

Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Tuesday, July 1, 1947.

Old and New To Feature Firemen's Parade and Muster Friday

More Than 300 Fire Fighters To Compete

More than 300 visiting firemen representing 14 communities will compete at Wahconah Park Friday in the 4th of July old-fashioned muster, which will be the feature of the Pittsfield Permanent Firemen's Benefit Association's week-long party.

Each company also will have a piece of apparatus in the street parade which will move at 10 AM from the corner of South and East Housatonic Streets to Wahconah Park.

28 Floats Entered

Supplying music, in what the firemen's arrangements committee feels will be the city's largest organized parade in decades, will be 12 bands and drum corps. Twenty-eight floats have been entered, and there will be miscellaneous mobile military displays from Westover Field and Fort Edwards.

Competition will be held in three classes — pump, ladder and hose. These fire companies will send contestants: Becket, Adams, Chester, Terryville, Conn., Lee, Clinton Heights, N.Y., Unionville, Conn., Stockbridge, Lenox, Lenox Dale, Cheshire, Dalton, Canaan, Conn., and Lanesboro.

Bands Coming

Out-of-town bands will include the Danbury (Conn.) Hat Makers, the ZNP of Adams, the Anderson-Shea post, Thompsonville (Conn.) American Legion, the St. Mary's band of Torrington, Conn., the St. Mary's band of Hartford, Conn., the Indian Orchard band and the Eagles' drum corps of North Adams.

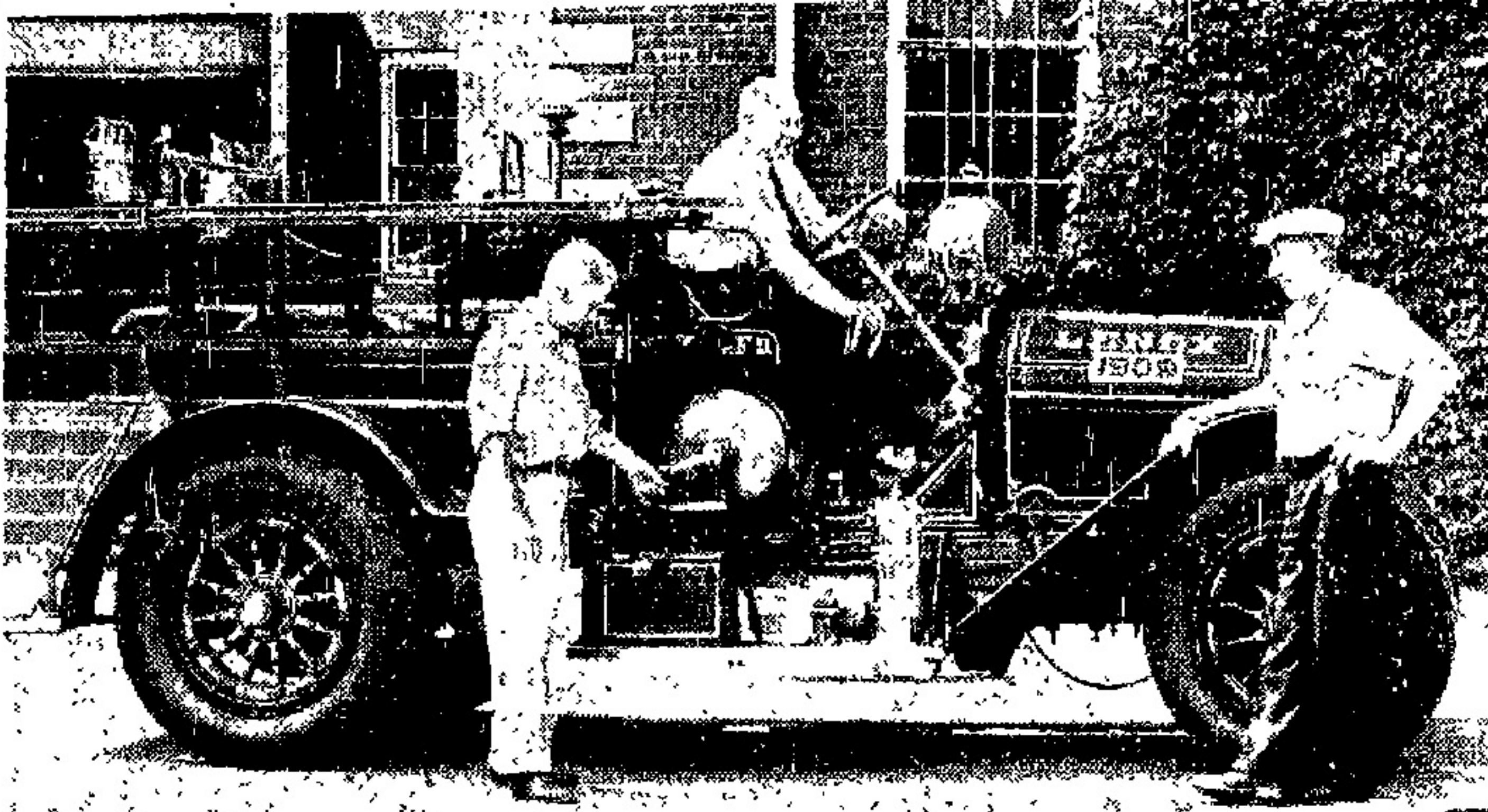
Firemen today and tomorrow will decorate the central station, the Police Department headquarters and City Hall. They are requesting downtown merchants to display street flags for the remainder of the week.

The lawn party started last night. Several hundred saw the amateur show, which was won by William Abele, who played a musical saw. The Mackey twin sisters, tap dancers, were second, and Anthony Pastore, a singer, was third. Decision was by audience applause. Richard H. Ringie was master of ceremonies.

The party will continue tonight. Booths and rides at the playground section of Wahconah Park will be open at 7.

Contestants for this evening's amateur show are Lila Uyrus, who will sing; Joseph Rivers, who will play the guitar and accordion, and Carl Russettta, who will sing and tell stories. George Robinson Jr., who was a member of Mickey Rooney's USO show in World War II, will do piano specialty numbers.

Anthony Sefcyk of 12 Leidhold Place was the winner by drawing last night of an electric lamp. Prizes will be awarded nightly. The big award, a 1947 automobile, will be made Friday.



READY FOR PITTSFIELD: Sentiment kept this fire truck in Lenox. The vehicle, which is the first American LaFrance truck to be manufactured, is owned by the members of the Lenox Fire Department who purchased it from the town several years ago when a new pumper was purchased. It is in good working order and will be exhibited in the firemen's muster in Pittsfield Friday. At the wheel is Fire Chief Hutchinson, while his two assistants, Eugene J. Mackey and John J. Toolan, polish off a little dust.

Lenox To Bring Three Museum Pieces Here

LENOX—Three fire fighting relics, all in operating condition, will be exhibited by the Lenox Fire Department in the parade to be held in connection with the firemen's muster in Pittsfield Friday morning at 10. The first American LaFrance fire truck ever built, which was delivered to Lenox following the disastrous Easter fire here in 1909 when six persons lost their lives, will be included in the local department's exhibit. Also in the line of march will be a horse-drawn steamer fire engine as well as the department's old horse-drawn hook and ladder.

In addition to the relics, which have been tested during the past few days, the Lenox firemen will display a jeep fire truck, which was recently acquired, as well as fire trucks from the Lenox and Lenox Dale stations.

Chief Oscar R. Hutchinson, who has headed the Lenox Fire Department since it was organized following the Easter fire in 1909 will head the local delegation. With him at the head of the unit will be Eugene J. Mackey, first assistant chief, John J. Toolan, second assistant, and Edward Ghardy, foreman of the Lenox Dale Company.

There are 60 members in the department here while 40 are enrolled in the Lenox Dale company. Both units have been furnished new uniforms for the muster. They will wear white helmets with bright red shirts, blue trousers with gold stripes and white belts. It is expected that more than 70 firemen from Lenox and Lenox Dale will take part in the parade. The Danbury (Conn.) Hatters' Band has been engaged to march with the Lenox firemen.

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