Fire Department In Rapid Growth

The fire department of Birmingham today with its 15 paid men, its 21 volunteers, and its modern equipment is considered one of the most efficient for its size in the state. The top picture shows the regular department with Chief, William G. Olsen and the two modern trucks always available today for alarms. The others were taken in about 1904, long before the establishment of the paid branch of the department. The top picture was taken in front of the temporary quarters on Brownell Street where the department is housed until the new municipal building is completed. In the civic center where the permanent quarters of the department will be. Those in the picture are, left to right: George Jones, Dean Grover, Vernon Griffin, Chief Olsen, Lloyd McQuarters, Ray Weiser and Stanley F. Perretta.


The hose ladder truck served the purpose 14 years ago. The man in the driver’s seat is James W. Todd who was then chief. Ernest Gardner is in the rear of the truck. Your memory is correct. The horses used to serve both for the hose and the fire truck.

A Busy Day In 1904

This picture was taken in 1904 at Maple and Pierce Streets. Do you know the people?

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