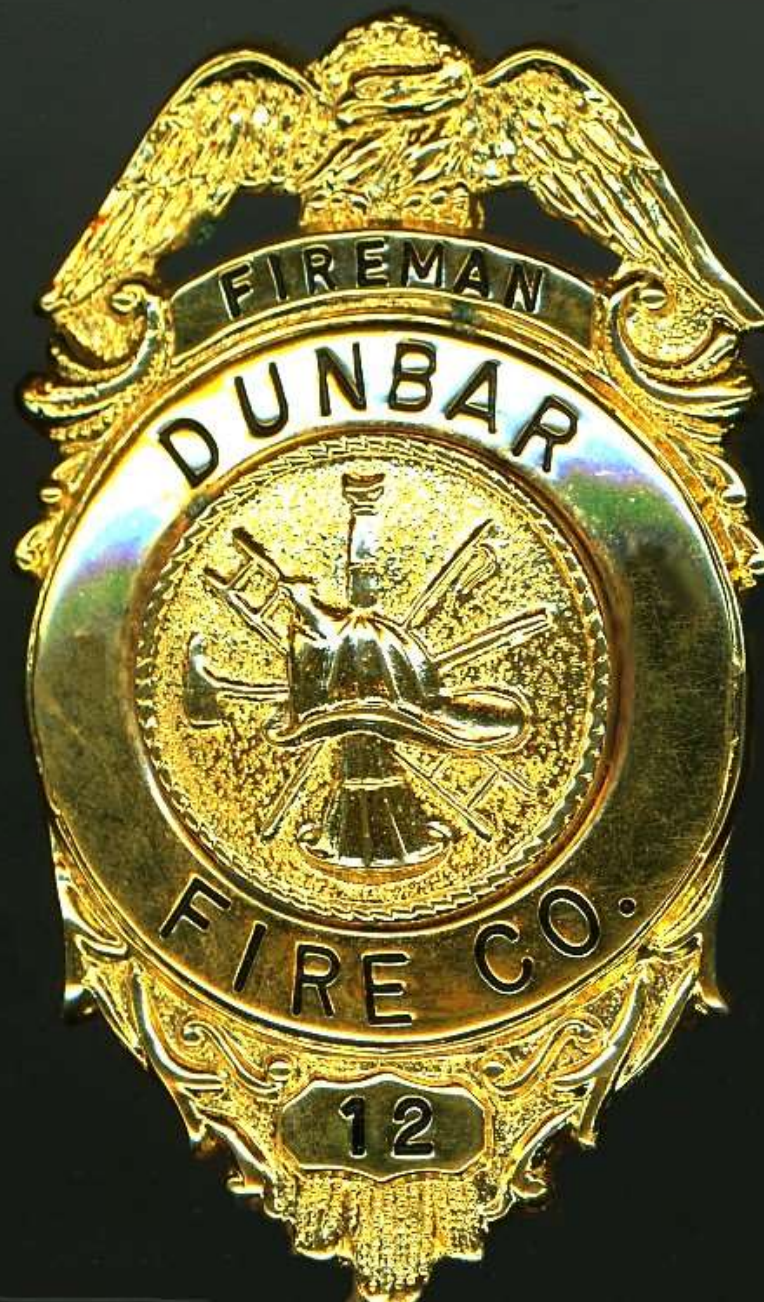


DUNBAR HISTORICAL ALBUM COLLECTION

**Dunbar Volunteer
Fire Department Album**





One of Dunbar's Early Fire Trucks



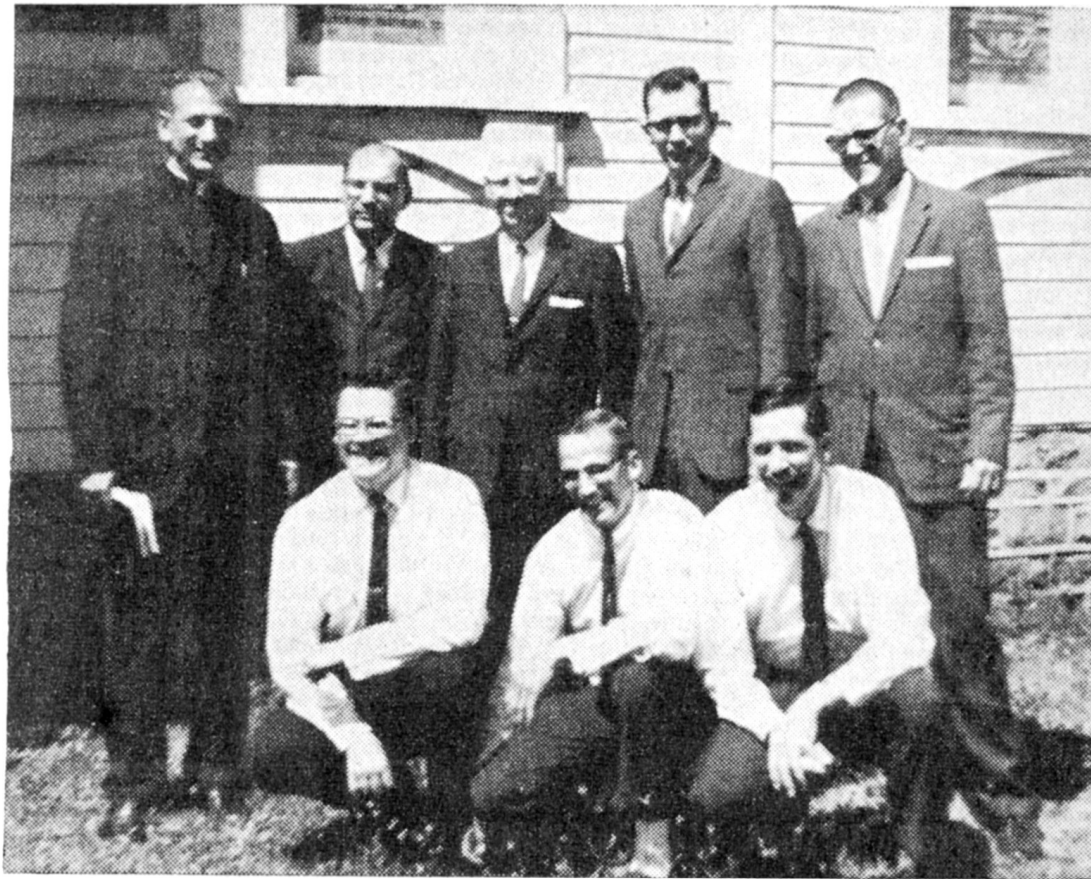




**Dunbar Fire Department Members
L-R: Chick McGivern, ____ Wilhelm,
Roy Riser & Dutch Stroud
From Wayne "Bud" Watson**



Early Dunbar Fire Truck with Dutch Stroud (R)
and _____?
From Wayne "Bud" Watson Collection



TAKE PART IN DUNBAR FIREMEN'S MEMORIAL

Five ministers (standing above) appeared on the program of a recent memorial service for deceased firemen of the Dunbar Volunteer Fire Department in Franklin Memorial Methodist Church.

Kneeling are Thomas FitzGerald, department president; Wayne Watson, fire chief, and Frank Fabian, chaplain.

Standing are the Rev. Vincent J. Rocco, pastor of St. Aloysius R.C. Church, the Rev. E. D. Crispens, pastor of Franklin Memorial Methodist Church; the Rev. William S. Hamilton, pastor of the Fourth St. Methodist

Church, Braddock; the Rev. Wendell E. Harford, pastor of the Dunbar Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Robert Fike, pastor of the Wesley Methodist Church.

The prelude and postlude were played by Mrs. Carl Pope, the invocation and greeting by Rev. Crispens, an Old Testament lesson by Rev. Harford, a New Testament lesson by Rev. Rocco, prayer by Rev. Fike, special music by the church choir, message by the Rev. Hamilton, roll call by Chaplain Fabian and benediction by Rev. Crispens.

(Courier-Post)

Belief at Dunbar Samuel Blacka Was Victim of Foul Play

Special to The Courier.

DUNBAR, Sept. 12.—Was Samuel Blacka really killed by the train or was he murdered? This is a question that is stirring Dunbar people considerably, and it is contended that the facts point to murder. The man was found lying along and close to the Pennsylvania railroad track insensible, and the only injury was a fractured skull from a blow apparently received on the back of the head.

It is contended first that had the train hit him he would have been hurled from the tracks and not lying by them; that with the strong electric headlights used by the P. R. R. engines he would have been seen by the engineer and the danger whistle sounded, and had he been struck by the engine the train would have been stopped and the body gathered up and rushed to the hospital. It is further contended that there was no train at the time he was said to have been struck.

Blacka had attended the meeting of the fire department and started for home about 11 o'clock, perfectly sober, in company with Jack McClain who says they went into the restaurant to get a cup of coffee before going home. He is said to have drunk the coffee, when some man unknown to McClain, seeing Blacka had some money on him, produced a bottle and gave Blacka several glasses of "moonshine," which at once took effect so rapidly that it is thought the liquor was doped. Starting for home he had gone but a short distance to the spot where he was found unconscious with his head injured both back and front as if struck with something heavy, possibly a piece of iron. When found it is said he had no money on his person.

These contentions are likely to result in an investigation and an effort made to apprehend the party who gave him the dope.

The funeral of Mr. Blacka Sunday afternoon was very largely attended, throngs flocking to the cemetery to await for the funeral cortege, while many more accompanied the body to its last resting place. The ceremonies at the grave were impressive as was also the funeral oration of Rev. David E. Miner. The Dunbar Fire Department, of which he was president, attended in a body. The Knights of Pythias had charge of the burial. Mr. Blacka was liked by everybody and so far as known had not an enemy in the world.



ipehart,

311 SMITHFIELD STREET,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

SAMUEL BLACKA OF DUNBAR DIES AFTER ACCIDENT

Well-Known Man Struck by
Pennsylvania Train at
Crossing Near Home.

Samuel Blacka, 52 years old, of Dunbar, died at the Cottage State Hospital at 11:25 o'clock today, following injuries received when struck by a Pennsylvania train at a Dunbar crossing last night. His skull was fractured.

The man was knocked to one side when the train struck him and the wheels did not pass over the body. He was rushed to the hospital here but died without regaining consciousness.

Mr. Blacka lived on Seaton Hill, on the outskirts of Dunbar. He was born and reared and always lived in the community. He had been actively identified with the fire department and for some time had been its president.

Besides his wife, who was Catherine Lowe, he is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Anna Hughes, Mrs. Mayme Roum and Mrs. Catherine Golden, all of Dunbar; two brothers, Albert Blacka of Dunbar and Robert Blacka, in the West, and a sister, Mrs. Thomas Kelly at Pechin. Miss Anna Blacka, 80 years old, of Dunbar, is an aunt.

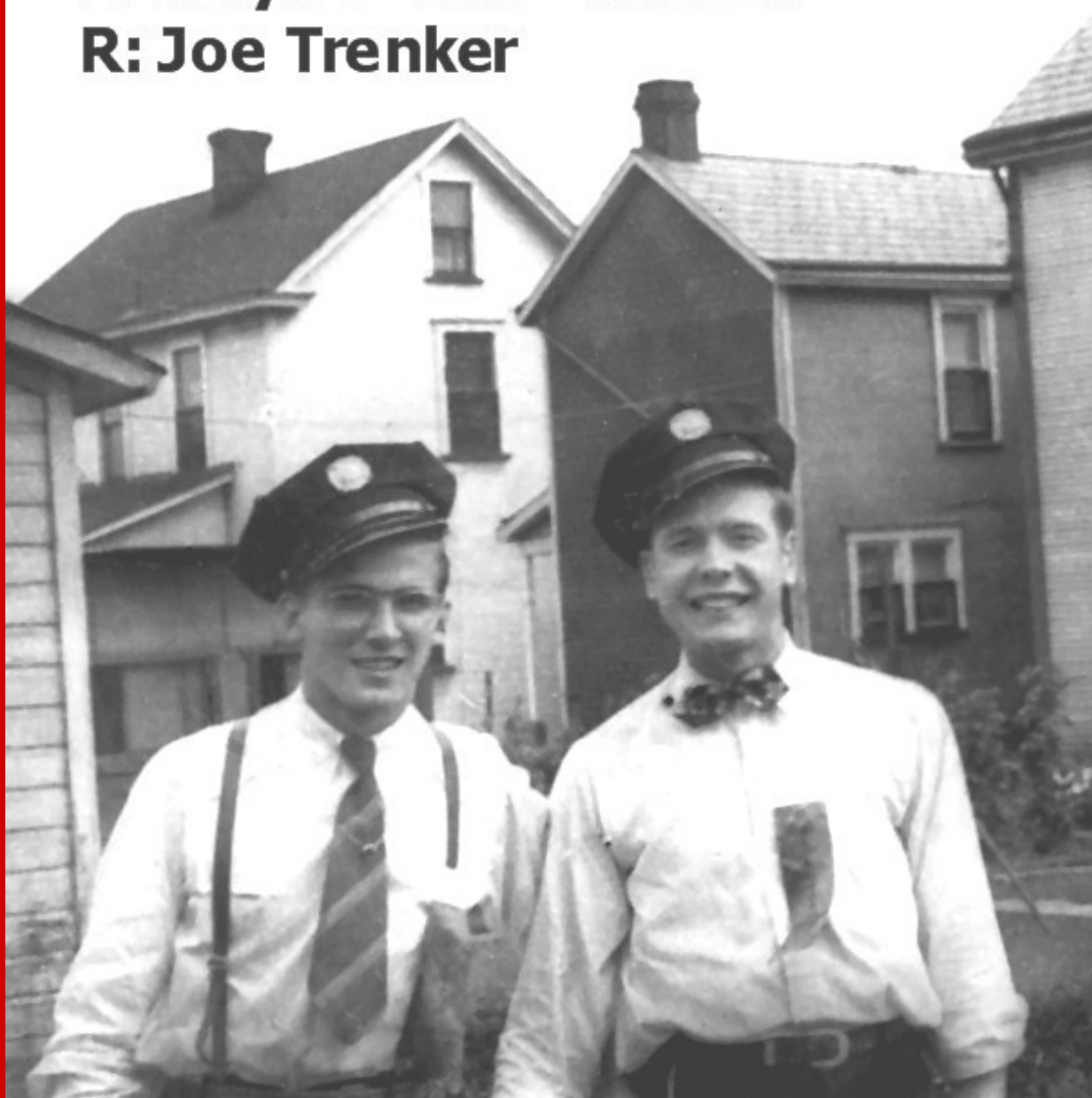
His father was W. D. Blacka, veteran of the Civil War, who died during the influenza epidemic of a few years ago.

By occupation Mr. Blacka was a teamster.

The body was removed to Burhans' undertaking rooms at Dunbar.

1923 Article and Picture from Curt Lehman
Regarding the Death of Samuel Blacka After
Attending a Fire Department Meeting

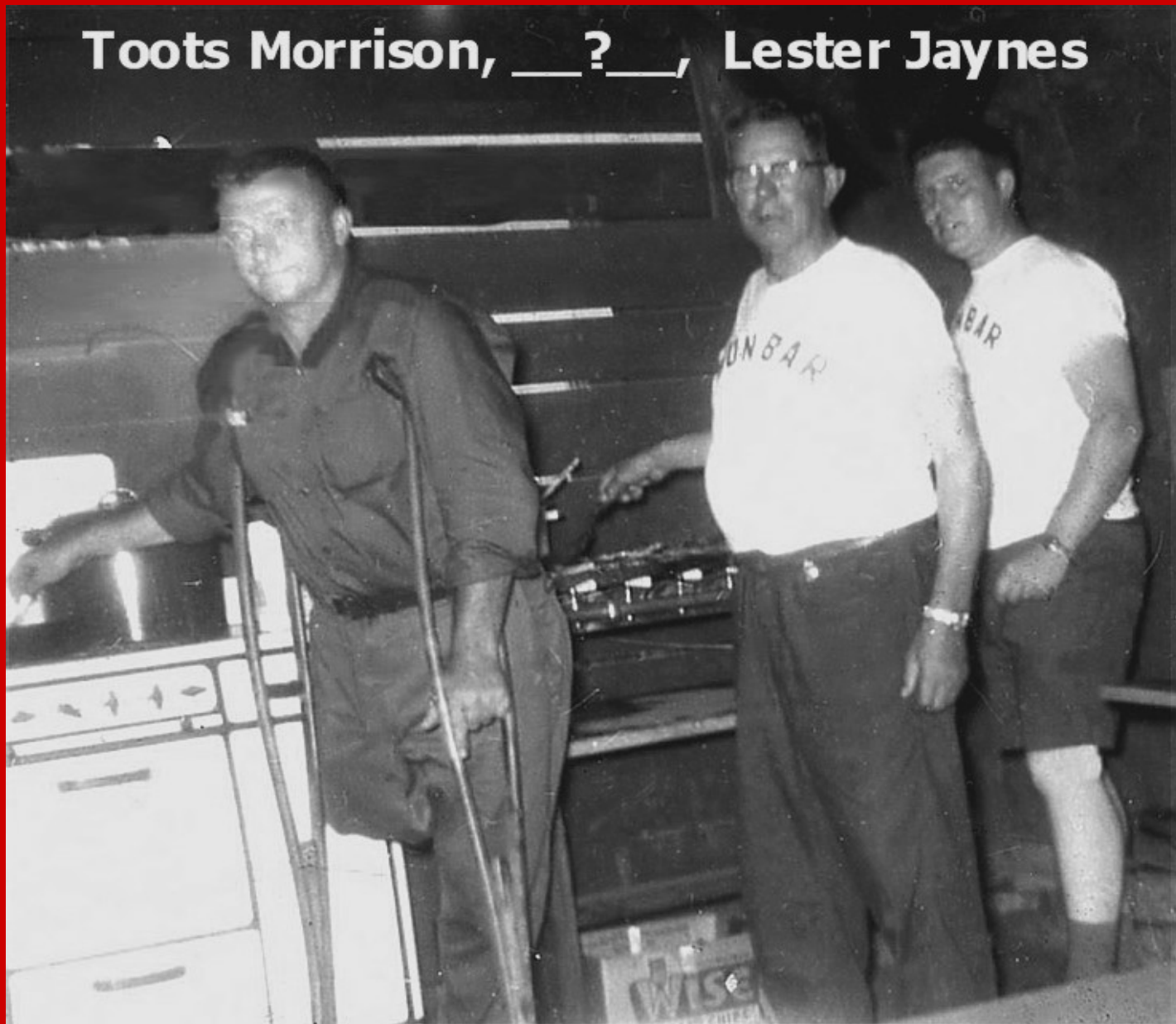
L: Wayne "Bud" Watson
R: Joe Trenker



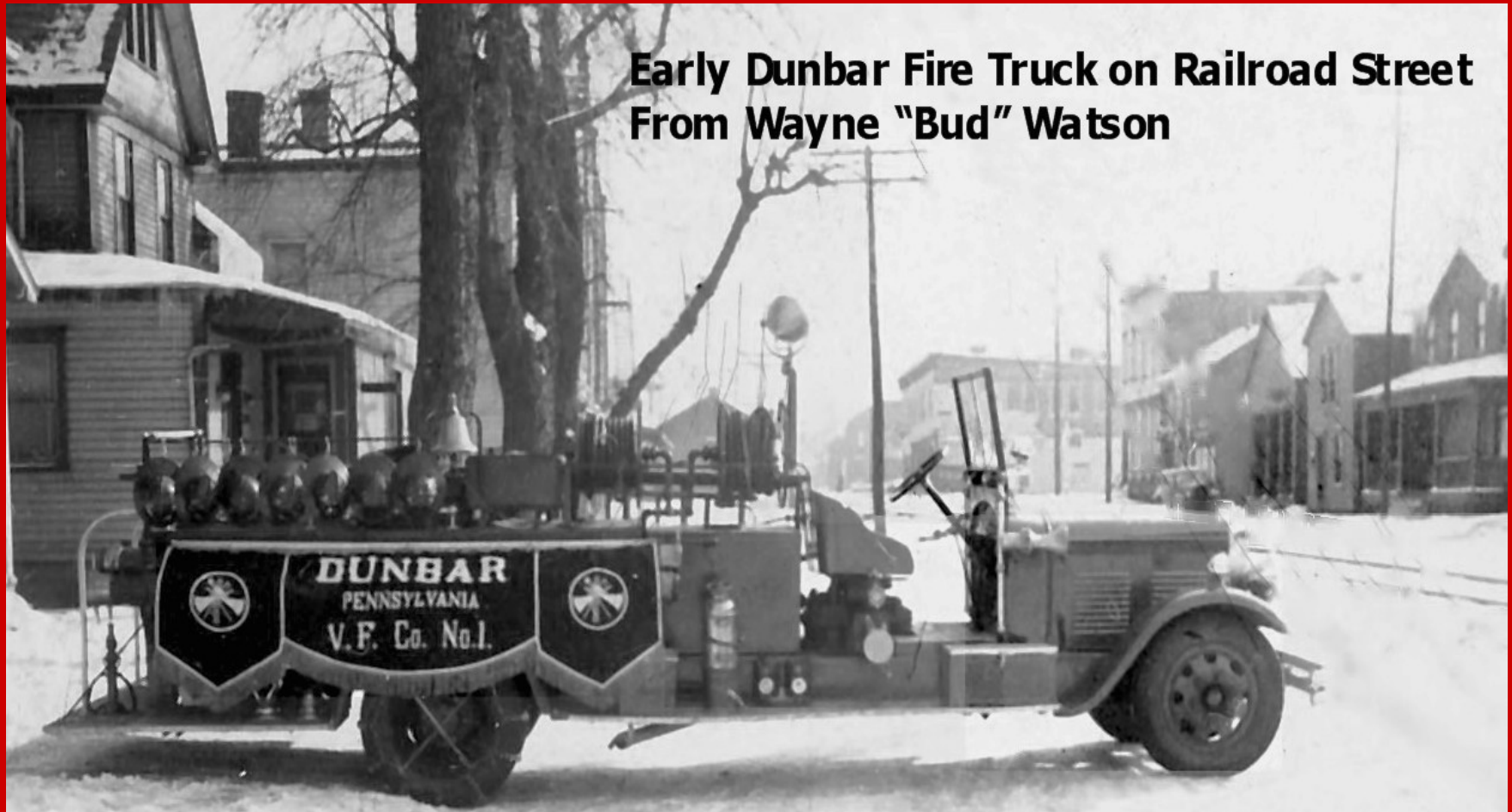
**L-R: Trimbath, Rossi, ?,
Jaynes (hat), Watson,
Santone, ?**



Toots Morrison, __?__, Lester Jaynes



**Early Dunbar Fire Truck on Railroad Street
From Wayne "Bud" Watson**



Dunbar Firemen Receiving Water Battle Trophy in 1948

L-R: Joe Trenker, ___?___, Wayne Watson, Jr., ___?___ Jones and ___?___

From Wayne "Bud" Watson Collection







DUNBAR BLAST — Series of explosions and resulting fire left t



wreckage yesterday at Keystone Fireworks Co. plant at Dunbar.



Brownies Visit Dunbar Borough Fire Station

Observing Fire Prevention Week with a visit to the Dunbar Volunteer Fire Department station were the leaders and members of Brownie Troop 3049 pictured above talking to Wayne Watson, fire chief, who conducted a tour and took the children on a ride atop the fire truck.

In the first row (left to right) are Jane Thorpe, Tina Morrison, Nancy Evans, Rita Bartholow, Debbie Mancini, Joi Wallace, Esther Bryner, Joyce Stefanek, Brenda Hat-

field, Pamela Gaborko, Jane Ann Lewandowski and Sandra McCune.

In the second row are Mrs. Shirley Wallace, leader, Mrs. Cecelia Guie, assistant leader; Lois Bigley, Lynn Ann Martin, Janice Lancaster, Cindy Forquer, Pamela Lizza, Margel Guie, Renee Miner, Nora Klotz, Mrs. Elsie Hatfield and Mrs. Jo McCune.

(Courier Photo)

Dunbar Mother Risks Fiery Death To Rescue Sons in Burning House

A fast moving, slightly built mother of two children risked a fiery death late this morning to rescue two of her children from their burning five-room house on Church Hill, off Mahoning Rd., Dunbar.

But, the flames beat Mrs. Gerald McWilliams to her one son, burning him seriously before she could pull him out of the doomed one-story, frame house.

Mrs. McWilliams told firemen she doesn't know how the fire

started. She went out into the yard to get several buckets of coal when her one son called out that the house was on fire. She dashed into the home to get him out. Unable to get through the flames into the other side of the house where the other child, Gerald, 3, was trapped, Mrs. McWilliams ran around the outside of the house and broke out a window, entered the house and pulled him out.

According to Dunbar Fire Chief Wayne Watson the injured

youngster was carried by his mother to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bryner, about 100 yards away, where he was put in a jeep and taken down the hill to a waiting South Connells-ville firemen's ambulance and from there taken to Connells-ville State General Hospital where he was admitted. Hospital attendants listed his injuries as burned hands and "blistered ears," but said he is in fair condition.

Watson said two Dunbar borough pumpers sent to the scene never got there. Both were stuck in the snow and got no closer than one-half mile from the burning house. The two trucks were later extricated and taken back to the fire station while the house continued to burn away. Nothing was salvaged, Watson said, adding, it is still smoldering but poses no threat to any other buildings. The nearest structure is the Bryner home, 100 yards away. Firemen, Watson added, got the call about 10:40 a.m. today.

Watson lauded Mrs. McWilliams, saying she had "spunk and courage" in entering the burning building to get the two youngsters out of danger. "I'll bet she doesn't weigh more than 80 pounds," the chief said.

The house is owned by Mrs. Ernest Kalp of Racine, Wisc. Mrs. Violet Bryner, a neighbor, called firemen.

The fire occurred while McWilliams was at work at Anchor Hocking Glass Corp.



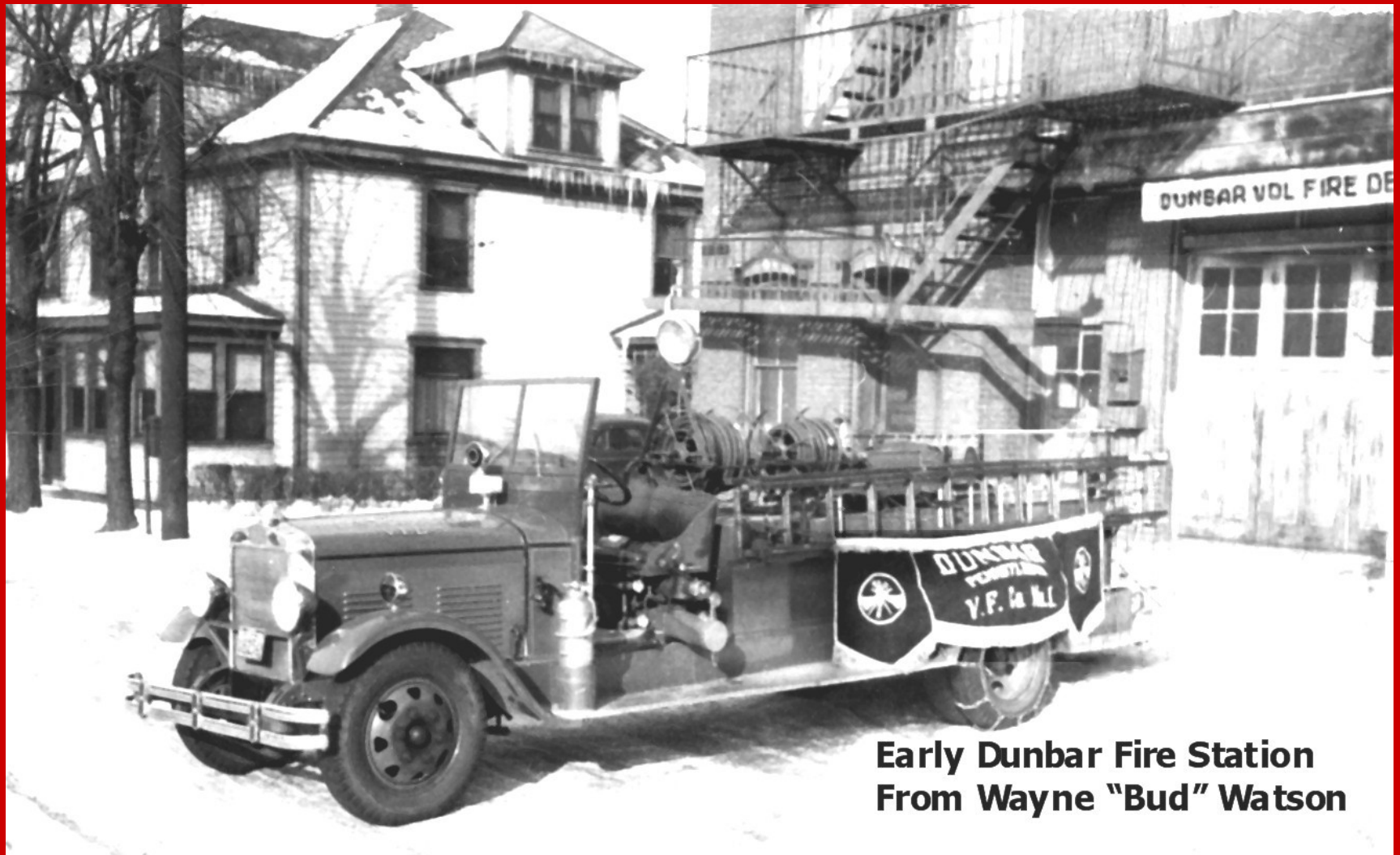
USE WINCH TO EXTRICATE FIRE TRUCK

A tow truck and winch had to be called into service (above) when a Dunbar Borough Volunteer Fire Department pumper was stranded in a snow-clogged lane leading to the Gerald McWilliams home on Church Hill Wednesday morning.

A heavy chain was attached to a stout trunk to keep the tow truck from slipping down the lane. The pumper was one of two borough units unable to reach the McWilliams home, which burned to the ground.



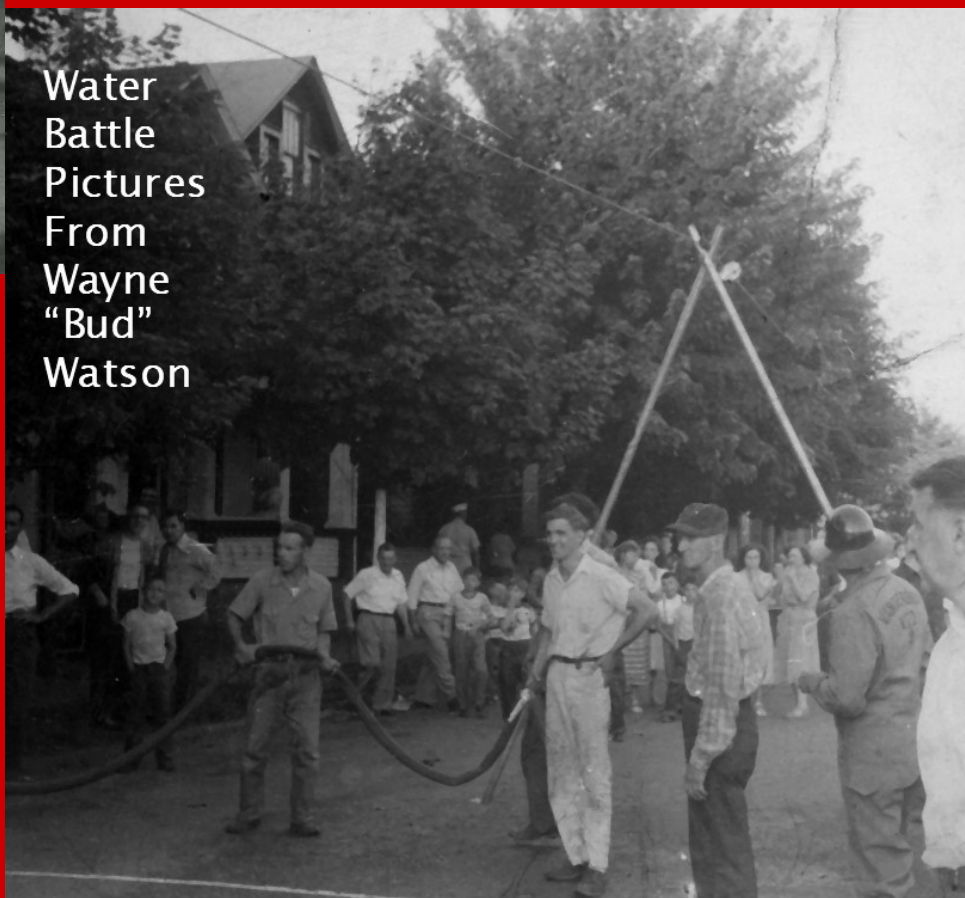
—Evening Standard Photo
Fearing that two-year-old Anna Pearl Thorpe may have fallen into an open well near her home, firemen pumped the well dry. Above, Dunbar Volunteer Fireman Wayne Watson, Sr., is hauled back to the surface after he was lowered in the 50-foot opening.



**Early Dunbar Fire Station
From Wayne "Bud" Watson**



Water
Battle
Pictures
From
Wayne
"Bud"
Watson



Dunbar Firemen Win Water Battle Championship

The water battle championship of the Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association was won by the Dunbar firemen at the convention at Monessen Wednesday evening.

Tuesday evening the Dunbar team defeated Uniontown and Wall Township of Allegheny county while Wednesday it won over South Connellsville and Munhall, the latter being the defending champions.

David Hair, Joseph Trenker, Wayne Watson, Jr., and Clarence Jones made up the Dunbar championship quartet.

