

School Committee
of
Cambridge, Massachusetts

DR. JOHN E. DWYER, PRESIDENT
MRS. FLORENCE LEE WHITMAN
JAMES T. BARRETT
JOHN W. BRADLEY
JAMES B. VALLELY

Cambridge Mass October 16th 1915.

Hon Timothy W. Good,
Mayor, Cambridge, Mass.

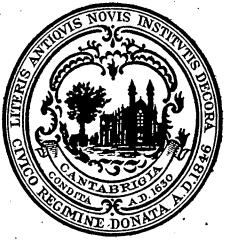
Dear Sir:-

I enclose herewith a complaint regarding the fire escapes in the Peabody School. As the same condition exists in several schools in our city I would suggest, that you consider the matter at your earliest convenience, so that the existing danger may be remedied.

The School Board having no power to act in the matter.

Respectfully yours,

Chairman School Buildings and Grounds.



School Committee
of
Cambridge, Massachusetts

DR. JOHN E. DWYER, PRESIDENT
MRS. FLORENCE LEE WHITMAN
JAMES T. BARRETT
JOHN W. BRADLEY
JAMES B. VALLEY

October 5, 1915.

Mr. James T. Barrett,
97 Otis Street,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:-

At a meeting of the Committee on Instruction, Teachers and Curriculum, held on Monday evening, October 4th, a communication from Dr. A. W. Dudley, copy of which is enclosed, regarding fire prevention at the Peabody School, was referred to you as chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds, for immediate attention.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth S. O'Connor
Secretary of the School Committee.

C O P Y

Dr. A. W. Dudley

1740 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, Mass.

Mr. Michael E. Fitzgerald,
Superintendent of Schools,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

I wish to call your attention as pointedly as possible to the stairways in the Peabody School and to point out the danger in case of fire. Both stairways are of wood and open on to one large corridor, also of wood. Any fire which would block one stairway would inevitably block the other in a very few minutes if not with flames certainly with smoke. There is no fire escape or other means of egress from the schoolhouse; and a fire, which we all pray may never happen, but may occur despite our prayers, will be a positive source of danger to many lives. I trust something will be done in the matter at once. Our responsibility to the children demands action.

Very respectfully,

A. W. Dudley



*Office of the Mayor
Cambridge Massachusetts*

October 19th, 1915.

To the

Honorable the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:-

I transmit herewith correspondence relative to the matter of providing fire escapes in public school buildings in this city, notably conditions that exist in the Peabody School, viz:-

Communication dated Oct. 16th, 1915, from James T. Barrett, Chairman School Buildings and Grounds.

Communication dated Oct. 5th, 1915, from the Sec'y. of the School Committee to Mr. Barrett.

Copy of a communication from Dr. A.W. Dudley, #1740 Mass. ave. to the Supt. of Schools.

The safeguarding of the lives of the children entrusted to our care is of vast importance, and I believe that means should be provided to have every building properly equipped with fire escapes.

Respectfully,

Mayor.

RESOLUTION
passed the Board of Aldermen, October 19, 1915
relative to fire escapes
in school buildings.

In Board of Aldermen, October 19, 1915
Referred to the Committee on
Public Property
Sent to the Common Council for concurrence

W. J. P. P. P. City Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL,
Oct. 19, 1915

CONCURRED.....

ATTEST Wm. H. H. H.
CLERK

City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen, November 9, 1915.

The Committee ON PUBLIC PROPERTY,

to which was referred a communication from the Mayor transmitting one relative to fire escapes in school buildings,

Reports

that after an examination of many of our school buildings your committee are of the opinion that much can be done in the basement of these buildings to lessen the fire hazard. The chief fault lies in that many buildings have open staircases leading to the basement from the first floor level without proper fire stops to retard the progress of any flames or smoke that might arise from a fire in the basement.

Unfortunately there exists a situation with reference to the maintenance of our school buildings that has been permitted to exist since the control of the buildings passed from the building department, under the direction of the City Council, to the school committee. Formerly as part of the duties of your committee on Public Property an investigation was made from time to time of our school buildings and the City Council were informed of their condition and needs. Recently no such investigations have been made

as a change in charter has provided that the School Committee
"Shall have entire charge of the buildings used for school purposes"
and "shall annually appropriate money for the maintenance of the
schools and school buildings".

It is important that at present whatever faults exist should
be remedied at once. Your committee therefore would recommend
that an appropriation be provided for this purpose. Your committee
further recommends that remedial legislation be enacted to provide
that the needs of our school buildings will be presented from time
to time for the attention and consideration of the City Council.

For the Committee.

David J. Korman

Report received and
recommendation ADORSED.
Sent to Common Council for concurrence,
Attest: *[Signature]* City Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL
CONCURRED *Nov. 9, 1915*
ATTEST *[Signature]*
CLERK.

REPORT

Committee on *Public Property*
relative to fire escapes in
school buildings

Nov. 9, 1915

Concurrence



City of Cambridge

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

November 9, 1915.

ORDERED:

That the Superintendent of Public Buildings be requested to make a thorough investigation of all public buildings, in the city and report to this board immediately the conditions relative to fire hazard, and recommendations for improving the same if necessary.

ADOPTED

Attest:

A handwritten signature in ink, appearing to be "G. W. ...", written over a horizontal line.

City Clerk.

Order
Relative to inspection
of all public buildings
by Superintendent of
Public Buildings

Nov. 9, 1915

(4)

Alderman Kelleher



City of Cambridge

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN,

November 9, 1915.

ORDERED:

That the Superintendent of Buildings be and hereby is requested
to consider the advisability of placing fire escapes on every ^{school} building
in this city, leading from every school room is possible.

ADOPTED

Attest:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to the City Clerk.

City Clerk

W. B. King

Order
relative to fire escapes
on every school building

Nov 9, 1915

(2)

Attest
Ald. Colary

IN THE CITY OF JEFFERSON, MISSOURI, I, the Mayor, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the City of Jefferson, Missouri.

to consider the expediency of placing fire escapes on every building
that the Superintendent of Buildings be and he is hereby is requested
ORDERED:
that the Superintendent of Buildings be and he is hereby is requested

November 3, 1915.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,



City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen,

Nov. 16, 1915.

ORDERED:

That the Superintendent of Public Buildings be requested to confer with the Committee on Public Property relative to making the following improvements in the public schools of the city:

Overhead Sprinkler System and self-closing doors in basement, fire-proofing of stairways and doors, installation of fire drill gong.

Adopted:

Sent to the Common Council for concurrence.

Attest:  *City Clerk.*

IN COMMON COUNCIL,

Nov 16, 1915

CONCURRED.....

ATTEST.....



CLERK

Order

relating to installing
sprinkler system &
other fireproofing in
schools.

Nov. 16, 1915.

Ald. Stephens

TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO
FROM THE BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION
SUBJECT: FIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCE NO. 11,000
RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Prevention do hereby
recommend to the Board of Education that they cause to be
installed in all public schools a sprinkler system and other
fireproofing in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance
No. 11,000.

Nov. 16, 1915.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,