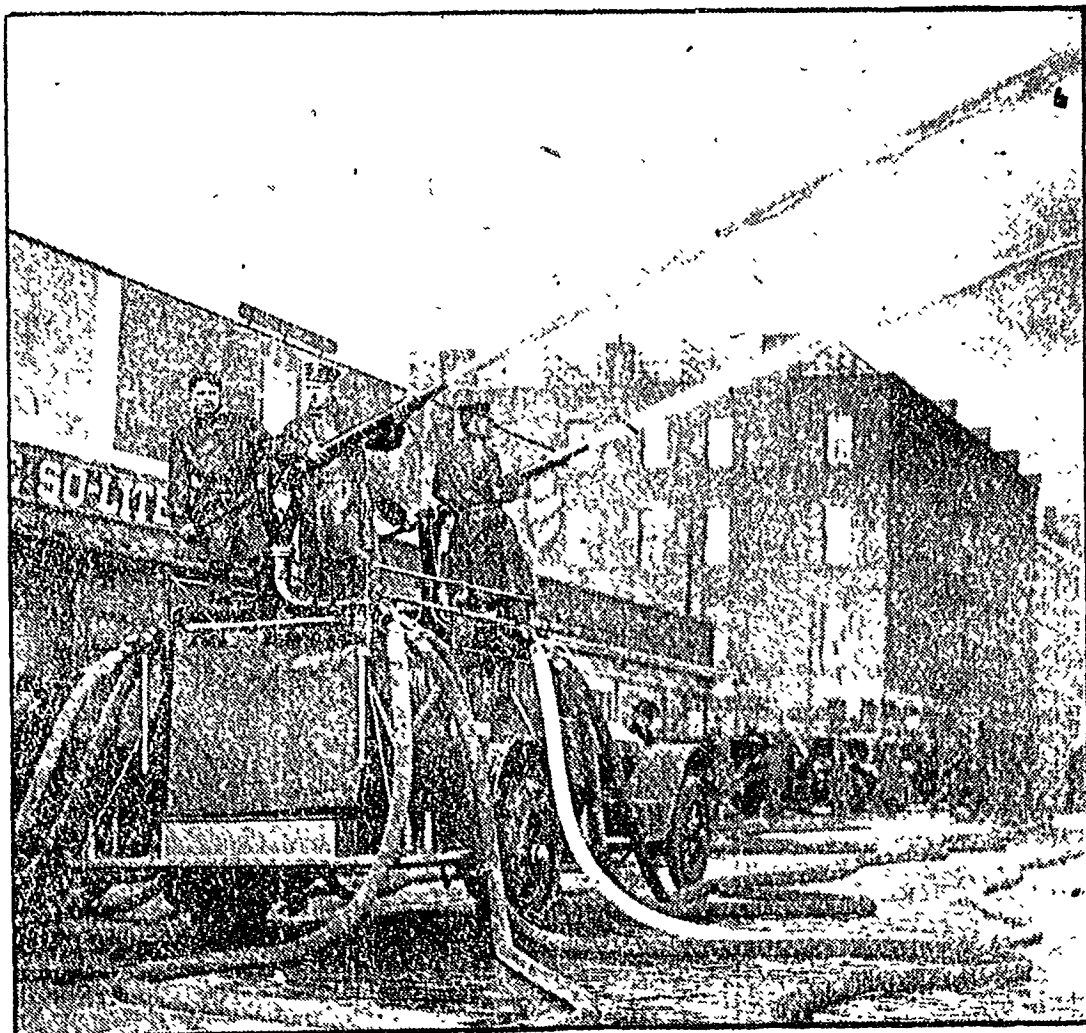


# TWO RECORD FIRE STREAMS THROWN

Test of New Wagon Made by the Department on Albany St—1866  
Gallons a Minute Discharged From a 2½-Inch Tip



FIRE DEPARTMENT TEST OF A NEW HIGH-PRESSURE WAGON WITH TWO "GUNS" WHICH ARE THROWING 3732 GALLONS OF WATER A MINUTE AT THE MOMENT WHEN PICTURED.

The Boston Fire Department celebrated the New Year in the proper fashion yesterday afternoon on Albany st, by creating the two biggest fire streams ever thrown by hand engines in this city, and hydraulic engineers and fire officials believe in the entire country.

Three different size streams were thrown, the first with a two and one-half-inch tip on the two big guns, resulting in 1800 gallons of water being forced through each gun a minute. With a two and one-quarter-inch tip, the capacity was 1586 gallons, and with the two-inch tip, 1400 gallons of water.

In the test for height, the streams were thrown much over 200 feet in the air, and for distance, with the wagons standing on Albany st, near the sidewalk in front of the repair shops, the streams went nearly into the channel of St. South Bay.

The tests were arranged by Commissioner John R. Murphy and Chief Peter E. Walsh to give the new high pressure wagons a tryout. These wagons were recently delivered by the American La France Company, and will be used in connection with the high pressure service, which the engineers expect will be in service within a few months.

The wagons are of special construction, from plans submitted by Commissioner Murphy, Chief Walsh and other experts. Two guns are mounted on each wagon, requiring two men to handle each. For the test, motor-pumping Engines 10, 23, 26 and 50, all of 1000-gallon capacity, were brought from their stations. Two engines were connected to each hydrant, 10 and 50 working near the corner of Albany and Dover sts, 23 and 26 at the corner of Albany and Bristol sts. The latter two engines laid about 150 feet of hose for each of the three lines, while the other two pushed water through three lines each of about 200 feet.

Six lines were connected to each gun, and the amount of water passed surprised the local chiefs as well as those from out of town who came to attend the demonstration. Experts from the Boston Public Works, as well as Army and Navy officers, were present.

Commissioner Murphy told the officers in charge to wreck the wagon if possible, as he wanted nothing but the best in service and would rather have accidents during a test than when the machine was badly needed at a fire. Every test that the engineers could think of, that would show up weak points if any existed, was made, but the wagon stood up under them without the least sign of defects.

Deputy Chief Henry A. Fox, Supt of Repairs Eugene M. Byington, District Chiefs Frank Sweeney and A. L. Caulfield and Acting District Chief Thomas Downey, with Chief Motor Engineer Jim Ryan, assisted in the tests.