

Plaque To Blitz Firemen



Memories of the blitz were revived at Sheffield Fire Station today when a plaque was unveiled to firemen killed on duty since 1931 - some of them on December 12-13, 1940.

NEARLY 50 relatives and former members of the war-time A.F.S. attended the ceremony, and the Lord Mayor, Ald. Peter Buchanan, unveiled the oak plaque, bearing the firemen's names, which has been placed next to the main entrance.

The Chief Fire Officer, Mr. H. J. Reynolds, said that he hoped no further names would ever have to be added to the plaque.

"But I am confident that no demand will ever be made of members of this Brigade which will not be met with that un-flinching courage and devotion to duty which has been so characteristic of the fireman."

The Names

The six firemen who died in the blitz were: F. P. Spencer; A. Moore; A. Garlick; S. Slack; T. Stacey. and J. W. Swaby. and a Sheffield Water Department turncock, N. Elliott.

Other names on the plaque are: A. Cornish (killed in fire, 1931); H. F. Parkinson (died from smoke, 1943); H. Gannon and J. Pardon (killed in crash on way to fire, 1944); L. Harrison (killed in minefield while on transfer); M. Rawnesley (died of injuries, 1945); and C. Hill (died while rescuing a cat, 1950).

The chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee, Coun. H. Redgate, also spoke, and the Rev. Roland Wilson dedicated the plaque.

Mr. G. E. Scott, the Chief Constable. Mr.Noel Wood. general manager of the Water Department, and Major J. W. Merryweather. Commandant of the former A.F.S., also attended.