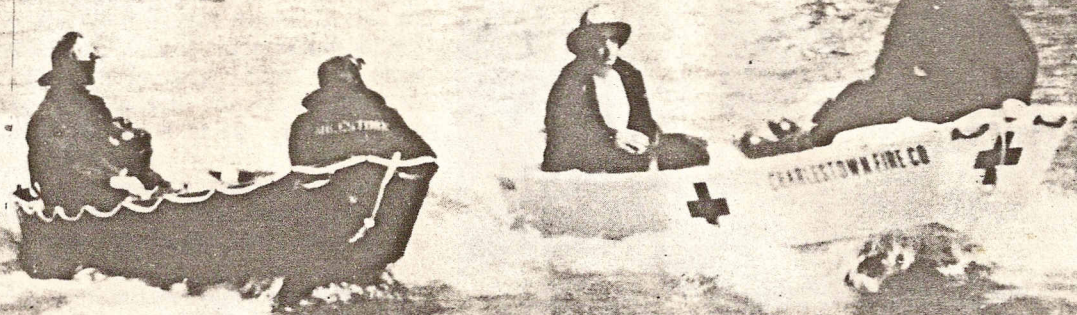


A UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PUBLICATION



FIRE SERVICE BULLETIN

SERVICE OF FIREMEN

It is the general thing to think of firemen as being primarily concerned about fire fighting. This may be so, especially if the prevention of fire occurrence is included in the "fighting." However, there are other aspects of emergencies that see the fire forces activated. Included are water front incidents of various types. Shown are boats designed for the Charlestown Fire Department. Additional information is inside.

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is published four times in January, February, March and April; three times in May; once in June and July; twice in August, September, October and November; and three times in December.

Re-entered at the Post Office in College Park, Maryland, as second class mail matter under the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912. Address communications concerning FIRE SERVICE BULLETIN to: Robert C. Byrus, Editor, P.O. Box 85, College Park, Md.

Maryland State Firemen's Association Condensed Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Executive Committee Held at LaVale on Sunday, April 20, 1958

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m.

The Convention Committee reported that the firemen will meet in the schoolhouse and the Ladies Auxiliary will meet in the Pier Ball Room. A fee of one dollar will be charged for local registration which will cover tickets for the variety show, the crab feast, and the dance. The parade will be confined to, Baltimore Avenue and will start at the south end of town, disbanding at 12th street.

An application for membership received from the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department in Montgomery County was approved. Our total membership is now 279.

The Transportation Committee reported that 4387 automobile tags of the FD series had been processed from 10-01 through 54-35. This is 19 less than last year.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Floyd Heimer
Secretary

CHARCOAL DANGEROUS

Calling all outdoor chefs! That charcoal that you huff and puff against when trying to fan up a flame will ignite itself, under certain conditions.

Hard to believe? No doubt. But the insurance people have statistics to prove that outdoor cooking type charcoal is highly susceptible to breaking out in flames when stored. Yes, it's the same charcoal you wage a heated battle against when guests are waiting for steaks or hamburgers.

The accident prevention department at Employers Mutuals of Wausau has issued a special summer and fall bulletin warning that a bag of charcoal in the basement may be a booby trap.

"Charcoal," says the statement, "is a wonderful fuel for broiling steaks and hamburgers, as everyone knows. It is efficient and flavorful. When used for this purpose it is absolutely harmless. The only danger comes in storing it.

"Charcoal is usually made from hard wood by the retort method and is particularly likely to light up of its own accord.

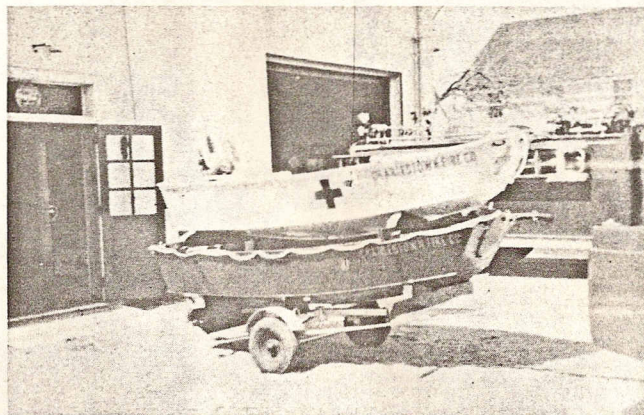
"There are four common causes for spontaneous ignition of stored charcoal:

1. Lack of cooling and airing before shipment.
2. Charcoal becoming damp.
3. Friction in grinding and pulverizing it.
4. Carbonizing at too low a temperature."

Enjoy your outdoor cooking. But be sure the man of the house who knows his onions, beans, barbecue sauce and steaks, also knows that he shouldn't store bags of charcoal in a damp basement. Far from diminishing the chances of fire, dampness contributes to spontaneous ignition.

In one case a 20-pound bag of briquets taken into a damp but well-ventilated basement caught fire within a short time. It was found the bag had previously been stored in a basement four weeks before purchase. (From Metropolitan Fire News, Oakland, California)

ITEM OF INTEREST

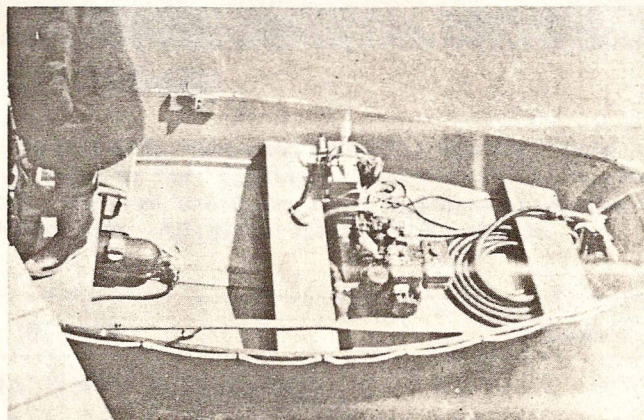


Dear Bob:

Enclosed are pictures of the newest equipment addition to the Charlestown Fire Company.

Being a river side community many boats have always been available for our needs in drownings and boat fires, but not with the specialized equipment this company felt was needed. So with the help of the local boat yard two small special boats were designed and constructed.

While the boats are visualized being used mainly in the upper part of the North East River, they are light enough to be carried (with special handles) by four men for use in quarries, clay pits, etc.



The fire and rescue boats are trailer borne and may be pulled with fire apparatus or private vehicle. Power for the two boats is furnished by six horse outboards.

The equipment ready for use on the rescue boat includes grappling hooks, resuscitator, life preservers, first aid supplies and is also equipped with a large deck for use in the giving of immediate artificial respiration.

The fire boat is equipped with a 15 lb. CO₂, a gas operated pressure pump supplying a sawed off Hardy Fog Gun and is two way radio equipped with a pack set on the fire department frequency.

Hoping this will be of interest to you and your readers. Yours for better fire fighting.

Peter M. Williams, Assistant Chief
Charlestown Vol. Fire Co.

WE NEED THE CONSTANT CONFUSION OF NEW IDEAS—Wm. B. Bergen, Executive President, Glenn L. Martin Co.