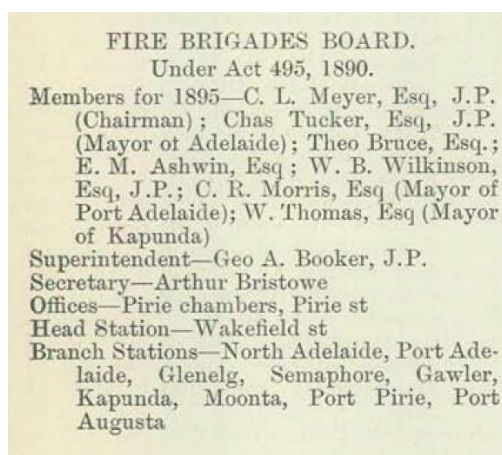


Adelaide Fire Brigade 1896



Sands and McDougall 1896

From the Sands and McDougall Directory for 1896.

Wakefield Street Fire Station, G. A. Booker, Superintendent Fire Brigades SA.

Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), Tuesday 18 February 1896, page 2

FIRE IN TWIN-STREET.

CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE.

At about ten minutes past 9 o'clock on Monday evening a call was received at the Central Fire Station from the Charles-street fire alarm. The horse-reel, steamer, and ladder were immediately dispatched, and the North Adelaide reel was called. On turning the corner at Hindmarsh-square it was noticed that there was a fire in Twin-street, and it was soon discovered that the premises occupied by Mr. Burmeister, printer, were ablaze. Two hoses were at once adjusted, and after playing on the flames for some time they were extinguished, though not before considerable damage had been done. The premises were insured, though the amount has not been officially stated.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Tuesday 18 February 1896, page 3

FIRE IN THE CITY.

A LARGE CONFLAGRATION AVERTED.

Fortunately no very serious fires have occurred in the city for some time, but what threatened to be a big conflagration was very smartly suppressed by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade on Monday evening. The scene of the excitement was at the printing establishment of Mr. Fred Burmeister, in Twin-street, and the premises were in a very dangerous position, being surrounded by buildings which at this time of the year have had every particle of damp dried up by the excessive heat. Besides this, at the rear of the printing-house is the Arcade, and if once this building had caught alight the draught through the structure would soon have fanned the flames to such an extent that destruction would have been the almost certain result. The brigade were notified of the occurrence at ten minutes past 9 o'clock from the Charles street alarm, and at once turned out with a reel and a steamer, the latter being under full steam by the time of its arrival at the scene. The North Adelaide reel was also communicated with, and was in attendance in double quick time. The flames had a good hold of the basement, and were going through the floor in several places. A hose was at once brought to bear on the flames, and after a short fight the fire began to give out. The members of the brigade followed up their victory smartly, and soon had the flames under control. The

damage done was considerable owing to the nature of the machinery used. No estimate can be formed as to the actual damage. The cause of the fire is a mystery.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 7 March 1896, page 6

FIRE AT NORWOOD.

At about half-past 7 o'clock on Friday evening the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call from Norwood. A reel with Superintendent Booker in charge at once turned out, and they were joined by the Norwood Brigade. The fire was found to be confined to a workshop at the back of Mr. F. Camp's premises in Elizabeth-street, Norwood, and the flames had a complete hold of the building, which was eventually destroyed. The brigade were called too late to prevent the destruction of the workshops, but they were able to stop the flames from spreading. The damage done is estimated at £40. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Saturday 23 May 1896, page 4

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

There was much commotion in Wakefield street on Friday afternoon, for it is in that capacious thoroughfare that the head station of the fire brigade is situated, and it was yesterday, after the sun had passed the meridian, that his Excellency the Governor made his first official visit there. The town clock had just proclaimed the hour of 3 when the viceregal carriage arrived, and by that time a large crowd had gathered in the vicinity in the hope that there would be a "call out." His Excellency was received by a guard of honor and the playing of the National Anthem by the brigade band. Mr. C. L. Meyer, the chairman of the board, then stepped forward and welcomed Sir Fowell, stating that although the building might be unpretentious and the brigade somewhat small, yet as far as appliances were concerned they were quite up to date, the alarm system especially being as ingenious and effective as almost any in the world. His Excellency said he much appreciated the opportunity of making the inspection, and Mr. Meyer then placed the vice regal party in the hands of the superintendent. Struck doubtless with the imposing presence and noble mein of The Advertiser reporter his Excellency mistook him for the gentleman in charge of the station, but Mr. Booker was soon on the scene explaining the working of the establishment. The steam-engine, the reels, the escape ladder, and other appliances were inspected, and then at the superintendent's request his Excellency gave an alarm. Immediately the stable portals swung open, the horses were got into position, the ingeniously devised harness was adjusted, the men were in their places, and the large doors opening there was a dash into the street, and those who had assembled there scattered in all directions. After a smart gallop the hose was fixed to a hydrant and a strong stream of water was played into the air, while the escape ladder lifted its head to the zenith and the nozzle on the hose which was attached to it was worked by the men below. The brigade in their neat uniforms and their helmets of burnished brass presented a very attractive appearance, and they went through everything expected of them in the most satisfactory manner. Throughout, the station was found as bright and clean as a new pin, and his Excellency before leaving expressed much pleasure at what he had seen. Besides Sir Fowell there attended from Government House Mr. Noel Buxton, Master Harold Buxton, Miss Mabel Buxton, Captain Henniker, Captain Guise, and Mr. Coneybeare, while there were also present in addition to the chairman, these members of the Fire Brigades Board—Messrs. E. M. Ashwin, C. Tucker (Mayor of Adelaide), C. R. Morris (Mayor of Port Adelaide), W. H. Cox, T. H. Smeaton, and T. Bruce. Among other visitors were the Chief Secretary (Hon. J. V. O'Loughlin), Captain Creswell, the Hon. H. R. Fuller, M.L.C., Sir Charles Todd, Sir E. T. Smith, M.L.C., Mr. M. Holtze (director of the Botanic Gardens), and Mr. T. Worsnop (town clerk of Adelaide). Afternoon tea was provided for the ladies.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Tuesday 15 September 1896, page 2

FIRE AT NORWOOD.

On Tuesday morning at about 11 o'clock a fire occurred on the Parade, Norwood. The building, which belongs to Mr. Scarfe, of Messrs. Harris, Scarfe, & Co., was considerably damaged. The Fire Brigade from the city were soon on the spot and succeeded in subduing the flames. The premises were occupied by Mrs. Brunbrett, dressmaker.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Tuesday 29 September 1896, page 2

ALARM OF FIRE.

Shortly before 10 o'clock this morning the Fire Brigade received a call from the alarm in front of The Advertiser Office, and in very quick time two reels and the steam engine were on the spot. The cause of the call out was a small fire in the establishment of Messrs. Hussey & Gillingham's, in Waymouth-street, where some spirits became ignited on a stove. No damage, however, was done and the services of the brigade fortunately were not required.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 30 September 1896, page 4

A FIRE BRIGADE TROUBLE.

Serious trouble has arisen among the men who constitute the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, and as a result 16 of the permanent men sent in their resignations on Tuesday morning. One of their comrades—Mr Henry Hannaford—employed at the Norwood station, died on Sunday last, and it was arranged to bury him with full fire brigade honors. Three reels were prepared for the funeral, and the men were ready mounted and the horses were in when the superintendent (Mr Booker) received a tele-phone message from the chairman of the Fire Brigade Board (Mr. C. L. Meyer) to the effect that the proposed brigade funeral must be stopped it once, and that the fireman was not to be accorded public burial. Notwithstanding this notice, however, the superintendent sent one reel and five men to take part in the funeral, as if he had not done so the friends would have had the trouble of obtaining another vehicle at the last moment on which to convey the re-mains of the deceased to their last resting place. The majority of the members of the fire brigade staff felt this treatment so much that 16 of them handed in their resignations at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The resignations have not yet been accepted, but a special meeting has been called for Monday next, when the board will deal with them. The men feel that the treatment they had received was not only a slight to them-selves, but also to their deceased comrade. Two of the resignations are from men at the Norwood station, four at the North Adelaide station, and 10 at head-quarters in Wakefield-street—in fact, every member but one at the head station has sent in his resignation, the number on Tuesday evening being 22. The men feel very keenly the action of the chairman of the fire brigade, and are fully determined to leave their work next Tuesday morning when the weeks notice of their intention to do so shall have expired.