



SCOTTISH HOME DEPARTMENT

Her Majesty's  
Inspector of Fire Services  
for Scotland

*Report for 1958*

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Scotland  
by Command of Her Majesty  
May, 1959*

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HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
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*Scottish Home Department,  
12/13 Carlton Terrace,  
Edinburgh, 7.*

18th March, 1959.

TO THE RIGHT HON. JOHN S. MACLAY, C.M.G., M.P.,  
*Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland.*

SIR,

1. I have the honour to submit my report on the Fire Services of Scotland for 1958.

**Inspection of Fire Brigades**

2. All fire brigades in Scotland were inspected during the year.

3. My certification of the continued efficiency of all fire brigades in Scotland can again be given this year but, perhaps, with more assurance because of the belief that the year has seen the passing of another milestone in the progress of the fire services. The way is opening up for further progress in the service in several important directions and previous necessary financial limitations on advancement are lessening. Although not a great deal of the materials effects of these improvements were evident in 1958 there is no doubt that initial action introduced during the year will bring increasingly effective improvements in the immediate future. The outstanding event in this regard is the circulation of the Report on Standards of Fire Cover which has been generally accepted by the Secretaries of State following its production by a Joint Committee set up by the Central Fire Brigades Advisory Councils of Scotland and England and Wales to consider and recommend to the Advisory Councils any necessary revision in the present standards of fire cover. This has coincided with a substantial improvement in whole-time strengths in brigades which in itself brings satisfaction but which also ensures that any adjustment found necessary by the review of fire cover will have practical results. Building in the fire services is going ahead more rapidly than at any time in the past decade and the recent introduction of the Local Government and Miscellaneous Financial Provisions (Scotland) Act, 1958, will offer fire brigade authorities greater freedom and flexibility in controlling local expenditure. Opportunity will be taken in the relevant sections of this report to refer in more detail to certain of these matters but it can be confidently asserted here that all this together with legislative developments likely in the sphere of fire prevention provide an inestimable opportunity for the fire services to make an even greater contribution to safety and economy in the country.

**Legislation**

4. The following regulations were made under various sections of the Fire Services Act, 1947, during the year :

(i) The Fire Services (Conditions of Service) (Scotland) Regulations, 1958, (S.I. 1958 No. 778 (S.35)), provided for increases in the pay of female members of brigades.

(ii) The Fire Services (Conditions of Service) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1958, (S.I. 1958 No. 1768 (S.88)), provided for increases in the pay of whole-time members of fire brigades below the rank of Assistant Firemaster and in the hourly rate of payment of overtime allowance.

(iii) The Firemen's Pension Scheme Order 1958, (S.I. 1958 No. 370), provided for the extension of the period of payment of a child's allowance, for the allocation of pension by a firemaster after the same qualifying period as lower ranks, and for retrospective pay increases awarded after the date of transfer to be excluded from transfer value calculations.

(iv) The Fire Services (Pensionable Employment) (Scotland) Regulations, 1958, (S.I. 1958 No. 540 (S.25)), replaced the Fire Services (Pensionable Employment) (Scotland) Regulations, 1953.

(v) The Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Scotland) Regulations, 1958, (S.I. 1958 No. 953 (S. 43)) replaced the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Scotland) Regulations, 1953.

### Establishment of Fire Brigades

#### *Uniformed—Operational*

5. The authorised establishments and strengths of uniformed operational members of Brigades as at 31st December, 1958, are shown in Table I of this report. The upward trend in the establishments of whole-time members is accounted for mainly by the opening of a new fire station to provide cover for developing fire risk, and by an increase at a fire station to improve fire cover and to compensate for deficiencies in retained firemen strength. Also officer posts have been regraded and adjustments have been made in specialist officer posts in one Brigade.

6. The really encouraging aspect of the Table is the much more healthy position of whole-time strengths in brigades. The overall deficiency in whole-time strengths of men at the end of the year was only twenty-eight. Reference to Table II attached to this report will show that in addition to a very satisfactory recruiting position wastage from brigades has materially lessened. The figure of 140 losses of men to the whole-time service during 1957 dropped by almost half in 1958 to 75. Quite apart from the more obvious effects of improved strengths, brigades previously substantially below strength are benefiting by being afforded a better choice of recruits, by retaining a higher percentage of trained men and by being in a position to take greater advantage of training facilities offered outside brigades.

7. Strength deficiencies are now more or less evenly spread over brigades and their existence is due almost entirely to the time lag between losses and the making of them good by recruitment. There is now practical justification for taking this factor into consideration when establishments are reviewed on the basis of the recommendations on standards of fire cover.

8. Part-time establishments have changed little if at all during the year. These and the relevant strengths in brigades are shown in Table I.

*Uniformed—Control Rooms and Watch Rooms*

9. Members of brigades employed whole-time on control room and watch room duties are as follow :

Rank	Fire Brigade Areas											Totals	
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanark-shire	North-Eastern	Northern	Perth and Kinross	South-Eastern	South Western	Western	Men	Women
	<i>Control Rooms</i>												
Station Officer ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Sub-Officer ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fireman ...	—	4	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Senior Leading Firewoman ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Leading Firewoman ...	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	8
Firewoman ...	6	—	7	12	7	5	2	2	5	2	9	—	57
Totals ...	8	5	8	13	8	13	2	2	8	3	9	11	68
<i>Watchrooms</i>													
Fireman ...	—	1	1	35	1	—	—	—	5	1	2	46	—
Firewoman ...	—	2	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	19
Totals ...	—	3	1	50	1	—	—	—	5	1	4	46	19
Gross Totals	8	8	9	63	9	13	2	2	13	4	13	57	87

*Non-Uniformed Staffs*

10. The authorised establishments of non-uniformed staffs employed by fire brigade authorities, other than workshops staffs which are listed under "Appliances and Equipment," are shown by the following table :

Departments	Fire Brigade Areas											Totals	
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanark-shire	North-Eastern	Northern	Perth and Kinross	South-Eastern	South Western	Western	Men	Women
	<i>Office</i>												
Men ...	1	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	11	—
Women ...	3	4	4	12	6	5	4	3	8	3	8	—	60
<i>Stores</i>													
Men ...	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	15	—
Women ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
<i>Others</i>													
Men ...	—	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	10	—
Women ...	4	3	3	18	6	1	1	1	1	—	7	—	45
Totals ...	10	9	8	44	16	8	6	5	14	6	16	36	106

**Health**

11. Health in the fire services during the year has been reasonably satisfactory as is instanced by figures which work out to show an average of 4 per cent sickness

for the year for uniformed whole-time male personnel. The slight bulge in the sickness rate in 1957 due to the influenza epidemic has receded and sickness not attributable to service has returned to near average at 16,616 on-duty days lost. Injury or sickness due to service in the same staff group shows no significant variation at 617 cases representing a loss of 3,062 on-duty days. It is perhaps of interest to record that only 148 cases contributed towards the total of on-duty days lost. In the other cases the injuries were slight or men refrained from losing working time. The latter tendency, of which there are many instances in the fire services, shows a devotion to duty of a high order but commendable only when exercised within the confines of medical advice.

12. For obvious reasons it is not sensible to attempt to record sickness in the part-time service to the same extent as for whole-time personnel. Injuries and sickness due to service, however, have been recorded for retained personnel, and the figures total 38 cases of which 18 have necessitated absence from duty to the total extent of 334 on-duty days.

13. It is with regret that I have to report that a whole-time sub-officer of the service collapsed and died on an appliance while proceeding to a fire. A retained fireman suffered serious injuries in falling from a roof during a fire and, at the end of the year, was still receiving hospital treatment.

### Discipline

14. As the table below indicates, discipline in brigades has been very well maintained during the year :

<i>Punishment Awarded</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>
Dismissal ... ..	1
Request to resign as an alternative to dismissal ...	<i>Nil.</i>
Reduction in rank ... ..	<i>Nil.</i>
Stoppage of pay ... ..	6
Reprimand ... ..	3
Caution ... ..	1

### Benevolence

15. The Scottish Group of the Fire Services National Benevolent Fund has continued its excellent work during the year. Although the income from donations did not reach last year's record total, credit is due to those who have worked so enthusiastically towards once again raising a large sum. As might be expected, the total amount paid out in grants from the Fund continued to increase and, as in past years, included a very substantial outlay for the benefit of fire service orphans whose allowances are being adjusted to keep pace with the rise in the cost of living.

16. The officials of the Fund are rightly proud of the ability of the Fund machinery to go into action very quickly where need demands. An example of this occurred this year when a substantial sum of money was paid out within 36 hours notice and thus successfully prevented the loss of a home.

### Training

17. During the year the following courses have been held at the Scottish Fire Service Training School, Gullane :

<i>Course</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>No. of Courses</i>	<i>No. Attending</i>
Recruits' ... ..	12 weeks	4*	179
Firemen's ... ..	3 "	2	16
Leading Firemen's ... ..	6 "	1	6
Sub-Officers' ... ..	6 "	1	5
Introductory Fire Prevention ... ..	8 "	1	7
Retained Men's ... ..	1 week	4	76

\* 7 weeks only of the first Course (Commenced 1957)

5 weeks only of the fourth Course (to be completed 1959)

18. With the considerable numbers of new entrants, particularly in the larger brigades, waiting to attend the Training School, courses for recruits again took first place in the programme of training. Unfortunately attendances at other courses, with the exception of that for retained men, continued to be disappointing and courses which had been planned had to be cancelled through insufficient nominations being received.

19. While recruit training must always have priority of place at the training school, it is very important to the general efficiency of the fire services that training is maintained for the other levels. A lower intake of recruits now seems likely in the future ; this and the review of fire cover in brigades, which, I hope, will make more reasonable allowance for central training than has been possible in the past, should enable courses at the training school to be resumed at the rate recommended by the Organisation and Training Committee as being necessary in the interests of maintaining brigade efficiency in this modern age of rapidly changing fire risks and hazards. Improved attendances at central training establishments must be accepted as an obligation on brigades if adequate progress is to be achieved.

20. In addition to three courses held during the Summer a course for retained men was held for the first time during the Autumn, thus providing for those men, in the tourist trade for instance, who have difficulty in leaving their employment during the Summer months. The additional course was reasonably well attended and next year it is proposed to extend the principle to a further course in the Spring.

21. The programme of replacement of appliances at the Training School has been further advanced during the year when a new water tender Type ' B ' and a reconditioned pump-escape were brought into commission. A further two appliances are now required to be purchased to complete the current replacement programme. The purchase of one of these has been approved for the next financial year.

22. It has long been felt that training in the use of breathing apparatus was a very necessary function of the Training School and to that end the Organisation and Training Committee recommended the erection of a special building for the purpose. After considerable research a structure was designed to enable progressive and up-to-date training to be given with the maximum safety and supervision. In the interests of economy in cost and space the plans also include features which allow the building to be used for purposes other than breathing apparatus training such as smoke drills for recruits and sprinkler demonstrations. The Ministry of Works have the preparatory work in hand and it is hoped that a start on the erection of the building can be made early in the next financial year.

23. Attendance figures for members of Scottish brigades at the Fire Service College, near Dorking, for courses in advanced training were again this year very disappointing. This is, of course, an indication of the continuing difficulties encountered by brigades in sparing officers and other ranks from the primary duty of providing fire cover, which I sincerely hope will be eradicated following the review of fire cover referred to in paragraph 19 above. Attendances at courses were :

<i>Type of Course</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Numbers Attending</i>
Senior Officers' Fire Prevention ... ..	2 weeks	4
Station Officers' Fire Prevention ... ..	4 "	2
Station Officers' Industrial ... ..	2 "	2
Sub-Officers' ... ..	4 "	2
Long Course Fire Prevention ... ..	16 "	3

24. It is with the greatest pleasure and relief that I am able to report that it has at last been possible to relax to some extent the prohibition, due to the need for economy, on the building of drill and hose drying towers at fire stations. It is very important that reasonable facilities are available at stations to enable constant practice in life saving and working at heights to be carried out. While it has only been possible to ease restrictions slightly the effect will be that in the near future these facilities should be available at least on a district basis. Ultimately, of course, every station should be so provided.

### Promotions Procedure

25. The last of the promotion examinations under the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Scotland) Regulations, 1953, took place in May. The results were :

	<i>Presentations</i>	<i>Passes</i>
Station Officers ... ..	120	22
Sub-Officers ... ..	90	39
Leading Firemen :		
Educational Subjects ... ..	77	67
Technical Subjects ... ..	70	30

26. The revised regulations affecting promotion examinations came into effect in July under the title Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Scotland) Regulations, 1958, and gave effect to recommendations made by the Fire Services (Scotland) Central Examinations Board. As required by the Regulations, practical examinations for promotion to sub-officer and leading fireman ranks were commenced in the Autumn. These will continue into the early part of 1959 so as to afford all candidates for these promotion grades an opportunity to qualify practically as a necessary preliminary to sitting the written parts of the examinations in April or May of that year. Thereafter practical examinations will be held in the Summer and Autumn months of each year and so avoid the pressure necessarily put upon candidates during the first year under the new arrangements in order to allow written examinations to proceed normally.

27. Arrangements were made for two panels of senior fire service officers to visit brigades for the purpose of taking the practical examinations. In that way candidates for those examinations have, for the most part, been able to take the examinations in surroundings and on appliances familiar to them. Candidates now have more time and a wider field in which to demonstrate their practical ability during the examinations.

28. To the end of the year five brigades had been visited and candidates from seven brigades examined. This represents about half the candidates for the examinations. It is, therefore, too soon to form any firm conclusions on the experience of operating the new arrangements but from preliminary observations it can be said that, apart from some minor teething troubles, they are working satisfactorily. A great deal of credit must go to members of the examining panels and to candidates who have responded without hesitancy in work that has kept them out of doors for long periods during extremely trying weather conditions.

29. Promotions during the year were, in the whole time service :

1 Divisional Officer (Grade I), 2 Divisional Officers (Grade II), 6 Divisional Officers (Grade III), 2 Assistant Divisional Officers, 20 Station Officers (including 6 temporary posts), 48 Sub-Officers (including 11 temporary posts), 42 Leading Firemen (including 9 temporary posts) : in the retained service : 1 Station



Officer, 8 Sub Officers (including 3 temporary posts) and 22 Leading Firemen (including 6 temporary posts).

### Appliances and Equipment

30. The slightly increased rate of replacement of fire appliances referred to in my last report has been maintained and during the year under review 29 new major fire appliances have been purchased and put on the run in brigades. These comprise 11 pump-escapes, 1 self-propelled pump, and 17 water tenders.

31. Amongst adaptations to existing appliances, a turntable ladder has been modernised by fitting a new diesel chassis and a hydraulically operated turret.

32. The number of personnel employed in brigade workshops at the end of the year is shown by the following table :

Rank	Fire Brigade Areas											Totals
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanark-shire	North-Eastern	Northern	Perth and Kinross	South-Eastern	South Western	Western	
Station Officer ... ..	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	6
Sub-Officer ... ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
Leading Firemen ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Fireman ... ..	7	—	—	14	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	23
Totals—Uniformed ...	9	1	1	16	1	4	—	1	—	1	2	36
Non-Uniformed ...	—	3	2	—	4	2	1	—	10	1	5	28
Gross Totals	9	4	3	16	5	6	1	1	10	2	7	64

### Premises

33. During the year under review some further progress has been made with the provision of modern fire stations with the result that at the end of the year 41 stations were of post-war construction. The importance of the replacement programme for premises throughout the fire services in Scotland is in no way reflected by the limited number of buildings completed. Limitations in the building programme have resulted as a direct consequence of restrictions necessarily placed on capital investment.

34. Some relaxations which have been possible in recent months have already brought improvement in building progress. Further alleviation is due to come from temporary concessions made in furtherance of the national employment policy as applied to special areas. The effect of this latter relief is likely to be more apparent in 1959 since it was only late in the year that additional projects were specifically approved.

35. These approvals include one which marks a further significant stage in building progress. Hitherto in the interests of spreading available capital as widely as possible only the minimum requirements were incorporated in new station building plans. It has, however, always been the policy so to plan new stations that ultimately they could be extended to include all the recommendations for modern fire brigade premises made by a technical committee set up for the purpose. Now, owing to the unusual circumstances, it has been possible to approve the extension of plans of one fire station in course of construction so that it will be built to the full requirements of modern standards.

36. The same factors are influencing progress in the erection of drill and hose drying towers, the effect of which is referred to in the section of this report headed "Training."

37. At the end of the year in the post-war building programme there had been achieved the following :

	<i>Whole-time</i>	<i>Retained</i>
(i) Stations replaced by entirely new buildings ... ..	10	31
(ii) New stations under construction ... ..	2	9
(iii) New stations authorised, but on which work has not been started ... ..	2	7
(iv) Major adaptations to existing stations :—		
(a) Completed ... ..	3	3
(b) In progress ... ..	1	—
(v) Properties purchased and adapted as fire stations ...	—	14

38. Progress continues in the provision of houses for firemen. At the end of the year 334 houses had been completed and 14 were in course of construction.

### Water Supplies

39. The position at the end of the year showed that about 39 per cent. of the country's hydrants were standard in all respects and, with the addition of those to which outlet adaptations have been applied, about 64 per cent. of all hydrants are standard as regards outlets. This represents a steady but somewhat slow general progress towards the ultimate aim of complete standardisation of all hydrants.

40. There must always be uneasiness in the minds of the Fire Service while any hydrants remain non-standard. The hazards associated with the existence of non-standard hydrants, contrary to normal expectation, tend to become accentuated as the percentage of non-standard hydrants decrease. There are definite operational advantages in speeding up the replacement rate and so shortening the vulnerable period. Some brigades have adopted a policy which enables the end of the period to be foreseen. It would be comforting to see that policy adopted by all brigades.

### Communications

41. Wireless communication facilities are now available to all but two of the eleven brigades but authority for the provision of wireless to serve one of these has been given and tests are being conducted on the ground to determine the most suitable scheme for adoption.

42. As the result of an established need for the introduction of machinery by which developments in wireless matters which affect the use of wireless by the police and the fire service could be kept under review, it has been agreed to set up a committee on which will be represented the police and fire services as well as the Scottish Home Department. In order to assist this committee in technical matters a subordinate committee is to be established formed of technical officers from the two services who will report to the parent committee on any wireless matters of general significance that come to their notice as well as exchange information about technical developments. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the parent committee will take place early in the new year.

43. Progress is being continued in the installation of long distance remote control systems for the alerting of personnel attached to retained stations.

## Fire Prevention

44. Fire prevention work in brigades continues to develop and to bring with that development a greater demand for advice. The field in which the fire prevention officer works is large and his duties so diverse that it is difficult to tabulate the results of fire prevention activities. Table 4 attached to this report attempts to set out the more readily recordable details of fire prevention work. It does not take into account any of the other activities of fire prevention officers such as advising architects at the planning stage of projects, consultation and discussion with managements and architects on sites, lectures to professional bodies, preparation of reports, giving demonstrations and training staffs in fire drills, all of which essential duties entail an increasing demand on fire prevention departments.

45. Table 4 does, however, show the result of increasing demands for advice by inspection. Total inspections have increased by 1,508 over the year and aggregate consistent increases in all groups of premises but, in the main, the increases occur only in initial inspections. Routine and follow-up inspections would appear to have been sacrificed to the greater demands in other directions.

46. Arrangements were put into effect in 1956 to enable closer liaison to be maintained between Inspectors of Factories and fire brigades. These arrangements have worked well and have reinforced an already close association between Inspectors and Fire Prevention Officers. The Factories Bill presently before Parliament will, if enacted, make the association permanent and official and enable a more uniform standard of fire prevention to be applied to factories.

47. Further important legislation before Parliament is contained in the Building (Scotland) Bill.\*

48. My past reports have on occasions stressed the desirability of maintaining a sufficient number of fire prevention officers in brigades. This is necessary not only to ensure the continuance of a satisfactory standard of fire prevention in brigade areas but also to allow for flexibility in the employment of officers generally in brigades. As secondary advantages there are the widening of fire prevention knowledge in brigades and the assistance afforded officers in seeking promotion. It is with some disappointment, therefore, that there are found to be very few fully qualified officers in reserve in brigades and, in fact, some brigades have fewer such officers than officers employed in the fire prevention departments. There is a reasonable reserve of members of brigades who have attended the Introductory Fire Prevention Course at the Scottish Training School but such a course, as its name implies, is introductory to the full course at the Fire Service College and attendance at the former course is not a qualification in itself.

49. The authorised staffing of fire prevention departments is shown by the following table :

Rank	Fire Brigade Areas										Totals	
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanarkshire	North-Eastern	Northern	Perth and Kinross	South-Eastern	South Western		Western
Divisional Officer Grade III ... ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Assistant Divisional Officer	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Station Officer ... ..	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	16
Sub-Officer ... ..	1	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	1	2	12
Totals ... ..	2	2	2	7	8	2	1	1	2	2	3	32

\* Now the Building Scotland Act, 1959.

### Mutual Assistance Arrangements

50. Once again the value of the mutual assistance arrangements between neighbouring brigades has been demonstrated. These arrangements were brought into existence under Sections 2 and 12 of the Fire Services Act, 1947, and now form an important part of the fire cover arrangements in brigades. Returns show that there were 693 occasions on which aiding brigades provided either whole or part of the first attendance at fires ; the highest number recorded since these arrangements were introduced. There were 11 occasions on which reinforcements were sent by neighbouring brigades.

### Fires and Other Occurrences

51. A summary of fires and special services attended by brigades during the year is given in Table 3 attached to this report. Excluding chimney fires brigades attended 10,223 fires. This is an increase of 766 on last year's total and exceeds by over 1,400 the annual average of about 8,800 fires since 1948 when local authorities resumed control of fire brigades. The increase has occurred mainly in the small fire category and probably reflects no more than fluctuations in the number of fires in domestic property resulting from variation in climatic conditions.

52. A number of large and difficult fires have occurred during the year but these have in no instance proved beyond the resources of brigades to handle.

53. The number of chimney fires continues to increase. This is a problem which is having the attention of a Sub-Committee of the Inter-Departmental Fire Prevention Committee, who have recently produced an interim report after consultation with the Joint Fire Research Organisation of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and Fire Officers' Committee. It has not, so far, been possible to attribute a cause to the increase but further consideration is being given to the whole question of chimney fires.

54. During the year thirty-four persons were rescued from fire by fire brigades and 145 rescues were performed at occurrences other than fires. It is with regret that I have to report that fifty-two lives were lost by fire including thirty-eight cases in which death occurred or fatal injuries were received before the arrival of the brigade.

### Civil Defence

55. No improvement has been made during the year in the strength of the Auxiliary Fire Service. At the 31st December the total strength was 939, comprising 701 men and 238 women. These figures vary from those for last year by an increase of 15 men and a decrease of 21 women.

56. The training of Royal Air Force National Servicemen has continued throughout the year but on a somewhat modified scale because of the reduced number of Servicemen available. All of this training is now concentrated in the Emergency Fire Service Training Establishment at Moreton-in-Marsh. The other establishment, Washington Hall, where preliminary training was hitherto given is no longer being used for that purpose. The termination of National Service will see the end of this source of trained and disciplined man-power for the Emergency Fire Service but the service will gain considerably by having available and reserved for Emergency Fire Service duties an appreciable number of Royal Air Force National Servicemen who have already been trained under the scheme which has been in operation since the middle of 1955.

57. The impetus of emergency training for the regular fire service has been stepped up during the year with the introduction at Moreton-in-Marsh Training Establishment of courses for senior officers and other ranks on the control, use and deployment of mobile columns. These courses commenced late in the year and the attendance of Scottish officers during the period was limited to six. In

a full year the Scottish attendance should be considerably more than this and from all ranks of the service.

58. Scottish fire brigade personnel continue to assist on the training staff at Moreton-in-Marsh and, prior to training being transferred from Washington Hall, on that training staff. Four Scottish officers served periods on one or other of the instructional staffs during the year.

59. Courses at Civil Defence Training Establishments were also attended by members of Scottish Fire Services, seven attending Sunningdale Civil Defence Staff College and twenty-seven one or other of the Civil Defence Training Schools.

60. During the year two major civil defence studies, each of a week's duration, were held at the Civil Defence Training School at Taymouth Castle, Perthshire, at which problems, including those of fire, were considered.

61. Turning to local emergency training the main problem continues to be the difficulty in getting members of the Auxiliary Fire Service to attend for training. Except for very recent recruits almost all of the few who attend regularly have completed their training and are eligible to attend fires with the regular firemen in order to obtain experience. The interest of those undergoing training is still largely on fire-fighting. This is indicated by the fact that whereas 61 per cent. of the auxiliary fire service personnel have completed training in fire service subjects only 27 per cent. have done so in civil defence subjects.

62. Local training, as distinct from, and in addition to, the specialised training being given at Emergency Fire Service and Civil Defence Training Establishments, is a feature of preparations for an emergency. So far as possible regular firemen undertake local training in civil defence. The organisation of this training has usually been a straight forward matter for the whole-time personnel despite the difficulties in earlier years of acute staff shortages and continual wastage, but it has not been equally simple to organise civil defence training for retained personnel, with whom, in addition to part-time availability and, very often, isolation of the unit, there is the inevitable conflict of claims on the limited training time of the men as between normal fire service training and exercises on the one hand and civil defence training on the other. This is reflected in the figures at the end of the year, which show that 79 per cent. whole-time but only 40 per cent. retained personnel completed training in civil defence work.

63. Some further equipment has become available and is being issued to brigades as required for training purposes. Special appliances are being loaned to brigades for varying periods for training and experimental purposes. The amount of this equipment is limited so that it is not possible, at present, to make permanent loans to brigades. A quantity of radiac training equipment has also become available and is being issued on permanent loan to brigades as this can be arranged.

### Appreciation

64. As in past years I have to record my appreciation of the consideration received by myself and the Assistant Inspector from members of fire brigade authorities and from firemasters, officers and men and women of fire brigades.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. WILSON,  
*H. M. Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland.*

TABLE 1

BRIGADE	WHOLE-TIME																	
	Elsewhere than at Fire Stations																	
	Men											Women						
	Authorised Establishment											Authorised Established						
	Firemasters	Assistant Firemasters	Deputy Firemasters*	Divisional Officers (Grade I.)	Divisional Officers (Grade II.)	Divisional Officers (Grade III.)	Assistant Divisional Officers	Station Officers	Sub-Officers	Leading Firemen	Firemen	Total	Actual Strength	Senior Leading Firewomen	Leading Firewomen	Firewomen	Total	Actual Strength
Angus ...	1	—	D.O. I.	1	—	1	1	2	1	1	7	15	15	2	—	6	8	8
Central ...	1	—	D.O. I.	1	—	1	—	3	1	—	4	11	11	—	—	—	—	—
Fife ...	1	—	D.O. II.	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	1	8	8	—	—	7	7	7
Glasgow ...	1	1	—	1	2	6	1	5	4	—	—	21	21	—	—	12	12	12
Lanarkshire	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	4	6	—	3	17	17	1	—	7	8	8
North-Eastern	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	3	2	2	5	16	15	1	3	6	10	9
Northern ...	1	—	D.O. III.	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	6	6	—	—	2	2	2
Perth & Kinross	1	—	D.O. III.	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	5	5	—	—	3	3	2
South-Eastern	1	1	—	2	—	1	2	1	3	—	—	11	9	—	4	4	8	8
South Western	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	7	7	—	1	3	4	3
Western ...	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	2	2	—	—	9	8	—	3	6	9	9
Totals ..	11	6	—	5	5	16	8	25	26	3	21	126	122	4	11	56	71	68

\* This column shows the rank of Deputy Firemasters (where not otherwise shown).  
D.O.—Divisional Officer.

AND STRENGTH OF FIRE BRIGADES

December, 1958

At Fire Stations														PART-TIME						GROSS TOTALS						
Men							Women							Retained						Volunteer		Men		Women		
Authorised Establishment							Authorised Establishment							Authorised Establishment												
Assist	Station Officers	Sub-Officers	Leading Firemen	Firemen	Total	Actual Strength	Leading Firewomen	Firewomen	Total	Actual Strength	Station Officers	Sub-Officers	Leading Firemen	Firemen	Total	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength	Authorised Establishment	Actual Strength
—	5	9	9	85	108	107	—	—	—	—	4	8	13	100	125	105	—	—	248	227	8	8	—	—	—	—
—	6	8	13	89	116	113	—	—	—	2	1	5	22	190	218	158	24	24	369	306	—	2	—	—	—	—
—	5	6	10	64	85	86	—	—	—	—	2	13	21	144	180	145	—	—	273	239	7	7	—	—	—	—
1	29	43	60	556	689	682	—	15	15	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	710	703	27	27	—	—	—	—
—	7	21	9	126	163	159	—	—	—	—	—	11	13	117	141	122	106	20	427	318	8	8	—	—	—	—
—	4	9	9	80	102	100	—	—	—	—	4	21	70	380	475	399	27	27	620	541	10	9	—	—	—	—
—	1	2	2	17	22	22	—	—	—	—	7	19	20	141	187	177	203	211	418	416	2	2	—	—	—	—
—	3	1	3	27	34	34	—	—	—	—	—	5	25	135	165	142	9	7	213	188	3	2	—	—	—	—
—	16	27	15	221	279	278	—	—	—	—	6	21	33	239	299	262	—	—	589	549	8	8	—	—	—	—
—	4	12	12	84	112	111	—	—	—	—	3	36	44	337	420	375	50	24	589	517	4	3	—	—	—	—
—	10	18	12	150	190	184	—	—	—	2	5	15	27	226	273	226	208	171	680	589	9	11	—	—	—	—
1	90	156	154	1499	1900	1876	—	15	15	19	32	154	288	2009	2483	2111	627	484	5136	4593	86	87	—	—	—	—

CHANGES IN WHOLE-TIME STRENGTH DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958

TABLE 2

Brigade	LOSSES												GAINS							
	BY DEATH		BY RESIGNATION				BY DISCHARGE		BY RETIREMENT ON PENSION		BY RETIREMENT ON GRATUITY		BY TRANSFER TO OTHER BRIGADES		BY RECRUITMENT		BY TRANSFER FROM OTHER BRIGADES		TOTALS	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Angus ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
Central ...	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	7	—
Fife ...	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	—	11	3
Glasgow ...	—	—	10	4	7	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	29	7	12	1	100	12
Lanarkshire ...	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	4	5	4	5	4
North-Eastern ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	6	1	7	—
Northern ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Perth and Kinross ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South-Eastern ...	—	—	1	2	2	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	10	3	7	4	7	4
South Western ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	7	—	7	—
Western ...	—	—	—	4	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	1	13	3	15	3
Totals ...	—	—	16	8	23	11	6	1	7	2	12	—	—	—	75	22	156	27	164	27



SUMMARY OF FIRES AND SPECIAL SERVICES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958

TABLE 3

Fire Area	Fires requiring the attendance of								Total Fires	Chimney Fires	False Alarms			Total Fire Calls	Special Services
	1 Pump	2 Pumps	3-4 Pumps	5 Pumps	6-8 Pumps	9-10 Pumps	11-15 Pumps	Malicious			With good intent	Total			
Angus ...	525	41	19	1	—	—	—	—	586	871	46	159	205	1,662	266
Central ...	722	17	2	—	—	—	—	—	741	553	52	176	228	1,522	45
Fife ...	527	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	543	600	23	63	86	1,229	74
Glasgow ...	2,515	—	4	20	2	—	1	—	2,542	2,340	715	2,191	2,906	7,788	318
Lanarkshire ...	1,168	37	8	1	—	—	—	—	1,214	510	127	195	322	2,046	170
North-Eastern ...	751	25	1	1	—	—	—	—	778	746	19	117	136	1,660	100
Northern ...	203	27	5	1	—	—	—	—	236	266	12	19	31	533	25
Perth and Kinross	269	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	281	312	8	37	45	638	22
South-Eastern ...	1,501	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	1,511	2,137	92	435	527	4,175	28
South Western ...	699	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	708	494	17	116	133	1,335	91
Western ...	1,066	14	3	—	—	—	—	—	1,083	721	79	220	299	2,103	71
Totals ...	9,946	199	50	25	2	—	1	—	10,223	9,550	1,190	3,728	4,918	24,691	1,210

**FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS  
DURING THE YEAR ENDED**

**TABLE 4**

(I)  FIRE AREA	(II) Industrial or Business Premises or Undertakings					(III) Local Authority Premises or Undertakings other than headings (IV) or (V)					(IV) Schools				
	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total
Angus ... ..	37	39	8	—	84	23	1	—	—	24	9	9	2	—	20
Central ... ..	92	215	46	17	370	9	41	3	1	54	30	24	7	22	83
Fife ... ..	24	129	—	60	213	2	5	—	—	7	9	32	—	2	43
Glasgow ... ..	41	175	—	2	218	3	327	—	—	330	44	5	—	—	49
Lanarkshire ... ..	374	2543	—	427	3344	21	107	—	36	164	5	252	—	15	272
North-Eastern ... ..	23	62	5	17	107	12	—	—	—	12	66	55	11	4	136
Northern ... ..	4	110	1	24	139	—	12	—	2	14	5	52	—	18	75
Perth and Kinross ... ..	6	11	57	31	105	—	6	23	7	36	7	19	8	22	56
South-Eastern ... ..	28	126	—	—	154	1	17	—	—	18	22	38	—	—	60
South Western ... ..	2	37	—	2	41	—	5	—	—	5	6	17	—	—	23
Western ... ..	7	157	—	283	447	1	96	—	—	97	12	103	580	—	695
Totals ... ..	638	3604	117	863	5222	72	617	26	46	761	215	606	608	83	1512

Note.—For the purposes of this table the terms "Survey," "Specific Inspection," "Routine Inspection," and "Follow-up 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."

# UNDERTAKEN BY FIRE BRIGADES

31st DECEMBER, 1958

(V) Hospitals, Homes, &c.					(VI) Cinemas, Theatres, and other places of Public Entertainment or Assembly.					(VII) Miscellaneous premises or Undertakings not included elsewhere in this Table					(VIII) Gross Totals				
Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total	Full Survey	Specific Inspection	Routine Inspection	Follow-up Inspection	Total
21	13	3	—	37	225	6	451	30	712	215	43	—	—	258	530	111	464	30	1135
25	49	30	4	108	13	123	293	17	446	9	128	9	—	146	178	580	388	61	1207
2	44	5	4	55	29	84	204	185	502	10	43	—	—	53	76	337	209	251	873
7	6	—	1	14	—	234	404	—	638	—	28	—	—	28	95	775	404	3	1277
5	95	—	3	103	330	397	—	1661	2388	1	93	—	—	94	736	3487	—	2142	6365
10	69	62	3	144	3	221	140	39	403	18	39	1	1	59	132	446	219	64	861
2	35	—	7	44	—	23	14	10	47	2	120	—	15	137	13	352	15	76	456
1	—	5	2	8	—	5	55	2	62	11	26	88	36	161	25	67	236	100	428
7	59	—	—	66	12	368	—	—	380	21	59	—	—	80	91	667	—	—	758
2	7	—	7	16	4	28	518	1	551	5	8	—	1	14	19	102	518	11	650
11	102	—	—	113	6	195	520	—	721	3	61	—	—	64	40	714	1100	283	2137
93	479	105	31	708	622	1684	2599	1945	6850	295	648	98	53	1094	1935	7638	3553	3021	16147

**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.

**Follow-up Inspection.** An inspection made following a survey or specific inspection to note progress or to advise on detail.

TABLE 5 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR THE LOCAL FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED MAY, 1958

Fire Brigade Authority	GROSS EXPENDITURE										Net Expenditure Approved for Fire Services Grant (See footnote)
	Pay and Allowances	Pensions, Gratuities, etc.	Buildings	Clothing and Personal Equipment	Appliances and Vehicles	Com- muni- cations	Water Supplies	Other Expendi- ture	Total Gross Expendi- ture	Income (other than Fire Services Grant)	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Angus ...	99,802	4,335	16,375	2,723	18,065	3,094	10,471	4,313	159,178	7,945	151,233
Central ...	104,812	2,192	44,038	4,153	18,160	2,393	5,927	7,081	188,756	8,361	180,395
Fife ...	75,730	2,073	25,540	2,101	14,283	4,522	7,052	2,336	133,637	7,055	126,582
Glasgow ...	434,054	38,008	77,156	18,853	50,496	7,179	17,298	6,982	650,026	36,960	613,066
Lanarkshire ...	136,885	5,181	41,085	4,774	22,986	3,705	13,923	5,374	233,913	10,602	223,311
North-Eastern ...	106,276	5,441	13,551	4,645	22,095	7,486	8,006	8,692	176,192	8,380	167,812
Northern ...	35,484	306	6,352	1,345	10,929	1,809	2,350	1,721	60,296	2,928	57,368
Perth and Kinross	37,437	1,542	7,495	950	7,409	1,725	2,355	1,707	60,620	3,598	57,022
South-Eastern ...	217,188	12,223	17,422	4,617	28,259	5,374	10,015	9,430	304,528	14,904	289,624
South Western	105,276	3,893	13,589	5,099	14,246	3,820	5,240	7,656	158,819	7,690	151,129
Western ...	146,273	7,223	12,801	5,166	22,501	3,181	13,431	6,520	217,096	10,801	206,295
TOTAL ...	1,499,217	82,417	275,404	54,426	229,429	44,288	96,068	61,812	2,343,061	119,224	2,223,837

Fire Services Grant paid by the Scottish Home Department amounted to one quarter of the net expenditure. The sum of £35,097 0s 0d was incurred by the Scottish Home Department on the provision and maintenance of Training Centres. Of this amount the sum of £24,980 0s 0d was recovered from Fire Brigade Authorities by deduction from Fire Services Grant.

In the case of certain of the constituent fire authorities the expenditure not met from Fire Services Grant qualifies for Eschequer Equalisation Grant under the Local Government (Financial Provisions) (Scotland) Act, 1954.

The statement does not include expenditure incurred on the Auxiliary Fire Service.

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