

TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER

AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

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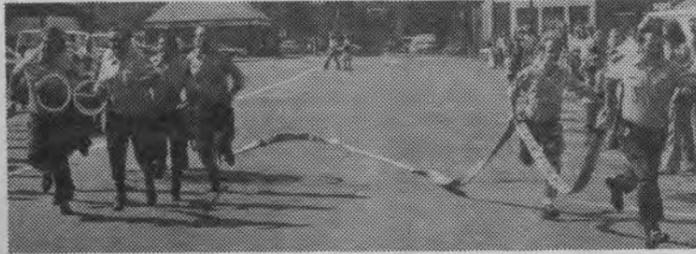
NOVEMBER 1975

Firemen Participate In Farmers Day Activities

Kannapolis — Twelve Kannapolis firemen raced up West Avenue Sept. 20, challenging but not upsetting a 1933 record for the 100-yard fire reel race.

It was all a part of the Farmers Day event planned by the Kannapolis Merchants Association. Three scheduled restagings of old-time reel racing drew crowds to the downtown area. On hand were the original members of the racing team which set two world records in reel racing back in 1933.

The new team members got coaching and cheers from members of the original team standing by. All the living team members from 1933, with one exception, were in Kannapolis for a reunion on the day of the restaging. They were Chief J. C. Taylor, Lacy Maulden, Homer Ketchie, Clyde Lipe, Lindsay McCarn, Sam Deal, Frank Kennerly, Ed Ketchie, Buck McCarn, Clem Smith, Jack Troutman and Lee



PRESENT MEMBERS OF REEL RACING TEAM show their form as they restaged race during Kannapolis Farmers Day observance Sept. 20. Team members are all members of the Kannapolis Volunteer Fire Department. They are Jimmy Smith, Robert Ward, Larry Beaver, Gerald Carter, Jim Norris, Charlie Rimer, Assistant Chief Robert Foil (team captain), Bill Ward, Jerry Bradley, Gene Pennell, Terry Hall and Jerry Cline. The races were directed by Fire Chief Roy Deyton with the aid of Assistant Chief Tommy Hudson.

McCarn. Baxter Yarborough, who lives in Florida, was the only living team member who was unable to attend.

Mr. Maulden is superintendent of Plant 6, mill 4; Mr. Deal is overseer in the supply

room; and Mr. Kennerly is foreman in the cutting room at Plant 1. Retired Cannon employees in the group are Homer, Ketchie, Mr. Lipe, Lindsay

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Fireman Honored for Heroic Act

Durham — A member of the Haw River Volunteer Fire Department, who is a nurse at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Durham, has been recognized by hospital officials for heroism in connection with the evacuation of patients during a fire on one of the hospital wards.

James Ragland, R.N., was one of five hospital employees who received a letter of accommodation from hospital Director John S. Arledge for his part in extinguishing a fire that broke out on Ward 9A on Sept. 1 and the evacuation of 18 patients from the ward.

"Without regard for your own personal safety, you were able to evacuate all the patients and extinguish the fire," Arledge said in the letter of accommodation.

"Your quick response, action and obvious dedication to the patients under your care is highly commendable and should be an example to your fellow employees," he said.

Arledge said that although

the fire was confined to one room in the ward, the fire was in a rubber mattress which filled the entire ward with heavy, black smoke making the evacuation difficult and hazardous.

Arledge pointed out that any fire in a hospital presents a potential crisis endangering the lives of both patients and staff members.

East Side VFD Plans Second Fire Station

Albemarle — East Side Volunteer Fire Department is planning for a second or satellite fire station.

The station will be located on a tract of land deeded to the department in memory of the late Grady Mills by his widow.

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\$4,570 Given To Fire Unit

Boone — Property owners of Hound Ears Club have made contributions totaling \$4,570 to the Foscoe Volunteer Fire Department during the current season.

A large part of the contributions was realized from a benefit golf tournament held Sept. 12.

Lyerly Named Outstanding Fireman Of Year

Salisbury — Alan Lyerly, a volunteer with the South Salisbury Fire Department, was named "Outstanding Fireman of the Year" in October at the annual banquet at Beattie's Banquet Room.

Lyerly, a volunteer with the department for 10 years, is currently employed by the city as a Salisbury fireman.

He was named outstanding fireman at the banquet attended by firemen, directors, and their wives.

Jerry Rowland, a former Rowan Technical Institute fire technology student, now an instructor of fire and safety technology at Western North Carolina Technical Institute in Morganton was speaker and presented a film on "People, Fire, Construction, and Prevention."

Over 1,000 Visit New Station

Shelby — A formal open house was held recently at the new fire station located on Grover Street in Shelby. Chief Al Miller of the fire department stated that a conservative estimate of persons visiting the station would be around 1,000; but he is told that 1,000 is a far too conservative number.

Approximately 400 persons attended the opening program, at which Elwood Inscoe, deputy insurance commissioner in charge of the Fire Rescue Training Division, was guest speaker. Inscoe related to the crowd that "Fire protection just doesn't happen. It has to be planned." He continued to explain that a fireman's work isn't just receiving a paycheck. "He risks his life when he goes out to fight a fire and it's knowing that the people of Shelby care enough to build an above-average fire station. It just provides personal satisfaction." Inscoe recited a poem written by an 11-year-old girl about the duties and the life of a fireman.

He concluded by saying "No doubt under Chief Miller, Mayor Plaster and City Manager Wilkison this is a giant step for Shelby and I congratulate you on this beautiful facility."

On display were three fire trucks. One modern truck had all of the equipment displayed on the floor for the adults and children to view. The other two trucks were the 1947 Mack owned by the City and the 1926 LeFrance.



NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE — Open house was held on a recent Sunday at Shelby's new fire department on Grover Street. Approximately 400 persons attended the opening ceremonies and over 1,000 persons came to tour the new facility. Chief Miller stated that he was "delighted" with the turn out. Shown in the photo is the 1926 LeFrance fire truck on display at the fire house. The Cleveland Times Photo

City councilmen, the mayor, the City Manager along with many other city officials attended the ceremonies. Cited as a special guest was Miss Ollie Hamrick, who is 100 years old. She just came to see the

opening of the fire house. Chief Miller related that the prettiest floral arrangement in the fire department will be sent to Miss Ollie Hamrick to show their appreciation for her coming out to the open house.

After the Shelby High School band played, a flag raising ceremony was conducted by the local National Guard unit. The flag was donated by Mrs.

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**THE TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER
and Carolina Rural Fireman**

"An Independent Voice
for Tarheel Firefighters"

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ENILY H. KING, EDITOR

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Editorial

"Tis the season to be jolly" — Ho, could it have gotten here so soon? The older one gets, the faster the years go by! Stores in my area were already putting out Christmas merchandise as early as late September — if they keep getting earlier, we should soon see it out in mid-Summer! Guess the lagging economy and higher prices at the grocery store are causing people to put items on layaway in order to have them paid for by Christmas. One thing I don't see put out early, and never enough of, are gifts that should denote the real meaning of Christmas.

Along with other things that seem to have gotten lost, are many people who know the real meaning of "jolly." Too many think the phrase is a license for wild merrymaking, assisted with too much alcohol, which



EMILY H. KING

destroys the very reason for which this season was originated. With this type of celebration often comes disasters, near-disasters, and various types of fires, usually caused by carelessness and sometimes inability to detect or respond, should a fire occur. Someone smoking in bed after "one too many," or a guest who has let a cigarette slip down between sofa or chair cushions, and is not detected in time is all too common an occurrence. I have not always been a "teetotaler" as I have for over 19 years. One of those common occurrences has happened to me, but fortunately, the smoke (or odor of it) awoke me, without too much damage. I well know that it could have been otherwise, and I might not be sitting here writing this editorial.

I am not trying to give a lecture on the use of alcohol, but I deplore the excessive use of it, especially when one should be trying to look for a higher meaning for the oc-

casation instead of using it for "just one more" which only too often is "one too many."

As a child, I remember my Mother would serve the Christmas fruit cake with a delicate, very small long-stemmed Venetian wine goblet containing excellent homemade wine. This was made strictly for Christmas and Thanksgiving, and seasoning certain cookery. My Mother very seldom drank any of it herself for she was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, Christian I have ever had the privilege to know. She felt, and taught us to be reverent, as well as happy at Christmas. She taught us to give more thought to the gifts we gave than the ones we received. She always had extra things, but these were for people she might discover did not have very much for Christmas.

Oh, how happy those weeks were before Christmas. The cooking smells started well before Thanksgiving since we had fruit cake then too, and continued on right up to the day before Christmas. We had to go to bed early and the stockings were just after dawn. These we were allowed to get, then usually returned to bed until it was time for breakfast. After that we distributed the gifts from the tree which kept us busy and out from underfoot while the turkey and vegetables were cooked. Salads, ambrosia and other desserts were cooked the week before.

Now I must caution you about checking for defective Christmas tree lights, keeping a live tree in water, and warn you about fireworks. Years ago, living in a rural area without electricity, and before there was much, if any, use of artificial trees, a live tree was a necessity. But, oh, that tree!

About a week before Christmas, my father would take all seven of us children with him, an apple or orange in our pockets, with his axe, to go into the woods behind our home to select just the right one. What an outing it was! We were all allowed to run here and there searching for our choice, then each was inspected, and narrowed down to one. It had to be a cedar for the delicious scent, and a large one for the high ceilings and seven children plus other relatives,

for gifts were put on the branches next to the trunk, as well as at the base. Daddy would chop the tree down and he and the older boys would haul it home to saw it off evenly and attach the wooden crosspieces for the base. Strangely enough, although we had to use candles for tree lights, it never seemed to get too dry like trees do now. However, we were never allowed to light the candles until Christmas Eve, and then only briefly so as to save enough candle for the next day, without allowing them to burn too close to the branches. Afterwards, Mama would play the piano, and we would all sing Christmas Carols together — even Daddy, well off-key.

As for the fireworks, these were limited to sparklers and the tiny firecrackers you don't see much any more, along with a few roman candles for the whole family to go out in the yard to shoot off. These only the oldest were allowed to hold, with Daddy standing there to see it was done carefully. In those days one did not hear much about many fires at Christmas.

What has happened to our society today that children will not have this kind of memory to strengthen them when they need it? My parents attended no Christmas parties unless we all went with, usually at church. They never left us alone at night — instead, we studied and if we finished early enough, we would play some kind of sit-down game together, with Daddy joining us. No one ever thought about cheating — if we had it would have only been for long enough for Daddy to just look at the culprit, and that would be enough! Mama wasn't much for games. She would sit and mend, sew on a quilt, or read her well-worn Bible, looking up now and then to smile at our laughter.

Could this present-day society ever find or be content with such a life? I am sure there are still many homes with that quality of life, at least in part, but there are not nearly enough. In those days the crime rate was so much lower. One did not read about juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, rape and arson very much. Home fires were a rarity, at least those that result in such great loss. Maybe, just maybe, this is what our disturbed young people are searching for today. If even a portion of this kind of life could be regained with all our advanced methods today, it might give those young per-

sons, and the adults who never had it, a little more Faith to lean on. If it could be found again, I think we would have less of the reasons for arson and riots, often resulting in fires, and much more True Happiness at Christmas.

God Bless You All,

Emily H. King

Firemen Help Santa

Maiden — Maiden firemen will be Santa's helpers again this year, and they will begin earlier in order to complete their collections in plenty of time to repair and distribute toys and clothing. Any person who wishes to contribute should call the town hall, and the toys or clothing will be picked up.

Contributions will also be received at 7 p.m. each Tuesday. The Ladies Auxiliary will assist the firemen.

December 16 is the planned cut-off date for collections, Brent Bauguess, Maiden fire chief, said. The emphasis of the campaign will be to provide for small children, Churches and

civic groups will be consulted as for the recipients of the toys. Anyone who has knowledge of a child who could benefit from this program should contact the town hall, giving information such as the age and sex of the child.

Bauguess said that the department distributed toys to about 25 families last year.

The Maiden fire department is also in the planning states of a mutual aid agreement with Mountain View School, which has no water supply. Fairbrook and St. Timothy Fire Departments will also cooperate to give fire protection in this rural area.

Center Pigeon Firemen announce their officers

Canton — Members of the Center Pigeon Volunteer Fire Dept. met recently and elected officers. They are as follows: Chief, Everette Moore Jr.; Assist., Carl Cagle; 2nd, Robert Henson; Pres., Gary Miller; V.P., Wayne Dotson; 2nd V.P., Claude Harkins; Recording Sec., Barry Roberts; Assist., Kenneth Stines; Treasurer, Doyce Cogburn; Assist., Wayne Dotson; Chaplain, Grover Pressley;

Assist., Fred Williams; Publicity, Carl Cagle; Assist., Howard Owenby;

Training Off., Jess Stalcup; Assist., Robert Henson; Safety Director, Weaver Owenby; Assist., Claude Harkins; Flower fund, Jess Stalcup; Assist., Weaver Owenby;

Emergency fund, Carl Cagle; Assist., Vincent Hall; Traffic Officers, Clifford Duckett, Terry Ball, Hardin Pressley, and Francis Payne Jr.

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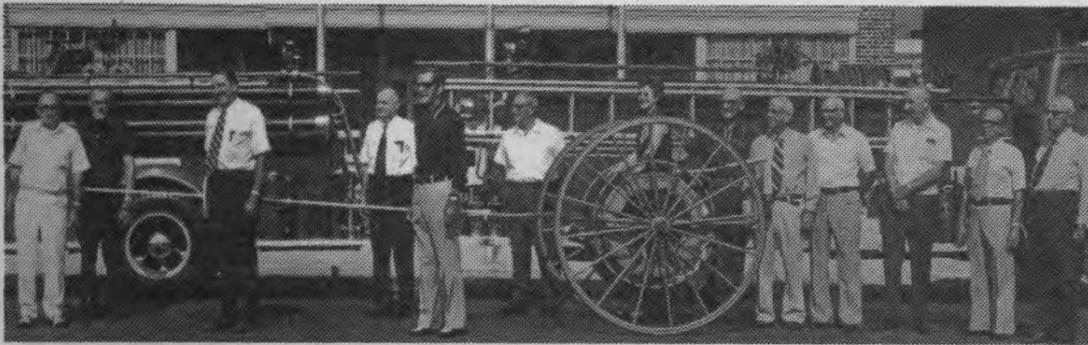
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Firemen Participate

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MEMBERS OF 1933 REEL RACING TEAM of Kannapolis Fire Department, holder of two world records, pose in their places at the old reel during the Kannapolis-Karmers Day observance on Sept. 20. From left to right are Frank Kennerly, Clem Smith, Lester (Buck McCarn, Ed Ketchie, Lee McCarn, Jack Troutman, Lindsay McCarn, Clyde Lipe, Homer Ketchie, Sam Deal, Lacy Maulden and J. C. Taylor. Seated on the reel is the team's mascot, Mrs. Selma Lee (Spooky) Cody Pethel, an employe of the Plant 1 sample room. The only other living member of the team, Baxter Yarborough of Florida, was unable to attend.

McCarn, Mr. Smith and Mr. Troutman.

Directing the restaging was Fire Chief Roy C. Deyton, Cannon's safety director. Assistant Chief Robert P. Foil, an overseer in wet finishing at Plant 1, served as team foreman for the 1975 team. The team consisted of Jimmy Lee Smith, Gerald Carter and Jerry Bradley, all of the Plant 1 machine shop; Jim Norris of the Plant 1 carpenter shop, Robert Ward security guard at Plant 1, Charlie Rimer of the Plant 1 distribution center, William B. Ward of the Plant 1 tin shop, Jerry Cline of the Plant 1 plumbing department, Gene Pennell of the Plant 1 pipe shop, Terry Hall of the Plant 1 garage and Larry Beaver, works at Cabarrus Memorial Hospital.

These men on the new team tried to make the 1933 record time but fell short on three tries. It took 35 seconds the first time. Both the second and third tries clocked at 25 seconds. Even though the record was not broken, or seriously challenged on this first race, the Kannapolis firemen agreed that they had a good time trying.

East Side VFD

from page 1

Mr. Mills, a member of the department, was killed while answering a fire call in 1965.

The land has been accepted by the East Side Board of Directors as the location for a proposed No. 2 fire station. The directors note that this will provide better fire protection to residents of River Haven, Highway 24-27 east, Valley Drive, Green Top Road, Tillery Estates, Mountain Creek Road, Oakwood Park, and Jacobs Creek.

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The use of hand-drawn hose reels in firefighting is believed to have been developed in the early 1800s. Rivalries soon developed between local fire companies, as each wanted to be the first to reach the scene of a fire. Fire insurance companies and other groups encouraged the rivalry by offering money to the fastest fire company; and since all fire companies at that time were staffed by volunteers, winning races to fires became a source

of monetary reward as well as pride.

Later reel racing developed into a specific contest, with rules and regulations established to standardize the event. These races were popular throughout the nation and served as a feature of day-long celebrations, including parades and picnics.

The reel team of the Kannapolis Fire Department set two world records in reel

racing competition at Salisbury in 1933. These included a hand reel contest time of 15 4-5 seconds and a grab reel contest time of 15 3-5 seconds. Both of these records still stand.

reel and pull it another 50 yards to the hydrant. Team members must unreel not less than 48 feet of hose, attach it to the hydrant and throw water as quickly as possible.

In the hand reel contest, the race which was staged for the Sept. 20 event, the reel is wound with 148 feet of standard 2½-inch hose. The team must run 100 yards, pulling the reel and unrolling not less than 98 feet, laying the hose in a perfect arch. One team member attaches the hose to the fire hydrant while another screws the nozzle on the hose. A wrenchman opens the hydrant and the time is recorded when water comes out the nozzle. The record set for this race by Kannapolis firemen back in 1933 still stands.

The other contest, called the grab reel race, was not challenged by the present Kannapolis firefighters. In this race the team must run 50 yards without the reel, grab the

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Over 1,000 Visit New Station

from page 1

R. T. Langford, widow of the city's first full-time fireman. Ironically, Mrs. Langford's name was drawn for the floral arrangement donated by Patterson's Florist to be given away. Patterson's also donated three centerpiece mums and Waldrop's Florist donated carnations for all the firemen's wives.

Many small children attended the opening and Chief Miller invited all parents to bring their children in to see the new fire station. Children's fireman hats were donated by

an insurance company to give away at the open house.

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Dobbins Heights Fire Dept. Dedication Held

The Dobbins Heights Community Association, Inc. held dedication ceremonies of the Dobbins Heights Community Volunteer Fire Department recently at the fire station.

Dobbins Heights community leaders and others gathered at 9:30 a.m. for the official dedication of the building which now houses two fire trucks and related equipment.

Rev. R.T. Gilchrist served as master of ceremonies for the dedication ceremonies and told of the struggle of the community to establish community pride and a fire department. Gilchrist said that the struggle was difficult and often discouraging, but in the end of the faith of the community with the blessing of God won out.

Several members of the Dobbins Heights Community Association also gave short remarks concerning the establishment of the fire department and Hamlet Mayor Earl Covington congratulated the Dobbins Heights Community Association on their achievements.

Also representing the City of Hamlet at the dedications ceremonies were City Councilman Ernest Dunn and Fire Chief Charles Utter. Sheriff Raymond Goodman was represented at the ceremonies



PLAQUES OF APPRECIATION — Halbert Jackson (left), of the Dobbins Heights Fire Department on a recent morning, presented plaques to Fire Chief James Jones and Capt. Williard Tender. At right Assistant Fire Chief Richard McLaurin looks on. The plaque to Jones was in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the community and the plaque accepted by Tender was to the volunteers of the fire department.

Rockingham Richmond Co. Journal Photo

by Chief Deputy Earl Dunn. Taking part in the program were Dobbins Heights Community Association President Robert Broady, former Fire Chief Halbert Jackson, Rev.

J.F. Sawyer and Rev. R.T. Gilchrist.

On behalf of the community Jackson presented plaques to Fire Chief James Jones for his contribution to the community and then presented a plaque to the Dobbins Heights Fire Department Volunteers which was accepted by Capt. Willie Tender.

Members of the fire department at the time of the dedication of the single story block building in addition to Chief Jones and Capt. Tender are Asst. Chief Richard McLaurin, Lt. Preston Davis and firemen Robert Broady, Donni Quick, Frank Robinson, James Davis.

Also Daniel Davis, Jackie Legrand, Steve Quick, Manni McCrae, Bill Corley, Calvin Legrand, and Jackie Williams.

Fireman collapses

Cherryville — One fireman was overcome by smoke as two volunteer fire departments fought a blaze which gutted the William Lomick home south of Cherryville on the Dallas-Cherryville Highway on a recent Monday night.

Tryonota Volunteer Fire Department fireman Ronnie Deck collapsed at the scene from smoke and heat. He was taken to Gaston Memorial Hospital, where he was treated and released. The Agriculture Center Volunteer Fire Department assisted Tryonota in quelling the 7:30 p.m. blaze.

Assistant Tryonota Chief Michael Weaver said the fire started in the attic. The five members of the Lomick family were at home at the time, he said, but escaped without injury.

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PAMLICO COUNTY — PAMLICO FIREMEN SEEK EMERGENCY NETWORK — About 15 Pamlico County volunteer firemen received assurances recently from county commissioners that the proposed central emergency radio system will be installed. Led by Arapahoe Fire Chief Jimmy Lee, standing at right, the firemen, representing three of the six departments, said they felt the county did not support them, financially and otherwise. Commissioners agreed to advertise bids for the radios as soon as specifications are drawn. The network will coordinate police, fire and rescue units within the county and provide a central phone number for emergencies. Seated around the table are commissioners Charles Alexander, Robert Paul, Charlie Jones and John Bond. County attorney Bernard Hollowell is at center, with back to camera. Commissioner James Spencer was present, but not pictured.
New Bern Sun-Journal Photo

Fire Destroys Garage

Southern Pines — Fire destroyed a garage to a four-apartment residence at 150 E. Maine Avenue on a recent afternoon.

Southern Pines firemen were called to the scene at 4:25 p.m. The apartment building was undamaged, except for slight scorching on the exterior. The owner of the property lives in Hamlet.

Durham Receives

\$450,000 Grant For Fire Center

Durham — The city of Durham will receive a \$450,000 federal grant to help pay for a new \$1.5-million police and fire training center, according to a spokesman for U.S. Sen. Robert Morgan.

The Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce has approved the city's grant request, said Gibson Prather of Morgan's office.

The money will come from Title X of the Public Works and Economic Development Act.

Miss Bonnie Brown, inter-governmental coordinator for the city, said that the money

will pay for an administration building at the center, which is under construction at Camden Avenue and East Club Boulevard.

An administration building was included in the original plans for the center, she said, but it was deleted for lack of funds.

Contracts awarded on the project in September totaled \$1.09 million.

The economic development money became available shortly afterward, Miss Brown said, and the city applied for enough to pay for the building and complete the project.

Four Firefighters Promoted To Captain

Greensboro — Four firefighters were promoted to the rank of captain recently, Greensboro Fire Chief G.C. Wuchae reported in announcing the opening of new Fire Station No. 15 at Vandalia Road and Four Seasons Boulevard.

Wuchae said three of the new captains have been assigned to Station No. 15, which will have a total complement of 12 men.

The fourth captain, R.F. Johnson, who previously has served as driver of truck number two at the Central Fire Station, has been assigned to Station No. 4 on Gorrell Street.

One of the new captains is a black, R.K. Flowers, who previously was a firefighter assigned to Station No. 7; the

other two are T.E. Melvin, who was a firefighter assigned to Station No. 4, and T.D. Morrison, who was a driver assigned to Central Station.

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FHA Loan Approved For Fire Stations

Asheboro — The Guil-Rand Volunteer Fire Dept. has received \$306,000 Farmers Home Administration loan to construct new fire stations in Archdale and Hillsville, the office of Fourth District Congressman Ike Andrews announced recently.

The loan will be repaid over a 30-year period at an annual rate of five per cent.

The fire district has raised \$40,000 for the projects.

Included in the loan are funds for a new fire truck.

The Archdale station will cost \$163,000 while the Hillsville facility will cost \$99,000.

Wayne Brower, secretary-treasurer of the Fire Protective Assn., said these figures include paving and furniture.

The Archdale station will be

located on S. Main Street approximately one mile south of the present station. The Hillsville facility will be built at the junction of Flint Hill and Hoover Hill roads, fronting on the Flint Hill Road.

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Fireman Has Seen Plenty Of Change

From the Hickory Daily Record
By TERRY POOVEY

The atmosphere is one of relaxed confidence. Down the hallway of the modern, spotless

building the strains of a lone harmonica can be heard.

But the only Dalmation you'll see is a cardboard dummy, though firemen do still slide down poles.

Such is the world of Capt. Harry L. Yount, training officer for the Hickory Fire Department. It is a world that has seen many changes.

"I entered the volunteer fire

department in Hickory in 1942," Yount said. "We only had six paid personnel then, and they were all drivers working two shifts. Everyone else was a volunteer."

Yount, a native of Hickory born in 1912, has seen that volunteer department grow into the professional, 74-man organization it is today.

The department changed from a volunteer organization to a full-time one in 1954 when the city was attempting to get a higher rating in fire protection and lower fire insurance rates.

"In '54 when I came on as training officer, we had around 18 paid personnel," Yount remembers. "We also had to have a full-time fire prevention officer to get the better rating."

As training officer, Yount supervises training activities. "I don't do it all," he said. "But it's my job to be sure that

we have well-trained men on the job."

Yount stressed that after a man is hired as a fireman and goes through several weeks of initial training, he is in continuous training from then on.

"The men never quit taking training," Yount said. "And it's not all just going out here and laying a hose and squirting a little water."

Yount explained how the men survey major buildings in their vicinity and learn the layout and things which may pose a problem in fighting a fire in particular structures.

We're pretty well sure through our surveys what we're going to be up against when a call comes in," Yount said. "We know what our available water sources are going to be and where the exits are."

Through pre-planning, Yount said, firemen know what route they are going to take to the scene of a fire before it ever occurs and even what type of chemicals are inside the building.

Another change Yount has seen is the formation of the Catawba County Fireman's Association.

"We worked several years to get it organized," he said. "Now we can get mutual aid from other departments to fight a fire."

Yount was the first fireman ever to be awarded a lifetime membership in the Catawba County Fireman's Association.

For the last 15 years, Hickory firemen have been fixing riding toys for the Empty Stocking Fund, an organization attached to the Salvation Army that gives toys to needy children at Christmas.

"Starting around November," Yount said, "the boys (firemen) start fixing up the toys."

The toys that are donated are taken to the fire station for the firemen to work on.



HARRY L. YOUNT
Training Officer
Hickory Daily Record Photo

Cont. page 7

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Cerro Gordo Qualifies For Lower Fire Rating

Cerro Gordo — The Cerro Gordo Fire Department received a 9-A rural fire insurance rating effective September 1.

In order to qualify for such an insurance rating, a department must have the adequate equipment for covering an area

within a three mile radius.

"Persons who are within the area will receive reductions on their fire insurance premiums," said Glen Thompson, Cerro Gordo fire chief.

Thompson pointed out that the Cerro Gordo fire department had been working toward this rating for about five years. Most of the funds for obtaining the adequate equipment was raised locally.

Thompson said that since the rating had been obtained, things had been "fairly quiet" as the number of fire calls had been very low.

The estimated reduction in premiums for residents within the Cerro Gordo Department's area is an estimated \$.48 per every \$1,000 of property value.

"This will be especially helpful to larger businesses," Thompson added.

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Fire Destroys Warehouse In Rutherford College Area



Smoke Billows High Above Upholstering Warehouse Destroyed Near Rutherford College
Hickory Daily Record Photo

From the Hickory Daily Record
By WAKE BRIDGES

Rutherford College — A fire that sent great billows of smoke

high into the Indian summer sky destroyed the warehouse of a small furniture upholstery plant on Highway 70 near the Rutherford College intersection early on a recent afternoon.

John J. Price, owner and operator of the plant, which reassembled, repaired and refinished furniture, estimated he lost \$50,000 worth of furniture and estimated damage to the cement block building at \$4,000.

Clyde Lowman, chief of the nearby Lovelady Fire Department, said Price

estimated that \$2,000 to \$3,000 worth of the furniture could be salvaged.

But only the front wall of the two-portion one-story building can be salvaged, Lowman said.

At the height of the fire, battled by firmen for more than four hours, black smoke was visible for miles and resulted in a helicopter ambulance en route from Hickory to Knoxville, Tenn., its base, landing near the burning plant to determine if its crew could be of assistance.

No one was injured in the fire, but Lowman was airlifted for a look at the fire from the air.

Marvin Sawyer, Burke County fire marshal, and Lowman said the fire is believed to have started from burning trash at the rear of the plant.

Sawyer said vines on the back of the building caught fire and led the fire into the warehouse portion of the plant.

Firemen kept the fire from reaching the other portion of the plant, but there was smoke damage to contents of the unburned portion, Sawyer said.

Lowman said the call came in at 2 p.m. and that his department remained on the scene until 6:15 p.m.

Twelve Lovelady Township firemen were assisted in battling the fire by 10 firemen

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Firemen Has Seen Change from page 6

"I enjoy doing it," Yount said. "It's sort of a hobby with me."

"I really don't have a hobby," he said. "When I'm not doing something else, I'll go down and work on some bicycles or something, either at the station or at home."

"Starting in the spring, I do a little gardening," he added.

Yount, who lives at 609 Sixth Street, NW, is chief usher and a past member of the church council at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Yount graduated from Hickory High School and is married to the former Dolly Punch, also a native of Hickory.

The Younts have a daughter, Mrs. Norma Jean Yount Moser, and three grandchildren, the oldest of whom is 19.

Yount explodes the mythical picture of firemen sitting around the station playing checkers and waiting for an alarm. Along with the surveys of buildings, he gives regularly scheduled training sessions, either in a classroom situation or in the field.

"To be a fireman," Yount said, "you have to really want to be a fireman."

A fireman at the Hickory Department works a 24-hour shift with the next 48 hours off, Yount said.

"You ask me about having a hobby," Yount chuckled as he proudly displayed the equipment in the shining, orderly garage. "Being a fireman is my hobby."

"My parents accuse me of chasing after fire trucks since I've been old enough to run."

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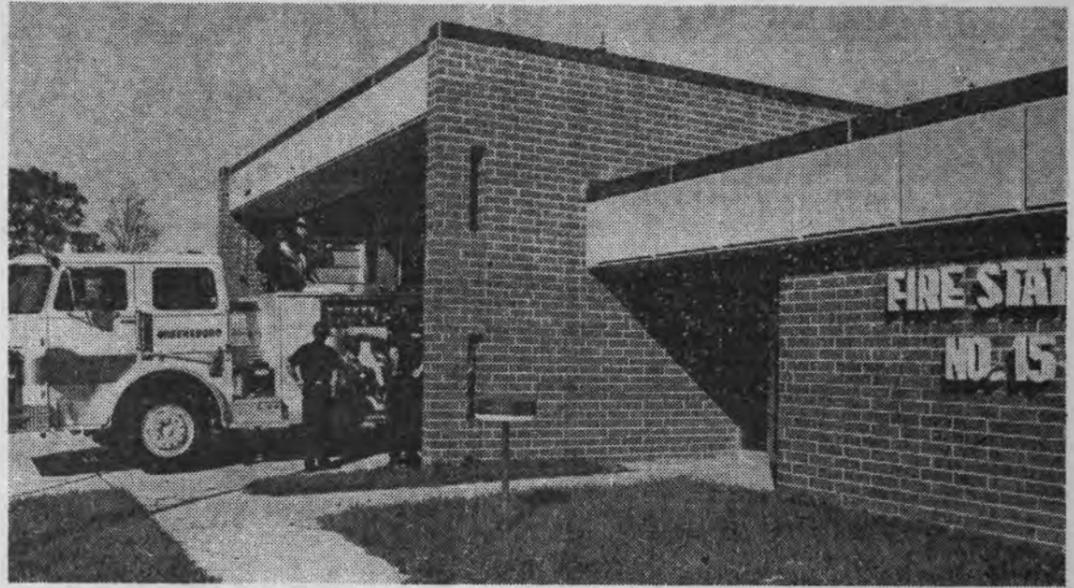
Charlotte — Charles D. Werner, 78, of 1307 Vickie Lane, Matthews, died recently in the Veterans Hospital in Salisbury. He was a retired captain with the Charlotte Fire Department where he had worked for 32 years.

Funeral services were at McEwen West Chapel with the Rev. Duncan Futrell, pastor of Enderly Park Baptist Church, and the Rev. Raymond Long, retired Baptist minister, officiating. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Born Feb. 15, 1897, in Pendleton, S.C., he was the son of

the late J. P. and Mary Moore Werner. He was a graduate of Georgia Tech, a member of the 40 and 8 Voiture No. 793, and held a life membership in the American Legion Post No. 380. Werner was a member of Enderly Park Baptist Church where he was a deacon and superintendent of the Sunday school department. He was also a member of Phalanx Masonic Lodge No. 31, AF and AM.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Sadie Allen Warner; a daughter, Mrs. Fred A. McGee of Charlotte; three sons, David A. Werner, Johnny Werner and Charles Werner Jr. of Charlotte; a sister, Mrs. Alice Smith of Greenville, S.C.; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



GREENSBORO — Fire Station 15, located on Vandalia Road, began service in October. The official opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony was scheduled for Oct. 31. Despite the fact that a few minor details and landscaping remain incomplete, "Engine 15" and its crew are ready to answer calls. The station will be manned with four firemen on each of the three shifts.

Greensboro Record Photo

Five Migrant Workers Escape Burning House

Edneyville — Five migrant laborers escaped unhurt recently when the house in which they were living in Edneyville was destroyed by fire.

According to Edneyville Volunteer Fire Chief John Rhodes, "a big old house, over 100 years old" belonging to William Dalton of Rt. 1, Edneyville, was in flames before the fire was discovered.

The occupants of the house discovered the fire about 4 p.m. as it roared through the roof. The inhabitants had been asleep when the fire broke out. "The house was totally destroyed when we got there," Rhodes said.

The efforts of Rhodes and his men were complicated when they received an alarm for a trailer fire on U.S. 64 shortly after answering the fire alarm at the house.

The trailer fire alarm turned out to be a furnace fire, and there was no damage at the trailer.

But in the meantime Rhodes had alerted the Dana Volunteer

Fire Department, which had been on standby to assist Edneyville, and Dana was sent to the trailer fire with one of the units from the Edneyville department.

Mountain Home and Blue Ridge volunteer fire departments also responded with additional water, but Rhodes sent the Mountain Home department back when he learned they were not needed.

There was some danger to adjacent buildings and a barn full of hay within 50 feet of the burning house at Peaceful Valley Riding Stables.

Edneyville responded to the house fire with 30 men and four trucks, while Blue Ridge assisted with eight men and two units.

Rhodes said he had no idea how the fire started in the large, frame house.

Fire Destroys Warehouse

from page 7

from Valdese and two from Icard Township Fire Department, Hildebran.

The fact there was a fire hydrant in the front yard of the plant was much to the

fireman's advantage, Sawyer said.

"At the height of the fire we were pouring 700 gallons of water per minute onto the flames," he said.

Lowman said the fire was fed by plastic and foam rubber materials and that the fire was hard to get to because the warehouse was so full of furniture.

Sawyer said the warehouse had a heavy inventory of furniture, seat cushions, mirrors and various other items in the furniture line.

All of the furniture had been reassembled and refinished, Lowman said.

He said the plant is operated by Price and a part-time helper.

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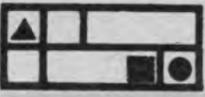


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