

MAYOR MEETS DEATH AT FIRE

BODY OF MAYOR LIES IN STATE

WARNING HIS MEN WHEN KILLED

Is Taken to City Hall Under Escort—Funeral Tuesday Morning at 10.

El Paso's Dead Mayor and Building Destroyed By Fire

NO CONCERT IN THE PARK TUESDAY. There will be no concert in the Plaza Tuesday evening owing to the death of mayor Robinson Sunday.

From 9 o'clock until 12 o'clock Monday morning, a ceaseless stream of visitors called at the city hall to view the remains of mayor Robinson as they lay in state in the rotunda. They were of all classes and of every race represented in the city, the sudden and shocking demise of the city's head having affected every section of El Paso. Save for a few bruises about the face, El Paso's late chief executive looked as he did in life. A silver plate on the coffin bore the simple inscription, "W. F. Robinson, mayor of El Paso."

Standing beside the crape on the door of the city hall was J. M. White, ex-guard. Within the rotunda, where the remains lay in state, were officers Perez, Miller, Briggs and Walter Williams, immovable as statues, clad in gaiters. Early in the morning the body was brought to the mayor's official home with an escort of police, composed of officers Henderson, Briggs, Thompson, Perez, Caplinger, Miller, Cherry, Parsons, and Thompson.

In accordance with the proclamation issued by the city council and acting mayor Clayton, the offices of the city will be closed Tuesday and all business houses will close during the funeral.

The Mayor's Funeral.

Funeral services over the remains of mayor W. F. Robinson will be held from the family residence, 213 Myrtle street, at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. The services will be conducted by the Blue lodge of the Masons, and the Knights Templars, the mayor having been a member of both orders. A detachment from the police force will act as an escort.

Judge J. U. Sweeney, who has charge of arrangement of details for the funeral, announces the following active and honorary pall bearers:

Active—W. J. Horn, C. E. Kelly, John M. Wyatt, Winchester Cooley, Dr. J. B. Brady, J. U. Sweeney.

Honorary—D. H. Baum, J. A. Harper, Felix Martinez, John F. Franklin.

After the services at the house are concluded, the procession will move to Evergreen cemetery, where interment will be made.

The Masonic pall bearers will be H. A. Carpenter and C. R. Morehead representing the Blue lodge; J. F. Eyster and A. E. Ryan, representing the Royal Arch chapter; R. D. Richey and J. B. Watson, representing the Knights Templars.

Special pre-burial services will be held in their hall Tuesday morning by the Knights Templars, in honor of the memory of mayor Robinson. This is considered an unusual mark of respect by the order. The services will be held just prior to the services at the house, the latter of which will be held at 10 o'clock.

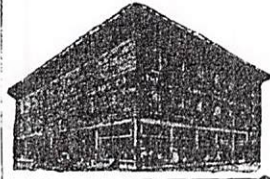
Funeral of Dead Fireman.

With escorts from both the police and fire departments, the remains of Flais T. Ware, who lost his life while fighting the flames in the Calisher store Sunday, will be borne to the union station Monday afternoon for shipment to Utopia, Uvalde county, where he was born and reared. The horse wagon to which he was attached will form part of the escort. The following mounted officers have been detailed as escorts from the police department: Duran, Finley, Haynes and Davis. Chief Armstrong, up to noon Monday, had not selected the escort for the fire department. Mounted policeman J. I. Ware, a brother of the deceased, will accompany the remains to Utopia.

Flais Ware came to El Paso seven months to a day, at the time at which he met his death. After serving under C. Sadler, special officer of the Southwestern for about six months, he joined the fire department July 24. Sergeant Davis, of the police force, knew the deceased for many years and recommended him to chief Armstrong of the fire department. Ware was 23 years of age. He was at the front in fighting the big fire Sunday, and no man on the company worked harder or with more zeal.

The G. H., over which the remains will be shipped, leaves El Paso at 7 o'clock. McBean, Simmons & Carr have charge of the funeral.

Crape on City Buildings.
With the crape not yet removed from the front of the police station, placed there upon the death of patrolman R. E. Enlow a few days ago, the fire station adjoining is draped with the sombre colors today in respect to the memory of Flais T. Ware, who met death Sunday in the performance of his duty as a fireman. Just across the way, crape hangs on the door of the city hall, where the members of the city's official family grieve because of the death of their chief. On the central fire station, the city hall and the county courthouse, the flags fly at half mast.



MEXICO BORN LOSS OF EL PASO MAYOR. Mexico City, Mex., Aug. 15.—Hundreds of foreign residents in Mexico who had the good fortune to know mayor W. F. Robinson deplore his untimely end and tender their sympathy to the bereaved family and the city of El Paso. The community loses an able, conscientious official and upright citizen, a faithful friend and brother.

W. E. Barnes
General Agent Southern Pacific Company.

Walls of Buckler Building Fall Upon W. F. Robinson and Fireman Todd Ware.

TWO OTHER MEN ARE ALSO CAUGHT Calisher Department Store and American National Bank Are Burned Out.

ESTIMATED LOSSES IN THE BUCKLER FIRE.

Calisher Co.	\$200,000
Buckler estate	65,000
American Nat. bank	2,000
Knights of Pythias	2,700
Reum & Reum	2,000
Lodges	5,800
Families and offices	5,000
Total loss	\$285,000

Attempting to save the life of the fireman who were in imminent peril from falling walls, mayor W. F. Robinson had his life crushed out Sunday morning when part of the burning Buckler building fell into Texas street and buried him beneath the debris. At the same time fireman Todd Ware met a similar death and assistant chief Dave Sullivan and fireman William Robinson were badly injured. The fire, which completely destroyed the building and all its contents, including the \$100,000 stock of the Calisher company, had almost burned itself out when the accident occurred. The walls were still standing, but the building had been gutted and was swaying in the breeze. The mayor got away, but in his haste to warn the firemen that their lives were in danger, as they were still busy pouring water onto the smoldering wreckage. Before he could get away, the walls tumbled and, trying to escape with the man he had warned, the mayor was crushed to death.

A STUBBORN FIRE.
The fire was one of the most stubborn the city had ever experienced. It completely gutted the big three-story building, destroying everything in the big Calisher department store and in the offices and lodge rooms above into the American National bank in temporary quarters in the same building on the first floor. The vault and contents remained intact. Mostly real estate men occupied offices in the rest of the building, while the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen, Masons and several other orders had the third floor, with the exception of a number of rooms where several families lived. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The total loss is \$285,000.

THE MAYOR'S DEATH.
The mayor started to run back out of the door of the building after warning the firemen, heard the crack of the wall as it began to fall, looked up and saw it tumbling, threw up his right arm involuntarily as if to ward off the death that he knew was certain, and was then buried from view of the horrified spectators.

Fireman Ware was standing near him at the time, as were firemen Dave Sullivan and William Robinson. Mayor Robinson had almost every bone in his body broken, according to the leading physicians, who rushed to the victims of the accident as soon as the men were dug from under the pile of rock. The mayor had his face cut in a number of places by the brick and timber, his ribs were crushed in and he died.

(Continued on Next Page.)

HERALD 8-15-10

City Called Upon to Honor Its Dead Mayor

PROCLAMATION OF THE COUNCIL.

August 15, 1910.

The tragic occurrences of yesterday, the death of Mayor Robinson and Fireman Todd Ware in the performance of their duty, has shocked the entire community.

The funeral of Mayor Robinson will take place at 10:00 A. M. tomorrow, August the 16th, 1910. From 9 o'clock today until 5:00 P. M. of August 16th, all city offices will be closed. The business community and the various other establishments of the town are urgently requested to imitate during

DEAD MAYOR WAS ONE TIME MAYOR OF YSLETA ALSO; A TELEGRAPH OPERATOR

Mayor William F. Robinson was born in Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, 47 years ago. He remained in his native state until he was 20 years of age, acquiring a common school education there.

When 20 years of age, he engaged in the railroad service and later was employed with the Denver & Rio Grande as telegraph operator. He first came to the southwest in the late 70s and was station agent at Fort Hancock and later at Ysleta. He was also employed on the Mexican Central railroad in Mexico. While at Ysleta he was elected mayor of that town, then a thriving little city of several hundred population. He engaged in the cattle business with H. G. Ross under the first name of H. G. Ross & Co., with headquarters at Fort Hancock. In 1895 he engaged in the brick and tile business, associating himself with Edward Rogers, E. H. Rogers, H. G. Ross, W. J. Harris and J. M. White in El Paso.

The company was known as the El Paso Brick company. Mr. Robinson being president of the company at the time of his death. The plant is located opposite the smelter on the New Mexico side of the Rio Grande, and it is furnishing building brick and tile for a number of the large buildings now in course of construction in El Paso.

Mayor Robinson was elected to the city council in 1907 and served under former mayor J. U. Sweeney in the first commission form of city government after it

was adopted by El Paso. He was chairman of the streets and grades committee and, during the absence of mayor Sweeney, he acted as mayor pro tem. When mayor Sweeney resigned in May to resume the practice of law, alderman Robinson was elected by the council chief executive and had been in charge of the mayor's office since that time.

While living at Ysleta he was married to Miss Elisa Witt, the daughter of Capt. Wade Hampton Witt, a well known confederate veteran, who came to El Paso from Dallas county many years ago. Mr. Robinson had no near relatives living as far as is known, except John Robinson, a nephew, who will be unable to come from his home in Pennsylvania to attend the funeral services. Mayor Robinson was a brother-in-law of justice E. B. McClintock, of El Paso; Mrs. Charlotte Burden, also of El Paso; Glenn Witt, of Kansas City, and Miss Nellie Witt, of the El Paso schools.

The mayor had two children, Louise and Mary Frances. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson while they were residing at Ysleta, but the child died before they removed to El Paso and is interred in the Ysleta cemetery.

Mayor Robinson was a member of the Knights Templar.

The deceased mayor was also a member of the Pioneers' association and the members of the association will attend his funeral in a body Tuesday.

McBean, Simmons & Carr have charge of the funeral.