

# SCHULTE & ASSOCIATES

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## **FIRE PROTECTION HISTORY-PART 4: NFPA OFFICERS FOR 1896-1897**

By Richard Schulte

The names on the roster of officers for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) back in 1896/1897 are not familiar names in the fire protection field. However, these gentlemen were indeed some of the pioneers in the field. Hence, it is worth a moment to review these names.

### *“[NFPA] OFFICERS FOR YEAR 1896-7*

#### *PRESIDENT.*

*C. C. Little, Chairman, Underwriters' Bureau Middle and Southern States.*

#### *VICE-PRESIDENT.*

*S. F. Lawton, Inspector, South Eastern Tariff Association.*

#### *SECRETARY AND TREASURER.*

*E. U. Crosby, Manager, Underwriters' Bureau of New England.*

#### *EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.*

*U. C. Crosby, Chairman, Factory Improvement Committee, New England Insurance Exchange.*

*F. E. Cabot, Assistant Secretary, Boston Board Fire Underwriters.*

*W. H. Stratton, Assistant Manager, Factory Insurance Association.*

*William A. Anderson, Superintendent, New York Broad Fire Underwriters.*

*William Bonner.*

*Charles A. Hexamer, Philadelphia Fire Underwriters' Association.*

*Robert Jardine, Inspector, Improved Risk Commission, Chicago.*

*Albert Blauvelt, Inspector, Western Factory Insurance Association.*

*Charles F. Hawes, Underwriters' Association of the Middle Department, Tarrytown, N.Y.*

*H. C. Stockdell, South Eastern Tariff Association.”*

**Source:** *NFPA Proceedings, 1897-1900*

While the names of the first officers of the NFPA may be unfamiliar to us, the organizations which these men represented give us an inkling of how the world of fire protection was organized in the United States at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and for much of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Clearly, the impetus for the development of the fire protection profession as we know it today was the fire insurance field. It wasn't until the late 1960's and early 1970's that the influence of fire insurance representatives in the fire protection field began to wane.

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