Advent of Autos Increased Business in Bloomfield Township, Fire Protection

By HUGH MUNCE Special Writer

Back before the advent of the automobile, the people of Bloomfield Township had no drastic need for a top-notch police force. Fires were fewer, too.

Trouble didn't spread fast in those days. With no telephones, fast transportation, etc., only an occasional fire or so shoehorned up.

But, by about 1920, the population started to grow and automobile incidents added to the growing problems. By 1923-24, the people of Bloomfield Township were seeking their public service for more and better police and fire protection.

By 1927-28, the township police and fire departments were getting full attention at council and board meetings.

Several police officers were appointed in the community and police were given extra cars.

Bloomfield Chief Putnam and his prime partner, Haskins and Keven, handled the Bloomfield stretch with dispatch and determination in the "searing twenties" and the nine-man team continued until the township began to spread.

More men in suits were needed to patrol and enforce laws in the five-square-mile City of Bloomfield and in the Township.

On the Telegraph Rd. strip, things were humming, too. Traffic, travelers, and hunters made the area one of the busiest in the state. This brought new responsibilities to Bloomfield Township, the automobile, and the special forces needed to handle them.

Bloomfield, Michigan, MI, and Oakland Unit today have police protection from 26 officers, eight cars and 22 firemen at five locations: Masts, Tele- graph, N. L. Line, Little Creek, and Telegraph, Franklin near South Lake Rd., Warren near Adams, and the Bloomfield Village, Lakeland at Mi.

The Township's present fire chief is Wally Yarzanski and the police chief is Norm Dehne.

Resident police can also count on help from Bloomfield City police and fire protection, under Director of Public Safety Robert Stabler, headquartered at 300 N. L. Line near Woodward.

Fifteen men can double as fire fighters or police officers, too, since there are 20 officers assigned to fire protection and 11 to police, using 8 cars.

NEW TANKER

Says Bloomfield Township's resident tankers are capable of stopping fire trouble before it gets out of hand.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP: The new tanker is one of the finest pieces of equipment ever purchased by the township. It is a 1,000-gallon tank with a hose reel and an electric pump. The tanker is pulled by a truck and is used for fire protection and for water supply in case of emergencies.

This tanker is part of the township's efforts to improve its fire protection services. The township has been upgrading its fire equipment and building new fire stations to better serve the residents. The tankers are equipped with the latest technology and are staffed by trained firefighters who are dedicated to providing the best possible service to the community.

The tanker is an important asset to the township's fire department, allowing them to respond quickly to emergencies and effectively manage large fires. The township's efforts to improve its fire protection services continue to be a priority, and the residents are encouraged to support these efforts in any way possible.

To report a fire, please call 911 immediately.

NORM DEHNE Twp. police chief.