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FIRE PROTECTION HISTORY-PART 13: THE SECRETARY'S REPORT- 4TH ANNUAL NFPA MEETING (1900)

By Richard Schulte

The fourth annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) was held in New York in June, 1900. The following is an excerpt of the NFPA Secretary's report submitted at the annual meeting:

“REPORT OF SECRETARY EVERETT U. CROSBY.

Secretary Crosby presented the following report:

GENTLEMEN: --

During the past Association year, the active membership has increased to 25 Boards and Bureaus, the Underwriters' Association of New York, the Underwriters' Bureau of Fire Protection Engineering and the Milwaukee Board of Fire Underwriters having joined our ranks. This membership may be considered as nearly complete and our Association is fortunate in being able to draw upon the experience gained throughout so wide a territory and in turn to have the sympathetic co-operation of influential organizations in promulgating such standards and disseminating such information as may result from our deliberations.

*The associate membership is but slightly increased, no special efforts having been made to that end. There are however, in the fire insurance fraternity many individual interested in **fire protection engineering** who are not brought in touch with our work through the Boards and Bureaus who are active members. We would welcome all such to associate membership.*

*In our last report, the need in this country of a testing station for fire protection research was noted. We are pleased to make mention of the **Underwriters' Laboratories in Chicago** operated by one of our Active Members, **The Underwriters' Bureau of Fire Protection Engineering**, now being employed to some extent by the **National Board of Fire Underwriters**. Their extensive facilities under the able direction of **W. H. Merrill, Jr.**, are at the disposal of the National Fire Protection Association.*

[Sprinkler Fire Record follows]”

Source: *NFPA Proceedings*, Volume 1897-1900

Once again we see the use of the term “*fire protection engineering*” being utilized. It is also worth noting the reference to the *National Board of Fire Underwriters*, a recent (1900) addition to the active membership rolls of the National Fire Protection Association.

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