

Zion City's First Fire Station.



READY TO FIGHT FIRES

Splendid Fire Apparatus Installed at
Zion City Fire and Police
Station.

NUCLEUS OF A PAID BRIGADE

Horses and Men Will Be Ready for Service
Night and Day - Fire Alarm System
to Be Installed Eventually.

The Zion City Fire and Police Station, on Elijah avenue, nearer Twenty-seventh street, has been finished, and the city is now splendidly equipped for almost any emergency in fire-fighting.

The building, which is only temporary, is built not for architectural beauty—although not displeasing to the eye — but for service.

It is two stories high, with a tall look-out tower.

On the lower floor stands the brand-new chemical engine and hose-truck, with its supply wagon. At the sides of it in front are the stalls for the horses which will be in readiness day and night to draw this little

wonder fire-fighter to any fire on the city site.

Behind the stalls on the south side of the station are the cells for the confinement of those who come in from the out-side and offend the peace and dignity of the state of Illinois and of the City of Zion. A corresponding room on the north side will be used for the storage of hay, grain and other supplies.

On the second floor will be the bedrooms of the chief engineer of the fire department and his two helpers, who are the nucleus of the regular paid fire brigade of the City of Zion. A stairway affords a means of going upstairs, but when the men are in a hurry to come down to go to a fire, polished brass poles extending through large ports in the second floor will be the means of their sliding descent.

The fire department, for the present, will be mostly volunteer, but will be thoroughly organized and, best of all perfectly obedient to authority.

A good-sized room in the southeast corner of the second floor will be fitted up as the police courtroom of the City of Zion, where Police Magistrate Lamond will sit in judgement upon the offenders who may be brought before him.

In the tower, which looks out over the entire city, a sentry will be watching over the city, day and night, to give the alarm as quickly as any fire shows its warning plume of smoke. It is expected that this method will ere long give way however, to a complete fire alarm telegraph system.

The fire apparatus for this station was installed last Wednesday. It consists of a combination hose truck and chemical engine and chemical supply wagon. In addition to this, almost every building of importance in Zion City has its own little chemical engine, besides a large number of fire pails, liquid and dry-powder extinguishers and other appliances for fighting the fire-friend.

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NEWS OF ZION CITY

Zion City's First Fire Station.

AMONG THE NEW buildings which are going up at Zion City, is the headquarters of the Fire and Police Departments, on Elijah Avenue between twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth Streets.

Zion City Fire Department is already equipped with a splendid chemical engine and when this station is complete will have team of horses constantly ready to haul it to the scene of any possible conflagrations.

Provisions will also be made in the station for the horses of the police Department.

The police magistrate of Zion City will have his court in this building, and there will also be some few cells for the accommodation of any offenders from without who may come across the borders of Zion city and attempt to disturb the peace.

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(Names of the first horses were Paul and Silas.)

Items of Local Interest

On Saturday afternoon, at 5:30 o'clock, occurred the test of the new fire apparatus just installed in the headquarters on Elijah avenue. A large part of Zion City population was present. A structure of boards had been erected about fourteen feet high on three sides. Into this was pile miscellaneous inflammable material. The General Overseer was due to arrive at 5:30, so it was decided to give the trial on his arrival. The fire was started and the signal given to the firemen in the engine house. The run was made in good time, the apparatus worked well, and the fire was quickly extinguished. No kerosine was used in this test, the wood actually being on fire. The test was in every way satisfactory. The combination truck and chemical will afford needed fire protection. A.C.C.

Zion Banner Tuesday June 3, 1902 p 24

Fire horses being trained.

Big Gray Team Which Will Haul the Fire Apparatus Now Installed.

The members of the Zion City fire department are now installed in their new headquarters on Elijah Avenue.

On the first floor is the new combination hook and ladder and chemical engine, on each side of which is a box stall, containing two very important and useful members of the department, viz., the big gray team that will respond to the alarms of fire, day and night.

This team is especially adapted to this service. Driver Henry Sine is rapidly training them to obey the gong and to jump into their places under the drop-harness at the first signal.

Upstairs are the sleeping quarters of the men, and one large room which is to serve for the use of police magistrate.

Another stairway leads from this floor to the observatory of the top of the tower, from which point the whole city is constantly under the eye of the tower man.

There will not be a moment, day or night, but what will find a watchful eye in this tower.

From here down to the first floor is a circular opening cut through each floor through which runs a brass rod which will be used by the firemen in reaching the apparatus.

It may be that another horse will be added to the team, in which case they will work three abreast.

As before mentioned the preliminary test of the apparatus was very satisfactory. C.

The Zion Banner Zion City, Illinois June 13th, 1902.

FIRE DRILL SHOWS QUICK WORK

The Department Uses New Hose-cart, Helmets and Carts for First Time.

"Clang! Clang!"

The new hose-cart, with a thousand feet of hose, the hook-and-ladder truck galloping after, heads out

Zion City's First Fire Station.

all along the line, and crowds following, full of excitement and interest, and in less time than it takes to read it, ladders up, and the fire-laddies, with hose streaming, were at the top of the east wing of Elijah Hospice.

The ladders were quickly lowered and placed against the engine-house, and a powerful stream played upon the roof.

After this excellent practice the department retired, having "broken in" their new helmets, coats and hose.

The members of the fire department have frequent drills and trial runs to various large buildings in the city.

The above typical drill took place Saturday afternoon.

K.

Zion Banner Friday January 23, 1903

