

It is easier for so-called soap-box orators to gain audiences than persons presenting subjects to their audience in plain unvarnished language. The facts that I wish to present are...

ten, and consequently the larger will be the premium. The more fires the better—the other man's misfortune is their gain.

A city composed entirely of fireproof buildings and in which only some small part of the contents could possibly burn would offer poor opportunities for the insurance agencies.

beat to get their companies to accept what everyone recognizes as a questionable risk." Mr. Fitzpatrick shows that the insurance companies have made money in 1914 that the insurance companies in Minnesota collected nearly \$9,000,000 in premiums...

Twenty-four hours on and twenty-four hours off system. Went into effect April 1. (Signed) Thomas O'Connor, Fire Marshal, Los Angeles, Cal. (letter)...

under the old system. (Signed) A. J. Trodick, Chief Fire Department. City of Kansas City, Kan.—Two-platoon went into effect February 18, 1916. Has proven a perfect success...

him. He in turn is very apt to take his cue from the insurance interests or from those city officials with more energy than sense who permit themselves to be drafted into the service of a big fire that lasts more than 12 hours we have a new shift coming to relieve the tired shift. The men do not get stale as they did. No more sleeping in day time...

Consider that out of nearly 15,000,000 buildings in the United States only approximately 10,000 are fireproof. There is but one absolutely perfect building in the country, this being located in Chicago.

Why do the insurance companies meddle in the affairs of the city of Portland? Mr. Fitzpatrick has an answer that applies to this question. Going back to the days when Portland was a mere village, the remarks made by Mr. Fitzpatrick are still applicable.

Twenty years ago I first encountered the trail of the insurance companies. It was a long and tortuous trail. I did not then comprehend the ramifications of their meddling in city politics. In fact, even today they take great pains to explain that they are not interfering in political matters, laws or ordinances.

Department of Public Safety, March 12, 1917. I am an indorser of the two-platoon system since seeing its benefits. On the morning of the gasolene fire the firemen of our city responded nobly and without notification whatever.

City of Topeka, Kan., March 12, 1917. The health of the members as a whole has been better than ever before. The discipline in the best in the history of the department.

City of Colorado Springs, Colo., April 19, 1917.—I am very much pleased the way the two-platoon system has worked out. Would not go back to the old system under any consideration.

City of Chicago, Ill. (telegram)—Member of National Fire Protection Association. Member American Red Cross. Life Member Tri-State Good Roads Association.

Residents of Portland, listen to this statement by Mr. Fitzpatrick and you will understand better the motives that prompt the National Board of Fire Underwriters to send their so-called experts to make recommendations on fire department equipment that will most nearly conform with their business requirements.

Figure it as you may, the cost comes back to the ultimate consumer he pays the rates and makes the axes for the protection demanded by the companies for their interests.

The fight in behalf of the Firemen's Two-Platoon Bill, which has waxed very bitter. There are no new features to me in this opposition. The same old fallacious arguments.

City of Duluth, Minn., March 12, 1917.—We have yet to hear any complaint from the public. We have had some three-story fires in the business district where the loss would have been greater had we not had the additional water to combat the fires.

City of Great Falls, Mont., March 1, 1917. Discipline in the department. They did not lay off as much as they did under the old system.

City of St. Paul, Minn., March 1, 1917. The health and discipline of the firemen of our city responded nobly and without notification whatever.

City of Detroit, Mich., March 1, 1917. The health and discipline of the firemen of our city responded nobly and without notification whatever.

The writer was instrumental in having the Portland fire alarm telegraph bureau strengthened in 1912 and was one of those responsible for the Oregon State law teaching fire prevention in the schools throughout the state.

F. H. COULES

- Member of National Fire Protection Association. Member American Red Cross. Life Member Tri-State Good Roads Association. Member Veterans' Association Naval Militia, New York. Member Oregon State Motor Association. Member California State Automobile Association. Member of Press Club, Los Angeles. Member University Club, Medford, Oregon. Honorary Member Firemen's Association, N. Y. Fire Department. Honorary Member Firemen's Association, Chicago. Honorary Member Firemen's Association, San Francisco. Honorary Member Firemen's Association, Los Angeles. Member Medford Golf and Country Club.