

Early Morning Blaze Damages Radio Station Here

Damages In Thousands; Station Back On Air To Maintain Record

Flames of undetermined origin swept through the rear of the studios of Radio Station WCBT on Roanoke Avenue here early Saturday morning, but phoenix-like the station rose from a destructive fire and went on the air at 6:14 a. m. Saturday morning, thus maintaining its record of never having missed a scheduled broadcast day since it began operations.

The fire which apparently started in the back studio of the station located in the Edwards building completely burned the back studio, the record library and swept into other portions of the station damaging the control room and the equipment therein.

Station Manager Al Drew said late yesterday afternoon that the extent of the damages had not been determined, but that they "would run into several thousands of dollars."

Drew said that the insurance adjuster, who arrived in the city late Saturday afternoon and went immediately to the Faison-Oglethorpe agency, which has the insurance on the station, would make the final appraisal of damages.

The fire was discovered by Police Officer J. Y. Duffy, who was making an early morning routine check of the North End business section. He immediately notified police headquarters and the first alarm was turned in at 1:55 a. m.

Volunteer firemen roused from their beds rushed to the scene and found the blaze raging in the rear end of the building. A short time later a second alarm was turned in and a second truck was dispatched to the scene.

Flames leaped through the rear windows of the building and were as high as the second story of the building at times. Fed by the combustible material from the phonograph records the blaze raged and for a short time firemen had a difficult job bringing it under control. Two streams of water were played into the rear end of the building and huge billows of smoke rolled from the windows.

Three streams of water were played into the blazing building and the fire was finally extinguished and the firemen returned to the station about 5 a. m.

Actual fire damage was confined to the space occupied by the radio station, though heat and smoke caused minor damage to David's Clothing store next door.

Two firemen received minor injuries fighting the blaze. Hubert Brewer received a cut on his arm from a piece of glass and Herman Thompson had slight hose burns.

Rumors spread among the large number of people who gathered along Roanoke Avenue to watch the firefighters, that an explosion was heard prior to the blaze. However, the reports could not be confirmed and Drew said he knew of nothing in the rear of the studio which would explode.

Before the fire was finally extinguished, Drew and members of the station personnel, who gathered at the blaze, were making plans for getting back on the air.

Two transcription turntables were salvaged from the burned station and some other equipment was at the transmitter at the time of the fire and it was rigged to take broadcasts direct from the transmitter on East Tenth Street where operations have been resumed.

Drew expressed his appreciation to all persons who had helped in getting the station back on the air after the blaze. He praised the station personnel, the firemen and "all of the people who helped us get partially straightened out."

The station manager said that for the present operations will continue from the transmitter and that all persons who appeared on programs should report to the transmitter house on East Tenth Street. He added, that present plans "call for returning to our old location as soon as the renovations can be made."

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Weather
North Carolina - Sunday partly cloudy, no change in temperature.

ROANOKE RAPIDS

Sunday Herald

34th Year—No. 54

Roanoke Rapids, N. C., Sunday, November 14, 1948

5c Daily; 10c Sunday

Roanoke Ramblings

By Pat Nantz

It was a swell game the Jax played Friday night, with the loss winning by a score of 12-0, but the player who went over for both of those touchdowns had a little bad luck afterwards. Vance Stewart is reported to have been the carrier, and by the way, he made a run of seventy-two yards for one of those touchdowns, but later was minus some of his teeth... so if you see Vance and he looks as if his front teeth are missing, you aren't seeing things, because all of them are gone. We're really sorry to hear about it, though, but they make such good substitutes now, that some people even prefer them... here's hoping Vance does...

It is being said that Billy Murray and Bill Boyd are going to join the Army, Monday... Max Rogers has probably been talking to them about how much he enjoys the service and has them completely convinced... Max left yesterday to report back to his base in Texas...

If our local ball team depended on the cheering they get from the spectators at out-of-town games they would never win again... there were only about twenty people attending the game at Greenville Friday... maybe that's what they need, just a little more support...

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon C. Whitby, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Lewis and nephew, Malcolm Cumberland left today to begin seeing the sights of the United States between North Carolina and Canada... then they plan to visit in Canada with Malcolm's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Claude M. Cumberland... Mal has been visiting with his aunt and uncle since June, when came here with his parents who returned home in July...

Many tales have been told about why George Wilkins is wearing that patch over his eye. George says he got something in his eye but we will just wait and see if it is back when he removes the patch. It must be quite the style, because I was talking to George, Calvin Hudson approached us and compared the one he has with George's, but Calvin will at least admit his is black and cut, too; however it didn't come from walking in to a door or swinging limb... it seems that Calvin was playing football with some boys about the age of his son, Lee, when one of them, Lee said all eleven of the other team, and the ten on his team) hit him by surprise - and not being as young as he has been, Calvin hit the good of terra firma pretty hard, and he still says somebody's foot was in his face... I wonder if there are any others "sporting" a patch?

Friday night while most of us were dead to this world in sleep, the local radio station caught fire, about 2 A. M., creating quite a bit of property loss.

U.N. Leaders Appeal To Big Powers To Settle Berlin Crisis And End "Fear of Another War"

By The Associated Press

Two United Nations leaders appealed to chief executives of the Big Four powers yesterday to settle the Berlin crisis and end the world's "fear of another war."

Assembly President Herbert E. Vatt and Secretary-General Trygve Lie addressed their plea directly and urgently to President Truman, Prime Minister Stalin, Prime Minister Attlee, and Premier Queuille.

Their letter said the UN's work is being undermined by the Berlin crisis and the "danger to the peace and security of all nations continues undiminished."

"It is within the power of the leaders of the great nations, to which this communication is addressed, to end this danger to the peace," the letter said.

On the other side of the world, where Chinese government troops are battling Communists in a bloody civil war, pro-government reports claimed new successes around Suchow. But the Reds were shelling the field five miles to the east. Shanghai reports said the Communists, scenting a chance to win the war quickly, appear to be throwing their main strength into the great Suchow battle.

Pro-government dispatches reaching Nanking from the front said government planes continued their all-day missions against the Communist artillery which was harassing the airport. This was the one remaining link between Suchow and

New Civil Defense Setup Is Proposed

Washington, Nov. 13—(AP)—A new emergency civil defense reserve force of 50,000 specialists was proposed today by the Civil Defense Planning office.

The force would be composed of 100 or more "A" Civil Defense mobile reserve battalions of 500 men each, set up under state control and equipped in part by the federal government. Each battalion would have attached to it six planes and 12 pilots from the Civil Air Patrol. It would be equipped for rescue, first aid, fire fighting and other services required in an emergency.

The planning office report to Secretary of Defense Forrestal suggests assignment of seven battalions each to California and Pennsylvania, five to Ohio, and four each to New York and Texas.

Three battalions would be assigned each to Michigan and Illinois; and two each to Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, Louisiana, Missouri and Minnesota.

Other states and territories would get one battalion.

Weaker Demand Forces Prices Down on Tobacco

Raleigh, Nov. 13—(AP)—Weaker demand forced prices further downward this week on the Eastern North Carolina, Middle, and Old Belt flue-cured tobacco markets. Sales were limited to four days because of the Armistice holiday.

The U. S. and N. C. departments of agriculture said the week began with seven markets operating on the Eastern North Carolina Belt but ended with only three in operation.

Prices on the Eastern Belt fell \$1 to \$5 compared with last week, and the general average fell \$3.18 below the previous season low of last week.

On the Middle Belt, declines ranged from 25 cents to \$7 compared with last week's average, with most losses ranging between \$1 and \$4. Most of the greater drops occurred during the week of \$4.50 for the week was \$3.72 over last week's previous season low.

On the Old Belt, volume during the sixth week was considerably heavier than anticipated, and a few limited grades dropped \$5 to \$7, although most decreases were bracketed between \$1 and \$4.

U.N. Leaders Appeal To Big Powers To Settle Berlin Crisis And End "Fear of Another War"

Nanking, 200 miles to the southeast. Evt and Lie sent their letters to the General Assembly's political committee heard Soviet Foreign Minister Andre Y. Vishinsky shout at U. S. Delegate Frederick H. Osborn:

"You are preparing a Pearl Harbor for the Soviet Union, aren't you?"

The 58-member committee later voted 36 to 6 against a Russian proposal that the big powers reduce their armaments by one-third and prohibit atomic weapons. Instead, the committee voted 40 to 6 to call upon the UN commission to continue its discussions on the entire arms question.

The UN security council's seven-nation Palestine committee approved a plan said to call for demilitarizing nearly all the Negev desert. This plan was submitted by acting UN Mediator Ralph Bunche.

New Pastor Assumes Post at Pentecostal Church of God

The Rev. Clifford S. Patrick has announced he will accept the pastorate of the Pentecostal Church of God of Roanoke Rapids for the coming year.

He will fill the pulpit for the first time here today for his initial sermon and has invited the public to attend services.

The Rev. Mr. Patrick was formerly pastor of the Church of God at Virginia Beach, Virginia, before coming to Roanoke Rapids.

Herbert To Be Speaker At Halifax District Boy Scout Dinner Tomorrow

Japanese War Leaders Sentenced To Death



Here are six of the seven Japanese war lords under sentence to be hanged for war crimes. They were convicted by the International Military Tribunal at Tokyo. Top, left to right: Former Premier Koki Hirota who was present at pre-Pearl Harbor conference when war plans were made; Gen. Iwane Matsui, commander in Shanghai and Nanking during the rape of Nanking; Lt. Gen. Akira Muto, chief of staff in the Philippines. Bottom, left to right: Gen. Hirota Kimura, vice minister of war throughout Premier Tojo's administration; Gen. Kenji Dohara, undercover expert in China and Manchuria, called the "bird of evil omen" by the Chinese; Gen. Seishiro Itagaki, former war minister and chief of staff of the Kwangtung army. The seventh under death sentence is former Premier Hideki Tojo. (AP Wirephoto).

Chinese Government Reported Planning To Move Headquarters From Suchow

Nation's Gridirons Present Sharp Contrast Between Few and Plenty Of Touchdowns for College Leaders

New York, Nov. 13—(AP)—Touchdowns were as scarce as diamonds in a junk heap today for Notre Dame, Army, Georgia Tech, Tennessee, Kansas and Southern Methodist of college football's reigning family but all got enough markers to win except the two southern elevens.

In contrast Michigan, North Carolina, Duke, California, Penn State and Ohio State clicked off seven pointers with the regularity of robots for lopsided victories.

A pair of unknowns brought Notre Dame the touchdown it so desperately needed to subdue Northwestern, 12 to 7. The fourth period score was the result of the combined efforts of Bill Gay and John Landry. The game was the 26th in a row without defeat for Notre Dame but it also proved that the Big Nine team was worthy Rose Bowl candidate.

Arnold Galiffa's touchdown pass to John Trent with 30 seconds to go permitted Army to continue its unbeaten way with a 26 to 20 verdict over Pennsylvania.

Alabama turned a fumble and an intercepted pass into the two touchdowns it needed to defeat Georgia Tech, 17 to 12, and Mississippi simply outsped Tennessee, 16 to 13, although the decisive points came on a safety.

Southern Methodist's great Doak Walker kicked the two extra points that gave his club a 14 to 12 verdict over Arkansas, whose Clyde Scott was carried from the field in the first quarter.

But it was different at other gridirons. Michigan annihilated Indiana, 54 to 0; Ohio State smothered Illinois, 34 to 7; North Carolina, with Charlie Justice held in check on the ground, drubbed Maryland, in the air, 49 to 20; California scalped Washington State, 44 to 14; Duke dumped George Washington, 62 to 0; and Penn State handled Temple, 47 to 0.

In between the two extremes there were such thrillers as Cornell's 27 to 26 victory over Dartmouth; Yale's rugged display before losing to Princeton, 20 to 14; Pittsburgh's 20 to 13 conquest of Purdue; Clemson's 21 to 14 triumph over Wake Forest that kept the Tigers unbeaten and in the bowl waterfront.

Georgia, with Johnny Rauch doing the passing, spilled Auburn 42 to 14, for its fifth Southeast Conference victory

Leaders Will Be Honored During Event
New district officers for the Halifax District, Boy Scouts of America, will be installed as a feature of the annual Halifax District dinner meeting here at the High School cafeteria tomorrow evening at 6:30.

The Rev. James F. Herbert, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Roanoke Rapids, will make the main address of the evening, and a highlight will be the presentation of an Eagle Scout award by State Senator Julian Allsbrook to Sonny Hines, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Hines of Roanoke Rapids.

Communists Said To Be Encircling Area

Nanking, Sunday, Nov. 14—(AP)—Reliable sources said today the government plans to withdraw its Army headquarters from Suchow, the big base around which eddies a decisive battle for China.

Official quarters were silent on this report, but it was acknowledged that encircling Communist forces were shelling the airfield five miles east of Suchow.

The field is the one remaining link between Suchow and Nanking, 200 miles to the southeast, now that the railway has been cut.

Informants said the government headquarters would be moved 100 miles south to Pengpu. The railway city of Pengpu is 108 miles by rail northwest of Nanking.

The communist radio asserted the Reds had all but encircled Gen. Huang Po-Tao's Seventh Army corps on the eastern flank of the Suchow front, where only two days ago the government claimed a major victory on the Grand Canal.

If this is correct, the whole Suchow position is endangered and the government must retreat to Pengpu or risk encirclement. The Grand Canal covered the east flank of Suchow.

Waves of government warplanes had been thrown into the battle, but aerial activity had stopped as this was written at dawn. Whether the lapse is due to weather or a change in the military situation is not known.

Chinese officers who were happy two days ago over the news of victory east of Suchow again lapsed into despondency. Their feelings usually are a good barometer of the war's progress.

Reliable sources said members of the legislative Yuan were told at a private meeting facilities would be provided for removing members and their families who want to leave Nanking.

Gets Purple Heart After Thirty Years
Borger, Tex., Nov. 13—(AP)—Thirty years ago—in August, 1918, German machine gun fire in Argonne Forest ripped into the shoulder of the U. S. Army Corporal James Austin Colton.

Today, Colton, now an oil field worker here and 53, received a package from the War Department. It contained the Purple Heart.

Better Welcome Seen for UMT Durham Reports

Washington, Nov. 13—(AP)—Universal military training will face a friendlier Congress in January than it has had for the past two years, a House member predicted today.

Representative Durham (D-NC) declined, however, to speculate on whether the New Congress will pass it.

"The new members coming in are still an unknown factor so far as UMT is concerned," he said in an interview. "Also, do not forget that Republican opposition to UMT in the present Congress has been very solid."

A Democrat-controlled House rules committee will give compulsory military service legislation a big advantage next year, Durham said. He predicted: "This time we will be able to get it out of the rules committee."

A UMT bill approved overwhelmingly by the House armed services committee a year and a half ago still lies in a rules committee pigeonhole. It was strongly opposed by Rules Chairman Leo E. Allen (R-Ill.), and by House Republican leaders.

Durham, third ranking Democratic member of the armed services committee, said the committee will approve UMT again if President Truman requests it. He said the Army's manpower needs are being met by the new draft law, but the military services are running short of doctors. Reserve medical corps officers cannot be ordered to active duty, he said, and few are volunteering.

"If we should pass UMT," he added, "the shortage would be even worse. Doctors are very scarce everywhere."

Officers to be installed for the coming year are John Hines, district chairman; the Rev. Edmund Berkeley, district vice chairman; E. H. Fuller, Camping and Activities chairman; Dr. D. A. Green, Organization and Extension chairman; Zeb Denny, Advancement chairman; Emery Vaughn, Health and Safety chairman; C. L. Elting, Finance chairman; Edwin Akers, Training chairman; D. E. Bennett, District Commissioner; Graham Dean, assistant District Commissioner; and Jesse Harrell, Senior Scouting chairman.

District Chairman John Hines will preside over the banquet meeting.

Cloudy, Little Change Sunday

By The Associated Press
Partly cloudy skies and little change in temperatures were promised the Carolinas for Sunday following a slightly cooler night.

Maximum temperatures in North Carolina Saturday were: Raleigh 65, Greensboro 67, Charlotte 69, Cape Hatteras 68, Mt. Mitchell 42, Lumberton 75, Winston-Salem 68, Hickory 68, Asheville 60, Elizabeth City 61, Cherry Point 72, and Wilmington 73.

Local Men Face Charges Of Beating Father

Two Roanoke Rapids youths were placed under arrest here yesterday charged with an assault with a deadly weapon and the infliction of personal injuries on their father, H. H. Midgett, in a Saturday afternoon fight in an alley behind the Midgett home on Rapids street.

The two men, Reginald H. and Percy W. Midgett were both jailed under bonds of \$1,000 each on the assault charge on warrants signed by their father.

Officer John Moore, who investigated a call regarding the fight, placed Reginald Midgett under arrest yesterday afternoon. He said the father suffered injuries about the head and was bleeding severely from blows allegedly struck by one of the sons armed with an unopened pocket knife.

Midgett was taken to Roanoke Rapids Hospital for treatment of his injuries and was dismissed after out-patient treatment.

Moore said Percy Midgett ran from the scene when the police car arrived, however the other youth came into the police station later in the evening to inquire after his brother and was placed under arrest.

The two men will come before Mayor W. B. Allsbrook for a preliminary hearing Monday. No reason was given for the fight by officers who investigated.

First Time Since May, No Polio Cases Reported

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 13—(AP)—For the first time since late May, the State Board of Health received no reports today of new infantile paralysis cases.

The total cases listed for the week totaled 20 and the year's count for the state mounted to 2,432. The 20 cases compared with 17 reported for the previous week.

Only five cases of November onset have been reported thus far.

Weather
North Carolina - Sunday partly cloudy, no change in temperature.