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White City Fire Department

White City Amusement Park, 63rd Street and South Parkway, Chicago, IL (1905)

Under the tutorage of D. A. Hedglin the White City Fire Department is fast developing into a well-equipped body of flame fighters.

Mr. Hedglin who is always on duty in uniform on the grounds has ten picked men whom he puts through a fire drill every afternoon. These men have become adepts at handling hose and various firefighting apparatus.

White City has ten regulation fire hydrants located within the grounds, each of which is supplied with 100 feet of Underwriter's Fire Hose. It has a number of small chemicals and kill-fire adepts and has two 40-gallon Babcock's Chemical Trucks. One is located on each side of the board walk and ready for instant use.



The White City Fire Department - 1905



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A large gong has been placed in the center of the grounds, and a single tap brings the ten firemen to the spot without delay. Additional taps bring one hundred workmen and summons the City Fire Department. With this equipment there is very little risk from fire in White City.

Within a short time a fire engine and hook and ladder truck will be installed, Under Mr. Hedglin's instructions the ten firemen have become adepts at climbing scaffolds and ladders, and one of the most interesting sights to be seen at present at White City is the Fire Chief and his men climbing over the buildings in their daily drill.

The members of the department at present (1905 opening year) are: John Bergstrom, F. W. Chamberlain, James Chinn, William Cooper, Walter Gartrell, William C. Hickev, Alex Johnston, John McDonald, Tames Pifer, Jull Rhode and Harry E. Smith.