

# John C. Egnor Fire Department Scrapbook

The Kansas City Fire Department is featured in this scrapbook which has been named for John C. Egnor, an early fire chief.

## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** John C. Egnor  
**Title:** John C. Egnor Fire Department scrapbook  
**Dates:** circa 1880-1940  
**Size:** 2 boxes, 1 scrapbook  
**Location:** SC30-6

## Administration Information

**Restrictions on access:** Unrestricted access.

**Terms governing use and reproduction:** Due to preservation concerns, researchers are required to use the microfilm copy of the scrapbook located in the "Miscellaneous and Historical Items" microfilm drawer.

**Additional physical form available:** Available on microfilm. Photographs have been digitized and new prints and negatives made at time of processing, funded by the Friends of the Library.

**Related Collections in Other Depositories:** Kansas City (MO) Fire Department Records (KC037), part of Native Sons Collection, Western Historical Manuscripts-Kansas City.

**Acquisition information:** Unknown.

**Custodial history:** Formerly classed and shelved in book collection.

**Citation note:** John C. Egnor Fire Department scrapbook (SC30-6), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## Collection Description

### **Biographical/Historical note**

John Conrad Egnor was Fire Chief of the Kansas City Fire Department from 1906 to 1918 and his name has been associated with this item. According to his death certificate, he was born November 29, 1861 and died on November 24, 1946, at Menorah Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, with burial in Mount Washington Cemetery. He was married to Sadie E. Egnor.

### **Scope and content note**

This scrapbook contains a total of 178 pages, 127 actually used. It measures 13" x 17" and is primarily filled with newspaper clippings, photographs, brochures, and various ephemeral items covering dates between 1880-1940. Content of the scrapbook features the early years of the Kansas City Fire Department and chronicles the department's trips to London in 1893 and the Paris Exposition in 1900. George C. Hale was Fire Chief during this time and his water tower used

for fire fighting was famous. The scrapbook also contains numerous pages of vaudeville/entertainment coverage.

There are approximately 28 photographs included ranging from the 1880s into the early 1900s. Photos include images of firemen, ruins of local fires and firefighting equipment including Chief Hale's water tower. See Also SC30-7, the Hale Scrapbooks.

### **Collection Inventory**

#### **Photographs**

- #1 - Composite of portraits of 17 firemen including Chief Egner, n.d., found loose in front of scrapbook.
- #2 - Kansas City firemen, street fair exhibition, Indianapolis, Indiana, October, 19901, men identified and horses Buck and Mack. Found on page 4 of scrapbook.
- #3 - Group of identified firemen standing by fire equipment at Fire Department headquarters, 1889. Found on page 4 of scrapbook.
- #4 - Identified as Hale Zouaves, Kansas City, Missouri. Young women also in view. Found on page 4 of scrapbook.
- #5 - Street scene with water tower, 11th and Grand Avenue, 1889, Chief Engineers Convention. Found on page 11 of scrapbook.
- #6 - Fire headquarters, 8th and Walnut, 1888, firemen and equipment. Found on page 11 of scrapbook.
- #7 - Fire headquarters, 8th and Walnut, aerial hook and ladder truck #1, 1899, men and equipment. Found on page 12 of scrapbook.
- #8 - The Hale water tower in action at 19th and Central, n.d. Found on page 26 of scrapbook.
- #9 - Campbell Glass and Paint Company, 11th and Hickory. Fire scene, March 30, 1893, 2:35 am. Found on page 26 of scrapbook.
- #10 - Ruins of Nichols & Shepard Implement House, August 9, 1893, 7:23 pm. Located on p. 29 of scrapbook.
- #11 - Group of firemen including Chief Hale and Lon Hale with model of water tower, Glasgow, Scotland, 1893. Located on page 30 of scrapbook.
- #12 - Portrait view of Lon Hale, n.d. Found on page 32 of scrapbook.
- #13 - Ruins of Overall Factory and Paper Box maker and Ramsey Printing Co. building, January 17, 1893, 12:40 am, 6 below zero. Found on page 32 of scrapbook.
- #14 - Baird Building, southwest corner of 6th and Wyandotte, ruins. burned October 25, 1894 at 9:05 pm. Located on page 32 of scrapbook.

- #15 - Ruins of 9th Street Theatre, January 18th, 1893, 3:44 am. Located on page 35 of scrapbook.
- #16 - Armourdale, Kansas City, Kansas, Reed Bros. Packing House, ruins, March 24, 1895, 6:45 pm. Ruins with water tower in view.
- #17 - Chief Hale and Chief Patterson of Glasgow, Scotland shaking hands with water tower model. Located on page 38 of scrapbook.
- #18 - Icy ruins of Browning, King & Co., January 17, 1892, 17 below zero. Located on page 43 of scrapbook.
- #19 - Peak Bros. Over-all Factory, Rigly Ramsey Printing Co. fire ruins, January 17, 1892. Located on page 43 of scrapbook.
- #20 - Rialto Building, 9th and Grand, burned, 8 below zero. Located on page 46 of scrapbook.
- #21 - View of riverfront area, n.d. Located on page 81 of scrapbook.
- #22 - View of Hale's water tower in action on Walnut between 8th and 9th, n.d. Located on page 83 of scrapbook.
- #23 - Hale water tower in action, Walnut between 8th and 9th. Federal Custom House and post office in view. Located on page 83 of scrapbook.
- #24 - Jaccard Jewelry Co. fire ruins, January 13, 1893. Located on page 100 of scrapbook.
- #25 - Ruins with fire equipment at 9th Street Theatre, January 18, 1893. Located on page 100 of scrapbook.
- #26 - View of Chief Egner at wheel of fire equipment, n.d. Located on page 125 of scrapbook.
- #27 - Laying of concrete floor by the members of headquarters, Kansas City Fire Department, 1895. Located loose at back of scrapbook.
- #28 - Wagon and harness gear for horses, photo taken inside fire station, n.d. Located on page 83 of scrapbook.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, 1993.