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FIRE SERVICE STAFF
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DEAN RYLE STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Any communication on the subject
of this letter should be addressed to:—

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
HOME OFFICE,
HORSEFERRY HOUSE,
DEAN RYLE STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.



30th June, 1950

and the following number quoted:

FIR 40/1/68

84978

Sir,

RESCUE OF ANIMALS

Fire Service Circular No. 31/1950

1. I am directed by the Secretary of State to forward to you (over-leaf) copy of his Reply to a recent Question by Mr. P. Roberts, M.P., as to the rendering of humanitarian services by members of the Fire Brigades. Fire Authorities will no doubt be familiar with the case of Fireman Hill, which gave rise to the Question, as it received much notice in the public press at the time.
2. The Secretary of State would be glad if the Fire Authority would give this matter their attention, unless they have already done so, and consider whether any further orders on the subject should be issued to the Fire Brigade.
3. An additional copy of this Circular is enclosed for the information of the Chief Fire Officer.

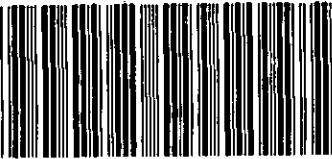
I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

A. S. Hutchinson

The Clerk of the London County Council,
The Clerk of the County Council,
The Town Clerk.

Issued to:— The London County Council, County Councils, County Borough Councils, and Combined Fire Authorities in England & Wales.
Copies sent for information to:— Principal Officers (Regions),
The County Councils' Association, and the Association of Municipal Corporations.

**The Fire Service
College**



00130849

HOUSE OF COMMONS OFFICIAL REPORT
22nd June, 1950

Fireman's Death, Sheffield

32. Mr. P. Roberts asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether, in view of the death of Fireman Hill in the execution of his duty in attempting to rescue a cat in a tree near Albert Road, Sheffield, he will institute immediate inquiries into the duties of firemen for the purpose of putting some limitation on the risking of life in the helping of distressed animals.

Mr. Ede: It is, I believe, generally recognised that humanitarian services of this kind are incidental to a fireman's calling, but I agree with the hon. Member that firemen should not be expected to take any undue risk in performing such functions. I have no authority to give any directions to fire authorities on the matter, but I am drawing their attention to it, and inviting them to consider whether they should issue any orders to the brigades for which they are responsible.

Dr. King: Can my right hon. Friend say whether adequate provision has been made for the dependents of this brave man?

Mr. Ede: There is a fixed scale of compensation.