



Fifty Years of a Civilizing Force: An Historical and a Critical Study of the Work of the National Board of Fire Underwriters (Classic Reprint)

By Harry Chase Brearley

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Fifty Years of a Civilizing Force: An Historical and a Critical Study of the Work of the National Board of Fire Underwriters The United States might well have been named Terra del Fuego - Land of Fire. It has an average of 1500 fires per day, or more than one a minute, a daily loss of \$600,000. A value equal to one-quarter the total for all the new buildings erected each year is thus destroyed, and in 1906 this proportion rose to one-half. Every fire subtracts a definite sum of the national wealth through irretrievable loss. This country is proud of its petroleum, gold, silver, and copper production, but its fire-tax - the direct cost of its fires and the incidental expenditures resulting therefrom - consumes as much wealth as these four industries together create. Fire is one of the great outstanding economic factors of American civilization, and, in consequence, fire insurance has become one of our most familiar institutions. The American public has, in a general way, some acquaintance with these facts and has...

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