

Volunteer Firemen Date to '57

A 1935 fire, a retired fire chief, and three-long disbanded volunteer companies dominate the romantic history of Salem's fire department.

The fire, which all of Salem remembers, swept through Oregon's historic old capitol building on an April night in 1935, claiming the life of one fireman and destroying property valued at well over \$1,000,000.

The fire chief was Harry (Buck) Hutton whose service to Salem covered half a century of rapid strides in fire protection, equipment and fire prevention.

Three Companies

But Salem's fire department history actually begins with three volunteer engine companies "The Alerts," "The Tigers" and "The Capitols," who battled the flames of the city's youth.

It begins with the organization of Alert Hook and Ladder company No. 1 on December 4, 1857. George W. Belt was the chief of that first band of fire eaters. The company became a part of the city's services on January 8, 1861 when the city council adopted ordinance number 8. Passing of the Alerts was unheralded and its records have been lost to time. In 1865, Webfoots company No. 1 was added to Salem's fire fighting forces. The Webfoots gave the city its first engine company and the little pumper was housed on the west side of Liberty street near Ferry. It was on April 17, 1865 that the Alerts and the Webfoots got their first real test. On that day a fire, starting in Plomondon's saloon, destroyed a whole block of wooden buildings on the west side of Commercial street. A fire bell, to ring out the warning and alert firemen, was added May 2, 1865.

Pumper Retained

The Webfoots gave way to Capitol engine company No. 1 in May of 1867 and the new volunteer unit took over the pumper which remains today in the East Salem station as a reminder of the great advancements in fire fighting machinery.

On May 20, 1869, Tiger Engine company joined the department and was probably the true forerunner of the present organization.

By 1871 the department had grown to three-company size with the addition of a hook and ladder company to the old engine companies. Strictly volunteer, the companies were headquartered two along State street and one on North Liberty near the Mill creek. There were a total of 127 volun-



Salem's fire department was organized 94 years ago. By 1909 it looked like the above picture. The men at the hose cart on the left are (left to right) Fred Anderson, Earl Blake and Peter Phillips, who later became fire chief. Standing in the center are Peter Graber and William Iwon, who was acting chief a few years ago. On the "truck" are (left to right) Felix Hamilton, three unidentified "call men," Chief Jack Darr and Ed Townsend.

teers in the three companies, minutes of the Salem council noted in 1871.

Chief Engineer J. G. Wright reported to the council then that "discipline has never been better," and noted that the city had 12 fires during the preceding six months with a loss estimated at \$24,175.

In 1893, callman system was effected in which firemen slept at the station at night and worked at regular jobs during the day. It was as one of these callmen that a young man named Harry Hutton first became connected with the fire department in May of 1896. Hutton recalls that callmen were paid \$10 a month for sleeping at the station, but he noted, too, that the \$10 would pay a month's board at Grandma Nichols on Front street. The station was then located on the south side of State street between Commercial and Front.

In 1897 the station was moved



Harry (Buck) Hutton, member of the Salem Fire department for half a century and its chief for 31 years (1915-1946).

to the present location of fire department headquarters in the then-new city hall.

Hutton was elected chief by the city council in 1915 and for the next 31 years continued to serve in that capacity until his retirement in 1946. On Hutton's early department were Firemen W. H. Phillips, Ray Cooper, Robert Muthe, L. R. Murphy, Elmer Cup-ton, Earl Beck, Fred Anderson, Roy Hickman, L. P. Johnson and William Iwon. Callmen, of which there were seven, included Claude Jorgenson and Fred Bernardi. Billy Iwon later served as acting chief between Hutton's retirement and the hiring of present Chief W. A. Roble.

New Stations Added

As Salem spread, new stations were added. Of the present out-lying stations, the first was East Salem, added in 1928. North Salem was opened in 1930 and South Salem in 1931, West Salem in 1930.

Completely motorized equipment had replaced the fire horses entirely by the early 20s. The department still continues to modernize with the advent of new equipment such as the recently added hook and ladder truck and the new salvage truck.

Cleanup Duty Added

Use of the latter marks a new duty for firemen. Only in recent years has the department included in its functions the work of cleaning up in the wake of a fire.

Activities of the department also have greatly reduced the fire hazards in Salem and the importance of fire prevention has been recognized by the employment of specialists who work continuously to this goal.

Now, plans are being formulated, men trained and organizations effected for meeting the possibility of war disasters. If an A-bomb should fall on Salem the fire department intends to be ready to fight bomb-caused fires and to decontaminate areas of radiation.

Hebrew Services Start 1919

Although Salem has had Jewish residents almost since its founding, Hebrew religious services have been conducted in the city only since 1919. Men of the congregation continue to lead the rites in a striking new temple. F. Levy, a merchant who had a store at the northwest corner of State and Commercial streets around 1860 was among the first Jewish residents here. More came after the Civil war, although but few of the present families in Salem arrived before the turn of the century.

New Temple Built

Services could not be held until 10 men were here to comprise a congregation, attained in 1919, when they were begun in a rented hall on Court street opposite the courthouse. Within a few years quarters were secured at Commercial and Chemeketa streets and retained until 1947.

That year the congregation built Temple Beth Shalom at 1795 Broadway st., a brick structure whose basement has been made available for community use. The temple aims to serve all branches of Jewry, Orthodox, Conservative and Reformed, among the 100 or so families of the mid-valley.

Until the group is of sufficient size to have a full-time leader, a cantor is secured from Portland each fall for the Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement services. President of the congregation is Dr. Robert Golden. Affiliated groups include B'nai B'rith lodge and auxiliary, Sisterhood and Hadassah.



Manbrin Gardens just off the North River road north of Salem is an attractive post-war residential development—one of several which have enhanced the beauty of the city's growing fringe areas.

Acreage Becomes City Lots

The process of cutting properties from farms into residential lots for Salem's growing fringe has begun early in the 20th century and has continued, in spurts, to the present. The years since World War II have seen the greatest surge of platting.

The same half century has displayed a play of the value of all types of property in the Salem area, expansion of the practice of real estate brokerage and new regulation of transactions and operators.

Development Rapid

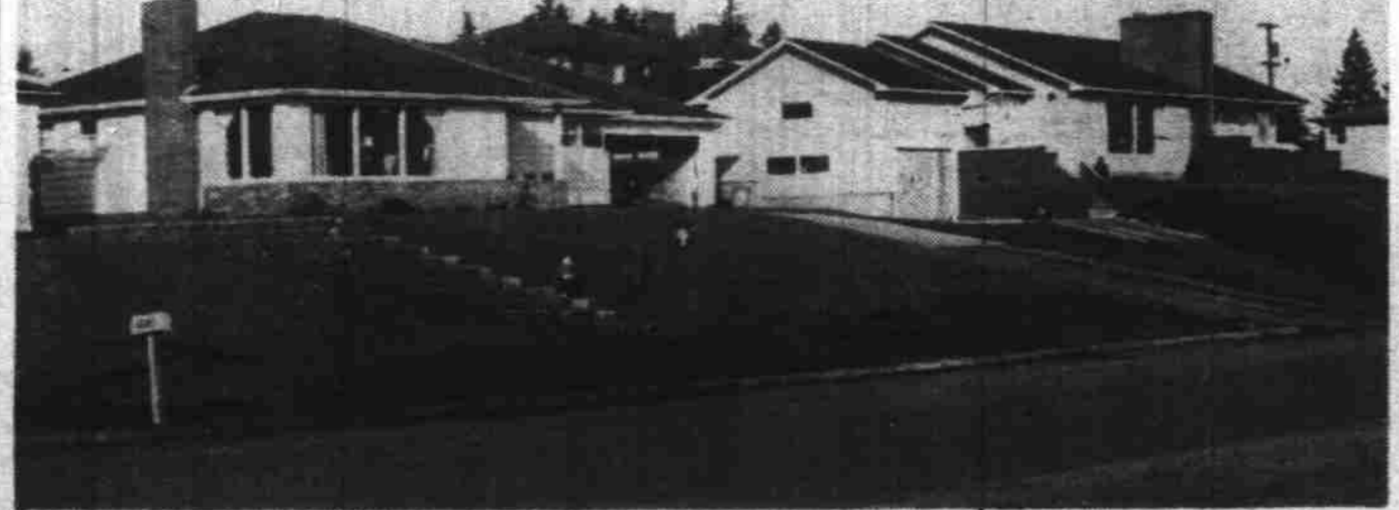
Long-time realty agents here recall that there was little selling of city property by agents until about 1910. The following decade, using the city's large annexation of 1903, saw development in all directions. Lots were cut out of farms and orchards on Fairmount hill, in Tuxedo Park near Leslie school, east of the railway depot, on Kingwood heights and around Richmond school, among others.

Later there were Salem Heights, the Highland section, Englewood, Rosedale (near the fairgrounds). Since the recent war expansion has been into new marginal areas, again in all directions. The past decade also has brought the filling-in of many lots previously passed up in residential districts.

Acreage in Demand

During the depression of the 1930s, the trend was toward small acreages near the city, many of which now have been sliced into even smaller chunks.

Forty years ago lots brought in the neighborhood of \$250 without paving or sidewalks. Until a decade ago, many lots now considered choice were available under \$500. But now the prices are



Candalaria Heights west of South Commercial street has been developed into one of the finest residential areas of the valley. The homes pictured above are typical of its high average construction.

three or four times as high, climbing chiefly in the past six years. Recent years also have brought the development of high-priced areas, mostly on the view-commanding heights around the city. Always valuable in the Willamette valley, farm land also has undergone a considerable rise in value since the war.

Expansion and changes in character of the city's business district have meant both great boosts in the prices for such property and the disappearance of many older residential sections.

Eighty years ago the Salem city directory listed four real estate agents. Today about 80 firms are listed, and the Salem Board of Realtors, part of a national organization designed to raise standards of the trade, has some 90 individual members. They represent buyers or sellers for percentage commissions.

Licensing has been required for real estate brokers and salesmen

in Oregon since 1919. Under the present law they must be trustworthy, over 21 years of age and a citizen and be recommended by three property owners. Since 1939, they must pass an examination in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic and computation, salesmanship, appraising, accounting, real estate ethics and provisions of the state laws covering them. Their licenses can be suspended by the state commissioner, following a hearing.

A large share of property sales, particularly residential, are made through newspaper classified advertising.

A recent innovation in Salem property transactions is the Multiple Listing Bureau, including more than 30 firms. It provides for exchange of certain types of exclusive listings, primarily residential, as a service to property holders. In its first two years it has handled 750 sales aggregating \$3,500,000.

Remember 1945?

Seed Potatoes—Certified! Dozen 25c

COFFEE 29c

BAKING POWDER 10-5

SUGAR 57c

Big Food—Friskins 5-39c

Ice Cream 23c

Yours Pink Grapefruit 12-5100

Names make NEWS

A Partial List Of Miller's Famous Brands!

So, we have great news for you . . .

IN the tennis world the big names are Kramer and Riggs. They play to packed houses, make headlines. A game-winning home run by Joe DiMaggio brings the roar of fans . . . and headlines. Names like Eisenhower, MacArthur, Tossanini, Crosby, Rockwell, Einstein and Hemingway make news . . . headlines! At every turn of the road, names make news!

AND so it goes with the things you wear . . . or your favorite chair, the refrigerator . . . your car . . . that '34 model that stood up so well. You buy reputable, newsmaking apparel and home-furnishings because you trust them for quality, performance, economy.

BIG names make news and keep customers coming back again and again. That's why good stores seek out famous brands . . . that's why famous-brand manufacturers seek out good stores. For nearly fifty years, Miller's has held to a straight line on quality products. Every department brings you famous-name brands because they know they're the biggest values for your hard-earned dollars.

WHETHER you buy a suit . . . a hat . . . nylons . . . radio or textiles, think of Miller's . . . it's a good store chosen by a good manufacturer to handle their brands.

- PLAYTEX—YOUTHLINE
- MARY JANE—NEMO
- MODART—FLEXEES
- FORMFIT—PERMA-LIFT
- ARTEMIS—KICKERNICK
- VAN RAALTE—STYLOJAMAS
- TOMMIES—SAYBURY
- EVER READY—NELLY DON
- UNIVERSITY—SAGON
- LYNNBROOK—JOAN MILLER
- FOREVER YOUNG—DEL MODE
- YOUTHMORE—PAMM JEAN
- DONNYBROOK—FERNSHIRE
- WOMANCRAFT
- LOU SCHNEIDER
- ESKIBERG SUITS—BRITAIN
- STUDIO HATS
- BREWSTER HATS
- DAREE HATS
- HOWARD SPORTSWEAR
- WHITE STAG
- KORET OF CALIFORNIA
- HENDON—CAMERON
- LINSTOR—CUDDEDOWN
- GARYN—REHART
- MARJONE—BURMIL
- BOGOFF JEWELRY
- ELGIN AMERICAN
- RICHELIEU PEARLS
- BELLE-SHARMEER
- BERKLEY—SALMO
- SCHIAPARELLI NYLONS
- RUSSELL-STOVER CANDIES
- DOUBLE-KAY NUTS
- ALMOND ROCA
- CHARLES OF THE RITZ
- D'ORSAY—EMIR
- HOUBIGANT—YARDLEY
- COTY—JACQUELINE COCHRAN
- GILVIE SISTERS
- ENDOCREME—MILKMAID
- MIST—DERMETICS
- HANSEN GLOVES
- VAN RAALTE GLOVES
- RAIN WRAPS—FOLDBRELLAS
- SKINNER SILKS
- MIRON WOOLS
- BOTANY WOOLS
- K-VENIENCES
- FORSTMANN WOOLS
- A.B.C. COTTONS
- INDIAN HEAD—NASHUA
- VAN-TEE COTTONS
- VOGUE PATTERNS
- SIMPLICITY PATTERNS
- BUTTERWICK PATTERNS
- CROSTOWN—TALON
- KLEENEX DURO-BELLE
- GAYLA—KERK GUILD
- VAN HEUSEN—MANHATTAN
- PARIS BELTS
- MULTIWAY LUGGAGE
- RED CROSS SHOES
- SPRINGMAID COTTONS
- BEAUTAFILM
- LA MODE BUTTONS
- CONTRARY
- UPSTARTS SHOES
- DICKERSON SHOES
- FOAMTRED SHOES
- PENALJO SHOES
- DELMANETTE SHOES
- WINTERMAID WILSONS
- ENNA JETTICK SHOES
- ACCENT SHOES
- CROSBY-SQUARE—EDWARDS
- TRIMFOOT—OOMPHEES
- BLUMEZE—WELLCO
- CINDERELLA—WILSONS
- STY-RITES—WESTMINSTER
- COMMANDER
- SWANK JEWELRY
- HANES UNDERWEAR
- TEXTRON—REVERE WARE
- KEYSTONE WARE
- CALIENTE POTTERY
- LIBEY GLASS
- FOSTORIA GLASS
- PICKWICK GLASS
- IMPERIAL GLASS—EVERLAST
- CRAFTSMAN—NORCROSS
- MONTAGS—VIKING GLASS
- SAMSON TABLES
- CONGRESS CARDS
- ELEKTRON—CARTER'S
- NORTH STAR—CHUX
- HOPPY—MATEY'S
- NANNETTE—RAMI CORDS
- FOLDA-ROLLA
- ANY-HITE CHAIR
- WHITE SEWING MACHINE
- APEX WASH MACHINE
- CROSBY RADIOS
- GEN. ELEC. RADIOS
- REMINGTON SHAVER
- SUNBEAM—UNIVERSAL
- WESTINGHOUSE
- TELECHRON—LEWYT VAC
- FAMING BOWMAN
- TOASTMASTER
- ESTATE RANGES
- SANTA ANITA POTTERY
- WEAVER—PYREX WARE
- HOMER—LAUGHLIN
- FIESTA POTTERY
- ECCO WARE
- O-CHEER MOPS
- RUBBERMAID
- NANCY ANN DOLLS
- AIR-WICK—GLO-COAT
- GLASS WAX
- TAVERN CANDLES
- RADIO WAGONS
- WILANDER LINENS
- KOOLFOAM PILLOWS
- MORGAN JONES
- BATES SPREADS
- PURRY BLANKETS
- CALLOWAY TOWELS
- LIDDELL LINENS
- SIMON PILLOWS
- CANNON TOWELS
- PEQUOT SHEETS
- KENNETH DRAPES
- KIRSCH—KRENE
- CAMCO CURTAINS
- PRINTSPUN CURTAINS
- PAINTSET
- KAREN-SUE PROCKS
- BACON—BLAZANT
- BOB EVAN UNIFORMS
- BUCILLA YARNS
- BEAR BRAND YARNS
- D.M.C. CROCHET
- LILLY RUG YARN
- ZIP-COAT THREAD
- CLARK'S O.N.T.
- MERITAS OILCLOTH
- BOLSEY—EASTMAN KODAK
- ANSCO PRODUCTS
- VIEW MASTERS
- DU PONT DEFENDER
- ARGUS—GENERAL ELECTRIC
- REVERE—BLAZANT
- REVERE CAMERAS
- KEYSTONE CAMERAS
- DE JUR CAMERAS

Warner's Sterling Stockings Life-Bra by Formfit

Schiaparelli

Belding Corticelli

White Stag SPORT TOGS

Quotes

Butterick

Van Raalte

HOLEPROOF

Belle-Sharmer

Stocking

Community

THE FINEST SILVERPLATE

Gantzen

Wembley

Manhattan

Perma-Lift

Standard Miracle Slip

Spinner

Wool West

North Star Blankets

Miller's

SALEM, OREGON