

Three Fire Departments Get In Act As Borrowed Fire Truck Goes Ablaze

MONTPELIER, Jan. 27 — This is the story of three fire departments.

The Montpelier Department didn't have enough trucks. So, it borrowed a reserve truck from the Burlington Fire Department.

That's when the Waterbury Fire Department got into the act. It was called out when a blaze started in the borrowed truck as it was being driven from Burlington to Montpelier.

The Waterbury department was ready, though. It had been asked by the Montpelier Fire Department to "stand by" for an emergency.

This all happened Friday night. The Montpelier fire-fighters had been called to assist at a fire in a box factory in Berlin. One truck couldn't be driven out of the firehouse and another went out of commission at the fire.

That's when Chief Sidney Lawson sent the request to Waterbury Chief C. C. Fisher to "stand by."

Then Lawson went to Burlington and borrowed a reserve 1921 Seagraves truck. On the way back to Montpelier, a leak in the gas line started an engine fire in the truck.

The Waterbury department quelled the blaze near the Bolton line. The damaged truck was hauled on to Montpelier by a wrecker and the Montpelier firemen continued on their way in the chief's car.

Montpelier firemen say the borrowed truck can be repaired —but they're not saying much else.