

## Municipal Facts—City of El Paso

called into the army. These figures are here given: Dallas, 14.30 percent; Houston, 17.16; Fort Worth, 18.67; El Paso, 3.39.

Tabulations showing work performed by the City Health Department during the 12 months preceding July 31, follow:

Vaccination .....	6,104
Fumigations .....	190
Rooming houses and tenement inspections .....	8,790
Visits made by assistant city health officer .....	3,333
Complaints investigated .....	7,637
Premises inspected .....	19,637
Nuisance notices served .....	4,487
Nuisances abated .....	3,679
Dairy inspections .....	5,590
Produce house inspections .....	1,032
Bakery inspections .....	1,968
Dairy wagon inspections .....	8,540
Meat market inspections .....	9,768
Meat wagon inspections .....	4,284
Inspection of vegetables and fruit stores and wagons and restaurants .....	23,545
Slaughter house inspections .....	470
Lunch stand inspections .....	2,312
Pounds of meat condemned .....	17,126
Pounds of fish condemned .....	8,746
Pounds of fruit and vegetables condemned .....	2,093
Cans of fruit condemned .....	9,000
Cans of sardines condemned .....	816
Hogs condemned .....	52
Cows condemned .....	6
Samples of milk from dairy wagons for city chemist .....	898
Animals inspected.—	
Cattle .....	6,661
Hogs .....	3,798
Sheep and goats .....	2,034
Calves .....	1,883
Total animals inspected .....	14,326
Bacteriological and Chemical Work.—	
Water .....	69
Diphtheria .....	248
Milk .....	898
Chemical.—	
Milk .....	898
Water .....	7
Miscellaneous .....	1,662
School Work.—	
Number of school inspections .....	130
Number school children examined .....	71,160
Number of throat cultures taken .....	135
Number of children referred to parents for medical treatment .....	344

### Fire Department.

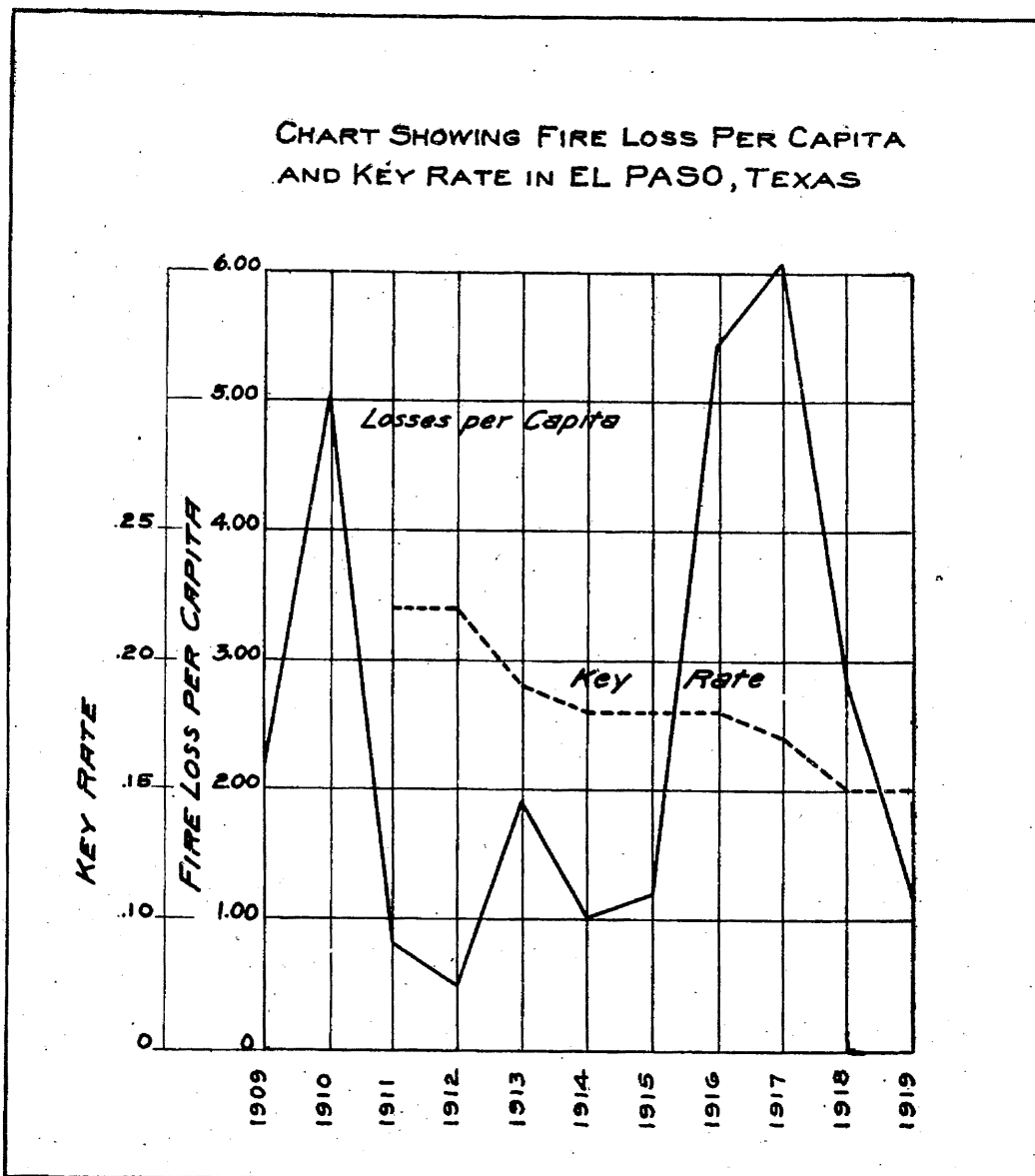
The head of the fire department is the Fire Chief, who receives a salary of \$2700.00 per annum. He is appointed by the Mayor for a two year period of time. Until the civil service holds a competitive examination for the fire departments, all appointments and promotions are made by the Chief, with the consent of the Mayor and Council. The regular force of the department consists of 84 employees.

Salary rates for firemen range from \$100.00 to \$120.00 per month. Increases are made on basis of the fireman's service record.

The El Paso fire department is completely motorized. The equipment is valued at \$157,700. The department is located in six stations, and fire houses. These stations give fire protection to 965 square miles of territory. Due to continuous inspection that are made with the view of lessening the cause of fire, the number of fire alarms and fires have decidedly decreased. In 1918 there were 301 alarms while in 1917 there were 472 alarms or 171 more.

The buildings in which these fires occurred represented an insurance value of \$4,495,365. The destruction to these buildings by fire amounted to \$306,244. All of this loss occurred in the buildings in which the fire originated.

In respect to fire protection, El Paso ranks high in comparison to other cities. A grading compiled by the Board of Underwriters, which offsets all fire hazards against abilities to fight



fires, gives El Paso a high rating of 15 points, which was the lowest given to any city in the state of Texas until January, 1919, when two other cities received the same rating.

All firemen in the department are given systematic training, and schooling in practical fire fighting. These classes are held at the Central Station.

### Financial Functions

Coming under the general supervision of Alderman Pitman are six independent divisions and functions of work, which all relate to the Finance Department. These functions and divisions are:

1. The assessment and the collection of taxes under the City Assessor.
2. The reception and the safe keeping of money under the City Treasurer.
3. The receipt of miscellaneous revenues and the operation of a petty cash fund, under the City Cashier.
4. The central purchasing of supplies under the Purchasing Agent.
5. The keeping of the city's expense and fund accounts under the City Accountant.
6. The preparation of warrants, and the audit of pay roll and receipts under the City Auditor.

With the exception of the City Treasurer and the City Assessor and Collector, who are elective officers, all of these officials are appointed by the mayor and council.

### City Treasurer.

The City Treasurer is elected by the people for a period of two years, at a salary of \$2400 per year. He is the official in charge of depositing the city's funds in selected banks and trust companies. At the present time the city's funds are deposited in four separate banks and trust companies. The treasurer is under a \$100,000 bond. He also reimburses the banks which have cashed the city's warrants. On its balances the city receives a 2½% interest rate.

### The City Assessor and Collector.

The assessment and the collection of taxes is done in the office of the City Assessor and Collector. The Assessor is elected by the people for a two year period of time, and receives a salary of \$3900 per year. In addition to his salary, the Assessor receives one dollar of the two dollar delinquency fee charged on delinquent taxes. Due to the diligence of the tax assessor in collecting this year's taxes promptly, there is at the present time, less than 4% of the taxes delinquent.

The tax assessor with four assistants, assesses all property, prepares tax maps, keeps records of all assessments, prepares assessment rolls for council and collects all taxes.

The Assessor begins making assessments March 1st. All assessments are completed August 31st. Lands and buildings are assessed separately. The value of land is computed on a sixty per cent basis of its market value. Maps are prepared showing the value of each