



TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER



AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

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NOVEMBER, 1973

Your House Is On Fire? Well, Just Call On Lil

SPRING LAKE -- The Spring Lake Volunteer Fire Department has on its fire fighting crew the only woman in Cumberland County to complete training and become a fully active firewoman.

She is Mrs. Lillian Boatwright, divorcee and mother of two, who works days driving a VOLAR bus at Ft. Bragg.

Mrs. Boatwright -- "Lil" to the crew -- completed training two years ago and was admitted as a member of the fire crew in February, 1972.

Since then she had done it all. She is one of the six members authorized to drive the fire truck, and at a fire might find herself doing anything the guys do, including manning a hose nozzle.

She never planned to be a fireman.

"There were no firemen in my family," she said.

It came about quite by accident, she said.

Around Thanksgiving two years ago, a friend's trailer caught fire, and there was "some trouble" getting the fire department there.

"We girls -- there were four of us -- got to thinking that if they (the fire department) were going to take so long to come, we would ask them what we could do in the way of where to place a garden hose and that sort of thing," she said.

They talked to then chief Richard Turner about the problem, and came away with an invitation to attend the department's meetings. Which they accepted.

"The guys showed us about the truck and all the tools. They handed us a hose and said, 'Here, shoot some water.' So there we were shooting water down Spring

Avenue, having a ball."

Chief Turner then suggested that the four women "join us."

They accepted, again never expecting to become firemen.

"I thought we could do things like sweep the floor. That would at least free other guys to go fight fires," said Mrs. Boatwright.

The four went through the toil of fire training, then applied for membership. The department members voted approval, then it went to the town board of aldermen, which discovered that three of the women lived outside the Spring Lake town limits.

That left Lil. She became a fireman.

In voting acceptance of her membership, she says, "I think there were some reservations" among members of the department itself. There

Continued on page 12



Top Fireman Bobby Kanipe At Work In Daily Independent Plant - Kannapolis Independent Photo

Mt. Mitchell Man

Fireman-Of-The-Year

CABARRUS COUNTY -- Bobby Kanipe of Mt. Mitchell is Cabarrus County's Fireman - of - the - Year.

This award, and Fireman - of - the - Year honors for a dozen volunteer fire departments, were presented at a recent meeting of the Cabarrus Firemen's Association at Rocky Ridge United Methodist Church in southern Cabarrus. Kanipe was also named Mt. Mitchell's Fireman - of - the - Year.

Other department Firemen - of - the - Year included:

Kannapolis Sanitary District -- James Hough; Royal Oaks -- Dean Canup; Winecoff -- Walter Reading; Cold Water -- Luther Barrier; Flowe's Store -- Rayvon Allmon; Georgeville -- Bobby Widen; Jackson Pak (Concord) -- Bill Carter; Midland -- J. B. Jordan; Mt. Pleasant -- Alvin Ray Hurlocker; Pitts -- Curley Elliott; Poplar Tent -- Lawrence Litaker and Charles Deal.

Don Moody, retiring president of the association, presented the awards.

Chaplain Claude Donahue of Kannapolis, installed the 1973 - 74 officers, including Bill Barnhardt of Mt. Pleasant, president; Paul Hileman of Mt. Mitchell, first vice president; Turner Shinn of Georgville, second vice president; Harry Stokes of Royal Oaks, secretary - treasurer.

Kanipe, who is employed in The Daily Independent's press department helped organize the Mt. Mitchell VFD in 1967.

He is No. 1 truck driver and pump operator on the fire - fighting staff and serves as the firemen's secretary. He is also on the department's board of directors.

He is a member of Keller United Church of Christ, serving as assistant secretary - treasurer of the Sunday School and secretary - treasurer of the Boy Scout committee.

He and Mrs. Kanipe, the former Miss Sue Cline, have two children, Jeffrey and Paula. The family lives across the Old Salisbury - Concord from the fire station.

Smokehouse Is Built For Fire Department

ROCKY MOUNT -- Spending some \$2,500 in federal revenue sharing funds, and saving some \$4,000 by doing the job themselves, Rocky Mount firemen have completed construction of a Fire Department smokehouse.

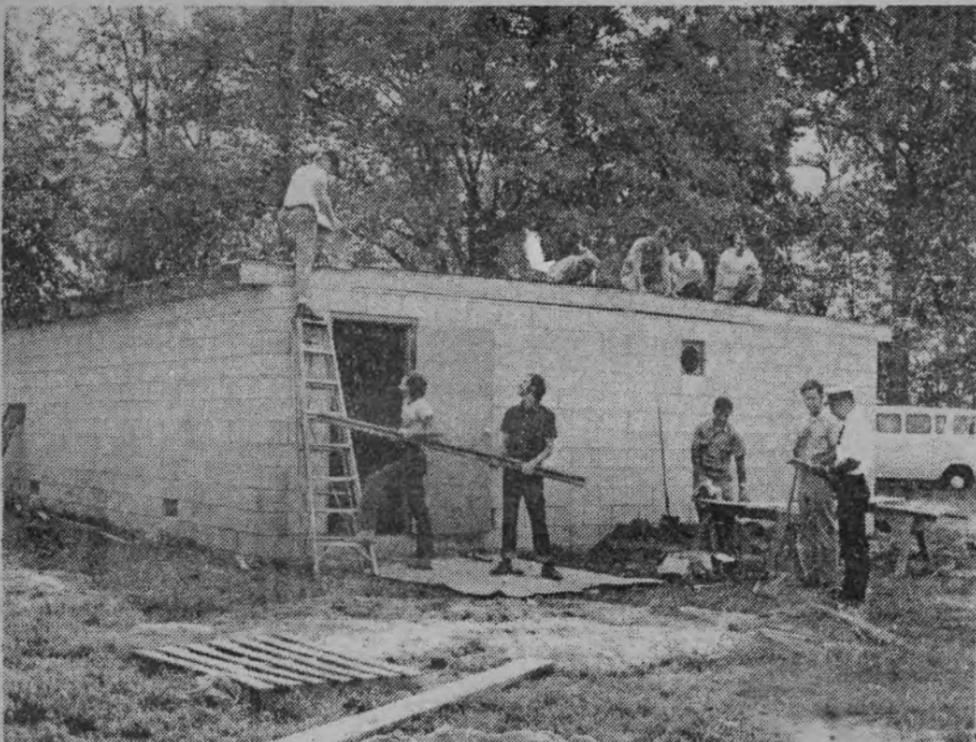
The smokehouse is located at the Rocky Mount Fire Training area on the Tar River, and will be used to teach firemen the use of breathing equipment and search - and - rescue procedures.

"The majority of fire victims are killed by smoke inhalation, not by flames," explained Fire Chief John Sykes. "That's why the ability to move without hesitation into a smoke - filled house is vital. Until this facility was built we had to go to Tarboro or Wilson for this training."

Firemen constructed the entire building, except for the laying of cinder blocks, in a week.

According to Sykes this produced nearly \$4,000 in savings for the City. "We hope the department can use part of the savings for continued improvements of our fire training facilities.

The new smokehouse made its debut Nov. 1 when firemen from Rocky Mount, Tarboro, Edgecombe and Nash Counties joined for two days of rigorous training in an area - wide fire school.



FRUGAL FIREMEN -- City firemen complete work on their smokehouse here which will be used to train firemen in use of breathing equipment and search-and-rescue operations. In the foreground Fire Chief John Sykes examines the finishing touches for the building. By constructing the building themselves, firemen saved the city almost \$4,000. --Rocky Mount Telegram Photo--

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Editorial



EMILY H. KING

Recently, while in the Roanoke, Va., area with my husband on a construction job, an incident, relating to the fire service occurred which brought to my attention something new in the way of assistance by a fire department that had not occurred to me before. Perhaps this is something you are already familiar with and I had just not been aware of it, but it seemed a very real way to help in the prevention of fire, as well as possibly saving lives as a result.

Maybe I should tell more about the incident before I get started on my dissertation, but I suppose most of you are used to me sometimes getting the cart before the horse! The truth of the matter is I only heard a brief account over the car radio, and was unable to get a newspaper account for further details but the part I heard was enough to bring out the service by the fire department, and I must confess I was not listening too closely before then!

This service by the firemen came about as a result of an automobile accident in the downtown section which resulted in a bad traffic jam during the heavy afternoon traffic. No one was badly injured and only two vehicles were involved, but one of the vehicles either sprang a leak in the gasoline line or tank -- as I said, I was not paying too much attention prior to the mention of the fire department. It seems the firemen were called to keep the area hosed down to prevent the spread of the gasoline, and I assumed to lessen the chances of combustion. Since this occurred within the city limits I assumed a department was relatively close by, but as I said I cannot recall having heard of a situation such as this before, although I am sure

there are many such accidents. I know that the fire departments are called in cases of gasoline or fuel truck accidents quite often, but for a regular motor vehicle I do not know if this is usual practice or not.

It might be that using help from the average fire department is not always applicable, especially for highway accidents, but I feel sure there are many that result in fire or explosion or both due to the spillage or leaking of gasoline by damage to the vehicle or vehicles involved. I also realized that firemen have enough to do, not to go chasing after all the motor accidents that happen, but it seems to me, that in many cases there is a leakage, which should certainly be noticed by the investigating officer, in time to radio for help from the central bureau by the nearest department. In such cases it certainly should lessen the number of automobile fires or perhaps death, in case the occupant was trapped in the vehicle.

Possibly other substances may be more effective to use than water in some cases, at least on the stricken vehicle, but the hosing down of the area should certainly limit the danger to observers and aides at the scene, or perhaps dwellings, etc. in the immediate area. This, too, might save a life or lives, since people who stop at the scene of such accidents are usually too busy trying to see or find out what happened to notice a trickle of gasoline in a lot of cases.

It may be that I am behind the times, and you already have something towards such a program going for you in your department and already such calls. I wonder how many times you do get such preventive calls, or is it like some police work, nothing can be done, until it actually starts a fire? In police work, I mean a crime! The only time I can recall seeing a fire truck at the scene of an accident is after a vehicle has caught fire! Correct me if I'm wrong, please! Because as all of us know, this is almost always too late.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays!

Emily H. King

Emily H. King

Gene Tignor Is Fire Chief

KINGS MOUNTAIN -- Gene Tignor, assistant chief of the volunteer fire department for nearly 12 years, was named chief of the fire department by the city commission recently.

He was named acting chief at the retirement of veteran chief Floyd Thornburg.

The Kings Mountain Fire Department now numbers 16 men.

Mr. Tignor, owner and operator of Tignor Garage on Cleveland Avenue, is a veteran firefighter.

He is a Legionnaire, active in the Legion baseball program, and

Continued on page 12

Wilson Fire Department

Promotions Announced



R.C. SMITH



ELVIN STONE



HUBERT TYSON JR.

WILSON -- City Manager T. Bruce Boyette has announced three City of Wilson promotions.

Capt. R.C. Smith Jr., supervisor of the city's Fire Prevention Bureau, has been made Chief City Safety Officer; Elvin V. Stone, now a Wilson Fire Department fire inspector, has been made a captain with the fire department and will become supervisor of the Fire Prevention Bureau; and Hubert Tyson Jr. has been promoted from Fireman to Fire Inspector in the Wilson Fire Department.

In his new position, a newly created one for the city, Smith will work to develop and implement a safety program for all City of Wilson employees, according to Boyette. The

program will be designed to bring all city departments and operations into compliance with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1971.

Smith, a native of Fremont, has been with the Wilson Fire Department since 1952. In 1956 he was promoted to captain and in 1967 he became Fire Prevention superintendent.

He is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College and is a certified instructor in firemanship training. In addition, Smith is chairman of first aid instruction for the Wilson County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

In addition to his work with the fire department, Smith is a member of the Wilson Sertoma Club where he is a past president and he is a Mason.

A native of Wilson and a graduate of Fike High School, Capt. Stone has been with the Wilson Fire Department since

1969. He will take over Smith's former duties and will be primarily concerned with administering the education, inspection and enforcement phases of the city's fire prevention program.

Stone has attended Wilson Technical Institute and the Fire Prevention School at the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill.

He is a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, is a boy scout counselor, and a Vietnam veteran.

Tyson, also a native of Wilson, is a graduate of Speight High School. He has attended Wilson Technical Institute and the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill.

A member of Bethel AME Zion Church, Tyson is also a Mason. He was a member of the U.S. Air Force for four years and served a tour of duty in Vietnam.

Valdese Names 17-Year Veteran Fire Chief

VALDESE -- Sherrill Brittain has been named chief of the Valdese Fire Department replacing Aubrey Anderson, who recently retired after more than 38 years of service.

Brittain had been acting chief since Anderson went into semi-retirement about three and one half months ago.

Entering the department as a fireman in 1956, Brittain has had more than 17 years with the department.

Ernest Bartalot has been named deputy chief. He has been with the department for seven years and was a volunteer fireman for six months before becoming a paid fireman. He was a captain at the time of his promotion. In early spring he was certified as a fire instructor by Western Piedmont Community College, Morganton. Bartalot is qualified to teach 14 different subjects relating to fire protection. His wife Geraldine, is president of the department's ladies' auxiliary.

Brittain, a native of Valdese, is married to the former Betty Raye Sherrill.

He attended the Valdese schools and then began working for Waldensian Hosiery now Alba Waldensian Inc.

Brittain entered the Army in 1953 and served for two years. 18 months in Alaska. Returning to Valdese he began working in the public works department of the town. After about three months he was transferred to the fire department.

We Should Look At Fire Hazards

SANFORD -- Popularity and increase of high rise buildings for residential condominiums, office buildings, dormitories, banks, public housing and other uses prompt a searching review of current fire and building codes.

Kern Church, a deputy State insurance commissioner, is concerned that the high rise creates a potentially dangerous situation for office workers and apartment dwellers. He is the official in this state in charge of engineering and building codes. A review of nationwide trends in fire safety regulations has been assigned to a special committee which held a public hearing on new recommendations on November 7 in Charlotte.

Church thinks that the chief problem is the current attitude of workmen "to pay less and less attention to details." He reminds that workmen in today's building techniques often bore holes for heating ducts running from floor to floor; even plumbing and electrical conduit holes are cut and not properly covered or installed. All of these things tend to create a chimney effect, should fire ever break out in such structures. Architects are paid for designing buildings, and seldom give the attention they should to follow-up on building jobs.

New building techniques such as putting up a skeleton then facing it with a smooth outside skin of metal or glass, suspended a few inches away from the structure, serves to create a chimney for fire in event it should ever strike.

Wide use of foam for upholstery cushions and the increase in the amount of plastic used in furniture of all kinds has filled buildings with more combustibles, certain to make fire move faster.

It requires only a glance about once rural Sanford to realize all of this is valid criticism. The realization is of course that in the final analysis the local building inspectors are the ones charged with responsibility of seeing that building and safety codes are enforced.

Let's give our city building inspector every cooperation possible. Time is ripe for the county to adopt the state building code and to enforce it equitably. Let's not wait for a high rise fire disaster to make us conscious of the need of special regulations that affect buildings of more than one story. This could easily be a future hospital, future school buildings in this county, and other high rise structures already dotting our landscape. --Sanford Herald--



CHAPEL HILL — HONORED — Chapel Fireman Albert Williams (center) was named Fireman of the Year by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Jaycees in ceremonies recently. Williams was chosen for the honor by his fellow firemen. He is a graduate of the former Lincoln High School here where he played football. He has been a fireman with the Chapel Hill Fire Department for five years. He and his wife, Asie, have two children. They live on Roberts Street in Carrboro. Presenting the award is Jaycee Charles Carver (left). Fire Chief Everett Lloyd (right) is holding the plaque with the names of the recipients of the annual award. Williams is the fifth recipient. --Chapel Hill Weekly Photo --

Shannon Fire Department Has Brand New Home And Truck

SHANNON -- Donald Humphrey, Chief of Shannon Fire Department, talks enthusiastically concerning their relatively new building and brand new, fire red fire truck.

The department has been in existence for only a short period of time, and already they have a building erected and a fire truck ready to answer all calls within a four mile radius. The radius is determined by the State Inspector. The truck has the necessary equipment to fight fires, but will have additional equipment within the very near future.

In case of fire call 843-3288. The Red Springs Police Department has agreed to serve as

dispatcher for the department.

The land for the building was donated by George W. Southern of Shannon, and the department will be named in his honor, and his late grandson Arnie Southern. Arnie spent many hours in Volunteer service before his untimely death this past summer.

The truck thus far has cost \$15,000 dollars. Five thousand of this, which has already been paid, was for the chassis.

Robeson Technical Institute is to be commended for the service rendered in erecting the building, such as masonry, electrical wiring, and also for giving instructions in fire fighting.

Besides Chief Humphrey, others serving are Assistant Chief,

Robert Williams, Captain Howard (Mack) Hawks, Lieutenant Anthony Blanks, and Treasurer, B. E. Simpson.

Setzer Named Chief

CONOVER -- Conover commissioners appointed William Larry Setzer, long-time volunteer fireman, chief of the department at their regular October meeting. Setzer assumed his duties immediately, succeeding John A. Bolick, who retired after 30 years of service on September 30.

The appointment was made upon the recommendation of the

majority of the members of the voluntary fire department. "We are pleased with the recommendation of Mr. Setzer and we feel that he is well qualified and will be a credit to the department in his new position," Mayor Harvey O. Hawn said.

Ronald G. Kaylor was appointed assistant fire chief.

Officers Elected At JP-VFD

JACKSON PARK -- New officers of the Jackson Park Volunteer Fire Department are Leonard Kiser, president; John Cline, vice-president; Pete McCachren, secretary; and Bill Carter, treasurer.

Walter Burr is chief. Other squad officers are Benny Mabrey and Bill Carter, assistant chief;

Mike Phillips and Carl Wilkerson, captains. Jim Pharr is secretary and Dutch Clay is treasurer.

Directors are: Wilson Burton, Merlin Barber, Homer Connell, Clay, Johnny Hagler and Warren Burris, one-year terms; Hugh Price, Mike Phillips, Sonny Newell, Howard Love, Johnny Cline and Mabry, two-year terms.

Firemen answered 59 alarms between Sept. 21, 1972 and Sept. 21, 1973 that had an accumulated loss of \$53,000. Property exposed to fire was valued at \$485,000.

One fire death was recorded during the year.

Firemen traveled a total of 156 miles.

Two firemen attended the state fire and pump school. Six attended an arson seminar and seven took part in the county training program.

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Firemen's Parade A Success

ELIZABETH CITY -- The Albemarle Fireman's Association's Fifth Annual Fire Prevention Parade took place in Elizabeth City on October 6. Due to the efforts of W. A. Weeks, President of the Albemarle Firemen's Association and member of Weeksville Volunteer Fire Department, and A. W. Poole, chief of the Elizabeth City Fire Department, along with other fire department members the parade was a roaring success.

Some 38 entrees were assembled for the parade - including fire fighting equipment, scout troops, and recognized members of the A. F. A. The Northeastern High School along with Columbia High School Marching Bands provided marching units and music. The A. F. A. was also fortunate in having a segment of the Norfolk Fire Division Band to participate. With the exception of one member, this group was made up entirely of retired firemen.

Also on hand was Kermit Layton, Jr., Executive Director for the Association, and Dennis Swain, Chairman of the Board of Directors. Completing the Annual Parade was one unit from the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station, another from the N. C. Forestry Service, and of course, Smokey the Bear.

After the parade, all participants assembled at the Elizabeth City Fire Station to enjoy refreshments and conversation. Executive Director Layton said: "The purpose of the Fire Prevention Parade is not only to stress Fire Prevention Week, but also to bring fellowship into the A.F.A. and its affairs. The firemen really enjoy working together and getting together with fellow A. F. A. members from different towns and communities." The Association which began in 1967, has been growing with great strides



Elizabeth City Fire Department



Columbia Fire Department

throughout its ten county area. "The unity within the Albemarle Fireman's Association - exemplified by joint efforts such as this Fire Prevention Parade - can be readily felt and seen," Layton said.

Next year the Association hopes to make a full day of the parade and its activities, along with some competitive games among the departments. The Association extends a hearty thanks to the citizens who made this year's parade a success.

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LITTLETON -- FIREMEN USE NEW TRUCK -- Recently the new John Beam 750 GPM Pumper fire truck was put into use when the fire department was called out to two fires at two different places. Joe W. Atkins, Jr., chief of the Littleton Fire Department, pointed out the place that the new truck filled and will possibly fill again and again, when they are called to more than one fire at the same time. This back-up truck, which cost \$28,000.00, is yellow, not the customary red, as people are used to seeing fire trucks painted. Atkins also expressed thanks again to the citizens of Warren and Halifax County, the Roanoke Patterson Employees Association, the Town of Littleton and all who gave donations towards the purchase of this new truck. The fire department still needs your help to keep the department up-to-date with fire fighting equipment to better serve you. Left to right, standing, Raymond Jenkins, Joe Atkins, Jr., Robert Shearin, Clyde Pegram. Sitting on truck, Wyatt Pegram, Randy Odom and Terry Gray. --Littleton Observer Photo--

Volunteer Fire Chief Is Dead

MOUNT OLIVE--McCoy Summerlin, an organizer and chief of Duplin County's Hopewell Volunteer Fire Department and a veteran member of the Mount Olive Fire Department died at N.C. Memorial Hospital recently.

He was 58. Mr. Summerlin was badly burned in Mount Olive recently in a fire on a gas company service truck he was operating, Mount Olive fire officials said.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Nannie Lou Summerlin; four sons, Major Billy McCoy Summerlin of Jacksonville, N.C., Jimmy of Kenansville, David and Henry Paul Summerlin, both of the home; two daughters, Mrs. Mary Lou Hudson of Mount Olive

and Miss Eva Nan Summerlin of the home; his mother, Mrs. Minnie Summerlin of Mount Olive, one brother, Clayton Summerlin of Mount Olive; eight-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Oak-Wolf firemen. Honorary pallbearers were from the Oak-Wolf department and the Mount Olive Fire Department.

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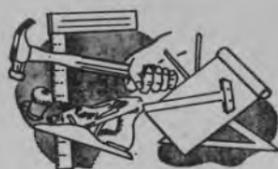
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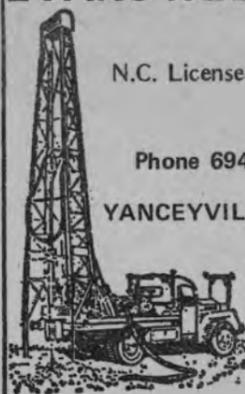
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WILSON, N. C.

Captain Leaves Fire Department

WILMINGTON -- C.C. Jordan recently retired from the Wilmington Fire Department.

Jordan ended 39 years of continuous municipal service as the master mechanic at fire headquarters, 20 South Fourth St. Next to Assistant Fire Chief W.W. Glisson, Jordan has the most seniority of any current city employee.

The majority of Jordan's 39 years with the department has been spent in the maintenance shop. He has performed the dirty, and generally unrecognized job, of keeping the fire equipment in running order.

Since 1940, Jordan has had the responsibility of maintaining the fire trucks in an operating condition.

He has succeeded to the extent that he has won the admiration of fellow firemen.

"He was a dedicated employee and a real good friend," said Fire Chief Robert Shipp. "He had the ability to do a real fine job. We are going to miss him in the department."

Although Jordan held the rank of captain, he was always a familiar figure around the station in faded blue work clothes. It was probably inevitable that the recognition went to the department's officers who held leadership positions.

But, the engines they rode on to the false alarms and to the disasters were operational because Jordan's dedication and expertise.

It was a tough job. Some of the city's pumper vehicles date to the 1950s and one dates to 1939. Replacement parts for many of the department's vehicles have been handmade.

Jordan joined the department on May 8, 1934, as an \$84-a-month private. The fire shifts were arduous. Day shifts were 11 hours daily for seven days. Night shifts were 13 hours long for the same period.

But, it was a pretty good deal for Jordan. He said his appointment to the fire department almost doubled his depression wages as a shoe repairman.

In 1940 he began working with

the department's mechanic, D.E. Millinor, on the city's fire trucks. Jordan credits Millinor, who would later be appointed chief, with teaching him the mechanic's trade.

Many of the vehicles they worked on, recalls Jordan, were vintage department pumpers from 1914 to 1917. In the year ahead, old vehicles continued to be a source of trouble.

Jordan recalls many incidents sprinkled through the years when he, and other maintenance men, worked a day, a night and another day to keep engines in operational order.

"The older equipment was harder and harder to keep running," said Jordan. "Mostly, we had to use ingenuity to keep them going."

The fire department of 1973 is completely unrecognizable to Jordan as the outfit he joined 39 years ago. He said numerous changes have taken place in every area.

"There have been desperate changes," said Jordan. "I would never have believed that so much would take place. Sometimes I stop and dream about how times have changed so much."

Jordan set aside the tools that have been his friends, and walked away from the station house for the last time. If there is a landmark in Jordan's life it is probably the station house. In 39 years of service, he has only been assigned away from it for 15 days.

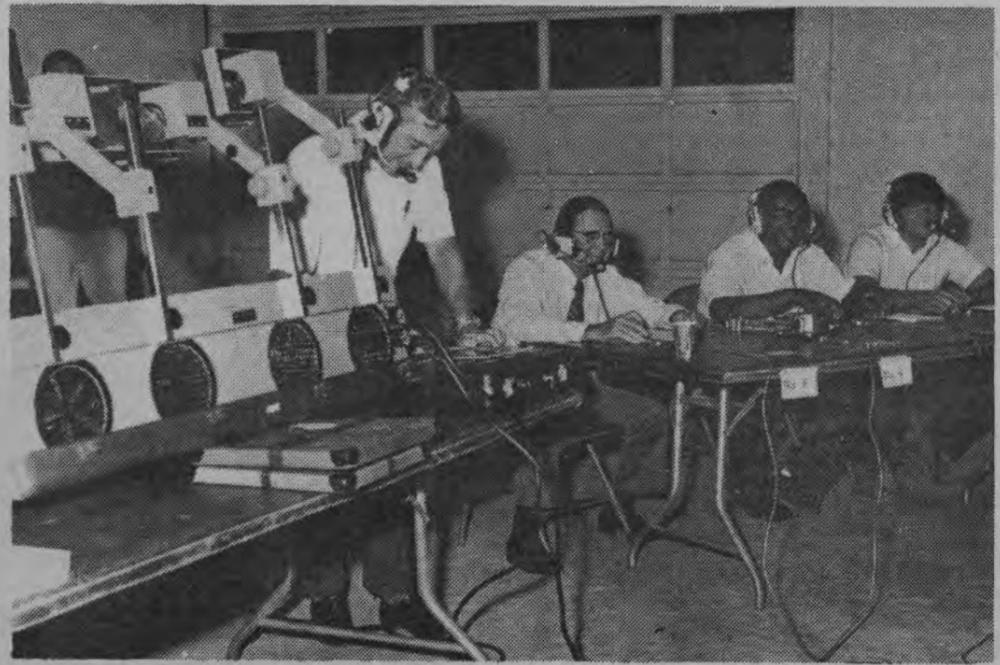
For the last 14 years, Jordan has worked for half pay. He could have retired in 1959, after 25 years of service, and received half his pay as a pension.

"It had been good to me and I liked it here," said Jordan. "I had no reason to change."

Jordan is unsure about the future.

He has a daughter to visit in California and grandchildren he has never seen. Jordan said he may even go back to work, eventually. But, now he is anxious to go to California.

Jordan and his wife, Annie B., live at 114 Pinecrest Parkway. (Wilmington Star by John Randt)



FIRE SERVICE TRAINING participants at RTI include (l to r) Sam Byrd, Mutt McNeill, Delton Morgan, and one unidentified fireman. The Lumberton Robesonian Photo

Volunteer Firemen Participate In RTI Fire Service Training

ROBESON COUNTY -- The volunteer firemen in the area are concerned with fire prevention all year long, not just during Fire Prevention Week and at their request the second officers' training class for this year was held at the Allenton Fire Department.

Through the cooperative efforts of Mutt McNeill, County Fire Marshall, Delbert Morgan, Chief of the Firemen's Association of Robeson County, and Robeson Technical Institute, three sessions were held for local firemen.

The workshop centered around coordinating the joint efforts among fire departments to fight large - scale fires. Basics, tactics, strategies, and pre - planning were emphasized. Through the use of elaborate audio - visual and other aids, simulated conditions of large - scale fires were presented to groups as problems. Officers learned to make command decisions and direct the over-all operations for the greatest speed and efficiency. Pre - planning such situations shows firemen what is expected so they can fit in an

operation requiring the aid of more than one fire department. The command officer, in return can utilize all firemen for maximum effectiveness.

Assisting at the workshop were

Harmon Kivett, area coordinator; Fred Ipock, fire service coordinator from the state office;

and Captain Sam Byrd of the Lumberton Fire Department.

East Side Fire Names Harrington

ASHEBORO -- Richard Harrington was elected president of the East Side Volunteer Fire Department during the annual business meeting recently.

Other officers elected included Kenneth McFadden, vice-president; Lonnie Nance, secretary; and Edward Buckner, treasurer.

Named directors in addition to the officers were: J.W. Wilson, Jr., Bill Trogdon and Jerry Jarrett.

Fire Chief Donald Clapp gave a year end report of activities which included a list of 37 fire calls made during the past year.

Speaker at the annual session was Asheboro Fire Chief John

McGlohon, who spoke on the importance of volunteer fire departments, and the valuable services being performed by volunteer firemen.

Retiring president William Beane noted the department is in its sixth year of operation.

East side operates out of a new fire station just off Highway 42 east of Asheboro.

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Wind Swept Fire Destroys Much Of Campground

Fire swept by winds destroyed nearly half of the 179-year old Rock Springs Methodist Campground near Denver in Lincoln County recently.

Firemen from at least eight departments battled the blaze for two-and-a-half hours before finally containing it.

The main campground building, an open tabernacle which seats about 400, was not damaged.

Flames damaged or destroyed about 95 of the 223 standing

cabins at the meeting ground.

High winds hampered efforts of firemen to keep the blaze from spreading in a semi-circle around the eastern half of the cabins.

Dry straw covering the dirt floors of the "tents" as patrons of the grounds called the 223 adjoining wooden shelters arranged in two concentric squares within the rough oval of the campground, contributed to spreading of the flames, firemen said.

Firemen used tank trucks and bulldozers in efforts to contain the flames to as small a portion of the grounds as possible and to prevent the fire from spreading to the surrounding woods.

About 50 shelters were destroyed by the blaze or cleared by bulldozers in the formation of a firebreak to contain the flames. Another 45 were extensively damaged and will have to be rebuilt, frequent visitors to the campground said.

The fire was spotted by Joe Barker of Denver about 10:40 a.m. His wife notified the Denver Volunteer Fire Department which had units on the scene by 10:50 a.m.

Denver firemen said the flames were spreading rapidly when they arrived at the campgrounds eight-tenths of a mile from Denver. They put in a call for assistance from surrounding fire fighting units.

Personnel and equipment from

at least eight departments including three from Catawba County and four from Lincoln County responded to the call and joined efforts to contain the fire.

Units were sent from Maiden, Sherrills Ford - Terrell, East Lincoln County, North 321, Bandy's Crossroads and Boger City Fire Departments.

By 1:30 p.m. firemen had contained the flames to the eastern half of the meeting ground and were concentrating on preventing any further spreading of the fire.

Lincoln County Sheriff's Department deputies and state highway patrolmen were stationed at the intersection of Highway 16 and the campground road in Denver to prevent spectators from driving to the scene. Despite efforts, a large number of Denver residents walked and drove to the scene.

Mrs. Barker said three generations of her family had been attending the annual month-long Methodist meeting at the site for 33 years. She and her husband indicated that they would rebuild their shelter.

The campground was built in 1794 and was the scene of the first meeting held under Methodist auspices in the state. It was first known as Rehobeth, but three years later (in 1797) was named Rock Springs. The campground was established on donated woodlands in 1760's.

It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Only twice have the grounds been closed during the summer camp meeting dates; once during the Civil War and once during the polio scare of 1948. -- Hickory Daily Record by Chuck Felts --



Fire Leaves Path Of Destruction At Rock Springs Campground --Hickory Daily Record Photo--

Confucius say: "Fellow who takes snort while driving may get cop for chaser."

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Kelly Volunteer Firemen Complete Training Program

KELLY -- Tuesday night, October 23, nine members of the Kelly Volunteer Fire Department completed a fire service training program sponsored at Bladen Technical Institute. The occasion was celebrated by a venison supper served by the members, with a graduation ceremony afterwards.

Three courses were included in the program, Ventilation, Fire Apparatus Practices and Fire Fighting Procedures. The program began on August 21, and consisted of 33 hours of instruction. During the training period, much of the time was

spent in practical application type activities as well as classroom instruction.

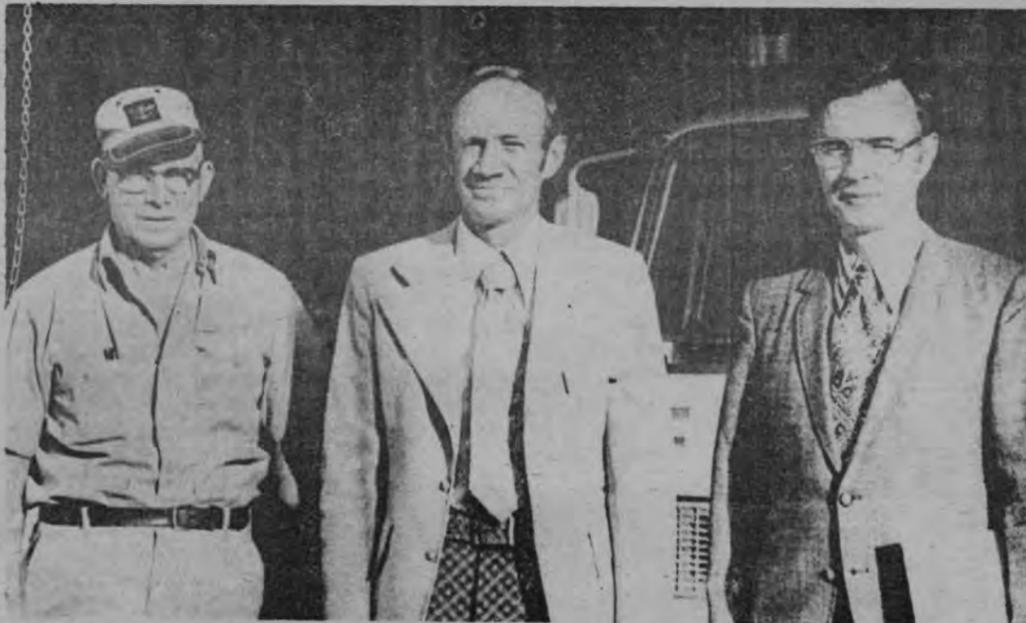
Captain Sam Byrd of the Lumberton Fire Department was the instructor for the course. This makes 195 hours of training that the Kelly Firemen have received, and Captain Byrd has been the instructor for all of them. During

the graduation ceremony, Captain Byrd stated that he was well pleased with the achievements of the Kelly Fire Department. He also made mention of the fact that the Kelly Fire Department has received more training than any other volunteer fire department in this part of the state.

Among those receiving certificates were Chief Aubrey Russ, Robert Mitchell, Jerry Potter, Leon Ray Potter, John Russ II, Glenn Squires, Jack Squires, Archie Corbett, and William Potter.

The certificates were presented by Jimmy Gaylord, Dean of Instruction at Bladen Tech.

Gaylord congratulated the group on their progress and encouraged them to continue their training in the future. The ceremony was also attended by Donald Trivette, Director of Adult Education at Bladen Tech.



MANTEO -- STATE INSPECTOR AND FIRE OFFICIALS -- FIRE INSPECTOR JIM ROBERSON (R) visited Manteo recently for the first official state inspection since 1964. Engineer Joe Davenport (L) and Roanoke Island Fire Chief Jack Wilson were on hand to show Roberson around. Purpose of the inspection was to determine the town's insurance classification, Roberson said. His official title is municipal inspector for the North Carolina fire insurance rating bureau. Presently, Manteo is an eighth classification town, about as high as the town can afford, Roberson said. The next step would require paid men on duty, he said. Wilson said that the town had apparently met all the requirements and that Roberson had found the water system and fire equipment in good shape. He is hopeful that the town insurance rate will be allowed within a radius of three miles, he said. Wanchese would be excluded unless a truck was stationed in the community and volunteers from Wanchese could be enlisted to join the fire department. Roberson is the brother of John Roberson, Manteo High School faculty member. --Coastland Times--

New Hope VFD celebrates 20th

NEW HOPE -- New Hope Road Volunteer Fire Department, the grandfather of all 17 county volunteer fire departments, is 20 years old now.

The 27-man crew celebrated its 20th anniversary with an open house at the fire station at the intersection of Beatty Road and New Hope Road.

The men displayed equipment, served refreshments and explained the history of the first volunteer fire department in the county. Elwood Enscoe, deputy commissioner of fire and rescue service of the North Carolina Fire Commission was the speaker.

Before New Hope Road VFD was organized, if a house caught

fire outside the city limits, it simply burned to the ground unless neighbors could form a successful bucket brigade.

The ambitious group of volunteers starting the first VFD attempted to cover the entire county. Their station was a small dirt floor garage which housed "Old Smokey," the first volunteer fire engine.

Smokey was a combination army truck and street cleaning tank. Smokey retired in 1965.

Five charter members of the original crew are still serving. They are Jack Forbes, A.A. McGinnis, Earl McGalliard, C.P. Starrett, T.C. Baucom, and Schenk Craig.

New Hope Road now has two modern pumping trucks and two forest fire trucks for four wheel drive.

Acting chief Baucom said that every year since New Hope Road was organized in 1953, the county has suffered less fire damage.

Jimmy Jobe Is Named Fire Citizen

MEBANE -- A Mebane volunteer fireman was named Fire Citizen of the Year by the Burlington-Alamance County Chamber of Commerce recently.

Receiving the honor was Jimmy Jobe, Mebane Public Works Director. Jobe was selected from among all the fire departments in the county.

A native of Mebane, he is a 1962 graduate of Mebane High School. He and his wife have two children and reside at 109 W. McKinley St. in Mebane.

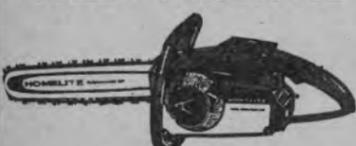
Jobe was associated with Tyson - Malone Hardware for 12 years before joining the town's water department last December. He was named public works director in May.

In addition to being a volunteer fireman, Jobe is also an auxiliary policeman for the Mebane Police Department.



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DURHAM - FIREMEN HONORED -- Certificates for 25 years of continuous service went to 12 Durham firemen recently at the annual Firemen's Barbecue Banquet at the Durham Motel-Hotel. The event was sponsored by the Independent Insurance Agents of Durham recently. Seated, left to right, are Johnny W. Rose, W.H. Murray; Sidney Levy, Sherrill J. Smith, and Jim Eubanks. Standing are L.H. Wheeler, John W.

Pendergrass Jr., C.E. Chandler, E.I. Dillehay, H.C. McDade, N.E. Davis, B.L. Hunt, and Karen Whitfield, Miss Fire Prevention. Four other firemen who received certificates, but were not present at the banquet are Alvesta Bryant, Curtis Canada, W.R. Browning, and C.H. Harris. (Durham Sun Photo)

Two Fire Officers Assistant Chiefs

SALISBURY -- Two members of the Salisbury Fire Department have been promoted to the rank

of assistant chief, according to City Personnel Director Foster Owen.

They are Thomas J. McDaniel and Bernard Penley, both former captains in the department.

Two former senior firemen, David Alexander and Ernest McCray Jr., have been promoted to captain.

The fire department went on a new work schedule reducing the average man hours per week from 68 to 56.

Under the new system, a fireman works four days on the day shift, four days on the night shift, and then is off duty for four days.

The changes in work hours were authorized last summer, when the city council appropriated funds for adding 12 men to the department.



FOREST FIRES HURT OUR FOREST FRIENDS



FOUR OAKS - GIFT TO FOUR OAKS FIREMEN -- Mrs. Jane Parker, president of the Four Oaks Woman's League, presents a check for \$396.75 to R.A. Jackson, chief of the Four Oaks Fire Department. The money was raised during a league-sponsored bake sale October 6 and an open house at the fire department October 14. Over 150 attended the open house, and everyone enjoyed rides on the fire trucks. Mrs. Jackson says, "On behalf of the Four Oaks Woman's League, I thank everyone who helped make these events such a success. We wish the Four Oaks firemen the very best, and urge all citizens to stand behind their efforts." --Smithfield Herald Photo--

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WM. D. (PETE) JAMES

Retired Fire Chief 'Pete' James Dies

ROCKY MOUNT -- William Paul (Pete) James, 67, who started as a volunteer fireman in 1926 and rose to become fire chief for the City of Rocky Mount, died recently in Duke Hospital.

James became a paid fireman Jan. 20, 1929, was appointed assistant chief May 1, 1950, and became fire chief February 3, 1966. He retired April 1, 1971.

Born March 24, 1906, son of the late William Henry and Maggie Fly James, he graduated from Rocky Mount High School.

After attending Atlantic Christian College and as a member of the fire department, James attended several fire schools throughout the State and was a graduate of the North Carolina Fire College and Pump Schools. He was a member of the Rocky Mount Fireman's Relief Fund and the N.C. Fire Chiefs' Association.

James was a member of the Rocky Mount Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Sallie Stephenson James; a daughter, Mrs. Jimmie D. Smith Jr. of Rocky Mount; one grandson, David Smith of Rocky Mount; and two granddaughters, Beth and Sallie Smith of Rocky Mount.



CHINA GROVE -- FIREMAN OF THE YEAR -- Dorsia Atkinson receives a certificate after being named "Fireman of the Year" by the China Grove - Landis Pilot Club. Making the presentation is Mrs. Joyce Eller, the club's safety chairman. The event was held in the Landis Fire Station. Atkinson, a member of the Landis Fire Department for the past 13 years, has served as treasurer of the department, held offices of secretary, and is presently a captain. He is employed by Linn Corriher Corporation in the laboratory. A member of the Landis First Methodist Church, he was recently selected to serve on the advancement committee for Scout Troop 363, which is sponsored by the Landis Church of God. He is married to the former Ruth Bass of Concord and they are parents of two boys, Dorsia Jr. and Charles. Atkinson is well known for his interest in sports, having played soft ball and coached little league ball for a number of years. S. Rowan Times Photo

Firemen Deserve Support

GARNER -- Garner's Volunteer Fire Department recently released its annual report. Every Garner resident should obtain a copy and read and study it.

There are several facts in the two - color brochure that you shouldn't miss, because they tell the story of the tireless Garner firemen - those men who are your neighbors, your friends, that fellow who lives just down the street.

The report says they have their failings and virtues just like anyone else. And, in fact, are like anyone else until the siren blows.

Then they are different. They are on their way to help you, whether it's a fire, an accident or some other emergency. He is not

paid for his time but is motivated by a desire to help.

Recently, a tragic fire claimed two lives in spite of a quick response time from the volunteer firemen. But even then, their work was not done. They answered five more calls that day and seven more in the next 48 hours for a total of 13 fire calls in 57 hours.

They received no pay. They looked for no pay.

These men deserve more than a vote of thanks from the community. They richly deserve a donation of money to help keep the Garner Volunteer Fire Department what most people consider as the best department in the state, bar none. Your donated

dollars will most likely be used to help purchase newer, more sophisticated equipment and to keep present trucks in top running condition.

Won't you give generously to your fire department?

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Traffic Downtown; Morning Fire Halts

HENDERSON -- A fire in the old Central Cafe and Hotel building recently drew a crowd but caused only minor damage to the building, which is now vacant.

According to Captain McFarland at the city fire department, the fire began when an antenna fell from the roof of the building, at the corner of Garnett and Montgomery Streets, and struck nearby power lines.

Power was cut off to a ten-block area for some twenty

minutes as firemen extinguished the blaze and linemen from CP&L repaired the wires.

The fire began in and was confined to wiring in the ceiling of the second floor of the old building. Two units and the entire crew of the Henderson Fire Department were called to the scene, however, because of its proximity to owtown businesses.

The building is now owned by the estate of E. C. Loughlin. Damage is estimated at \$300.



RESTORE POWER AFTER FIRE -- Workers from CP&L remove an antenna from the power lines adjoining the old Central Cafe and Hotel building at Garnett and Montgomery Streets. The antenna earlier caused a short which resulted in a fire in the ceiling of the old structure. A power blackout lasting 20 minutes was reported over a 10-block area. --Daily Dispatch Photo--

Firefighter Is Honored

GREENSBORO -- A young Greensboro man who joined the city's Fire Department just over a year ago was honored recently as "Rookie Fireman of the Year."

Danny D. Shumate, 22, of 1315 Dayton St., who is assigned to Engine 7 at Gatewood and Wendover Avenues, received the award at the Greensboro Exchange Club meeting.

The club sponsored the award -- the first for a rookie fireman in Greensboro -- as a part of the Fire Prevention Week observance.

Fire Chief G.C. "Buck" Wuchae, who presented the award, explained that Shumate was chosen by members of the Fire Department's supervisory staff.

Shumate was picked after an evaluation of his ability "during his probationary training, his examination and the progress he made throughout his first year and in the additional training he took after his probationary training," Wuchae explained.

KING -- The King Fire Department met and surpassed their goal of \$15,000.00 for the annual 1973 drive. This means that the department has enough money to pay off all indebtedness, including that of the new fire truck.

David Sloan and Richard

Westmoreland, co-chairmen of the drive, in a joint statement praised the members of the fire department who contacted the people in the district and collected the cash. They have exceeded their goal by \$500.00 and more has been pledged but not yet received. Both the co-chairmen were gratified at the results and strong in their praise of both the community and the firemen.

It must be pointed out, too,

that the funds were raised in four weeks, one less than the length of the 1972 drive.

The King VFD has an emblem of small dog at a fire plug for their monogram. The dog has been named Phooey and the co-chairmen offered a "Phooey" award to the two firemen who met the quota assigned them first. The winners were Lonnie Long and Vance Sizemore. The firemen worked in the various areas in the fire district in teams of two.



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Big Yadkin Tobacco warehouse smoldered on -- Elkin - Jonesville Tribune Photo

Warehouse Destroyed Big Yadkin Will Be Back

YADKINVILLE -- Despite a fire which destroyed its building and tobacco valued at over half a million dollars, Big Yadkin Tobacco Warehouse was back in business.

Cecil Humphries, owner of the warehouse along U.S. 421 just west of Yadkinville, made arrangements to transfer sales to a warehouse in Courtney.

The Liberty and Courtney warehouses, at present, are selling on alternate days. The arrangement allows Big Yadkin to use the Courtney warehouse, while the Courtney operation will move in with Liberty.

Firemen had no chance to save the 80,000 square foot Big Yadkin Warehouse after receiving a call. By the time the Yadkinville Fire Department had responded "there were flames from corner to corner," according to one fireman.

The department started to put water on the blaze, but the roof collapsed almost immediately and the department had to pull back and watch it burn. Units from Courtney, West Yadkin and Boonville also responded, but could do nothing either.

About 500,000 pounds of tobacco already sold but stored in the warehouse were destroyed, as

were about 100,000 pounds on the floor scheduled for sale.

Farmers who lost tobacco will be paid, based on the average price of tobacco sold on the Yadkinville market for the week, about \$86 per hundred pounds.

The wood frame, metal siding warehouse, which Mr. Humphries had purchased from Ralph White of Elkin, Rt. 1, and E.H. Barnard of Yadkinville just six weeks before the market opened has a replacement cost estimated between \$150,000 and 175,000.

Also lost in the blaze was a tractor-trailer rig owned by Delbert Caudle, loaded with 200 sheets of leaf purchased by Salem-Leaf Co.

Bill Pardue, Yadkin County fire marshal, and State Bureau of Investigation agents are investigating the fire in an attempt to determine its cause.

For a time there was some concern that three employees who ordinarily sleep on an upper level of the warehouse might have been caught in the fire. But it was determined that the three had left early for the weekend, apparently shortly before the fire was discovered.

A fireproof safe in the warehouse office did protect most of the records, including the

growers' federal marketing cards. The cards, however, were warped and are unusable, so growers will be issued new ones. -- Elkin - Jonesville Tribune by Rebel Good Editor

Firemen Go To School

NASH COUNTY -- Ten men from two Nash County Volunteer Fire Departments attended a six-hour fire school recently at Robeson County Technical Institute in Lumberton.

Classroom instruction was held at the No. 2 fire station in Lumberton with open pit burning at the Lumberton Airport.

The classroom instruction consisted of the approach of aircraft and rescue, identification of aircraft and extinguishing burning aircraft.

The men from Stony Creek Fire Department included Chief Paul Rimel, Assistant Fire Chief Ronnie Ayscue, John Perry, Jr., James Moss, Horace Fuller and Gerald Joyner.

Representing the Stony Creek Junior Fire Department were Mark Radford, David Brown and Dennis Williams.

Electrical Situation Could Be Shocker

REIDSVILLE -- "Could you be in for a real shock because of the condition of electrical appliances and cords in your home?"

"Don't wait for a shock or a flash or flame to inspect your home for electrical hazards -- when these things happen, it could be too late for both you and your home."

This is the warning from the Fire Prevention Bureau of the Reidsville Fire Department which urges everyone to include a check of the home electrical situation.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, electrical defects are the third most frequent cause of the fires which destroy or damage an estimated 50,000 homes in the United States each year.

Here are some important check points listed by the bureau.

1. Frayed insulation and loose connections on lamp, appliances and extension cords are danger signals. Repairing like taping over frayed insulation -- is risky. Replace the cord and be safe. Check cords hidden by furniture as well as those out in the open.
2. Cords under rugs are invitations to fire -- walking and vacuuming over cords in the line

of home traffic wears and frays the insulation to the breakdown point. An equally dangerous practice is rigging cords over nails or hooks or tacking them along the baseboards. Get rid of these hazardous conditions by having a qualified electrician install new outlets where needed and bring the electrical service in your home up to the approved standards of the National Electrical Code.

3. For a final electrical safety check, look at the fuse box. Get rid of burned-out fuses, and make sure you are using only those marked "15" amp except on special circuits designed to carry loads. Fuses are electrical safety valves -- never abuse them.



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Fire Department Gets Go Ahead For Hydrants

CLAYTON -- The County Commissioners took steps recently to improve firefighting service at Clayton. The commissioners authorized installation of three fire hydrants along a new water line being built to serve the Cutter Laboratories plant. They also authorized the Clayton Fire Department to serve an area within four miles of the town's corporate limits.

The fire hydrants will be installed on the new water line on the north side of Highway 70 between Clayton and the Cutter

plant site southeast of town. The hydrants will provide firefighting potential for about 75 existing residences across the highway from the new water line and also for future development in the area.

Installation of fire hydrants on a major water line such as the Cutter trunk is a new precedent for County Government. The county has been building 16-inch water lines to serve new rural industries without adding taps for hydrants.

Tom Moore of Ragsdale Engineers said up to now his firm has advised against taps on the county's 16-inch lines because of potential maintenance problems that might result. He said that the hydrant taps would require additional pumping power for the big lines, and that the hydrants themselves would expose the lines to breakage if the hydrants were damaged, for instance, in automobile accidents.

County Commissioner Frank Holding suggested constructing wooden or metal guard rails around the three Clayton hydrants along Highway 70 to help prevent damage resulting from automobile wrecks.

The commissioners' action extending the Clayton fire department's jurisdiction to the four-mile zone was merely a formality, noted Clayton Fire Chief James Norris. He said Clayton firemen have been providing "good service" to outlying areas for some time now.

Fund Begun To Aid Girl

SAWMILLS -- The Sawmills Fire Department has started a fund to aid Kelli Rae Lowman, 3½-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Ray (Jean Simmons) Lowman of Rt. 2, Granite Falls.

She entered Catawba Memorial Hospital Sept. 6 and was moved to the intensive care unit at Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, Sept. 7. Doctors have been unable to diagnose her illness.

Hospital bills for the girl's care are expected to exceed \$1,000. Donations to the fund may be made at any branch of the Northwestern Bank or at Sawmills Hardware, Drum's Exxon or the Sawmills Volunteer Fire Department in Sawmills.

First Woman Fire Inspector Hired

GREENVILLE -- The first woman Fire Inspector for Greenville -- and the third one known to be at work in North Carolina -- is now in place on the job with the Greenville Fire Department.

Mrs. Jane Murray, a Wilson native and graduate of Wilson Technical Institute now living in Greenville, took up her duties as a Fire Inspector on Thursday, October 18.

"Mrs. Murray will be associated with the Greenville Fire Prevention Bureau," Jerry McLawhorn, Greenville's Fire



Mrs. Jane Murray -- Greenville Reflector Photo--

Bostian Heights Elects Officers

SALISBURY -- New officers were elected by the Bostian Heights Fire Department and Auxiliary at its annual membership meeting recently at the fire department.

Department officers are Eddie Weaver, president; Kenneth Weddington, vice president, the outgoing president.

Auxiliary officers are Mrs. Dot Goodman re-elected president and Mrs. Sue Cress retained as vice president. Also elected were Mrs. Louise Kluttz, treasurer; and Mrs. Edith Blackwelder, public relations chairman.

Three new board members were elected, John Cress, Jimmy Kluttz and Brady Yost. Retiring board members are John Sitrewalt, Roy Cline and Carey Patterson.

Fire Chief Cuthrell Misenheimer reported the department had 44 fires from October 1972 to September 1973, including 12 house fires, 12 car and truck fires, 15 grass, three mobile homes and two farm tractors.

Marshal said. "Her job will mostly pertain to work with civic organizations, schools, school children or with anyone doing work on fire prevention program."

McLawhorn said Mrs. Murray "will do some inspection work, the regular type of inspection in some areas, but not in all fields of inspection. She'll be in training for some time. However, we hope we can use her services mostly in public relations."

Mrs. Murray's husband, George C. Murray, Jr., is with the Air Quality Division of the N.C. Office of Natural and Economic Resources in Greenville.

TIGNOR

Continued from page 1

a member of Resurrection Lutheran church. He and his wife, the former Dorothy Cobb, reside in the Bethlehem community. The Tignor family also includes two sons, Ronald Tignor and Mike Tignor.

CALL ON LIL

Continued from page 1

apparently were none among the aldermen. Those "reservations" have now been removed, she feels.

"I feel that I have become fully accepted," she said. She is now secretary - treasurer of the department, as well as driver of the truck.

She feels that the training she was put through was not altered in any way for her because she is a woman.

"They didn't make it any harder for me," she said.

After having been on the department for two years, she said, "I think like a fireman now, and I function in emergency situations. In an emergency you don't think. "Can I trust the person next to me? There's no time to think."

David Young, a fellow volunteer fireman, said, "it's worked out real good. On a fire, Lil is just one of the guys."

Indeed, it has worked out good for Young. Sometime soon at a date not yet set Lil and Young are to be married, at the fire station, by the Rev. George Spransy, who is a volunteer fireman in addition to being pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

David Jennings, the present chief, said Lil's membership has added stability to a department plagued by transient firemen. Most are military men, subject to transfer, or, as in the crisis last week, alert.

Chief Jennings said, "In a transient community like this, we need more permanent residents serving as volunteer firemen. If some of them happen to be capable women, that's just fine."

Mrs. Boatwright said being a fireman fits in well with her personality and interests.

"I have always been more at home with men," she said. "I can't sit and drink tea with women." --Fayetteville Observer by Bill Wright



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