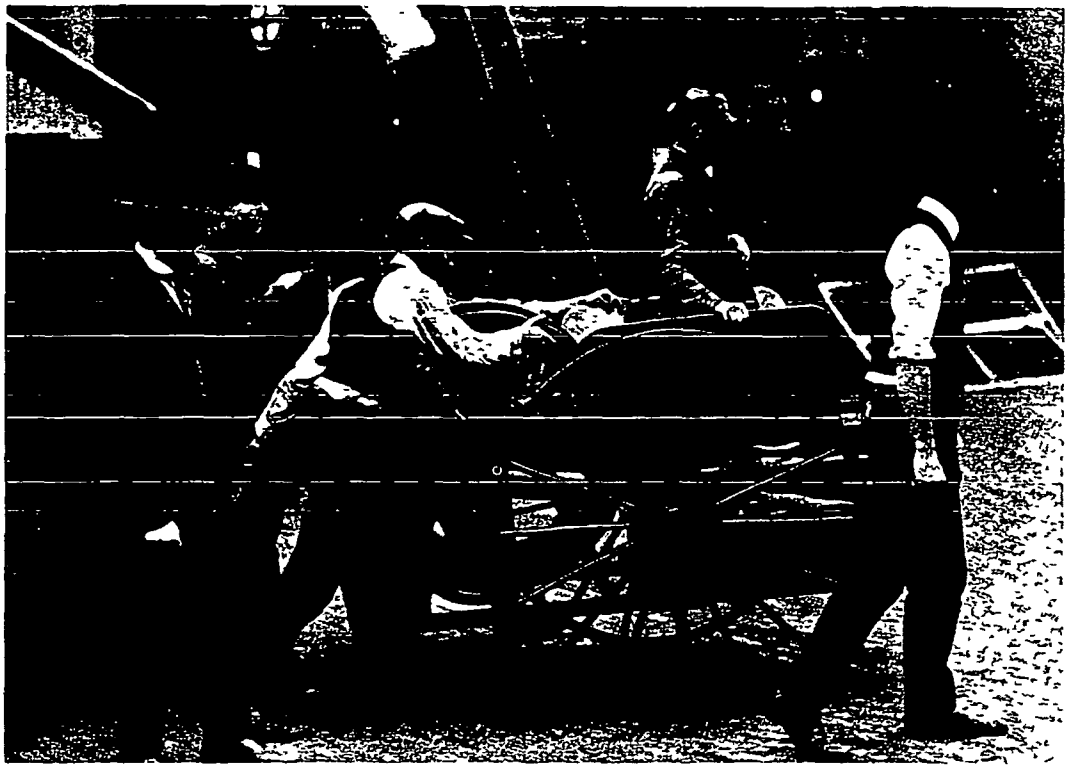


FIG 1–8 —Atlantic Refining Company's fire brigade poses with what for the World War I era was up-to-date equipment Compare this with the modern equipment shown in Chapter 18, "Planning for Emergencies"

edge, which, when applied with sufficient skill and judgment, has produced significant reductions in many types of accidents and accidental injuries However, the tremendous increase in scientific knowledge and technological advancement since the close of World War II has added to the complexities of safety work

The approach has oscillated between one that emphasizes environmental control or engineering, and one that emphasizes human factors From this, several important trends in the pattern of the safety professional's development have emerged

- First, increasing emphasis toward analyzing the loss potential of the activity with which the safety professional is concerned Such analysis will require greater ability (*a*) to predict where and how loss- and injury-producing events will occur and (*b*) to find the means of preventing such events

- Second, increased development of factual, unbiased, and objective information about loss-producing problems and accident causation, so that those who have ultimate decision-making responsibilities can make sound decisions

- Third, increasing use of the safety professional's help in developing safe products The application of the principles of accident causation and control to the product is becoming more important because of the increase in product liability cases, the sudden emphasis in law of the entire field of negligent design, and the obvious impact a safer product would have on the overall safety of the environment.