

Firemen don't have a chance

When the first fire trucks are delayed 40 seconds in traffic, people say
"It took them 20 minutes to get here."

When the truck races at 40 mph, it's
"Look at those reckless fools."

When four men struggle with an eight-man ladder
"They don't even know how to raise a ladder."

When firemen open windows for ventilation to reduce heat in fighting a fire
"Look at the wrecking crew."

When they open the floor to get at a blaze
"There goes the axe squad."

The chief stands back where he can see and direct his men, people say
"He's afraid to go where he sends his men."

If they lose a building
"It's a lousy department."

If they make a good 'stop' folks say
"The fire didn't amount to much."

If lots of water is necessary
"They are doing more damage with the water than the flames."

If a fireman gets hurt
"He was a careless guy."

If a citizen gets hurt
"It's a crazy department"

If a fireman inspects a citizen's property
"He's meddling in somebody's business."

If he wants a fire hazard corrected
"I'll see the mayor."

If he gets killed and leaves a family destitute
"That's the chance he took when he joined the fire department."