

## State Firemen's Convention, 1910

08/09/10 1671 W - + 13 - 8

*News & Observer, July 24, 1910*

### RALEIGH FIREMEN LEAVE

#### ON TO NEW BERN TO ENTER THE RACES OF THE TOURNAMENT

To enter the races of the State Firemen's Tournament, which is to be held in New Bern from Tuesday till Friday of this week, the Capital Hose boys left early this morning. The Rescue boys will go tomorrow and Chief Lumsden will leave during the day today. The Hook and Ladder Company will be represented by delegates only. Driving the Rescue wagon will be the renowned "Pete" Hinnant, while "Bud" Poole will look after the Capital Hose's interests in the races.

The Capital Hose's delegates to the convention are: Messrs. C. D. Arthur and James F. Jordan; the Rescue's, Messrs. W. A. and C. B. Park.

All of the Raleigh contestants are confident of winning some of the prizes.

--

*News & Observer, July 27, 1910*

### CAPT. M' NEILL IS AGAIN PRESIDENT

Honored by State Firemen for 17th Time

#### MEET NEXT IN CHARLOTTE

The Association Held its Meeting Yesterday in the New Masonic Opera House and Was Largely Attended--Address of Welcome by Mr. S. M. Brinson--Chief Bernard, of Asheville Responds--The Officers Elected--Races Start Today

BY E. E. BRITTON

New Bern, July 26. The State Firemen's Association is here in force, for when it was called to order by Chief Bernard, of Asheville, at 12:30, President James D. McNeill being detained in the bi-centennial parade with Secretary John L. Miller, of Concord, and Treasurer R. C. Taylor, of Winston, in their positions, there were representatives present from seventy-six of the one hundred companies in the association, some three hundred delegates in all with many more expected for the races, which begin tomorrow, and which last through Friday.

The sessions were held in the new Masonic opera house and the invocation was made by Dr. C. L. Greaves, pastor of the First Baptist church of New Bern, after which a most charming address of welcome was made by Mr. S. M. Brinson, of New Bern, who was introduced by Mr. E. F. Richardson, chief of the New Bern Fire Department, who did this most cleverly.

Following the roll call the credentials committee was appointed, this consisting of Chief Schnibben, of Wilmington; Chief Turner, of High Point; Chief Brown, of Salisbury; and Chief King, of Goldsboro.

The afternoon session was called to order by President McNeill and following the adoption of the report of the credentials committee, the dues of the companies were called for and collected.

The next business entered into was the read of the reports of the officers, which showed that the organization is not only in a splendid condition, but that the membership is greatly on the increase and that interest in growing, the finances being in a most excellent condition.

President McNeill's sixteenth annual report was brief, and optimistic, making no recommendations of importance for the reason that the good shape in which the association finds itself leaves none to be made beyond the suggestion that a special committee be named to formulate a set of rules governing the various local boards in their disbursement of the relief funds. It was heard with a great deal of interest.

The reports of the secretary and Treasurer showed the affairs of the order in detail. The report of Treasurer Taylor was taken up and of order

as he had to leave the city, being called to Winston to illness in his family. The election of officers and the selection of the place of the next meeting was deferred to the next session.

There was much talk during the day of the next place of meeting, there being a number of places seeking it, with Charlotte in the lead, the meeting to be held on the 20th of next May.

The night session of the State Firemen's Association began late, as the firemen "took in" the bi-centennial pageant parade. The association first took up the matter of the Firemen's Relief benefit insurance and discussed it for some time, the matter finally going over and being left to the same committee that has had it in charge for the past year.

At 11:20 tonight Capt. James D. McNeill, of Fayetteville, was for the seventeenth time elected President of the State Fireman's Association, in nomination against him was Chief S. G. Bernard, of Asheville, and the vote resulted: McNeill 102, Bernad 43. Each made excellent speeches and were loudly applauded.

Captain McNeill declared that opposition is healthy, and if the vote had been close he would not have accepted the election, but that he complimented the men voting against him.

--

*News & Observer, July 28, 1910*

#### STATE FIREMEN IN ANNUAL PARADE

#### A Storm Breaks Up the Racing Contest

#### THE TAR HEEL GERMANS

They Perfect an Organization and Are Royally Entertained by Hon. James A. Bryan--Award of Prizes in Historical Pageant

BY EDWARD E. BRITTON

New Bern, July 27. The first break in New Bern's week of elaborate celebration of the bi-centennial of its found came this afternoon when a heavy rain storm, with lightning and thunder accompaniment, drove the great crowd from the grand stand and about the course where the Firemen's races were scheduled to begin. The day in its early hours had been sultry and close, and just at 2:30 o' clock when the horse hose wagon race was on, the storm broke, coming on with a rush.

In the grand stand there were some five thousand people with other thousands about the course or on the way to it, the crowd having materially increased today. For a while some bravely held out and hoped against hope, the heavy rain finally driving the crowd away, places in the neighborhood sheltering many, while some with umbrellas and some without were well-drenched homeward bound.

Many young ladies went hurrying home, taking the rain in merriment, their white dresses wet as under shower bath. Some few decorations were blown down.

The firemen finally gave up the attempt to race and the contests were called off until 10 Thursday morning, the reel contests to come in the afternoon. Also because of the storm, the boat races had to be called off and thousands of visitors spent the afternoon in storms, at boarding houses and hotels, meeting old friends and making new, while as the downpour grew lighter towards 5 o' clock, the streets were again thronged.

At night with fair weather again came the colonial ball at the courthouse, the costumes being beautiful and elaborate.

Friday there will be boat races, various contests of the firemen in reel and hose wagon races, and at night the final event of the bi-centennial historical tableau given on platforms on Neuse river, followed by animated parade of water craft and fire works on the water.

The State firemen's parade was the event this morning and thousands crowded the streets to witness the beautiful event, there being many lovely floats, exquisite in color scheme. Great numbers of lovely young women took part. In the parade there was one accident in which the lives of many young laddies were endangered, though but few were hurt, the injuries amounting to hurt fingers and bruises. The accident happened to the float of the Button Fire Company, New Bern No. 1, the pyramid crowded with young women, striking against the limb of a tree, and being overturned, throwing the young women to the ground. There was considerable excitement and screaming, with but few scratches and injuries.

The Third Regiment Band of Raleigh, rendered splendid music at the head of the procession, as it passed through many streets of the city, the Fort Caswell band and one other rendering march music also. In charge of the parade was Chief Marshal T. D. Carraway, and leading it was a squad of police, eight or ten towns of the state being represented here by their "finest." Fire Chief E. F. Richardson and Assistant Fire Chief George Harrington, of New Bern, came next in a decorated buggy, this followed by a carriage in which were Mayor McCarthy, President J. D. McNeill, of the Firemen' s Association; Vice-President Barnard of Asheville, and Statistician M. S. Davis, of Louisburg, with other carriages following.

In the line parade next came the companies: Asheville, No. 3; Capital Hose of Raleigh and Rescue, Raleigh, whose fine horse caused much comment. Then came Chapel Hill, South Side, of Salisbury; Caswell, of Kinston; North Side, of High Point; Winston-Salem, Sanford Hose; Salisbury, Spencer and Statesville, all with apparatus and making a fine show.

A carnival band came next, and in the parade was the pretty turn-out of Miss Eula Cole, with her friend, Miss Ruth Waston. The local companies came last, first of these the Atlantic Juniors, small boys of New Bern, in white suits pulling a little hose reel draped in pink and white, sitting on the reel being sweet little Miss Genon Thomas. Next the Atlantic hose reel in company colors of pink and white, the horse hose wagon, the Atlantic Engine, all decorated, and then the Atlantic float, beautiful in design in pink and white beautiful maidens of New Bern.

In pink and white adding in pyramid to the beauty, New Bern No. 1 came next led by Mrs. U. A. Underwood in her handsome turn-out decorated in the company' s blue and white. Following came the horse hose wagon, the " Button" engine, on top of it being the words " Worlds' Record. 2:03 1-2." Its beautiful float came next, decorated in blue and white, love New Bern girls adding to its beauty. Last of all came the Fourth Ward Volunteers, recently organized, the members in attractive uniforms, with horse and wagon, this closing the most attractive parade. No engine contest followed the parade, as there were no engines here to enter.

[ Remainder of article describes a meeting of German-Americans, organizing a branch of the National German Alliance, and their being entertained at a " stately home," and other bi-centennial activities. ]

---

Name: (real name  
preferred)  
E-mail: (optional)  
Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

**What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?**

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

**Small print:** All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.