

Fire Guts Old Apartment House; 21 Left Homeless



Three Salem firemen pass a hose into the turret windows of the old Chateau apartment house at 585 S. 12th st. while fighting a stubborn fire which gutted the two top floors Friday night. The firemen, left to right, are Walt Mills, Jack Johnson and Harvey Reinke. No one was injured in the fire which is believed to have started in a front apartment of two students on the second story at right. (Photo by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Five Apartments Burn; Red Cross Lends Aid

By Thomas G. Wright
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Twenty-one persons including five children were driven from their apartment homes Friday night by a fire which gutted the top two floors of the Chateau apartment house at 585 S. 12th street.

The blaze was discovered a few minutes before 8 p. m., but had already swept through two apartments on the second floor when firemen arrived. Flames went up a cupola at the center of the big made-over residence and destroyed three apartments on the third floor before it could be brought under control.

Besides the five gutted apartments, the remaining five were heavily damaged by smoke and water. Though the flames did not touch the first floor, the entire building was rendered temporarily unlivable by water damage.

Fred and Evelyn Miner, owners and operators of the house, were unable to estimate the damage immediately. But it was thought damage would run into thousands of dollars.

Firemen said the fire apparently started in the second floor front apartment of John Lednicki and Duane Duff, both Willamette university students. The fire had engulfed the apartment and one adjoining on the north before ten minutes were alerted. It was first noticed by motorists on busy South 12th street.

It took the firemen an hour and a half to bring the blaze under control. And salvage crews from the department worked long after the fire was over to clean up water and ash in the 10-apartment structure.

American Red Cross representatives were on hand to aid in finding temporary shelter for the displaced tenants, but G. R. Boatwright, chairman of the disaster committee, reported that all had made private arrangements.

Displaced by the fire were the Miners, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chevris and five children, Tommy, Jack, Selwyn, Lois and Earl; Mr. and Mrs. Tom McAntee, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hayherst, Mrs. Pearl Rowe, Mrs. Alva Gillham, Virginia Curtis, Lois Ward, Burl Arthur, John Lednicki, Duane Duff and Robert Johnson. The Chevris children's ages ranged from 17 years to six months.

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Senators Cordon and Wayne Morse and Congressman Walter Norblad have all advised the U. S. Hop Growers association that they will give any assistance possible on this matter, Rowell said.

RED CROSS REACHES GOAL
PORTLAND, April 1—(AP)—The Portland campaign for Red Cross funds achieved its goal tonight. The announced total was \$357,201. Red Cross officials said this was 101 per cent of the goal.

FLOOD CONTROL BILL STARTS
WASHINGTON, April 1—(AP)—A bill to authorize the expenditure of \$30,501,000 for flood control work on the lower Columbia river and its tributaries was introduced today by Rep. Angell (R-Ore).

Check for \$100 Goes Unclaimed
A \$100 bank check lay on the floor of the Marion County Clerk's office for several hours Friday, and, while many people picked it up, no one seemed to want it.

A number of county employees, attorneys and even a few visiting city officials were seen to scoop up the draft, read it eagerly, and hastily drop it.

The check was made out to April Fool.

Tree Ends Up In Bath room of Salem Home
There used to be a huge walnut tree on the property adjoining the W. R. McCarroll home at 425 South 22nd st., but since 4 o'clock Friday afternoon it's been in their bathroom.

The tree was being felled by Louis Myers and crew when it went out of control and crashed onto the McCarroll's house and garage. Considerable damage was done by the 75-foot giant. It tore huge holes in the roof and walls at the rear of the building and crushed the adjoining garage.

McCarroll said Friday night that he did not have insurance to cover the freak accident, but thought the fallers were covered against such cases.

No one was in the house at the time the tree crashed into it. The whole family was outside watching the operation at the time.

NEW FERRY IN OPERATION
PORTLAND, Ore., April 1—(AP)—A new ferry barge went into operation today at the Wilsonville crossing of the Willamette river. The barge, christened Hunter's ferry, carries 14 automobiles.

Stassen Calls for MacArthur Plan To Halt Asia Reds
BOSTON, April 1—(AP)—Harold E. Stassen tonight called for a billion-dollar-a-year "MacArthur plan" to fight communism in Asia the same way the Marshall plan is checking the reds in Europe.

The war-veteran president of the University of Pennsylvania told a distinguished group of scientists and educators:

"We should move, and move promptly, to bolster the southern half of China."

"... Giving due consideration to European needs and to our own total economic situation and capacity, we should regularly invest a portion of our resources in Asia for the resistance to communism. The amount should be a minimum of a billion dollars a year."

Coffee 'Deflation' Eases Strain on Solons' Purses
Payless legislators finally got a break Friday—and no April fooling.

Coffee was reduced from 10 to five cents in the state capitol restaurant.

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Russians May Consider Peace Pacts Broken
MOSCOW, April 1—(AP)—Well informed diplomats said today they feel almost certain Soviet Russia will consider signing of the north Atlantic pact on Monday invalidates her 20-year-old mutual aid treaties with Britain and France.

Those treaties, written in the war years, pledged partnership in the war against Germany "until complete victory" and joint measures to safeguard Europe from new aggression after the war. Each treaty stipulated that neither nation should join a coalition directed against the other.

Russia charged in a tart note yesterday to the seven original sponsors of the Atlantic alliance, Britain and France among them, that the alliance was aimed against her.

Probe into Hop Tariffs Asked
Public notice was issued Friday by the tariff commission at Washington, D. C., announcing receipt of the application recently filed by U. S. Hop Growers association for an investigation of the effect of the reduction last year in import duty on hops from Czechoslovakia.

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