

An electric bell-ringing apparatus is now being fitted to the main firebell, by which the bell may be rung from several different points in the town at the same time by means of what is known as the "remote switch-control"—the stopping, starting, and locality signalling is entirely controlled from the central fire-station—a very suitable apparatus for certain local conditions, and I have recommended its installation in several other towns.

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#### WOOLSTON.

A visit was paid to Woolston on the 25th November, 1915, for the purpose of attending a Board meeting in connection with the organization of a system of fire protection for the borough, and in that relation various reports and specifications have been submitted to the Board.

At the time of my second visit in May last, although the brigade had been formed, they were waiting the reception of necessary appliances, uniforms, &c., then on the point of delivery, and they were not really on active service, therefore no official inspection was held.

A suitable site for a central fire-station on the corner of Regent Street and Hargood Road has been acquired at a very reasonable cost.

Pending the obtaining of a properly constructed and equipped motor combination appliance from England, a second-hand 40 h.p. commercial motor chassis has been purchased, and a suitable body is being built thereon. It is also being fitted with a chemical first-aid outfit having two 30-gallon cylinders, and in company with the Chairman of the Board I inspected the machine, then nearly completed; also, an inspection was made of the plans for a central station. Subject to a very slight alteration I consider they are well suited to the local requirements, and, as recommended, the "remote switch-control" system of bell-ringing should be installed.

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