

"by the pleasure & honour of being associated with you & I
"can assure you that it is only with the greatest possible
"reluctance & regret. that I have tendered you my resignation
"The Course, however, on my part. was obligatory; increasing
"business engagements prevented me devoting the necessary
"time to the Brigade & I fully recognized that a live
"Chief, active & enthusiastic was indispensable to your
"best interests. I have delayed my answer to you for two
"reasons. Your unanimous decision to ask Mr Bryan & Vockolds
"to again be your Chief, his acceptance & the recent confirmation
"of his appointment. by the S.F.D. Council now permits me to
"congratulate you on your choice & to wish him a continuance
"of the success the Brigade previously enjoyed under his
"supervision. My second reason for delay was to fully
"consider your kind suggestion to retain association with the
"S.F. Brigade by continuing as Hon Chief Officer. Whilst
"your Chief, as you are aware, I have filled several offices in
"the National Fire Brigades Union, & though circumstances
"compelled me. to resign active work here, it was my intention
"to continue membership of the Union. Thanks to the honour
"you suggest & which I am very proud to accept, I am thus
"enabled. to continue my association not only with the S.F.B.
"but also with the Union. As an individual member, my
"subscription to the Union would have been a guinea annually,
"as your Hon Chief Officer, the Brigades subscription covers my
"membership, under such circumstances I trust you will permit
"me so long as I am connected with you to be privileged to
"pay the Brigades annual subscription to the N.F.D.U. As
"I am aware that the 1913 subscription is now due, I have
"pleasure in enclosing you my cheque to cover same herewith.
"With renewed expressions of thanks for the honour you have
"accorded me in asking me to continue as Hon Chief Officer and
"with every kind wish for your continued prosperity & success.

"Yours faithfully"

"(Signed) Ralph R Allen "Capt."