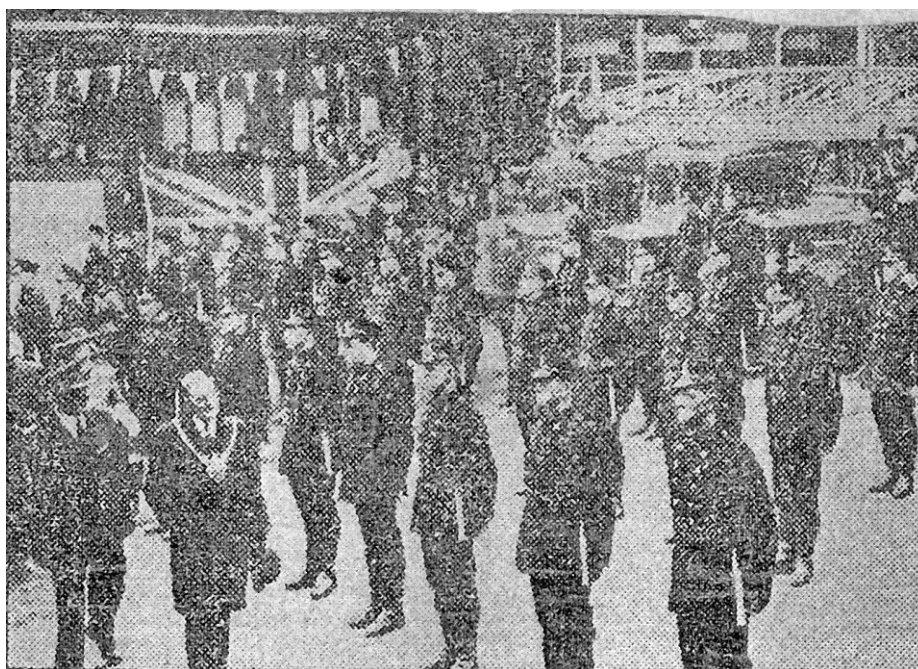


Fire Brigade is Handed Back

Today, instead of the "N.F.S." monogram, the city arms appeared on the gleaming red and gold flanks of Sheffield's fire engines and appliances, the change symbolising the handing back of the Sheffield Fire Brigade from the administration of the National Fire Service to that of the City Council, under the Fire Services Act, 1947.

The Act confirms a promise made to local authorities when the fire services were nationalised in August, 1941, that fire brigades should be returned to their control when the national, emergency was over.

At the Brigade's headquarters in Division Street, with the men of No.1 station on parade, the city's Chief Fire Officer, Mr. H. T. Reynolds, handed over the fire service with its 160 all ranks and its 22 vehicles to the Lord Mayor (Ald. W. E. Yorke).



The Lord Mayor, Ald. W. E. Yorke, inspecting personnel of the Sheffield Fire Service this afternoon after officially accepting back. The brigade from the N.F.S.

Blitz Test

In his handing-over speech, Mr. Reynolds, who was also Sheffield's Fire Force Commander under the N.F.S. pointed out how right the Government had been to develop and augment the fire services before the war.

The "blitz" nights in Sheffield had proved the efficacy of their precautions.

Sheffield was getting its own fire brigade back in a state of efficiency that was second to none.

The Lord Mayor, accepting the transfer, read a letter from the Home Secretary (Mr. Chuter Ede), offering his co-operation in the task of establishing and improving the brigade.

A fire in the basement of a bombed-out building in Arundel Lane, which occurred during the handing-over ceremony, was dealt with by a spare engine, stationed outside the Division Street headquarters in case of emergency.

First Call "New" Force

Once again as a city brigade, Sheffield firemen received their first call to 122, Moore Street, where a blazing settee had set fire to the living room curtains and window frames.