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FIRE PROTECTION HISTORY-PART 56: 1908 (TWELFTH ANNUAL NFPA MEETING- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT)

By Richard Schulte

The 12th annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) was held in Chicago in late May, 1908. The Executive Committee Report was presented after the Vice-President's address. The following is the text of the Executive Committee's report:

"We will now proceed with the regular order of business.

Next in order is the report of the Executive Committee.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mr. H. C. Henley (Chairman): Mr. President and Members of the National Fire Protection Association – Since the last annual meeting of the Association the Executive Committee has held three sessions, standing and special committees have been appointed, delegates to the annual meetings of other national organizations have been selected, and provision made for presentation of interesting papers at this meeting.

OBSERVANCE OF THE RULES AND LISTS OF APPROVED DEVICES.

We have urged a more general observance of the rules and lists of approved devices, and the results thus far have been most encouraging. It is hoped that all members will assist in the good work, thereby promoting one of the objects of the Association and bringing about uniformity of requirements throughout the country.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.

We have endeavored to increase the membership of the Association and the Secretary's report will show that a material increase has been obtained giving us the pleasure of welcoming many new members at this meeting.

PUBLICATION OF QUARTERLY MAGAZINE.

*The former Executive Committee referred to this Committee the matter of publication of a Quarterly Magazine in lieu of the Quarterly Bulletin as a means of increasing the amount of fire prevention and protection information which may be furnished our members. The Committee went fully into the details with Mr. Henry A. Fiske, Chairman of Committee on Special Hazards and Fire Records, and believing that the proposed publication would be of great benefit to the Association and its members through the dissemination of valuable information, authorized the publication, and Mr. Henry A. Fiske was selected as Editor. **The first number of the Quarterly was issued in July and the publication has fulfilled all expectations.***

Advance committee reports will be published and approved materials and devices will be listed in each issue, making a ready reference for those desiring the use of reliable goods.

Advertisement of a general character and of such devices and materials as are approved by this Association and the Underwriters' National Electric Association will be accepted.

JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEES.

The Executive Committee, recognizing the advantage accruing from meetings of Special Committee on Automatic Sprinklers and Special Committee on Devices and Materials being held at the same place and during the same week as the meeting of the Executive Committee, records its opinion in favor of a notice being sent to the chairman of all special committees advising that for fall meetings the second week in November is likely to prove as convenient as any for all committees to meet each year, and attempting by this means to make such time a fixture in Association affairs, as far as committee meetings at this season are concerned.

The following suggestion for change in the Articles of Association is submitted:

"The objects of this Association shall be to promote the science and improve the methods of fire protection and fire prevention; to obtain and circulate information on these subjects, and to secure the co-operation of its members in establishing proper safeguards against loss of life and property by fire."

During the past year, the Committee has been deprived through illness of the valuable counsel and advice of our President, Mr. W. W. Dudley, and it is our wish that a committee be appointed to call on our President, and that suitable resolutions be adopted expressing our sorrow. (Applause.)

The Chair: Gentlemen, you have heard the report of the Executive Committee; what is your pleasure? Unless I hear objection, the report will take the usual course.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Fire Protection Association, 1907-1908*

There are two points of interest contained in the Executive Committee's report. The first is the reference to the *NFPA Quarterly* publication and the second is the proposed change to the "Articles of Association" recommended.

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