

## Protection Engine Company's 100th Anniversary

# It Rained On The Parade!

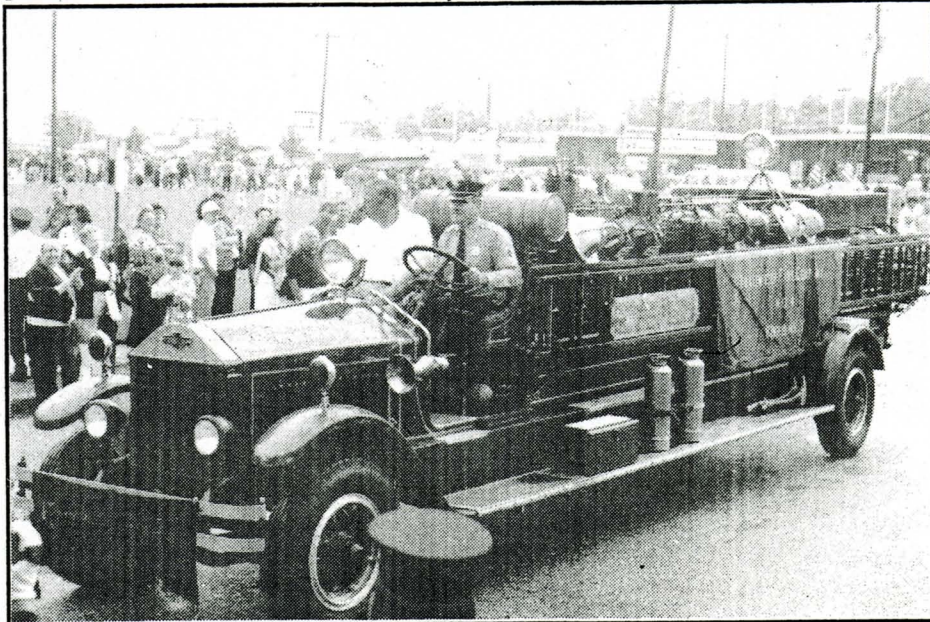
By Alice M. Peckelis

Sometimes the best laid plans go awry. Despite all the planning and preparation that went into Protection Engine Company No. 1's celebration of its 100th anniversary with the biggest parade in Port Washington's history on June 27th, the weather had the audacity not to cooperate. It rained on the parade!

Just as the parade got underway the skies opened up in a torrential downpour which lasted throughout most of the parade. Despite the rain, the marchers'

spirits remained undampened. And what a parade it was! Led by the members of Protection Engine Company No. 1, and their original fire "engine," the hand drawn Rumsey piano box pumper, over 900 volunteer firefighters from twenty-three different fire departments marched proudly from Port Washington Boulevard, winding their way down Main Street to Shore Road culminating at Protection Engine Company's annex firehouse on Channel Drive.

Over 100 pieces of firefighting



A vintage fire engine from the Newport, New York fire department was one of several pieces of antique fire fighting equipment in the parade.



Members of Protection Engine Company No. 1 dressed in vintage uniforms march proudly in front of the reviewing stand during the parade honoring their 100th Anniversary.

*Photo By Alice M. Peckelis*

apparatus and 23 fire departments participated in the parade which lasted a good hour and a half, including some lovingly maintained vintage fire engines with original wooden ladders. Sixteen fire department bands helped to maintain the tempo of the parade much to the delight and applause of the onlookers lining the parade route huddled under umbrellas

Sharing in the celebration was a full complement of marchers from the three other fire companies which comprise the Port Washington Volunteer Fire Department: Atlantic Hook and Ladder,

Flower Hill Hose Company and the Fire Medics.

After the parade, a huge block party got under way on the grounds of Thomson Industries where revelers danced the night away to the tunes of two outstanding bands, Jukebox Saturday Night and Six Gun.

The Port Washington Public Library will continue the celebration with an exhibit of memorabilia, including the Rumsey engine from Protection Engine Company No. 1's first one hundred years. The exhibit will run from August 1st thru August 31st.