

## **BURY FIRE BRIGADE.**

### **A Remarkably Smart Turn-out.**

#### **Up-to-date Additions.**

The members of the Bury St. Edmund's Fire Brigade were called out on Monday night. but they had no work to do, for on arrival at the Fire Station, they found it was a test call, arranged by the new Chief Officer (Capt. A. Groves), who was extremely pleased with the result of the test. He had good reason to be so. Capt. Groves had given no one any idea of his move, and at 10.10 'phoned the police station to set the fire bells ringing at the houses of the men. He himself was in-side the Fire Station with the lights out and kept strict time records.

In less than one minute, three men were at the station, hastily unlocking the doors and switching on the lights to get the apparatus out. In 1½ minutes there were seven men at the station, and in six minutes 13 had responded, some of them a living a distance away and one or two having just got into bed when the call came. Capt. Groves warmly commended the brigade on the smartness of the turn-out; and soon dismissed the members to allow them to return to the snugness of their beds. It was probably the best test yet made, and was a credit to the Brigade in all respects.

Since the recent re-organisation of the brigade, we note several alterations have been made at the Fire Station. The old steamer [pump] and the manual [pump] have been moved to a garage in High Baxter Street, from which building they can be got out at any time without difficulty. Their removal gives much-needed room at the Fire Station for the more important other appliances, viz, the motor tender, the Merryweather pump, the escape, etc.

We note that 35 feet extension ladders have now been fixed on to the motor tender to give added facilities to the brigade at any fire it required before the arrival of the escape, and we understand that on order also are a Foamite extinguisher for dealing with petrol and oil fires, and also one of the latest type self-contained oxygen-breathing apparatus to enable a fireman to go into smoke or gases without danger. This apparatus has a cylinder which lasts a man for half-an-hour and refills also will be carried. Capt. Groves has, of course, had experience with such apparatus at Brighton, and he intends giving the brigade a course of training in its use.

The social side of the brigade also is being developed, and on Monday evening the brigade decided to form a Competitions and Recreation Club, a committee being elected with Capt. Groves as chairman and hon. treasurer, and Driver Lawson as hon. secretary. It was decided to hold a whist drive on March 13th for the club funds, to prepare for competition work, etc.

*From a newspaper cutting, date unknown, probably around 1925-30.*