

MOORHEAD FIRE DEPARTMENT
1974
ANNUAL FIRE REPORT

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Moorhead Fire Department

1120 - 1st AVENUE NORTH
MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA 56560
PHONE 236-6542



GARFIELD F. ANDERSON
Fire Chief

MORRIS KELSVEN
Ass't. Fire Chief

LT. MARLAN ANDERSON
Fire Prevention Bureau

January 30, 1975

To The Honorable Mayor and
Members of The City Council
Moorhead, Minnesota

Dear Council Members:

1974 was a year of great change. The era of Chief N. B. Remley and Chief F. I. Remley came to an end after 59 years of continuous service as Chief Officers of the Moorhead Fire Department. The officers and men of the department will strive to carry on the traditions of the past by giving the citizens of Moorhead the best possible fire protection.

The fire loss for 1974 dropped by 54% under 1973, to \$124,596. The number of fire runs was one less (286), than the previous year. (see the attached forms)

Our largest single loss for 1974, occurred on October 14, at the Eastgate Manor Apartments, a 124 plex. The loss was \$25,000. Three persons were rescued from a third floor apartment by using ladders. I might say here that I am concerned about the 61% increase in apartment house fires over the past year. We have now started company inspections at least three times a year. The second largest loss was at the Country Kitchen on June 13, 1974, and the loss was \$19,000.

Some of the high-lites of the past year are as follows:

1. Lieut. Orval Jahr retired. Dean Nelson was promoted to Lieut.
2. Company inspections were started.
3. Michael Sigdestad was appointed to the Fire Department.
4. On March 14, 1974, the Fire Department took over the Fire Prevention Bureau program. Marlan Anderson was promoted to Lieut. in charge of inspections. (see attached report)
5. Ten emergency call boxes were installed in the downtown area.
6. A retirement party was held for F. I. Remley. A council resolution named the Northside Station the "Remley Station".

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7. Assistant Fire Chief Garfield Anderson was appointed Fire Chief. Morris Kelsven was appointed the Assistant Fire Chief. Lloyd Emerson was promoted to Liet.
8. Roy Simmons was appointed to the Fire Department.
9. Telephone pagers were installed for call backs.
10. In August tests were given for new firefighters. Ten men qualified.
11. Weekly meetings were set up between the Fire Prevention Bureau and the Codes Office to talk over inter-related building plans and problems.
12. All fire hydrants were flow tested. Problems with the Public Service Department were worked out.
13. In October a new 858 Sutphen Aerial Tower was ordered with the delivery date in early 1977.
14. Because of the Federal Fair Labor Standard Act, the work hour week was reduced to 56 hours, effective January 1, 1975.
15. Effective January 1, 1975, rural fire protection to five Townships will be discontinued due to t lack of contracts.

Training report and schools attended in 1974:

1. Three men, Don Johnson, Gary Schulz, and Dalan Rasmussen will complete the Emergency Medical Technician course this February, after 100 hours. They will join Lieut. Lloyd Emerson, Dave Pederson, Ordell Lienes and Marty Soeth as Nationally Registered EMT's on our department.
2. Schools attended:
 - a. Three men to the Fire Department Instructors Conference
 - b. Three men to the Minnesota State Fire School.
 - c. Chief Anderson, Instructor at the Minnesota State Sectional School, in Firefighting Tactics.

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- d. One man to the Minnesota Protection Council.
 - e. Sixteen men attended four quarterly meetings and school of the Northwest Regional Firemens Association.
 - f. Chief Anderson attended the International Fire Chiefs Assoc.
 - g. Chief Anderson attended the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Conference.
3. First Aid classes given to the Vocational School, Moorhead State College, playground supervisors, Boy Scouts, Homemakers Clubs, etc.
 - a. Dave pederson, 12 classes.
 - b. Marty Soeth, 4 classes.
 - c. Lloyd Emerson, 3 classes.
 4. Fire extinguisher classes given to colleges, schools, and hospitals.
 - a. Assistant Chief Kelsven, 10 classes.
 - b. Lieut. Marlan Anderson, 22 classes.
 5. We try to hold 2 hour training sessions each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at each station. The Fire Department subjects covered were:

Forcible entry, ventilation, masks, ladder practice, hose layout, First Aid, (all but the two newest hold advance First Aid cards) hydraulics, fire stream practices, inspection procedures, ropes, fire codes, firefighters safety, portable equipment, personal equipment, salvage, L. P. gas, transportation disasters, arson fire information and field investigation, dragging operations, anhydrous amonia and chemical fires, fire estinguishers, rescue practices, pumper drafting, and driving classes every Monday.
 6. An agreement was made with the Fargo Fire Department in which we have consolidated all training aids, (slide programs, overhead transparencies, tapes, and films) in this way we don't have to suplicate and can exchange bak and forth.

We have pre-planned the following buildings: all High Rise buildings, Standard Oil Terminal, Silverline, Eventide, Kassenborg Block, Associate Arts, all grain elevators, Concordia College and the Holiday Mall.

This report also conveys Thank You to the Mayor and the City Council, and a special Thank You to the members of the Public Savety Committee, for their help and direction they have given to me and the department, in the last seven months.

Respectfully submitted,

Garfield F. Anderson, Fire Chief

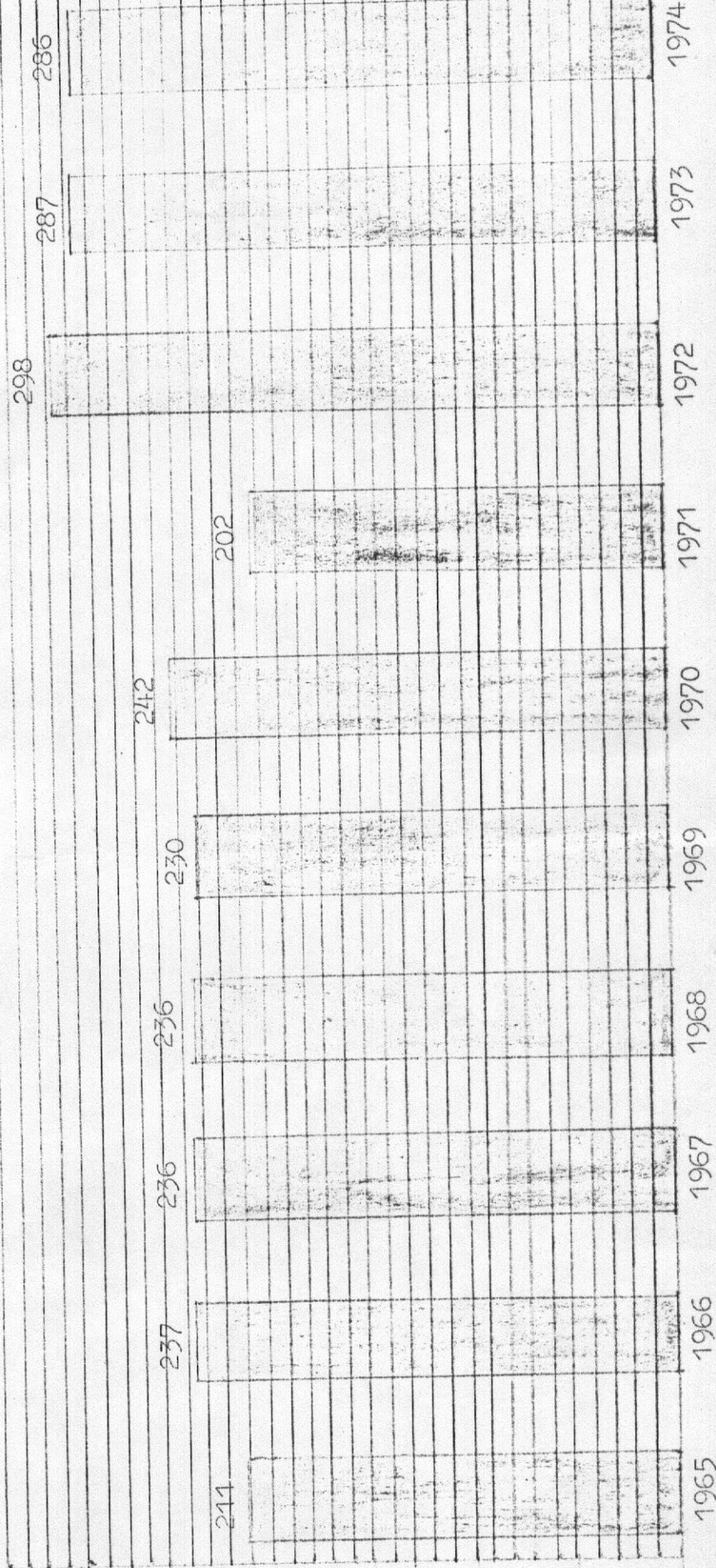
Number of Alarms 91, 230
 Fire Losses \$2, 210

For the year 1974

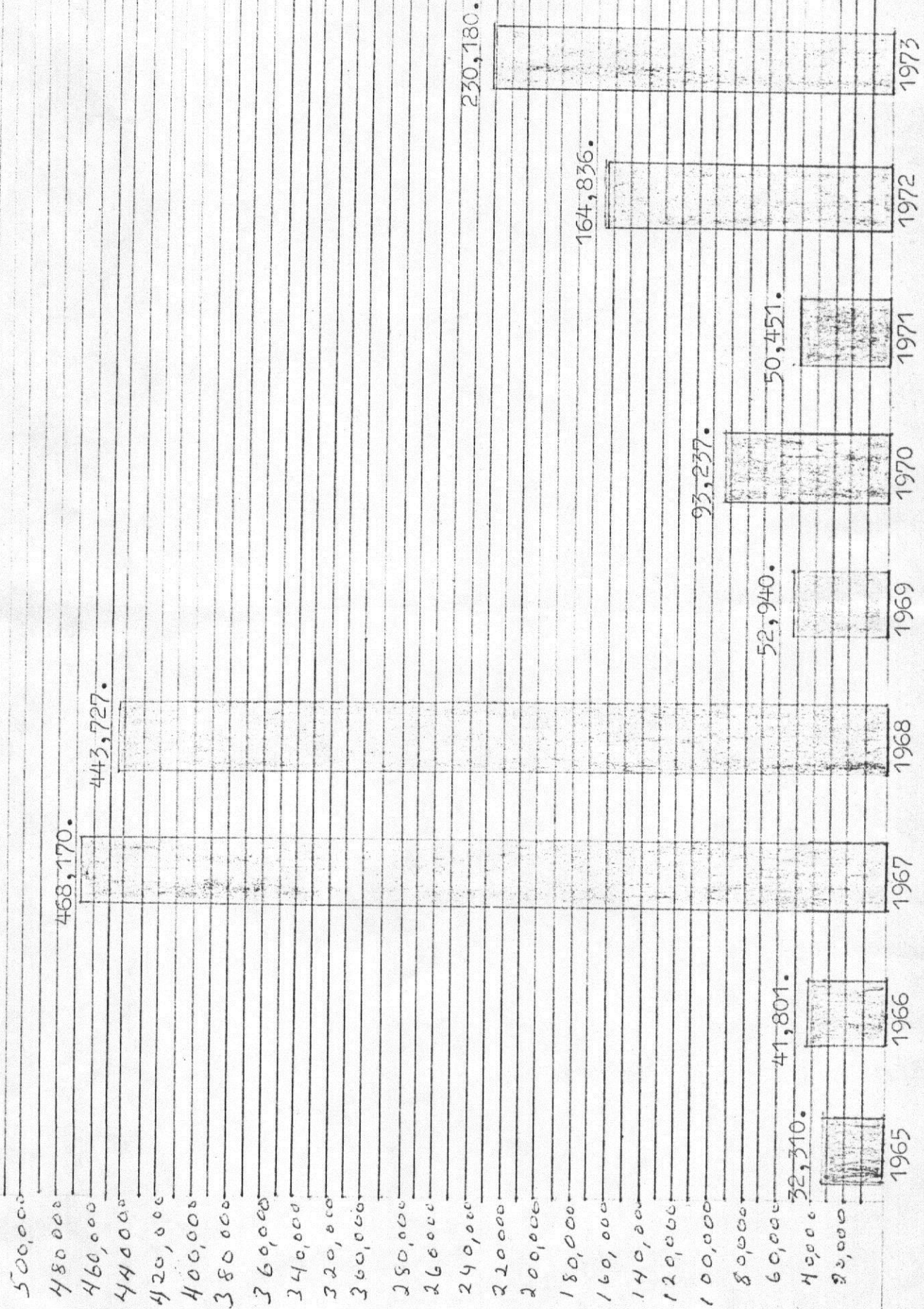
Number of Alarms for Fires Within City Limits

MONTH	RESIDENTIAL	NON-RESIDENTIAL	MERCANTILE	MANUFACTURING	STORAGE	FIRE LOSS	MISC.	GRASS OR BRUSH	ALL OTHER FIRES	NUMBER OF ALARMS FOR			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALARMS	DEATHS	
										NON-FIRES IN CITY LIMITS MISCHIEVOUS AND MALICIOUSLY FALSE ALARMS	FIRST-AID ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATIONS EMERGENCY CALLS	NUMBER OF ALARMS OUTSIDE CITY		FIREMAN	CIVILIANS
JANUARY	5	2	4			7,236.	5		3	1	1	6	28		
FEBRUARY	4		1	1		300.	1		3		1	2	13		
MARCH	8	2	4		1	28,695.	2		4	3	3	3	30		
APRIL	5	3	2			1,520.	4	2	4	1			21		
MAY	6	2	2	1		6,650.	2		6	1	2	1	23		
JUNE	6		1			30,725.	2	1	4		4	2	20		
JULY	7	1	4			2,420.	5	1	6		3	1	28		
AUGUST	1	2	5		1	200.	1		5		7	2	24		
SEPTEMBER	4	1				400.	1	4	7			1	22		
OCTOBER	5	5	4	1	2	28,150.	3	2	5		2	5	34		
NOVEMBER	9	1		1		6,800.	2		1		2	2	18		
DECEMBER	9	4	3			11,500.	1	2	5	1			25		
TOTAL FOR YEAR	69	23	30	4	4	124,596.	29	12	53	7	25	29	286	0	0

350
300
250
200
150
100
50

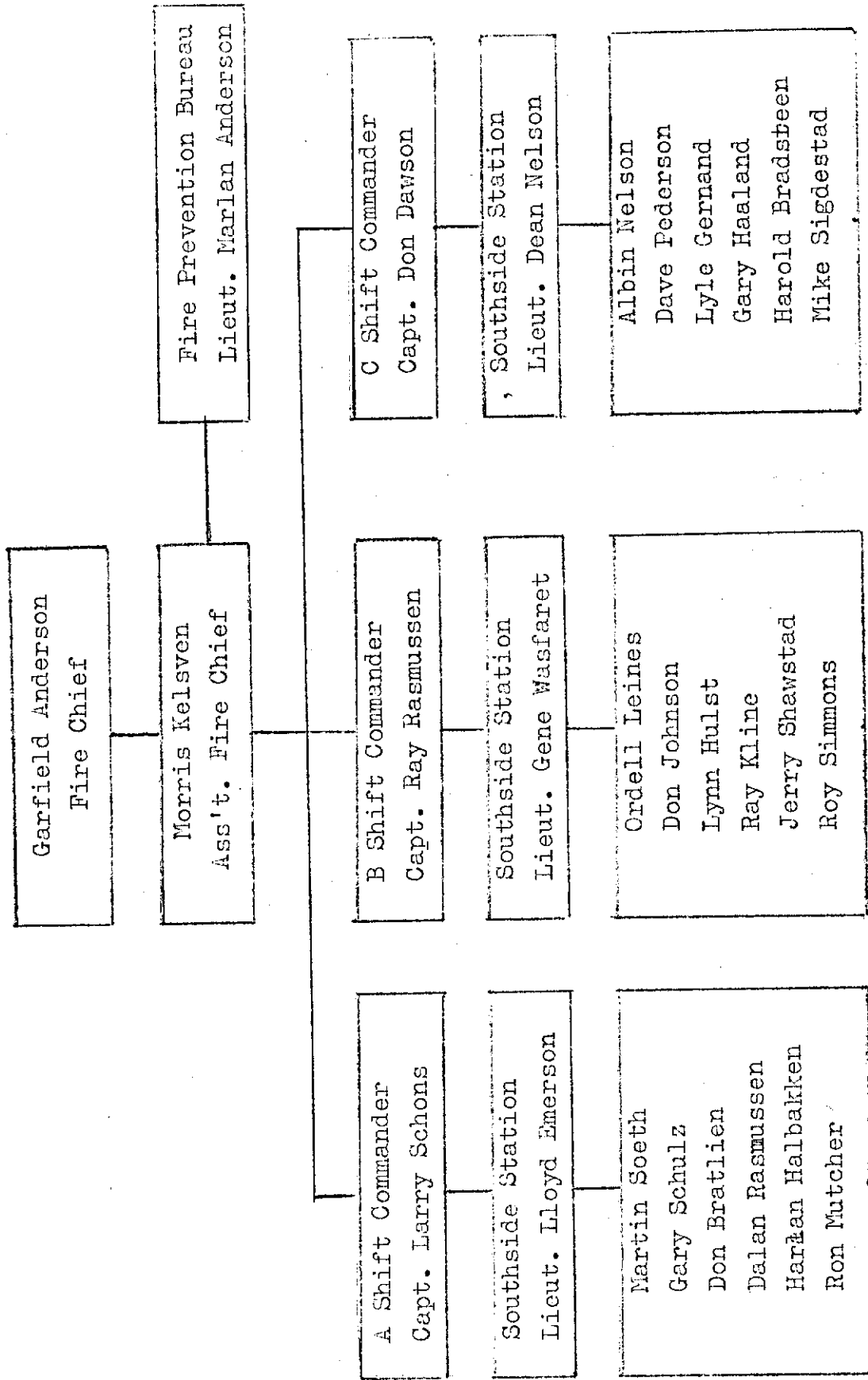


NUMBER OF RUNS PAST 10 YEARS



FIRE LOSS FOR THE CITY OF MOORHEAD FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS

1975 Moorhead Fire Department Personal



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FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU STATISTICS

March 15, 1974 - December 31, 1974

Inspections	831
Company Inspections	<u>216</u>
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	1,077
Violations	594
Corrections	231

FIRE SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

2 Senior Citizens
4 Moorhead Tech. School
3 Moorhead State College
6 St. Ansgar Hospital
1 Americana Nursing Home
9 Elementary Schools
1 Clay County Safety Council
3 Child Day Care Seminar

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TIME DEVOTED TO THE TO THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

1. 88 hours in Fire Inspection Training at (1) State Fire School (2) Bloomington Fire Prevention Bureau (3) Fargo Fire Prevention Bureau (4) Seminar in Detroit Lakes on Building and Fire Codes
2. Cooperative work with Health and Building Inspectors, and Sanitation Dept.
3. Cooperative work with Police Traffic Control on Fire Lane Parking
4. Storage of flammable liquids in light and heavy Industrial areas
5. The program that was set up with apartment house owners on installing fire extinguishers in apartments or hallways is starting to show results
6. Operation Clean-Up with Scout Troop
7. Working with the Deputy State Fire Marshall on arson cases
8. Checked all known propane tanks (commercial) for proper installation
9. Fire runs made after working hours--Approx. 80%

Marlan Anderson

Lt. MARLAN ANDERSON
MOORHEAD FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

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October 28, 1975

To the members of the Public Safety Committee;

The City of Moorhead has long suffered from the lack of proper manpower to operate its existing equipment in accordance to the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Their recommendations of desirable minimum manning of Fire Companies are; An engine company, a minimum of 5 men, a ladder company 6 men. If we were to follow these recommendations Moorhead should have 16 men on duty at all times, plus additional manpower of 10% must be provided to cover vacations, sick leave, and other absents.

Under the recommendations of the Underwriters, Moorhead should have 59 men to operate their the equipment they now run. Even under the formula of $1\frac{1}{2}$ firefighters per 1000 population, this would be 45 men.

As Fire Chief, I feel that I must point out to the Committee, that our major problem is the lack of manpower. I do not propose to come all the way up to the Underwriter standards, but in the near future that we have 4 men on as engine Company and 2 men on a ladder company, and one man for our utility truck, for a total of 11 men on duty at one time.

Keeping in mind the financial problems we have at present in the City, I have tried to work up three possible schedules that can be worked with the existing manpower we now have. Effective Jan. 1, 1975 the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act., will apply to the Fire Departments. Fire overtime hours are mandated by federal law whenever hours on duty exceed an average of 60 hours per week, or 240 hrs. in 28 days. We now average 63.5 hours per week.

I have prepared 3 work schedules, with pro's and con's for your consideration, the 63.5 two shift week, the 60 hr. two shift week, and a three shift 56 hr. week.

Gar. Anderson
Fire Chief