

# THE ROUND TABLE

## For Practical Discussion of Current Fire Department and Fire Management Problems

**W**HERE men of one profession or calling gather for a discussion of some common problem, much good will result. There is an exchange of ideas, and a barrier that may be erected to fortify some prejudicial or purely personal viewpoint, is broken down. Conventions are a meeting place to enable ideas to be disseminated to the most people.

Each year, firemen and fire chiefs gather in various sections of the country. The meetings are arranged from an unselfish angle—to elevate the profession, and to educate the chief so that he may better serve his community. They are not recreational jaunts although some entertainment is introduced to break up the long strain of attentive attendance.

Chiefs are in favor of holding fire department conventions. They feel that the gatherings are worth while. It is possible that the views the heads of fire departments have on this problem, might be of interest to councilmen and city officials of the department.

The problem that is treated in this issue appears in the box on this page. In the box on the following page is the problem that will be discussed in the following issue. Should you have some comments that you would like to make on the next question or if you have a problem that you would like to see treated in this department, write to the "Round Table Editor," FIRE ENGINEERING, 225 W. 34th St., New York, N. Y.

### The Question

There appears to be a universal feeling that fire department conventions are worth while and should be continued. The replies received follow:

**Henry H. Heitman, Chief, Waterbury, Conn.:** Fire conventions, in my opinion, are as you express it, "worth while" to the fire department executives throughout the country. In the first place, they are educational to the man himself in that they teach him, to a certain extent, the faculty of eventually being able to arise and give his views when called upon at his home town affairs.

Secondly, they are essentially beneficial because of the fire problems discussed. It is said that men improve their intellect by association with the other fellow, especially if "the other fellow" is of the type that is able to impart data and information which can be put to good advantage.

To my mind, the topic that should be paramount at all fire conventions is, "How to Improve Your Fire Fighting." Traffic problems are matters for the police, although all fire departments have an interest in their solution. The main function of a fire department, and the one for which it is paid, is the control and prevention of fire. Therefore, the principal subject should be the discussion of improved methods to carry out their work properly.

In some instances, speakers have been known to talk too long at conventions. This is bad in that their talks

become dry and uninteresting and the good intended is lost to the individual. Care should be taken in the selection of speakers. Fires, their origin, etc., should make up the greater part of the program.

Just now, if my views were requested, I would suggest an unlimited discussion of the Cleveland disaster. How it occurred, how it might have been checked, etc.

**Albert Herring, Chief, Murphysboro, Ill.:** I do believe fire department conventions are worth while. They are

necessary to keep firemen and officers informed as to the great advancements taking place every day. Conventions also satisfy the individual's thirst for knowledge which, when gained, enables him to render more efficient service. They are also a means of contact with "brother" firemen. It is always interesting to know how other departments are being operated and to hear the personal experiences of a fellow-member.

The benefits of fire department conventions are almost too numerous to mention. I personally have always considered them schools of instruction. They serve as a means of bringing the fire fighting profession closer together and establish a friendly feeling which in it-

self is important to the fire service. Fire chiefs and firemen from smaller cities, towns and villages are made to feel that they are really a part of this great army of men. They are also brought face to face with the grave responsibility which is theirs. Then too, the officers and firemen who are responsible for the success of the fire service are given an opportunity to meet the representatives of the companies manufacturing the apparatus and appliances used in their work.

The main purpose of firemen's conventions is the control and extinguishment of fires, and the proper methods to use in order to accomplish this end. These, therefore, are the topics that should be discussed. I believe proper methods of using water, chemicals, booster pumps, ladders, the benefits of salvage work, how to get fire prevention into the homes of the people, are all topics which will interest the average delegate. I realize it is a difficult task to please everyone in the selection of the topics to be discussed as each delegate is interested in the problems which he confronts from day to day. However, one thing I have noticed is that in the past few years there has been a larger attendance of chiefs and firemen from smaller cities, towns and villages. Many topics have been delivered which, while in themselves were good, did not interest these men because they were never faced with these difficulties. This has tended to make these men feel they had no place in the convention hall. Therefore subjects and conditions which apply to smaller communities should also be discussed. I do believe, however, that if some of these topics, applying to larger cities, were taken in the right spirit, in the long run these men would have benefited because information is always valuable whether it applies to our particular condition or not.

**Victor H. Veit, Chief, Stamford, Conn.:** I certainly believe fire conventions are worth-while. The men benefit by the experience of the various members present. They gain knowledge as to the different methods of fire fighting, and the various makes of fire fighting apparatus and equipment. They learn of the many difficult problems that have come up in different parts of the country and how these problems were overcome. Also the exhibits seen at these conventions are in themselves of great assistance to those attending.

I believe the fuel oil burner is a very important topic

### Here is the Problem

*Do you consider fire department conventions worth while?*

*What benefits do you feel members of fire departments secure through attending such conventions?*

*What topics do you consider of first importance at the present time for discussion at fire department conventions?*

at the present time. There are numerous makes of burners on the market and when faulty installations are made, they may cause serious fire damage. I feel we cannot be too strict in regard to the installation of both tanks and burners. I also believe that all such installations should come under the supervision of the fire department.

**Thomas A. Qualey, Chief, Medford, Mass.:** Yes, fire department conventions are beneficial. Chiefs attending have a chance to get together and become acquainted. This promotes good fellowship and an exchange of ideas. Each man hears the problems with which the other man is confronted. Chiefs have an opportunity to see demonstrations of the latest apparatus used in the extinguishment of fires. They can compare this equipment with their own and thereby bring a host of valuable ideas home to their town or city which they could not do in any other way.

The most important topics in my opinion are, fire prevention, the extinguishment of fire in different types of buildings, the storage and transportation of inflammable liquids and the best method of ventilation of different types of buildings to relieve the expansion of smoke, heat and gases. Also a building code as to the best method of fire protection and safeguarding the public would be an excellent topic.

**Irvin C. Bauman, Chief, Michigan City, Ind.:** All organizations have conventions. In the fire field, these conventions have increased in attendance year by year. This in itself should be proof to the most sceptical persons that there must be some benefits derived from these gatherings by the individual as well as to the public as a whole. The personal contact, the questions involved, the recreation, the educational value of such trips to various sections of this magnificent country are some of the things that make a convention worth while. Of course, there are some instances where delegates do not get much out of the convention because they do not take an interest in the proceedings or give the geographical location of the country traveled through or visited some thought. These things are to be expected, but as a whole, the delegates leave the convention feeling well repaid for having attended.

I believe in view of the fact that the drill school has taken root in a great many of our larger cities, even to short courses in some of our universities, our next convention could in no way prove to be of more benefit than by discussing ways and means to apply these benefits to firemen in all communities.

**W. L. Hicks, Chief, Brawley, Cal.:** Yes, I am very much in favor of fire conventions. Men attending these conventions receive education in a general way, especially by coming in contact with fellow members of the game and talking over the various problems, etc. "Two heads are always better than one." The smaller cities that are more or less isolated from larger departments probably receive the most benefit.

In answer to your third question, I would say that more attention should be paid to the smaller department and its problems which are far greater than the larger departments as they have everything at hand to work with.

**H. A. Gilbert, Chief, Newman, Ga.:** The amount of benefit derived from a convention is entirely up to the individual. A delegate should go to the convention with a view of attending all the meetings and demonstrations. For, as in other walks of life, he will only get out of the convention what he puts into it. In my opinion there is plenty to learn, both for the large and smaller departments, at our international conventions and we should attend every business meeting possible.

A delegate not only meets some of the best men in the world but he also gets the new ideas and new methods his brother chiefs are using in the extinguishment and prevention of fire. He also has an opportunity of personally inspecting new apparatus and appliances.

Of course, I believe fire prevention should lead in the topics discussed. However, new methods of hand-

ling new hazards should also be brought up and discussed.

**Chas. F. Otterson, Chief, Napa, Cal.:** I think the fire chiefs' convention is one of the greatest benefits to fire departments. It is already known that a fire chief's schooling comes from the length of service and practical experience he has had. At these conventions, men have an opportunity of exchanging news with one another. Many valuable papers are read. I have attended nearly every convention for twenty-three years and from the information I have received from these meetings I can say that every city ought to send their chief.

A greater amount of attention should be given to property which is not in the city limits but is closely connected with same. The opinion of some is that the department cannot legally go outside of the city to fight fires. These people claim the department should wait until the fire gets within the city limits. This has been tried in several places but has always turned out disastrous.

**H. M. Topping, Chief, Whittier, Cal.:** Fire conventions are worth while in that men become acquainted with new and modern apparatus by watching the actual demonstrations. They have the opportunity of hearing actual experiences in the handling and care of modern life saving appliances.

One of the most important topics to my mind, is fire prevention.

Reasons for regular inspections, knowing what constitutes a fire hazard and how to eliminate same are always of interest. Methods on how to prevent fires in moving picture houses, homes, churches, factories, schools, public buildings, and in fact in all buildings should be given consideration. If one can prevent a fire before it starts he has accomplished a great deal. Once a fire has started, there is no telling just where it will end. In discussing the problem of fire prevention, the paper or discussion should be along the lines of actual experience and not theoretical.

**J. M. Slaughter, Chief, Paducah, Ky.:** Any well conducted, consistent convention or gathering of men in any line of endeavor, whether they be bankers, doctors, manufacturers, underwriters, or any other lines, having in mind the betterment of their particular business must of necessity be commendable and very desirable. The exchange of honest views and suggestive ideas and experiences surely must, and does result in some advancement and improvements.

There is every reason, therefore, why this applies to the matter in hand—fire department conventions. There are few more vital questions today before the nation than our lamentable fire waste and the gathering of versed men in this craft must prove beneficial to any and every attentive member.

To my mind, fire prevention is the topic of first importance at present to be discussed at fire department conventions.

**Carroll Nash, Chief, Dover, N. H.:** I believe that fire department conventions are a mighty good thing. Of course it is not always possible for the chiefs of the smaller cities to attend these gatherings as their city will not always defray their expenses. Chiefs attending the meetings have a chance to hear the other fellow's ideas on fire-fighting.

The topic that seems to be the most important at present is fire prevention. If cellars, yards and all places where fire is likely to start, were not kept clear our annual fire loss would be much greater than it is now.

**Bert Sybrant, Chief, Bellingham, Wash.:** I certainly do consider conventions worth while. They are a medium for the men to get acquainted and exchange views on every angle of the fire fighting game.

The state of Washington has a very live association and has accomplished a few improvements such as standard hose threads. We are now going to take up the standardization of the one and a half inch hose threads. We have also enacted several bills through the Legislature for the benefit of firemen. One of these bills which was presented to the Legislature, and which

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### Here is the Problem for the Next Issue

*Should municipal departments do salvage work?*

*What benefits result from efficient salvage operations?*

## The Round Table

(Continued from page 592)

- was lost, was protection for volunteer firemen. I think this question is as important as any to volunteer firemen.
- J. N. Sullivan, Chief, Utica, N. Y.:** I consider fire department conventions worth while when the members attend each session and take part in the discussions. I believe that every paper introduced at a well conducted convention enables a delegate to learn the other fellow's views and experiences in various fire prevention and fire protection problems. In this manner, the fire departments of the various cities become familiar with the problems of their profession.
- Fire prevention and fire protection methods of handling special hazards, is a topic of first importance at the present time. X-Ray films, inflammables, pyroxylin and spray lacquering are some of the special hazards to be covered.
- James McGann, Chief, Stillwater, Minn.:** While I have only attended a few of the conventions, I certainly think there is a lot of good to be had by attending these meetings. If delegates are attentive when sent by the municipalities they represent, many ideas can be secured.
- Any topic pertaining to the fire fighting field is interesting to me, when handled by men who are familiar with the subject they are discussing. Fire prevention appeals to me very strongly, as this cuts down the number of fires and saves lives and property.
- R. Chrisman, Chief, Roswell, N. Mex.:** I consider conventions one of the best methods of learning modern and safe ways of fighting fires. Such conventions are an education to every one attending and have a tendency of bringing to light the experiences of men in the field.
- I consider the discussion of modern building and electric codes important. Also drills and discipline for men is another important topic. Buying approved hose and equipment and teaching the public fire prevention are other topics to be discussed.
- J. L. McLane, Chief, Charleston, W. Va.:** I think fire department conventions are worth while. At least, I benefited by the one I attended. Last year was my first opportunity of attending one of these meetings. I saw demonstrations of new equipment, heard interesting talks, and learned various other things of interest.
- To my mind, the most important topic at the present time is how to handle traffic going to and at fires.
- Owen C. Dunn, Chief, St. Paul, Minn.:** Yes, I certainly consider conventions worth while. You receive the benefits that any body of men in the same line of work receive by discussing subjects that are common to all. You also have an opportunity to hear the other fellow's ideas and experiences. An opportunity is given to see demonstrations of the latest fire fighting equipment and methods.
- The protection of high buildings from fires, both within and without; also the fighting of fires in such buildings while being constructed, as well as after they are finished and occupied, are very important topics.
- E. V. Donovan, Chief, Greenville, Mass.:** I feel conventions are worth while in that those attending get first hand information from men with actual experience in extinguishing and preventing fires.
- A topic of importance is to devise some means of eliminating the insurance companies from taking an active part at the firemen's conventions. Also it is about time recommendations were made at the firemen's conventions for the betterment of the firemen in the United States and Canada, the same as those made by the fire insurance companies have been abided by.
- Wm. Feldwisch, Chief, Alton, Ill.:** I think fire conventions good if they are carried out in a business way. It is an excellent means of coming in contact and talking to other chiefs.
- An important topic is methods of handling all types of fires.
- W. H. Joynes, Chief, Richmond, Va.:** I surely consider conventions well worth while. The benefits derived from these gatherings are innumerable. The exchange of ideas and the discussion of topics are in themselves reasons for attending.
- L. B. Hill, Bessemer, Ala.:** I consider fire conventions well worth while. Men get a greater realization of the responsibilities which are theirs. They receive a clearer idea of their duty to the public in the matter of fire protection as well as efficient fire fighting.
- A good topic for discussion would be handling and storage of X-Ray films and the quality of films to be used in such work.
- John J. Gilday, Chief, Hoboken, N. J.:** Fire conventions give men an opportunity to see the different makes of apparatus and devices. An opportunity is also given to learn of the conditions existing in various cities.
- Handling of different types of fires is a good topic for discussion.
- A. Robert Black, Chief, Johnston, R. I.:** Conventions are a good thing in that those attending have an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences. They also hear men experienced in fire fighting give lectures on important subjects.
- The causes of fires and fire prevention are good topics to be discussed.
- B. F. Shely, Chief, Lexington, Ky.:** Fire department conventions are undoubtedly worth while as they enable fire chiefs, assistant chiefs and fire fighters to discuss vital problems. Exchanging points of value in fire fighting is also of benefit to those attending. Plans for the future development of the departments are discussed.
- Fire prevention, resuscitation methods, and apparatus are important topics for discussion.
- John Gibson, Chief, Mount Vernon, N. Y.:** Knowledge is gained at fire conventions by the round table discussions, and also the lectures given. The exchange of ideas and experiences with fellow attendants is also valuable.
- Traffic and parking are topics of importance.
- Chas. H. Hewins, Foreman, Hampton, Va.:** Yes, I consider fire department conventions worth while. They are a means of keeping up old acquaintances and hearing topics discussed which are of general interest to fire departments.
- Traffic congestion and methods of correcting it, especially in small towns, is well worth discussing.
- Elmer J. Brown, Chief, Binghamton, N. Y.:** Some of the benefits of fire conventions are the exchanging of ideas and practices for the betterment of the fire service, cooperation, and the making of new friendships.
- Training schools for firemen is a good topic to be taken up.
- August G. Derra, Chief, Schenectady, N. Y.:** Yes, I consider fire department conventions worth while in that ideas are exchanged, and various up to date problems are discussed. These gatherings keep fire chiefs informed as to what is going on.
- Important topics are traffic, apparatus, and means to eliminate persons from following apparatus and blocking the way of second and third alarms.
- J. T. Walsh, Chief, Chester, S. Car.:** I certainly believe in conventions. Those attending these gatherings secure good information which repays them for being present.
- I think fire prevention and better equipment are important topics for discussion.
- Bernard J. Loonam, Jr., Chief, Freeport, N. Y.:** Fire department conventions are worth while if there are some good speakers who know their business. I think fire prevention is a topic of first importance for discussion.
- Fred. Pfaender, Chief, New Ulm, Minn.:** I certainly do consider fire conventions worth while. The benefits secured are numerous. Some of them are: exchanging ideas and experiences on fire department matters, getting valuable information on important things which a fireman should know. Benefits are also derived from legislation obtained by united action.
- Dangers from gases, oils, etc., are important subjects for discussion.
- Adolph Hinrichs, Chief, Sheridan, Wyo.:** Fire department conventions are a good thing because those attending have an opportunity to hear modern ways of fighting fires. In answer to your third question, I think fire prevention is a subject of first importance.
- A. Dale Ford, Chief, Princeton, Ind.:** Yes, I approve of fire department conventions. These annual gatherings are the means of contact with fellow firemen. Attendants benefit in hearing experiences and methods of others in the same profession.
- Dolph Becker, Oelwein, Iowa:** Conventions are worth while. Those present learn how to handle equipment. They also learn of the different hazards encountered by other departments.
- I think volunteer fire departments is a topic worth discussing.
- John R. Hare, Chief, Morganstown, W. Va.:** Fire department conventions are worth while. Those attending

benefit in a great many ways. I think traffic regulations is a topic of importance.

**Wm. J. Joyce, Chief, Spokane, Wash.:** Conventions are worth while in that the persons attending these gatherings have an opportunity to exchange ideas. To my mind, better building construction is a topic of first importance for discussion at fire department conventions.

**G. C. Kingman, Chief, Rialto, Cal.:** Yes, I certainly approve of fire department conventions. You always find someone at these gatherings who has worked out the problems you are confronted with. Fire prevention is an important topic for consideration.

### What's Burning

(Continued from page 603)

POMONA, CALIF.—Plant of Valley Box Co. ....	80
HIGH POINT, N. C.—Shops of Carolina Casket Co. ....	65
GIBSON, NEB.—Burlington R. R. icehouse .....	165
TRUXTON, N. Y.—Bldgs. of M. C. Wood Mfg. Co. ....	30
DANBURY, N. H.—Property of Dr. J. Sthirmer near here .....	25
STEBUNVILLE, O.—Whse. of Liberty Paper Co. ....	40
MILNIKEK, N. S.—Sawmill of Champoux Bros. ....	100
NEW CANAAN, CONN.—Dwelling of Wm. Elliott. ....	30
NAHANT, MASS.—Little Nahant Hotel destroyed. ....	50
DENVER, COLO.—Plant of Grimes-Friedman Paper Co. ....	150
YOUNGSTOWN, O.—Residence of W. P. Sampson. ....	125
BRADFORD, PA.—Plant of Bradford Gasoline Co. ....	50
MORRAL, O.—Plant of Morral Clay Co. destroyed. ....	40
ROCK ISLAND, ILL.—The Hartz & Bahnsen store. ....	200
UTICA, N. Y.—State Theatre building. ....	400
EAST PARKER, PA.—Oil tank of National Transit Co. ....	35
OSSEO, MINN.—Four oil tanks destroyed. ....	40

#### Week Ending July 5

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Whse. of M. Steffan's Sons. ....	40
TOMAH, WISC.—McCaul Bldg., adj. property. ....	80
OPP, ALA.—Two bldgs. of J. A. Childers store. ....	65
RANSBURG, CAL.—Business and other property. ....	400
CAMDEN, N. J.—Plant of G. D. Wetherill & Co. ....	300
PITTSBURGH, CALIF.—Plant of Columbia Steel Co. ....	40
WICHITA FALLS, TEX.—Buchanan Printing Co., adj. bldgs. ....	70
N. TONAWANDA, N. Y.—Sheds of Bennett Lumber Co. ....	80
MARTINS FERRY, OHIO.—Plant of Scott Lumber Co. ....	400
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.—Property of R. E. Hall, 3 mi. east. ....	65
BERNE, IND.—Penna. R. R. whse. ....	25
WATERLOO, NEB.—Plant of Roberts Dairy Co. ....	80
STOCKHOLM, IND.—Factory of Swedish Lithograph Trust. ....	750
PRINCETON, KY.—Princeton Hatchery & Produce Co. ....	25
LAUREL, DEL.—Property of Laurel Lumber Co. destroyed. ....	50
MANOA, PA.—Laboratory of Dr. J. C. McClenahan. ....	40
CHICAGO, ILL.—Plant of Englander Bed Spring Co. ....	200
NEW YORK, N. Y.—Unfinished apt. bldg., Krepper Bldg. Co. ....	165
IMPERIAL, CALIF.—Business district damaged. ....	100
BAYSIDE, N. Y.—Yacht Tranquille of Fred. Hellman. ....	65
SHREWSBURY, N. J.—Property of Wm. Foles. ....	30
EL DORADO, ARK.—Crystal Hotel, adj. property. ....	25
VANCOUVER, B. C.—Woolworth store damaged. ....	80
STE. DOROTHEE, QUE.—Lauzon store, adj. bldgs. ....	30
MILL VALLEY, CAL.—Numerous residences of colony. ....	1,000

### Municipal Electricians to Meet in Boston

It has been decided to hold the next annual convention of the International Association of Municipal Electricians at the Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass., on August 20 to 24. Preparations are now going forward to make the meeting a worth while one. The secretary is H. N. Lang, Box 1864, Orlando, Fla.

### Luncheon Ends N. Y. Fire School

(Continued from page 601)

A perusal of the records discloses that Sherwood Brockwell, chief of the Raleigh, N. C., Fire Department was the first recorded student from outside New York. The United States Marine Corps, the U. S. Army, the Government of Bulgaria, British Columbia, Osaka, Japan, and other foreign points have sent their fire fighters to the New York school.

Space does not permit a complete list of over two hundred visiting students many of them to-day Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs of department in their home city. They came from as far west as the Golden Gate, as far south as the Gulf of Mexico and as far north as Canada. They came from the east, too, particularly New England, and along the Atlantic seaboard.

The course is divided into two divisions, one the College and the other the School of Instruction. The latter is often taken by firemen from other cities who go back home to become drill masters in their local department. The College course is taken more by officers than by the blueshirts.

The faculty is composed of senior chief officers of the New York Department. One of the requirements of visiting officers is that they be quartered in some fire company or with some battalion or division chief and respond at night time in order

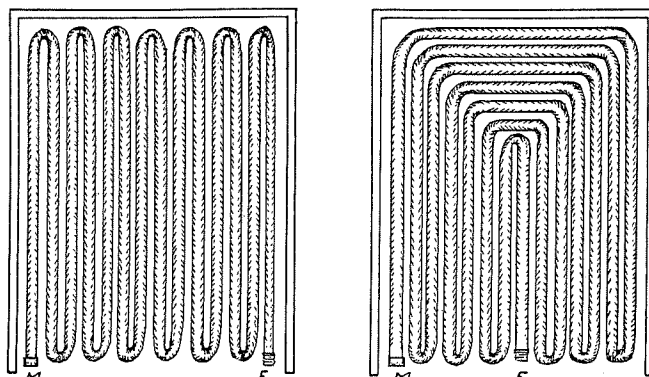
to see in practice the evolution of the theories they have heard about in the day time. A waiver, relieving the Corporation of the City of New York from personal liability, is required of all those attending, excepting, of course, the regular members of the New York Fire Department who are protected by the City Charter. There is no case on record of a visiting fire officer meeting with a mishap. Chief officers are invariably quartered with chief officers, and company officers are usually sent to fire companies in the busiest sections of the city. Some of the men in the past have been so enthusiastic that the New York fire fighters have had to keep them from taking too great a risk, for, after all, they are there only to observe and not to subject themselves needlessly to unnecessary danger.

Besides responding at night, the visitors are taken to the high pressure pumping stations, the water tower practice, the School of Instruction, the Fire Alarm Telegraph Central Station and to Fire Headquarters, to observe the administrative side of the New York Department. The next session of the College will be in the Fall of 1929 and those desiring to attend should write well in advance to John Kenlon, Chief of Department, Fire Headquarters, New York City. All applications must come through the Chief of Department desiring to send the student.

WM. JEROME DALY.

### Proper Manner of Loading Fire Hose

During the past score of years there has been a gradual change in the method employed in placing hose in the hose bodies of fire trucks. With the advent of the fast-traveling motor apparatus, hose had to be so placed that it would



M = MALE COUPLING  
F = FEMALE "

OLD WAY

NEW WAY

snake off easily from the truck and with minimum likelihood of becoming jammed in the process.

The illustrations herewith show the old and new method of placing hose in the hose bodies:

Figure 1 shows the old method. This placement of hose is characterized by a large number of sharp bends—both at the front and rear of the body. Furthermore, in snaking out hose so placed there is always a possibility of the first fold catching or jamming.

Hose folded with so many sharp bends is subjected to just so much more strain at the folds than where it is placed in a manner eliminating a large number of the sharp turns.

The modern method of placing hose on the body is shown in Figure 2. Here the female end of the line is located at the center of the layer of hose. The first fold is easily slipped out, being shorter than the rest, and all subsequent folds flow out readily. Note particularly in this layout how many less sharp bends there are in the line than in the layout shown in Figure 1. This latter arrangement is far easier on the hose than the old method, in addition to providing a better arrangement for snaking the hose off the body in a hurry.

In either case the hose is placed on its edge. In the old method the female connection, which was required at the hydrant was placed at either side of the body whereas in the new arrangement, as shown in Figure 2, the female connection is right in the center where it is most convenient to reach, and where there is less chance of it being obstructed by extinguishers or other equipment mounted on the rear running board alongside the hose body.