

City Gets Its Fire Brigade Back After Seven Years

WITH shining engines bearing their new Sheffield designations, Sheffield N.F.S. yesterday became the City of Sheffield Fire Brigade again, after nearly seven years' national control.

At the Central Fire' Station, Division Street, civic heads inaugurated the new localised service in speeches. Then they watched a fire-fighting display that packed an hour with thrilling incident.

The Brigade is restored to the s city with 39 pre-war members among a total of 160. Over 30 manned a turntable ladder, foam tender, limousine pump, pump, escape, and other appliances in yesterday's mimic fires in the station buildings.

Whisked to Safety

One highlight was the rescue of a "civilian" from a roof blaze 30 feet above ground. His braces humorously aflutter in the wind, he yelled frenzied commands to' "fetch the Fire Brigade" as he clung to the gutter.

But the Brigade had already; "arrived," and he was whisked to safety down two hook ladders in less time than it takes to type the tale.

A big tank of blazing oil in the centre of the yard was quenched in seconds with, foam, and there was a "major incident" in which nine jets made the water fly.

Watching the display, which followed a reception and parade, were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Ald. and Mrs. W. E. Yorke), the Master and Mistress' Cutler (Mr and Mrs. E. W. Senior), Ald. Thraves and Coun. W. Cooke (chairman and deputy chairman of the Watch Committee). Mr. H. Reynolds (Chief Fire Officer, Sheffield Fire Brigade).Mr. W. Farnham (Assistant Chief Constable) and members of the Watch Committee and the City Council.

New Technique

Thraves, who presided, said it was true that the service would cost the city much more than it used to cost, but it was equally true that the fire service of the country had never been as efficient as it was today. That left very little to grumble at.

New technique of fire prevention liaison with employers had grown out of the war. The conditions of the men had improved, and they would not suffer by restoration to local control.

Mr. Reynolds said he was well satisfied with the Sheffield team chosen, and his aim would be a standard of efficiency pre-eminent in the country, at the smallest possible expense to the ratepayers.

The Lord Mayor, after reading an extract from a letter he had received from the Home Secretary (Mr. Chuter Ede), said Sheffield citizens would regard expenditure on Fire Brigade efficiency as a good investment.

Supervising the display were Div. Officer B. Jones (second in command) and Div. Officer S. Lambert (third officer).

FOOTNOTE: Crews stood by to deal with fire calls while the display was on. There was one call - to a small fire on old property in Arundel Lane.