

NEW WAYS BEAT FIRE.

Simon Snorkel (claimed to be a real break-through in fire-fighting) had a demonstration in Edinburgh, complete with a man supposed to be trapped. The makers choosing that city because the Fire Officers Conference was being held there. Shown here was its use in high rescue work, manoeuvring the platform to the top window. It can support six people. If necessary the Snorkel can go up to 65 feet. Bringing people down to safety is only one of the things it does. A fireman in the case can direct its movements himself, getting into position no ladder could reach.

It's a safe prophecy that many fire brigades will soon be having Simon Snorkels.

To reach Waddesdon Manor the nearest main fire-brigade takes 20 minutes, enough time for that Buckinghamshire Mansion to be at the flames' mercy. So the National Trust, to which James de Rothschild bequeathed the house four years ago, decided to install some fire fighting apparatus of their own. The house contains art treasures, such as Rubens' Garden of Love, and Gainsborough's Pink Boy; in these days worth heaven knows how much.

If there were a real fire the gas turbine could be started up in a few seconds, putting 50 horse power behind the pump.

Pump and hydrant are soon connected, this was a demonstration: in practice, the staff would play the part of firemen. That seems to take care of the fire-angle. Next thing to deal with, that latest menace, the picture thief.