

# FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

## Who Take All Kinds of Chances

### A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES

#### **CAPT HARRY M. HEBARD ENGINE 46**

"I suppose that in my 25 years of service I have had the average number of thrills. My first real one was on the morning of the Studio Building fire when a lieutenant on Engine 22. I was working with the company in the rear of the building on the third floor and had just been driven from a room by the flames, when that part of the building collapsed and went down into the fire that was underneath us.

"But a thrill that was the real thing was the one that I had on Aug 9, 1910. At about 6 that evening I responded to a fire in the Blacker & Sheppard Lumber Wharf, Box 58. Upon reaching there on the first alarm we found the fire already crossing Albany st.

"We went to work on Albany st. but were soon driven from our position. We were unable to save our hose and had to leave it, and also had to play a stream on the engine to enable the men to disconnect it from the hydrant.

"We then went around to the rear and up into Paul's Block to the fourth floor of a building which was on fire and had hardly got there when the floor went down, taking myself and three other men with it. And to this day I cannot tell how I happen to be alive to tell about it. I was laid up over five months



CAPT HARRY M. HEBARD

from injuries received and consider myself lucky to still be here.

"The saddest experience of my career was when as a member of Engine 48 and 39 five of my comrades were killed at the Merrimac-st fire in February, 1898. To tell their relatives who came to the engine house to inquire for them that they had been killed was one of the hardest things that I ever had to do."

Mr Hebard was appointed July 16, 1891; promoted to lieutenant June 29, 1903, and captain July 14, 1914.