






THE FIRE INSURANCE RATING
 ORGANIZATION OF N. J.
 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 NEWARK 2, N. J.

New Providence Township Union County, New Jersey

JUNE 14, 1947

KEY

PROTECTED FIRE ZONE: Shown in Green.
 NOTE.—For description of fire protection, etc., see other side.
 Elevations range from 220 to 550 feet above mean sea level.
 Water mains 8 inches and larger in diameter
 Water mains 6 inches in diameter
 Water mains 4 inches in diameter

Fire hydrants shown thus 
 Gate valves shown thus 
 Fire house shown thus 
 Fire apparatus designated by symbols thus:
 (Y) Pumping engine and hose car 
 (B) Booster tank or tanks on above 

NEW PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY. Including Berkeley Heights and Murray Hill.

Population — 1940 Census — 2,194.

IN GENERAL: Located on the D., L & W R R and the Passaic River about 5 miles southwest of Summit. It is mainly a rural residential community with some farming and a number of greenhouses. Area is about 6.3 square miles. Elevations range from 210 to 550 feet. Streets are generally improved and in fair to good condition. Railroad crossings at grade could seriously delay the response of fire apparatus.

WATER SUPPLY: Water for domestic and fire protection purposes is furnished by the Commonwealth Water Company. The portion of this system in New Providence Township is supplied from the Summit High Service. The township supply is through one 6-inch and one 8-inch supply main interconnected with 10-inch and 12-inch mains from the Baltusrol Pumping Station. The Druid Hill Standpipe functions as an equalizer for this service and provides 0.611 million gallons storage. For detailed description of the Commonwealth Water Company system see report and map No. 245. **Distribution System:** In one service from the Baltusrol Pumping Station. See map and description above. **Consumption:** The average and maximum daily pumpage in the entire territory served (31,810 live services) was 12,782 and 20,122 million gallons. There are no available statistics for the consumption in New Providence Township, but on December 31, 1945 there were 449 services in the township, all of which were metered, and on that date there was a total of 31,463 services in the entire territory served. **Pipe:** All pipe is cast iron, tar coated, and with the exception of a small amount of Universal, it is bell and spigot, laid with a minimum 3½-foot cover. Total length in New Providence Township, 68,475 feet; 12.4% 12-inch, 14.8% 8-inch, and 72.8% 6-inch. No trouble was reported from frozen mains or electrolysis. **Gate Valves:** There are 95 in the township of Ludlow make set with boxes at or near grade. Direction of operation is uniform, but there are no regular inspections of valves at the present time. **Hydrants:** There are 61 in the township of Ludlow make of standard type; all have one 4½-inch and two 2½-inch outlets. All outlets have National Standard threads. All have 6-inch branches, all of which are gated. Hydrants are inspected semi-annually and at time of hydrant tests those operated were found to be in fair condition. **Pressures:** Readings taken at 4 well distributed locations showed pressures ranging from 53 to 138 pounds with an average of 106 pounds. **Fire Flow Tests:** Probable supply available for fire protection purposes was measured on April 10, 1947 by means of Pitot tube. Location of hydrant, discharge in gallons per minute, pressure before flow, and pressure during flow were as follows:

Emerson Lane next to last hydrant, 504—53—5.
Twin Falls Rd. next to last hydrant, 712—125—96
Plainfield Ave. and Mountain Ave., 1,620—109—64.
Plainfield Ave. and Springfield Ave., 1,680—138—43.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A volunteer organization of one company under the control of the township which owns house, apparatus, and equipment and makes an annual appropriation for the support of the department. Total active membership 35, of whom a minimum of about 8 are available at all times. Officers, including a chief, assistant chief, foreman and assistant foreman are elected annually by the company and confirmed by the mayor and council. **Company:** Located at Park (Union) Avenue opposite Bolton Boulevard in a 1-story wing of the brick municipal building, with concrete apparatus floor, slate on wood roof, steam heat, electric lights, hot air hose drying cabinets, telephone, and siren on tower in rear. **Equipment:** A 1939 Pirsch Diamond "T" 500-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying a 250-gallon booster tank, 200 feet of booster hose, 900 feet of 2½-inch hose, 2 short ladders, a 1,500-watt portable electric generator with 3 lights and about 200 feet of cable, and fair minor equipment. A 1929 Pirsch 600-g.p.m. triple combination pumping engine carrying two 80-gallon booster tanks, 150 feet of booster hose, 800 feet of 2½-inch hose, 3 short ladders, and meager minor equipment. **Hose:** All 2½-inch hose is C.R.L. with National Standard screw coup-

plings. The department is provided with one adapter to fit the hose threads of New Providence Borough. Hose is dried in cabinet, shifted semi-annually, and tested irregularly at various pressures. About 50% of the hose is over 5 years old and there is a reserve supply of 750 feet, 300 feet of which is known to be in poor condition. **Operations:** Department is governed by township ordinance and company by-laws. Chief has control of apparatus at all times and of men at fires and drills. Motors are started three times a week and there are 4 members appointed as drivers, but in the absence of appointed drivers any member may drive apparatus. **Drills and Training:** Quarterly drills are held under the supervision of chief officers. They consist of pumping at draft, hose laying, use of minor equipment, and some ladder work. **Fire Methods:** Booster lines are used on incipient fires reinforced by hydrant and engine lines with shut-off nozzles. Department is totally lacking in all-purpose gas masks, heavy stream appliances, and salvage equipment. **Response to Alarms:** One pumping engine responds to grass and automobile fires and both engines respond where nature of alarm is unknown or known to be a building fire. Outside aid may be secured from the volunteer departments of the adjoining municipalities. **Building Inspection:** None. **Records and Reports:** Fairly complete records are kept of all building fires. Records of grass and automobile fires and false alarms are limited to attendance and apparatus used. Chief makes an annual report of the fire department activities to the township committee. **Fire Alarms:** Alarms of fire are telephoned through the Summit telephone exchange to the police desk in municipal building. One phone at the police desk is reserved for fire alarms and has extensions in the apparatus room, fire chief's residence, and public garage. Alarms are sounded on siren located at the rear of the municipal building by means of switches located at the police desk, on the front of the municipal building, the fire chief's residence, corner of Springfield and Plainfield Avenues, Springfield and Summit Avenues, and at the Plainfield Avenue School. Wiring and apparatus is maintained by an electrical contractor. Siren is tested daily by noontime signal, but no other regular tests are made of the controls and wiring.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Consists of chief and 3 patrolmen working in 8-hour shifts, maintaining 24-hour duty at the police desk or in the principal mercantile district. In addition there are 14 specials who are available on call. Police are provided with two telephones, one of which is reserved for police calls and has an extension at the police chief's residence at Springfield and Plainfield Avenues. The other phone is reserved for fire alarms. Police are provided with two patrol cars not radio equipped. They respond to fire alarms and report unauthorized building construction to the building inspector.

BUILDING LAWS: Code adopted December 7, 1938 provides for the appointment of a competent building inspector and requires plans and specifications to be submitted and permit obtained before building construction may be started. Code has some good provisions for protection of wall openings and the regulation of wall thicknesses and provides for fire stops and parapets, but code does not establish fire limits nor restrict the use of wood shingled roofs, and is not sufficiently comprehensive from a fire prevention standpoint.

FIRE PREVENTION LAWS: There are no municipal regulations except that an ordinance to prevent vice has some regulations covering the use of fireworks and explosives and regulates outdoor open fires. State laws adequately cover the storage and shipment of explosives and flammables and the construction of motion picture booths. They also restrict the discharge of fireworks to responsible bonded parties.

ZONING ORDINANCE: Adopted September 2, 1937.