

Old Terror Engine Company

DALLAS FIRST FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED IN 1883

Thirty-two years ago in June the first fire-fighting company was organized in Dallas with more than fifty of the little city's young men enrolled as members. According to the records of this early-day organization, which have been preserved, a call meeting was held at the hall of the Second Brigade band, for the purpose of organizing a fire company, on June 18, 1883. Of most importance, after selecting a set of officers, was the adoption of a name for the new company. Its designation, and one it bore with distinction until its absorption by the Dallas Fire department years later, was "Terror Fire Company No. 1 of Dallas." The officers elected to direct the energies of the crew were John J. Daly, president; J. W. Crider, secretary; H. B. Cosper, treasurer; R. D. Wilson, foreman; T. B. Rowell, first assistant foreman, and F. J. Coad, second assistant foreman. A constitution and by-laws committee was at once appointed and comprised H. B. Cosper, R. D. Wilson, T. B. Rowell, Frank J. Coad and Frank H. Brown. A second call meeting was featured by the adoption of the constitution and by-laws and at the following meeting, about the end of June, 1883, the constitution was signed and accepted by all present. At the last meeting in the month of organization, and previous to the first regular meeting of the organization, R. D. Wilson, F. J. Coad, H. B. Cosper, U. S. Grant and J. W. Crider were appointed a committee to secure a fire bell and make ready for its use. A committee consisting of H. B. Cosper, John E. Woods, H. L. Deacon, O. D. Butler and W. M. Ray, was appointed to arrange for housing the engine, another committee having disbanded after inner strife. The records show no order for an engine having been issued and do not mention its receipt. The apparatus arrived, however, within a short time after the organization of the fighting force was perfected. The third call meeting marked the commencement of a round of social activities for which the laddies were popular in their time. A festival for the benefit of the company was planned at this meeting and a committee of sixteen appointed to discuss details with a committee including H. L. Deacon, U. M. Cosper, B. M. Smith and Lee Fenton. At the first regular meeting, held at the "rail road depot," July 3, 1883, the festival committee was granted a short extension of time and at a meeting on July 10, having reported the progress of its plans, was granted an indefinite extension. About this time a new set of officers was elected for one year and included B. M. Smith, president; J. W. Crider, secretary; H. B. Cosper, treasurer; R. D. Wilson, foreman; T. B. Rowell, first assistant and F. J. Coad, second assistant. A new finance committee consisted of H. L. Deacon, J. C. Schultz, G. T. Burnett, E. S. Cooper, and H. S. Swain. The investigating committee was made up of O. D. Butler, H. B. Cosper, J. E. Woods, T. B. Rowell and F. J. Coad. A committee to select uniforms, appointed on July 10, included R. D. Wilson, H. L. Deacon, J. C. Schultz, H. L. Fenton and J. C. Morrison. On July 17 the committee on fire house selection announced their choice as "the building now occupied as a butcher shop, which will be vacated after August 1, at a monthly rental of \$4. This selection was sanctioned by the company. At the same meeting "Gen. U. S. Grant paid a 15 cent fine for being absent and asked no questions." On the 31st of the same month U. S. Grant started the ball rolling that resulted in the first annual dance of the company on August

11. Several times the secretary has noted in the minutes the excuses offered for absence by O. D. Butler, Nat Holman, H. L. Fenton and others and has indicated the motions made to drop fines levied against these gentlemen. At a meeting on August 29, the matter of purchasing a hose carriage was brought up and \$130 appropriated for the purpose, the note of priated for the purpose, several members being taken as security at 10 per cent interest. It seems that U. S. Grant had had charge of the firemen's ball on August 11, and had plunged \$15 into the affair, which the organization refused to repay. For all the records show Mr. Grant is still Terror company's creditor to that amount. A public ball was planned and successfully carried out on November 29. The bell which had been ordered cost \$40.20 and weighed 260 pounds and the men bought two nickel plated trumpets at \$6 each in August. On April 1, 1884 an assessment of 50 cents was collected from each member to provide a prize fund for a contest between the Dallas, Salem, McMinnville and Independence fire companies, and for all the satisfaction that the minutes offer it cannot be said whether or not the contest was held. The annual ball of the company was held on December 24, and an admission charge of "\$1.50 without supper and \$1.75 with" was made.

It can be seen from this account that the first 18 months were busy ones for Terror company. The following years were just as full of work and pleasure as were the first. Fires seem to have been few and no record of those that did occur has been kept. The young fellows who made up that first hard-working and pleasure-seeking fire brigade are now, in many cases, the city's and even the state's staid business men. Many of them have passed out of this world of fires, and others have changed the scene of their endeavors to other parts of the country. On December 5, 1894, a separate company was formed and added to the fire fighting forces of the city as "Dallas Hook and Ladder company," until the consolidation of the two, as the Dallas Fire department, on March 27, 1895. Many of the charter members of the Terror company allied themselves with the new company and when the department was organized practically the entire membership of both companies joined hands with many recruits to make an efficient organization.

Those who graced old Terror Engine company with their allegiance as charter members on June 26, 1883, and the ages at which they joined, if we must give long cherished secrets, were: O. D. Butler, 21; Frank Brown, 27; G. T. Burnett, 33; D. N. Burns, 48; F. J. Coad, 24; H. B. Cosper, 24; J. W. Crider, 28; E. S. Cooper, 39; N. M. Cosper, 20; J. B. Constable, 40; F. M. Collins, 48; C. G. Coad, 22; W. J. Crabtree, 36; H. L. Deacon, 38; H. M. Dunbar, 23; John J. Daly, 40; H. L. Fenton, 20; Thomas J. Ford, 26; U. S. Grant, 19; Wm. Grant, 42; J. M. Grant, 24; Milton Holman, 21; Nat. Holman, 37; Henry Huff, 26; J. W. Hyde, 21; James Harris, 19; G. W. Hubbard, 40; J. W. Johnson, 22; George Johnson, 19; H. W. Lyons, 25; J. C. Morrison, 22; J. R. Miller, 27; James S. McCain, 46; All Nash, 24; M. H. Parker, 35; Wm. M. Ray, 26; T. B. Rowell, 24; James Richardson, 19; David J. Riley, 30; Robert F. Robinson, 22; J. C. Schultz, 28; A. S. Swain, 32; B. M. Smith, 37; A. E. Scott, 29; C. P. Sullivan, 24; Sam Schultze, 24; J. B. Smith, 27; James H. Townsend, 28; R. D. Wilson, 34; Otho Williams, 19, and John E. Woods, 38.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following is a complete list of realty transfers recorded during the week ending yesterday and reported to The Observer by Sibley & Eakin, abstractors, 515 Court street, Dallas:

Isal Macomber and husband to John W. Robinson et al, 4.80 acres, T-8-6, \$175.

Isal Macomber and husband to John W. and K. M. Macomber, 150 acres, T-8-6, \$80.

Michael Fitzgerald and wife to James and Sarah Inglis, 96.30 acres, T-7-3, \$10.

Frank Lane and wife to L. D. Brown, lot in Dallas, \$2,000.

Priscilla R. Craven and husband to P. J. and Ethel L. Mulkey, 10 acres, T-8-4, \$1.

A. G. Cutler and wife to G. W. Vaughn, 100 acres, T-8-6, \$10.

W. A. Brown and wife to C. W. and J. M. Ryan, 24.62 acres, T-8-6, \$10.

Mattie Davis and husband to Katie Holmes, 28 acres, T-7-3, \$10.

United States to Frank L. Huston, 157.13 acres, T-7-8.

United States to Frank L. Huston, 153.57 acres, T-7-8.

Frank L. Huston to Riley & Niblae, 310.70 acres, T-7-8, \$1.

M. W. Wilkins and wife to Isaac L. Steels, lots in Dallas, \$500.

Maggie May Minihaupt to W. C. Winslow, q. c. deed T-7-5 and 3, \$1.

Mabelle Plummer to Matilda S. Ober, 65.78 acres, T-9-8, \$1.

The Observer, a Twice-a-Week paper, costs no more than a weekly.

AMONG THE FARMERS

The former La Sal ranch of E. V. D. Paul was registered last week as the Oak Ridge Stock farm by Mrs. H. J. Nickum, the recent purchaser. This farm comprises 483 acres. The hopyard will be plowed up and a specialty made of raising Holstein cows and Berkshire hogs. Construction work on a dairy and hog barn, 240x30, with two ells, the main one an 80-foot wing to be used as a feed shed. The other will be a machine shed and ice house. A gas engine of 12 horsepower has been ordered to run a dynamo to generate electricity for lighting purposes. An ice plant has also been ordered which will be used for manufacturing ice for keeping the milk and cream sweet. The inside of the barn will be concrete and the cow stalls will have metal stanchions. A herd of 80 to 90 cows will be kept, which will mean about 60 regular milkers. The estimated cost of the building is \$5,000.—Sheridan Sun.

J. H. Jarvis has taken the old barn down at the Smith place at Buell, and upon its former site will be erected a new modern dairy barn which will be built in a (T) shape. The main part will be 240x30 and the other 80x30. The barn will be equipped with all modern equipments. There will also be a milk house, engine and cold storage room, the dimensions of this being 30x40. Mr. Nickum says when these buildings are completed he doesn't know whether he will have any room for the

cows left on the place.—Sheridan Sun.

TRAVEL IS NOW HEAVY.

Thousands of Easterners Are Visitors to Pacific Coast.

It is estimated that fully 750,000 easterners are now on the Pacific coast, the greater number of whom came to view the two expositions which are now in progress at San Francisco and San Diego. There are approximately 3,000 persons passing through Portland and the Willamette valley daily, many of these by automobile. During the past ten days travel through Dallas by this means has been unusually heavy, and the hotels and business generally has profited to some extent. The end of the invasion of this vast army of tourists and exposition visitors is not yet in sight. Late August and early September will bring additional thousands and next month is expected to see a new high mark established.

The total attendance of the Panama-Pacific exposition to date is 10,722,116. Of this number the Southern Pacific officials estimate that between 33 and 40 per cent are strangers who have come here from outside the state. Taking their minimum of 33 per cent, this would mean that 3,574,038 strangers have passed through the exposition gates.

PRISON RULING CHANGED.

Criticism Brings Warden Minto to Time.

State Treasurer Kay last week announced that criticisms of rules regulating chaplains at the state penitentiary were unjust. Rules adopted by Superintendent Minto several weeks ago were considered somewhat stringent by the board of control, and they were immediately changed to eliminate all objectionable features.

Under the modified rules chaplains may talk to convicts on all subjects excepting those relating to paroles and pardons. They may not visit the prisoners in their cells, but may send for convicts at any time during the day and one night each week. Mr. Kay said the attention of the board was called to the rules soon after they were made by Mr. Minto and a provision forbidding chaplains to converse with convicts on any subjects but religion was immediately stricken out.

"The present rules are satisfactory to the board," continued Mr. Kay, "and there can be no cause for criticism. A change in rules was made necessary because one or two liberal provisions were abused. I have heard no complaint by chaplains of the rules now in force. The criticisms evidently were based on the first draft made by Mr. Minto, which was immediately changed by the board."

As Others See the Recall.

Up in Polk county they have started recall petitions against the county judge and the two county commissioners, giving as reasons violations of the law and irregularities of administration growing out of the expenditure of highway funds. It pains us to see our neighbor resort to this extremity, and we have a suspicion that the spirit of revenge may be the real motive. The judgment of the voters should be good enough at an election to choose capable and honest officials, and if it proves otherwise they ought to have pride enough to "grin and bear" the term of judgment rather than confess their poor judgment. In the case of gross culpability in office there are other legal means of ousting an officer, with less disturbance of the affairs of the office.—Telephone-Register.

Instead of recalling the county court of Polk county, we believe it is entitled to a vote of thanks for the excellent roads built in that county. But there are sore heads in every county, and it seems to us this is another case of rule or ruin which the voters of Polk county should turn out in large numbers and squish. The recall law is greatly abused, and always will be so, for it places a weapon in the hands of knucklers and who have personal grievances. We believe that those who want a recall election should be charged up with the expense, not the taxpayers; and if that was adopted there would be fewer recalls.

170 Steamers Sunk in War.

The sinking of the Arabic by the German submarine makes the 170th steamship of more than 500 tons displacement to be destroyed by German submarines, according to a Chicago dispatch.

The new method of warfare brought by the Germans has caused the death of nearly 2000 non-combatants, the largest single disaster being the sinking of the Lusitania, May 7, with 1250 men, women and children, many of them Americans.

The German method of warfare on enemy merchantmen has not only caused the loss of many innocent lives, but came near to plunging this country and Germany into war over the Lusitania sinking.

The diplomatic controversy that arose has not yet been definitely settled and the right of American citizens to sail the seas on the ships of belligerent nations has not yet been admitted by Germany.

Baby Is Distinguished.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Collins is a distinguished baby, being the granddaughter of Judge and Mrs. Collins of Dallas, and as a descendant the great great granddaughter of Oregon's first territorial governor, Joseph Lane. The little lady is ten days old. Dean Collins is a popular

writer for the Oregonian. Mrs. Collins was Miss Julia Mosher, daughter of Mrs. Hattie L. Mosher of Phoenix, Arizona.—Salem Statesman.

Fresh Fruits For Fair.

The Portland Chamber of Commerce has made a call upon growers for fresh fruits and vegetables, for display at the San Francisco exposition. All shipments should be sent collect and addressed "The Oregon Building, P. O. Box 1, E. San Francisco, Cal." The name of grower, town, county and state should be attached so that proper credit can be given.

Willamina Paper Changes.

On August 20 the business management of the Willamina Times passed into the hands of G. M. Cole. J. A. Hart will continue as editor but will devote most of his time to the improvement of his farm.

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