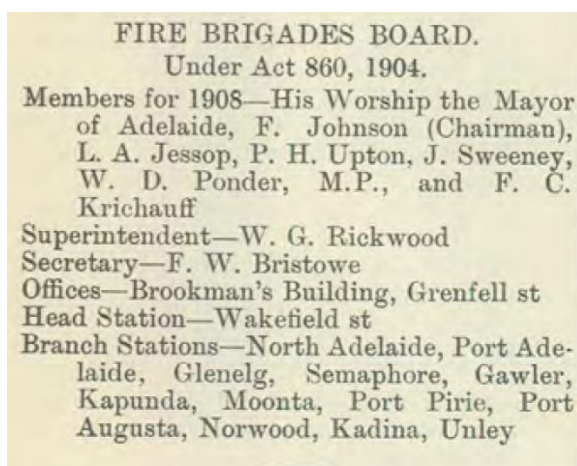


Adelaide Fire Brigade 1909

From the Sands and McDougall Directory for 1909



Sands and McDougall Directory 1909

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Saturday 13 February 1909, page 13

GENERAL NEWS

FIRE IN AN ORCHARD.

Shortly before 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call from the East-parade alarm at Kensington. A reel was dispatched from Adelaide, as well as one from the Norwood station, and it was ascertained that a fire had broken out in an orchard owned by Mr. W. Cornell, of Gurr's-road, North Kensington. Before the flames could be extinguished by the brigade about an acre of fruit trees had been damaged and a quantity of grass burnt.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Wednesday 24 February 1909, page 7

EXPLOSION IN A SHOP

WINDOWS BROKEN ACROSS RUNDLE-STREET. FIERCE FIRE FOLLOWS.

Shopkeepers and householders at the eastern end of Rundle-street were greatly startled at about 10 o'clock last night by a loud explosion, and wild guesses were made as to its cause. Constable J. Nation was standing on duty in front of the York Hotel, and as he ran eastward along Rundle-street he saw a shop burst into flames, and heard explosion after explosion, but none so loud as the first report. The shop was that of Mr. Willis Brown, who carries on business as an ironmonger and dealer in ammunition at the corner of Rundle and Union streets. Mr. R. E. Webb, a carrier, broke a fire alarm in Rundle-street, and the brigade was quickly on the spot. The concussion had blown out the front door of the shop, blown off portion of the roof, and damaged windows in the vicinity. Windows in Mr. S. Rosengarten's pawn-broking establishment, on the western corner of Union-street, were smashed, and across Rundle-street the thick plate-glass window of Mr. J. Wilson Moore's furniture shop, the fanlight over the shop door of Mr. G. S. Lewis, watchmaker and jeweller, and the window of Mr. M. Eberli's wine saloon, were broken. The heat there was intense.

There is a corrugated iron extension of the shop at the back, and beyond that, in Union-street, the two-storeyed residence of Mr. Brown, next to which is the large re-pair shop in charge of Mr. E. Brown, a son. The house was drenched with water, but the corrugated extension saved it from more than slight injury. The confectionery establishment of the Misses Wherry, next door in Rundle-street to Mr. Brown's shop, was also undamaged.

At the time of the explosion Mr. Brown was at the Theatre Royal with his daughter. His son was at home, and hearing the explosion, which he described as "a noise like an earthquake," he ran out and found the shop in flames. Word was immediately sent to Mr. Brown, who was so much affected by the news that he had to be hurried into a friend's house in Rundle-street. A doctor was sent for and for a time it was thought that Mr. Brown, who suffers from a weak heart, would expire. He rallied, however, and in reply to enquiries stated that £1,000 worth of goods had been in the shop. This stock included 1,000 cartridges, stored in the front of the premises, and a quantity of powder, in half-pound and quarter-pound tins, at the back. He had no theory to account for the explosion. The shop had been left securely locked at 6 o'clock that evening. Insurances had been effected with various companies. Superintendent Rickwood received the call at 10.13, and the turnout of the brigade was a smart one. As the first reel passed through the doors of the station into the street the blaze could be distinctly seen, so quickly had the conflagration spread. The brigade reached the scene of the fire 2 ¼ min. after the call, and found that the building was alight from end to end. The men set to work with five lines of hose, their main object being to save the surrounding buildings, as the shop was then hopelessly lost. The wind was blowing strongly from a south-westerly direction, and this greatly favored the efforts of the brigade, except that it endangered the Misses Wherry's shop on the eastern side, in Rundle-street. The highly inflammable nature of the contents of the shop, which included oils, hardware, paint, and ammunition, was responsible for the loss of the building, but at about 10.45 danger had passed. Some of the men were struck by flying missiles, probably exploding cartridges, but with the exception of bruises were uninjured. The brick walls of the building still stood firm, but the place was completely gutted. The police, under Sergeant Hill, rendered good service in keeping the crowd back, and thus giving the brigade a free hand. Owing to the night being wet there were few persons in that part of Rundle-street at the time of the explosion, and nobody was near enough to the shop to be in danger of injury from the concussion or the falling door.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Wednesday 24 February 1909, page 5

A CITY EXPLOSION.

AMMUNITION SHOP DEMOLISHED. EXCITEMENT IN RUNDLE STREET.

Residents in the east end of Rundle street were startled on Tuesday night by a loud explosion, and in a trice hundreds of people had gathered opposite to Mr. Willis Brown's shop, at the corner of Rundle and Union streets. The premises were wrapped in flames, and the glare was plainly discernible for miles around. Those who were early on the scene, described the fire as "one of the best" seen in Adelaide for many a day, but they were regarding it purely from the spectacular point of view. Mr. Brown's occupation may be shortly put down as "gunsmith and house decorator," but his calling extends over a far wider field than that description implies. His shop, which had only one story, contained a miscellaneous stock-in-trade, including guns, ammunition, ironmongery, paints, spirits, and even a little jewellery, the whole of which was completely destroyed.

—The Explosion.—

The alarm was given by Mr. R. E. Webb, a carrier, but he will not be able to brand himself a Sherlock Holmes for discovering the fire. It was simply a case of who got to the alarm post first. The outbreak was proclaimed far and wide soon after 10 o'clock by an explosion almost loud enough to wake the dead. A lady residing several hundred yards away remarked to a representative of The Register that it sounded as though half the street had been distributed in the atmosphere. That the explosion had some force behind it was proved by the fact that the greater portion of Mr. Brown's roof and the front of the shop were blown clean away. Moreover, an odd cartridge or two and a heavy can were shot across the road, and entered Mr. U. Eberli's wine depot opposite. A gaping hole in the latter's front window told an eloquent story.

—Damage and Insurances. —

While his goods and chattels were being blown to the four winds or consumed by the raging fire Mr. Willis Brown was enjoying the performance at the Theatre Royal. A message was sent to him at once, but the news almost prostrated him, and he sought a comfortable resting place in a friend's house. The police and fire brigade officials were naturally anxious to find him to complete their official reports, but it was left to the reporter to discover his whereabouts. Mr. Brown explained that his heart was weak, and the shock had unnerved him, but he consented to answer a few questions. He valued the stock, the whole of which was destroyed, at about £1,000, but this was covered by insurance policies with different companies. He estimated that there were about 1,000 rounds of cartridges in the front of the shop, and a fair quantity of powder in quarter-pound and half-pound tins in the rear. When work was finished at 6 o'clock on Tuesday night everything was in perfect order, and he could not give any surmise as to the cause of the explosion.

—Good Work by the Brigade.—

The Metropolitan Fire Brigade received Mr. Webb's alarm at 13 minutes past 10. and Superintendent Rickwood, with commendable promptitude, turned out five appliances from the head station. The moment the men got out of doors they discerned the blaze and, after a smart run to the scene, they put five lines of hose on the burning building. However, Mr. Brown's shop had been practically razed in the first minute or two, and the firemen devoted their attention to saving the adjoining premises. The kitchen in Mr. Brown's house behind the shop was slightly damaged, but otherwise the fire was not allowed to spread. In 20 minutes' time all the danger was over. Mr. Brown's son had bundled a large amount of furniture on to the opposite footpath in Union street, but it was all returned to the house by midnight. The firemen deserve the greatest credit for the smart and thorough manner in which they worked, and the occupants of the neighbouring premises, particularly on the eastern side, owe them a debt of gratitude. Their task was rendered all the more uncomfortable by frequent minor explosions of cartridges.

— The Police.—

No fire scene is complete without an army of police, whose office it is to keep the crowd from interfering with the work of the brigade. On Tuesday evening the force was well represented, and the older members, who know their duty and its limits— were as courteous and withal as firm as ever. But one or two of the "babies" of the force showed that they need a little more education.

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Thursday 25 February 1909, page 8

GENERAL NEWS

THE RUNDLE-STREET FIRE.

Mr. Willis Brown, the owner of the shop at the corner of Rundle and Union streets, which was gutted on Tuesday night by a fire following an explosion, is confined to his bed suffering from a weakness of the heart. His medical adviser, Dr. Fields, will not permit his patient to discuss matters connected with the fire until to-day, so that it is not known to what extent the shop and the stock were insured.

Mr. C. Roberts, proprietor of a wine saloon, on the opposite side of Rundle street, found on Wednesday morning a large number of small brass cartridge cases inside the shop. They had evidently entered after the window had been broken by the concussion of the explosion.

The Superintendent of the Fire Brigades (Mr. Rickwood) holds the opinion that the cause of the fire may have been a vapor explosion. A large number of people visited the scene of the fire during Wednesday.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Thursday 25 February 1909, page 1

TUESDAY NIGHT'S FIRE.

Mr. Willis Brown, the proprietor of the shop at the corner of Rundle and Unions streets, which on Tuesday night was gutted by fire following an explosion, has now re-covered from the shock he received, on hearing the news.

Narracoorte Herald (SA : 1875 - 1954), Friday 26 February 1909, page 3

Fire in Adelaide.

About 10 o'clock on Tuesday night the shop of Mr Willis Brown, who carries on business as a ironmonger and dealer in ammunition in Rundle-street, Adelaide burst into flames, and there were repeated explosions which did damage to adjoining premises. The brigade was quickly on the scene, and prevented the fire from spreading. The shop was completely destroyed. The stock was valued at £1,000.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 27 February 1909, page 31



THE FIRE IN RUNDLE STREET EAST ON TUESDAY NIGHT : RUINS OF MR. WILLIS BROWN'S SHOP.

H. Krischock, photo.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Tuesday 2 March 1909, page 6

MOTOR FIRE ENGINE.

In the annual report of the Fire Brigades' Board for 1908, published in The Register recently, it was mentioned that the board had decided to purchase a petrol motor fire engine, to be stationed in Adelaide. The appliance, which, is fitted with a powerful pump, will be of great service also to Port Adelaide and the suburbs, owing to its quick travelling capacity, the expedition with which it can be put into action, and the readiness with which a number of men and a large quantity of hose can reach the scene of the fire. Sydney and Melbourne already have up-to-date petrol engines. The South Australian apparatus is known as the Hatfield petrol motor engine, and can pump 350 to 400 gallons a minute. It has been ordered from Messrs. Merry-weather & Sons, of London. Sydney and Melbourne each possess two machines of this kind, but of larger size. They can turn out instantly, and travel at a speed of 30 miles an hour on the level, while gradients of 1 in 6 can be, readily negotiated with a full load. A special feature of the pump is its capability for working from a deep lift, and water can be drawn from a depth of 27 ft. in a few seconds without priming devices. The new fire-fighting appliance will be shipped from London as soon as possible, and is expected to reach Adelaide at the latter end of June or the beginning of July next.

Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931), Saturday 22 May 1909, page 28

LIQUID AIR TO FIGHT FIRES.

A liquid air apparatus is the latest innovation in the fire brigade methods, being used for the purpose of getting at the seat of the fire in the case of a very smoky out-break. The liquid air is contained in a kind of knapsack strapped on the back, and the fireman carrying it has an apparatus over his head, mouth, and nostrils, receiving his supply of oxygen from the knapsack. He has a belt round his body with a rope attached, and gives signals by means of this to his comrades outside, indicating whether he has found the fire.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Thursday 1 July 1909, page 5

FIRE BRIGADE CINEMATOGRAPHED.

The Spencer's Theatrescope Company is showing considerable enterprise in securing local cinematographic views. It is a refreshing feature of these picture shows to have films of immediate interest, and in this respect the company at the Tivoli Theatre is seizing all instructive opportunities. The series illustrating "Fair Adelaide" and suburbs has exceptional merit. The tour is from North Adelaide to the Supreme Court, thence to Norwood and Kensington, returning to Grenfell street and along North terrace. The light is splendid, and the detail marvellously clear. Altogether the picture is exceedingly well managed. On Wednesday evening "Fighting the Flames" was shown. It depicted with fine accuracy and expression the work of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. Adelaideans were able to see their own brigade grappling with the problem of a burning building, and the applause which followed the presentation of the film was well merited. Nothing but praise can be said of it. The Company has shown that they can not only show pictures, but can take them also. The view embraced the training work of the brigade, and pictorially explained how the men keep themselves fit and equipped for their duties. The engines and machines stand out conspicuously. The rescue work from a burning building is well depicted, and so is the use of the smoke jackets. The hose and engine drill serves to emphasize the completeness of the educational policy in the school conducted by Superintendent Rickwood. Men are to be seen climbing the sky pointing ladders with extraordinary ease and speed, and probably many will be surprised—although they should not be— at the general air of efficiency displayed at Wakefield street. Fireman Prime exhibits Sandow stamina by lifting 425 lb., made up by a huge bar supporting several men. Then he is shown supporting a weight of 528 lb., constituted in a similar manner. The best feature of a really fine film is the turnout and the gallop along the city thoroughfares. All the sensational dash and vim are in the picture, which everybody should certainly see.

Fighting the Fire, a film produced by the Spencer's Theatrescope Company in 1909





Scenes from the film "Fighting the Flames", Footage of the Adelaide Metropolitan Fire Brigade in 1909 featuring rescue and resuscitation demonstrations by firefighters.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 12 July 1909, page 4

A FIRE ALARM.

In consequence of the accidental upsetting of a kerosine lamp the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was summoned to Turner's baker shop, in Rundle-street, on Saturday evening. The services of the firemen were not required, however, the flames having been extinguished before their arrival on the scene.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Monday 18 October 1909, page 6

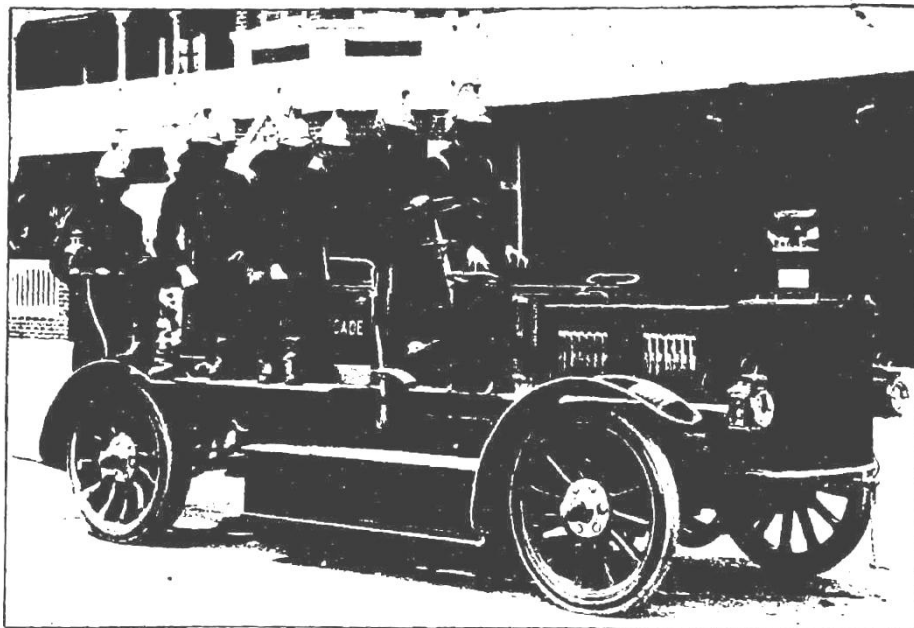
MOTOR FIRE ENGINE.

Adelaide is the latest Australian city to adopt self-propelled fire apparatus, and is about to receive delivery of a powerful petrol motor fire engine, which has been built by Messrs. Merryweather & Sons, of London. It is what is known as the Hatfield pattern, and is driven by a four-cylinder 50-h.p. petrol engine, which is specially adapted for operating the pump. The power is transferred from the road wheels to the pump shaft by simply moving a lever. The pumping capacity of the machine is 350 to 500 a minute, and it can turn out instantly and travel at a speed of 30 miles an hour on the level. Similar engines have been in service, in Sydney and Melbourne for some considerable time with most satisfactory results. Superintendent Webb (Chief of the Sydney Fire Brigade) states that they do not intend to add to their horsed equipment, but that motors will gradually be substituted until the entire fleet is mechanically propelled.



State Library of South Australia - Fire Brigade Engine [B 10306]. Fire Brigade engine, 5th November 1909. Part of Acre 342 Collection

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 20 November 1909, page 29



NEW MOTOR ENGINE RECENTLY ADDED TO THE PLANT OF THE METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE, ADELAIDE.

NEW MOTOR ENGINE RECENTLY ADDED TO THE PLANT OF THE METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE, ADELAIDE

Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931), Tuesday 23 November 1909, page 6

GENERAL NEWS.

A FIRE BRIGADE DEMONSTRATION.

Some years ago, when the first fire engine was added to the plant of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, a demonstration of its ability to shoot a jet of water to the height of any building then in existence in Adelaide was given. Franklin-street was the site chosen and for comparative and practical tests the engine was drawn up alongside the Post-Office tower, and it was shown that water could be directed on the face of the town clock if required, as people who were stationed in the tower for the occasion re-ported that the level reached was higher than the dial. since then much more powerful pumps have been acquired, but the public have never had an opportunity of seeing them at work. Neither have they had the pleasure of witnessing an exhibition by the brigade except on the occasion of fires. The Fire Brigade Board has therefore decided to arrange a demonstration, probably in the vicinity of Victoria-square, in about a fortnight. It will be held during the afternoon, and the full strength of the brigade will be in attendance, including the recently-imported motor fire engine. This engine will probably send a jet of water quite as high as the Post-Office tower, and the public will be furnished with practical evidence of its capabilities. An interesting exhibition is promised, and Victoria-square will be selected because it is near the head station, so that in the event of a call out the brigade will lose no time in getting away to the scene of the fire.

Express and Telegraph (Adelaide, SA : 1867 - 1922), Monday 29 November 1909, page 4

FALSE ALARM OF FIRE.

About 2.20 p.m. on Monday the Metropolitan Fire Brigade received a call from Hindley-street, where the front portion of Messrs. L. Conrad's premises were sup-posed to be alight. The brigade lost little time in getting to the scene, but fortunately found there was no fire. It is not known who gave the alarm.

Register (Adelaide, SA : 1901 - 1929), Saturday 11 December 1909, page 15

FIREMEN'S DEMONSTRATION.

FINE SPECTACLE. LARGE AND TROUBLESOME CROWD.

There is nothing so electrifying as the dashing of the fine chestnuts, bays, or greys of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, with the reels or rumbling engines, along the chief street of the city to the accompaniment of the firemen's warning cries and the note of alarm from bystanders. Who has not been thrilled by the sight of the fine animals at full stretch and the rocking vehicles flying along a rapidly clearing street? Who has not been awed by the grandeur of it? An answer to such a question was given on Friday afternoon, when over 5,000 people assembled at Victoria square to witness the rare spectacle of Adelaide's famous firefighters in full strength acting under service conditions. The excitement which prevailed had to be witnessed to be fully appreciated. Not since the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of York has such enthusiasm gripped people. As the hands of the town clock approached 3.30, the appointed time for the turning out of Adelaide's firefighters, people moved about expectantly. As the clock bells chimed the half-hour there was a sound of breaking glass, and Superintendent Rickwood had sent the message for his men. Almost immediately there was a cry "Here they come," and one minute and twenty seconds after the alarm had been given the motor engine pulled up on the western side of Victoria square, quickly followed by two reels, two steam fire engines and two ladders. North Adelaide reel, under Foreman Oldham, was on the scene in 6m. 42s.; Unley, under Foreman Luck, in 7m. 10s.; and Norwood, under Foreman Bland, which had a longer distance to come, in 9m. 14s. Remarkably good time, considering that the men were not allowed to prepare in any measure for the turnout, but worked under ordinary service conditions.

—Interesting Work by the Brigade.—

The crowd was not only large, it was unruly, and the police, who were short-handed, were practically helpless. A narrow line was made for the gallop past, and the manner in which the drivers guided their animals through was little short of marvelous. The motor headed the line with a continuously ringing bell, but it was the horsework which commanded attention and

admiration. The heaviest steam engine was, by order, taken through at only a trot, for fear of accident to the pressing throng. The inspection of appliances by bodies which contribute to the maintenance of the brigades was impossible, because the spectators jostled one another around the machines in such great number. The hoserunning lost most of its effectiveness because the firemen were separated and hampered by the eager onlookers, and the ladder work was not seen quite at its best for the same reason. At a fire the Superintendent of the Brigade would have taken greater risk with the crowd ; but this being only a spectacular demonstration, public safety was put before anything else. Rescues were made, to the accompaniment of cheers, by means of the light ladder from the first floor of the National Mutual Life Association building, and men were lowered in a sling by means of the heavy ladder from the second floor, after pretty and clever work by the firemen. Owing to poor water pressure— it was only 20lb. to the square inch instead of 70 lb., because, owing to work that was going on, Happy Valley Reservoir pressure was cut off— the display with hoses gave no idea of what the firemen could do, but it nevertheless made a bigger contrast when the engines got to work. The concentration of water as for large fires was a sight worth witnessing. Many of those present found it necessary to stand a long way off to view the sight in comfort. Warning was given, but the curious crowd would not budge until the engines began to send into the air from four one-inch nozzles streams of water, which after reaching a height of about 60 ft. fell in torrents on the venturesome ones, who scattered like chaff before the wind. Ladies in light dresses were drenched almost before they had moved; men rushed away with sodden hats and clothes. The only people who were not perturbed were the boys, who continually ran into the falling water and courted a wetting. A fine spectacular exhibition was given by two lines sending from the top of the building jets of water from 1 1/8-in. nozzles to a height of 100 ft. from the ground. The demonstration was concluded by the motor fire engines pumping water from a 1 1/4-in. nozzle to a height of about 60 ft. The engines could not work for long as the large 12 ft. x 12 ft. reservoir, although fed by three lines, was quickly pumped dry. With a proper pressure that would not have happened. Every man, knew his part perfectly, and the superintendent and firemen were commended for their performance.

—Retrospective.—

No one appears to have considered it worth while to write the early history of the means taken to secure protection against fire in Adelaide. What little can be gleaned points to the probability that prior to 1860 there was little definitely organized firefighting in the capital of the State. The police had a manual engine at that time, and several of the insurance companies controlled volunteer fire brigades whose chief object was to gain all the credit possible for their different divisions, even if co-operation were absolutely essential. In 1860 a movement in the right direction was made by the suggestion of the appointment of Mr. Arthur John Baker as the first Superintendent of Adelaide and Port Adelaide Fire Brigades. The condition of affairs may be gauged by a paragraph in The Register of May 8, 1860, which stated:—"We are glad to find that the various insurance companies have at length so far combined as to place the whole of their fire brigades and fire engines under a general system of management. They have selected as their surveyor and superintendent Mr. A. J. Baker, whose duty it will now be to make himself acquainted as far as possible with the construction of the various buildings throughout the city. On an alarm of fire he will proceed at once to the spot, and direct the operations of all the brigades and engines, which have too often heretofore, from active rivalry, stood rather in each others' way than united for the preservation of property. Arrangements are in progress for the placing of the police engine also under Mr. Baker's care, in which case the policemen will be at liberty to act in their proper capacity instead of being drawn, as they have formerly, to perform the duties of firemen." In 1862 an Act was passed giving the Governor power to appoint a superintendent of fire brigades, as the insurance companies had agreed to form volunteer brigades and pay the salary of a superintendent, and on November 5 of that year Mr. Baker received his appointment, which he held for a number of years with great credit to himself. The present Fire Brigades' Board was not appointed until December 6. 1882, by the passing of a special Act of Parliament. Mr. H. R. Fuller was the first Chairman and Mr. A. P. Scammell the first Secretary. Mr. Richard

Moore was the first to fill the position of Superintendent. The brigades were reorganized early in 1885, when permanent men took the place of auxiliary firemen. Mr. H. C. Salter was appointed superintendent, and two stations were appointed. The head station at Flinders street was in charge of the superintendent and six men with horse and hand reels, while No. 2 station, with similar appliances, was in Morphett street near to Hindley street. There was also a station at North Adelaide, in the charge of a foreman and two firemen. Telephonic communication was supplied between the head station, the exchange, the Watch-house, No. 3 station, and North Adelaide. Local Boards were appointed in that year at a number of places in the country, and in 1886 a station was opened at Port Adelaide. In 1887 No. 2 station was abolished, and the Hindley street headquarters enlarged. Four electric fire alarms had been, on the recommendation of Sir Charles Todd, placed at various parts of the city in 1886. and these were increased in 1888 to eight in number. The first steam fire and a four-wheeled fire reel were purchased in the same year. Mr. H. C. Salter died from typhoid, and Mr. G. A. Booker was appointed superintendent on March 16, 1888. The following year, the number of the alarms was increased to 15. A telescopic ladder was also purchased. In 1891 the Adelaide Brigade adopted the name Metropolitan Fire Brigade. The headquarters now occupied by the firefighters were built in 1892, by the insurance companies, at a cost of £5,700, including the land, and the board took a lease of them for 21 years. A second steamer was purchased in 1894. Norwood Corporation erected a fire station in 1896, which was leased by the board, and a new station was provided at the Port the following year. In 1905 the large steamer, with a capacity of 750 gallons a minute, was purchased, as was also a salvaging plant. In December, 1907, Superintendent Booker, at the request of the board, resigned, and Lieut. W. G. Rickwood, R.N., the deputy superintendent was appointed to the vacancy. The highest pitch of efficiency the Metropolitan Brigade has ever reached has been achieved in the past year when a 55-h.p. motor fire engine was secured.

—Strength of the Brigades.—

There are now 85 permanent men under the control of the board, the head station having 30, Port Adelaide 18, North Adelaide, Norwood, and Unley each 4, and Glenelg 3; the rest being divided between Port Pirie, Gawler, Kapunda, Moonta, Kadina, and Port Augusta. Auxiliaries live on the premises and assist at country stations. The equipment in the city and suburban area is:— Adelaide, one motor fire engine, three steam fire engines two two-horse reels, two ladders; Unley, Norwood, and North Adelaide, each one two-horse reel and numerous other appliances. The pre-sent board comprises:— Messrs. E. Frinsdorf (Chairman, representing Adelaide Corporation), J. Sweeney (suburban councils), W. A. Paterson and J. McDowall (insurance companies), and Ponder, M.P., and F. C. Krichauff (the Government). Mr. Frinsdorf on Friday voiced the high esteem in which the present board holds the superintendent and the appreciation of the work done by the last board, which ruled in troublous times.

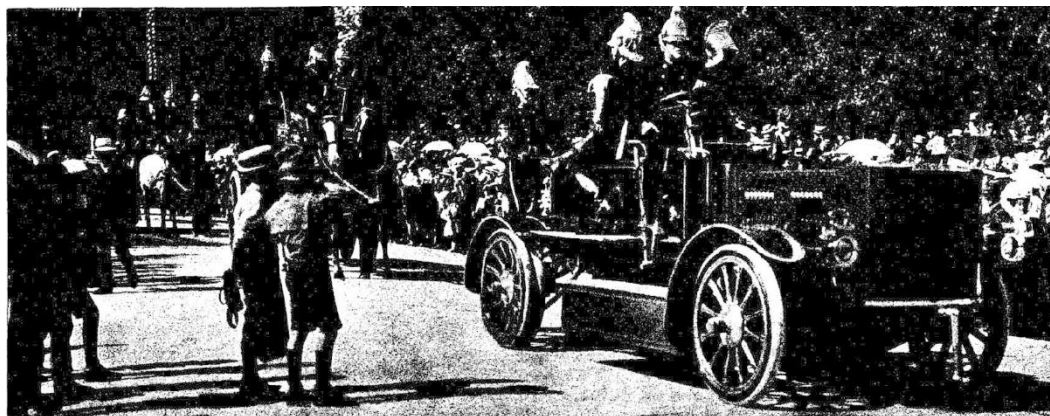
—Alterations to the Station.—

A number of alterations to the station have been decided upon by the present board. A new gymnasium 48 ft. by 39 ft. will be built, the single-story mens premises raised another story, and fitted with balcony, and a balcony will be added to the married men's building on the other side for the benefit of the children. A new house for several of the appliances has been built entirely by the men, and a block of land has been leased on the west-ern side for the 28 children who live at the station. The well-known wooden tower, which for many years has been a land-mark of the city, is showing signs of decay, and that is to be replaced by an iron one 20 ft. higher— that will be 72 ft. to the lookout platform. A new piano has been presented by the insurance companies. Not the least appreciated decision of the board this year has been that which gave the men seven days' holiday each year as well as a full day off once in every eight.

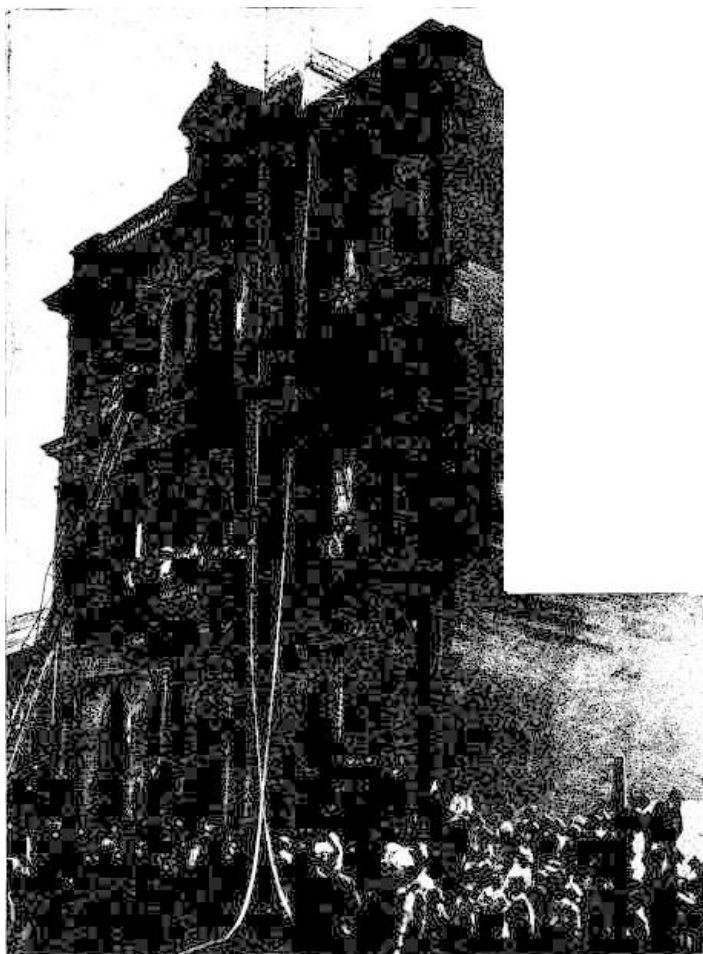
Observer (Adelaide, SA : 1905 - 1931), Saturday 25 December 1909, page 30

FIRE BRIGADE DEMONSTRATION IN VICTORIA SQUARE.

SA Country Fire Service Promotions Unit
www.fire-brigade.asn.au
23 April 2026



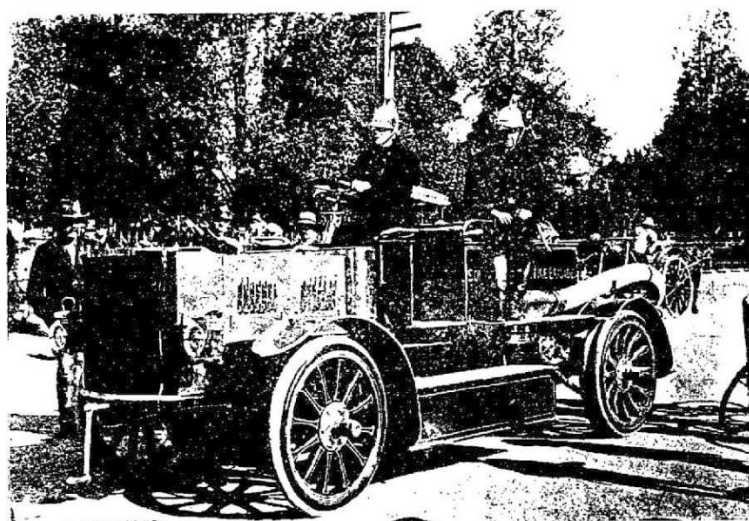
ARRIVAL OF THE MOTOR, REELS, AND ENGINES.



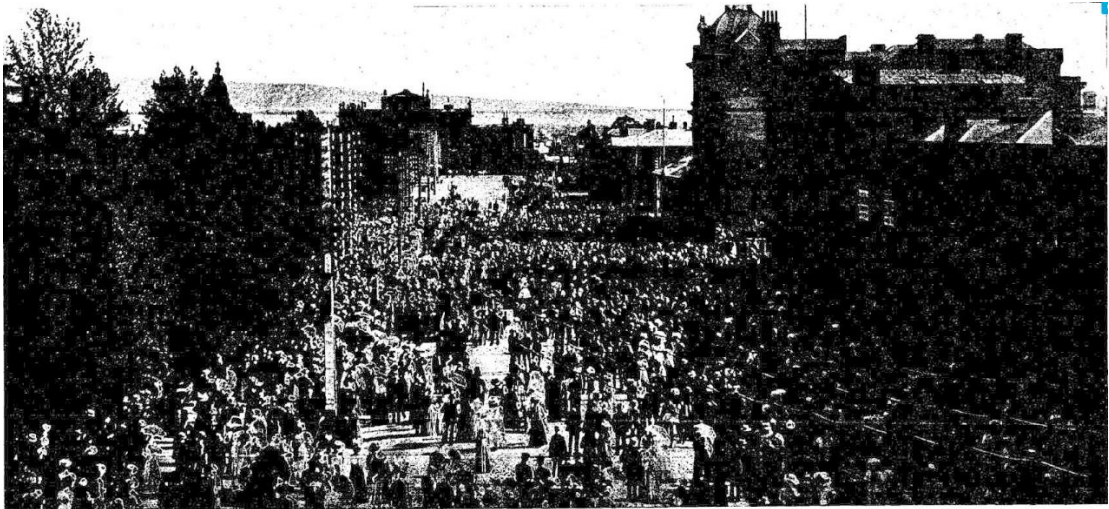
RESCUE WORK FROM UPPER STOREYS BY LADDER AND BY SLING.



THE FIREFIGHTERS AT WORK.



THE NEW MOTOR ENGINE.



THE LARGE CROWD THAT ASSEMBLED TO WITNESS THE DEMONSTRATION, AND TO SOME EXTENT IMPEDED THE OPERATIONS OF THE FIREMEN.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954), Saturday 25 December 1909, page 34

METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE DEMONSTRATION.



1. Reels arriving at Victoria-square after the alarm signal. 2. Awaiting inspection. 3. Spectators in Victoria-Square. 4. The gallop past. 5. Demonstration of Rescue Work. Photos by H. Krischock.