Fire Causes Heavy Damage To Hotel, Store at Eugene

Eugene – (UPI) – A general alarm fire early today blazed through the four-story Hoffman hotel and an adjoining men's store in the heart of downtown Eugene.

All occupants of the hotel escaped safely although two were overcome by smoke.

The hotel and the Dale Sims men's store were believed to be total losses. Other nearby businesses suffered smoke and water damage.

Damage Believed Heavy

The fire, which broke out shortly before 4 a.m., was brought under control at 6:35 a.m.

Damage was expected to be heavy. The hotel building was insured for at least $100,000, according to an insurance representative, and loss to equipment and furniture in the building was estimated at $20,000.

Cause of the blaze was not immediately determined. Firemen said it may have broken out in the men's store.

Occupants Awakened

Willard R. Walls, proprietor of the hotel, ran from room to room awakening occupants and then down the fire escape in his bare feet to direct police and firemen. The alarm was turned in by Harold Jennings, 35, Portland, who was in a fourth-floor room when awakened by smoke.

Two occupants of the hotel were overcome by smoke and taken to the hospital here for treatment. Described in good condition were William Frow, 84, Eugene, and William Winkleman, believed to be from Myrtle Point.

The Maico Hearing Aid company in the lobby of the building and the Eugene Insurance agency in an adjoining lobby suffered extensive smoke and water damage.

All available firemen in Eugene were called to help combat the blaze.

A pumper from nearby Springfield stood by.

Witch Doctors, Billy Graham Exchange Stares

Kisumu, Kenya–(UPI)–Evangelist Billy Graham walked right up to three witch doctors who were believed to be trying to fix a curse on him Tuesday and looked them square in the eye.

The incident occurred at the conclusion of a huge rally at which the North Carolina evangelist preached to more than 10,000 persons.

300 Make 'Decisions'

The service went very well, and at the end of it, 500 persons were persuaded by Graham to make "decisions for Christ."

As the crowd began to disperse, the three Jaluo witch doctors attired in grotesque tribal dress walked up to within 100 feet of Graham's platform and stared at him impassively.

It was believed the witch doctors were trying to put a curse on the minister. Their leader, Okelo Onoko, 90, who has three wives, smoked the traditional "conjuring" pipe of his trade.

Didn't Flinch

Graham walked up to the three strange men, who fixed their painted eyes on him fiercely. Graham didn't flinch.

"God loves you and Christ loves you," he told them through an interpreter.

The witch doctors didn't flinch, either, and after staring at Graham a minute longer, turned and stalked off.

Portland Building Damaged by Flames

Portland–(UPI)–A three-alarm fire caused an estimated $250,000 damage to a three-story frame building housing the Totem Pole Marine in north Portland Tuesday night.

Eighteen pieces of equipment answered the blaze. The building housed many boats, although some were pulled to safety.

Firemen battled the blaze more than three hours.

Cause of the fire was not immediately determined.

Sentence Imposition Suspended by Court

Imposition of sentence was suspended for Ernest Otto Zeisler, 37, of 2488 Jacksonville highway, in district court this week for petty larceny.

Zeisler was charged with taking a 16 volt battery from a cabin and tool shed on Forest Creek, state police said. The cabin is owned by John Wesley Campbell.

Tacoma – (UPI) – Police here Tuesday said a 24-year-old Fort Lewis soldier identified as Charles A. Houston has confessed to Monday's slaying of Mrs. Edith Hodson, 32, a Tacoma housewife.

Addiction Said Kind of Slavery; Comfort Denial Urged for Lent

By The Rev. John C. Ford, S.J.
Professor of Moral Theology
Catholic University of America
Written for UPI

Tranquillizers, nicotine, alcohol, caffeine, aspirin, sleeping pills, and all the myriad marvels of pharmaceutical science have little if any nourishment to offer. They play another role, not only medically, but even just as comforters. Nor is it a shady practice for the follower of Christ to look for this chemical comfort within moderate limits.

Kind of Slavery

Moderate – there's the rub. Some of these forms of comfort are more or less addicting. The mild addiction to smoking. The severe addiction to drinking. Even a minor addiction is a kind of slavery.

There are minor human needs, anxieties, and tensions that call for satisfaction and are going to get it somehow. Are addicting chemicals the wisest way of getting it? The experts in medical and mental hygiene doubt it. They think healthier solutions can be found in the resources of the individual and of society. Perhaps a theologian is allowed the suggestion that a healthier solution may be found in the resources of virtue and grace. The virtues are patience and fortitude. You don't acquire them without self-denial.

Self-Discipline

To wage a spiritual combat you must learn self-discipline. You must prove that you are not a slave to pleasure and comfort. When looking for an object of Lenten self-denial any chemical comforters are the most appropriate objects that strike the eye. Pick out the one that you personally find (A) the most comforting, and (B) the most addicting. Then deny yourself some comfort. Choose discomfort, not for its own sake, but as a spiritual setting-up exercise, as a penance for your sins, and because our Lord pointed out to us the royal road of the cross.

90 Oregon Businesses Get SBA Loans in 1959

Washington – (UPI) – The office of Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) said today the Small Business Administration loaned $3,445,000 to 90 Oregon concerns last year.

Applications were received from 129 Oregon firms. More than 69 per cent of the loans requested were approved.

3 Persons Appear In Circuit Court

Kelly Ann Kell, Medford, was sentenced by Circuit Judge Edward C. Kelly Monday to three years in the Oregon State penitentiary for uttering and publishing a false check.

She had pleaded guilty to issuing a false check for $40 on Nov. 10, to the Big Y market in Medford.

Circuit Judge James M. Main Tuesday ordered a presentence investigation for Larry Howard Kell, who pleaded guilty to charges of forgery. Kell is charged with forging a $500 bail bond on Dec. 18 by signing the names of Leonard and Alice Kell.

The case of Philip Gordon Johnson, 19, of Gold Hill, charged with burglary not in a dwelling, was continued to allow him to enter a plea. Judge Main appointed Manville Heisel as his attorney.

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