

Excerpt from 1927 Fire Department Annual Report

Fire Department Sports Association

During the year past, the Sports Association has been very active in city and state athletics, such as baseball, handball, etc. In March, 1927, the baseball team, owing to the heavy expense involved, forsook the ranks of the Northwest Semi-Pro League, of which they had been a member for several years, and entered the Class "A" Commercial Baseball League. During the 1927 season the Department club made a very fine showing, ending the season in a tie for third place in competition with nine teams. It might be well to explain, that for the past two years the Department Baseball Team has paid its own way, without support from the members of the Department, with receipts from admission charges to baseball games, subscriptions from citizen fans, etc., and on several occasions has supported, with its surplus funds, other Department activities, such as the Orchestra, etc.

In the early part of the year, the Department Orchestra was reorganized and placed under the direction of Carroll A. Smullin, member of the Department and who, during the World War, was leader of the famous San Pedro Naval Station Band, noted as one of the finest in the United States Military Service. The Orchestra consists of nine members of the Seattle Fire Department, and is listed by competent critics as the best amateur organization of its kind in the Northwest. This high position has been attained only through the ability, hard work, interest and cooperation of its personnel. This aggregation has been kept very busy during the year filling some fifty-four engagements, playing for various clubs, fraternal and civic organizations, benefits, etc. It should be understood that all playing engagements are free of charge and not in competition with organized labor or musicians unions, no engagements being accepted without the consent of such bodies, or where other music would be hired on our refusal to play.

Beginning December 8th, 1927, the Association entered six double teams of handball players and two single players in the Pacific Northwest Handball Tournament.

With the exception of the baseball team, 1927 activities of the Sports Association were supported from the proceeds of Dances given in the Auditorium of Fire Station No. 2, Fourth Avenue and Battery Street.

Citation: p. 35, Seattle Fire Department Annual Report, 1927. Seattle Fire Department Annual Reports, Record Series 1802-G4, Seattle Municipal Archives.