

Sheffield Fire Brigade Annual Dinner

The headquarters of the Sheffield Fire Brigade usually so staid and decorous, were last night the scene of *mirth* and *jollity*. In this little colony live the men who protect the inhabitants of the city from the ravages of fire. Last night, however, discipline was put to one side, so far as imperative duty permitted. It was the occasion of the annual dinner, a function which has been held for many years past. The Chief Constable was present, so also were Mr. Barker (Deputy Chief Constable). Superintendent Frost, and other heads of the police force. The dinner catered for by Mr. W. Graham, was an excellent one, and for some time afterwards the company indulged in a gathering of a "free-and-easy" character. Songs were given by Engineer White, Firemen Watkinson, Coward, Corlett, and Farmery; and by Messrs. A. Dale Butler, T. T. Champion, Master Dunstan Foster, and others. During the evening opportunity was taken to present Mr. Joe Barrand, who has recently left the brigade on superannuation with a handsome octagonal table. The presentation was made by Commander Scott, who referred to the services rendered by Mr. Barrand during his 26 years' service in the brigade. A few words were added by Supt. Frost, Mr. Barrand, replied thanking the subscribers for their gift, and reciprocating the good wishes which had been extended to him. During the evening allusions were made to Fireman Harry Needham, who is awaiting an operation in the Infirmary. On all sides were heard expressions that this plucky member of the brigade, who had fared so badly in the encounter with the flames at Sheard's Restaurant on Tuesday morning, would quickly recover from the misfortune which at the moment had debarred him from participating in the delights of the Fire Brigade "annual".