

Penalty for neglecting fires.

A fine of \$5 is exacted from any person using a chimney or flue which may take fire through carelessness or neglect to prevent the same from becoming foul.

Drill.

The firemen are drilled as frequently as possible in the use of the various ladders and appliances with which they are expected to be familiar.

Ladders.

There are 4 Bangor extension ladders in the department, the longest of which is capable of being elevated to a height of 73 feet. As many of the buildings considerably exceed this height, the firemen depend upon their scaling ladders to reach the higher stories when access cannot be had to the building in any other way. These are short light ladders with a large hook at one end. A fireman standing upon any projection or sill, at any height, can hook the ladder over the sill of the next nearest window above him and thus with slight assistance and without much difficulty pass from one story to another.

Common ladders and scaling ladders are, as a rule, said to be used in preference to the extension ladders, as they are found to be quicker and more easily operated, and the Chief Engineer of the department recommends their use in all ordinary cases.

The Bangor extension ladder to be promptly and properly handled, requires about 12 men well drilled in its use, and it must be always kept in good order to be serviceable quickly when needed. The "Hayes Extension Ladder and Fire Escape" is said to be a better appliance, but it is much more expensive and none are in use in the New York department.

Access to roofs.

All buildings are required to have some ready means of access to the roof. Skylights or scuttle frames and covers must in all cases be made of some fire-proof material, and the ladders leading to them—in order to prevent their being destroyed for fuel—are required to be of iron. The scuttle is not allowed under any circumstances to be locked, and the ladder is supposed never to be obstructed in any way so that it may be readily reached and used at a moment's notice.

Reports of fires.

Commanding officers of companies are required to send in reports of the operation at all fires. These reports give the following particulars:

1. At what time and in what manner the alarm was received.
2. What time was consumed in hitching up and getting to the hydrant; also, its location. If there was any delay state how long and its cause.