

2—Q—By what process was the Department of Fire Marshal established, what difficulties, if any, were met in obtaining the necessary legislation?

2—A—Bill was introduced into House of Representatives, went through the several stages there, went to the Senate, took its course there, and was signed by the Governor.

3—Q (a)—Did the idea of Fire Marshal originate with the State, or were the Insurance Companies behind the movement? (b)—Do the Insurance Companies pay any part of the cost of the Department? (c)—In what way is the cost of the Department provided for? (d)—If investigation places responsibility of the fire with the individual will he be required to pay the expenses?

3—A (a)—Do not think there were any particular difficulties. The Insurance Commissioner recommended the establishment of such a department in his annual report for several years previous.

(b)—No.

(c)—The marshal submits an estimate of the amount needed to the state auditor, who presents the same to the state Legislature, where it is voted upon and passed.

(d)—No.

4—Q (a)—What officials are required in the administration of the Fire Marshal system? (b)—How are they designated? (c)—Where located? (d)—What salaries are they paid?

4—A (a)—In Massachusetts the department consists of Fire Marshal, Deputy Fire Marshal, and aids

(b)—See 4 (a)

(c)—The fire marshal and deputy are located at the department headquarters, the aids are distributed in the principal cities throughout the state, each man having a certain district.

(d)—Marshal, \$4,500; Deputy, \$2,500; Aids, \$1,000 per annum.

5—Q—Does the Fire Marshal Department investigate every fire, if not, what are the exceptions?

5—A—Under the law, the chief engineers of fire departments or boards of selectmen are required to investigate all fires in their city or town, and report the same to the aids in charge of the district of which their city or town is a part. Where they report a fire as being all straight, and simply a small loss we stand on their investigation, but where they report a fire as incendiary or unknown, or where there is a large loss, the aid connected with this department makes a special investigation. In the city where an aid is located, every fire is investigated. The aids who have districts outside the city of Boston in a great many instances have a large number of miles to travel to get at a fire. If where it can be seen that a fire has caused very small loss, and is all straight, you can see that it would save considerable expense to depend on the chief or selectman, as in reality they are a part of the department.