

## Scribner Says Schoharie Fire Losses Lowering

SCHOHARIE—Fire losses in Schoharie village itself have gone down and in the fire protection district losses are the lowest in many years, says Fire Chief Edward Scribner in his report to the village board for the year from April 1, 1965, to March 31, 1966.

Scribner points out that

"never a month went by without a call and fires play no favorites as to the days of the week. Friday seems to have been the most 'unlucky day.'"

The chief says grass and rubbish fires still are a great menace and cars, trucks and tractor fires have been on the increase the past year. He adds:

"Pot burners still get flooded and chimneys get filled with creosote and burn."

Commenting on the New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization's inspection of the fire defenses last summer, Chief Scribner says: "There are certain things that we as firemen and as a fire department must accomplish. There are also many things which the village must do also in order that we retain our Class B rating . . . Losing our rating is something we definitely do not want to happen."

Scribner reports more firemen are needed especially day-times, and more pumper operators. He emphasizes that increased training should be conducted "to get the most out of the equipment."

There were 33 calls for the fire department in the past year compared with 32 the previous year. Nine were for cars, trucks and tractors, the largest num-

ber, followed by seven grass and rubbish fires and by five at houses. Three calls were for mutual aid.

The Shoharie department has been released by Gallupville from Rickard Hill calls now that the bridge near the Gallupville fire station has been reopened. The Schoharie tanker is now standing by for Middleburgh whose tanker is undergoing repairs.

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The 134th annual meeting and election of officers are scheduled tonight at the fire station where the department and auxiliary annual dinner will take place April 16.

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