

FIRE PROTECTION HISTORY-PART 166: 1921 (GREETINGS AND A DEATH OF A FOUNDER OF THE NFPA)

By Richard Schulte

In 1921, telegraphs were still used for communication and the contents of telegrams were read at meetings of the National Fire Protection Association.

The following is an excerpt from the Proceedings of the twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of the NFPA announcing the death of W. A. Stoney, one of the attendees at the first meeting of the Association:

“The Secretary: I would like to read at this opportunity several friendly telegrams which came in this morning.

The President: Proceed.

The Secretary then read telegrams of greeting from the following members:

The Railway Fire Protection Association, W. F. Hickey, President, New Haven, Conn.

William H. Merrill, Chicago, President Underwriters' Laboratories, past-president N.F.P.A.

Willis O. Robb, Manager New York Fire Insurance Exchange, Member Executive Committee N. F. P. A.

Robert Scott, Wilmington, N. C., Member Executive Committee N.F.P.A.

The President: The Secretary will acknowledge these kind expressions of interest and friendship?

*The Secretary: Yes, sir. I should also like the consent of this meeting to send, over the signature of the President and Secretary, telegrams of greeting to our former President, **Mr. Uberto C. Crosby of Boston, and to Mr. Henry C. Eddy of Chicago, and Florence W. Griswold of New York, Honorary Life Members of this Association, and also to Mr. W. A. Stoney, our member in New York, who is very ill at this time.***

The President: Does the Association wish this done? The desire is unanimous. The Secretary will send the telegrams at once.

Mr. Gorham Dana (Boston, Manager Underwriters' Bureau of New England): I have a letter from Boston just received stating that Mr. Stoney has passed away.

Mr. E. P. Boone (New York Fire Insurance Exchange): Then let us send a message of condolence to Mr. Stoney's family.

*Prof. Woolson: I would suggest the appointment of a Committee to prepare a proper resolution for that purpose. **Mr. Stoney was one of the organizers of our Association, was he not?***

Mr. Cabot: I am very sure he was at the first meeting.

The President: You have heard the suggestion of Mr. Boone and motion of Professor Woolson. What is your pleasure?

The motion was adopted.

The President: I shall appoint to serve on that committee Mr. F. E. Cabot of Boston, Mr. W. C. Robinson of Chicago, and Mr. Charles J. Holman of San Francisco, and shall ask the committee to submit the resolutions as soon as convenient that they may be telegraphed to Mr. Stoney's family."

The above is quite a tribute to W. A. Stoney.

* * * * *

Copyright © 2013
Richard C. Schulte

Source: "Proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual [NFPA] Meeting", San Francisco, California, 1921.