

**The President's Conference  
On  
Fire Prevention  
Federal Works Building  
Washington 25, D.C.**

May 13, 1948

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with much pleasure that I present to you the final report on what has been accomplished throughout the Nation, subsequent to the Conference on Fire Prevention, called by you on May 6, 7, and 8, 1947.

I feel that the report reflects considerable progress in the field of fire prevention and indicates that the objectives adopted at the Conference have been accomplished or definite action taken in this regard.

You are to be congratulated on your foresight and wisdom in calling such a conference and I know that you will derive much satisfaction in reviewing its accomplishments.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip B. Fleming", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Phillip B. Fleming  
Major General, U.S.A.  
General Chairman

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CONTINUING COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE ON FIRE PREVENTION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**MAY 13, 1948**

**PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN**

**REPORT OF THE CONTINUING COMMITTEE**  
**OF**  
**THE PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE ON FIRE PREVENTION**

At the concluding session of the President's Conference on Fire Prevention held last may, the appointment of a Continuing Committee was authorized to implement the Action Program of the Conference, and this is the report of that Committee.

It will be recalled that the Conference adopted as essential to the accomplishment of its objectives the universal acceptance by the highest officials of the States and Municipalities of their direct responsibility for fire safety and public support behind such officials in accomplishing the enactment and enforcement of adequate laws and ordinances for fire prevention and fire protection.

The truly remarkable progress made during the past year is best evidenced by the records of activities in furtherance of the recommendations of the Conference in each of the forty-eight States, as set forth in Appendix A, hereto attached. In thirty-four States the Governor has set up a State fire safety committee and there have been held in eighteen States, statewide conferences. Such conferences are set in five others for definite dates, and plans are well advanced in seven States, although no definite date has been fixed.

In these States varying programs for improvement in fire prevention and fire protection measures have been advanced and definite continuing programs are being undertaken to accomplish the results found most desirable by each State involved.

Never before in the history of the country has there been anything approaching such widespread activity by the States, nor even before have so many citizens been interested in these problems.

More than 510 cities, as listed in Appendix B, attached hereto, have reported scores of diverse actions looking to greater fire safety, including the elimination of hazards, the passage of new

ordinances, the procurement of new and improved equipment, radio installation, better training for firemen, and countless other advances.

In the year just closed, 1,832 cities in the United States participated in the National Fire Prevention Week Contest, as compared with 715 the previous year.

In addition to the widespread activities in the States and Municipalities, great progress has been made in matters important to all States and Municipalities. The drafting of a model statute permitting adoption of codes and statutes by reference has been completed, and the National Institute of Municipal Law Officers and the American Standards Association have undertaken the presentation of such a statute to the legislatures of the States in 1949, which is a legislative year. The Council of State Governments and the National Association of Attorneys General are among the organizations supporting this activity.

The National Education Association, through its National Commission on Safety Education, with the support of various organizations represented on the Continuing Committee, has undertaken a definite program designed to further in the schools and colleges of the country the recommendations of the Committee on Fire Prevention Education. This unified effort, through and by the educators themselves, holds great promise in what is perhaps the most important field of fire safety.

Great progress has been made in improving and increasing firemen's training, both paid and volunteer. In one State there is being made available to some 200,000 volunteer firemen right in their own counties the finest possible firemen training courses.

The International Association of Fire Chiefs has adopted and pledged its support to the recommendations made to the Conference by the Committee on Firefighting Services, and will continue to support these important measures.

More general use of automatic fire protection systems is being had and more attention is being given to the inspection problems with respect to such equipment.

Building codes are being perfected and studies concerning minimum Statewide codes of this character continue.

Research has been extended. Especially notable are the studies of ammonium nitrate, which are far advanced. A final report from the subcommittee dealing with this matter will be submitted within a few months.

Cooperation by our Committee on Organized Public Support with the Forest Service in its expanded fire prevention activities has been cordial and widespread.

Our subcommittee on statistics of loss of life from fires and causes of fires will continue its work as an informal group, and will report from time to time to interested organizations its findings and recommendations.

The Conference has published and distributed widely a pamphlet entitled "A Guide to Community Organization for Fire Safety." Every community will find in it a practical outline of what to do and how to do it in so far as fire safety is involved.

This pamphlet, the Action Program, and the reports of the committees of the Conference give a complete program for fire safety as developed by the best intelligence in this field that the country affords. The Governors of the States, the heads of Municipalities, and the public generally, have rallied to its support with an enthusiasm and continuing interest that far surpass anything ever seen in this field, even in time of war. Each organization represented on this Continuing Committee has pledged its complete cooperation in pushing this program forward.

President Truman said:

"Safety from fire should not be a topic for discussion during only one or two weeks of the year. It is definitely a year-round public responsibility. I believe that the highest State and Municipal officials must assume greater responsibility for leadership in this field. We in the Federal Government can give aid within the

framework of existing agencies. But the impetus must come from the States and from every community and every individual in the land.”

The program is complete; the proper authorities, generally, have accepted their respective responsibilities; and tremendous impetus has been given to the whole cause of fire safety. All agencies whose special purposes deal with fire safety are better informed of the problems and the means to meet them, and are working together harmoniously as never before. While fire losses continue to increase, the rate of increase has lessened sharply. The work of the Continuing Committee has been completed and its discharge is in order.

In conclusion, we wish to express our grateful thanks to the President for his initiative in calling this Conference and for his continuous and great personal support, which he has given to it at all times. We feel that he has advanced the cause of fire safety by many years beyond any point it could otherwise have reached, and that his deep and sincere concern for the preventing of unnecessary loss of life and property has been responsible for the wholehearted support given to the program of the Conference throughout the land.

We must pay tribute to his wisdom in naming you, General Fleming, to lead this work and to thank you for inspiring leadership and the wholly unselfish way in which you have given of your time and talents, not only in Washington, but in many distant parts of the country, to make possible the success of the Conference program.

We ask you to convey to our Committee Chairman, Commissioner of Public Buildings W. E. Reynolds, our appreciation of his direction and aid. We think you chose as wisely in selecting him as your chief assistant as did the President in naming you as General Chairman.

We ask you to present this report to the President.

## **Chairman**

### **W. E. Reynolds**

Commissioner of Public Buildings  
Federal Works Agency  
Washington, D.C.

### **Professor John J. Ahern**

Illinois Institute of  
Technology

### **Percy Bugbee**

General Manager  
National Fire Protection Association

### **Paul Betters**

Executive Secretary  
United States Conference of Mayors

### **Hal Colling**

Pacific Coast Building  
Officials Conference

### **A. Bruce Bielaski**

Assistant General Manager  
National Board of Fire Underwriters

### **John H. Craig**

Chairman, Fire Marshals' Section  
National Fire Protection Association

### **Horatio Bond**

Chief Engineer  
National Fire Protection Association

### **Arthur C. Daniels**

Executive Assistant  
Institute of Life Insurance

### **Ernest B. Brown**

President  
Associated Reciprocal Exchanges

### **Hubert R. Gallagher**

Associate Director  
Council of State Governments

### **Willard E. Givens**

Executive Secretary  
National Education Association

### **Fred Sheppard**

Secretary and Manager  
International Association of Fire Chiefs

### **Colonel William B. Greeley**

Chairman  
American Forest Products Industry

### **Earl O. Shreve**

President  
Chamber of Commerce of the United States

### **A. V. Gruhn**

General Manager  
American Mutual Alliance

### **Alvah Small**

President  
Underwriters' Laboratories

**Julien Harvey**  
Managing Director  
National Conservation Bureau

**Earl D. Mallery**  
Executive Director  
The American Municipal Association

**James H. Mooney**  
President  
Building Officials' Conference  
of America

**Colin Herrle**  
National Disaster Chairman  
American Red Cross

**George J. Richardson**  
Secretary and Treasurer  
International Association of  
Fire Fighters

**Charles S. Ryhne**  
General Counsel  
National Institute of Municipal  
Law Officers

**West Shell**  
Vice Chairman  
National Association of  
Insurance Agents

**R. E. Wilson**  
District Manager  
Factory Mutual Fire Insurance Company

**Walter A. Taylor**  
Director, Department of Education and  
Research  
The American Institute of Architects

**George N. Thompson**  
National Bureau of Standards

**Seth B. Thompson**  
Insurance Commissioner  
Salem, Oregon

**George G. Traver**  
Manager, Public Relations Department  
National Board of Fire Underwriters

**Frank M. Whiston**  
National Association Building Owners  
and Managers

**Sidney Williams**  
Assistant to the President  
National Safety Council

**W. Walter Williams**  
Seattle, Washington

# Appendix A

## **Alabama**

Governor James E. Folsom has named a Statewide committee, headed by Superintendent of Insurance and State Fire Marshal L. L. Gwaltney, Jr., ex officio, and with General William P. Screws as general chairman. General Screws has established an office in the Capitol Building and a Statewide conference has been set for May 31, 1948. Seven subcommittees have been organized, the financial arrangements substantially completed, and the promise of Superintendent Gwaltney that this conference in Alabama will be one of the most outstanding in the country appears to be on the way to fulfillment.

## **Arizona**

Governor Sidney P. Osborn has assigned to the Fire Insurance Association of Arizona, to which State and Municipal officials give full cooperation and assistance, the direction of fire prevention activities in the State. He reports that this Association has assumed these responsibilities in an able manner, and is carrying them out in like manner and in conformance with the recommendations of the President's Conference on Fire Prevention. He reports that State and other public officials are enthusiastically extending to the committees doing this work every possible cooperation and assistance.

## **Arkansas**

Governor Ben Laney held a Statewide conference at Little Rock on November 21, 1947, the chairman of which was Insurance Commissioner Jack G. McKenzie. The conference was successful and created a permanent action committee, which, with the Arkansas State Fire Prevention Association, is engaged in Statewide educational activities and fire prevention inspections. Special attention is given to the prevention of rural and forest fires, and to an educational program in the schools.

## **California**

Governor Earl Warren has appointed a Statewide fire prevention committee for the State, which has held three meetings. This committee has worked out an elaborate program, including practically all of the fire prevention activities covered in the reports of the President's Conference on Fire prevention. A Statewide conference will be called at an early date.

The direction of the program is in the hands of State Fire Marshal Joe R. Yockers and the committee has been diligent and effective.

## **Colorado**

Governor William Lee Knous named Raymond H. Stebbins of Denver as chairman of his committee on fire safety. This committee includes both private citizens and public officials, and is following very closely the Action Program adopted by the President's Conference.

Because of the great area and sparse population, the committee decided to hold regional meetings in key towns, instead of one Statewide conference. The first meeting was held in

Loveland February 11 to 13, and one or more additional regional meetings are planned for the near future.

The committee is following the organization plan for Statewide fire prevention committee work published by the National Fire Protection Association as a contribution to the President's Conference.

## **Connecticut**

Former Governor James L. McConaughy called and attended a Statewide conference held at Strathcona Hall, Yale University, on January 5, 1948. The meeting was largely attended, with representatives from practically every village in Connecticut, and a fine program was adopted for Statewide work.

The State has recently adopted a new fire safety code, which has now become effective.

The direction of the fire prevention program is in the hands of Edward J. Hickey, superintendent of state police and fire marshal for the State.

## **Delaware**

Governor Walter W. Bacon has named a Statewide committee, which has held several meetings. The program outlined by the committee is receiving the fullest cooperation of state and county agencies, especially from the volunteer fire companies. Considerable improvements with respect to the situation of volunteer firemen has been brought about and special attention is being given to prevention of forest fires. Further meetings of the committee are planned.

## **Florida**

Governor Millard Caldwell called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held in Orlando on January 19-20, 1948. This conference was especially worthwhile because of the definite plans made for improvement in state and local fire prevention machinery and the promise of cooperation therein from the members of the Legislature.

A second Statewide conference is planned within a year.

Additional fire prevention bureaus in Municipalities have been created and plans to enlarge and improve the Florida Fire College are under way, as well as for improved firefighting facilities and for revised building and electrical codes. Governor Caldwell placed the direction of these activities in the hands of State Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner J. Edwin Larson, who has been responsible for the very constructive activities developed in this State.

## **Georgia**

Under the chairmanship of M. M. Smith, a member of the state Legislature, a Statewide fire safety committee has been named and is planning a Statewide fire prevention conference, to be held in Atlanta on May 7 and 8. Included on this committee is Director Harry Phillips of the Georgia State Fire College.

A new building code has been adopted in the State and one of the principal purposes of the conference will be to implement the proper enforcement of this code.

The conference will include city and county officials, fire chiefs, insurance men, officials of chambers of commerce, architects, engineers, construction officials, and property owners. In addition, conferences at later dates are planned for each of the ten Congressional districts of Georgia.

## **Idaho**

Governor C. A. Robins reports that no final organization in Idaho was consummated in 1947; that, with the aid of the usual cooperating agencies and organizations, plans for a State conference should be fully completed this year.

## **Illinois**

Governor Dwight H. Green called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held in Springfield on March 11, 1948. The conference was well attended by representative groups of fire prevention officials and civic leaders, and it is believed will be especially effective in inciting fire prevention activities in local communities in Illinois. To insure an effective setup of this conference, an action committee, of which State Fire Marshal John H. Craig is secretary, was appointed.

The recommendations of the state conference will be stressed at the Illinois Fire College, to be held at the University of Illinois, June 15 to 18.

## **Indiana**

Governor Ralph F. Gates placed the fire prevention program of the State in the hands of State Fire Marshal Carter I. Bowser.

Governor Gates designated the annual fire school, held for the past fifteen years, supervised by Purdue University, the Indiana Inspection Bureau, and the State Fire Marshal, at his conference on fire prevention and protection.

Indiana has had a Statewide fire prevention committee for the past two years and Fire Marshal Bowser reports that it is his belief that all recommendations of the President's Conference have been fully compiled with, and that all organizations within the State are giving full cooperation to the objective of a fire safe State.

## **Iowa**

Governor Robert D. Blue has called a Statewide fire prevention conference for Iowa, to be held on May 28 and 29 at Des Moines, and has named an executive board, an advisory bureau, and six chairmen of fact-finding groups. Commissioner of Public Safety Alfred W. Carl is the conference chairman. Plans for it are through and it is deemed well organized.

## **Kansas**

Governor Frank Carlson called four conferences on fire prevention in four sections of the State. These conferences were held at Topeka, Hayes, Dodge City, and Chanute on October 17, 21, 22, and 24, respectively, thus covering the State effectively with less travel than a single conference would have occasioned and increasing the number of persons in attendance. The State Fire Marshal, Mr. Clyde Latchem, was designated by the Governor to direct this work.

Fire Marshal Latchem has reported that notable results from these conferences have been had, especially in increased interest on the part of city officials in fire prevention and in revising city ordinances for greater degrees of safety. In addition, he has reported an increase number of rural fire prevention projects; heightened interest on the part of newspapers, magazines, and other publications; a notable increase in fire prevention activities in schools; and greater interest on the part of Kansas chambers of commerce, especially in the small towns of the State. He has reported further the laying of a sound foundation for future legislation in the interest of fire safety and the largest attendance ever recorded at the Kansas Fire School, with the personal participation of the Governor, who made addresses before the State conferences.

The Fire Marshal feels that competent machinery has been set up for the successful application of the recommendations of the conferences to the Kansas fire problem.

## **Kentucky**

Former Governor Simeon Willis, in cooperation with the Action Program of the President's Conference, called a two-day conference of the fire chiefs in Kentucky, which was held in Louisville on July 16 and 17, 1947. This conference was so successful that a second conference, on the call of Governor Earle C. Clements, is planned for this year, which will include other interested persons in addition to the fire chiefs.

## **Louisiana**

On January 7, 1947, prior to the President's Conference, Louisiana held a Statewide fire prevention conference on call of Governor J. H. Davis and a Statewide committee was named, to which the Action Program adopted at the President's Conference was referred.

It is believed that a Statewide conference will be held this year, but actual determination awaits attention of the incoming Governor.

## **Maine**

On the call of Governor Horace A. Hildreth, a Statewide fire prevention conference was held at Augusta on January 13, 1948. This conference distributed an action program covering things deemed essential for better fire prevention and protection in that State.

Committee meetings have been held since the conference and groups assigned to study the various aspects of the several committee reports. The laws and law enforcement committee is preparing a tentative draft of legislation to be submitted to the Governor for this study and attention. The work inaugurated by the conference is going forward and a final report of its activities is planned for late summer or early fall.

## **Maryland**

Governor William P. Lane, Jr., designated Insurance Commissioner Claude A. Hanley as chairman of the Maryland committee and called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held on January 28, 1948. The conference was attended by outstanding representatives of public and private organizations and subcommittees were named to cover various phases of fire prevention activities. Plans have been completed for four regional fire prevention conferences to be held in the State, the first on April 10, 1948, at Salisbury, another at Hagerstown in the month of May, a third at the University of Maryland during midsummer, and a fourth to be held in the city of Baltimore in October.

These conferences have resulted in a tremendous increase in activity, participation, and interest throughout the entire State in fire prevention.

## **Massachusetts**

Governor Robert F. Bradford called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held in Boston on October 28, 1947. It was attended by the Governor, important State officials, and representative citizens, aggregating more than 400 people.

The conference was under the general direction of the late State Fire Marshal, Mr. Edward H. Whittimore, who was responsible for much of its success.

A continuation committee was created and the recommendations of the conference were referred to it for action. This continuing committee has had several meetings and has made much progress in looking toward making effective the conference's recommendations. Its work is going forward with the aid of Edward I. Flanders, the new State fire marshal.

## **Michigan**

Governor Kim Sigler named on March 26 a State Fire Prevention Study Commission, under the chairmanship of Nate S. Shapiro.

A Statewide conference was planned for February 19, but was postponed indefinitely, and up to the present time no future date has been set for it. The chairman of the newly created State Fire Prevention Study Commission is understood to favor a Statewide conference at an early date.

## **Minnesota**

Governor Luther W. Youngdahl called a fire prevention conference, which was held on September 10, 1947, Minnesota being one of the earliest States to take action. This conference adopted a program calling for the organization of several subcommittees. The committee on building construction has had several meetings, as has the committee on petroleum and petroleum products, which has revamped regulations and rules governing the storage, use, and sale of inflammables. These regulations cannot become effective until action is taken by the Legislature meeting in 1949.

Further meetings of the committees of the Governor's fire prevention conference are planned and a second general conference has been set tentatively for some date in July. This second

conference, it is expected, will formulate a legislative program to be presented to the 1949 State Legislature.

### **Mississippi**

No definite plans have yet materialized in this State looking to action in support of the recommendations of the President's Conference, although representatives from Mississippi who attended the Conference have repeatedly expressed the intention of having a Statewide fire prevention conference. Primarily, election contests and the session of the Legislature are believed to be the principle causes for the delay in action.

### **Missouri**

Governor Phil M. Donnelly has appointed a committee to aid in the setting up of an action program in furtherance of the recommendations of the President's Conference on Fire Prevention, but no definite date for a Statewide fire prevention conference has been set.

### **Montana**

Governor Sam C. Ford has twice agreed to call a Statewide fire prevention conference, but has not taken action as yet.

The Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal, *ex officio*, Mr. John J. Holmes, has done considerable preliminary work throughout the State with the fire departments and has secured their support. The State, also, has provided an inspector, who is meeting with fire departments and instructing them in the use of their own equipment.

### **Nebraska**

Governor Val Peterson is planning a Statewide fire prevention program. He has selected a chairman for a Statewide fire prevention committee and its membership will shortly be announced. An early meeting of the committee is planned, with a view to having its activities in general follow the Action Program of the President's Conference.

### **Nevada**

Governor Vail Pittman appointed the State Fire Prevention Council on November 15, consisting of seven men. It had its first meeting on January 15, 1948, and decided to undertake a survey of every community in the State to determine the property to be protected and the types of protection in effect. A second meeting was held on March 5, 1948.

Due to the great distances in Nevada, the Council has recommended that no Statewide fire prevention conference be held for the time being. In the meantime, the activities of the State Fire Prevention Council and those of the State Fire Bureau are continuing.

### **New Hampshire**

Governor Charles M. Dale called a Statewide fire prevention conference in Concord on October 14, 1947.

One of the important things undertaken is a plan of interstate cooperation with Massachusetts, covering the use of firefighting personnel and equipment. Other things are the development of regional agreements in New Hampshire for the use of firefighting equipment; the expansion and improvement of the radio service of the State forestry department; increased interest in protection in rural communities; increased interest on the part of the fire service personnel in obtaining additional and better training; increased interest on the part of residents of the State as to responsibility for fire safety; improved cooperation between fire services and the general public; increased interest in fire prevention and fire safety; programs over the several State radio stations; and the preparation of a State fire service district program by the State Fire Control Board.

### **New Jersey**

Governor Alfred E. Driscoll called a Statewide fire prevention conference, to be held on April 22, but, in order to give committees ample time to review thoroughly the subjects referred to them and to prepare proper reports, the conference has been postponed to September 22, 1948. Nine committees have been named and are in process of organization, each committee dealing with a separate phase of the problem.

### **New Mexico**

On November 24, 1947, Governor Thomas J. Mabry, by proclamation, appointed a State fire safety committee to cooperate in the furtherance of the recommendations of the Action Program of the president's Conference. The chairman of that committee is Mr. John E. Miles. The committee has recommended that a qualified instructor be employed under the State school superintendent for the purpose of conducting a compulsory fire prevention course in all New Mexico schools.

No plan for a Statewide fire prevention conference have as yet been formulated.

### **New York**

Governor Thomas E. Dewey has designated Mr. Thomas W. Ryan, Director of Safety, as the official to handle the fire prevention program of the State of New York. In addition, the Governor has appointed the Fire Advisory Board of the Division of Safety, consisting of fifteen members.

A plan has been accepted which will provide for the volunteer firemen in the State a fine training program in each of its sixty counties, with financial and other assistance from the State. Since there are 200,000 volunteer firemen in New York State, this will make available excellent training to twenty-five per cent of the volunteer firemen of the country.

In addition, a committee of the legislature is giving study to the question of a Statewide building code.

Other phases of the fire prevention problem will be taken up under the direction of the Director of Safety, who has announced his purpose to integrate and strengthen fire defense throughout the

State by means of a cooperative program involving county, city, town, village, and district fire authorities.

### **North Carolina**

Governor R. Gregg Cherry has advised that the office of Commissioner of Insurance William P. Hodges regulates and conducts the State fire prevention program. So far as we know, no action has been taken in this State to implement the recommendations of the President's Conference.

### **North Dakota**

Governor Fred G. Aandahl has referred the matter of the fire prevention action program to Commissioner of Insurance Otto Krueger. One of Mr. Krueger's deputies has reported, in response to an inquiry, that "program in operation".

### **Ohio**

Governor Thomas J. Herbert called a conference at Columbus, which was held on September 12, 1947. It was addressed by the Governor and was supported financially by the State.

This State has developed a fine plan for Statewide cooperation and, in large measure, has carried it into effect.

It is believed that the plan adopted and in operation in Ohio is probably the most comprehensive and well organized of all of the state programs. The State has been organized into districts and in all the larger cities a city chairman has been designated. An appropriation of \$35,000 has been set aside by the State Emergency Board, at the request of the Governor, to be used this year to promote the activities of the Governor's Fire Safety Committee. The last session of the general assembly presented a bill creating a Fire Prevention Bureau, an Arson Bureau, and a Personnel Fire Protection Bureau in the State Fire Marshal's Office. The leadership is highly competent and the committee has announced its intention of carrying on an aggressive program this year.

Mr. Joseph B. Hall, as chairman, and Mr. William G. Werner, as public relations director, are devoting much time to this work notwithstanding their heavy duties as executives of two of America's leading industrial concerns.

### **Oklahoma**

The State Advisory Committee on Fire Service Training met at Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College on September 10, 1947, with officials of the college and of the State Department of Trade and Industrial Education. In connection with this program, the committee suggested a Statewide fire prevention committee as recommended by the President's Conference on Fire Prevention. Acting on this request, Governor Roy J. Turner on April 8, 1948, named a committee, of which Mr. K. B. Banks of Oklahoma City is chairman.

## **Oregon**

Governor John H. Hall, acting through Insurance Commissioner Seth B. Thompson, has reported that Oregon has made considerable progress in the matter of fire prevention and fire control since the President's Conference.

One of the major activities has been the strengthening of the fire control defenses of the State by assisting local communities in stressing the importance of more equipment, manpower, and training in the fire departments. Firemen's training has been intensified and the Forestry Department carries on a continuous fire prevention campaign. Twenty new rural fire protection districts were added during 1947 and several have been added since.

No Statewide conference committee or conference is planned.

## **Pennsylvania**

Governor James H. Duff called a Statewide fire and accident prevention conference, which was held at Harrisburg on December 20, 1947, under the auspices of the State Department of Labor and the Pennsylvania State Police. Some 500 persons from all parts of the State, representing business, industry, the fire services, and other groups, were present. Further plans for stimulating fire prevention activities throughout the year have been made, and the Governor reports that it is evident that additional local action is under way.

## **Rhode Island**

Governor John O. Pastore called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held on March 15, 1948, at Providence. A continuing committee, of which the chairman is the Superintendent of State Police and State Fire Marshal, ex officio, was created and has had a meeting since the State conference.

The committee is concentrating at the present time on fire prevention education. Rhode Island State College is cooperating and special emphasis is being placed on the exhibition in schools of fire prevention motion pictures, and also, on lectures on fire prevention.

The continuing committee has announced its determination to carry out as many as possible of the recommendations at the conference and as soon as possible.

## **South Carolina**

Governor J. Strom Thurmond has named a committee to draw up a new building code, which committee has not yet been able to present its recommendations. The office of the Insurance Commissioner has inspected school buildings and effected better measures of protection. Theatres, hotels, and other buildings have likewise been inspected and recommendations for improvements made.

## **South Dakota**

Governor George T. Mickelson reports that, following the President's Conference on Fire Prevention, he checked into the matter of fire losses in his State and as to what steps might be taken to reduce them. He was convinced that a continuation and a stepping-up of the program

already under way, directed by the State Fire Marshal, would accomplish as much as any other plan, and these actions have been taken.

The program involves inspection and training of volunteer firemen, talks to firemen in conjunction with all meetings held by local fire districts, inspection of schools and other public buildings, and addresses to groups such as parent-teacher associations and the service clubs.

## **Tennessee**

Governor Jim Nance McCord called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held at Nashville on April 26, 1948. Dr. Andrew D. Holt, conference chairman, State Fire Marshal James M. McCormack, and Leon McGilton, chairman of planning committee, organized a most successful conference, which provided for permanent Statewide activities, to be guided by a committee appointment by the Governor.

Governor McCord personally participated in the conference, delivering an address which was broadcast throughout the State.

## **Texas**

Governor Beauford H. Jester called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held in Austin on October 9, 1947. This conference was addressed by the Governor.

Four subcommittees were appointed and the Governor reports that their activities are developing in a very orderly manner and will continue and expand with time.

He has paid tribute to the excellent spirit of cooperation being exhibited by the people of his State, which he believes insures the success of the program.

A Statewide fire prevention ordinance is being prepared and should be ready for consideration in about four months. Plans for fire prevention programs in every school in the State are under way. The cooperation of the fire services throughout the State has been secured, as has that of the State Traffic Safety Association. The 250 Red Cross Chapters in the State are also assisting the Governor's committee in any way possible.

## **Utah**

Governor Herbert B. Maw, on November 21, 1947, called a Statewide meeting on fire prevention of interested citizens, and Mr. J. Whitney Floyd was appointed chairman of the Utah State Fire Safety Committee. Additional meetings were held, on February 5 and February 20, at which plans for fire prevention were promulgated. Special committees on fire prevention and fire codes have been named and the county commissions in each county have been asked to name a county fire safety chairman to coordinate and stimulate the creation of community fire safety committees throughout his county.

## **Vermont**

Governor Ernest W. Gibson reports that no Statewide conference on fire prevention has been held, but that representatives of the Fire Prevention Division have made radio broadcasts,

addresses before civic meetings, chambers of commerce, and other groups, and that an entirely new and modern group of state regulations governing fire prevention and fire protection is being promulgated at the present time – that a fire prevention committee is working on such regulations and fire prevention problems in the State.

Representatives of the Fire Prevention Division have attended several of the conferences called by Governors of the New England States.

This Division has suggested that thought be given to holding a Governor's conference on fire prevention in Vermont in the late summer or early fall of 1948.

## **Virginia**

Following the loss of life in the Hotel Jefferson fire in Richmond, the legislature passed a resolution referring to the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council the question of fire safety in public buildings. After long, extensive hearings and meetings, that body submitted to the legislature a report dated November 18, 1947, recommending legislation. The general assembly in 1948 enacted, with one exception, the legislation recommended by the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council and, in addition, adopted a bill authorizing the governing bodies of political subdivisions of the State, such as cities, towns, and counties, to adopt recognized fire prevention and fire protection codes by reference.

In order to keep fire prevention, fire protection, and fire safety up to date, the actual promulgation and constant amendment and revision of rules and regulations were left to the State Corporation Commission, a constitutional body to whom may be delegated legislative functions, thus achieving a method whereby Virginia may be kept abreast of developments without the necessity of additional legislation. Provision was made so that requirements may be retroactive to existing buildings.

All members of the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council attended the President's Conference on Fire Prevention.

With reference to a Statewide fire prevention committee and conference, the Governor and the State Chamber of Commerce felt that private enterprise should do the job rather than Government. The Virginia State Chamber of Commerce, with the promised cooperation of Governmental authorities, has organized a fire prevention committee at state level, of which Walter O. Randlett of Richmond is chairman and L. O. Freeman, Jr., of Richmond, vice chairman. This central committee has been broken down into subcommittees, of which members of the central committee are chairmen, so as to reach throughout the State, following the pattern recommended by the President's Conference on Fire Prevention. The first Statewide State Chamber of Commerce fire prevention meeting was held on April 15. The members of the committees have accepted this responsibility as a challenge to private enterprise to make good.

## **Washington**

Governor Mon C. Wallgren reports that a State organization for fire prevention is being set up and, at his request, is being headed by Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal, ex officio, William A. Sullivan.

This Statewide committee began functioning on April 15, 1948. While it is understood that a Statewide conference is planned, no definite date has been fixed.

### **West Virginia**

Governor Clarence W. Meadows called a Statewide fire prevention conference, which was held in the State Senate Chamber, State Capitol, on October 27, 1947. The conference was addressed by the Governor. It was a very successful one.

The chairman of the Governor's Statewide fire safety committee is Fire Marshal Robert H. Kidd.

Since the conference, a summary of its recommendations has been publicized and efforts continued to carry out its recommendations.

The committee on building codes and law enforcement is proceeding with a study, from which it is hoped to achieve a maximum of fire safety in these fields. The committee on industrial protection is continuing to encourage individual management to effectuate a real fire protection program at each plant. With the cooperation of Fire Marshal Kidd, who has been a very active leader in the matter, a complete survey is being made of all public institutions, and a disaster program prepared.

### **Wisconsin**

Governor Oscar Rennebohm has called a Statewide fire prevention conference for May 17, 18, and 19, 1948, and is personally cooperating and assisting the general committee in the arrangements for the program. Attendance will be at the Governor's personal invitation and an excellent program is being prepared.

### **Wyoming**

No report of any action taken in this State has been received.

### **Territory of Hawaii**

Governor Ingram M. Stainback has advised that, while no organized committees have been set up, various Governmental agencies normally performing functions described in the Action Program of the President's Conference, have started work on some of the matters suggested, including a revision of the fire marshal's rules and regulations in their entirety, with particular attention to dry cleaning rules and regulations and fire prevention education in the individual schools, together with fire drills and inspections. The appointment of a committee for the revision of the present building code by the Mayor of Honolulu has been made, and increased studies are being conducted by the Honolulu Fire Department of hazardous buildings and organizations.

### **Puerto Rico**

Governor Jesus G. Piñero reports that since the President's Conference on Fire Prevention, Puerto Rico has extended its fire prevention and extinguishment activities. Nine additional towns have been provided with service. A new arson bill has been introduced in the Legislature

and favorable action on it is anticipated. A further program for enlargement of the fire protection services is planned for next year.

# Appendix B

The following cities, listed alphabetically by States, have reported varying activities designed to increase fire safety. The actions taken, in the aggregate, cover almost every conceivable improvement and are too numerous to list in this report. It is hoped that a special bulleting will be prepared at a late date outlining in some detail many advances made by these cities.

## ALABAMA

Albertville  
Athens  
Bessemer  
Birmingham  
Cullman  
Dothan  
Floral  
Gadsden  
Mobile  
Tuskegee

## ARIZONA

Tucson

## ARKANSAS

Fort Smith  
Hot Springs  
Van Buren

## CALIFORNIA

Alhambra  
Antioch  
Arcadia  
Berkeley  
Burlingame  
Carmel by the Sea  
Chico  
Chino  
Compton  
Delano  
El Monte  
El Segundo  
Gardena  
Glendale  
Hanford  
Hayward  
Hemet

## CALIFORNIA - continued

Hillsborough  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Lynwood  
Madera  
Monrovia  
Montebello  
Monterey  
Oakland  
Ontario  
Oxnard  
Pacific Grove  
Palm Springs  
Palo Alto  
Petaluma  
Piedmont  
Redding  
Redondo Beach  
Riverside  
Richmond  
San Diego  
San Jose  
San Mateo  
Santa Maria  
Santa Monica  
Sierra Madre  
Stockton  
Upland  
Vallejo  
Visalia  
Whittier  
Yuba

## COLORADO

Colorado springs  
Delta  
Denver

**COLORADO - continued**

Durango  
Forth Collins  
Huntington  
Montrose

**CONNECTICUT**

Ansonia  
Bristol  
Derby  
Hartford  
Naugatuck  
New Haven  
New London  
Southington  
Stamford  
Williamantic

**DELAWARE**

Newark

**FLORIDA**

Avon Park  
Dade City  
Daytona Beach  
Eustis  
Hialeah  
Hollywood  
Jacksonville Beach  
Key West  
Lakeland  
Madison  
Melbourne  
Miami Beach  
Orlando  
Pensacola  
Tallahassee  
Tampa  
Vero Beach  
Winter Haven  
Winter Park

**GEORGIA**

Atlanta  
Augusta  
Blakely

**GEORGIA - continued**

Cairo  
Columbus  
Decatur  
East Point  
Gainesville  
Hapeville  
Marietta  
Swainsboro  
Thomasville  
Tifton  
Toccoa

**IDAHO**

Boise  
St. Anthony

**ILLINOIS**

Aledo  
Barrington  
Brookfield  
Champaign  
Evanston  
Freeport  
Glencoe  
Joliet  
Mattoon  
Maywood  
Moline  
Monmouth  
Olney  
Pekin  
Peoria  
Petersburg  
Rochelle  
Rockford  
Watseka  
Zeigler

**INDIANA**

Bedford  
Fort Wayne  
Garrett  
Hartford  
Kokomo  
North Manchester

**INDIANA - continued**

Princeton  
Tipton  
Vincennes  
Warsaw

**IOWA**

Belle Plaine  
Fort Dodge  
Mason City  
Pella  
Vinton

**KANSAS**

Belleville  
Girard  
Hutchinson  
Larned  
Liberal  
Pittsburg  
Topeka

**KENTUCKY**

Covington  
Cumberland  
Hopkinsville  
Princeton  
Winchester

**LOUISIANA**

Bunkie  
New Orleans

**MAINE**

Bangor  
Belfast  
Brunswick  
Caribou  
Fairfield  
Lewiston  
Madison  
Rockland

**MARYLAND**

Baltimore

**MARYLAND - continued**

Hagerstown

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Attleboro  
Boston  
Cambridge  
Chelsea  
Easthampton  
East Weymouth  
Gloucester  
Greenfield  
Medford  
Methuen  
Natick  
Newton  
Orange  
Pittsfield  
Stoughton  
Watertown  
Whitman

**MICHIGAN**

Allegan  
Alma  
Alpena  
Bay City  
Benton Harbor  
Crystal Falls  
Ecorse  
Hazel Park  
Highland Park  
Iron Mountain  
Kalamazoo  
Manistique  
Manitowoo  
Marquette  
Mount Clemens  
Mount Pleasant  
Muskegon  
Port Huron  
Portland  
Saginaw  
Saint Louis

**MICHIGAN - continued**

Sturgis  
Three Rivers  
Wayne  
Ypsilanti

**MINNESOTA**

Anoka  
Bayport  
Gilbert  
Minneapolis  
Moorhead  
Saint Paul  
South Saint Paul  
Stillwater  
Thief River Falls  
West Saint Paul

**MISSISSIPPI**

Clarksdale  
Gulfport  
Moss Point  
Yazoo City

**MISSOURI**

Aurora  
Butler  
Chillicothe  
Kansas City  
Liberty  
Saint Louis  
Salem  
University City

**MONTANA**

Lewistown

**NEBRASKA**

Alliance  
Omaha  
Lincoln

**NEVADA**

Elko  
Sparks

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Concord  
Franklin  
Portsmouth

**NEW JERSEY**

Boonton  
Butler  
Camden  
Chatham  
Clementon  
Cliffside Park  
Haledon  
Maplewood  
Matawan  
Morristown  
North Plainfield  
Nutley  
Sayreville  
Trenton  
Vineland  
Woodlynne

**NEW MEXICO**

Lordsburg  
Tucumcari

**NEW YORK**

Ballston Spa  
Buffalo  
Cohoes  
Cortland  
East Rochester  
Elmira  
Glens Falls  
Johnson City  
Kingston  
Lockport  
Long Beach  
Mamaroneck  
Mechanicsville  
Newburgh  
New York  
Norwich

**NEW YORK - continued**

Niagara Falls  
Patchogue  
Poughkeepsie  
Rochester  
Rome  
Schenectady  
Scotia  
Sea Cliff  
Solvay  
Southampton  
Syracuse  
Tonawanda  
Tuckahoe  
Warsaw  
Watertown  
Watkins Glen  
Westbury  
Westfield  
White Plains  
Yonkers

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Asheville  
Burlington  
Canton  
Charlotte  
Hamlet  
Morganton  
Thomasville  
Whiteville

**NORTH DAKOTA**

Grand Forks  
Fargo

**OHIO**

Akron  
Ashtabula  
Bay Village  
Bowling Green  
Bucyrus  
Canton  
Carey  
Chillicothe

**OHIO - continued**

Cincinnati  
Cleveland Heights  
Columbus  
Dayton  
East Cleveland  
Euclid  
Hubbard  
Kent  
Lakewood  
Marietta  
Newton Falls  
Painesville  
Portsmouth  
Sandusky  
Shelby  
St. Marys  
Toledo  
Uhrichsville  
Wadsworth  
Wellston

**OKLAHOMA**

Ada  
Claremore  
Duncan  
Edmond  
Enid  
Lawton  
Norman  
Oklahoma City  
Pauls Valley  
Shawnee  
Woodward

**OREGON**

Albany  
Astoria  
Corvallis  
Eugene  
Hillsboro  
Oregon City  
Pendleton  
Portland  
Roseburg

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Ambridge  
Ashland  
Bangor  
Beaver Falls  
Ben Avon  
Boyertown  
Braddock  
Brentwood  
Bridgeville  
Carlisle  
Chester  
Cipollo  
Coplay  
Dallastown  
Darby  
Duryea  
Elizabethtown  
Freeland  
Greencastle  
Grove City  
Hummelstown  
Jenkintown  
Jermyn  
Kingston  
Lewistown  
Lock Haven  
Meadville  
Media  
Milton  
Morrisville  
Pittsburgh  
Pottstown  
Pottsville  
Renovo  
Scranton  
Shenandoah  
Shillington  
Souderton  
South Greensburg  
Summit Hill  
Tyrone  
Wellsboro  
Winton  
York

**PENNSYLVANIA - continued**

Youngwood

**RHODE ISLAND**

East Providence  
Newport  
Providence

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

Florence  
Gaffney  
Georgetown  
Greenville  
Hartsville  
Summerville  
Sumter  
Woodruff

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

Lead

**TENNESSEE**

Alcoa  
Clarksville  
Jefferson City  
Kingsport  
Knoxville  
Memphis  
Milan

**TEXAS**

Austin  
Beaumont  
Borger  
Brownsville  
Clarksville  
Corpus Christi  
Electra City  
Fort Worth  
Gainesville  
Haskell  
Jefferson  
Kerrville  
Kingsville  
Mexia

**TEXAS - continued**

Odessa  
Orange  
San Benito  
San Diego  
Seguin  
Stamford  
Texas City  
Tyler  
Victoria  
Waxahachie

**UTAH**

Bingham Canyon  
Logan City  
Midvale  
Orem  
Price  
Salt Lake  
South Salt Lake

**VERMONT**

Burlington  
Montpelier  
Rockingham  
St. Albans

**VIRGINIA**

Altavista  
Arlington County  
Bedford  
Big Stone Gap  
Blackstone  
Bristol  
Falls Church  
Franklin  
Fredericksburg  
Harrisonburg  
Lynchburg  
Newport News  
Norfolk  
Pearisburg  
Petersburg  
Pulaski  
Radford

**VIRGINIA - continued**

Roanoke  
South Boston  
South Norfolk  
Staunton  
Suffolk  
Williamsburg

**WASHINGTON**

Centralia  
Colfax  
Renton  
Seattle  
Sunnyside  
Yakima

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Buckhannon  
Charles Town  
Grafton  
Huntington  
Princeton  
Williamson

**WISCONSIN**

Beloit  
Delavan  
Green Bay  
Green Dale  
Kenosha  
La Crosse  
Milwaukee  
Racine  
Rhineland  
Sheboygan  
Shorewood  
Stevens Point  
Superior  
Watertown  
Waupaca  
West Bend

**WYOMING**

Lander  
Sheridan