



TARHEEL FIREFIGHTER



AND CAROLINA RURAL FIREMAN

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December 1977

Christmas Greetings



WHEN WAS THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

Three men sail their camels over a sea of sand. A dazzling star hangs above a town huddled in sleep. On the

hillsides, sheep stir and the fire of shepherds twinkle. A single light burns in the town.

No second guesses are needed to identify this word-picture as the First Christmas. Yet when was it, exactly?

Saint Matthew tells us Jesus was born when Herod was King of Judea. Scholars have established that Herod reigned from 37 B.C. until his death in 4 B.C. Matthew also relates the story of Herod's plan to kill the Infant King and remove any threat to the pagan throne. Each year the story is repeated in Sunday Schools throughout the Christian world: how Herod sent the Three Wise Men in search of the Child... how the Wise Men were warned in a dream that Herod was up to no good... how Mary and Joseph received a similar warning and fled to Egypt with their Child... how Herod tried desperately to eliminate Jesus by ordering the slaughter of all

male children in and around Bethlehem.

In the words of Saint Matthew, Herod called for the death of all boys "from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the Wise Men."

According to this passage, the Wise Men told Herod they had first seen the Star of Bethlehem two years before the tyrant had ordered the "slaughter of the innocents." Since we know Herod died in 4 B.C. Jesus must have been born at least two years earlier. We say Jesus was born B. C. — Before the Christian Era — because of calendar changes in the Sixth Century.

Many scholars believe they can get a better idea of the time of Nativity by learning more about the Star of Bethlehem and the Wise Men.

ASTRONOMY MAKES A POINT

Today we know that fundamental mathematical laws govern the motion of the planets. Astronomers are able to predict the appearances of comets, stars and eclipses by applying complicated mathematical time formulas.

Scientists at the Time Study Institute of the Hamilton Watch Co. in Lancaster, Pa., note that one of the most interesting speculations on the origin of the Star of Bethlehem was in 1937 by the Rev. W. Burke-Gaffney, S.J.

Writing in the Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Father Burke-Gaffney suggests the Star might have been a nova. Novae are stars which flare up suddenly and then fade after a few months. Astronomers believe this is caused by tremendous explosions, similar to the ones which occur on the own sun, itself a small star.

Astronomy was a budding "science" long before Christ. Its center was in Babylonia, which is thought to have been the home of the Wise Men. They were known as "magi", the old Babylonian word for the scholarly, star-gazing priests of the Zoroastrian religion. Since comets, eclipses and the positions of the planets signified great changes in the affairs of men, there is little doubt a blazing star would have gone unheeded.

The great German astronomer Johann Kepler, who died in 1630, suggested that Christ had been born in 7 B. C., during a conjunction of the planets, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. This phenomenon would

have certainly interested the Magi. By calculating the unchanging journeys of these three planets, however, it has been learned that Mars, Jupiter and Saturn could not have been bright enough to be visible in 7 B.C. Seven B. C. however, is still regarded by many to have been the year of the Birth. Why?

TIME OF THE CENSUS

According to the Bible, Christ was born during one of the great census takings of the Roman Empire. In addition, Rome's history records that an empire-wide taxation was begun in 8 B. C. It is not unlikely the census and taxing were held at the same time since one could have served as a check on the other.

Since Judea was on the frontier of the Roman Empire, it must have taken the tax and census takers about two years to work their way there. From Saint Matthew's account we know Jesus was at least two years old at the time of Herod's death in 4 B. C. Allowing a year and a half or two years for the Roman officials to reach Bethlehem, and subtracting at least two years, from 4 B. C., we can narrow the Nativity to 7 or 6 B. C. At this point even the experts differ.

As for the time of the year of the Birth, many believe we need not look further than the Bible

itself. Saint Luke says in his description of the Holy Night, "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night."

Since earliest days, it is only in the Spring — when lambs are born — that the shepherds of Judea watch their flocks at night.

December is the rainy season in the Holy Land, and shepherds are not likely to be out.

If Jesus was born in the Spring why do the major Christian religions celebrate His birth in the winter. Centuries before Christ, the last week of December had been a time of pagan festivals. It is the time of the winter solstice — when the sun stands farthest south in the sky. According to the old Julian Calendar, the solstice occurred on December 25. Our calendar — the Gregorian — marks it as Dec. 22.

The boisterous Kalends celebrations of the Romans were held at this time. Since the early Christians were outlaws in Rome and forbidden to worship, they used the Kalends as a disguise for their own solemn rites. The Kalends customs of gift giving and decorating doorways with evergreens were incorporated by the Christians — and Christmas, as we know it, was born.

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and Carolina Rural Firemen
"An Independent Voice
for Tarheel Firefighters"
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**P.O. Box 643
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Editorial

The Holidays are upon us already — Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's — with all the celebrating, merrymaking, festivities and the ever present danger of tragic fires to mar them. I only hope there won't be too many Jingle Bells changing into a fire



EMILY H. KING

siren, due to the resultant carelessness that often comes with a lot of celebrating on these occasions.

Even flame resistant or retardant materials can, and will, ignite if one is careless. If it becomes bitter cold, overheated wood heaters often explode. Christmas trees can still blaze up if cords are not checked and replaced when needed, and there are a lot of houses with insufficient wiring still being used. There are so many things that can happen to upset the happiness that Christmas should bring forth.

I sound like Gloomy Gus, trying to put a damper on things, but I don't mean to be doing that. I'm just so aware of these things, and it makes me so

sad when I hear of the different tragedies that do occur, even when people do take care, since the Birth of Christ seems to be such a terrible time for them to happen. No one can foresee the accidents that are bound to happen so maybe, just maybe, there won't be too many this year to mar the Holidays.

I'm wondering if the energy shortage will bring forth more, or less, deaths by fire? People are going to try to keep warm, no matter what, and there is always the danger of freezing to death without heat. It was said last Winter, that this Winter was going to be worse. I don't know where the rumor came from, and have heard nothing this year in reference to it, so hopefully it was just that, a rumor. I know that in Roanoke Rapids, pipes that had never frozen before did freeze, and I had a good taste of frozen ones myself, and had to borrow water for over two weeks because the plumbers were so overloaded with work. For those two weeks, it would have probably been foolish to have them fixed anyway, for they would have promptly frozen back, in my case!

Oh, well, all that was after Christmas, last year. I just hope for all of you and yours that this Christmas and the Holidays will be both merry and free of fire alarms.

Emily H. King

Emily H. King

Rural Firemen Re-elect Officers

FARMVILLE — The Farmville Rural Fire Association held its annual meeting on Nov. 21 in the Farmville fire station with a fair attendance. Farmville Fire Chief H. P. Norman and County Fire Marshall Bobby Joyner was present. The meeting was opened with President Pennell Burnette. After the customary reading of minutes, reports were made of the association's business.

Chief Norman reported that two new portable backpack pumps had been purchased and that a smoke ejector had been added to the rural truck. A discussion was held on repairs to the Ford-LaFrance truck, and a committee was authorized to carry out this work.

Marshall Joyner stated that efforts were being made to get all rural departments to standardize their water wagon fittings to enable all departments to match equipment in mutual aid. It was noted that there is a high possibility of getting a better insurance rating in the county if this can be accomplished.

A financial statement as of Nov. 15 showed the association had \$10,592.23 in the treasury. It was noted that there are many new homes and businesses in the Farmville rural fire district who had not contributed to the association and the members were encouraged to ask for their help in providing community fire protection.

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National Fire Protection Association CALENDAR

Feb. 28, 1978

Deadline for Entries — Industrial, Health Care and Education Institutions Division — **LEARN NOT TO BURN COMPETITION** sponsored by NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

May 15-18, 1978

82nd ANNUAL MEETING of NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, Disneyland Hotel and Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, Calif.

May 31, 1978

Deadline for Entries — Municipal Division — **LEARN NOT TO BURN COMPETITION** sponsored by NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

Aug. 31, 1978

Deadline for Entries — Government and Military Division — **LEARN NOT TO BURN COMPETITION** sponsored by NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

Oct. 8-14, 1978

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, internationally sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association

Nov. 13-16, 1978

FALL MEETING of NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, Hyatt Regency, Montreal, Que., Canada

Nov. 30, 1978

Deadline for Entries — Municipal Division — **LEARN NOT TO BURN COMPETITION** sponsored by NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

Medic Alert is best emergency medical ID system available

Medic Alert provides the very best emergency medical identification system available in the world for persons with hidden or special medical conditions that cannot be easily seen or recognized. Diabetes, allergies to drugs, heart conditions, epilepsy and wearing contact lenses are some of the two hundred common reasons people join Medic Alert.

Medic Alert is important to such people because tragic or even fatal mistakes can be made in emergency medical treatment unless the special problem of the person is known.

Capt. Wilson leaves service

GREENSBORO — Clyde N. Wilson has retired from the Greensboro Fire Department following 37 years of service.

For 11 years Wilson served as a driver. During that time he drove a hook and ladder truck.



A diabetic, for example, could be neglected and die because the individual was thought to be intoxicated.

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The symbol of the medical profession and the words "Medic Alert", engraved in red on the outer side of the emblem, tell emergency personnel that the wearer needs special attention. Inscribed on the reverse side of the emblem are the wearer's hidden medical condition, his registration number and the telephone number of Medic Alert's emergency answering service in California.

Each Medic Alert member receives a wallet card that contains personal and medical information additional to that on the emblem. This wallet card is issued annually and is dated so emergency personnel know they are working with information not more than a year old. Medic Alert annually sends each member a computer

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**Clyde Wilson
Greensboro Record
Photo**

He also was a driver of one of Greensboro's first aerial ladder trucks.

On July 1, 1958, he was promoted to the rank of captain and was appointed to help organize three new companies, including the city's first snorkel company.

Wilson, who has received many letters of commendation, has served as vice president of the North Carolina Firefighters Association.

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.

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Fireman Award Goes To Perry

MARTIN COUNTY — Griffins Township Fire Department Chief Kenneth Perry was honored as Fireman of the Year, on a recent evening at the quarterly meeting of the Martin County Firemen's

Association. The award recognizes Perry's contributions to his community and fire fighting in general in Martin County.

Perry has been a member and promoter of the rural fire unit

since it was organized 23 years ago. The chief started out with the fire unit by cleaning the trucks and equipment following fires and later became a fireman upon reaching a suitable age. From that early cleaning job, Perry advanced to the ranks of lieutenant, captain, assistant chief, and chief of the department. He was instrumental in helping to have a tax district voted on by the citizens of Griffin's Township, a fire district set up in the area and also in having the Griffin's Township Fire Department rated by the North Carolina Department of Insurance.

Since becoming chief of the unit, Perry has also helped with a project conducted the department which raised over \$10,000 by cutting logs donated by interested parties and has been a part of the number of firemen who helped to recently renovate and add on to the firehouse. He has also been active in training and recruitment programs for the department, helping the department's enrollment rise from 20 to the present total of 41.

Perry is also active in the quest for new equipment for the department and is helping to design a pumper-tanker to be put into service in 1978. Perry is a strong supporter of the Martin County Firemen's Association, having served on its first board of directors and has been influential in the development and operation of the Martin County Communications System.

Perry serves as a marketing specialist for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and resides in the Farm Life community with his wife, Sylvia Moore Perry, and their two children, Kent, 15, and Jamie, 13.



FIREMAN OF THE YEAR — Shown with the "Fireman of the Year" trophy he was presented at a recent meeting of the Martin County Firemen's Association is Kenneth Perry, chief of the Griffins' Township Fire Department. Perry began with the Griffin's fire unit doing chores some 23 years ago and has worked through the ranks to become its chief. The award was voted to Perry by firemen of Martin County.

Williamston Enterprise Photo



GARNER — NEW FIRE CHIEF — Charles King was recently elected the chief of the Panther Branch • Volunteer Fire Department. Located on Sauls Road, it is equipped with a tanker and an engine. The volunteer fire station has about 20 community volunteers trained to man the firehouse.

Garner News Photo

Interior Finish & Fire Spread

"Interior Finish and Fire Spread," a new National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) publication, is a compilation of 26 articles on significant fires and flame spread tests involving building interior finishes.

Making up this 180-page soft-cover book are articles analyzing 18 fires in which interior finish was an important factor, plus reports on eight tests of finishes of corridors, walls, ceilings, floors and other construction elements.

Occupancies involved in the case histories include apartments, hotels, high-rise buildings, dormitories, lounges, housing for the elderly, and several types of health care facilities.

All articles in this compilation originally appeared in the NFPA periodicals Fire Journal

and Fire Technology from 1970 through 1976.

Copies of "Interior Finish and Fire Spread" (Catalog No. SPP-47) are priced at \$7.25 each, with a schedule of discounts beginning with orders for 25 copies. Address orders to the NFPA Publications Sales Department, 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02210.

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Horace Moore will retire as County Fire Marshall

GREENE COUNTY — A man dedicated to the concept of providing fire protection for every citizen of Greene County will step down as the County's Fire Marshall. Horace Moore plans to retire in 1978.

His career in the fire fighting program for Greene County started in 1946 when he was appointed as temporary Fire Chief of Snow Hill. He held this position for 26 years.

In 1960, he was appointed by the County Commissioners as Greene County's first Fire Marshall.

He and a small group of men from several areas of the county formed the Greene County Firemen's Association, which has since brought rural fire protection and rescue service to the entire county.

His interest was not confined to Greene County. In 1960 he was elected as President of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association, and in 1967 he became a vice-president of the

North Carolina Firemen's Association; and after serving two terms as vice-president, he was elected as president of the State Firemen's Association.

Unlike most individuals who achieve the highest office in an organization, his interest and efforts did not cease after leaving the office of president.

In 1971, he was elected to the office of Treasurer and Investment Officer, Chairman of the Legislative Committee and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee.

His achievements while serving with the N.C. State Firemen's Association will long remain in the history of that association.

He brought about many changes which have resulted in the creation of the \$100,000 Revolving Student Loan Fund, the Herbert D. Gorman Memorial Scholarship, which is an award of \$4,000 annually to a deserving student attending a four year course of study at an accredited college or university.

At this year's State Firemen's Convention he made a motion that a \$1,500 Scholarship be awarded to a deserving student each year who would attend a technical or trade school.

The convention honored him and his achievements by unanimously approving the

plan provided that it be called the "George Horace Moore Memorial Scholarship."

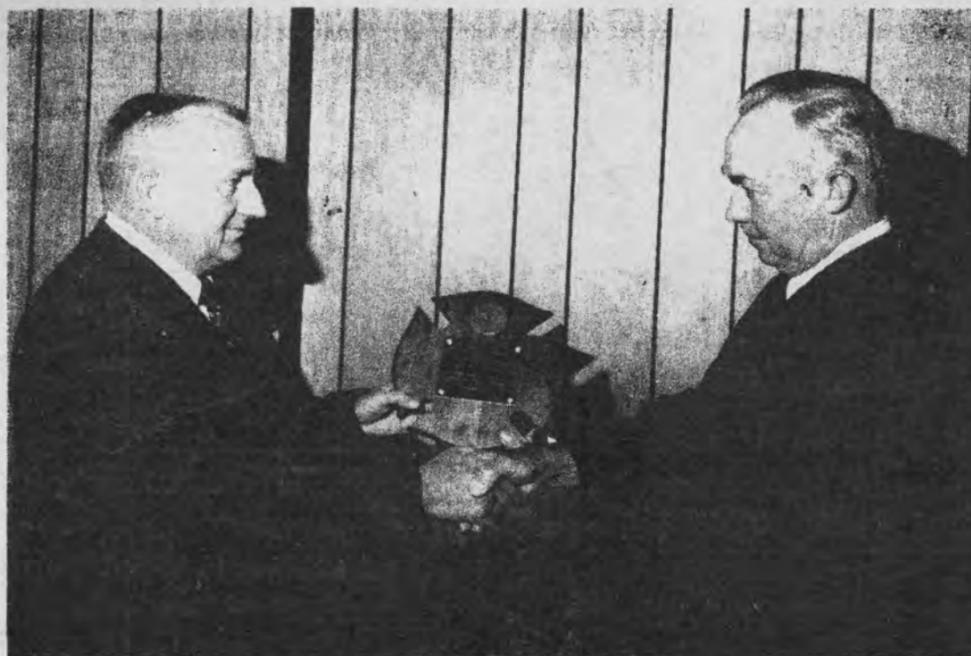
He asked the convention to approve a request that would award a scholarship to the children of all member firemen killed in the line of duty, with

Fund, to create a \$25,000 death indemnity benefit for the families of firemen killed in the line of duty.

He went to Washington to lobby for the \$50,000 death indemnity benefit for firemen, which has since become law.

He was selected as "Fireman of the Year in North Carolina in 1976" and later that same year was named "Tar Heel of the Week" by the News & Observer.

This history of one man's endeavor to strive for better fire protection and better benefits



PLAQUE PRESENTED ... Chairman of the Greene County Board of Commissioners William Jones. (left) presents a plaque of appreciation to Greene County's Fire Marshall Horace Moore at ceremonies honoring him for years of service in this position. Moore has been labeled as one of the original planners for the county-wide fire protection system. Moore plans to retire from the position as Fire Marshall in 1978.

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the scholarship amounts to be in keeping with the academic ability of all children.

Three such scholarships have since been awarded.

He has worked with the State Auditor, Henry Bridges, in several areas of legislation to upgrade the Firemen's Pension

Snow Hill Standard Laconic Photo

He helped write the bill and pushed it through the legislature, which created the new State Fire Commission. He is now a member of that commission.

He serves on the Advisory Committee of the State Department of Community Colleges' Fire Service Training Division, and served on a special committee to work with the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation in creating the Arson Detection Division of that organization.

In 1973, he headed the committee in the Firemen's Association which raised \$50,000 for the burn center which is now being constructed at the University Hospital in Chapel Hill.

for the men who fight the fires was read at the ceremonies honoring him by the firement of Greene County.

Also at the ceremonies a personal and business tribute of "the man" were outlined to show his interest in progress in other areas.

Just before finishing high school in Snow Hill in 1941, Horace was employed by Guaranty Bank and Trust Company where he worked as a teller and bookkeeper until entering the Air Force in January of 1943.

He served in the Air Force for almost three years during World War II, flying combat missions over Europe. He was wounded when his plane was shot down over Germany in July of 1944. He was captured and held in a prisoner of war camp until May of 1945.

After his tour of service, he returned to Snow Hill and his work with the bank.

In 1946 he was elected to the Snow Hill Town Board of Commissioners and served as Clerk-Treasurer to the Board.

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Community Shelter House For Victims of Home Fires



HANG CLOTHING — Volunteers hang clothing which is available for those who need it at the Mountain View Community Shelter.

North Wilkesboro Journal - Patriot Photo

NORTH WILKESBORO — With the fire season at hand, Mountain View Fire Department is offering residents of its fire district more than just a fire fighting unit. Recently the department rented a house and is offering any fire victim the use of the house.

The project began to gather steam in the summer and is now in full swing. The Rev. Jerry Sidden, chaplain of the fire department, is in charge of the project and has been busy storing clothing which has been donated, fixing up the house and supplying it with household furnishings.

Local churches and civic organizations are helping to finance the project with donations which go for the rent and repair of the house.

The house is located on the Oak Ridge Church Road just north of the Rock Creek Road and is being called the Mountain View Community Shelter. It was first started for fire refugees, but can now be used for whatever need arises.

Members of the fire department got the idea when they began wanting to do more than just put out fires. Sidden was appointed chaplain to work with fire victims and also assumed the task of running the shelter. Other members of the board of directors which set the guidelines for the home are Rev. Ted Combs, Rev. Olin Barker, Rev. Sammuell Putman, Earl Alexander, Rev. Lester Carson, Rev. Amos Combs, Rev. Fred Dillard, and Jimmy Wiles, who is fire chief

at Mountain View.

A 30-day stay at the shelter has been established to keep the house available in case of an emergency, but Sidden said the stay could be extended if the board of directors sees fit to do so.

Three rooms of the house are being used to store clothing for anyone who needs it. Sidden said there is a good supply of men's and women's clothing available, but more children's clothing is needed. He also stressed the need for household furnishings and cash donations which could be used to help a fire victim get a new residence set up. Donations to the project may be made by calling Jerry Sidden at 957-8166 or Jimmy Wiles at 957-8991. Items will be picked up.

Hazardous Materials Team Created In Jacksonville

With the influx of new products and special materials, the fire service must constantly devise methods to deal with the varied fire problems that accompany hazardous materials.

In Jacksonville, Florida, nearly 20 percent of the city's fire loss in 1976 stemmed from incidents involving hazardous materials. In response, the Jacksonville Fire Department has created a "Hazardous Materials Team" to handle life- and property-threatening hazardous materials fires.

In one situation, the team's training and recognition of vital hazards led to immediate evacuation of a residential area sparing possible loss of life when two tank trucks BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion).

Articles in the December issue of Fire Command detail the BLEVEs at a Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) distribution center and describe the Jacksonville Fire Department's response.

Continued on page 8

1978 NFPA catalog now available

Now available is the 1978 edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Publications and Visual Aids Catalog. To obtain a copy of this free booklet listing 607 titles, write to the NFPA Publications Sales Department at 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02210, U.S.A.

New products featured in the 8½ by 11-inch, illustrated, 52-page NFPA Catalog include the 1978 National Electrical Code; the films "Will Your Job Burn?" and "Fire: Concepts and Behavior"; and the fifth edition of the basic "Industrial Fire Brigades Training Manual."

Of special interest to the fire service are the new book "Disaster Control," latest addition to the Fire Officer's Guide series; a practical, timely training program on "The Fire Fighter and Plastics in a Changing Environment"; and an updated version of UFIRS — the Uniform Fire Incident Reporting System.

Three new teaching programs, in a choice of slide-tape or filmstrip form, are available to help bring information on fire-safe living and on home fire detectors to the public of all ages, from school children to the grandparent generation. Among the

many new NFPA print materials for general distribution are the folder "EDITH: Exit Drills In The Home" and the 20-page booklet "Fire Safety for You — A Guide for Handicapped People."

The 1978 NFPA Catalog also includes a convenient topical index to the entire contents, a subject index to all 238 standards and codes, order forms, and membership information.

NFPA is the non-profit international organization, founded in Boston in 1896, which is America's authoritative source of information and materials on all phases of the fire problem — fire protection, fire prevention and fire fighting. Membership currently number nearly 32,000. Courtesy NFPA

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Woman Training As Firefighter

ASHEVILLE — The Asheville Fire Department could get its first woman firefighter in the not too distant future.

Fire Chief Powell N. Ball said Miss Patricia Foster is one of 10 people selected to attend a fire cadet training school that opened recently.

Miss Foster was the only female to apply for fire cadet. She originally wanted to be an airline stewardess. When that didn't work out, she decided to try firefighting.

The cadets undergo six weeks of basic training. If they pass they then go into a one-year cadet program. The program does not commit the city for permanent employment, according to Ball.

Ball said there are no openings in the department at this time. But two of the five cadets last year were later hired.

Miss Foster, 26, is doing well so far, according to Ball.

"She likes to be treated the same as other cadets — and she will be. We wish her the best of luck," he said.

NFPA renders interpretation

The Fire Reporting Committee, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), has rendered an Official Interpretation pertaining to a definition in NFPA 901, Uniform Coding for Fire Protection.

This Official Interpretation refers to the current (1976) edition, Chapter M, Incident Casualties. Exact wording is as follows:

QUESTION: Should victims of carbon monoxide poisoning from a source that would otherwise have been a nonhostile fire be classified as fire casualties?

ANSWER: No.

This standard provides uniform terminology and a classification system for fire incident data which improves uniformity of data collected and used at the local government level. It also allows comparison of data between communities and aggregation of data on state and national levels, for study of the fire problem.

NFPA 901 is available in pamphlet form at \$4 per copy. Address orders to the NFPA Publications Sales Department at 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA Courtesy NFPA



SANFORD — Firemen get new mascot —

Sparky, a three-month-old dalmation puppy, is the new mascot of Sanford's Fire Station No. 2. Richard Feindel (right), general manager of local radio station WWGP, presented the dog on behalf of the radio station to fireman Joel Lemmond (left). The previous mascot of the fire department, "Dixie", was killed in an accident recently.

Sanford Herald Photo

About 8,800 people died from fires during 1976

About 8,800 persons died during 1976 as a result of fires in the United States, according to estimates released today by the National Fire Protection Association.

This total is down sharply from the approximately 12,000 annual fire deaths estimated by the Association in recent years; however, the substantial decrease results from more refined statistical methods rather than from a marked improvement in the nation's fire-loss record.

Of the 8,800 total deaths, about 6,200 or 70 percent occurred in residential dwellings, including principally houses, apartments, hotels, motels, and

mobile homes. The proportion of residential fire deaths has risen substantially from previous estimates; but once again, this can be attributed largely to a revision in NFPA's methods of calculation.

The most significant change in statistical procedures appears in the category of motor vehicle fatalities. In past years, NFPA estimates have been based on a 1961 study done at the National Office of Vital Statistics (now the National Center for Health Statistics) and published by H. L. Dunn and E. H. Halpin. It states that 7.9 percent of all motor vehicle occupant deaths have burns as an associated cause of death.

More recent studies have reported that motor vehicle fire deaths form a much lower percentage of overall motor vehicle fatalities than 7.9

percent. Peter Cooley of the Highway Safety Research Institute at the University of Michigan carefully reviewed these studies. His research shows that between 1 and 1.5 percent of motor vehicle fatalities are fire-related, and NFPA has incorporated these results into its 1976 statistics.

In calculating U.S. fire fatalities, NFPA allowed for deaths that often go unreported to municipal fire departments, such as those caused by clothing ignitions, mine explosions, forest fires, and nonhighway transportation fires. This could result in some double counting. Consequently, the 8,800 estimate should be taken as the maximum number of U.S. fire deaths during 1976.

NFPA statistics for nonfatal fire injuries in 1976 totaled 108,000. As in previous years, more than half of these were fire fighter injuries. Since many fire injuries, particularly civilian ones, are not reported, this estimate should be viewed as the minimum number of annual U.S. fire injuries.

The Association also revised its method of estimating the number of U.S. fires and consequent property loss in 1976.

Continued on page 7

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BUILDING DESTROYED — Five fire departments were on hand to fight the blaze when a building was destroyed in Ogden recently. The fire broke out around 3 p.m. and around midnight it was discovered that the smoldering embers flared again, bringing the firemen back to the scene. They fought hard to be sure it did not spread to other buildings in the business area of Rocky Point. The Bargain Barn and all its contents — some antiques — were destroyed. Assisting the Rocky Point Volunteer Fire Department were fire departments from Burgaw, Long Creek, Hampstead and Sloop Point who brought in tanks of water, as there was not sufficient water at Rocky Point. The Pender Rescue Squad also was on the scene.

Burgaw Pender Chronicle Photo

Landmark at Rocky Point Burns; Postal Services Moved

BURGAU — The old Rhodes store, (built around 1912), operated now as the Bargain Barn, burned, leaving only debris; however, the old post office building adjacent, was saved, due to efforts of five fire departments.

The building was being occupied by an antique shop owned by Mrs. Eleanor Voorheers. All the contents were also destroyed, and cause of the fire was unknown at the time as debris was too hot to examine.

Firemen were first called to the scene on a Monday around 2 p.m. at the Bargain Barn, after a stove was set up for winter use. The blaze was soon extinguished. The owner checked the building during the evening as she was coming and going

from various church activities, but saw nothing indicating fire. A Pender Deputy who was making a routine check of the area around 11:00 p.m. said he saw nothing amiss.

Mrs. Berta M. Thompson, postal clerk, who lives nearby the destroyed building said she heard an explosion around midnight and saw flames flare from the roof, then they died back and all she saw was smoke. She called the fire department.

Wm. G. Mathis, an airline pilot who lives at Rocky Point, said he flew over about 12:15 and saw smoke but no flames.

Rocky Point Postmaster, Mrs. James, arrived at the Post Office at 12:20 a.m. Tuesday and helped evacuate the post office. A thick brick firewall

separated the post office from the antique shop.

Mail and postal contents were salvaged by volunteer firemen from Rocky Point, Burgaw, Long Creek, Hampstead and Ogden.

Postal operations have been moved to Burgaw. Box holders can have their mail delivered on a rural route or they can pick it up at Burgaw, Postmaster James said.

Construction of a new post office building on Highway 117 has been in the planning for some time.

Continued on page 12

8,800 People Died

Continued from page 6

Figures were projected solely on data reported to NPFA by the public fire service and no adjustments were made for unreported fires or losses as in previous years.

Within these limitations, NPFA estimates 2,939,100 fires occurred nationwide in 1976 with a resultant property loss of \$3,360,000,000. Most of the damage, \$2,656,400,000 worth, occurred in the 964,200 building fires; fires in residential properties totaled 665,400 causing an associated dollar loss of \$1,433,000,000.

NPFA warns that although revisions in statistical methods result in more accurate estimates, these same changes temporarily preclude accurate comparisons with previous years' fire-loss figures.

The National Fire Protection Association is a private, non-profit organization devoted exclusively to fire safety. For more information on American fire losses in 1976, write the Association's Public Affairs Division at 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02210 or call 617-482-8755.

Courtesy NFPA

Fire damages frame house

GASTONIA — Fire caused \$4,000 damage recently to a four-room, frame house at 817 S. Oakland St.

The occupant of the residence Lester Lowery, was not at home at the time of the fire.

Units from Fire Station No. 1 responded to the fire call at 8:31 p.m. Firemen were on the scene approximately an hour.

A fire department official said that a cigarette left burning in a chair is believed to have started the blaze.

Damage was estimated at \$4,000 to the structure, \$1,000 damage to the contents. The house is owned by Mrs. H.S. Mackie.

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Hazardous Materials Team

Continued from page 5

ment's Hazardous Materials team.

Well-trained and equipped to handle hazardous materials fires, 15 veteran fire fighters comprise the team. Part of the training comes from local and national agencies and businesses familiar with the properties and handling of hazardous materials.

The team has responded to alarms involving chlorine and ammonia leaks, chemical spills, flammable gas fires and train derailments.

In addition to dealing with hazardous materials incidents, the team assists in pre-fire and hazard control planning in industrial, storage and transportation complexes. The team also conducts training sessions and records incident data for fire departments and safety agencies.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), publisher of Fire Command, is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of man and his environment from fire.

Courtesy NFPA

Fire safety standards and codes adopted by NFPA now available

Orders for pamphlet editions of documents should be placed through the NFPA Publications Sales Department, 470 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02210. A schedule of discounts begins with purchase of 25 copies of any one title.

New official NFPA documents are:

Eighteen fire safety standards and codes adopted by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in May 1977 are now available in pamphlet form.

Two of the documents — both pertaining to Fire Service positions — have been accepted as official NFPA documents for the first time. The other 16 have been revised completely or partially and have just been published in new pamphlet editions.

Official NFPA documents number about 235 in all. They are adopted widely at Federal, state and local levels as public ordinances and regulations relating to fire safety, are used voluntarily by commerce and industry, and are referenced extensively in Federal regulations.

NFPA 1031 — "Standard on Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector, Fire Investigator, and Fire Prevention

Education Officer." Identifies professional levels of competence required of personnel involved in fire inspection, fire investigation, and/or fire prevention education work. Requirements for three levels of progression are included in this new document. 64 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 1501 — "Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer." Requires every fire department to have a safety officer, whose duties and responsibilities are outlined in this new document. 8 pages. \$2.25.

Revised and now available in 1977 editions are these NFPA official documents:

NFPA 12 — "Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing System." Covers total flooding, local application and hose line systems. 96 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 12A — "Standard on Halogenated Fire Extinguishing Agent Systems — Halon 1301." Installing, testing, inspecting and maintaining Halon 1301 systems. Contains new material, including sample problems, on flow calculations for unbalanced systems. 128 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 12B — "Standard on Halogenated Fire Extinguishing Agent Systems — Halon 1211." Design and installation of systems using Halon 1211 for fire control. 92 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 15 — "Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection." Design, installation, maintenance and test standards for fire protection systems, including new material on protection of metal tubing and cable runs. 80 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 24 — "Standard for Outside Protection." Details of yard piping supplying automatic sprinkler systems, yard hydrants, standpipes. New

appendix contains information and sample problems on thrust restraint. 56 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 56E — "Standard for Hypobaric Facilities." Safeguards for protection of personnel involved in the oxygen-enriched atmosphere of hypobaric facilities, plus rescue guidance. 44 pages. \$2.25.

NFPA 70 — "National Electrical Code" (1978 Edition). The most widely adopted set of safety requirements in the world, essential for every electrician, inspector, contractor, electrical manufacturer, architect, builder and consulting engineer. Approx. 620 pages. \$6.25.

NFPA 70B — "Recommended Practice for Electrical Equipment Maintenance." Preventive maintenance for industrial-type electrical systems and equipment to reduce hazards resulting from their failure or malfunction. Explains functions of preventive maintenance programs and the economic considerations involved in their establishment. 272 pages. \$4.25.

NFPA 71 — "Standard for the Installation, Maintenance and Use of Central Station Signaling Systems." Requirements for a system, or group of systems, maintained and supervised from an approved central station controlled and operated by a person, firm or corporation whose principal business is furnishing and maintaining a supervised signaling service. 48 pages. \$3.

NFPA 78 — "Lightning Protection Code." Protection against lightning damage of persons, ordinary buildings, special occupancies, heavy-duty stacks, trees, marine vessels, aircraft, structures containing flammable liquids and gases, and miscellaneous structures. 76 pages. \$3.25.

NFPA 79 — "Electrical Standard for Metalworking Machine Tools." Detailed information for application of electrical apparatus to machine tools to safeguard life and property. Applies to all electric/electronic equipment, apparatus, systems and wiring of industrial machine tools. 52 pages. \$3.

NFPA 80 — "Standard for Fire Doors and Windows." Use, installation and maintenance of

fire doors, windows, glass blocks and shutters. 120 pages. \$4.

NFPA 501A — "Standard for the Installation of Mobile Homes — Including Mobile Home Park Requirements." Mobile home park design and land use; lot facilities; accessory buildings and structures; permanent buildings; park plumbing, electrical and fuel supply systems; and park fire safety. Special attention to mobile home stabilizing systems for windstorm protection. Includes guidance on minimum watts per mobile home site for electrical sources in mobile home parks. 44 pages. \$3.

NFPA 501B — "Standard for Mobile Homes." Construction, body and frame design including fire safety; plumbing; heating, cooling and fuel burning systems; electrical systems. Electrical installations are now covered in more detail, including location of distribution panelboard, placement of receptacle outlets, use of snap-in-type boxes, and the requirement for continuity and operational tests by the mobile home manufacturer. (Note: This standard is not totally consistent with the Mobile Home Construction and Safety Standards, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 24, Part 280.) 152 pages. \$3.50.

NFPA 501C — "Standard for Recreational Vehicles (Travel Trailers, Motor Homes, Truck Campers, Camping Trailers)." Plumbing, heating and air conditioning (other than automotive type) systems, electrical systems, and fire and life safety. Revised requirements on installation of electrical systems, including new material on low voltage wiring systems; provision of ground-fault circuit interrupters for certain receptacles; and the number and use of branch circuits required. 108 pages. \$3.75.

NFPA 501D — "Standard for Recreational Vehicle Parks." Fire safety considerations, environmental health and sanitation, electrical system installations. Strengthened requirements pertain to the safety of electrical supply equipment at recreational vehicle sites. 32 pages. \$3.

Courtesy NFPA

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Heavy fire damage to Lincolnton feed mill

LINCOLNTON — An early morning fire which occurred on September 30, 1977 heavily damaged the Banner Roller Mill of Lincolnton. The structure is located on N. Poplar St. in the Northeast section of the City and is approximately 4 blocks from the Fire Station.

The fire was discovered at about 1:15 a.m. by four young boys who noticed a large volume of smoke pouring from

It was evident to arriving Firefighters that the best means attack would be with a master stream from the Aerial Truck due to the height of the building and the volume of fire. Under the direction of Chief Ray Small and his two Assistant Chiefs, Jim Barkley and Hollis Henderson, the men set about the task of setting up the Aerial Truck, which was supplied by a 1,000 G.P.M. engine positioned

northeast of the fire building, a hydrant which was first judged to be too close by the first-in-Engineer. The Boger City Engine set up operation with three 2½" handlines. The total amount of water being applied at that time was 1,750 G.P.M. Firefighters from both departments engaged in an aggressive attack from different positions along the front of the building and the fire was brought under control within an hour.

After the largest volume of fire was knocked down the men moved inside to begin a very time consuming salvage and overhaul operation. Because of the construction of the building, which was heavy timber covered with tin on the main portion of the structure and 2 by 5's stacked flat and covered with tin on the grain storage section, the firefighters had a tough time "digging out" deep-seated spot fires. The last units were released from the scene at 10:25 a.m., some nine hours after the first alarm.

Damage was listed as heavy to the third floor, while the first and second floors received considerable water damage. The business office, which is connected to the south end, received no damage.

Firefighters were assisted through the night by members of the Lincoln County Life Saving Crew who responded with an ambulance and light truck to illuminate the area, and the Emergency Ambulance Service who also stood by with an ambulance. The cause of the fire has not been determined, but it was suspected to be of electrical origin due to the large amount of electrical equipment in the fire area. Submitted by Jerry Hoffman, Engineer Lincolnton Fire Dept.



Lincolnton firefighters Dan Taylor and "Bud" Walker man aerial ladder during height of fire at Banner Roller Mill.

the three-story structure. The boys ran to street alarm box 113 located one and a half blocks away and turned in the alarm. The time of alarm was recorded as 1:20 a.m. by the County Communications Center.

Upon receipt of the call the Lincolnton Fire Dept. dispatched two 1,000 G.P.M. engines and one 65 foot Aerial Ladder. The first units to arrive reported the third floor of the building was fully involved.

at a hydrant 300 feet to the South. At the same time the second engine was laying hose for handlines and was being positioned at a hydrant some 500 feet to the East. At this time Chief Small requested that an engine and manpower be dispatched from the Boger City Volunteer Fire Dept.

Boger City Firefighters arrived a short time later with a 750 G.P.M. engine and were positioned at a hydrant just

County gets two new fire trucks

MONTGOMERY COUNTY — Two new county fire trucks are being tested before being put into service, one at Star and the other at Biscoe.

Each is a 1,000 gallons per minute water pumper, according to Chairman John C. Wallace of the Montgomery County Fire Commission, and has a 750-gallon tank.

The trucks, made by Howe, cost around \$35,000 each.

Star Fire Chief Kester Williams was supervising the testing of the truck assigned there, and Chief Oscar Stevens was supervising Biscoe firemen

in making tests of the truck there.

Chairman Wallace said that an older truck will be shifted from Star to the Badin Lake Fire Department, and an older one moved from Biscoe to Wadeville Fire Department.

The county fire-fighting organization now has eight "first line" trucks, Chairman Wallace stated, and three "older ones" in reserve.

The county organization was formed in the late '50's, it was reported, and the first piece of fire-fighting equipment purchased in 1955.

Horace Moore Retires

Continued from page 4

During the years of 1945 through 1953 he was active in the American Legion, serving on the building committee, as treasurer, Post Adjutant and later as Post Commander.

It was in 1969 when he and other interested citizens formed the Greene County Wildlife Club and was elected the first president of that organization.

For the past eleven years he has served as Vice-President of the Pitt-Greene Electric Membership Corporation and in 1968 was appointed to serve as a director on the Board of the North Carolina Electric Membership Cooperation in Raleigh, which is an organization made up of all the Electric Co-ops in the State.

In 1974, he was elected as President of that organization and is now serving as a member of the operations committee.

This year he was elected to the board of directors of the Tarheel Electric Membership Corp.

Last March he was elected to represent the state in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association as a director. In September while attending a regional meeting in Vermont, he was elected to represent the states of North

Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire, Maine, Delaware, and Vermont on the Executive Committee of the National Board of Directors.

And as it was told at the meeting, when he doesn't have anything else to do, he plays golf, likes to hunt, fish, tend his garden, work in the yard and talk politics with his friends.

Horace married the former Edna Harrison and they have three children, Susan, Peggy and George.

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NEW BERN — FIRE TRUCK GIVEN — The City of New Bern recently gave this fire truck, a 1952 model, to Craven Community College for use as a training vehicle in its Fire Service program. The truck, a 500 gallon per minute pumper, has been restored by the welding, auto body, and auto mechanics classes at the college. Pictured left to right are Ned Delamar, director of specialty program for community colleges; W. M. "Zoo" Saunders, city fire inspector; Emmel Coggins, area coordinator for fire service training; Dr. Lewis S. Redd, dean of continuing education; Mayor Charles Kimbrell; Robert Boyd, fire department captain, and Cloyce Anders, of the Independent Insurance Agents Association.

New Bern Sun - Journal Photo

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Redden named Director of Public Protection Div.

Joseph M. Redden, former Chief of the Newark (N. J.) Fire Department who joined the staff of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in November 1976, has been named Director of the NFPA Public Protection Division.

President Charles S. Morgan of the Association announced Redden's new position as well as advancement of Public Protection to the status of a separate administrative Division within NFPA. Most recently, Public Protection has been operating as an arm of the Engineering Services Division.

Staff of the Public Protection Division are the Association's liaisons with fire departments; provide professional support to NFPA technical committees responsible for development of more than 15 standards and codes in the areas of fire department management,

personnel and equipment; and administer two special groups within the NFPA membership — the Fire Service Section, and the Fire Science and Technology Educators Section.

In addition to Redden, members of the NFPA Public Protection Division now are Robert C. Barr, Assistant Division Director; Douglas P. Forsman, Senior Fire Service Specialist; and Bruce W. Teele, Fire Service Specialist.

Before coming to NFPA, Redden had nearly three decades of fire service experience in Newark. He is a former chairman of the board of directors of the Fire Service National Professional Qualifications Board, and has taught fire science courses at Rutgers University, the New Jersey State Fire College, and elsewhere.

Courtesy NFPA

Fire Damages House On Grant Street

LOUISBURG — Fire ripped through one wall of the residence of Alfred Johnson just off Grant Street in Louisburg just after 9:30 p.m. recently.

Firemen arriving at the scene extinguished the blaze almost immediately, but remained for nearly an hour thereafter to assure that no hot spots would turn the building into an inferno later in the night.

According to Assistant Fire Chief Wyatt Freeman, the fire apparently started in the wall where a small electric heater was located. The fire progressed up the outside wall of the frame home and entered the roof and ceiling, devouring a gaping hole in one side of the house before it could be extinguished.

An electrical service cable which had fallen from the side of the house caused hazardous conditions for firemen as it lay unnoticed on the ground until firemen were in the vicinity. When the service cable began sputtering, firemen didn't know which way to maneuver to withdraw from the area.

An electric generator was set up providing sufficient light to

determine the direction of entry of the service cable and the firemen withdrew to safety.

Even after the fire was extinguished, heavy smoke continued to escape from the attic portion of the house, requiring firemen to remain at the site until all danger of the fire breaking out again was apparently overcome.

At least three units of the local fire company responded to the fire alarm, but one unit was allowed to return to the fire station shortly after the fire was extinguished.

Trailer Damaged By Fire

CATAWBA — A mobile home occupied by Troy Huffman of Route One, Catawba, was extensively damaged in a fire on a recent afternoon.

A spokesman for the Bandys Fire Department, which answered the call, said the fire started from a pot left on the stove. No one was in the mobile home at the time.

Three trucks and 16 firemen responded to the blaze call at 12:58 p.m. The fire was put out in about one hour and a half.

The mobile home was owned by Charlie Chaffin. An estimate of damage was not immediately available.

Wake Forest firemen save man in car fire

WAKE FOREST — Four Wake Forest firemen rescued a man from a burning car recently while returning from weekend training on water transport in rural areas held in Fayetteville.

"I think the experience of the men on the scene should be credited with saving the man's life," said Donnie Hight, of the Wake Forest Fire Department. "Everything went like clock-work."

Stanley Denton, Jerry Warren, A. C. Hall and Hight were driving back to Wake Forest late on a Sunday afternoon on Interstate 95 when they saw a car parked on the side of the road on fire.

Caught inside the car trying to put out the fire was an elderly man from Ohio who worked with carnivals. Evidently he noticed the burning in the front seat of the car while driving and had pulled off the road to extinguish it, Hight said.

Hight speculated that the man actually fueled the fire by opening the car door and allowing a rush of oxygen inside.

The man's clothing caught on fire and he suffered severe

burns on his left side, Hight said.

After rescuing the man from the burning car, the fireman administered first aid and treated the man for shock.

Following the Wake Forest firemen were firetrucks from a fire equipment company in Virginia; one was driven by local fireman A. C. Hall Jr. With the use of the fire equipment, the car fire was put out and the vehicle saved.

Highway patrolmen and the Cumberland Co. Rescue Squad were called to the scene. The injured man was hospitalized in Fayetteville.

The firemen were attending a two-day course on methods of transporting water by tanker in rural areas where no hydrants are available.

The school was sponsored by the state Commissioner of Insurance's office and the Cumberland Co. Rural Fire Department.

Submitted by Jack L. Slagle's Fire Equipment & Supply Co., Inc.

Arson suspected in 3 years' fires

MOREHEAD CITY — Fire officials in Morehead City believe arsonists are responsible for million of dollars in damage over the past three years.

The string began, they say, with some abandoned houses on a rural road near this coastal community, quickly snuffed and attributed to vandals.

"Those houses were probably experimental," said one fireman. "They graduated to bigger fires."

Since then, the fires have become more elaborate, taxing the resources and energy of the 12-man full-time fire force, which also uses about 30 volunteers.

Sometimes firemen put out blazes only to have them begin again within a few hours. Once an abandoned house was set afire as an apparent diversion as another blaze was set a few blocks from the fire station.

The latest fire heavily damaged a Rose's store Oct. 26, six months after the same store was burned to the tune of \$800,000.

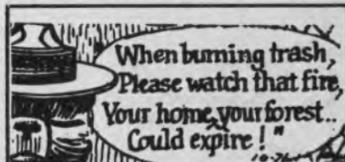
The State Bureau of Investigation has probed the fires and rewards totaling \$8,000

have been offered, but the alarms continue.

"It's been terrible for the last three years," said Fire Chief Edward Guthrie. He estimated 30 building fires altogether since 1974 might have been the work of arsonists.

"I wouldn't even count how many cars have burned," he said.

In addition to the Rose's fire, others include a \$100,000 blaze at a country club pro shop, \$230,000 damage to a city recreation center, \$762,000 at an elementary school, \$750,000 at a lumber company and nearly \$500,000 total to a theater, a commercial building and a hotel.



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Medical ID System

Continued from page 2

printout of all information in his emergency record so it can be verified or updated. Members can update the emergency record at any time by sending new information to Medic Alert. When membership files are updated, a new wallet card showing the revised information is sent to the member.

The third part of Medic Alert's system of protection is the emergency answering service. The hot line number is engraved on the emblem and printed on the wallet card. Emergency personnel know they can call that number, collect, around the clock, from any location in the world. Within seconds of receiving a call, emergency operators relay additional emergency information that can help save a patient's life when he cannot speak for himself.

Medic Alert Foundation has been endorsed by a large number of national medical, civic and law enforcement organizations. Among them are the American Diabetes Association, American Hospital Association, and the International Rescue and First Aid Associations.

The best proof that the Medic Alert identification system works comes from members themselves. In a recent 12-month period, over 2,000 members reported that Medic Alert had contributed to the saving of their lives.

Medic Alert Foundation International is a nonprofit, charitable and tax-exempt organization. The protection of

the total emergency communications system is available for a one-time, life membership fee of ten dollars. A percentage of the membership fee goes into a special trust fund to insure that this service will be available throughout each member's lifetime.

For literature and an application form, write Medic Alert Foundation International Department BA P. O. Box 1009 Turlock, California 95380

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Rural Firemen

Continued from page 2

Pennell Burnette is president of the association and B. B. Turnage is secretary. Other directors are: Barney Bland, Jim Craft, Sr., Eddie Jones, Horace Lewis, Charles Letchworth, Mark Mozingo, Charles Raspberry, Edgar Thomas and Roy Vick.

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Postal Service

Continued from page 7

Postmaster James said the boxes and some other equipment for the new post office were stored in the rear of the old post office. Firemen's efficient efforts saved those.

Contents of the Bargain Barn were valued at up to \$10,000 according to the owner, who also said she had no insurance.

Arnold Rhodes operated a general merchandise store in the building until forced to close it due to age. Mrs. Tompkins said "he used to sell just about everything."

One resident said the post office building was originally a restaurant. Half a century ago Rocky Point was a produce shipping center for vegetable growers of the area, but that business declined until not even the loading platform remained. A few farmers in the area still grow some vegetables for local sale.

Rogers Home Destroyed By Fire

NEW LONDON — A 150-year-old remodeled frame home owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Rickey Rogers and their

two children was destroyed by fire recently on the Whitney Road four miles east of New London.

and Bethany Volunteer Fire Departments. New London VFD officials express their appreciation to the other



THIS HOME WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE SATURDAY NIGHT

Mr. and Mrs. Rickey Rogers and their two children were at home when a fire of electrical origin quickly spread through this large dwelling and destroyed most of the interior. New London VFD battled the fire, assisted by three other fire departments. The origin log structure has been remodeled several times, the latest time being during the past two years when the Rogerses added the exterior rock walls.

Albemarle Stanly News & Press Photo

Smoking syrup causes damage

ETOWAH — At least six county fire departments responded when smoke was spotted coming from Etowah Elementary School at 6:49 p.m. on a recent Thursday.

According to Richard McKinna, Chief of the Etowah-Horse Shoe Volunteer Fire Department, firemen arriving at the school found the cafeteria and kitchen of the school full of smoke.

Firemen broke a lock off the door to enter and discovered the source of the smoke to be a pan of syrup that had been left on the stove, McKinna said.

McKinna estimated that damages in the kitchen-cafeteria area would total about \$60.

Firemen stayed on the scene for more than an hour, using fans to clear the smoke out of the building.

The Etowah Horse-Shoe Department sent four units to the scene; Valley Hill responded with two units.

Units from Mountain Home, Blue Ridge, Fletcher, and Mills River started to the school under a standing mutual aid agreement, McKinna said, but were turned back before reaching the scene.

Fire nearly destroys house

KANNAPOLIS — A six-room frame house on Earnhardt Lake Rd. was almost destroyed by fire on a recent Sunday at 1:38 a.m.

Fire Inspector Jim Pharr said the fire blazed in a front bedroom and quickly spread to the attic. Some of the contents were saved.

The house was occupied by Ronnie Doster, but the owner was not identified.

Responding to the call were Odell and Winecoff fire departments. The Kannapolis Fire Department stood by with a water wagon.

Firemen were out until 3:29 a.m.

Columbus Officers

COLUMBUS — On a recent Monday night the Columbus Volunteer Firemen elected Billy Feagan as chief. Other officers elected were Herman Bunch, Assistant Chief; Geoffrey Tennant, secretary; Hoyt McEntire, treasurer. Frank Lanning was elected to be in charge of the Slush Fund.

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Firemen and vehicles from four rural fire departments battled the blaze and some remained at the scene until 3:30 a.m. the following day.

The fire was discovered and reported around 10 p.m.

Mrs. Rogers said she, her husband and their two children were all home when the fire started, apparently in the electrical box.

The fire quickly spread into the top part of the home. New London VFD, in whose district the fire occurred, came to the scene and helped save the dwelling from complete ruin.

Assistance was given by Badin, Richfield-Misenheimer

departments for the quick response to this call for help.

Much of the clothing and personal belongings were salvaged from the burning house.

In addition to the fire damage there was extensive smoke and water damage throughout.

Mr. Rogers sustained an injury when he slipped and fell off the roof of his home while trying to help firemen make an opening in the top part of the house in order to relieve the pressure.

Mrs. Rogers said the original basic part of the large home was a log structure, which has been expanded and remodeled several times, including once during the past two years they have occupied the home.

The Rogers family is living temporarily with Mrs. Rogers' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Buford Maner in the same community.

New London firemen will be glad to channel any donations anyone wishes to make to the family.



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