



TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER

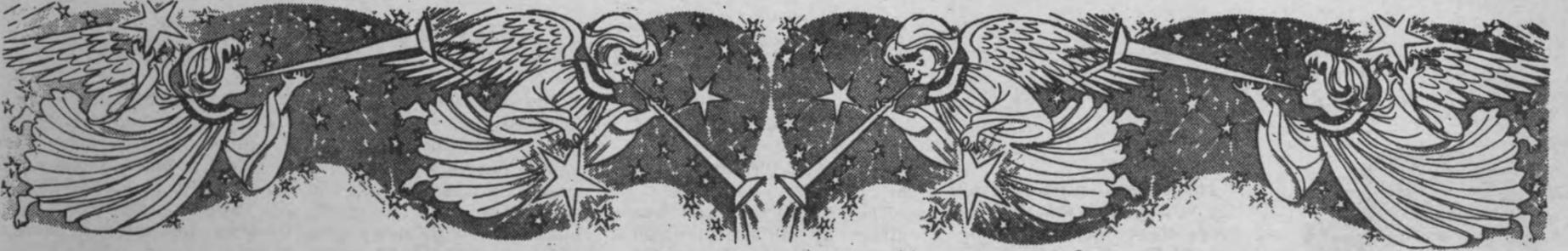


AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

VOL. 12 NO. 12

"AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION FOR TARHEEL FIREFIGHTERS"

DECEMBER 1975



Peace on earth –
good will toward men

**THE TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER
and Carolina Rural Firemen
"An Independent Voice
for Tarheel Firefighters"
Published Monthly
EMILY H. KING, Editor
send all Editorial and Advertising Copy to:
P. O. Box 643
NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA 28560**

Editorial



EMILY H. KING

"A Time for Looking Up — A Time for Looking Back, a Time for Reaching Out" — these words were on the front cover of the publication, *Guideposts*, which also added, "With Gifts, With Love, Christmastime." The more I thought about it, the more I felt that the first part was so fitting for the first of the year — New Year's Resolutions, etc. As a matter of fact, it isn't a bad idea to keep it in mind for meditation every now and then, anyway!

Someone once said "Wise men make mistakes — a Fool never does." If we do not look back and recognize our mistakes, how are we going to take steps to see that they do not happen again? While a great many people look to the celebrating of the New Year with parties, revelry, etc., it would behoove them to also take some time out for serious

looking up, as well as inward and outward.

I have based a good bit of my life on the precept that the Lord helps those who help themselves. However, without His help, I know that all my efforts would be completely wasted. Even so, there are too many times that I feel that they are wasted anyway, but later, somehow, something comes through to change my feelings.

I have been subjected to a great deal of mental depression for a period of over two years, from time to time. A lot of this has been due to my health, some to personal problems, and the inability to adjust myself to the fact that if you live long enough, you're certain to wind up growing older, or old!

I sincerely hope that 1976 has a lot of good things in store for our firemen and their families, and for the Fire Service in general. Hopefully we all will be able to start the new year by looking up, and be able to look back at the end of it and say, "Thank goodness, things are much better now than they were a year ago!"

Wishing all of you and yours a very Happy New Year.

Emily H. King

Trio Voted 'Outstanding'

Stokes County — The Francisco Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad has honored three of its members for "outstanding work and devotion" during the past year.

The awards were made recently at a banquet held at the fire station.

At the same time the ladies auxiliary to the two organizations presented checks to the fire department and rescue squad in the amount of \$1,000 and \$500, respectively. The ladies raised the money by sponsoring suppers, bake sales and other activities.

John Burwell, Stokes County civil defense director, made the presentation of the awards.

Elwood Ensore, North Carolina deputy insurance commissioner, was guest speaker for the occasion. He praised the group for outstanding service to the community.

Clifton Wright of Westfield

was named "Rescueman of the Year." He has served with the squad for six months. He is second lieutenant and is chairman of the committee on ways and means.

Wright is a certified emergency medical technician. He received training at the North Carolina Rescue Institute in Chapel Hill and the N. C. Rescue College in Raleigh.

Mrs. Carolyn Lawson was honored with the "Ladies Auxiliary Award." She is president of the auxiliary and is also an active member of the rescue squad.

The 1975 "Fireman of the Year" award went to Kent Martin. He is a charter member of the department and is presently serving as truck captain.

Martin is a certified emergency medical technician. He attended North Carolina Rescue College and is a member of the rescue squad.

**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
CALENDAR**

Dates	Events
May 17-21, 1976	NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION 80th Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston, Texas
Nov. 15-18, 1976	NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION Fall Meeting, Netherlands Hilton Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio

**Allenton Dedicates New Building
With Various Officials On Hand**

Robeson County — Members of Allenton Fire Department entertained all who wanted to come at the dedication of their new building.

The dedication address was made by John Randolph Ingram, N.C. Insurance Commissioner who was introduced by Fire Marshall Wilson J. McNeill.

Master of ceremonies for the event was County Commissioner H. T. Taylor, who is also a fireman and who also introduced special guests.

The prayer of dedication was given by the Rev. Douglas Mitchell, pastor of Smyrna Baptist church.

Welcome was made by Chief Delton Morgan, the department's history was given by June Smith, and appropriate remarks were made by Sam Noble, chairman of the

Robeson County Board of Commissioners.

It was then the turn of the Ladies Auxiliary who served cookies, drinks, chicken and sandwiches, while the guests made a tour of the new station and inspection of all equipment.

Officers of the Allenton Fire Department are Delton Morgan, Chief; H. T. Taylor, Assistant Chief; James Prevatte, Assistant Chief; Franklin Prevatte, Station Chief; June Smith, Station Chief; and Richard Flemming, Lynn McDanile and Byron Suggs, Captains. Roger Morgan and Lewis Prevatte are Lieutenants. John Munce, Billy Taylor and Daniel Hammonds serve as Sergeants.

The Allenton Fire Department Board of Directors consists of H. T. Taylor,

Chairman; Richard Flemming, Treasurer; and James West, Secretary. Also on the Board are June Smith, David Rozier, Franklin Prevatte, Osborne Taylor, James West, James Prevatte and George Ward.

**Fire Engine
Chasing Hit**

Cordova — The Cordova Fire Department has requested that people refrain from following fire trucks to fires. A spokesman for the department said that the practice is dangerous for the individuals following the fire trucks and to the firemen who are fighting the fire.

According to the Cordova Fire Department spectators were so numerous at a fire recently that it was feared that someone would be injured. At one point during the fire several young people were in danger of being burned by shooting flames.

The spokesman for the fire department has cautioned those following fire trucks to fires that it is illegal and that police action has been requested in the future to insure the safety of firemen and others.

**Participants Benefit
From Exercise**

By Billy Leach, Jr., EMT-A
Randolph County — On November 15, 1975 disaster struck Randolph County. It struck at exactly 12:30 PM. Thankfully, the disaster was only a simulation! The exercise was staged to test the ability and efficiency of the county emergency services and to test and develop an updated disaster plan for the new 1.25 million dollar emergency department recently added to the Randolph Hospital.

Approximately 81 "victims" were treated, transported, and processed at the hospital. The "victims" were actually Scouts tagged with simulated injuries. The "victims" were treated at the scene, transported by ambulance to the hospital, and processed in the new Emergency Department.

For many of the rescuers this was their first experience in dealing with a major disaster. Approximately a dozen emergency vehicles, red lights flashing responded to the scene in nine minutes. The scene was a bus wreck near the new N.C. Zoo site on Cox Road. All 81 "victims" were transported in an hour and thirty-three minutes. Sheriff's deputies helped transport many victims. Participating in the drill were members of the Ash-Rand Rescue Squad, Ridge Ambulance Service, Kime Ambulance Services. Traffic control was handled by the NC highway Patrol, Randolph County Sheriff's Dept., and the Asheboro PD. The Asheboro

FD assisted with door guards at the hospital. About thirty EMT students also participated.

THANKS to ALL involved the participants really benefited from the exercise.

**Let Us Hear
From You**

Please feel free to submit any story or pictures to us for publication in this paper. We may not receive information on your department that you feel would be of interest to others, so we ask that you send items of interest to us.

We reserve the right to edit any material submitted to us. Please note that when submitting a newspaper clipping we need to know the name of the newspaper, the town it is located in and the date of the article. We also need to know who wrote it if it has a byline. If you submit original photographs, please make a note on the back of each photo if you want them returned.

Let us hear from you. We appreciate your support.

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Davis and Melton Retire from Rocky Mount Fire Dept.



AULANDER—Aulander Mayor Bill Spivey (r) administers the Fire Chief oath of office to Tommy Hale, Aulander, who was voted chief of the volunteer fire department by the members of the department in September. Hale succeeds Thomas Hall, Aulander, a 20 year veteran of the department. In taking the oath, Hale said that he hoped that the Aulander Town Council and the Aulander Volunteer Fire Department could work closer together for the benefit of the town.

Murfreesboro Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald Photo



CITY FIREMEN RETIRE—Rocky Mount Fire Chief John P. Sykes, left, certificates of distinguished service for their many contributions to the Rocky Mount Fire Department and community. They have each served over 30 years in the department. Photo Courtesy of City of Rocky Mount.

Rocky Mount—Rocky Mount Fire Chief John P. Sykes recently announced the retirement of firemen Joseph L. Davis and E.V. Melton from the City Fire Department. Davis has served 31 years on the department's volunteer staff; Melton has served 32 years as Firefighter and Fire Engineer on the department's regular staff.

"These men have been loyal and dedicated firemen," said

Chief Sykes, "and their willingness to help Rocky Mount citizens during fires and other emergencies shall long be remembered. We greatly appreciate their outstanding service to the department and to the Rocky Mount community."

Davis, who joined the Fire Department as a volunteer in 1944, has operated Davis Shoe Repair in Rocky Mount for 27 years. A graduate of Oxford Orphanage, he has attended

numerous local fire instruction and training courses and has held the positions of Sergeant and Lieutenant in the Fire Department's volunteer company.

Davis is a member of the Corinthian Lodge 230.

Melton joined the Rocky Mount Fire Department staff in 1943 as Firefighter and in 1945 became Fire Engineer. In this position he served as Tillerman on the City's hook and ladder truck. He was recognized by his fellow firemen as Fireman of the Year in 1974.

Melton served in the U.S. Army Air Force as a firefighter and has attended many regional fire education and instruction courses.

Active in community affairs, Melton is a member of Corinthian Lodge 230, the Rocky Mount Christian Church, the Birchwood Country Club and is a member of the Men's Bible Class at the First Baptist Church.

He is married to the former Hazel Hines of Oak City. They have three children: Sandra Barrett of New Orleans; and Linda Adcock and Robert D. Melton of Rocky Mount. They also have five grandchildren.

Daniels Heads New London VFD For 1976

New London—New London Volunteer Fire Department reorganized for the coming year at its annual general business meeting on a recent Monday evening at the fire station.

New three-year directors are Homer Daniels, Leon D. Parker, C. B. Casper and Ronald Eury.

Other directors are: two-year, Eugene Pickler, Jerry Morgan, Ricky Rogers and

James Pence; one-year, Henry Culp, Albert Nash, Bruce Burleson and Johnny Story.

Homer Daniels was elected chairman of the department and Bill Napier was elected secretary and treasurer.

Milton Harris was re-elected Fire Chief.

Chief Harris appointed the following fire personnel:

Homer Daniels and Bruce Burleson, assistant Fire Chiefs; Ronald Eury, Captain;

James Pence, Ray Kerr and Raymond Russell, traffic officers; and Milton Harris and Homer Daniels, property officers.

Eleven fire calls were answered by the department last year.

The treasurer's report indicated that the department is in good financial condition.

Comfort Fire, Rescue Officers Picked

Jones County—The Comfort Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad elected officers for the year 1975-76 at a meeting conducted in the fire station recently.

Berry Jones was elected

President; George Miller, Vice-President; David Stroud, Secretary; Clifton Philyaw, Treasurer; Richard Tyndall, Fire Chief; George Miller, Assistant Fire Chief; Mike Bonner, Captain; Mike Philyaw, Assistant Captain; and Richard Tyndall, Training Officer.

The CVFD has been providing protection for Jones County since 1965. All 25 members of the Rescue Squad are qualified Emergency Medical Technicians. Many of CVFD's members have recently completed the Emergency Vehicles Operations Course (EVOC). The members of CVFD would like to thank the people of

Comfort and surrounding communities for their cooperation in the past ten years.

The fire department's and rescue squad's call letters are KYT-213.

LFD Elects 1976 Officers

Lincolnton—Officers for 1976 were elected by the Lincolnton Fire Department at its meeting recently.

Ray Small will continue as chief with first and second assistant chiefs Hollis Henderson and Jim Barkley respectively.

Tommy Wilburn was elected captain and Larry Mac Hovis, Dan Taylor and Jim Page were elected lieutenants.

Duke Peeler was elected secretary and Hoyle Taylor was voted treasurer.

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Barking Dog Wakes Family During Fire



GRAHAM — FIRE PROTECTION — Mrs. Sammie Qualls, secretary in the county fire marshal's office, stands beside a master panel for a Smoke Detection System for the County Office Complex on West Elm Street installed recently.

The panel is located in the office of the fire marshal on the lobby level of the new office building.

It will light up areas where smoke is detected in both buildings of the county office complex. An alarm is sounded through horns in the halls of the buildings.

The system will also be hooked up to the Graham Fire Department, it was noted.

Graham The Alamance News Photo

Salisbury — A small dog is credited with saving the lives of a family of three, asleep inside a burning house on the Gheen Road recently.

The Adam D. Earnhardt family was awakened around 3 a.m. by the barking of their poodle, firemen with the Franklin Volunteer Department reported.

"Mr. Earnhardt went into the kitchen and saw flames toward the attic," Fireman Frank Thomason reported.

The family escaped, carrying "a couple of small drawers — what they could" from the kitchen, Thomason said.

When the first fire department arrived shortly after 3:04 a.m., "the house was caving in," Thomason said. "There wasn't really anything we could do."

The 75-year-old two-story frame house, located about one-half mile from the Woodleaf Road intersection, was destroyed. Earnhardt's car, parked near the house, was damaged by heat and smoke. A cause of the fire has not been determined.

The Ellis and Locke volunteer departments assisted Franklin.

The house was owned by Willis Myers of Ridge Road.



WATCHING BLAZE — Mrs. Adam D. Earnhardt holds the family poodle that awakened the family during a fire that destroyed their house. Salisbury Post Photo

Children Escape From Fire

Durham — Two children escaped injury after a fire broke out at their home on Roxboro Street, Durham firemen said.

Capt. Bill Dickerson of the fire department said the fire started in the apartment of Mrs. Joyce Ross at 1121 Roxboro St. about 8 p.m. recently.

Mrs. Ross had left the apartment momentarily, she said, and had left her children alone.

The children, one 5 years old and the other 2 years old, ran out of the house when the fire started and were found later at a neighbor's house, Dickerson said. Another neighbor called the Fire Department.

The fire may have started while the children were playing with matches, Dickerson said. Damage was confined to the left side of the Ross apartment, mostly around a bed, he said.

Mrs. Ross was treated by the Durham Rescue Unit after she fainted upon returning to her home, thinking her children were still inside the apartment.

Fire Damages Music Building

Salisbury — A fire of undetermined origin did "extensive damage" to the music building on the campus of Catawba College on a recent night.

According to the Salisbury Fire Department, the blaze

started in the sheet music storage room and spread to the floors in adjoining rooms and into the attic.

Firemen answered the call at 10:30 p.m. and were on the scene until 1:30 a.m.

Firemen In Granite Cut Rating

Granite Falls — Improved service from the Granite Falls Fire Department has resulted in lower fire insurance rates for town residents.

The fire department rating has been changed by the N.C. Fire Insurance Rating Bureau from a class 7 to a class 6. The result will be lower insurance rates for those served by the volunteer organization.

The rating is based on manpower, equipment, condition of the fire department building and the town water system, said fire chief Michael L. Coffey.

The condition and accuracy of the fire prevention and alarm systems also is included in the rating process, Coffey said.

"We were rated 1,000 per cent improved over our last rating in 1968," said Coffey, who added the new rating study was made at the request of the fire department.

The new insurance rates became effective Dec. 1, and area agents have been notified of the change, Coffey said.

The Granite Falls fire department has seven full-time employes and 23 volunteers. There are four pumper trucks and a water tanker.

"It is a rare situation for a municipality of our size to have such a good classification for its fire department," Coffey said.

"We are pleased with the rating and glad that insurance rates will be going down."

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County Firemen Elect Officers

Caldwell County — The Caldwell County Fireman's Association elected officials during a meeting recently at the Valmead Fire Department.

The association elected Mike Coffey, Granite Falls fire chief, president, vice-president is Tommy Wilkie of North Catawba and Glenn Richards of Sawmills was elected secretary-treasurer.

Coffey is the past vice-president. All newly elected officers assumed their duties immediately. Mack Whitesides of Hudson is the outgoing president.

The association also created a Benevolent Brotherhood to

render financial aid to firemen's families in case of death of a fireman.

Members of the brotherhood will pay \$5 upon joining the brotherhood and \$2 at the time of a fireman's death.

Membership in the brotherhood is open to all firemen in Caldwell County, both county and municipal. Presently there are approximately 500 firemen in the county.

Families of firemen belonging to the brotherhood will receive financial aid regardless of the cause of death to the fireman.



FAYETTEVILLE—STATION DEDICATION—The Fayetteville City Council attended the dedication of the city's new Fire Station No. 3 on Rosehill Road recently. The Fayetteville Observer-Times Photo

Former Louisburg Attorney Suffers Fire Loss At Home

Louisburg — The country home of Henderson attorney James Walter Smith was partially ravaged by fire around three o'clock on a recent afternoon, and the resulting smoke and water damage may tend to ruin the remaining portion as Epsom and Louisburg firemen fought to halt the blaze which ripped from the basement to the roof of the house.

According to Ronald Renn, Epsom Fire Chief, the blaze was reported to his department through the Louisburg Fire Department which relayed the call after a passerby, Freddie Branch, noticed heavy smoke in the home, and summoned the firemen.

Chief Renn said the home was engulfed in heavy smoke when the firemen arrived, and they had to utilize air packs to gain entry into the home. One fireman remarked, "This was the hardest fire I have ever worked" due to the heavy smoke. Renn said no one was at home when the firemen arrived, and firemen had to break in the doors to enter the house.

Witnesses who arrived at the scene prior to the arrival of firemen said the flames were

erupting from a basement window in the vicinity of the heating plant. Firemen had to tear out a hole in the roof to extinguish the flames which had progressed through the ceiling in one end of the house.

Smith's home is located on Route 6, Louisburg, about one half mile past Pete Smith's garage on County Road 1411. Smith recently vacated an office in Louisburg, and now practices law in Henderson at the law firm of Smith and Banks, operated by him and her partner.

According to Renn, the blaze caused damages in excess of \$10,000. Louisburg Fire Department sent a pumper and

tanker to the blaze, when the Epsom Department called for assistance.

Epsom Firemen were recalled to the home around 9:30 p.m. that night to extinguish a blaze which had rekindled itself.



SALEM SCHOOL FIRE

SALEM — No injuries and only slight damage to one wall were reported in a fire at the Salem Junior High School about 11:10 a.m. recently. The fire in the two-story, wooden building was believed to have been caused by faulty wiring. The separate building, thought to be about 50 years old, was in use by a ninth grade industrial arts class. The fire was considered under control by about 11:30 a.m. by firemen of the Salem Volunteer Fire Department.

Morganton News-Herald Photo

Fire Burns Two Acres Of Woods

Badin — New London and Badin Volunteer Fire Departments battled a woods fire recently in Camp John J. Barnhardt in dense woods back of the Lone Scout Memory Lodge.

An estimated two acres were burned before the fire was put out after about an hour and a half.

A spokesman said appreciation goes to the volunteers who assisted the camp

staff plus the two departments in controlling the fire.

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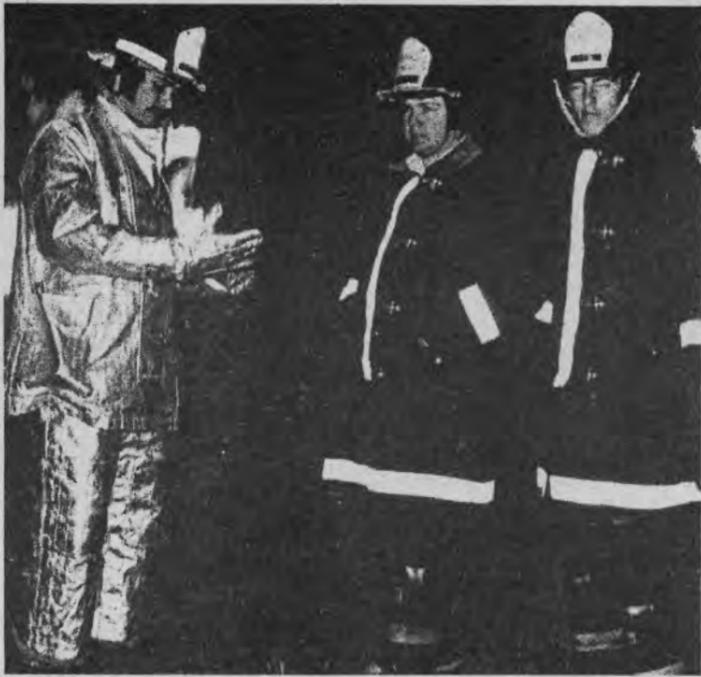
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DUDLEY—GETTING READY—Dudley firemen, Joe Beaman, Asst. Chief Bobby Outlaw, and John Smith, 1-r, get ready for a practice session. The local firemen were photographed during the annual fire school held recently in Wayne county by the state Department of Insurance. Several hundred firefighters from Dudley, Mount Olive, and other rural departments took part in the school. The firemen here were preparing to battle a gasoline blaze. Mount Olive Tribune Photo

Firemen learn all about arson



Roxboro The Courier—Times Photo

Roxboro— As the finale of an arson investigation school, held here recently for local firefighters and law enforcement officers, an old house was deliberately set afire with the use of a number of incendiary devices.

As part of the practical exercise, the building was allowed to partially burn, before the fire was extinguished by a team of Roxboro Fire Department firefighters. Those taking the

two-day course then went through the burned-out building in attempts to find evidence of arson.

The firefighting team called upon to extinguish the blaze was composed of (from left in photo) Michael Woods, Dwight Bradsher and Hugh Whitt. Before performing their chore, they got instructions from one of the experts from the North Carolina Department of Community Colleges, which conducted the local class

through the auspices of Piedmont Technical Institute. Roxboro Fire Chief Tom Gunter listened intently while instructions were being given to his men.

Then, the team stood by while the fire was given time to develop into a roaring blaze. Finally, the team moved in and extinguished the blaze. Later, the old house, located on Gertry Street, was allowed to be totally consumed by fire.

Dudley FD Elects Officers

Dudley — The Dudley Volunteer Fire Department has elected new line officers and administrative officials for 1976.

Line officers are: Herman Holland, chief; Bobby Outlaw, assistant chief; Linwood Cherry, Engine Co. 1 captain; Larry Williams, lieutenant; Jack Kornegay, Engine Co. 2 captain; and Larry Mozingo, lieutenant.

Administrative officers are: Delmer Weaver, president; Kolby Baker, vice-president; Kolby Baker, vice-president; Jack Kornegay, Jr., secretary; Larry Mozingo, treasurer; Selby Beaman, chaplain; and board members Thomas Smith, Thomas Kennedy, Jack Stinehour, Selby Beaman and Bobby Outlaw.

In other business, plans were made to install fire district signs in 12 new locations and to replace old signs as needed.

Ways to update and improve the department's fire fighting equipment were also discussed.

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Firemen Complete New Class

Dunn — Dunn's two full-time firemen, Dickie Bennett and Tommy Warwick, recently completed a 16-hour course in the types, construction and operation of various sprinklers in Wilson.

Also attending, but taking a course in flammable liquids tactics were Dunn firemen Jeff Beasley, Marshall Hinson, Chuck Maynard, Charles Maynard, Harold Bass and Tommy Young.

Several members of the Erwin Fire Department also attended the session, which included more than 1,000 firemen from North and South Carolina and Virginia.

Film of high rise fire receives two awards

"Incendio!", the motion picture on the Sao Paulo, Brazil high rise fire which claimed 179 lives, has just received two film awards.

The Council on International Nontheatrical Events (CINE) presented the Golden Eagle Award to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Bronze Award was bestowed by the International Film and TV Festival of New York.

Produced by NFPA, "Incendio!" was cited for its "excellence" by CINE and will represent the United States in international motion picture events abroad. "Exceptionally fine work" was the term used by the New York Festival judges.

the 11th floor up in the 25-story building.

NFPA, a non-profit organization devoted to safeguarding people from hostile fire, produced the film to emphasize the need to build better fire protection into high rise structures.

"The potential tragedy in high rise structures is awesome," states NFPA President Charles S. Morgan, "and the way to avert the tragedy of an 'Incendio' is to actively pursue fire prevention activities as well as to install complete fire protection and fire suppression systems."

Boone Firemen Improve Rate

Boone — The Boone Volunteer Fire Department has received a higher fire insurance rating — a "seven classification."

The old rating of the department was eight.

Said Dr. Marvin Hoffman, fire department captain: "We're proud to have received this upgrading of our department and seven happier that after the last inspection we were only 53 points away from a class six department."

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LENOIR—SIMULATED DISASTER — Approximately 30 students, all members of a local Explorer Scout Post, were the victims in a simulated explosion at West Lenoir Elementary School on a recent evening. Members of the Lenoir Fire Department used the drill as a final part of an 88-hour emergency medical training course that has been given to 40 firemen. Mrs. Pat Davis, a registered nurse, was the instructor for the course sponsored by Caldwell Community College. Approximately 20 city firemen are scheduled to take the course beginning in January. Others taking part in the drill were members of the Caldwell County Ambulance Service, Lovelady and Lenoir rescue squads and personnel at Blackwelder Hospital.

Lenoir News-Topic Photo

Fire Ruins Food Town In Monroe

Monroe — A fire at Food Town's store on Highway 74 in Monroe did an estimated \$250,000 damage on a recent morning.

The primary damage was to the contents. A hole burned in the roof was the major damage to the building.

The fire apparently started in the stock room and was discovered by an employe who returned to the store parking lot about 1 a.m. to get his car.

Firemen were on the scene until 5 a.m.

All the damaged merchandise was covered by insurance, according to Food Town President Ralph Ketner of Salisbury.

Ketner credited the Monroe Fire Department with preventing greater damage. They did "an excellent job containing the blaze," he said.

Ketner also said the store would be closed about two months for repairs and restocking.

The fire was the first in the company's 17-year history.

Fire Destroys Kermit Greer Home

Purlear — The home of Kermit Greer and family, located on the Shingle Gap Road between Purlear and N. C. Highway 16, was totally destroyed by fire on a recent Saturday night.

The residence, which consisted of a mobile home and a recently constructed addition, caught fire about eight p.m. Millers Creek firemen responded but the fire had gained much headway when reported by a passing motorist and nothing could be saved. Origin of the fire was not determined.

Purlear Baptist Church, where the members of the Greer family are members, conducted a collection of home furnishings and clothing for the family, which lost all personal possessions as well as their home. Clothing sizes were

listed by the Rev. Rex Eldreth, pastor, as follows: Mr. Greer, 16 shirt, 36 pants, 42 coat; Mrs. Greer, 18½ dress or pant suit; son, William, 30 pants, 15½ shirt; son, Rick, 30 pants, 14½ shirt; son, Riley, size 12 pants, 12 to 14 shirt; Sharon daughter, 14 dress, 12 to 14 pants.

Any articles given may be taken to Greer's Cross Roads Grocery one mile north of Millers Creek on N. C. Highway 16. Anyone desiring further information may call the store (667-3610), which Mr. Greer and family operates.

Clubhouse, Office Damaged By Fire

Viewmont — The clubhouse and office of Timberwood Townhouses on Highway 127 North were damaged by a fire on a recent evening.

The call to the fire was answered by the Viewmont Volunteer Fire Department at about 6:50 p.m., according to reports.

The 13 firemen and two units dispatched from Viewmont to extinguish the blaze were on

the scene about two and a half hours, according to a spokesman from the Viewmont department.

The Viewmont department was assisted by the St. Stephens Volunteer Fire Department, which dispatched the unit.

The fire, which is believed to have been started by faulty electrical wiring, was confined to one corner of the three-story building, according to reports.

Though no exact estimate of the damage could be made, the spokesman from the Viewmont department said it would probably run into several thousand dollars.

Smoke presented a slight difficulty in fighting the fire, and there was smoke damage to the entire building, it was reported.

No injuries were reported as a result of the fire.

Fire Damages Woodfin Home

Asheville — A Woodfin home was damaged by fire that apparently started from a wood stove about 8:30 a.m. recently, the Woodfin Volunteer Fire Department reported.

The fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Shelton, 164 Weaverville Highway, caused no injuries, a spokesman said. Two engine companies spent about 30 minutes extinguishing the flames.

Fire Unit Volunteers Deliver Baby

Parkwood — Volunteers from the Parkwood Volunteer Fire Department got an emergency call for aid to an expectant mother, but didn't quite make it in time.

Instead the volunteers delivered the baby themselves.

Department spokesman John Van Roy said the baby, a boy, was delivered at 5:10 p.m. by volunteers John Rudisill, Bill Maynard and Mike Davis. Both the mother, Varnissa Dale Burnett of Rt. 1, Morrisville, and the baby were in good condition after being transported to a hospital, Van Roy said.

Van Roy said it was the second time volunteers have performed an emergency delivery. The first time, Van Roy's grandchild was delivered by volunteers.

Fire Strikes Wrenn Property Twice In Week



Fire Broke Out Here Franklin Times Photo

Franklin — A late evening fire struck a tobacco and grain storage building located between the Seaboard Coast Line

Conti. on page 8

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McDonald's Building Is Heavily Damaged In Fire

Greenville — A fire recently caused heavy damage to McDonald's Hamburgers on Greenville Boulevard.

Greenville Police discovered the fire about 7:05 p.m. and notified the Fire Department which responded with three pumpers.

It was a smoldering fire with little visible flame and the dense smoke hampered firefighters in gaining entrance to the building and finding the seat of the blaze, Fire Department officers said.

The building was valued at about \$120,000 and the equipment at about \$80,000 according to company officials who said the loss might run as high as 70 per cent. Heavy smoke and water damage accompanied the fire.

In addition to the smoke, firemen had to cope with several hundred pounds of paper goods, 800 pounds of shortening used for frying and several cylinders of com-

pressed gas while fighting the blaze.

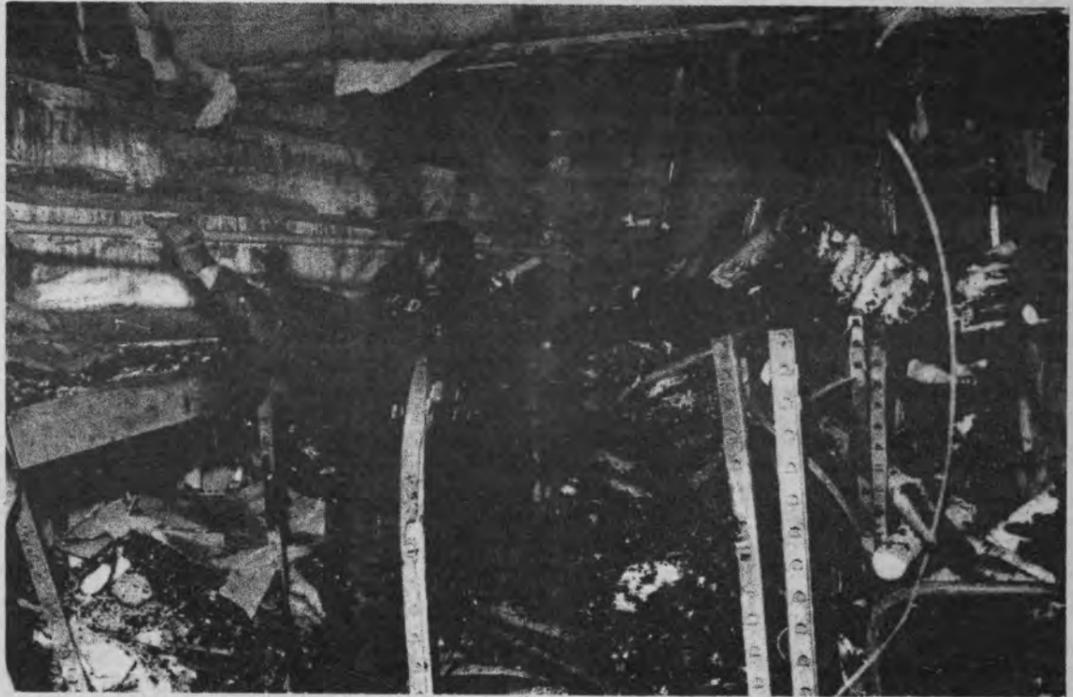
Initially, one of the biggest problems at the scene was encountered when fire units pulled into the firm's parking lot.

The parking lot had been coated with a petroleum sealer that day and a light rain caused the area to become extremely slippery.

The first fire truck to pull into the lot prepared to stop at the front of the building, but instead, slid to a stop at the rear of the parking lot.

A second fire truck being backed into the parking area slipped when the driver attempted to stop and collided with another fire truck, causing minor damage to both vehicles.

Fire inspectors said that the blaze is believed to have started in the vicinity of a storage room at the rear of the building, but noted that investigation into the cause of the fire is continuing.



FIRE DAMAGE—A Greenville fireman checks for hot spots after fire severely damaged the McDonald's restaurant. The rear portion of the building was involved when firemen arrived at the scene. Greenville The Daily Reflector Photo

Fire Strikes Wrenn Property Twice In Week

from page 7

Railway Depot and Allen Oil Company and lasted for more

than five hours before firemen felt safe enough to reduce the fighting force to a minimal crew through the remainder of the night.

Local firemen responded to the fire alarm which was turned in around 9:30 p.m., and discovered smoke pouring from all sides and windows of the two story brick warehouse which was formerly used as storage for Franklin Milling Company.

Firemen immediately began pouring huge volumes of water on the structure, using water lines on both sides of the building, but when the fire broke out on the roof nearly an hour later, the fighting tactics changed to protection of nearby buildings and fuel tanks located at the oil firm.

The ceiling-roof construction prevented the firemen's efforts to extinguish the blaze which raged from one end of the roof of the warehouse to the other end. Fire fueled by the hot tar

roofing was in the space between the roof and upper ceiling joists which had been boarded over, and firemen tried a variety of methods including cutting a hole into the roof and inserting a rotating nozzle, but to no avail.

The blaze was the second loss in as many days for building owner Gerald Wrenn, a tobacco businessman, who lost his rural home to fire at about the same time two nights before. Wrenn was in Georgia at the time of both fires.

Lost in the fire of the storage building which destroyed the entire roof structure of the building, was an estimated 200,000 pounds of tobacco which was stored in the building. Several grain storage bins, estimated to be 7,500 bushel capacity each, were also damaged, however reports indicated that no grain was in the bins at the time of the fire.

A quantity of red wheat which was stored in the rear of the top floor of the building was also damaged by the fire and large quantities of water which was poured into the building from the three fire

departments which fought the fire.

Justice Rural Fire Department and Mitchiner's Cross Roads Department answered a request for assistance, and when they arrived, were stationed at the rear of the building which was almost two hundred feet long.

It was nearly 3:00 a.m. before the fire was brought under sufficient control to release the majority of the volunteer firefighting force which combatted the blaze. Fire Chief Karl T. Pernell kept a constant vigil on the bulging walls which threatened to collapse throughout the night. Finally, the front sidewall section on the oil firm side collapsed exposing the final refuge of the raging blaze, and firemen on the oil firm roof and those manning a gun nozzle set up on main street, doused the remaining danger to the lower floors.

Chief Pernell offered his appreciation to the assistance of the two fire departments, Justice and Mitchiner's, and to the efforts by local firemen. Pernell also thanked The Murphy House Restaurant and John Sledge for bringing coffee and refreshments to the firemen shortly after midnight.

SBI arson inspectors were called in the following morning to investigate the cause of the fire. Louisburg Police Chief Hubert Shearon contacted the investigators. The investigation was halted temporarily until the building could cool enough for the investigators to perform their operations.

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