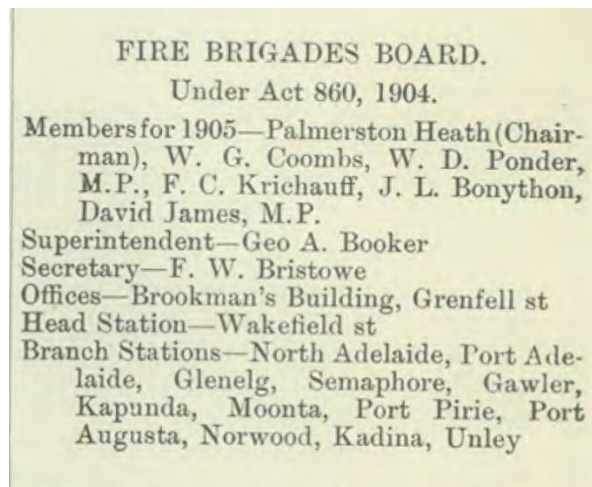


Adelaide Fire Brigade 1906

From the Sands and McDougall Directory for 1906



Sands and McDougall Directory 1906

From the 1905 Fire Brigades Board Annual Report

The plant of the brigades is as follows:—4 steam fire engines, 1 hose and coal van, 13 horse reels, 4 hand reels, 1 salvage van, 3 hose-carts, 2 telescopic ladders, 26 horses.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 1 January 1906, page 4

Constable Hawke informed the metropolitan Watchhouse authorities that at 5.15 p.m. on Sunday, a fire broke out in the grass on the south bank of the Torrens, near the South Australian Railway premises. About half an acre of grass and two chains of picket fencing belonging to the Adelaide Corporation were destroyed. The Fire Brigade was called out and extinguished the flames.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 1 January 1906, page 8

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

A MOTOR CAR BURNT.

Early on Sunday morning, when a motor car belonging to Mr J. H. Southcott, machinist, of Gilles-street, and driven by Mr. Allen Anderson, of Forestville, was proceeding along Hanson-street, the petrol in the tank ran out. The driver, in re-plenishing the tank, poured in too much petrol, and the overflow reached one of the lamps in front of the car. It immediately ignited and the front of the car took fire. The Fire Brigade was called out to extinguish the flames. Considerable damage was done to the front of the car.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 4 January 1906, page 4

AN UNFORTUNATE TRAM PASSENGER.

A sensational episode occurred on a crowded East Adelaide car shortly after 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening as it was coming into town. Just before the Stag Hotel was reached the conductor discovered that the lamp on the top of the car in front was out, and he proceeded to light it again. The lamp was leaking, and there was a strong wind blowing, against which the car was travelling, and some of the passengers warned the boy to be careful. However, their advice was not heeded, and the oil becoming ignited flared up. The lad tried to blow it out, but was unsuccessful, and eventually the whole of the contents of the lamp appeared to catch fire, for there was a big blaze, which threatened either to set light to the awning of the car or

to cause an explosion. At once a rush set in for the rear steps, and the cry arose, "Women first!" Precedence was given to the ladies, but when they got half way down the steps they stopped to look at the blaze, with the result that the men, thus blocked from descending, were rather nervous lest the lamp should explode and envelop them in flames. Before anything serious happened, however, the boy threw the still blazing lamp off the car on to the road near the Stag Hotel, where it caused a slight grass fire. This, however, was soon stamped out. One of the gentlemen riding on the car has had several exciting experiences during the last week or two. On Christmas Day he was sitting inside a tramcar, when he felt a burning sensation, and on looking for the cause found that his trousers were smouldering, as the result of the carelessness of a smoker in front of the vehicle, who had allowed some burning tobacco to drop out of his pipe. A day or two afterwards he found another hole burned in his clothes as the consequences of similar carelessness on the part of a fellow-passenger. Determined to get to the windward of smokers on Tuesday night, he had taken a seat as near as possible to the front of the East Adelaide car previously referred to, and his clothes were saturated with kerosine from the leaking lamp, This made him even more nervous than he would otherwise have been when the conflagration occurred.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 4 January 1906, page 3

A SMALL FIRE.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call about 8 o'clock last night from the King William-street alarm to a fire in an outhouse at the rear of the premises occupied by Hamlyn Bros., picture-framers, Hindley-street. In addition to the head station reels the brigades from North Adelaide, Norwood, and Unley turned out. One line of hose was laid on, and the fire was extinguished in a minute or two. The damage done was inconsiderable.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Friday 5 January 1906, page 4

At about 3.30 on Wednesday afternoon a fire broke out in the south park lands west of King William road. The flames destroyed half an acre of grass, and charred one end of a wooden culvert before they were extinguished by two corporation labourers.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Saturday 6 January 1906, page 1

THE NEW FIRE ENGINE.

The new steam fire engine, ordered by the Fire Brigades Board in February last, is on board the Lund liner Narrung, which arrived from England last night. The new engine is nearly twice as powerful as those at present used by the brigade. It is understood that the engine will be landed at once, and that as soon as it is available it will be subjected to an official test. If the test is satisfactory the engine will be put into commission. The engine has been built on the most modern lines. Some engines that have been sent out to Australia have not been according to the specifications, and the authorities refused to accept them. Not long ago a consignment of hose arrived in Adelaide from England and was condemned and sent back by Superintendent Booker.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Monday 8 January 1906, page 6

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

TWO SMALL FIRES.

Shortly before 1 p.m. on Saturday Constable Lilywhite saw smoke issuing from a window in the second story of the Old Exchange, Pirie-street. He accompanied the caretaker's daughter to the locality of the fire, where it was found that a waste paper basket was smouldering. Little damage was done. The Fire Brigade were summoned, but their services were not required.

At 8.20 p.m. on Saturday Constable Hawke informed the watchhouse authorities that a fire broke out at No. 24, Hyde-street, at the back of the South Australian Brush Company's

premises. The brigade were called from the Wyatt-street alarm, and they promptly put the fire out. Little damage resulted. Some straw was burnt, and a fence was slightly scorched.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 9 January 1906, page 6

FIRE IN A DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT.

On Saturday evening a fire occurred at the drapery establishment of Messrs. J. J. Foale & Co., at the corner of Brown and Gouger streets. At about 7 o'clock an assistant opened a window in the showroom for the purpose of ventilation. Some drapery hanging near one of the gaslights was displaced by the current of air thus admitted, the result being that it caught alight. In an instant the flames were communicated to some hanging goods, and for a time the premises were in danger of being destroyed. A neighbor gave the alarm to the fire brigade station, but Mr. D. Murphy (the manager of the shop), with the aid of the assistants in the establishment, set to work to extinguish the flames. Credit is due to Miss White, one of the assistants, for the energetic and courageous manner in which she worked at personal risk to prevent the spread of the fire. Despite all efforts considerable damage was done. The stock was insured in the Royal and the London and Lancashire Insurance offices, and on Monday representatives of these institutions made an examination of the damage, and as the claim of the firm was allowed, a settlement was arrived at.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Wednesday 10 January 1906, page 2

A NEW FIRE ENGINE.

The new steam fire engine, recently acquired by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, was officially tested at headquarters Tuesday afternoon in the presence of several members of the board. The engine was built by Shand, Mason, & Co., of Blackfriars-road, London, and is of patent bearable expansion type, with all the latest fittings. It has an indicated horse-power of 55, and is capable of throwing a jet of 1 11-16 in. 190 ft. high. During the testing the engine boilers were placed under a pressure of 125 lb. to the square inch, whilst the pumps were put under a pressure of 160 lb. The engine proved itself equal to the board's expectations in every respect. It is one of the most up-to-date machines in Australia.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 10 January 1906, page 4

THE NEW STEAM FIRE ENGINE.

Owing to the increase in the value of city property, and the condition of many of the buildings, the equipment of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade has been a subject for frequent discussion during the last two or three years. On several occasions it was pointed out that, notwithstanding the acknowledged efficiency of the men under Superintendent Booker, if a couple of large fires occurred simultaneously in different parts of the city it would be extremely difficult to cope with them satisfactorily, in consequence of the lack of men and a sufficiently powerful steamer. At the beginning of 1905 the Fire Brigades Board decided to secure another engine possessing all the desired qualifications, and this arrived at Port Adelaide by the steamer Narrung on Saturday morning. At the earliest moment it was unshipped and conveyed to the head station in Wakefield street, where it was given an official trial on Tuesday afternoon in the presence of members of the board. The engine, which was built by Messrs. Shand, Mason, & Co., of London, behaved splendidly, and fully realized the highest expectations of the board and of the Superintendent, who are greatly pleased with the purchase. In the evening a representative of The Register, through the courtesy of Mr. Booker, had an opportunity to inspect the new fire appliance, which, having satisfied the purchasers, had been taken over from the agents, and was standing, with lighted lamps, at the rear of the reel, ready for action. Beside the two smaller engines, which have hitherto rendered service in the metropolitan district, it looked a veritable giant—a fire king and his contorts. It is one of the latest variable steam expansion type, double vertical pattern, fitted with all the most recent improvements, and is capable of throwing at high pressure a magnificent stream of water 190 ft. in the air. It is by far the most modern fire steam engine in

Australia, and is the only one in the Commonwealth equipped with a patent blast fan, which can be manipulated with great effect from the moment the fire is lit. The fire, by the way, is started with the assistance of spirits applied in a special manner, and it is possible within eight minutes after the firing of the fuel to get a pressure of 120 lb. of steam. The engine is supplied with a 7-in. intake pipe, has four deliveries, and is furnished with every possible contrivance likely to increase its effectiveness. It is, indeed, a steamer of which the citizens may well feel proud, and in which they may repose the greatest confidence.

Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), Monday 15 January 1906, page 1

SHEEP IN PARK LANDS.

GRAZING TO BE CONTINUED.

After a prolific season the difficulty of dealing with dry grass, arises, and the possibility of damage by fire has caused the City Council to consider the matter as affecting the reserves. A subcommittee was appointed to make enquiries, and a report was presented to the Council on Monday. The Town Clerk furnished the following particulars in respect to the work done in the past few years:—"The total area of reserves in which the grass must be kept down, to protect trees, is 28 acres. As sheep cannot be allowed in these reserves, the work is done by the permanent staff. The plantations which need attention in the summer time to lessen the risk of fire and damage to trees and fencing cover an area of approximately 350 acres. This work necessitates the employment of glut hands for mowing and burning the grass, or else the regular grazing of a sufficiently large flock of sheep. This work has been carried out during the past five years as under:—1900—2 permanent men, 7 glut hands, no sheep, cost £93 10/. 1901—2 permanent men, 5 glut hands, 2,000 sheep (late in season), cost £109. 1902—3 permanent men, no glut hands, 2,000 sheep (Moseley), cost £18. 1903—5 permanent men, 11 glut hands, 500 sheep (occasionally), cost £274. 1904—6 permanent men, 2 glut hands, 2,000 sheep (Moseley), cost £70." The subcommittee considered a letter from Mr. Moseley (whose contract was expiring), in which he showed the financial result of his contract for the past two seasons at a total cost to the corporation of £100, and offered to enter into a new contract at an advanced price. In view of the success of the work done by Mr. Moseley, the subcommittee recommended that the employment of sheep be continued, and that tenders be invited for the sole right for grazing in the plantations of North and South Adelaide with not less than 2,000 sheep, for a period of three years, in terms of the present contract, which provides, inter alia, that the contractor may sublet plantations for grazing; shall travel the sheep as directed by the Town Clerk; shall provide additional sheep if the Town Clerk so decides; and the corporation may, after September 1, do the work at the contractor's cost if the same has not been properly carried out, and forfeit a deposit of not less than £25. The committee approved the report, and recommended the Council to adopt it and advertise for tenders; and further recommended that all grass be cleared immediately to avoid further fires.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 23 January 1906, page 4

FIRE ALARMS.

Firemen at the Metropolitan Station were in instant preparation for calls throughout Monday's fierce heat. The morning was free from alarms, but at 2.20 the salvage reel was dispatched to the Victoria Park Course, where the grass was alight. Races were in progress, and crowds of people witnessed the firemen beat out the flames. Altogether about an acre and a half of grass was burnt. At 3.7 p.m. the full strength of the brigade turned out smartly to a call from Wyatt street (which runs north and south from the Arcade into Flinders street). The workshop of Messrs. Hawkes & Buttle's coachbuilding establishment was on fire. The blaze, which threatened to assume large proportions, was got under after hot fighting. This was credit-able work, as the shop was of galvanized iron and wood, and was burning like matchwood. Most of the contents were damaged, but portion of the building itself was saved. Two lines of hose were used, and the steam engine, which has been recently added to the brigade's equipment, was brought to the scene, but not used. The origin of the outbreak could not be ascertained,

as the building had been closed all day. It is believed that the con-tents were not insured. The property belongs to the Adelaide Benevolent and Strangers' Friend Society.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 23 January 1906, page 6

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

FIRES IN THE CITY.

Intense heat like that of yesterday is usually attended in the city by numerous small fires. Yesterday proved no exception, and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, under the direction of Deputy Superintendent Rickwood, turned out promptly to attend several outbreaks of a more or less serious character. At about 2.15 p.m. a grass fire occurred in the north-west corner of Victoria Park Racecourse, but was quickly extinguished on the arrival of the Fire Brigade. About a quarter of an acre of grass was burnt. Later in the afternoon the brigade received a call from Pirie-street to attend a fire in the East Park Lands. When the firemen arrived a constable had managed to put it out, though not before about half an acre of grass had been destroyed. Constable Renfrey reported to the City Watchhouse authorities that at about 3.5 p.m. he noticed smoke issuing from the premises occupied by A. Buttle, coachtrimmer, Wyatt-street. He immediately called out the brigade, but the place, which was a wooden structure, was completely gutted before the brigade arrived on the scene, although the call was answered with great promptitude.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 25 January 1906, page 2

FIRE IN GRENFELL STREET.

Shortly after 9 o'clock on Wednesday night a fire was discovered in a store be-longing to Messrs. A. Simpson & Sons at the rear of Messrs. Walker & Hall's premises in Grenfell-street. The Adelaide Fire Brigade received a call at 9.10, and the whole of the metropolitan service, together with the suburban reels, under Deputy-Superintendent Rickwood, promptly responded to the call. It was found that the store, which is a wood and galvanized iron structure, containing between 200 and 300 packing cases, was well alight. After about half an hour's work the flames were got under, but not before the building and the con-tents were destroyed. The new steamer recently acquired by the fire brigade was taken to the scene of the fire, but it was not found necessary to use it. Mr. Simpson stated on Wednesday evening that he did not know whether the building was insured.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 2 February 1906, page 5

FIRE ON NORTH-TERRACE.

MARSHALL & CO.'S FURNITURE FACTORY DESTROYED.

DAMAGE COVERED BY INSURANCE.

Late last night, when most people had retired, and when the last trams were on the point of departing for the suburbs, it was discovered that Messrs. James Marshall and Co.'s furniture factory, a large wood and iron building, on North-terrace, opposite the School of Mines, was on fire. With customary promptitude the fire brigade, under Superintendent Booker, responded to the alarm; but a furniture factory affords a fire splendid fuel, and the result was that, despite the efforts of the firemen, the large crowd that gathered on the terrace was afforded a spectacular show that, fortunately, is seldom seen in Adelaide. A little furniture was got out of the burning factory and placed on the footpath, but with this exception the whole of the large stock in the building was destroyed, together with all the contents of the workshop, including the workmen's tools, and everything in the polishing room. The chief success of the brigade was the saving of the machine-room and the 32 horse-power gas engine, by which the machinery is driven. Some of the machinery, however, is a sightly injured by water. The total damage sustained by the firm must run into some thousands of pounds, but the damage, whatever it is, is covered by insurance.

Working overtime.

It is just five years since the growth of Messrs. Marshall & Co.'s business compelled them to take their furniture factory from Stephens-place to the greater space afforded on North-terrace. For the last fortnight the workmen in the factory, who number about 30, have been extremely busy, and have been kept employed each night until after 9 o'clock, and last night they were again busily engaged for over two hours after tea in all departments of the factory, and they ceased work at twenty minutes past 9. When work is in progress every precaution is taken against fire. The men are not allowed to smoke on the premises, and the use of wax matches is prohibited. Under these circumstances it is quite impossible to account for the fire, and it does not seem likely that any-one will be able to throw any light on its origin.

How the Fire was Discovered.

Two gentlemen living next door to the factory were just on the point of going to bed when they noticed the fire in the factory. They called the caretaker (Mr. D. McDonald), who resides at the back of the factory and practically on the premises, and he gave the alarm to the Fire Brigade. Mr. McDonald when seen during the progress of the fire said—"A number of the men were working at the factory until 9.20, and after inspecting the premises and seeing that all the lights were out I locked the place up and went to bed. Shortly after 11 o'clock I was aroused by two gentlemen living next door, who informed me that the factory was on fire. I gave the alarm to the Fire Brigade from the factory, and opened the gates so as to allow the firemen easy access to the flames. The building was lighted by means of gas.

The Brigade at Work.

There was a strong force of firemen available to cope with the fire, armed with ample machinery, and assisted by a splendid pressure of water. To the crowd on the street it appeared that the firemen were handicapped by the fact that the building was of iron and that the interior consisted entirely of inflammable material. Until the fire broke through the roof very little could be done from North-terrace and the first attack was therefore made from the doors and windows on the western side of the building. Here there was a big stack of timber, separated from the factory by a narrow roadway, but the fire did not reach this as the firemen ran first two and then three hoses into the roadway, and quickly had a large volume of water playing on the seat of the fire. The flames, however, had got into the rafters and when they reached the polishing shop, in the front of the building, where there was a store of paints, oils, &c., they flared up through the roof, and for a time the whole neighborhood was illuminated. It was not for long, for by 10 minutes to 12 the fire was conquered, and nearly an hour was then occupied in extinguishing burning beams and rafters and a little fire in the polishing room which refused to be put out. This was attacked from the inside, and finally from the outside, the ladders being used to enable the firemen to tear down the iron and get at the burning oils and paints. This curiosity caused an immense quantity of water to be used, and the floor of the building throughout, with the exception of the machine-room, was flooded. A walk through the ruins afterwards showed that not one article of furniture that was left in the building was saved. What salvage there was consisted only of partly-consumed and blackened pieces of furniture. There was a strong force of police present to keep the crowd away from the firemen, and some members of the force were particularly energetic in this direction. They not only prevented pressmen from getting near the fire, but they would not allow Mr. Lake-man, one of the members of the firm, and Mr. James Marshall, jun., a nephew of Mr. James Marshall, to enter the yard. The unfortunate caretaker was likewise excluded.

Mr. Lakeman Silent.

Mr. F. A. Lakeman was seen during the progress of the fire and afterwards, but he declined to give any information respecting the value of the stock or the insurances. He, however, expressed the opinion that the insurance would cover the damage.

Superintendent Booker's Statement.

Superintendent Booker explained to a representative of "The Advertiser" the details and circumstances of the fire, and his arrangements for mastering the flames. At 11.22 p.m. a call was received from the Pulteney-street fire alarm at the headquarters fire station. Three minutes later, as he learned subsequently, another call was received from Marshall's fire alarm at the North-terrace warehouse. When the first call came a reel and two steamers were immediately turned out, together with the ladder and salvage van, while the suburban reels were called in. As soon as the detachment turned out they could see that a building was well alight, and upon arriving in Pulteney-street they were informed that the fire was at Marshall's North-terrace furniture warehouse. The brigade immediately got to work with two lines of hose from the 8-inch main on North-terrace, two from Rundle-street, and one from Synagogue place. One of the fire engines was also got to work from the 8-inch main on North-terrace. At this time the place was well alight, in fact, burning from end to end. There was a splendid pressure of water, and after about 20 to 25 minutes' work all danger of the fire spreading was past. Several of the firemen had narrow escapes, but fortunately no one was injured. By 12.40 a.m. two of the steamers and the ladder van, also the reels from the North Adelaide and Unley stations were sent back, in case of an outbreak of fire elsewhere. Several men were left in charge of an officer to cool down the ruins. The superintendent was pleased with the pluck and energy displayed by his men in coping with the flames. The large crowd which had gathered on North-terrace could see nothing of the operations, of the firemen inside the building, as the front wall shut out the view, and they were not aware of the risk of the work. Although none of his men was injured Superintendent Booker did not come unscathed through the work, as he fell and severely bruised his right leg below the knee. The new steamer was one of the two ordered out, but it was not used, although the superintendent is curious to know how it will come through its "christening." "But the fire," he remarked, "was not of sufficient magnitude to justify bringing such a powerful piece of machinery into work, although it was there if wanted."

Narracoorte Herald (SA : 1875 - 1954), Tuesday 6 February 1906, page 3

FIRE IN ADELAIDE.

A FURNITURE FACTORY DESTROYED.

On Friday at midnight Messrs. James Marshall & Co.'s furniture factory, on North-terrace, Opposite the School of Mines, caught fire, and with the exception of a little furniture, which was removed to the footpath, the large stock in the building was destroyed, together with all the contents of the workshop. The fire brigade saved the machine room, and a 32 horse power gas engine by which the machinery is driven. The fire illuminated the whole neighborhood. The whole of the block, of which Messrs. J. Marshall and Co.'s furniture factory was a part, was covered by insurance to the extent of £10,480, divided among 18 offices. The estimated damage by the fire is as follows:—Building, £1,040; stock, £1,360; machinery, £1,200; or £3,000 in all. Probably the machinery estimate will be considerably reduced, but on the figures given above the loss to the offices will be from £90 to £360.

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931), Saturday 10 February 1906, page 26

FIRE AT MARSHALL'S FURNITURE MANUFACTORY, NORTH TERRACE.



THE APPEARANCE INSIDE THE WORKSHOPS AFTER THE FIRE.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Friday 8 June 1906, page 6

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

A NEW FIRE-FIGHTING MACHINE.

Already the equipment of the Adelaide Fire Brigade station is well up to date, but in the course of a fortnight Superintendent Booker hopes to have a chemical fire-fighting machine added to the plant. Some time ago a new chemical engine was ordered from Wormald Bros. & Wells, of London, and its arrival at Port Adelaide is daily expected. Engines of this class are now extensively used by all up-to-date brigades, but this will be the first one introduced into South Australia, When ready for work the engine will eject a small stream of water which has been highly impregnated with carbonic acid gas, the latter being created through the mixing of bi-carbonate of soda and sulphuric acid whenever it is needed. As soon as a valve is turned the gas pressure will begin, but prior is that the engine will force water only. The advantage of this appliance will be that the brigade will be able to extinguish small fires quickly with a minimum of damage by water. It not infrequently happens in such cases that more stock is destroyed by water than by fire.

A RECONSTRUCTED FIRE ENGINE.

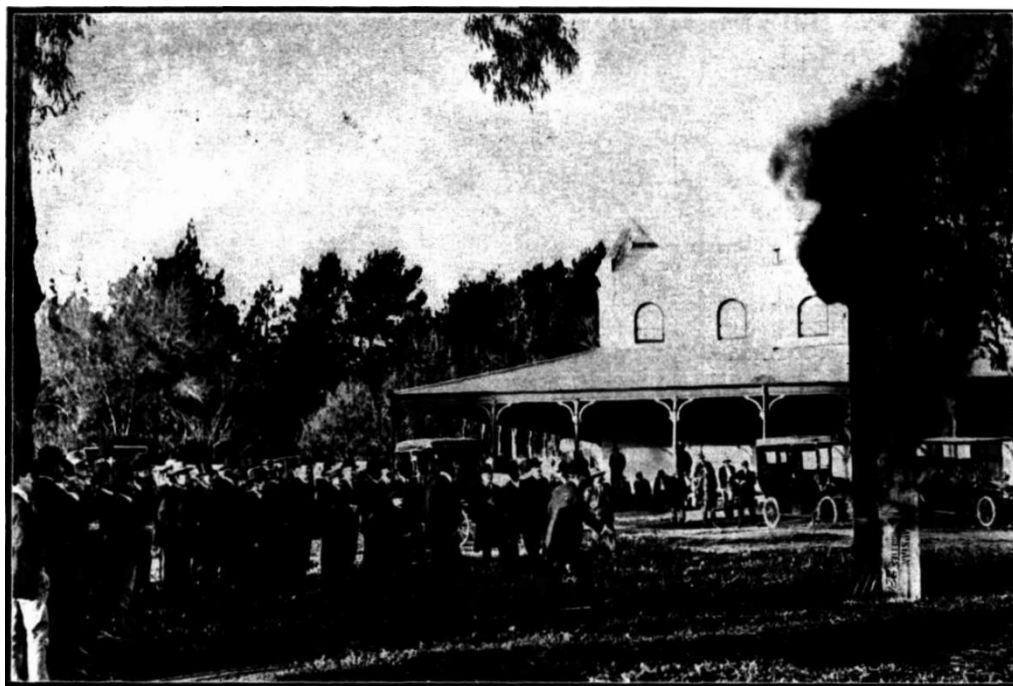
Superintendent Booker is as proud of the mechanical work the thirty-six men under his charge at the Central Fire Brigade Station do as he is of the success which has marked their career as fire fighters. The superintendent has for the purposes of economy and convenience established a small foundry, forge, turning lathe, and workshops at the rear of the station, and when not otherwise engaged the men are employed making or repairing appliances. About twelve years ago the brigade be-came possessed of a Vulcan fire engine, which was purchased from the Fire Appliances Manufacturing Company, of London and Northampton, and it has done much good work during the interval, but lately had been found incapable of resisting the severe strain which a big fire would place upon it. Consequently the superintendent handed the cumbersome vehicle over to the engineer and told him to reconstruct it. Proudly pointing to the finished article in the yard on Thursday morning the

superintendent remarked:— "Look at her. Isn't she a beauty now— a far better engine than when she was landed at Port Adelaide more than a de-cade ago. The wheels are new, the box is new, the principal parts are new and—" "Kindly point out the old parts," jocularly observed a bystander, and the superintendent complied by directing attention to the fire-box and boiler and one or two trifles. When the engine was imported a public exhibition of her powers was given in Franklin-street, and a jet of water was forced up to a height a little below the palisading on the Post-Office tower, but the reconstructed engine can eclipse that achievement. On Thursday morning the engine was taken out into Wakefield-street, and with a pressure of 125 lb. to the square inch threw a column of water an inch and a quarter in diameter nearly 100 ft. into the air. The brigade now has three powerful steam engines.

Critic (Adelaide, SA : 1897-1924), Wednesday 13 June 1906, page 7

Gold Medal Fire Extinguisher.

On the afternoon of Friday, June 8, over 100 of the leading citizens gathered on the Old Exhibition Grounds in response to the invitation of Messrs. Catchlove, Smith & Co., agents for the Gold Medal Fire Extinguisher, to witness a trial of this latest fire fighter. For the purpose of the test a quantity of deal and other inflammable material was placed within a large packing case some 15 feet high, which was thoroughly saturated with tar and kerosene. The pile was then lighted, and soon became a seething mass of flames leaping to a height of some 30 feet. The fire being fully developed, the signal was given for the Extinguisher to be brought into operation. The effect was practically instantaneous. for in a few seconds the burning pile was totally extinguished. Those present were amazed at the power of this little machine, which is in the form of a copper cylinder about 2 feet long, and 9 inches in diameter, with a small piece of hose attached. It is charged with sulphuric acid and carbonate of soda at a cost of 6d. per charge, and can be refilled in a few seconds. The Demonstration was an undoubted success, and the ready adaptability of the "Gold Medal" for immediate use, render it a more valuable security against the danger of serious outbreaks of fire in public and private buildings of every description, thus obviating the use of the old-time fire buckets and hose. This Extinguisher is sold at a moderate figure, and should command a ready sale.



MR. CLAUDE SMITH, Of Catchlove Smith, & Co., manipulating the "Gold Medal" Fire Extinguisher at their successful Demonstration on the Old Exhibition Grounds on Friday, June 8.

H. Krischock, Critic photographer

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 10 October 1906, page 4

FIRE IN BROWN STREET.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call on Tuesday night at 9.12 from the Gouger street alarm. Superintendent Booker turned out two steam fire engines, the fire escape, salvage van, chemical engine, and reels from the central station, and the North Adelaide, Unley, and Norwood reels. The outbreak was found to have occurred in the drapery establishment of Habib Brothers, at the corner of Gouger and Brown streets, and portion of the lower story was well alight when the brigades arrived. Two lines of hose were run out, and the fire was extinguished in a few minutes before much damage had been done. A large pane of plate glass was smashed, and the contents of one of the windows was piled in an adjacent doorway to give the firemen room. After the fire had been extinguished the salvage brigade soon got to work, and put things straight, their operations probably preventing a large amount of damage by water. It was stated by a neighbour that one of the proprietors of the establishment had left the premises only a few minutes before the fire broke out.

Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA : 1869 - 1912), Tuesday 30 October 1906, page 1

ALARM OF FIRE.

The Metropolitan Brigade turned out at 10.30 on Monday evening in response to an alarm received from Chesser street. On arrival dense volumes of smoke were pouring forth. A door was broken in by the firemen, but the smoke was found to be due to the operations of a sweep, who was engaged in clearing the ues on the premises.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 8 November 1906, page 4

FIRE BRIGADES' BOARD.

The annual inspection of the suburban fire brigade stations took place on Wednesday. Those who made the journey were the Chairman (Mr. P. Heath), Cr. Bony-ton, Messrs W. G Coombs. W. D. Ponder, M.P., and F. W Bristowe, and Commander Booker (Superintendent). Nor-wood, Unley, Glenelg, Semaphore, and Port Adelaide were visited, and at each station the turnout was satisfactory. All appliances and buildings were found in first-class condition. While at Port Adelaide the official trial of the steam fire float "Fire Queen" was made. She is a smart little craft, 45 ft. long and 9 ft. 3 in. beam, fitted with a powerful single cylinder horizontal steam fire engine by Shand, Mason, & Co., of London, and a propelling engine of 52-h.p. high-pressure quadruple expansion, by Simpson & Strick-land, Dartmouth, England. Steam is provided by an upright tubular boiler by Shand, Mason. & Co. A fast run was made down the river to the torpedo station at the rate of about 10 knots against a flood tide. Steam was turned on and the pump, which has a capacity of 750 gallons per minute, threw a 1½-in. stream about 190 ft. high and about 230 ft. horizontally. With this valuable addition to the fire-fighting appliances the residents of Port Adelaide need not fear low pressure in the waterpipes during the summer months, as the float can be worked to advantage with long lines of hose from the river. The Fire Brigades' Board of South Australia is the first possessor of a floating steam fire engine controlled by the department. Similar boats in the eastern States are provided by the Harbour Trusts.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Friday 7 December 1906, page 4

FIRE ALARM.

A commotion was caused in Rundle-street at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday, when the fire brigades dashed furiously along the street and stopped near J. Marshall & Co.'s buildings in Stephens-place. A large crowd quickly gathered, but it was found that there was but slight work for the brigades to do. The outbreak was caused by a bag of lime igniting at the new building now in course of erection to the firm. The flames were extinguished before any serious damage occurred.