

Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association

President, H. A. Graff, Seward.
 First Vice President, Jacob P. Hoffman, Ord.
 Second Vice President, Harry Hauser, Fremont.
 Secretary, E. A. Miller, Kearney.
 Treasurer, H. A. Webbert, Kearney.

Board of Control: Burt Galley, Columbus, chairman; Jacob Goehring, Seward; E. W. Parkhurst, Lexington; Ray Frost, Stanton; F. B. Tobin, Sidney.

A department devoted to the interests of the volunteer firemen of the state of Nebraska.

Edited by Lloyd C. Thomas, state publicity chairman.

Account of the Convention
 On February 4 or 11 we expect to give not only a detailed report of the convention, but a write-up of Nebraska City and of the prominent men who attended. The account below is intended for the use of delegates who desire to furnish their departments with a detailed report of the proceedings. The special issue, mentioned above, will be sent to every delegate who attended the convention and to every department. Much of the following report is taken from the Nebraska Daily Press, of Nebraska City, who were furnished daily reports by your publicity chairman.

Tuesday Evening, January 19

The Thirty-Third annual convention of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association convened at 8 p. m. at the court house with President George Howe presiding. After a few remarks President Howe turned the gavel over to Charles Johnson, president of the Nebraska City Fire Department, who presided during the meeting.

The following program was then carried out:

Music—Merchants Band.

Invocation—S. H. Fields, of the Great Western Fire Company, Nebraska City.

Address of Welcome—Mayor Henry Katzenstein.

Response—George Howe, president of the Association.

Music—Merchants Band.

At the conclusion of the program the convention held a short business session.

On motion a credential committee consisting of Ed Miller, J. W. Guthrie, H. L. Boyes, Elmo Belcher and W. D. Fisher, was appointed by the president.

The convention then adjourned to 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Immediately upon adjournment of the session at the court house the delegates went to Eagle hall, where a get-together meeting was held. The entertainment consisted of acrobatic acts, speeches and an excellent lunch.

Upon leaving Eagle hall a large number of the delegates visited the Elks Fair, where they were royally entertained.

Thomas E. Jeffers of North Platte spoke on "The Improvement of Chemical Engines and Auto Trucks over other Fire Apparatus."

Wednesday Afternoon, January 20

Wednesday afternoon the session opened with a speech by Ray Frost of Stanton. The title was "Organization."

An amendment to the constitution was offered and carried. It was to the effect that no officers should be elected who had not been members of the department for three years or longer, present officers excepted.

Chief Frank Dickey of Howell brought up a question which caused a great deal of discussion. He stated that the council in their village had passed an ordinance allowing no one to join their fire department unless he had first been approved by the council and asked whether their council had a legal right to do this. He was shown that the city council has no right whatever, under the laws of Nebraska, to interfere with the department in this way and that five-year certificates should be signed by officers of the department.

Thursday Morning, January 21

The sessions for Thursday were held in the Overland theatre, which has a seating capacity of 1,000 people. The morning session convened at 9:30 o'clock. First on the program was the reading of the constitution and by-laws of the insurance department, one of the most interesting movements undertaken by an association of this kind. All volunteer firemen in the state, who are members of departments or companies which belong to the state association and are in good standing, may by the payment of one dollar become members of the insurance department of the state association and share in its benefits. In addition to the yearly dues of one dollar they are required to pay the sum of one dollar on the death of a member. Death benefits of not over five hundred dollars are to be paid to members. The present average yearly death rate of members of the state association is three per year. This would make the cost to members of the state association only three dollars per year for \$500 insurance. The proposition is to be given a thorough test during the year 1915.

L. W. Hague of Minden, chairman of the legislative committee, reported that there are four bills now introduced in the state legislature which will, if passed, be of benefit to the firemen. One of these bills changes the compensation law for injured firemen in cities of the first class to relief of not less than seven dollars and not more than fifteen dollars per week, with a maximum of one thousand dollars. In villages the minimum is fixed at \$5 and not more than \$10 per week with a total of not more than \$500. These bills are Senate Files 24 and 25, introduced by Senator Peter Wink.

Two bills which have been introduced in the house of representatives by Harris and Hostettler cover the exemption certificate proposition, amending the law now covering this proposition. The new law plainly states that all members in good standing in any volunteer fire company for five years shall be exempt from service on grand or petty juries and the payment of poll taxes in each and every county in the state. The other bill provides for the issuance of certificates of exemption, which may be signed by the chief and secretary of the fire department and the city clerk. These bills are known as House Rolls number 52 and 53.

A regulation exemption certificate was adopted by the department.

The convention approved the work of the legislative committee and recommended the passage of the bills referred to.

The report of the press committee covered the work done by Lloyd C. Thomas, state publicity chairman, during the past year, through his newspaper, The Alliance Herald. On recommendation of the committee Mr. Thomas was appointed state publicity manager during 1915, and The Herald made the official organ for the same length of time, being sent to all departments throughout the state.

Resolutions were passed on the death of members Noel O. Milburn and H. A. Schlusser of Minden and A. Meyers of York.

Thursday Afternoon, January 21

Report of the committee on chiefs' reports showed that the towns of Eustis, Hay Springs, Overton, Nebraska City, Polk, North Bend, Belden, Palisade, Hartington, Valley, Petersburg, Elm Creek and Albia north had not collected their tax from insurance companies during the last year. The state law allows cities to assess an annual occupation tax of five dollars on insurance companies doing business in the town.

Motion was made to change the date of the annual convention from January to September of each year. This was tabled. The report of the secretary showed receipts of \$1,042 and expenditures of \$709.20 during the past year, leaving a balance of \$1,759.30 in the treasury. There are now 565 members in the state association and approximately 15,000 in the state.

John Cleland of Fremont introduced a resolution endorsing and approving of the work done during the past two years by Deputy State Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell. Also a resolution urging that the fire commission department be not consolidated with the fire insurance department. The convention approved these resolutions and ordered them sent to the state legislature. Governor Morehead and that they be published in the newspapers. They are as follows:

"WHEREAS, We, the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association, in our thirty-third annual convention, at Nebraska City, in session January 21, 1915, have learned from the newspapers that the state legislature of Nebraska is considering the proposition of the consolidation of the State Insurance Commission and the Fire Commission department, and whereas we feel that this would be a detriment to the interests of the fifteen thousand volunteer firemen in the state, therefore

"BE IT RESOLVED, That we express our emphatic disapproval of the proposed consolidation of departments; that we urge no such action be taken; and that a copy of this resolution be furnished to both branches of the state legislature, to Governor Morehead and to the press.

"WHEREAS, We, the Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association, in our thirty-third annual convention, at Nebraska City, in session

January 21, 1915, desire to express to all concerned our appreciation of the good work done by our present deputy state fire commissioner, W. S. Ridgell, and whereas we feel that everyone interested, including the public at large, should know of the excellent results obtained, the almost perfect organization; the results obtained in the way of promoting the saving of property from fire; and the many other benefits received by the state as the result of the good work of Mr. Ridgell in this public office; therefore

"BE IT RESOLVED, That we desire to express to Mr. Ridgell our sincere thanks and hearty appreciation of his excellent record, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Ridgell; a copy be sent to both houses of the Nebraska legislature; a copy to Governor John H. Morehead, and that it be published in The Press."

The auditorium was crowded for the election of officers, which came next on the program. Those elected were H. A. Graff, Seward, president; Jacob Hoffman, Ord, first vice president; Harry Houser, Fremont, second vice president; E. A. Miller, Kearney, secretary; H. A. Webbert, Kearney, treasurer. Speeches were made by all of the above. Those elected on the board of control and the vote received by them is as follows: Burt Galley, Columbus, 188, chairman; Ray C. Frost, Stanton, 156; Jacob Goehring, Seward, 133; F. B. Tobin, Sidney, 129; E. W. Parkhurst, Lexington, 115. The matter of a tournament was left to the board of control.

The towns of Crawford, Superior and Lexington entered the race for the location for the 1916 convention. Petitions were read from each of these towns. Crawford was represented by Mayor McLain and the secretary of the chamber of commerce. Rev. Rundin made a speech that was applauded for a period of several minutes and was recalled to the platform after the convention had selected Crawford.

A number of gentlemen were made honorary members of the association including Mayor Katzenstein of Nebraska City and C. J. Andersen of the Andersen Company of Omaha, who furnish fire department equipment and who sell the Anderson fire truck. Mr. Andersen has attended the conventions for years and he is not only popular with the firemen but his company sells a large portion of the fire department equipment throughout the state.

Banquet Thursday Night

The crowning event of the convention, from the social point of view, was the banquet served Thursday night at Eagle Hall by the hard-working members of the Woman's Guild of St. Mary's Episcopal church. Great preparations had been made for the meal and even adverse weather conditions which made the assembling of supplies a hard task did not mar the completeness of detail which marked what is probably the best banquet ever served in Nebraska City.

Decorations for the hall, placed by the committee earlier in the week, were augmented by the vases of carnations and roses placed on the tables which were arranged in five long rows on the main floor, a table for the speakers and officers of the

association on the stage, and numerous other tables in the gallery. The waiting service was recruited from the members of the Guild, in uniform.

The banquet began at about 8 o'clock, the delegates and their friends who were provided with tickets having assembled at the Grand hotel at 7:30 o'clock, from which place they marched to the hall. It is a credit to the delegates who made up the convention to say that there were very few missing from the procession which marched to the hall from the hotel. A few who were unable to be at the appointed place on time arrived soon after the others had been seated and were shown their places.

The menu, as prepared by the ladies of the church follows:

- Oyster Cocktail
- Pickles Celery Olives
- Sweetbread Patties
- Stuffed Young Turkey — Cranberry Sauce
- Mashed Potatoes
- Green Peas in Cases
- White Bread Vienna Rolls
- Rye Bread
- Salted Wafers
- Cold Boiled Ham—Cold Tongue
- Potato Salad Mayonnaise
- Brick Ice Cream Assorted Cakes
- Fruits Coffee Mints
- Home Made Cider
- Cigars

After the completion of the banquet proper the following toast list was carried out, with the exception of Governor Morehead and John Mattes, Jr., who could not arrive on account of bad weather:

C. M. Aldrich—Toastmaster.
 After One-Third of a Century—J. G. Cleland, Fremont.

Fire—N. C. Abbott, Nebraska City.
 The Volunteer Fireman and Insurance Rates—J. W. Guthrie, Alliance.

World Powers—Judge Jas. T. Begley, Papillion.
 Fire Laddies—Dr. S. P. Cresap, Nebraska City.

Impromptu talks were made by members of the state association, including members of the local department. Another very interesting feature of the banquet, and a surprising one for the recipients, was the presentation of gifts to retiring officers of the association, including a fine gold watch to George Howe, retiring president; a gold knife to Secretary Miller; and gold handled umbrellas to J. G. Cleland and John Wilson, trusted and tried veterans of the state organization. A number of other gifts were handed out to members of the association during the day and evening, a collection having been taken at the morning session of the convention for that purpose.

More News in Special

Portions of the speeches made at the convention, as well as other interesting news, will be published in the special edition spoken of in the first portion of this write-up.

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KIRBY COAL

direct from the mines. This is not lignite. It is as good as any Colorado coal and sells for much less. Also agents for celebrated Carney coal

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Lump	\$7.75	\$5.75
Egg	6.75	5.50

We thoroughly screen all our coal before sending it out.

Alliance Creamery Co. Phone 545

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Good Printing

requires nice judgment in the matter of display, ornamentation, margin, and color schemes. Good printing for the blacksmith wouldn't do for the milliner.

Good Printing

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The Herald

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OLD HICKORY CHIPS

If some men had never been born, some others might have to work for a living.

Chicago may have a mayoress, some day. "By the way, what is the feminine form of 'carter'?"

The weather man is to be congratulated on keeping an unusually fine set of resolutions.

At least one phase of foreign trade seems to have resolved itself into "all cry and no wool".

A grape-juice dinner maketh glad the heart of the paragrapher, but it cutteth no figure in the divorce courts.

We may not have as many long-range torpedoes as we should, but when it comes to long-range strategists the country is almost overstocked.

South Carolina has but a few more days of Cole Blease and then it will lose its place in the spotlight—which will be a great relief.

Next year gets off on the wrong foot, beginning on Friday. However, 1914 began on Thursday and what good did it do?

Uncle Sam is entirely too big to have Mexican hairless dogs of war. An outfit of war mastiffs would be more becoming.

☞ The producer and the consumer hold daily heart to heart talks through these columns.
 ☞ There is no fictitious value as an obstacle to a business transaction through the want ads.
 ☞ You cannot afford to miss the chances thrown at your feet on this page, Mr. Careful Buyer.



BLACK AND WHITE FROCK.

Frock of white satin, veiled with plaited black net, spungled with jet Ruffles of net finish neck and bottom of skirt. Girdle of black velvet with garniture of pink roses.

Get the

Kelly With His Almost Human Pets

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