



FLAMING FURY—Leaping flames brighten night sky above The Lodge, a three-story rooming house in San Rafael, Calif., which was destroyed in early morning fire, killing at least seven persons. Loss was estimated at \$100,000. One tenant is still missing.

Ex-Mental Patient Questioned About Fire at San Rafael

San Rafael, Calif.—(U.P.)—Police and sheriff's deputies questioned a former mental patient today about a flash fire that turned an old three-story rooming house into a furnace, killing eight tenants and injuring at least nine others.

The suspect was Malcolm R. Schlette, 40, who occupied a first floor room in "The Lodge," as the 75-year-old converted mansion was called. He was arrested last night in Lucas Valley, about four miles from San Rafael.

Criminal Complaint

The order for Schlette's arrest was accompanied by a criminal complaint accusing him of setting two other fires at the Blue Baie Tavern near Tomales Bay. The tavern was operated by his former wife.

The latest of these fires occurred just two weeks ago yesterday and caused more than \$30,000 damage.

Schlette was booked early today at Marin County jail on two counts of arson in the tavern fires. Bail was set at \$10,000.

Approximately 30 persons were living at The Lodge at the time the fire took place early yesterday. Four of the eight who died were trapped in their third floor rooms. Several survivors jumped from second and third floor rooms.

Witnesses said they saw Schlette fully dressed at the scene. Other tenants who fled were wearing night clothes.

When Schlette was first brought in for questioning, he denied all knowledge of the origin of the fire. Inspector Nick Giampoli of the San Rafael po-

lice department said: "He says he was asleep when the fire started. He said he woke up, dressed and went out of the building with the others."

Also taking part in the questioning was Fred G. DuPuis, special agent for the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

House Total Loss

The guest house, a picturesque landmark, and its furnishings were a total loss. Only two towering brick chimneys twisted metal, remaining a heap of ashes where it stood. Fire officials estimated the loss at \$100,000.

Victims of the fire, the worst in San Rafael's history, were: Bernard Pedersen, 84; Percy Wirth, 45; Byron Waterman, 30; Louis Bernard, 38; Frank Roslington, 30; Hans Jung, 40; Philip Nill, 51; and Robert Shaw, 23.

The flames were visible from San Francisco and throughout southern Marin county.

Art Winner Believes Prize Not Justified

Tacoma, Wash.—(U.P.)—A 17-year-old art student at Clover Park High School who won the Pierce County art contest said today she didn't think she deserved the prize.

Jeanne Payton said the judges hung her colorful abstract painting "The Smokers" upside down.

Spokane, Wash.—(U.P.)—Police said a man who posted \$5 bond after being ticketed for parking in a bus zone may have acted through force of habit. He was a bus driver.

Harriman Calls on Demos To Shift Fomosa Policy Toward Britain

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent
Washington — (U.P.) — New York's Gov. Averell Harriman has summoned the Democratic Party to shift its foreign policy toward the British position on the combined problems of Red China and Formosa.

Harriman's move was politically significant with respect both to United States and international politics. The New York governor generally is regarded as an eager if unannounced candidate for next year's Demo-

cratic presidential nomination. To understand the full significance of Harriman's speech March 8 before the Nationalities Division of the Democratic National Committee in New York it is necessary that it be read in relation with two other speeches of international significance delivered on the same day.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles broadcast a report to the nation on his journey to Asia. British Foreign Secretary Sir Anthony Eden spoke in the

House of Commons.

Dulles spoke earnestly of U. S. hopes for peace in Asia. But he promised Red China to meet force with force, perhaps the full force of American armed might, in defense of Formosa and the nearby Pescadores.

Eden was reporting to Commons on a similar journey during which he conferred with Dulles. Neither diplomat sought to deny the wide differences between them on Formosan-Chinese policy.

Eden proposed that parties to

the Formosan controversy make concessions which, ultimately would lead to admission of Red China into the United Nations and, by implication, the ultimate disappearance of Nationalist China as a real or paper entity.

Specifically, Eden proposed that Chinese Nationalists abandon Matsu and Quemoy and that Red China not prosecute her claims to Formosa "by forceful means." Eden said that as of now no progress had been made toward settlement of the Formosa dispute.

Harriman denounced what he called a Republican go-it-alone policy in defiance of the policies of U. S. Allies which, in this instance, would relate most specifically to the British.

"The first thing we must do in the Formosa area," Harriman said, "is to end our desperately dangerous policy of going it alone. We must internationalize the defense of Formosa and do it if possible through the United Nations."

Taken together, the three speeches show clearly the wide

differences between Washington and London and the direction in which Harriman would point the Democratic Party policy.

BOTTLE TO ITALY

Stamford, Conn.—(U.P.)—Last summer, Wilbur R. Greenwood, 13, placed messages in eight bottles and tossed them into Long Island Sound. One turned up elsewhere on the Connecticut shore, and another was found by a beachcomber in Venice, Italy.

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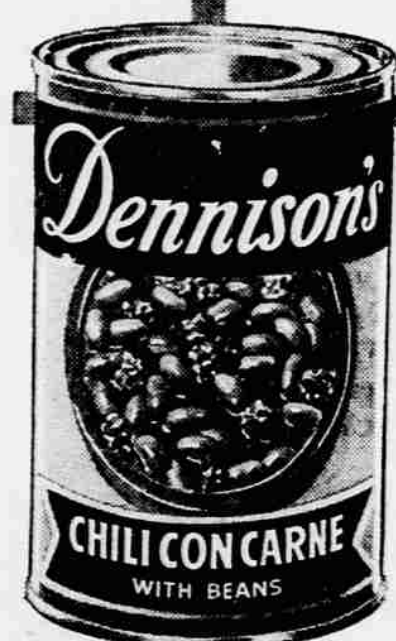
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