52	14	5	10	—	2	2	7	3	113	14
Glasgow ...	41	55	—	5	14	—	3	4	—	3	9	—	—	32	388
Lanark ...	40	21	—	3	2	—	7	9	—	9	49	—	197	1080	504
North Eastern ...	57	79	12	2	—	—	125	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	719
Northern ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Perth and Kinross	3	14	—	1	—	—	16	4	—	12	2	—	3	1	10
South Eastern ...	37	35	—	55	—	—	38	—	—	127	—	73	193	1045	3625
South Western ...	11	6	8	3	60	33	70	3	1	6	3	10	59	37	697
Western ...	10	270	—	5	11	—	6	4	600	24	19	10	7	68	1420
Totals ...	321	620	169	140	145	62	348	86	631	291	119	175	555	2402	8197

NOTE.—For the purposes of this table the terms "Survey", "Specific Inspection" and "Routine Inspection" are used as follows:—

Survey. A thorough and comprehensive examination of the premises and processes at risk, as regards fire prevention arrangements which are in operation, or require to be made, covering, for instance, fire appliances and equipment, water supplies, means of escape, storage conditions and "good-housekeeping."

Specific Inspection. An examination of the premises and plant for the purposes indicated above, but limited to one or more particular aspect of fire prevention.

Routine Inspection. An examination made, as a rule, periodically, for the purpose of ascertaining whether particular precautions which should be in operation are in fact being maintained.

SUMMARY OF FIRES AND SPECIAL SERVICES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED OVER THE PERIOD

16th MAY, 1948, to 31st DECEMBER, 1949

TABLE 4

Fire Area	Fires requiring the attendance of						Chimney Fires	False Alarms			Total Fire Calls	Special Services
	1 Pump	2 Pumps	3-4 Pumps	5 Pumps	6-8 Pumps	9-10 Pumps		Malicious	With good intent	Total		
Angus ...	800	12	2	—	—	—	814	43	210	253	1908	213
Central ...	708	12	4	—	1	—	725	27	93	120	1132	48
Fife ...	497	19	3	1	—	—	520	6	40	46	1015	53
Glasgow ...	2795	—	3	21	3	2	2824	681	1442	2123	7396	90
Lanarkshire ...	1015	82	10	—	—	—	1107	42	110	152	1796	117
North Eastern ...	963	33	2	—	—	—	998	21	115	136	1519	109
Northern ...	316	24	9	—	—	—	349	—	20	20	477	60
Perth and Kinross ...	185	109	57	1	—	—	352	6	42	48	616	7
South Eastern ...	2016	33	12	—	—	—	2061	114	448	562	4230	335
South Western ...	775	10	3	—	—	—	788	9	66	75	1284	65
Western ...	940	21	6	—	—	—	967	36	206	242	1908	114
Totals ...	11010	355	111	23	4	2	11505	985	2792	3777	23281	1211

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR THE LOCAL FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED MAY 1949

FIRE AUTHORITY	Total Expenditure approved for Grant	EXPENDITURE								INCOME set against Expen- diture	BALANCE		
		Pay and Allow- ances	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	Pensions and Gra- tuities	Appli- ances and Vehicles	Water Supplies	Pre- mises	Com- muni- cations	Loan Charges		Other Expen- diture	Met from Govern- ment Grant	Met from Rates
Angus ...	£ 62,187	£ 45,989	£ 1,292	£ 1,952	£ 3,859	£ 993	£ 2,798	£ 1,192	£ 154	£ 3,958	£ 4,970	£ 14,304	£ 42,913
Central ...	70,427	44,446	1,705	218	4,254	5,332	9,893	1,312	648	2,619	3,665	16,691	50,071
Fife ...	41,229	31,752	239	—	1,409	1,975	3,109	1,294	—	1,451	3,426	9,451	28,352
Glasgow ...	327,480	237,269	10,575	20,388	10,213	8,013	24,637	3,349	6,602	6,434	31,251	74,057	222,172
Lanarkshire ...	85,814	56,785	2,085	283	5,622	10,351	5,986	1,280	—	3,422	4,493	20,330	60,991
North Eastern ...	70,211	52,108	523	1,778	4,114	918	3,002	2,038	1,851	3,879	7,944	15,567	46,700
Northern ...	17,663	13,226	454	—	854	205	1,108	789	287	740	1,848	3,954	11,861
Perth and Kinross	27,621	17,574	790	323	4,311	739	1,755	1,049	—	1,080	2,652	6,242	18,727
South Eastern ...	149,082	112,424	5,330	7,564	6,699	5,855	4,937	3,543	223	2,507	13,789	33,823	101,470
South Western ...	72,778	48,828	2,934	374	9,442	1,442	5,634	2,133	506	1,485	5,662	16,779	50,337
Western ...	92,880	70,454	2,364	233	6,178	4,312	4,010	1,517	213	3,599	6,760	21,530	64,590
Total ...	1,017,372	730,855	28,291	33,113	56,955	40,135	66,869	19,496	10,484	31,174	86,460	232,728	698,184

NOTE—Expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in connection with Training Centres for the period 16th May, 1948, to 31st March, 1949, amounted to £9,425 : 15 : 5. Of this amount the sum of £6,223 : 12 : 3 was recovered from Fire Authorities by deduction from grant payable.

Printed in Great Britain under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office,
by J. & G. Innes, Ltd., Cupar-Fife. (C40127)

Wt. 961/372 K11 9/50 G.21

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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