

## Fire Strikes Huggins Hardware Store Before Dawn on Saturday; Seventeen Firemen Fight for Two Hours against \$50,000 Blaze



DESTROYED MERCHANDISE . . .

. . . AND A BURNT BACK DOOR

Fred Dale, jr., local dealer for the Durham Morning Herald, was just beginning his usual morning delivery run at a little past 4 o'clock Saturday morning, when he noticed smoke and flames at the rear of the Huggins Hardware store. He reported the fire to Sergeant Coy Durham at the police department who immediately notified the fire station.

By 4:30, the firemen had a booster line and a 2 1/2 inch hose in the smoke-filled building. For over two hours 17 firemen fought the blaze, which was burning over 25 minutes at the time, according to Bill Walston, an employee of the store. At times water was running out of the back door like a creek. Once part of the ceiling fell on fireman Boone, but he yelled that he was all right as another fireman started to pull him out.

Damage to the hardware store was extensive, and was estimated by owner Vic Huggins to be "at least" \$50,000. The fire had started at the rear of the store, and although the firemen had managed to confine the flames to the rear, much damage was done to the front of the store by smoke. Most of the damage is shown by the photographs by William Walston. On the left is a view of the rear of the store, where the fire was worse, and on the right is the back door which had started to burn at the bottom when the fire department arrived.

In places in the rear of the store the merchandise was completely destroyed. The firemen arrived in time to keep a large quantity of paint from exploding, although several small cans did blow their tops off. In the front, most of the damage was done by smoke and heat. Almost everything was blackened, and one of the new plate glass windows at the front of the store was cracked. Some of the damage will be covered by insurance.

## Methodist School To Open Tomorrow

The Methodist church's daily vacation Bible school will begin today (Tuesday) at the church and will be in session from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. each weekday from then through Friday, June 17. It is open to children from four to twelve years old, inclusive. Parents wishing to enroll their children in the school are requested to see that they are at the church at 8:30 tomorrow morning.

## Calendar of Events

- Tuesday, June 7
• 8:30 a.m. Daily Vacation Bible School, Methodist church.
• 9 a.m. Car Caravan forms in front of Chapel Hill high school, to go to Hillsboro to plead the case for restoration of the full 20-cent Chapel Hill district supplementary tax before the county commissioners.
Wednesday, June 8
• 8 a.m. June Dairy Month Breakfast, Pine Room, Carolina Inn.
Thursday, June 9
• 8:30 a.m. Registration begins for the third annual Hospital Food Service Institute.
• 8 p.m. Eighth annual Folk Festival, Kenan stadium.
Attend Class Reunions
Mrs. Mary Bell Jones of 412 North street and her sister, Mrs. Ernest Hicks of Charlotte were in Lynchburg, Va., last week for reunions of their classes at Randolph Macon Women's College.
Home from School
Charles B. Robson, jr., has returned from Pottstown, Pa., where he is a student at the Hill School, and will be here for the summer.

## Paul H. Robertson Elected Department Commander of the NC American Legion

Paul H. Robertson was elected State Department Commander of the American Legion at its 37th annual convention last weekend in Raleigh. He was elected on the fourth ballot of a hotly-fought contest with John A. Holmes of Edenton and H. L. Swain of Williamston. He led on each ballot.

## Hospital Food Service Institute Planned

About 60 representatives from hospitals throughout North Carolina are expected to attend the third annual Hospital Food Service Institute for dietitians and food service managers to be held here from Thursday through Saturday of this week.

## June Dairy Month Breakfast Scheduled For Tomorrow Morning at Carolina Inn

Orange county, at a street square dance Friday evening. Robert Todd is chairman of the June Dairy Month celebration. Bill Alexander and Ralph Howard are in charge of arrangements for the festival. Kenneth Putnam is directing the festival parade, Moyle Johnson the Dairy Queen Contest, and Charlie Phillips the street dance. Other members of the Dairy Month committee include Joe Robbins, O. T. Watkins, Chick Ehmgir, Raymond Andrews, and Carlton H. Byrd.

## Finance Chairman Thinks Town Tax Rate Will Go Up

Paul Wager, chairman of the Board of Aldermen's finance committee, says he doubts "very much" if Chapel Hill can avoid raising its present 95 cents tax rate if a proposed new organization of the fire department is implemented. Mr. Wager said he hoped that rate would not have to go up, but he said Mayor Oliver Cornwell believed a raise necessary in order to provide needed services to the town. If the town tax rate is increased, Mr. Wager said, he believed the hike would not amount to more than two or three cents. Along with some other town officials, he believes the county commissioners will put a greater burden on Chapel Hill taxpayers by restoring the local school supplementary tax to the full 20 cents approved in an election several years ago. The school tax rate was cut to 12 cents by the commissioners last year. The reorganization of the fire department, proposed by J. S. Boone, would abolish the present system of volunteer firemen which supplements the full-time department of five men. Mr. Boone advocates a full-time department of six men, plus a group of 12 "call men" to be paid a retainer fee. The call men would serve in the same general way as present volunteers, but they would be required to report to all fires and also attend scheduled training sessions called by the chief. The proposed pay rate for the call men is \$15 per month. Mr. Wager said another new budget item under consideration is the hiring of an

## School Supporters Plan Caravan To Hillsboro Today; 1,000 Have Signed Petition for Restored Tax

Armed with petitions bearing some 1,000 names, supporters of the local school system prepared to descend on the Board of County Commissioners today (Tuesday) to plead the case for restoration of the full 20 cents Chapel Hill district supplementary school tax. A car caravan going to Hillsboro for the 10 a.m. session of the board was scheduled to meet in front of the Chapel Hill high school at 9 o'clock this morning. Everyone is invited to load up his car and join the group going to the county seat. The supplementary school tax is now 12 cents per \$100 property valuation. It was cut to that figure by the commissioners last year following revaluation. They defended their action on the grounds that revaluation was for the purpose of equalization and not to raise taxes. The car caravan is being sponsored by the Citizens' Committee for Better Schools, and is under the direction of Dr. Kerr White. In charge of circulating the petitions supporting the return to the full 20 cents school tax is Charles Milner. He told the Weekly yesterday he thought the names would reach about 1,000 by the time all petitions were turned in and ready to be taken to Hillsboro. The Commissioners' meeting has been called to consider initial budget requests July 1. The school district budget, based on a restoration of the full supplementary tax, will be presented to the commissioners for the first time. They will discuss the budget and make their decision on the tax rate at future meetings. Several officials in Chapel Hill have expressed the opinion that the county commissioners will agree to raise the tax rate. The group includes Carl Smith, chairman of the Chapel Hill school board.

## Chapel Hill Chaff

L. G. Jack London, who may be more impressively designated as Captain John J. London, U.S. Navy, retired, and Mrs. London came in last Friday and were here again at Commencement. On their way to the North from their home in Miami, Florida, they are visiting for a few days the London relatives in the family's old home in Pittsboro. They didn't need to bring a gift to make us glad to see them but they didn't make themselves any less welcome in our home by bringing a box of mangoes sent to us by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smathers. Jack and I entered the University together 56 years ago, in the year 1899. The only man living here now who was in the faculty then is Archibald Henderson. We both took math under him. After Jack had been here two years he went to Annapolis and was in the Class of 1905. He retired late in the 1930's and thought he was going to spend the rest of his life golfing, theatre-going, bridge-playing, looking out over the ocean and, at appropriate moments, sipping highballs, mint juleps, and rum cocktails. But World War II changed his plans. One day in 1942 I got a letter from him, written at sea, which he said he had been put back on active duty and was in command of a fleet of troop transports on the way to Australia. Now he is

## New Phone Book Is Out Today; Some Numbers Changed

Many Chapel Hill telephones will have new numbers beginning this morning (Tuesday), and the numbers of almost all pay stations will also be changed. The new numbers are listed in a bright new plum-colored telephone directory which is being distributed today. Here is the major change in residential and business lines: All numbers beginning with "7" will have the prefix "8" added. Thus, numbers such as "7761" become "8-7761." This switch will affect some 300 stations. However, Chapel Hillians will have six months to get used to the new numbers. Up to the time the December telephone directory is issued, a subscriber may call either "7761" or "8-7761" and he will reach his party. In December, he will have to (Continued on page 4)

## \$500 Contribution To Jaycee Project

The University's Panhellenic Council has presented a \$500 check to the Chapel Hill Junior Chamber of Commerce as a contribution to the fund established by the chamber for the proposed Chapel Hill recreation center. The money was raised at an inter-university basketball game sponsored by the council at the Woolen gymnasium. The proceeds from the game are being used for the adoption of a war orphan under the Foster Parents Plan. The presentation of the check was made by Miss Joan Leonard, past president of the council, which is made up of sororities in the University. The donation was accepted for the Jaycees by Collier Cobb III and Gran Childress. Folk Festival The eighth annual Carolina Folk Festival will be held in Kenan stadium at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights of this week. In case of rain the performances will be transferred to Memorial hall. Some 650 performers from all over North Carolina and some from other states will participate as individuals and in teams. Among the folk stars who will appear are J. Laurel Johnson of Atlanta, champion fiddler of the South, and his chief challenger, an old favorite of Folk Festival fans, George Pogram. Admission to each performance will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. At Insurance Seminar John W. Umstead, jr., and Gran P. Childress, special representatives in Chapel Hill for the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, have been at Roaring Gap this week at a business insurance seminar attended by 34 Jefferson Standard representatives from central and western North Carolina. Visitors from Puerto Rico Mrs. Ana Otero and her son Manuel were here several days recently from their home in Puerto Rico. Mrs. Otero is professor of education at the University of Puerto Rico. While in Chapel Hill she did some work in connection with the dissertation she has been writing on public health education. She and Manuel went from here to New York, where they joined Mr. Otero for a month of travel in Canada and the United States. Rodgers in Greenville, S. C. George H. Rodgers of Charlotte, who received his master's degree in city planning from the University here in 1953, has been appointed director of city planning for the city of Greenville, South Carolina. For the past year he has served as acting director of planning for the city of Palm Springs, California. Gidus Visits Boston Hugo Gidus recently went to Boston to attend the 50th reunion of his class at Harvard University. He is here for the summer from Lincoln College, S. C., where he is a member of the faculty.

## Leisurely Western Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Shearer and their son are on a three-months visit to the West Coast. They left recently to drive westward by way of Texas, Kansas, and Colorado. They plan a leisurely trip and will visit relatives in Texas. They will return in September in time for the opening of school. Off to Cherokee Mr. and Mrs. Foster Fitz-Simons and their four sons have left to spend the summer at Cherokee, where Mr. and Mrs. Fitz-Simons are in the east and on the production staff of Kermit Hunter's outdoor drama, "Unto These Hills." 21 Have Perfect Attendance Records Twenty-one pupils in the Chapel Hill elementary school had perfect attendance records during the school year just ended. For the 180 full days of school they were neither tardy or absent. They are Randy Bass, Frank Creel, Trudy Crowder, and Becky Durham of the primary grades (1 through 3) and the following members of upper grades (4 through 8): Barbes Alexander, Betsy Bartlett, Jack Casfile, Gloria Di Costanzo, Rusty Edmister, Patsy Felton, Sallie Jackson, Wanda Jones, Frank Martin, Becky Merritt, Montie Miller, Eugene Napier, Becky Ray, Virginia Ray, Charles Smith, Ray Sparrow, and Shirley Vick. The following pupils had no absences of a whole day but were either tardy at least once or missed part of a day at least once: Anne Altomuller, Apple Baldwin, Becky Bodenhamer, Eve Campbell, Bob Chapman, Joe Di Costanzo, William Harrell, Carol Stone, and Anne Wade of the primary grades and the following in the upper grades: Tommie Jean Blackwood, John Bagby, Paul Bodenhamer, Walter Cannefax, Geddie Carlisle, Terry Chapin, Carole Cole, Betty Jean Davidson, Martha Hunter, Bruce Johnson, Martha Jones, Carol Manning, Billy Mariakakis, David Nash, Becky Ranson, Ronnie Ross, Subir Roy, Priscilla Selden, Patsy Sparrow, Sally Stockard, Judith Williams, and Trudy Williams. Increase in Alumni Giving The University's Alumni Annual Giving program, now in its third year, is running ahead of comparative date records of previous years, both in the number of contributors and in the total amount given.

## Tom Best Appointed

Tom Best, director of the University's alumni giving program, has been appointed a recorder for the American College Public Relations Association convention to be held from June 29 through July 2 in Chicago, Ill. He will assist in recording the proceedings of the conference for publication purposes. About 800 public relations staff members from throughout the nation will attend the annual convention to seek ways to improve their public relations programs. Leave for New Mexico Mr. and Mrs. Quino E. Martinez and their three children have left for Las Cruces, New Mexico, where Mr. Martinez will teach Spanish this summer at the New Mexico Agriculture and Arts College. He recently received his Ph.D. degree in Romance languages at the University here. Going to California Mr. and Mrs. Joel Carter and their children, Cathy and Coly Anne, are leaving today to spend the summer in California at Stanford University, where Mr. Carter will do some writing. While there they will also visit Mr. Carter's parents.