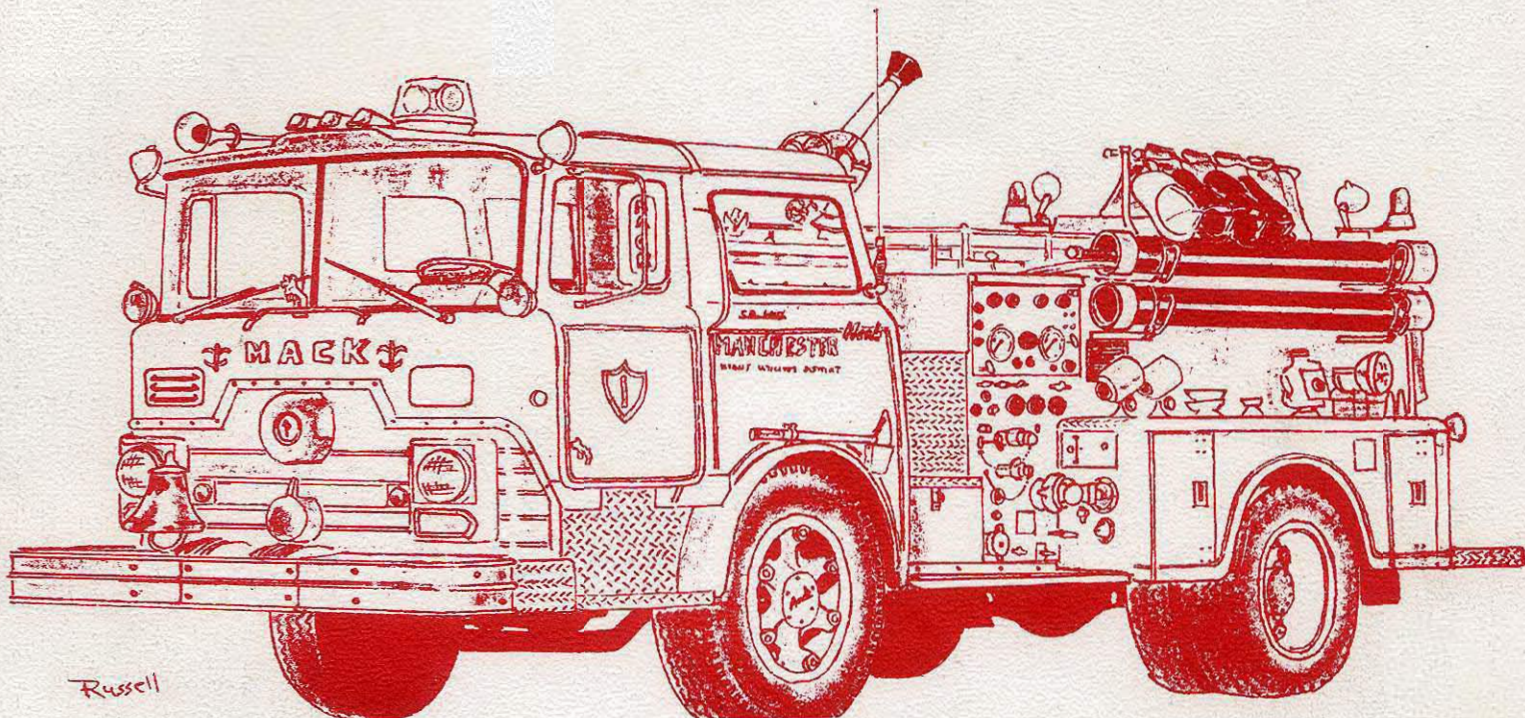
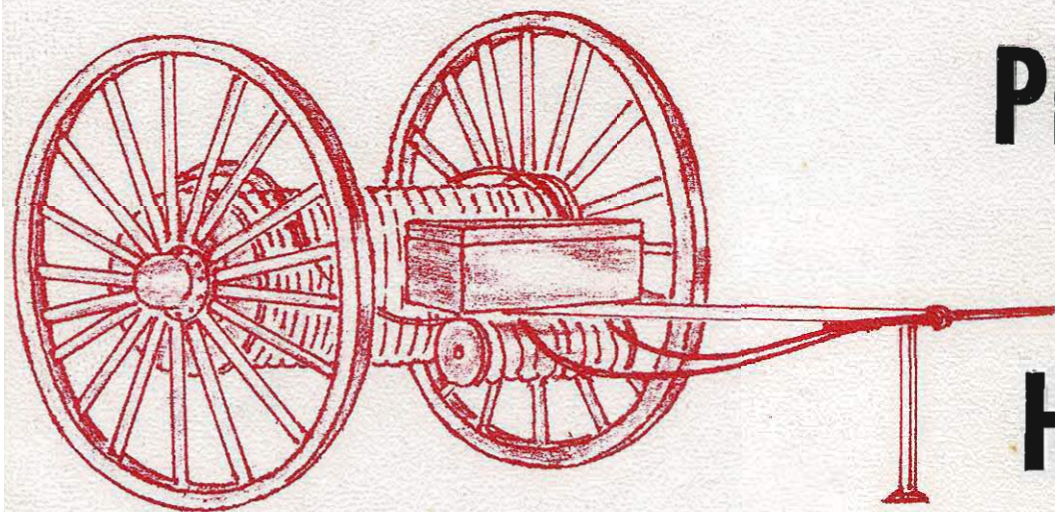


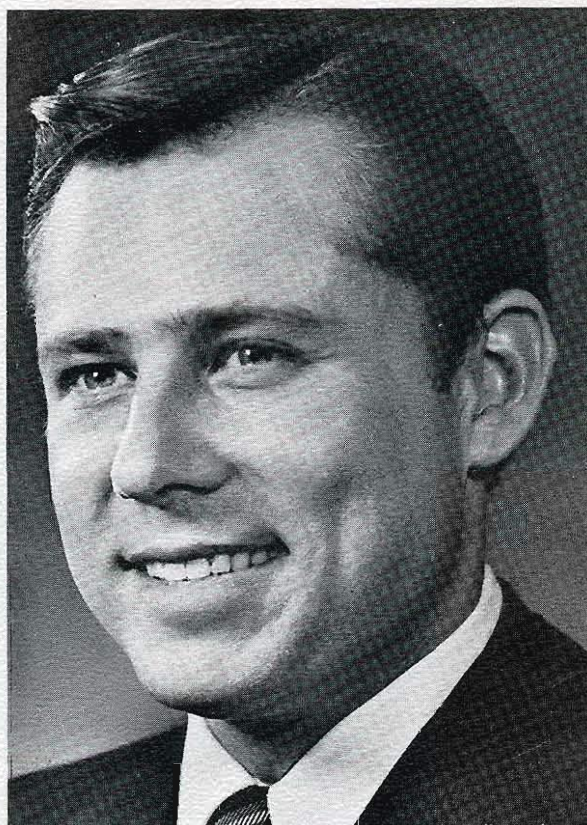
90TH ANNIVERSARY



MANCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT



PROGRAM and HISTORY



PARADE GRAND MARSHAL

ROBERT H. STEELE is President of The Norwich Savings Society in Norwich, Connecticut.

Mr. Steele joined the Savings in January 1975, after serving four years as United States Congressman from the Second District (Eastern Connecticut) and running as the Republican nominee for Governor of Connecticut.

While in Congress, Rep. Steele served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, and also served as chairman of a Congressional Task Force on Aging. He is best known for his work in the areas of combatting drug abuse, assisting the elderly, and promoting fire prevention and control. He was also active in the fields of United States-Soviet relations, U. S. energy policy, and

economic development in Eastern Connecticut.

Mr. Steele currently serves on the Washington Committee of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks, which works with Congress and the Administration on problems facing the housing industry and the nation's financial thrift institutions.

Prior to entering Congress, Mr. Steele worked as a securities analyst in the Investment Department of the Travelers Insurance Company. He has also served as a visiting lecturer in government at the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London.

Bob Steele and his wife, Betsy have four children: Kristen, 13; Alison, 11; Jeffrey, 7 and Bradley, 5.

August 1976.

DEDICATION TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

In recognition of 90 years of dedicated service of a group of both men and women; when for all these many years; fathers, sons and brothers; mother, daughter and sister, have been bonded together by one word — Service!

As the Tones sound, the Alarm cries and the Whistle blows, the women help their men to respond to the needs of the community to help both for pleasure but more often a community in trouble. — To help and protect life, limb and property.

You ask why? You may ask, "What for"? The answer comes back loud, strong and clear!! We believe in helping, aiding, in being volunteers to our community! Helping, aiding, and volunteering is an innate part of our lives. — Let no one take it from us!!!

So let it be known far and wide, high and low, in and out. This is a dedication to the volunteer firemen of today.

Gordon B. Lassow
President, Eighth Utilities District



1888-1978

90 Year History

MANCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ask any fireman about fires and he'll tell you "They always seem to come in pairs." This is exactly what they were saying on Saturday, Dec. 29th way back in 1888 when the Tuohey Barn burned to the ground. This probably marked the very first time that men and boys were organized as a bucket brigade and the very first volunteer firemen made their appearance near the North End Business Center that cold Saturday in 1888.

The following Friday morning, the 4th of January in the New Year of 1889, things were a lot hotter on Depot Square than the zero temperature would indicate. A real "Blazer" was raging and if it had not been for outside help from Hartford the entire Business Section would have been destroyed.

As it was, the Scott Building on the North Side of North Main Street facing Depot Square was destroyed, the first telephone exchange to be installed in Manchester by the S.N.E.T. Co. was gutted, so was the drug store that was conducted by a Mr. Chas. Rose, the law offices of Judge Olin Wood, the North Manchester Post Office (as it was known in those days) and the Manchester Herald—which in those days was published only once a week.

The outside help came in the form of an old fashioned "Steamer". Where ordinarily it would have been horse-drawn—in this instance it was loaded on a railroad flat bed and moved to Manchester with the help of a steam engine train. Once the pumper arrived at the North End it was unloaded and moved adjacent to the brook which flowed

alongside Nelson Place. This provided a supply of water where the need was greatest and was the paramount factor in bringing the fire under control.

This is probably the first recorded case of mutual aid in fighting fires in Manchester. Today, this mutual aid is so general that Manchester is a part of an organization that extends to many points throughout the county and the value of the organization to the community is undisputed.

The Scott Building fire probably provided one of the very first examples of fire protection as we know it today. It was a result of this preventative work, coupled with the imagination and ingenuity of the volunteers, that the Cowles Hotel escaped with very little, if any, damage. Here is what happened.—

The manager of the Cowles Hotel recruited a group of volunteers who placed carpets, blankets and sheets along the entire eastern face of the hotel from the roof line to the ground. A Bucket Brigade was then formed of men and boys who passed buckets of water from the adjoining wells and brooks and kept the eastern face of carpets, blankets and sheets saturated with water. There were many that credited this unique move as being the important factor in saving the entire Cowles Hotel.

If there was one grateful citizen in the North End after the Scott Building Fire it was Clarence Allen, the proprietor of the Cowles Hotel. After witnessing what can be accomplished when a group bands together, he interested a group of residents and prop-

erty owners of the Old Eighth School District in the formation of an organization that would be ready to help in case of a fire and he is credited with being the very first Fire Chief.

Since, there were no water mains to furnish a supply of water for fire hoses, Chief Allen had some water buckets (genuine leather) purchased and left at convenient places. He also set up a fire alarm procedure. To turn in an alarm, the bell in the Old Union School (now demolished) could be rung; the policeman on the beat was given a key to the Second Congregational Church so that the church bell could be rung; or, a whistle in the Case Paper Mill on Mill Street (now Rogers Corp.) could be sounded. This traces the early evolution of the Fire Alarm Systems and illustrates the ingenuity of the men of that day in using and utilizing the only tools available or accessible to them.

After the organization of the volunteer firemen the next most important advancement took place when the Manchester Water Co. obtained a charter to provide a water supply and started to lay water mains. At the same time the Eighth School District entered into a contract with the Manchester Water Co. to pay a yearly rental for hydrants for a period of 20 years. This made the year of 1889 a year of advancement and decision.

With the coming of the water mains and the fire hydrants additional funds were raised by subscriptions, sponsoring dances and entertainments (no Peach Shortcake Festivals in those days). These funds were used to purchase some hose, a jumper and a few more pieces of apparatus.

Clarence Allen held the post of Fire Chief until 1890 and then relinquished it to his brother George H. Allen who served as the second Fire Chief until the year 1893.

James H. Stannard was a retired Town Clerk from Westbrook, Conn. He came to

Manchester and became interested in the civic and social life of the North End. As the third Fire Chief he served from 1893 to 1897.

John F. Sheridan had been active in Manchester's political and business life having served for a time as a police commissioner. He, also became interested in the civic life of the North End and served as the fourth Fire Chief from 1897 until 1899. An indication of his influence on the community life of his day was the Sheridan Hotel which stood directly across from Center Park on Main Street.

In 1899 the Fire Dept. took on a new impetus under the leadership of Thomas J. Smith, the fifth Fire Chief and the one with the longest tenure in that office. Chief Smith served from 1899 to 1917 and it was during his years of leadership that the first reorganization took place.

It was in the year of 1899 that the first set of by-laws were written to govern the conduct and activity of the Manchester Fire Dept. At the same time three hose companies and a headquarters company with a hand-drawn hook and ladder were established.

The fire headquarters with the hook and ladder equipment were located on North School Street and contained a tower for drying hose.

The No. 2 Company was located in a cement block building on Apel Place near Oakland Street.

Company No. 3 was located in a barn on Main Street adjacent to what is now known as Henry Street and the Fourth Company was created by moving a hose reel out of the headquarters company on North School Street to a barn further west on North Main Street. By the year 1899 the Manchester Water Co. had laid sufficient water mains to be able to provide 56 hydrants in the District.

In 1917 a new leader had made an impression on the District scene in the person of John F. Limerick, the sixth Fire Chief. His tenure lasted for a period of 17 years (until 1934) and his term of office is filled with accomplishments of the "first" variety. During his first year the District applied for a charter from the Connecticut Legislature to better handle the fire and sewage business in the District. This charter provided for setting up of a board of Fire Commissioners and the naming of the officers of the district and the Fire Dep't. at an annual district meeting.

This change necessitated a change in the Fire Dep't.'s by-laws and such revised by-laws were drawn and adopted by the new commissioners on July 18, 1917.

During Chief Limerick's term of office the hydrant coverage grew from 56 to 112, exactly doubled. The district was set off into sections with each section designated as a fire alarm station.

An audio type of Fire Alarm was installed so that a person could activate an alarm without having to leave his vicinity. The Orford Soap Co. (Bon-Ami) provided a steam whistle, and a person wishing to turn in an alarm merely had to call by telephone, give the location of the fire and the number of the proper fire station would be sounded, thereby pin-pointing the location.

Chief Limerick also had the distinction of purchasing the very first piece of motor apparatus. It was a 1921 Mack combination hose and chemical tank truck which was the first piece of motorized equipment stationed in the present firehouse when it was built in 1921.

During the fire that destroyed the Herald Printing Company's plant on Hilliard Street in 1922, the District firemen had an op-

portunity to see an Ahrens-Fox pumper in operation from the No. 1 Company of the South Manchester Fire Dep't. They were so impressed with the advantages and performance of a pumper that a new "Mack" pumper with chemical tank was ordered and went into service the following year. It was in continuous service from 1923 to 1948.

Significant strides forward were made during this particular decade. The Dep't. was provided with more modern and efficient fire fighting equipment in the way of hose, ladders and other fire apparatus. The building of the new Firehouse in 1921, making provision for Club Rooms for meetings and recreation, providing the firemen with proper clothing and rubber goods with which to fight a fire signalled the time when the fireman had come into his own.

He was succeeded by Edward Coleman, the seventh Fire Chief, who served from 1934 to 1936 and it was during Chief Coleman's term that a new 1936 Reo Pumper with 500 gallon a minute capacity was ordered. Chief Coleman did not live to see the delivery of this new piece of equipment which eventually replaced the original 1921 Mack Chemical and Hose Truck.

Harlowe Willis had always been a popular and active participant in district affairs and in 1936, he became the eighth Fire Chief. The residents of the District and the entire community were saddened on Thanksgiving Day of 1937 when Chief Willis was stricken with a heart attack and died.

LeRoy Griswold was chosen to replace Harlowe Willis and he became the District's ninth Fire Chief and served from 1937 to 1944. It was his privilege to be the Chief in the 50th Anniversary year of 1938.

Howard Keeney, a Fireman since 1921 became the tenth Fire Chief in 1944 and served from that year until 1946. He is typical of how these men become steeped in the interest and traditions of the District, in that, even after serving in a wide range of capacities for the District he was elected to the District Office of Treasurer in 1951 and has served very ably in that office to the present time.

In 1946 a "Fireman's Fireman" came onto the scene in the person of the eleventh Fire Chief, John Merz. He had been a volunteer fireman since 1932 and was thoroughly familiar with fire fighting problems and when Chief Keeney decided in 1946, to resign as Fire Chief to run for election as District Treasurer, the District Officers turned to John Merz. Therein, started a career that spanned a period of 15 years and resulted in some of the most progressive advancements the department had made since its origin. He brought an entirely new language and nomenclature into the language of the firemen—terms like smoke ejectors, salvage covers, Scott air packs, fog nozzles (whereby fires are extinguished with droplets of water rather than a steady stream of water) chemical extinguishers, mutual aid, two-way radio communications, resuscitators, state training programs, auxiliary firemen—all of these terms which are accepted as part of the present day fireman's vocabulary—these trace the evolution of the progress made during Chief Merz's term.

In 1948 the Fire Alarm System was completely revised and made an integral part of the District's System. The hand operated steam whistle at the Orford Soap Co. was discontinued and replaced with an air horn placed atop the Fire Headquarters on Main Street. This system is completely automatic and is operated with compressed air. In this way it is not vulnerable to a power failure and can be activated either from within the

firehouse or is triggered by pulling a fire alarm box.

At the same time six fire alarm boxes were placed at strategic locations throughout the District and these were augmented later on by the installation of Fire Alarm Boxes in the Four Schools in the District.

Chief Merz supervised the purchase of three pieces of Fire-Fighting apparatus during his term of office, a 1948 American La France Pumper, a 1952 American La France Pumper and a 1961 Ford—750 Gal. pumper with 500 gallon water tank. During his last year as Chief, work was started on an addition to the Firehouse which provided for an additional truck bay and expanded Club Room Facilities. The new addition (known as the Merz Addition) also contains space for a District Office and eventually all of the District Records will be centered there and the conduct of the District Business will be centralized there.

On the 75th Anniversary of the Manchester Fire Dep't., the volunteer firemen of the District Saluted the Chief, who "never sent a fireman where he wouldn't go himself," former Chief John Merz and appoint him Honorary Parade Marshal for the Anniversary Parade on Saturday September 14, 1963.

Upon Chief Merz's resignation in 1961. Francis J. Limerick was elevated from first deputy chief to assume command. Chief Limerick came from a heritage deeply involved with the traditions of firefighting. His father, John Limerick, had served as chief from 1917 to 1934. Francis Limerick himself had risen up through every office of command in the Department beginning in 1929. "Buzzy," as he was known to his men, was renowned for his sincerity and dedication to the office of chief. Many would observe that no one put more of himself into the job than Francis Limerick.

During his tenure, the Department began its first major efforts in pressing for the upgrading of the water supply system in the District. Chief Limerick supervised the purchase of Engine 4, a 1968 Mack CF 1000 gallon per minute pumper. Engine 4 was the first diesel powered apparatus in the history of Manchester. The firehouse was improved during this time, culminating in the installation of a large emergency generator. This generator allows the firehouse to function during storms and electrical blackouts. It was instrumental in the firehouse becoming an emergency shelter for the public during such disasters as Ice Storm Felix and Blizzard Larry.

Chief Limerick resigned from office in 1968, and served one additional year as fire marshal before retiring from the Department. This capped a career of forty years by one of the District's most honored servants.

With Chief Limerick's resignation, our present leader, Granville H. (Ted) Lingard, was promoted from deputy chief. During the past ten years the inspiration of Chief Lingard has led the Department to meet many challenges and make countless advances. This has yielded the fire department we have today- one of the most progressive, efficient, and celebrated volunteer fire departments in Connecticut.

Two major purchases of apparatus have taken place under Chief Lingard. In 1969, while responding to what proved to be a false alarm, old Engine 1 was forced off the road and damaged beyond repair. To replace it, our present Engine 1 was purchased. It too is a diesel-powered Mack CF 1000 gallon per minute pumper. This engine was the

first in the area to be designed as a "blitz" pumper- able to bring large volumes of water and multiple attack lines into play immediately upon arrival. This concept, developed in Los Angeles and Memphis, was pioneered in Hartford County by the District.

The next major purchase by the Department was a 1973 Emergency One Quick-Attack Heavy Rescue piece. The Quick-Attack Heavy Rescue concept comes out of Chicago, and once again, the District was first in the area to adopt it. Rescue 5 carries its own pump. 500 gallons of water, a foam unit, and a generator and lighting equipment like any other pumper. It also carries all the Department's rescue gear including the Hurst tool, which has already been credited with six "saves" from auto accidents. Rescue 5 is also the base of the District's latest development-Emergency Medical Services.

This role has been assumed by fire departments increasingly nationwide. The English District has been among Hartford County's leaders in this area too. In 1974, Captain Paul Gworek became the first Emergency Medical Technician in the Department. Today, just four years later, there are 42 registered EMT's on the roster. These members are trained in handling the medical emergencies that occur to so many families- stroke, heart attack, breathing problems, trauma, fractures, burns, and childbirth, to name a few. EMT's can monitor and interpret a patient's vital signs, use airway and oxygen equipment, perform CPR, apply traction to serve fractures, extricate a victim from an auto accident, and reassure a frightened and anxious family member. The EMT's

of the Department work in close harmony with the personnel of area ambulance services and emergency rooms. Together, they offer the residents of the District a level of medical care better than that which they have ever enjoyed before.

The Department now sponsors American Red Cross courses in Basic Life Support and CPR. These courses are given to the public free of charge. Seven Department members are Basic Life Support instructors with the American Red Cross. All the equipment and aids used in the courses were donated by the District.

Another major improvement in the Department that has taken place under Chief Lingard has been the tone alert system for the notification of fires. With this system, a special radio monitor in each firefighter's home is activated whenever a fire or emergency call is received. The location of the call and the type of emergency is broadcast over the monitor. Those members who reside near the location of the call respond directly to it, while other members respond to the station and man the apparatus. This system cuts response time markedly, and adds to the over-all effectiveness of the Department.

The Eighth District now boasts a Scuba team, made up of eight accredited members with full gear. They are ready to assist both their own department and those of neighboring towns should the need for that particular skill arise.

In 1976, Assistant Chief Frank Moravsky was made area fire warden by the Department of Environmental Protection of Connecticut. Under his guidance, forty four Department members have undergone training in forestry tech-

niques, and now make up one complete crew of state forest fire fighters.

One of the most appreciated arms of the Department is the Fire Prevention Team which was organized ten years ago. The team, headed up by Assistant Chief John Christensen and Firefighter James Sarles, visits the schools in the District, civic groups, professional organizations, and local businesses. Each audience views a presentation aimed at its particular interest and need. Subjects range from home fire safety to the Heimlich Manuever as the team seeks year-round to educate the people to be fire conscious and accident safe.

In recent years The Ladies' Auxiliary has developed into an active and visible aid to the Department. It's members are seen at all major fires, dispensing refreshments and dry clothing to the firefighters. The members of the Auxiliary raise funds for Department projects, and work with other groups in civic-minded actions. The members of the Auxiliary also aid immeasurably in the Department's own social events for its public — the Annual Peach Festival in August and the Holiday Dinner for Mayfair Gardens in December.

Finally, a few of the other advances that have taken place under Chief Lingard include the pioneering of large diameter hose in Manchester, further active lobbying for improved water service in the North End, the rescue boat for Union Pond, and the Department's maintenance shop on Fleming Road.

Since 1963, two of the most spectacular fires in the history of the Eighth District were recorded. Both were labeled highly supicious in origin, and both demonstrated the wild power that fire still

holds over our citizenry.

Monday, January 7, 1973, was a frigid day with a bitter wind. The temperature would not rise above twenty all day. At 2:45 P.M., a fire was reported at the Bon Ami complex off Hillard Street. The complex had been the scene of seven previous fires of incendiary nature in the past fourteen months. Moving rapidly, this conflagration overwhelmed the sprinkler system in the warehouse and spread throughout the structure. There was immediate danger to the other six buildings in the complex. The District firefighters made their stand at the boiler room adjacent to the warehouse. There they concentrated their efforts and those of the mutual aid companies. Today, the six businesses that thrive in the remainder of the complex bear testimony to the success of those efforts. The Eighth District was aided at this scene by the Town of Manchester, Vernon, South Windsor, Rockville, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Ellington, North Coventry, Tolland, and Rocky Hill Fire Departments. Two Town of Manchester firefighters suffered serious injuries when a wooden ladder collapsed while they were attacking the blaze.

The major part of this blaze was fought for nineteen hours, and mop-up operations continued for another three days. At 6:00 A.M. the following morning, the Department joined with the Town of Manchester Fire Department in battling an apartment under construction which was fully involved with fire at West Middle Turnpike and Hawthorne Street. This fire was so fierce that neighboring buildings were scorched by the flames, but no further damage resulted. Never before did Manchester face

so serious a fire threat as it did on January 7-8, 1973, and never did the District respond to the need so admirably.

On Sunday evening, November 20, 1977, a suspicious blaze struck the Burr Nursery off North Main Street. Just two hours after closing, fire was reported in all three sections of the structure. The efforts of the firefighters were devoted to protecting the adjacent exposures, the Burr office, the Glenney Company, and the Conrail properties to the rear. Mutual aid responded from the Town of Manchester, Vernon, South Windsor and Bolton Fire Departments. The flames were controlled by 10 P.M., and overall efforts began. A total of nineteen hours were expended on this blaze.

In both of these major fires, the mutual aid called for by the Chief was coordinated by the Hartford County Fire Emergency Plan, of which the District is a member, and the Tolland County Mutual Aid Dispatch Center, with which the District works closely.

The Eighth District Fire Department has been called upon many times to help brother companies both near and far. Some of the more spectacular calls which have seen our Department pressed into service include the West Main Street block in Rockville, the Foodliner Super Market in Vernon, the Sheridan block in South Manchester, the Pyrofax and Industronics plants in South Windsor, the Emhart factory in New Britain, and the Great Meadows Towers in Rocky Hill. In these and many other incidents, the firefighters of the District extended the aid and expertise that all departments require when "the big one" strikes.

In 1977 the Department answered 363 calls. In 1963, the year of our last cele-

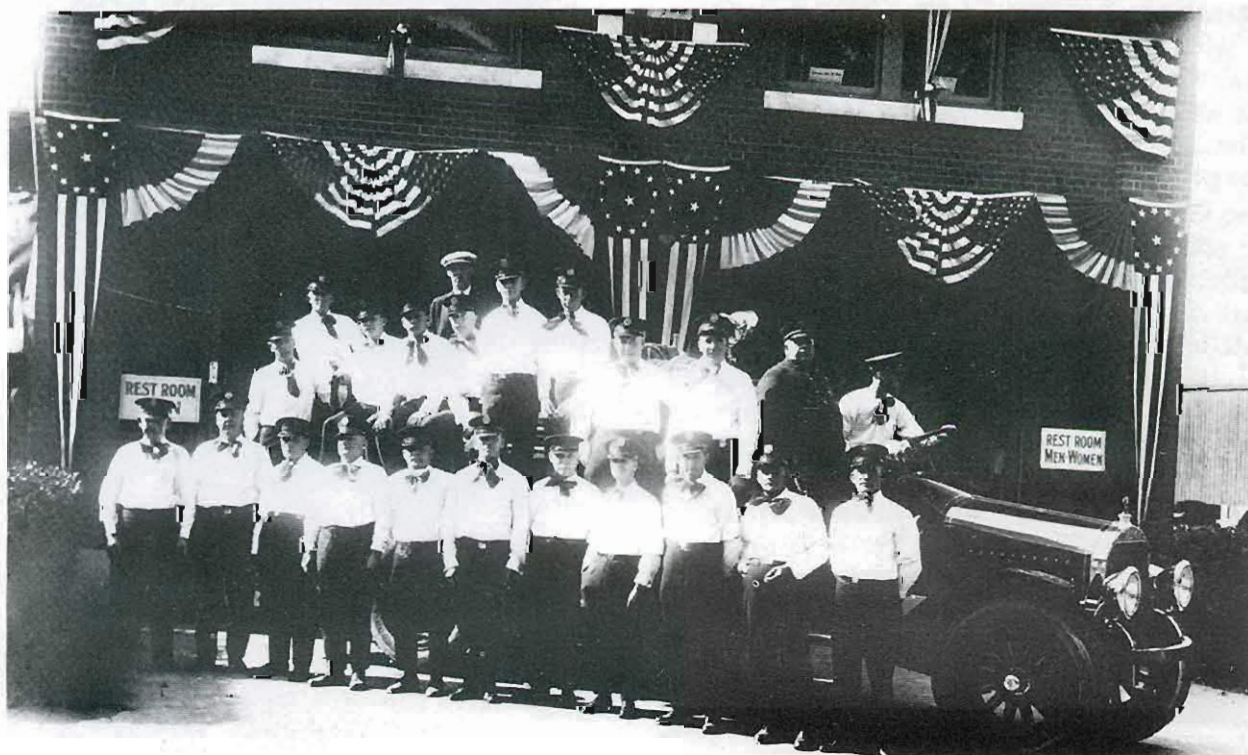
bration, the total number of calls was 147. Thus, the years between our 75th and 90th anniversaries have seen the incredible rise of 244% in our responses. In all of these calls, ranging from working structure fires to pets caught in storm drains, the services required by the public were rendered quickly and effectively to the satisfaction of all. Today, the District looks ahead to a future as bright as its past. The increase in its response area, the planned improvements in the water distribution system, and the anticipated additions to the equipment roster all lend to the feeling of security to be enjoyed by all the people of Manchester and the surrounding areas. We will be there when needed.

The Department prides itself as being known as the most efficient volunteer outfit in the state. The officers and men pledge to you, the citizens and supporters of the District to maintain this level of professional skill and performance, and to work ceaselessly to improve it even more.

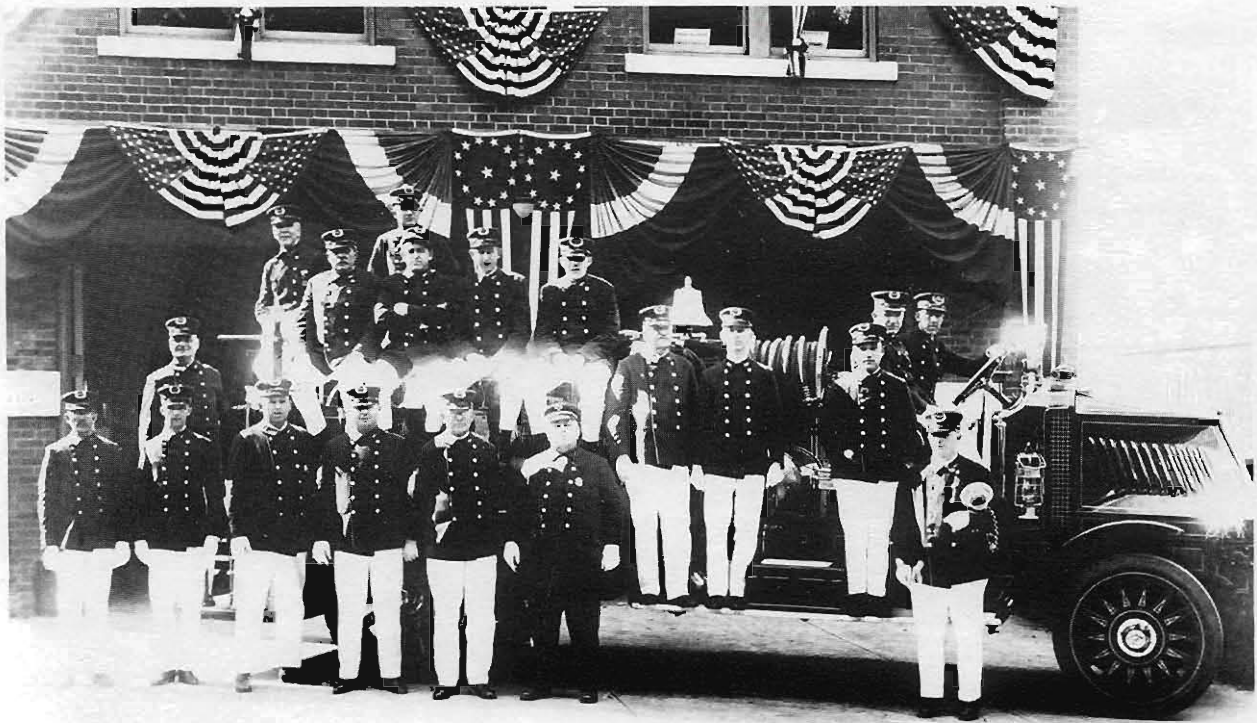




Pictured above is the earliest equipment operated by the Manchester Fire Dept. To the left is a hand-drawn hose reel which holds 1,000 feet of 2½" fire hose. History relates that in the later days of the use of this hose reel, Fred and Harold Sankey would tow the jumper on the back of their milk truck to the scene of the fire. To the right is a hand-drawn ladder wagon. This wagon carried extension ladders, roof ladders, and various hand tools.



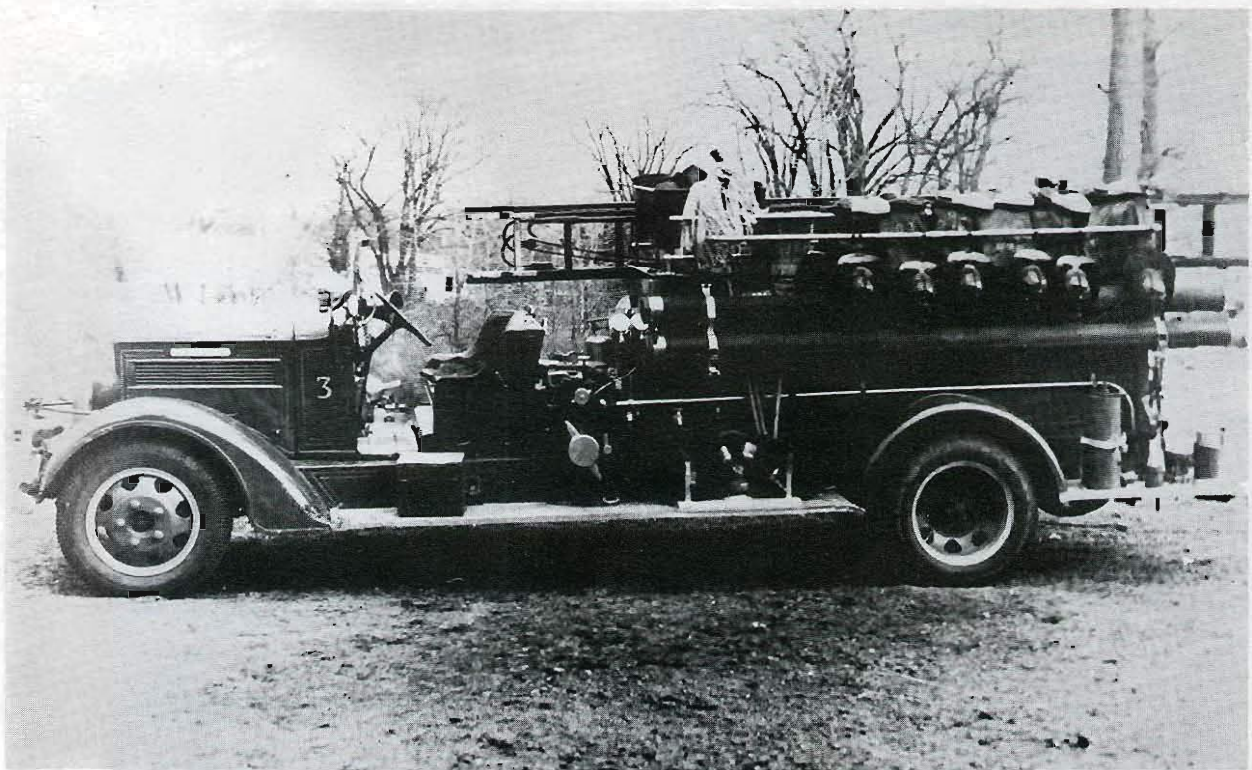
The first piece of motorized fire equipment was a 1921 Mack hose and chemical truck. It had no pump but a fire extinguishing agent could be sprayed from its chemical tank through a hose reel. It carried hand tools, nozzles and ladders as well as fire hose and was in service until 1936.



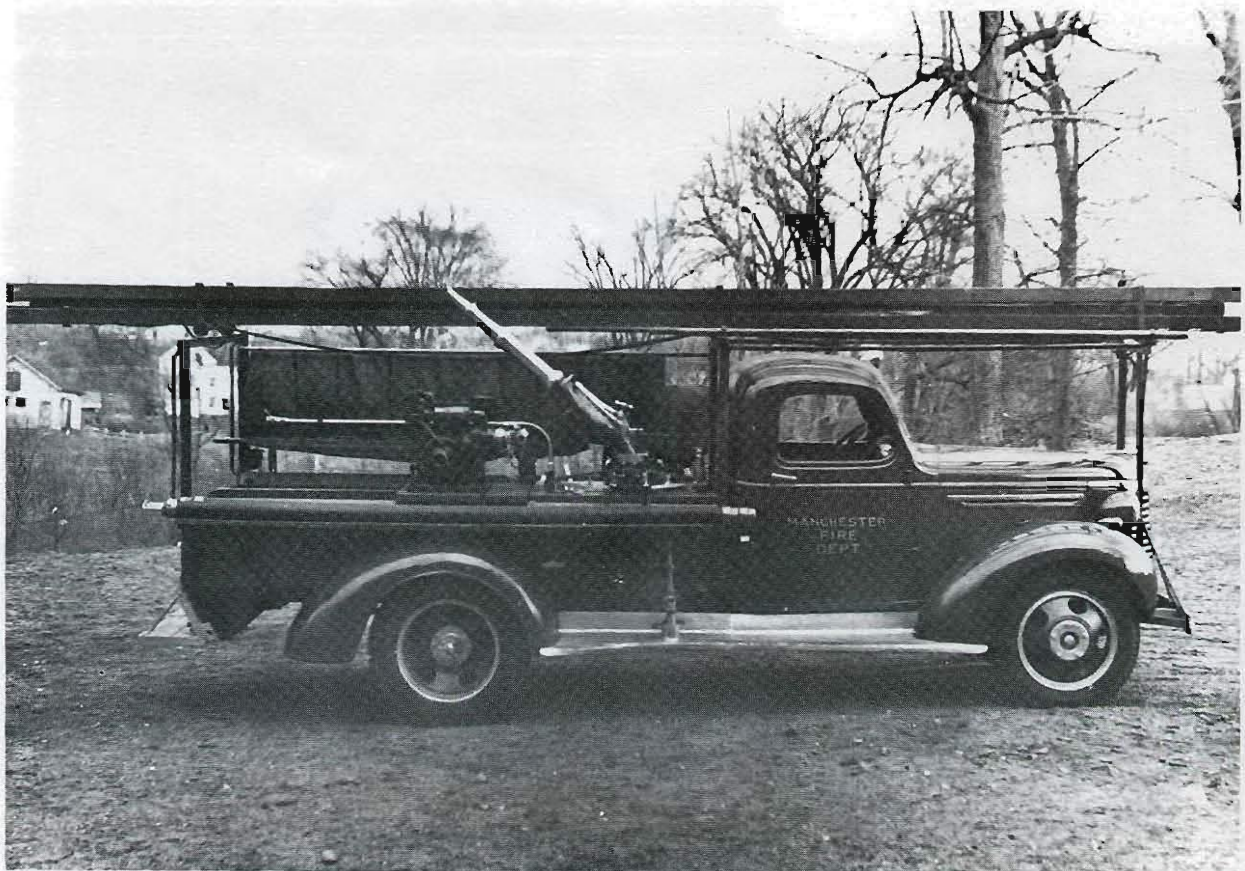
After the Herald Building Fire in 1922, it became apparent that the Dept. should have a pumper truck. In 1923 the "Bull Dog" Mack was purchased. This truck marked an advance in fire-fighting techniques of the era, inasmuch as the men were no longer regulated by the existing pressures from the hydrants. With the use of this pumper, 500 gals. per min. could be directed on the fire from either hydrants or any other water source it could reach.



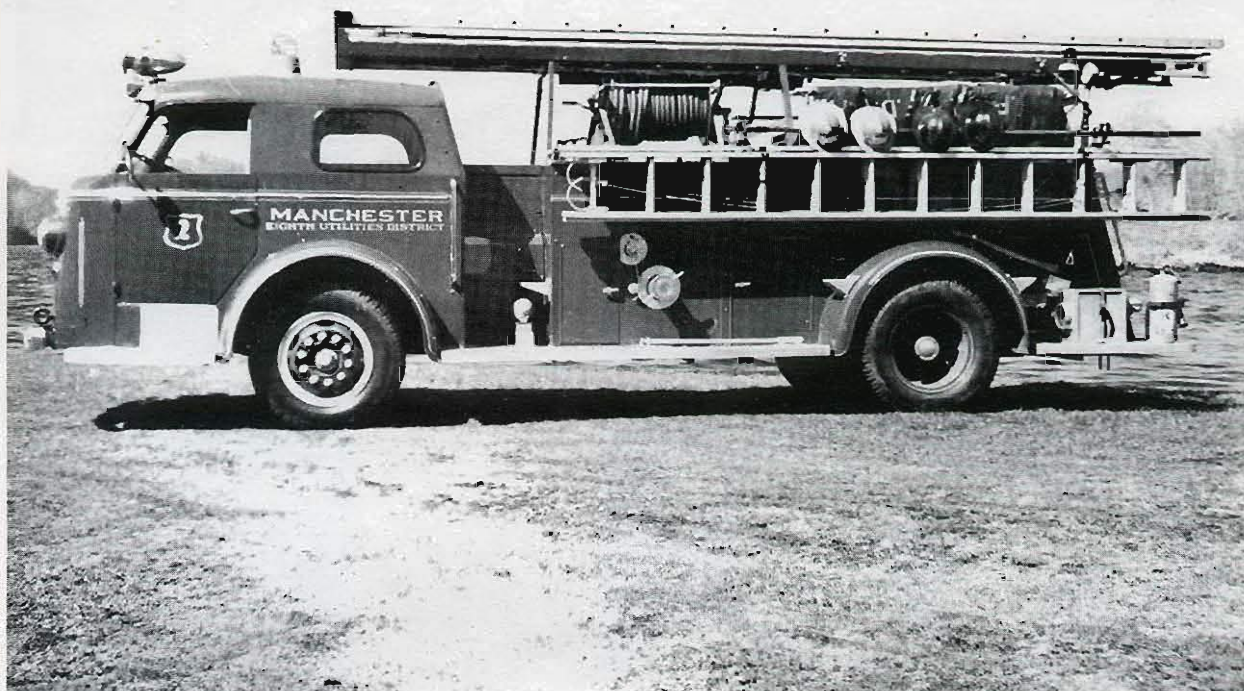
Shown above is the Fire Station as it is today, with its three modern piece of fire-fighting apparatus. The new addition completed in 1961 houses one truck and has provisions at the rear of the first floor for a District Office. The second floor provides space for meetings and department activities.



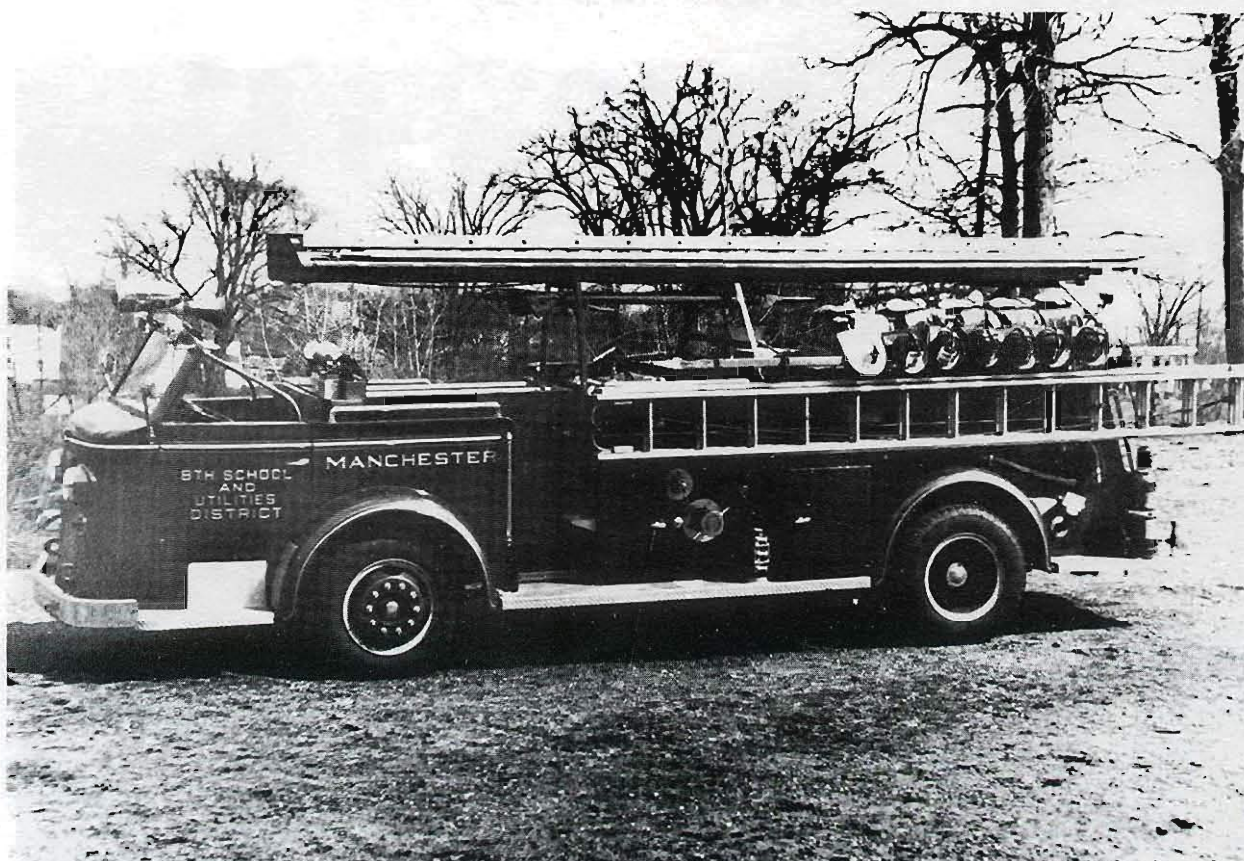
Engine No. 3, as it was known, was a 1936 Reo combination pumper and booster tank truck. When it was purchased, it was a long stride toward the modern fire-fighting techniques used today. It's 100 gal. booster tank was one of the first of such tanks used in this area. The 500 gals. per min. rotary-gear pump increased the capacity of water that could be directed on the fire. It served faithfully from 1936 until 1948 along with the "Bull Dog" Mack, as one of two main pieces of apparatus of the Dept.



The "Supply Truck", as it was known, was a 1941 Chevrolet truck. It carried a 50 ft. pole ladder, 2½" hose, forest fire equipment and a deluge set. This truck remained in service until 1961.



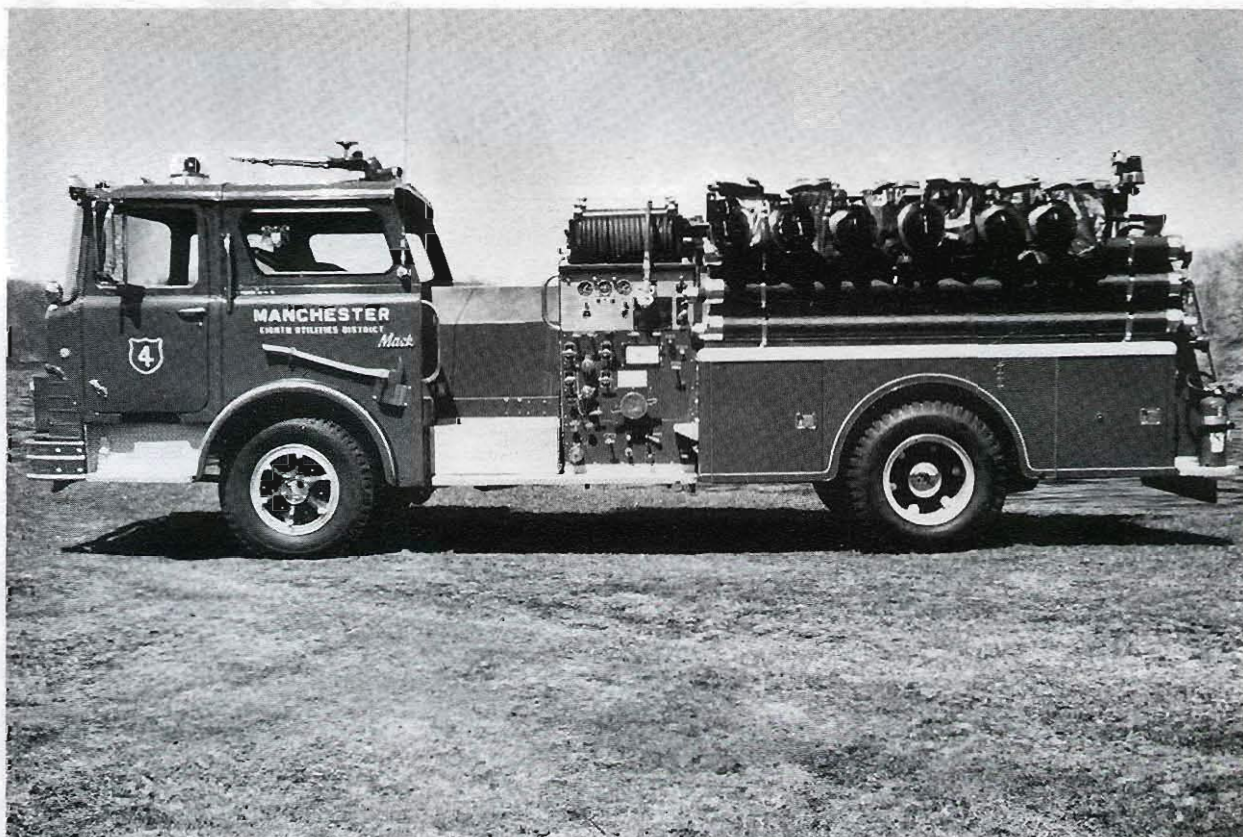
Engine No. 2 is a 1948 American LaFrance Pumper. It carries 250 gal. of water in its booster tank along with 1,000 ft. of 2½" hose, 500 feet of 1½" hose, breathing apparatus and other fire-fighting equipment. Its pump delivers 750 gals. of water per min. at 150 lbs. pressure.



Retired Engine No. 1 was a 1952 American LaFrance Pumper-Tanker with a 50 ft. extension ladder mounted overhead. It carried 300 gals. of water, 1,000 ft. 2½" hose, 300 ft. of 1½" hose, 28 ft. extension ladder, a folding wood ladder, portable electric generator, breathing apparatus and many other pieces of related equipment. Since its retirement, the 50 ft. extension ladder has been mounted on Engine No. 2 and other equipment placed on replacement Engine No. 1.



A 1961 Ford C-850 Pumper-Tanker Combination is a piece of equipment purchased by the Dept. It carries 500 gals. of water in its hooster tank, which can be discharged through a hose reel located at the top, or through a preconnected $1\frac{1}{2}$ " hose line at the rear. The two stage centrifugal pump delivers 750 gals. per min. The truck carries 1,000 ft. of $2\frac{1}{2}$ " hose, 300 ft. of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " hose, a 30 ft. extension ladder, 15 ft. roof ladder, a smoke ejector, self-contained air breathing apparatus, a resuscitator and a multitude of other modern fire-fighting equipment. It was built by the Farrar Fire Engine Co. to the Dept.'s own specifications.



Engine No. 4 is the first diesel powered pumper used in Manchester. It was ordered from Mack in 1967 and delivered in 1968. Engine 4 is a heavy attack pumper capable of pumping 1000 gallons per minute on a fire. It carries 500 gallons of water, has pre-connected $1\frac{1}{2}$ " hose, $2\frac{1}{2}$ " hose and 3" supply hose.



Engine Number 1 is similar to Engine 4 in many respects and was received by the Department in 1969. It has a "Blitz attack" pumper which means water can be applied faster and in more quantity through pre-connected 1½" and 2½" hose and through its deck nozzle mounted midship. Engine 1 carries 1500 feet of 3" supply hose to get more water to a fire scene.



Rescue 5 is the newest piece of apparatus used by the Department and was received in 1976. Rescue 5 carries the Department's rescue equipment, including the Hurst Jaws of Life. Rescue 5 has the added fire fighting capability of quick attack with 500 gallons of water and foam application through booster and 1½" pre-connected hose. This unit performs many of the tasks at minor incidents formerly done by much heavier and more expensive pumpers.



Retired Chief Howard Keeney joined the Fire Dept. in 1921. He was active in Co. No. 1 affairs and served as Company Secretary, Assistant Foreman, and 2nd Asst. Chief. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1941 and served until 1945 when he was appointed Chief. He served in this position until 1946.

After resigning from this post, he did not remain inactive in District affairs for long. In 1951 he ran for and was elected to the post of District Treasurer.

The people of the District felt they had lost a faithful servant when in 1956 he resigned as Treasurer and moved out of town. In 1958 he returned and again offered his services to the people of the District. He was elected unanimously and is still serving as Treasurer.



Retired Chief John Merz joined the Department in 1932. He served as Chief until his resignation in 1961.



Retired Chief Francis J. Limerick served the Department for 40 years. His tenure as Chief was from 1961-1968.

Raymond E. Colman, Retired Assistant Chief, actively participated in the Department for 29 years.

In 1938 he was elected foreman of Hose Co. No. 1 and served as foreman until 1945 when he was appointed Asst. Chief. He was Asst. Chief until 1960 when he retired from that position.



Fredrick A. Sweet, retired assistant chief, has actively given 34 years of service to the Department. In 1936, he joined Hose Co. No. 2. After returning from the service in W.W. II he was elected Captain of Hose Co. No. 2.

In 1950, he was appointed Assistant Chief, a position he held until his retirement in 1971.

MANCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT
Eighth Utilities District



ASST. CHIEFS

FRANK MORDAVSKY
JOHN CHRISTENSEN
HAROLD TOPLIFF

Ninety years the Manchester Fire Department has served the people of the North End. From its modest beginning, when a few ladders, some buckets and other hand tools were the weapons against fire until today when the Department operates 2 diesel pumpers, a modern quick attack heavy rescue truck and 2 gasoline powered pumpers. The Department has always ably demonstrated its resolve to aid a neighbor in trouble.

During the thirty years I have had the privilege of serving the Eighth District, I have been part of a modernization program that has brought the Department from 2 old pumpers and a pick-up truck to the well equipped unit it is today. Most important, however, are the people who make it all possible. Volunteers who man the equipment and answer the alarm. Administrators who have served on the Board of Directors. People who have served as tax collectors, treasurers, clerks and presidents have all added to what the District stands for. People banding together each doing his or her own thing to make it work.

In the ten years I have been the Fire Chief, it has been my honor to work with some of the finest, most dedicated and loyal gentlemen and ladies found anywhere. All this and the support given me and the Manchester Fire Department by the people of the Eighth District has made my efforts the most rewarding any man could hope for.

Thank you all
Ted Lingard, Chief



331 CENTER STREET
MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040

647-9995

CMI

CHORCHES MOTORS, INC.
80 OAKLAND STREET
MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040
(203) 643-2791

Dodge



Chrysler

STOP OVERPAYING YOUR TAXES

MAXIMIZE YOUR REFUND

MINIMIZE YOUR TAX

EMMET D. GEMME
dba **GEM ENTERPRISES**
TAX CONSULTANTS

29 MARBLE STREET
MANCHESTER, CT 06040

DAY OR NITE
646-3113

Bogner

Quality Provisions And Meat Products



**anchester
packing company inc.**

TEL. 203 646-5000

349 WETHERELL ST., MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040



JOHN CHRISTENSEN
2nd ASSISTANT CHIEF

CHIEF OFFICERS



FRANK A. MORDAVSKY
1st ASSISTANT CHIEF



GRANVILLE "TED" LINGARD
CHIEF, MANCHESTER FIRE DEPT.



WALLACE J. IRISH, JR.
ASST. FIRE MARSHAL



HAROLD A. TOPLIFF
3rd ASSISTANT CHIEF

GEM 
Mayflower

GOOD MOVING

527-9193



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

With our best wishes to the Eighth Utilities District on the occasion of your 90th. Anniversary.

You're number one to us!

From the officers and members of

Company No. 1

Manchester Fire Department

We serve you proudly!

Compliments of

THE STEAK OUT®

Route 83

Talcottville, Conn. 06066

646-6166

Congratulations and Best Wishes on their

90th ANNIVERSARY

to the

MANCHESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

EIGHTH DISTRICT

from all of us in

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT COOPERATIVE FARMERS ASSN., INC.

1888-1978 90th Anniversary Parade

Manchester Fire Department June 17, 1978

LINE OF MARCH

DIVISION 1

Manchester Police Department Color Guard
Manchester High School Band
Manchester Fire Department — 8th District and
Auxiliary
Town of Manchester Fire Department
Vernon Fire Department
Vernon Police Department
South Windsor Fire Department
Rockville Fire Department
Bolton Fire Department and Auxiliary
East Hartford Fire Department

DIVISION 2

Weaver High School Band with Drill Team
Bloomfield Fire Department
North Coventry Fire Department and Auxiliary
Blue Hills Fire Department
Thompsonville Fire Department
Coventry Fire Department
Tariffville Fire Department and Auxiliary

DIVISION 3

Windsor Locks Fire Department
Turn-of-the-River Fire Department, Stamford
Enfield Fire Department
Shaker Pines Fire Department
Sandy Hook Fire Department
American Legion
East Longmeadow Mass. Fire Department
Pratt & Whitney Fire Department, East Hartford



DIVISION 4

Haddam Fire Department
Poquonock Fire Department
South Kensington Fire Department
West Stafford Fire Department
Prospect Fire Department
Haddam - Neck Fire Department

DIVISION 5

Long Hill Fire Department and Auxiliary, Trumbull
North Windham Fire Department
Poquetanuck Fire Department, Norwich
Quiambug Fire and Auxiliary

DIVISION 6

Glastonbury Fire Department
Broad Brook Fire Department
Middletown Vol. Fire Department
Eagleville Fire Department
Windham Center Fire Department
Willington Fire Department

DIVISION 7

Westbrook Fire Department
Portland Fire Department
Hayden Station Fire Department, Windsor
Crystal Lake Fire Department and Auxiliary
Trolley Museum Fire Department, Warehouse Point

DIVISION 8

Warehouse Point Fire Department and Auxiliary
Stafford Springs Fire Department
Suffield Fire Department
Windsor Fire Department and Auxiliary
Ellington Fire Department
Colchester Fire Department
Wethersfield Fire Department
Lake Chaffee Fire Department

90th Anniversary Committee

JOHN CHRISTENSEN	General Chairman
KENNETH ROBACK	Secretary
DAVID MORDAVSKY	Treasurer and Program
DAVID DWYER	Refreshments
THOMAS O'MARRA	Protocol
BERNARD NIEDZIELSKI	Invitations
FRANK MORDAVSKY	Judges
ROBERT FROEHLICH	Logistics
EMMET GEMME	Photography
PAUL GWOREK	History
PAT McNAMARA	Decorations
NANCY WATTS	Decorations

FRONT COVER RENDERINGS
BY RUSSELL ACETO, JR.

A Fireman's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God
Whenever flames may rage,
Give me strength to save a life
Whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert and hear the
weakest shout
And quickly and efficiently
Put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling and
To give the best in me,
To guard my neighbor and
Protect his property.
And if according to my fate.
I am to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my wife.



THOMAS A. TOMKUNAS
CAPTAIN



DONALD DAVIS
1st LIEUTENANT



ROBERT ESCHMANN
2nd LIEUTENANT

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS COMPANY NUMBER ONE



Gary Albert, Clarence Allain, Gustave Arendt, Terrance Braley, Halene Burnett, John Christensen, James Cumins, William Columbe, Donald Davis, Ross Easton, Robert Eschmann, Richard Fyler, Kenneth Gagnon, Elias Gandette, Emmet Gemme, John Gregan, Charles King, Joseph Krukas, Michael Kreproovich, Gary Ladabouche, Ted Lingard, Raymond Lukas, Leonard Luzusky, Earl MacFarland, Edward McKeever, Thomas Moore, Lee Ann Mullen, Loren Nelson, Walter Pyka, Joseph Scarito, John Stearns, William Stanek, Thomas Tomkunas, Harold Topliff, Jr., Samuel Turkington, John Willis, Gary Zito.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS COMPANY NUMBER TWO



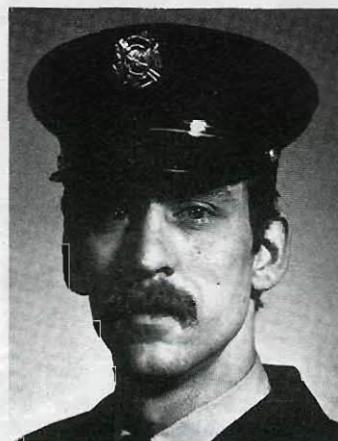
PAUL V. GWOREK
CAPTAIN



VICTOR LeGEYT
1st LIEUTENANT



WILLIAM PARKER
2nd LIEUTENANT



FIREFIGHTER JAMES SARLES
(FIREMAN JIM)

DISTRICT MANCHESTER FIRE DEPT. 8TH DIST
1888 90 YEARS of DEDICATED SERVICE 1978



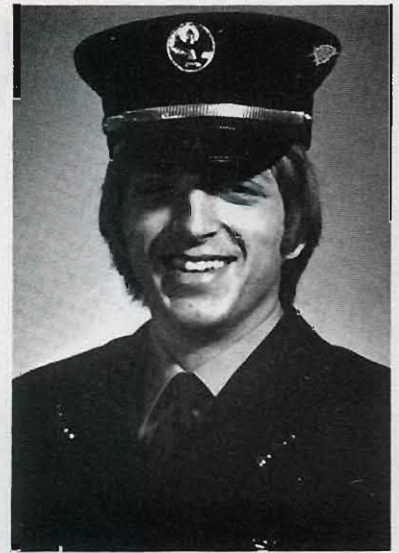
Thomas Alexander, Adam Bajoris, Robert Dabica, Gerry Denis, David Donovan, David Dwyer, Raymond Eldridge, Frank Felleter, Martin Fiendel, Raymond Fredericksen, Robert Froehlich, Richard Girard, Stanley Gladysz, Paul Gworek, Wallace Irish, Jr., Gerry Kosak, Arthur Lassow, Gordon Lassow, Victor LeGeyst, Stephan Lucas, John Mace, Christopher Marvin, Leo McNamara, David Mordavsky, Frank Mordavsky, Daniel Mullen, Bernard Niedzielski, Thomas O'Marra, Bradford Palmer, William Parker, William Riley, Kenneth Roback, James Sarles, Alfred Venard, Leland Watts, James Welch, Thomas Wilson.



MICHAEL HEIMER
CAPTAIN



THOMAS KRYSIAK
1st LIEUTENANT



ROBERT ESCHMANN
2nd LIEUTENANT

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS COMPANY NUMBER THREE

MANCHESTER FIRE DEPT. 8
90 YEARS of DEDICATED SERVICE 19



James Adams, Kenneth Bagshaw, David Correia, Raymond Eldridge, Robert Eschmann, Christopher Felleter, Michael Heimer, David Hiers, Randolph Jones, Thomas Krysiak, Thomas Landers, Richard Moore, Keith Nichols, Robert Sherwin, David Smith, Peter Staye, Wayne Tripp, Robert Watts, Steven Watts, Stephan Zajac.

Welcome to our Anniversary Parade! We are glad you can be with us today to help us celebrate our 90 years of dedicated service to the residents and businesses of the Eighth Utilities District.

Thank you for letting us serve you all these years.

Respectfully yours,
Hose Company Three
Manchester Fire Department
Eighth Utilities District



**NORTH AMERICAN FIRE
EXTINGUISHERS & EQUIPMENT**
Home & Industrial — Sales & Service

WAYNE BERRIAULT

Tel. 203 684-3608

STAFFORDVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06077

Route 19

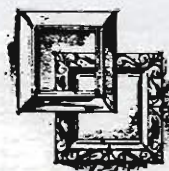
P. O. Box 145

Compliments off

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE CENTER, INC.

315 EAST CENTER STREET
TELEPHONE 646-6050
MANCHESTER, CONN.

Rodney T. Dolan Agency
W. I. Irish Insurance Agency
John Jenney Agency
Charles W. Lathrop Agency
Mucklow Insurance
Earle Rohan Agency



872-3840

MALLI FRAMES

8 WEST ROAD
ROCKVILLE, CONN. 06066

Archie-Martha-Nick Caros



WOODLAND GARDENS

168 WOODLAND STREET
MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT 06040

TELEPHONE
(203)643-8474

CAPITOL EQUIPMENT COMPANY

38 Main Street
Manchester, Connecticut

Lawn & Garden Equipment

Johnson Outboard Motors

Hal Burnett

phone: 203-643-6311

OVER 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

A. RAYMOND
ZERIO
& SONS

EVERYTHING IN CERAMIC TILE

- RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL •
- BATHROOM • OFFICE
- KITCHEN • STORE

NEW WORK OR REMODELING

FREE ESTIMATES

In Manchester Call - **643-5168**

TILE

- TILE
- LINOLEUM
- CARPETING

SLATE MARBLE

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
431 NEW STATE RD., MANCHESTER

BETTER SERVICE

GREATER SATISFACTION

MANCHESTER
Turnpike
TELEVISION APPLIANCES

FAMOUS BRANDS OF TELEVISION AND APPLIANCES

TEL. 649-3406

273 MIDDLE TPKE. WEST
MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040



EIGHTH DISTRICT AUXILLIARY



Original Hose Cart, purchased by Eighth District Fire Dept., restored and used for parades and musters today.



Water Safety and Rescue Unit of the Manchester Fire Dept.

F & M Schaefer Brewing Co.



79 Costello Road

Newington, Connecticut

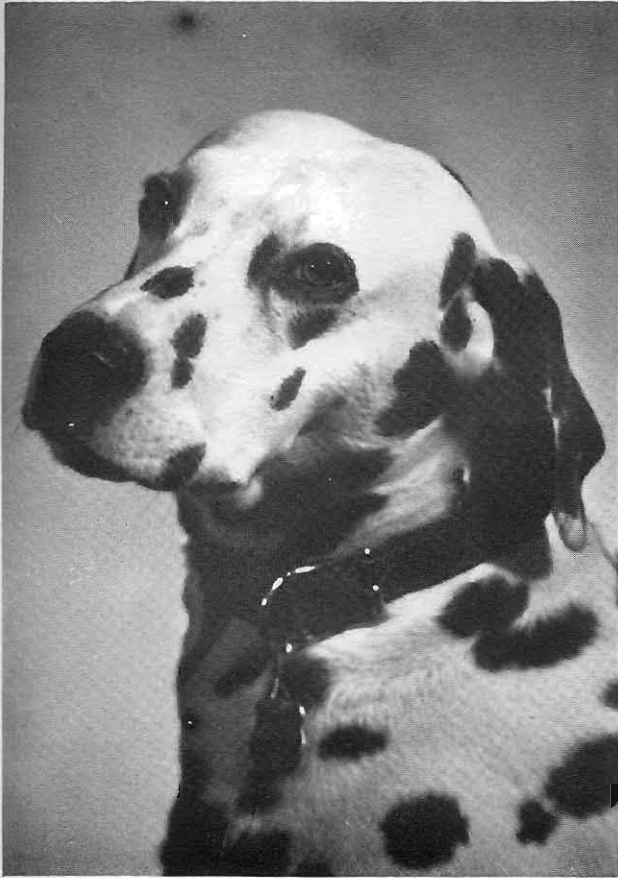
DILLON



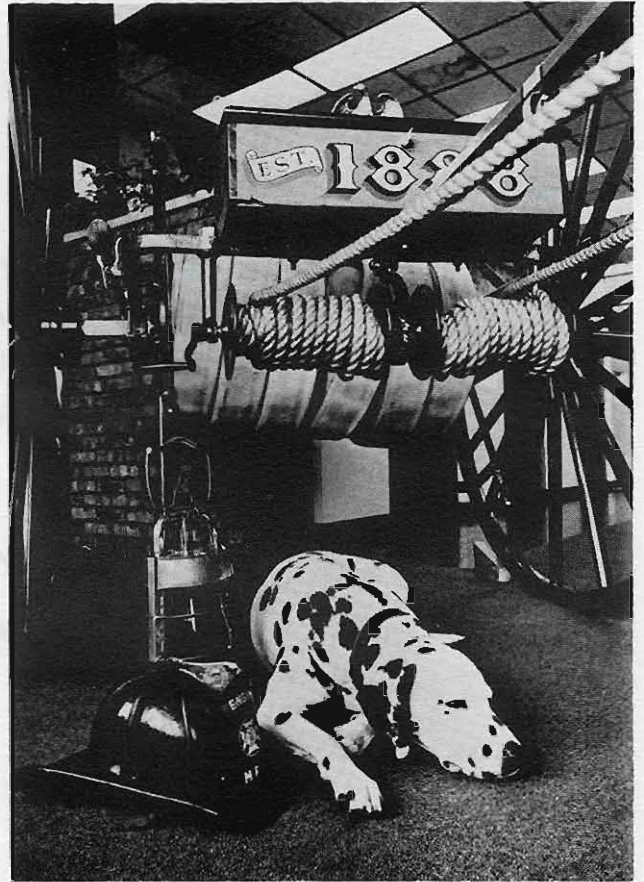
DILLON SALES & SERVICE, INCORPORATED

319 MAIN STREET ☐ MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

TELEPHONE 203 643-2145



Photograph By PETER BILLARD



SQUIRT

Squirt joined the Manchester Fire Department in February 1976. His name was chosen by the school children of the Eighth District. Squirt has many duties at the firehouse where he lives. Along with being the fireman's best friend, he holds an important position on the department's Bureau of Fire Prevention. Every year, Squirt visits the district schools with the fire prevention team. His job is to attract the children's attention so that they may learn the importance of fire safety.

The life of this fire dog is always busy.

If he is not visiting the school children or making a public appearance, he is at the firehouse watching over the equipment, waiting for a call. This Dalmatian proudly marches with the firefighters when the department represents Manchester in area parades. Squirt has had his picture in newspapers throughout the country and has even made a television appearance. The importance of our mascot cannot be measured in any way. We are very proud to have him as a member of our department.



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
WASTE WATER SYSTEMS • EROSION CONTROL
HYDROLOGY and DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
WATER SYSTEMS • HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES
SURVEYING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
TRANSPORTATION and TRAFFIC
PUBLIC WORKS MANAGEMENT
SITE PLANNING • HYDROGEOLOGY

210 Main St./Manchester, Conn. 06040
(203) 646-2469



manchester
sand & gravel
co.



ready mixed concrete
WASHED MASON & CONCRETE SAND

SEVEN CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

- MANCHESTER 643-2133
- HARTFORD 643-2133
- MONSON 267-5548
- STORRS 228-9463
- TOLLAND 875-6288
- COLUMBIA 228-9463
- ENFIELD 749-8336

E. Charles Hair Stylists

BY APPOINTMENT
PHONE 643-2103

311 GREEN ROAD
MANCHESTER CT. 06040



Gordon B. Lassow, President of the Eighth Utilities District, lives with his wife and three sons at 102 Holister Street. Mr. Lassow was raised and attended schools in Manchester. He has attended Boston University and the University of Connecticut. Mr. Lassow spent 8 years in the U.S. Air Force, 11 years working at Travelers Research Center and for the last five years, he has been president of Ellsworth and Lassow, Inc. Mr. Lassow has served as a director of Temple Beth Shalom and is a Trustee of Lutz Jr. Museum. As a resident of the Eighth Utilities District, he is a member of Engine Company #2. He served as a Director of the District for three years prior to being elected President.



RS & DEDICATED SERVICE ★ 1978



Left to right: Helen Warrington, Samuel Longest, Evelyn Grogan, Willard Marvin, Gordon Lassow, John Flynn, Lawrence Noone, Robert Froehlich, Howard Keeney.

Congratulations to
MANCHESTER FIRE DEPT.
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT

FARR'S INC.

2 MAIN STREET

"FOR ALL YOUR FUN NEEDS"

BICYCLES—MO-PEDS
CAMPING EQUIPMENT
SPORTING GOODS

TEL. 643-7111

OPEN MON. TO SAT. TO 9:00 P.M.

Compliments of

PERO FRUIT STAND

276 Oakland Street

Manchester, Conn.

Best Wishes to the Manchester Fire Dept.

on their 90th Anniversary from

MAGSON UNIFORMS

279 NEW BRITAIN ROAD

KENSINGTON, CONN. 06037

Best wishes

From

Donald S. Genovesi Ins. Agency

1011 MAIN ST., MANCHESTER, CT

Insurance with Personal Service

643-2131

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 90 YEARS
OF DEDICATED VOLUNTEER FIRE
SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF
THE EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT
From the Officers and Men of
THE VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT**



Ambulance Service of Manchester, Inc.

24 HOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE

OFFICE: 134 EAST CENTER ST., MANCHESTER
TEL. 643-0350

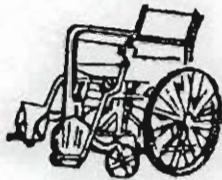
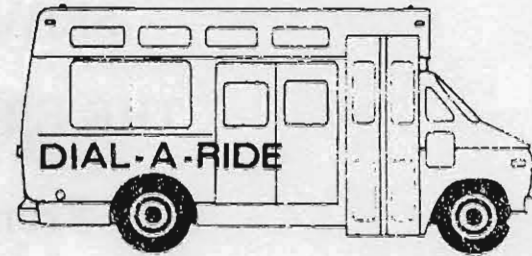


dial-a-ride

OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

134 EAST CENTER STREET
MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT 06040

TELEPHONE (203) 646-1140



Manchester Medical Supply inc.

134 EAST CENTER ST., MANCHESTER
649-9015

**WE SALUTE
THE**

90TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

**MANCHESTER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

STANDARD EDUCATORS, INC.

150 NORTH MAIN STREET

MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

DISTRIBUTOR OF THE NEW STANDARD ENCYCLOPEDIA

Congratulations on your 90th Birthday! All the people in Manchester should be very proud of you, since you have saved many lives and properties in the past years. We at Dynamic Metal Products are especially proud of District No. 8 for their tremendous effort in safeguarding this section of our beautiful community. Thank you!

Hans Weiss
President



Dynamic Metal Products Co., Inc.

422 N. Main St., Manchester, CT 06040, (203) 646/4048



Sheet metal and machining products fabricated for aerospace type products.

Congratulations and Best Wishes on your

90th Anniversary

PUMPERNICKEL PUB OF MANCHESTER

Opening Soon

Located At
432 OAKLAND ST.
NEXT TO ECONOMY
ELECTRICAL SUPPLY CO.
Phone 643-7822

In memory of Thomas J. Waddell who was a member and a volunteer of the Eighth District Fire Department for many years prior to his death in 1958.

ELLSWORTH & LASSOW, INC.

Petroleum Products — Wholesale & Retail

EFFICIENT SERVICE WITH MODERN EQUIPMENT—"Since 1931"

262 Oakland Street
Manchester, Conn.

heating oil & Gasoline distributor's



MAIN HARDWARE & SUPPLY CO.

1191 MAIN STREET
EAST HARTFORD, CONN. 06108

*Specializing in
Commercial, Industrial and Residential Hardware*

(203) 289-7761

Congratulations and Best Wishes

Howard L. Holmes

Arthur G. Holmes

Norman M. Holmes

Howard M. Holmes

LINGARD CABINET  COMPANY, INC.

77 WOODLAND STREET

MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT
06040

Manufacturers of
QUALITY CUSTOM MILLWORK

MEMBER
 **architectural
woodwork
institute**

In Memory of

Deputy Chief David A. Lynne
1936 - 1977

BLUE HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

from

MOTHER

The W. G. Glenney Co.
Home Improvement Center

Lumber—Building Materials—Kitchens—Millwork

Paneling—Electrical—Plumbing—Paints

Service & Quality since 1920. Delivery Available.

Store Hours: Manchester & Glastonbury Mon.-Wed. 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thurs. & Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Ellington & Willington, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. All locations open Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The W. G. Glenney Co.

336 N. Main St., Manchester

649-5253

Ellington—Glastonbury—Willington

WITH IT!

LIGHTING BY LIGHTOLIER

Turn on your home
with scintillating
sophisticated lighting.
As open and fresh as
the sea at sunrise. As
exhilarating as
fireworks at midnight.
Create a fun and flair
place using com-
positions of light and
space, mood and
magic.

ECONOMY

Electric Supply Inc.
440 Oakland Street (Rt. 83)
Manchester, Connecticut 06040
TELEPHONE (203) 646-2830



Vic's Pizza & Restaurant

ITALIAN AMERICAN FOOD
DINNERS - PIZZA - GRINDERS

649-3700

151 WEST MIDDLE TURNPIKE
MANCHESTER, CONN.

In dedication to the residents of the Eighth District, the members of Engine Company 2 present this portion of the program in appreciation for the confidence and support expressed throughout the ninety years of existence. With continued support, we volunteer the finest professional protection of life, property and limb for the preservation of the District and its residents.



Manchester Wallpaper & Paint Co., Inc.

PAINT and WALLPAPER SUPPLIES
CUSTOM FRAMING

185 WEST MIDDLE TURNPIKE
MANCHESTER, CT. • 646-0413



We'll call on you!

DAVID and AUDREY MORDAVSKY

830 Vernon Street
Manchester, Conn. 06040

643-9934

Food Supplements, Cleaners, Cosmetics

SHAKLEE CORPORATION Member Firm of Direct Selling Association

BONANZA SIRLOIN PIT

287 WEST MIDDLE TPKE.
MANCHESTER, CONN.

OPEN 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Manchester Fire Extinguisher Co., Inc.

6 DUVAL STREET

MANCHESTER, CONN. 06040

We Offer

A complete line of fire extinguishers for industrial, commercial, home, boat, camper & car.

All recharging done within a 24 hr. period & a loaner provided.

Automatic annual & semi-annual inspections to meet all OSHA requirements.

Hydro-static testing.

free pick-up & delivery in town.

"Owned and operated by a Former Fire Chief"

646-2632

Phone 646-0022



MEL KERR

161 Middle Turnpike W.
Manchester, Conn. 06040

TEL: 647-9161

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Quality Cabinet & Woodworking, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL - INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL
CUSTOM CABINETS - COUNTERS - FORMICA
MILLWORK - TRIM - BANK & OFFICE INTERIORS

640 HILLIARD STREET
STANLEY E. BLASCHIK & SONS MANCHESTER, CT. 06040

Best wishes to our Mutual Aid companions

Vernon Fire Department Co. 3

Best wishes to the

Manchester Fire Dept.

Donald F. Mordvasky

BILL TUNSKY ALUMINUM PRODUCTS
Manchester, Connecticut 06040
(203) 649-9095

BILL TUNSKY

PROGRAM PATRONS

Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Felletter
Mr. and Mrs. Fred McCurry
Alan Schoenfeld
Mrs. Margaret Welch
James Welch, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Leland Watts
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Luzusky
Bob and Marilyn Froehlich
Mr. and Mrs. Leo D. McNamara

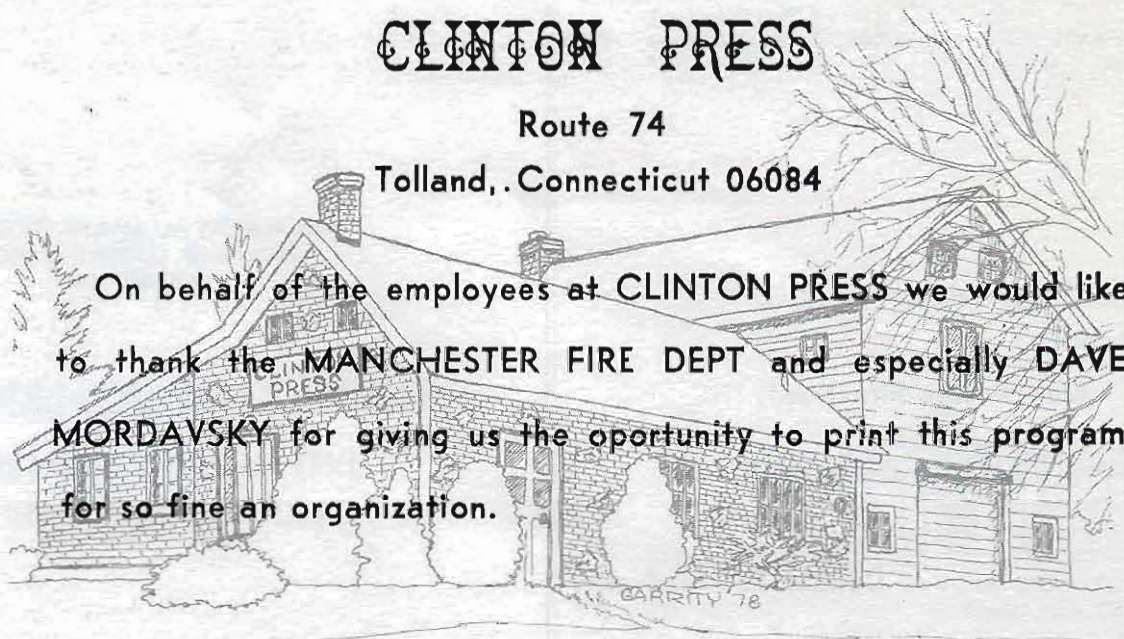
FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Robert Watts
Steven Watts
Gerry Kosak
Edwin Dezso
Theodore Roback
Paul V. Gworek
Anne M. Gworek

CLINTON PRESS

Route 74

Tolland, Connecticut 06084

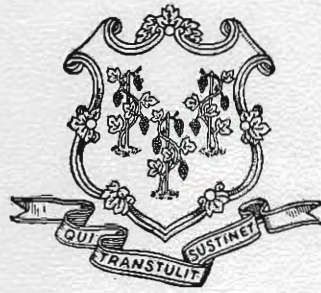


On behalf of the employees at CLINTON PRESS we would like to thank the MANCHESTER FIRE DEPT and especially DAVE MORDAVSKY for giving us the opportunity to print this program for so fine an organization.

"FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS"



State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency ELLA GRASSO, Governor: an

Official Statement

The Manchester Fire Department, Eighth Utilities District was established in 1888. Since that time, members of this outstanding organization have devoted their valuable skills and energy to protecting lives, homes and property.

The members of this excellent department deserve the highest praise for their great contributions and time-honored tradition of distinguished service to the health and welfare of our citizens.

There are currently 88 active volunteer members in the department, and 38 members are Emergency Medical Technicians. In addition, this organization has instituted a marvelous fire prevention education program in the Manchester School System.

The people of Manchester and all the citizens of our state take great pride in these accomplishments, achievements that reflect a deep and abiding concern for humanity and community service.

In recognition of this tremendous commitment and in tribute to the department on its 90th anniversary, I am proud to designate June 17, 1978 as Manchester Fire Department, Eighth Utilities District Day in Connecticut.

Ella Grasso
Governor.



Collage and Photographs by Emmet D. Genime, Department Photographer