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FIREMEN'S CONVENTION

MANY TOPICS OF INTEREST TO FIRE FIGHTERS DISCUSSED.

THEIR UNIQUE OFFICIAL GAVEL

An Ordinary Sheep Bell Adopted as Official Gavel in 1894 Still Retained. The Tournament Begins This Afternoon.

The Firemen's State Convention and Tournament reconvened at the city hall yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. President Kesler was in the chair. The committee on credentials reported that thirty-seven towns were entitled to delegates and that sixty-two delegates are present. While there were sixty-two votes in the convention the attendance was much larger. Anadarko, Okla., is one of the towns which has done its part in sending representatives. That town is entitled to three delegates, but eleven members of its company are in attendance. The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and adopted.

Secretary J. B. Foster of Chandler wired the convention that he could not attend on account of the recent death of his father. A telegram of condolence was sent to Mr. Foster. When President Kesler's team arrived from Oklahoma City he was notified that an overcharge must be paid the railway company, and many members of the convention desired to play even with the railroads. This led to the introduction of a resolution calling upon the firemen of the state to refuse to fight fire in railroad property. After a wide discussion the resolution was withdrawn.

The topics discussed at yesterday's meeting were "Hose, apparatus and couplings," by Chief Kesler of Oklahoma City; "Fire Alarms," Chief Alder of Tulsa; "Waterworks," Chief Gruber of Guthrie.

Chief Kesler did not speak from notes. He thoroughly understands fire fighting machinery from the bucket to the most modern equipment. Every delegate will be benefited by his speech, as a portion of his talk was applicable to every company.

Chief Alder of Tulsa said: "To the president and members of the Oklahoma and Indian Territory Firemen's Association: Gentlemen—The topic of 'Fire Alarms' has been assigned me by your committee, and I appreciate the honor of having assigned me one of the most important and incidentally one of the most neglected branches of the great fire fighting services."

"A great many cities build good stations, buy first-class apparatus and employ good men and then put off to some future time the matter of fire alarm service, which in my judgment is reversing the order of things. The first move after the fire is discovered is the means of notifying the local department, either paid or volunteer. It therefore follows that the means of giving this alarm should be first, reliable; second, convenient; third, used solely for fire alarm purposes; fourth, speed. As recently as 1850, a period within the memory of many men still in active life, electric alarms were unknown."

Even in large cities the primitive method of shouting, ringing bells and shooting were the only means of arousing the firemen and citizens. The first attempts at an alarm system was in New York as early as 1845.

The city was divided into districts and watchmen were on duty at all times in towers built in each district; each was numbered and when a watchman discovered a fire by seeing smoke or flame or a fire was reported to him, he would strike upon his bell the number of his district. This was heard by watchmen in the next tower who in turn repeated it on his bell and in that way was gradually announced from all the towers in the city.

Shakespeare truly says, "A little fire is quickly trodden out, which being suffered grows cannot quench." The great fire loss of \$450,000,000 the past year only too well tells the tale of disaster and ruin.

A great many fires have been suffered by not being able to find telephones, especially is this true from midnight to morning. A city inside the limits of this association had a big fire from just this cause, the firemen willing and anxious to render aid were allowed to sleep while the fire gained such headway that their best efforts only confined it to the one building, all from the lack of getting the alarm.

I will not attempt any description of the box system as brought to per-

fection by the Gamewell company of New York as you are no doubt familiar with the working of the system. At this time, as I understand Mr. Chambers, for the company is to have an exhibit at this convention, but will close by saying that money spent in bringing the fire alarm system up to the best possible degree of efficiency is the best spent money in the department, for on it we depend to notify us at the earliest moment, that we may bring to bear our best energies at a time that will assure us at least an equal fighting chance with the element that is a good servant but a poor master."

Chief Gruber of Guthrie in discussing his topic said: "Mr. President and Members of the Oklahoma and Indian Territory Firemen's association: The topic assigned to me at the last meeting was 'Waterworks.' This subject is sure a broad one, I feel unable to discuss it fully. The past year I have gathered some facts and information and herewith submit them."

As a rule most cities pay too little attention to their waterworks system. No city can grow and prosper without having an ample supply of good water. I feel that in all cases every city should own its own waterworks, and should endeavor to put in the best and most adequate system possible, even if the burden of taxation is excessive for the first years of the existence of the waterworks.

The past experience in all Oklahoma towns show that the city have rapidly outgrown their waterworks system and have been compelled to add to, and improve them, and in a great many cases put up with a smaller line of mains.

I find that most of the cities in installing their waterworks system place their hydrants too far apart, and also put in too small mains.

The bedrock facts on which our rule for spacing hydrants must rest are that a good stiff 1 1/8 inch stranded stream of 250 gallons per minute cannot be pushed through more than 400 feet of even the very best and smoothest hose by a hydrant pressure of 100 pounds.

One of the best assets of a city is a well equipped and well paid fire department. If the average taxpayer will take the trouble to investigate he will find that the reduction in the insurance rate and the saving to the citizens in the payment of premiums will pay all expenses of the fire department."

The official gavel of the Firemen's association is an ordinary 25-cent sheep bell and there is a bit of history attached to it. The Firemen's association was organized in El Reno, Okla., in 1894. The firemen had been called from every town where companies had been organized. A big delegation from Guthrie went and among them was T. H. McCann, a good natured Irishman. En route the boys purchased the bell that is now being used as a gavel and tied it to McCann. The crowd everywhere where he went was the cause of much merriment. When the firemen convened and the association was organized, by resolution of the convention McCann was relieved of his bell and it was adopted as the official gavel.

The program for tomorrow's tournament of the fire ladders will be as follows:

First race, one hundred yard dash, free for all; entries George McKinney, Norman; G. H. Herbert, Guthrie; O. F. George, Oklahoma City; E. E. Campbell, Anadarko; M. D. Ozler, Roff; J. W. Hulfe, El Reno; J. M. Payne, Tahlequah; O. F. Maine, Anadarko; James McCracken, Duncan; M. E. Michael, Chickasha; Ben Sewell, Ardmore; J. F. Davidson, Anadarko; Jim Northcutt, Marietta.

Second race, ladder climbing contest: Entries, Ross Brooks, Oklahoma City; Joe Fabien, Oklahoma City; Arthur Guyer, Anadarko; O. F. George, Oklahoma City; M. E. Michael, Chickasha; O. B. Estes, Oklahoma City; T. F. Dolaney, Pauls Valley; G. H. Herbert, Guthrie; J. W. Hulfe, El Reno; K. E. Kirby, Oklahoma City; Tom Hamm, Pauls Valley and Joe Robertson.

Third race, one hundred yard horse race, only volunteer companies allowed.

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We will endeavor to give the public the very best that money can secure. We cater especially to the patronage of ladies and children. Yours to please,

TOM W. BROWN.



Chief Kesler's team that will take part in the Ardmore Tournament.

CHICKASHA FOR THE CONSTITUTION

Editor of the Chickasha Journal Favore the Constitution—Will Not Lose 100 Votes in That City.

"The constitution will not lose 100 votes in Chickasha," said Editor J. W. Kayser of the Chickasha Journal, who was in the city yesterday afternoon and last night. "You can quote me as making the statement, and you may also state that I am editor of a republican daily paper in a city that gave a republican majority in the last municipal election. People want statehood and want it bad, and are going to have it by voting for the constitution. In my opinion the rank and file of the republican party like the democratic party will support the constitution and help in securing statehood."

Ditzler sells them cheap.

Episcopal Church Dinner.

The ladies of St. Philip's Guild of the Episcopal church of this city which gave a dinner yesterday in the Deak building met with success beyond their expectations.

The sum of \$78.09 was taken in, of which but a small portion will be paid out as expenses, and a neat sum was realized.

The affair was a success both socially and financially.

Ditzler has best bargains.

At the Jail.

W. S. Hill was brought in on the charge of introducing and selling.

S. B. Carson was arrested and lodged in jail for the third or fourth time within the past few weeks on the charge of introducing and selling.

M. M. Williams was placed in jail under a capias profile.

Will Winn, was arrested charged with introducing.

Nan Day, alias Nan Patterson, who shot and killed Walter Brady yesterday morning arrived in the city last night and delivered herself to the marshal. Nan was lodged in jail.

Ditzler's goods are all new.

No Session of Court.

No session of the district court was held yesterday afternoon or this morning. The court officials had as their guests Governor Frantz, who was given a ride over the city.

Ditzler has linen suits.

Marshals Capture Booze.

A telephone message was received at the U. S. marshal's office in this city from Tishomingo this morning, stating that Deputy Marshal Bridges had captured a prominent druggist with 192 bottles of whiskey driving into the city. This is one of the largest captures by the marshal's force in that town for a considerable time.

Early this morning the local force caught two grips containing booze, and made two arrests in connection therewith. One of the parties arrested was made to pack the two grips to Hotel de Nichols where they made bond.

Ditzler has Wash Suits.

AN OLD SETTLER HERE,

A. J. Addington Paid First Permit Tax in Chickasaw Nation Over Forty Years Ago.

A. J. Addington of Wapanucka is an Ardmore visitor. Mr. Addington is one of the old-timers in this country. His father moved to Addington Bend in Piekens county forty-two years ago, and was the first man in the Chickasaw nation that ever paid a permit tax to the tribal authorities. The first was 25c, this tax was afterwards increased to \$25 and it fell very hard upon the stockmen as they had to pay not only for themselves but for their ranch hands as well. The tax remained at \$25 for only one year. The Indians realized that the tax would prohibit immigration to this country and the tax was reduced to \$5 and was afterwards reduced to \$1. Mr. Addington has driven cattle across the prairie where Ardmore is long before the town was ever dreamed of and can talk interestingly of old times in the Chickasaw country.

Ditzler has new Embroideries.

TIRE OF THE COLLAR.

Negroes of Second Ward Form Independent Voters League.

A communication was left at the Ardmore office today which gives a piece of news that will influence the politics of the city in future elections. The negroes have grown tired of wearing the collar and is fast becoming an independent voter. They have been promised so many things, at the hands of the republican party, and received nothing until they have tired of the old way of doing things, and will look out for themselves in the future. The communication states that the negroes in the Second Ward have organized an independent club which now has a membership of 200 and the writer expresses the belief that almost every colored voter in the city will join the club before many months. The officers of the club are Geo. Dorphin, president, Chas. Smith vice president, and Chas. Bowen, secretary.

REAL ESTATE MARKET.

Two Drains Closed Yesterday Afternoon for Ardmore Dirt.

Mrs. C. L. Herbert, through the real estate firm of Smith, Riggins & West sold to C. Landrum of this city, lot 4 block 3, of the McElish addition to the sum of \$450.

The same firm closed a deal for R. J. Williams, who sold two tracts of farming land to F. K. West and J. I. Riggins, consisting of 230 acres to the sum of \$3075.

The real estate market has been active for the past few days and considerable property has changed hands. It is understood that several large deals are in the progress of being closed.

Ditzler has two old goods.

Police Court News.

The police court was engaged this morning in hearing a case of petty larceny and a case of disturbing the peace. Both of the prisoners will be in the street force.

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may be a long reach when miles are considered but an easy reach when it touches the pocketbook. That's the position you're in when you

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here. We deliver our unexcelled pianos to your homes on all cash or the easy payment plan. One payment insures delivery. Don't wait, buy now. Every piano guaranteed.

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Is where all the traveling men stop
First Class Accommodations.
FRYTON J. PRUETT, Prop.

Notice.
The partnership heretofore existing between Wilkerson & Lawson in the livery business has been dissolved this 2nd day of May, 1907. Mr. Wilkerson retiring from the business, and being succeeded by Wilson, Lawson and Hamilton, who will conduct the business hereafter. 2-6

Notice.
The Democratic Central Committee will meet next Saturday at 10:30 a. m. sharp at the city hall.
T. J. CARSON, Sec'y.

NOTICE TO MERCHANTS—The Muskogee Oil Refining Co. makes prompt deliveries of oil. Phone 529. J. J. Groetken, agent. 2-1m

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Undertaking and Embalming.

North Washington Street.
Phones 341 and 433.

T. N. COLEMAN THE CITY DRUGGIST

TELEPHONE 104 109 W. MAIN ST.

PERSONAL MENTION

H. B. Poach of Ada was a business visitor in this city today. J. M. Browning accompanied by his wife are in the city today from Mill Creek.

Indian Police Officer Arthur Nesbitt of Tishomingo was here today on business.

Attorney Blanton of Pauls Valley was in the city today from Pauls Valley on business.

L. J. Akers who helped to write the constitution of the new state was in the city today from Woodward.

Jules A. Martin and W. R. Belt of St. Louis, Mo., representing the Southwestern Exploitation Bureau are in the city on business.

F. E. Kinnamer of Madill was in the city last night and heard Gov. Frantz speak. Mr. Kinnamer is city attorney of his town.

E. F. Hummard of Conneaut, Ohio, who recently came here prospecting, purchased a quantity of land southeast of the city near the property of his friend, O. C. Litchfield, and will move to Ardmore.

J. H. Leatherman, office deputy at Pauls Valley, H. Webb, deputy marshal at the same point, M. F. Burton, marshal at Purcell, L. C. Merriman of Madill, were here last night in attendance on the Frantz speaking.

Green B. Patterson of Hobart, Oklahoma, one of the eloquent Democrats of the new state, is here for a brief stay. Mr. Patterson is making speeches throughout the country in support of the constitution.

Mrs. Dr. Philip Stephens accompanied by Dr. Stephens left at 4 o'clock this morning for Dallas to receive special treatment under Dr. Walcott, a specialist of that city. Mrs. Dr. Stephens accidentally poisoned herself some time since in mistaking medicine.

Do You Need an Ice Plant?

The undersigned is looking for a location for an ice plant, and is prepared to consider applications of good towns. Address, giving full information as to population, etc.

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Fruits with whipped cream. Coffee made from the celebrated Hanley-Kinsella Shield Brands.

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21-1m Bankers National bank bldg.

Hirsute Bill: If you can't raise the price raise a beard.