

Solomon Schutz, 3rd Mayor Of El Paso, a Real Pioneer Of Southwest, Dies On Coast

THE death of Solomon Schutz, 79, in Ocean Park, California, marks the passing of El Paso' third mayor and one of its sturdiest pioneers. Judge J. U. Sweeney is now the city's oldest ex-mayor in point of service. He took office in 1907 and served until 1910.

Mr. Schutz took an interest in city affairs and called on R. M. Dudley, the 20th mayor, at the city hall not three weeks before Mr. Dudley's death.

Established Law.

The greatest achievement of the Schutz administration, 1880-1881, was the appointment of Dallas Stoudenmire as marshal and his establishment of law and order. W. M. Coldwell, father of judge Ballard Coldwell, was city attorney at the time and recalls the difficulties faced by the Schutz administration.

"During and just before the railroads reached El Paso," said Mr. Coldwell, "there arrived here perhaps 2000 to 3000 adventurous spirits from all over the country. City government, which had been suspended, was resumed but under the law then and now existing city taxes could only be collected a year after they were levied. The city was destitute of money and had no credit.

"Many of the newcomers were turbulent characters and nearly all had small respect for law simply as law. Marshal George Campbell resigned. His office depended on fees but he stood in with the elements it was his duty to restrain. Making no arrests he received no fees.

"Shot Up" Town.

"Immediately after his resignation his 'friends' of the turbulent element set about to intimidate the peaceable population. One night they went to the residence of councilman Adolph Krakauer and shot the front door full of holes. They behaved nearly as badly at the residence of mayor Schutz and the homes of one or two other councilmen.

"All quiet citizens, and for that matter the city council, were in a state of turmoil. The council hurriedly met and authorized Mr. Schutz to take what steps he thought necessary to preserve order, advising him to consult with the city attorney as



SOLOMON SCHUTZ
Third Mayor Of El Paso. (An early picture.)

to the legality of his act. I was then city attorney.

On Job Early.

"Maj. Noyes Rand, father of W. J. Rand, told mayor Schutz he knew of a man who could and would 'hold down the town.' This man was Dallas Stoudenmire.

"I suppose, Mr. Stoudenmire, you know what you are expected to do," I said, swearing him in. His reply was substantially, 'Yes, and I will do it.'

"In a few hours I heard a succession of pistol shots in the neighborhood of a group of saloons that stood about where Hotel Paso del Norte is now. I hurried to the scene of the fight.

"Stoudenmire was holding a re-

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volver in his right hand as I approached. He stood in the middle of El Paso street with a semi-circle of dead and wounded men about him. Campbell was being carried away mortally wounded.

Finally Killed.

"Stoudenmire tossed his pistol into his left hand and came toward me. 'I had to do it judge,' he said as we shook hands."

Stoudenmire's fight on the lawless element in which he killed a number of men and was later in a fatal encounter with the Manning brothers has been retold many times by old timers in El Paso. Dr. Manning, who was credited with Stoudenmire's death, died a few months ago in Arizona.

Six Councilmen.

Mayor Schutz had six councilmen in his administration, according to deputy city clerk G. N. Gorham. They were Ben L. Dowell, the city's first mayor; Mr. Krakauer, J. D. Ochoa, Antonio Hart of Hart's mill, S. C. Slade and Joseph Magoffin. Mr. Magoffin was later elected mayor.

Records in the city hall show the marshal was getting \$50 a month in 1881 but his pay was later increased to \$75 when he complained that \$50 was "barely sufficient for payment of board and room."

Vagabonds were loitering even at that time and the council voted a fine on conviction of not more than \$10 to be worked out on the city streets.

Born In Germany.

Mr. Schutz was born in Westphalia, Germany, in 1846 and came to El Paso walking and by stage in 1865, according to his son, W. R. Schutz. He was United States consul for a time and then went into business with his brother, Albert Schutz. The old S. Schutz & Brother mercantile establishment was on the site of the present Herald building and the family lived next door on San Francisco street.

For 40 years the family lived in a two story brick house at Campbell street and Myrtle avenue. This building was recently razed to make room for a filling station. Mr. Schutz returned to Germany for his bride, Miss Frieda Heiman.

Funeral On Monday.

He had been in poor health for the past two years and traveled considerably. He had gone to visit his daughter, Mrs. J. W. Moss, in Ocean Park just a week before his death there Thursday.

Besides Mrs. Moss, Mr. Schutz is survived by a second daughter, Mrs. Adelia Hofgard in Norway and by three sons, W. R. of El Paso, Harry H. of Houston and Hal E. Schutz of Dallas.

Mr. Schutz was a past worshipful master of Masonic lodge 130 and honorary president of the El Paso County Pioneers' association. These two organizations will have charge of the funeral services in which rabbi Martin Zielonka will officiate.

The body will be brought here Monday and services, held in the Peak-Hagedon funeral home Monday at 4 p. m. with burial in the Jewish plot in Concordia cemetery.