

General Report No. 1786.

Individual Report No. 14.

Risk Nos. 28 to 31 and 35 inclusive.

Risks: Buildings of The Meter Department.

Location: Kimball and Broad Sts., Columbus, Ohio.

Owner and Occupant: The Columbus Railway & Light Co.

Date: May, 1909.

See Map No. 8.

SUMMARY.

Five risks in a group occupied principally by the meter and testing departments and briefly described are as follows:

Risk No. 28. North Building: A 1 and 2 story brick building of considerable length has a division wall near its center the northern portion being known as the North Building. This is a 2 story structure built along the river bank and 24 feet to the eaves at its greatest height. Area is in two sections 50 by 110 feet and 25 by 40 feet equaling 6400 square feet. Walls are 12 inch except the cutoff wall between it and the South Building which is 20 inch and extends 18 inches above the roof. Roof is slate covered on wooden sheathing and trusses and with a raised, wooden ventilator about 50 feet in length. Floors are plank on joists with a large open well hole from first to second. Frame partitions are used to divide occupancies on the second floor. The building is not occupied on the first floor except for the storage of a little worn out machinery and supplies but on the second floor is occupied as a storage house for the bulky supplies of the railway company and as an office and shop for a small automobile manufacturing and repairing shop known as the Okey Motor Works. Exposure is on the West only to the frame portion of the Wagon Shed and Stable at a distance of 30 feet and with two tracks of railway siding run in between. Heating is by coal and gas stoves, the pipe from the coal stove being carried through roof not well protected with thimble. Lighting is electric with wiring only in fair condition. Several electric motors are used for power metal working machines and have wiring and equipment partly in unsafe condition. A little painting is done in the auto shop and at the time of inspection the premises were not found in as cleanly condition as might be expected. The building is quite old and part is dilapidated and unoccupied. There is no private fire protection except that night watchman visits the risk hourly at night reporting over the A. D. T. system. Public protection is good. The following recommendations for improvement are suggested:

1. Keep premises in clean and orderly condition and provide a standard equipment of hand chemical fire extinguishers.
2. Properly thimble stove pipe where passing through the roof and protect the floor under the coal stove with sand tray or metal covering.
3. Make all electric wiring and equipment standard.

Risk No. 29. South Building: A 1 story to 3 story brick building adjoining at the South division wall to the North Building just described; the 1 story portions being old, partly fallen down and unoccupied the three story part being in better repair and occupied as a storage place and testing room for arc lamps. The area of the 1 story dilapidated section is 50 by 70 feet and of the 3 story section 40 by 45 feet equalling in all 5550 square feet. Walls of the 3 story lamp storage house are 16, 12 and 12 inches with unprotected openings into the vacant building on the first and second floors. Roof is of slate on wooden sheathing and trusses. Floors are of plank on joists with stairway from first to third. Interior finish is open. Heating is by gas stove on the second floor only and apparently in safe condition. Lighting is electric

with wiring not all standard. Arc lamp testing switchboards are of wooden construction. Some rubbish and old boxes were found in the vacant building and in the first floor which is not much occupied. **Exposure** is to a frame sign factory at a distance of 30 feet. Private fire protection consists of two outlets vertical pipe and hose and nightwatch service with watchman reporting by A. D. T. system. Public protection is standard. The following recommendations for improvement are suggested:

1. Provide non-combustible testing switchboards and make electric wiring standard throughout.

2. Remove all rubbish and old boxes and keep premises in cleanly condition at all times.

Risk No. 30. Office and Testing: A 20 by 40 foot, 2 story brick office and testing rooms. **Walls** are 12 inch brick and **roof** is of slate on wooden sheathing and rafters. **Floors** are single 7-8-inch stock on joists and interior is lath and plaster ceiled. Open stairs lead from first to second. **Exposure** is from a frame sign factory at a distance of 20 feet. The first floor is occupied for office purposes and the second for the testing of meters. **Heating** is by gas stoves safely arranged and **lighting** is electric with wiring in fair condition. The wiring and equipment in the meter testing department is not in good condition. There is no private protection except A. D. T. watchman but public protection is standard. The following recommendations for improvement are suggested.

1. Make wiring and equipment in the testing room standard.

Risk No. 31. Storage House: A 3 story brick building 30 feet to the eaves. **Area** is 60 by 80 feet main section with a 1 story 15 by 15 foot frame addition equalling in all 5025 square feet. **Walls** are 12 inch and extend 24 inches above the roof on exposed sides. **Roof** is composition gravel on light wooden sheathing and trusse. **Floors** are of wooden joisted construction with large open area in center to permit the operation of a crane used in handling heavy stock. An open stair leads from first to third. The frame addition is an oil house and communicates with the main building through window openings not protected. **Exposure** is to frame portion of the wagon shed and stable at a distance of 10 feet. This risk is occupied as the main storage place for incandescent lamps, motors, transformers etc. used by the lighting department and as employes room and workshop for a portion of the linemen. **Heating** is by gas stoves some of which are not vented nor in very good condition generally. **Lighting** is electric with wiring partly in fair condition but such circuits as are used for testing incandescent lamps are not well installed and have defective fittings. Adjoining oil house has oil storage including one barrel of **gasoline**. Private **fire protection** consists of two chemical extinguishers distributed and nightwatch service with watchman reporting by A. D. T. system. The following recommendations for improvement are suggested:

1. Make all electrical equipment standard and provide vents for all stoves.

2. Remove oil storage house to an outside location not exposing.

Risk No. 35. Wagon Shed and Stable: A 1 story fireproof wagon shed with a 2 story frame stable and wash house adjoining and communicating. The **area** of the fireproof section is 4500 square feet and of the frame section 2500 square feet. **Brick** walls are 16 inch, the wall adjoining the frame section having an unprotected window opening. The frame section **exposes** to the brick Storage House at a distance of 10 feet. The fireproof section is **occupied** as a storage shed for line wagons and other vehicles and for cross arm pins and line materials, while the stable is used as indicated by its name 14 horses being kept here. The wash room is **heated** by a gas stove which is badly in need of repair. **Lighting** is electric with wiring in good condition. Private **fire protection** consists of two chemical fire extinguishers and nightwatch service with watchman reporting by A. D. T. system. Public protection is standard.

INSURANCE.

All but the last mentioned have insurance written on one form and covered by ordinary policy. The wagon shed & stable has contents only insured in a separate policy. (SEE VALUE SHEET).

THE COLUMBUS RAILWAY AND LIGHT CO.

MAP NO 8.
OHIO, INSPECTION
BUREAU.
T.B. SELLERS, MANAGER
COLUMBUS, OHIO.
MARCH 1909.
SCALE: 1" = 50' H.R.M

ETER DEPT, STORAGE ETC.
INDIVIDUAL REPORT NO. 14.

