

# FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS IN EL PASO IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CITY, AND LATER

## Twenty-Two Years Ago There Was Just as Much Patriotism as Now and a Good Deal More Noise How the McGinty Club Celebrated in 1895

El Paso is celebrating a safe and sane Fourth this year. There are firecrackers to be sure and a few fireworks and there is no less enthusiasm than has been shown on many previous celebrations of the anniversary of the country's natal day.

But it is of interest to El Pasoans of today to know how El Pasoans of yesterday did honor to the day of the nation's birth in fond remembrance. There is no McGinty club to live things up like in the olden days. The cannon that did service on that occasion in years gone by is resting on some Mexican mountain, for the "blue whistler" that oft reminded the patriotic sons and daughters of what day the Fourth of July was, went down into the sister republic to do service in the cause of the insurgents and has not yet returned.

Back in 1893 while the sons of Uncle Sam were pouring lead into the ranks of the Spanish soldier, El Paso orators were pouring forth patriotism to the four winds of heaven while crowded about the speakers' stands were throngs of patriotic sons and daughters.

In 1900 the biggest celebration on record in this city occurred. There was a military and civic parade and hubbalooboo in general. This year is tame compared with some of its predecessors. There is but little gunpowder, less oratory and much happiness for the weather is cool.

### AN EL PASO FOURTH TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO.

The Fourth of July celebration in 1893 in El Paso was held at the fair grounds in the afternoon, and the evening's celebration was held in the city.

In the morning, the shotgun experts of the city held a tournament at the park, shooting at 10 Peoria blackbirds, and W. A. Irwin was the winner over the 20 other entries.

Racing was the program for the afternoon, and a series of trotting races and slow burro races were held at the fair grounds track. Several bicycle races were held during the afternoon, and H. Dimmick, of the Western Union, was the winner in these events.

Fireworks constituted the entertainment and the Bacchus and Wigwam teams held a fireworks match. In the early evening, the noisy crackers were set off and as it became dark, rockets and Roman candles delighted the people on San Antonio street.

The Herald did not publish a paper on the Fourth in 1893.

### THE FOURTH IN 1890 WAS FREE FOR ALL CELEBRATION

The celebration of the nation's natal day in 1890, began in El Paso at midnight and did not end until the fifth was putting in its appearance. There was no parade, no oration, no poem, but everyone enjoyed himself as he saw fit.

Racing and the gun club's tournament were the program for the afternoon. A 150 yard race between Woolly and Bald Hornet was very exciting, and was won by the former.

The Fort Bliss military band entertained in the afternoon with a concert at the courthouse plaza. A fireworks display at the corner of Stanton and San Antonio streets completed the evening's entertainment.

### GUN CLUB IS FEATURE OF CELEBRATION IN 1892.

There was no general celebration of the Fourth of July in El Paso in 1892, but everyone took his own way of having a good time. The El Paso Gun club was the attraction in the morning, and held a tournament at Sportsman's park. In the grand sweepstakes shoot Layer won the prizes in the three events.

### NO OBSERVANCE OF THE DAY HERE IN YEAR 1893.

El Pasoans did not have any celebration in the city, July 4, 1893. No program was arranged for the day and the only amusement for the people was the bicycle race at Sportsman's park. This was won by George Boyce. The Herald observed the national holiday by not publishing a paper.

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### LITTLE DOIN IN '95.

The fourth of July was observed in a quiet manner in El Paso in 1895. Business was suspended for the day but there was no public observance of the natal day of the United States in the city. The fans were entertained by a ball game in which the Browns and Grays were the contestants during the afternoon and the gun club had a shoot, while the youngster made his usual amount of noise with the fire crackers.

### FIREWORKS BURNED.

In 1905 the ban on fireworks by the city council somewhat hindered the observance of the Fourth of July. The customary speeches and parades were eliminated for the day, and El Pasoans observed the holiday in their own way. Trotting races at the park was about the only public amusement.

### OUTINGS A FEATURE IN 1907.

The Glorious Fourth in 1907 was celebrated in El Paso in a quiet manner. Part of the population of the city went to Cloudcroft. The Herald carrier boys took a trip to "Morningglade" for a day's outing.

### BIG DAY IN 1909.

Independence Day was a big day in El Paso in 1909. A mammoth parade was held in the morning at the Fort Bliss soldiers in the line of march. In the afternoon there was a band concert and ball games, and at 4 o'clock an automobile "gymkhana" was held. Patriotic speeches and ceremonies were also held throughout the afternoon. At 3 o'clock, in the evening, a great public fireworks exhibition was held at Washington park.

### WOMAN THRASHES FOOTPAD IN PARK When Robber Demanded Her Money She Knocked Him Down.

New York, N. Y., July 4.—The pluck of Miss Victoria Sparks, a pretty governess living at the Hotel Beresford, Central Park West and Eighty-first street, in chasing and thoroughly thrashing an armed footpad, who with others had set upon her and her escort, Tuesday evening as they were sitting in Central Park, has, the police believe, led to the discovery of a gang which has been terrorizing sections of the park for several months.

### GO TO CLOUDCROFT TO CELEBRATE DAY IN 1909.

El Pasoans journeyed to Cloudcroft, July 4, 1899. The hook and ladder company ran an excursion to the summer resort and large numbers of the people from the city attended. There was no celebration in El Paso, in honor of Independence day.

### MCINTY CLUB BRINGS FOURTH TO EL PASO IN 1895.

The McGinty club brought the Fourth of July to El Paso in 1895. At midnight, its old brass six pounder was loaded to the brim, but was shot off only once, as windows in the Mexican school house and several residences were smashed by the earthquake the cannon had started. A team of horses was then attached to the old gun and it was hauled up to its regular place on McGinty Hill, and from there several salutes were fired. The McGinties had brought anvils and pans along with them and a regular din was started.

### SMALL BOYS HOLD FORTH.

July 4, 1901 was a quiet day in El Paso and had it not been for the noises produced by the small boys and his fire cracker, the day would have possessed a Sabbath calm. There was no public observance of any kind or public gathering or speech making. The streets were practically deserted and business was wholly suspended.

### ELKS CELEBRATE IN 1903.

The Elks entertained El Pasoans with a Fourth of July celebration in 1903. A grand parade was held through the main streets during the early part of the evening, and after that fireworks were set off by the local lodge at the plaza while the band was giving a concert. The negro populace of the city had a celebration at Hightower's park.

### THE GLORIOUS FOURTH IN 1904

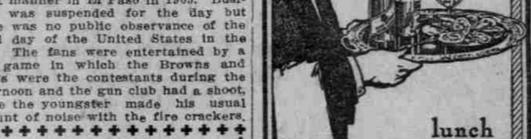
The glorious Fourth celebration in 1904 was held under the auspices of the Elks. In the afternoon the people went to Washington park to watch the El Paso Colts defeat the Albuquerque baseball team, and in the evening a barbecue and band concert given by the Elks made up the entertainment.

### A Sunshade for Bunts.

Standing in the summer sun, answering several hundred different questions per day is not an pleasant task as one would imagine. To better protect gateman Charles Bunts from the elements, an awning is being built over the main gate at the union station so that Bunts may grab tickets in the shade.

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### INCREASE IN RATES SUSPENDED TO OCTOBER 28

Suspension Order Affects 500 Railroads Through Joint Agreement.

Washington, D. C., July 4.—There have been filed with the Interstate commerce commission by both the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific systems supplemental tariffs showing advances in the rates for refrigerating cars, and changes in the regulations regarding precooling and precooling. These changes were to have gone into effect July 1, but the commission in an order issued the day before the rates became effective, suspended the operation of the rates until October 28.

The new tariff contains the following clause: "When shipper instructs that commodities loaded in cars, the tanks of which contain ice, be not to be reloaded above specified refrigeration rates published herein shall apply."

Another of the new regulations provides that the privilege heretofore permitted to shippers of citrus fruits to precool shipments will be withdrawn, the carriers retaining and exercising the exclusive right and control of furnishing and billing all icing and refrigeration of citrus fruits in cases where the shipper does not specifically request that the shipment move solely under ventilation.

"It appearing from a consideration of the character and amount of the advance and the circumstances under which they have been made, and the rights and interests of the public affected thereby, it is the opinion of the commission that the effective date of schedule above specified should be postponed pending the hearing and decision, therefore it is ordered that the operation of these schedules be suspended and that the use of the regulations and practices therein stated be suspended until the 28th day of October.

As these new tariffs are known as joint regulations, that is occurred in and participated in by most of the railroads of the United States, had on almost 500 different railroads in the United States, including the following in the southwest: Alamo and Sacramento Mountain Railway company; Arizona and New Mexico Railway company; Arizona Southern, A. T. & S. F.; Chicago, Rock Island & El Paso; Dawson railway; Eastern Railway company of New Mexico; El Paso & Rock Island; El Paso & Southern; G. H. & S. A.; Kansas City, Mexico & Orient of Texas; New Mexico & Arizona; New Mexico Central; Pecos & Northern Texas; Pecos River railroad; Prescott & Northwestern; St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific; Santa Fe, Prescott & Phoenix; Santa Fe, Raton & Eastern; Sonora railroad; Southern Kansas railroad of Texas; Southern Pacific, Rio Grande & El Paso, and Texas & Pacific.

### ARTESIAN WOMEN'S CLUB PLANS NOVEL CARNIVAL

Artesian, N. M., July 4.—Dan Mahoney has bought out the restaurant of Czrnok & Mahoney.

The Women's club will put on a carnival at the ball park July 7. The deferred will be applying toward securing drinking fountains for the public schools.

George Rokitzer, the Hungarian shoemaker, who was committed to Las Vegas by Judge Pope, has recovered and returned to his trade.

S. D. Stennis has withdrawn from the law firm of Robertson & Stennis and formed a partnership with Capt. E. P. Bujaic of Carlsbad, taking the place of Judge Hulse, who has moved to Houston, Texas.

Miss Lora Williams gave a party at her residence in honor of Miss Leslie McNeil, of Dallas, Texas, who is visiting Mrs. J. B. Atkinson.

The pupils of Miss Nellie Frances gave a musical at her residence. The women of the Baptist church will serve dinner at the Hardwick building July 4.

Arthur Williamson of the city drug store was married to Miss Georgia Kinsinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Kinsinger, at Roswell by Rev. J. C. Gage.

C. C. R. Echols has returned from attending the army maneuvers in California.

Pea green alfalfa is bringing \$10.50 per ton for the second cutting, which is the highest price paid for hay at this time of the year.

J. B. Coell is organizing a fruit growers' association.

### RESERVE AGENTS FOR LOEHL BANK

The controller of the currency has approved four reserve agents for the First National bank of El Paso, as follows: National Reserve bank of Kansas City, National Bank of Commerce of San Antonio, Whitney Central National bank of New Orleans and American National bank of San Francisco.

### \$100 Reward, \$100.

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### BULLFIGHTER ROPED; ARRESTED IN RIVER

Attempts to Swim the Rio Grande and Is Hauled With a Rope.

In a vain attempt to avoid arrest, Refugio Hernandez, a Juarez bull fighter, who is better known as "Coco," jumped into the Rio Grande Monday afternoon and attempted to swim to the Mexican shore. In the meantime, the Juarez officers had been telephoned by the El Paso police and when Hernandez arrived near the other shore he saw policemen waiting for him.

Swimming to one of the piers on the Stanton street bridge he proceeded to rest, and would neither go to Mexico or return to the United States and it is stated that Juarez officers finally becoming impatient roped the fugitive and hauled him ashore, took him to the Juarez jail and locked him up.

Hernandez is alleged to have assaulted a Mexican woman, Elvira Flores, on the corner of Third and Broadway streets and after knocking her down had, it is claimed, stamped her in the face. He was pursued by a crowd down Broadway, but eluded the El Paso people by jumping into the river.

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