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ALL THAT IS LEFT OF OLD CENTER WAREHOUSE

Warrenton Fire Disastrous

The charred remains of a block long warehouse in the business section of Warrenton were still smoldering Thursday afternoon and pumps were running 24-hours a day at the Warrenton filter plant to keep pressure in the water mains as town officials sought the erection of a small emergency water tank.

The 75,000-gallon tank collapsed Tuesday night when heat from burning warehouse buckled allowing the more than 600,000 pounds of steel and water to fall a hundred feet to the ground in Warrenton's second most disastrous fire.

Damage to the warehouse, its contents, the water tank and surrounding buildings have been estimated at more than \$200,000.

Mayor W. A. Miles appealed to Congressman L. H. Fountain Wednesday for emergency funds.

When the water tank hit the ground the impact caused the tank to explode throwing steel parts across the street ripping an awning at the home of Roger Limer and sending gushing water across the street and injuring five persons. A section from the tank was resting on the porch of the Limer home yesterday afternoon.

Injured by flying steel and rushing water was Roger Limer, who was badly shaken up and bruised. Grady Moseley, who suffered a severe shoulder injury, and two firemen, both members of the Warrenton Fire Department,

who were injured by flying steel. They were Claude Harrington, hand injury and general shock; Otis Williams, hit by flying steel. Joseph Richardson, also a member of the Warrenton Fire Department, was burned on arm, neck and head. All are recovering in Warren General Hospital.

Also injured were McCarroll Alston, assistant chief of the Warrenton Fire Department, who was burned from the elbow to his shoulder, and Willie Joe Robinson of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department, who was overcome by heat and smoke. Alston was treated at Warren General Hospital on Wednesday morning and discharged. Robinson was hospitalized and

is still a patient.

Destroyed by the fire of unknown origin was the Warrenton Furniture Exchange Warehouse, the old Center Tobacco Warehouse, filled with furniture and electric appliances.

Homes injured were the Clarence Britton home, the Kate White Williams home and the Roger Limer home, all across the street from the warehouse. Also damaged were the store building of the Warrenton Furniture Exchange, Brown's Superette, both across the street from the warehouse, and the old Dameron building, now owned by Borden Company, within six feet of the warehouse, and protected by a solid brick wall. Damage

to this building was apparently slight.

More than 35 units, including trucks, tankers and Rescue Squads, were summoned to Warrenton from neighboring towns, cities and communities. Three trucks and ten men from Norlina responded, and 11 units of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department responded to the call.

The fire was discovered shortly before 9 o'clock Tuesday night, when the fire began to rage out of control, burning electric wires, shorted the circuit, resulting in a power cut off at the town's pumping station. When the town water tank collapsed from the heat a few minutes later, the town was without (See FIRE, page 4)

Board Applies For Grant

A called meeting of the town board was held on Thursday when heads of Warrenton Industries and Charles S. Edwards, N. C. Coordinator of the Economic Development Administration, was present.

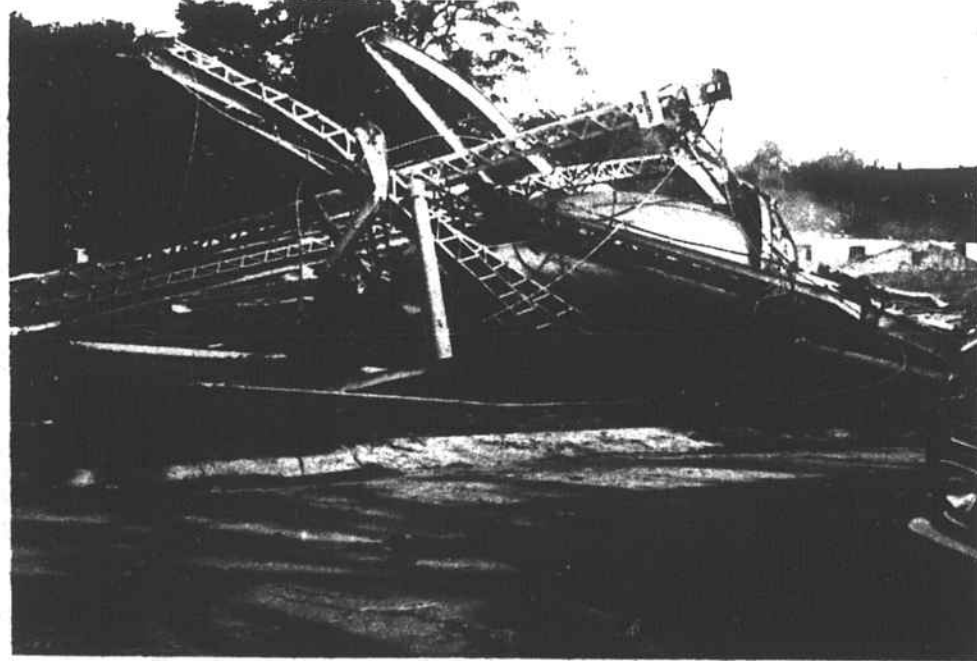
Edwards assisted the commissioners in preparing an application for a 60-per-cent of cost grant for the erection of a water tank in order that jobs of from 600 to 700 employees at Warrenton might be maintained. These plants are dependent upon Warrenton's water supply for air conditioning used in the manufacturing process and for fire protection and it is believed that they would not long be able to keep their plants open without an adequate water supply.

Due to the gravity of the

situation here, Edwards indicated that Warrenton's application would be processed, according to agency headquarters, with all possible speed.

It is estimated that it would take at least 90 days to have the tank erected here following the processing of the towns application and the making of the grant. Meanwhile the commissioners yesterday afternoon were discussing the possibility of purchasing a 50,000 gallon high compression tank to serve the town until a tank can be erected.

Town Manager J. Ed Rooker said that while there is ample water for regular use by consumers the town would appreciate it if customers will be careful in the use of water.



REMAINS OF TOWN WATER TANK

No Delay In Opening Of Warren Schools Expected

Pot-Bellied Stoves To Be Removed

All old-type pot-bellied coal stoves will be removed from three buildings at John R. Hawkins High School and overhead gas stoves installed in time for the opening of school, it was learned yesterday at the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

The board of education at a special meeting last week authorized an appropriation of \$4,000 to cover the cost of installing the gas heaters.

The heaters will be installed in the two high school buildings and in the eight grade building.

Board Approves Preliminary Plans

For Mariam Boyd Building, Library

Warren County schools are expected to open on August 31 in spite of an appeal of tobacco growers to delay the opening of schools in order that students may help in the harvesting of the tobacco crop.

Frank Reams, Extension Chairman, appeared before the board of education on Monday night and said that he was making a request for a delay of approximately a week in opening the schools at the request of a large number of farmers.

While no official action was taken by the board, acting board chairman Dr. S. H. Massey polled each member separately and they all agreed that the schools should open on the date previously set. Massey was serving in the absence of Chairman Eugene Davis. All other members of the board were present.

During last year when the schools were making up lost time by Saturday teaching, the board members stated that they had made a mistake in delaying the opening of schools, and at that time expressed the view that school opening should not be delayed in future years.

Owen Smith, architect, of Raleigh met with the board to submit preliminary plans for an additional building at Mariam Boyd School and a new library building at John Graham High School. The board approved the plans for both buildings.

The new building at John Graham will consist of 13 classrooms, a multiple-purpose room, which will also serve as a cafeteria and assembly room, administrative offices and a kitchen.

J. Roger Peeler, superintendent of schools, said yesterday that it would probably be about two months before specifications can be worked out and a call made for bids. He said if there is no unexpected delay that the building should be ready for use when school opens in the fall of 1968.

Peeler said that bids for the library would probably not be called for until about three months as Smith had been asked to give priority to the Mariam Boyd school. He said that the library would probably not be completed in time for the opening of school next year.

The board approved the employment of John D. Saunders of Selma as a teacher at Hawkins High School, the employment of John H. Martin and Mrs. Lillian F. Martin of Winston-Salem at North Warren, and the employment of James Monroe Chavis of Robeson County as sixth grade teacher at the Haliwa School near Arcola.

The system is still short

some 13 teachers. Peeler said, He listed these as two elementary teachers at Haliwa school; one elementary teacher at Northside; one high school math teacher at Norlina; two elementary teachers; two special educational teachers, one guidance counselor and one librarian at Hawkins; a music teacher and two elementary teachers at North Warren.

Peeler said that he had hoped that a half time librarian for Vaughan and South Warren and a half-time music teacher at Vaughan and Haliwa schools might be employed but that so far these teachers have not been found.

Election Of Committeeman To Be Made By Mail

The ASC community committee election will be held by mail this year, T. E. Watson, ASCS office manager, announced yesterday. He said ballots must be mailed or returned in person by Sept. 18. The community boundaries have not been changed from last year.

Watson said a slate of nominees will be selected by the present community committee. The county committee may add additional names. Others may be added to the slate of nominees by petition if they are found to be eligible and willing to serve if elected. Petitions must be:

1. Limited to one nominee each.
2. Signed by at least six eligible voters in the community (Eligible voters may sign as many petitions as they desire.)
3. Received at the county office by Aug. 24.

Persons nominated should be (1) currently engaged in the operation of a farm or ranch and (2) well qualified for committee work and willing to serve if elected.

Watson said that in general a person is eligible to be a community committeeman if he lives in the community in which he is eligible to vote. If a person who is nominated by petition is found to be ineligible, he will be notified and given 15 days in which to appeal to the county committee.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. House were at Natural Bridge and the Skyline Drive this week. They will attend the funeral of Mr. Ben Woodard in Scotland Neck on Friday.

Guests of Miss Virgie Duke on Wednesday were Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Thompson, Mrs. George Ramsey and Mrs. Henry Whitmore of Henderson.

Tickets For Warren Beauty Pageant Now On Sale; To Be Held At Local School Auditorium August 25

Tickets for the second Miss Warren County Beauty Pageant have been placed on sale by members of the Warren County Jaycees, sponsoring organization. The pageant will be held at the John Graham High School auditorium on Friday night, Aug. 25, at 8 o'clock. Tickets, which also may be purchased at the door, are selling for \$1.50 for adults

and \$1.00 for children through high school.

Bob Jones of WKIX Radio Station in Raleigh will be master of ceremonies. Mrs. H. M. Hardy of Warrenton will be director and Mrs. Gid King of Warrenton, organist. As part of the program, Leonard Daniel will sing a solo. William Hicks of Norlina will be in charge of sound effects

and music.

The winner will win many valuable prizes, including a \$100 scholarship from Pepsi-Cola, a \$100 scholarship from the Jaycees, a \$50 Savings Bond from the Citizens Bank of Warrenton, a \$25 savings account from the Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Norlina. The queen's crown will be presented by Loughlyn-Good-

wyn of Warrenton, a White Stag sweater and skirt from Leigh's of Norlina, a Canterbury wool skimmer and blouse from Marguerite's Style Shop of Warrenton, a Donnenny three-piece suit from Edwards of Warrenton and a cosmetic outfit from Mrs. Jimmy Medlin of Norlina.

The first runner-up will receive a \$25 savings bond from

the Bank of Halifax of Littleton and a \$25 scholarship from the Jaycees.

Contestants will be judged in evening gown, swim suits and talent. The winner will represent Warren County in the Miss North Carolina pageant to be held in Greensboro in July, 1968. Judges will be Mrs. L. M. Bullock of Drewry, Dr. I. W. Cavido

of South Hill, Va., Mrs. Grace Boone of Roanoke Rapids, Mrs. Edward Branch of Enfield and John Mundy of Henderson.

Eight girls will compete for the title "Miss Warren County" this year. They are Hazel May King, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Graham King of Littleton; Rebecca Elaine

King, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence C. King of Norlina; Deborah Kay Joyner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Joyner of Warrenton; Gayle Harmon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Harmon of Warrenton; Linda Faye Norwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Norwood of Arcola; Sandra Faye Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

George W. Davis of Inez; Patricia Ann Satterwhite, daughter of Mrs. Gladys Satterwhite of Norlina; Janis Gayle Paynter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude L. Paynter of Norlina.

A luncheon will be given the contestants at Warren Plaza Inn on the day of the pageant.



HAZEL MAY KING



DEBORAH KAY JOYNER



GAYLE HARMON



LINDA FAYE NORWOOD



SANDRA FAYE DAVIS



JANIS GAYLE PAYNTER



PATRICIA SATTERWHITE



REBECCA ELAINE KING