

25 Youngsters, 3 Adults Die In Series Of Tragic Fires

By United Press International
Twenty-five children died in fires across the nation within 24 hours along with three adults to bring sorrow to the hearts of parents who know that Christmas won't be the same this year.

Six children were killed Sunday night when flames from an exploding space heater swept through their two-family house at Portland, Maine. The children were members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. William Harrigan, who managed to save four others before heat and flames drove them out.

Killed in the fire were Heidi, 3, Mary, 4, and Holly, 6, and three wards, Ramona Maley, 7, her brother Tommy, 6, and her sister Tammy, 4. The fire broke out when Harrigan tried to light the oil heater.

Five children perished Monday when fire raced through a frame home at Maitland, Fla., all members in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smith.

Woman Cited On 4 Counts Following Accident Here

A 29-year-old woman was charged with drunken driving, hit-and-run driving, having no operator's license and disorderly conduct after, police said, she was involved in an auto collision at Reclamation Avenue and Washburn Way early this morning that injured herself and another man.

The collision occurred at 12:15 a.m.

The disorderly conduct charge was added after the woman fought and kicked police at the police station.

Officer said the woman was driving her 1953 sedan east on Reclamation and pulled the auto in front of the other car, a 1958 panel truck, being driven by Bernard North on Washburn. Major damages to both autos resulted from the collision.

Police said the woman stopped her car at first, but when Bernard asked for her name, she drove off. A nearby resident, Robert Friesen, 1121 Washburn Way, followed the woman in his auto to a house at 1130 Owens and then returned to the accident scene to tell police where she was.

The woman was arrested at that house and charged with the three driving violations.

Police said the woman fought violently in the police station, so the fourth charge was added.

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Marsh Moved To Oak Knoll

Jack Marsh, Klamath Falls, who spent six weeks in a Penitentiary hospital, has been transferred by a Navy aircraft to Oak Knoll Naval Hospital in Oakland, Marsh, an employee of the state highway department, suffered a stroke while on an elk hunting trip in Eastern Oregon.

He suffered paralysis of the right side and loss of speech which is partially returning.

Arrangements for the hospital trip were made by Commander Harry Coombs, 12th Naval District, San Francisco.

Marsh retired after 20 years in the Navy.

Tulelake Plans Yule Contest

TULELAKE — Tulelake Garden Club and Pacific Power and Light Company will again sponsor the annual Christmas lighting contest for the Tulelake-Nowell area.

First, second and third prizes will be given in three categories: Best overall display, doorway, and window decoration.

All who wish to enter the contest are asked to call Mrs. Richard G. Paulson, lighting chairman, 664-2371, or the PP&L office by Dec. 30.

Judging will be done Monday, Dec. 23, between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m.

Huddled Together

The victims were Bernard Darvell, 2 months, Brenda Denise, 1, Debra Louise, 2, Cynthia Laverne, 3, and Sandra DeLores, 5. They were found huddled together in a scorched bedroom after firemen battled the flames for more than an hour.

Four children died in a fire at their Jasper, Ark., home Sunday, while their pregnant mother ran barefoot more than a mile to summon help.

The dead children of Mr. and Mrs. Ammon Howard Jr. were Tammy, 3, Barbara, 2, and Larry and Barry, 13-month-old twins.

House Trailer Burns

Three children died Monday in a fire that raced through a house trailer at Annapolis, Md. The children were Teresa Johnson, 3, Tyrone, 2, and Albert Jr., 11 months, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson.

A blaze of undetermined origin took the lives of two children Monday at their Port Washington, Wis., home while the mother was at a neighbor's home to borrow cutters for Christmas cookies. The victims, Cary, 7 months, and Kevin, 2, were the children of Mr. and Mrs. John Keeler.

A fire that destroyed a two-story brick home at Chillicothe, Mo., Monday night took the lives of Joe Silkwood, 3, and Debbie Fabian, 12, children of Mrs. Bonnie Silkwood.

A faulty heater touched off a fire at Calhoun, Ga., Monday that killed a chicken farmer, his wife, and his son-in-law. Rescue workers recovered the charred bodies of R. A. Banks, 46, Mary Banks, 44, and Johnny Muse, 23.

Airline Hopes To Keep Flying

PORTLAND (UPI) — United Air Lines will attempt to keep all its flights operating even if the International Association of Machinists goes ahead with a threatened strike at midnight Wednesday, officials said today.

The company said it hoped negotiations now under way will resolve the dispute, or that President Johnson will step in before the deadline.

Recommendations made by an emergency board appointed by the late President Kennedy will be put into effect Thursday, the line said. They include wage increases and benefits the company claims will cost \$2 million over the life of the contract.

UAL President G. E. Keck said the company would do all it can to provide work for employees who want to stay on the job if the strike does occur.

SP To Curtail Streamliner

PORTLAND (UPI) — Southern Pacific has advised the Interstate Commerce Commission it wants to operate its Shasta Daylight passenger train only during the summer vacation season.

The Shasta Daylight now runs three times a week between Portland and San Francisco.

Robert M. Gilmore, Southern Pacific's general passenger traffic manager, said the number of passengers carried in the first five months of 1963 was down 27 per cent from the same period in 1961. Additional cars would be added to the Cascade streamliner to provide service, he said.



CLEAN UP JOB — Residents of the Baldwin Hills area in Los Angeles remove furniture from home as mop-up operations get underway after Saturday's flood disaster. The dam at the Baldwin Hills reservoir burst sending almost 300 million gallons of water cascading down the hillside causing millions of dollars in damage. A warning of nearly four hours was credited with preventing it from becoming one of the big disasters of all time as 16,500 people live in the area. — UPI Telephoto

Giant Crack Discovered Across Reservoir Bottom

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — A huge crack across the bottom of the Baldwin Hills reservoir may have unleashed the huge tidal wave that destroyed dozens of homes, damaged hundreds of others and killed three — and possibly four — persons.

It was learned Monday night that Archie V. MacDonald, 70, a furniture store executive, has been missing since the dam broke Saturday and swept him away before the eyes of his wife, Marie.

Mrs. MacDonald was one of the 27 persons hospitalized with injuries received in the disaster that caused damage expected to exceed \$10 million.

The huge crack, running nearly the length of the reservoir, was revealed when the water drained out. Max K. Socha, department of water and power chief, insisted the crack must have occurred only shortly before the dam failed.

Weather Roundup

Northern California: Rain spreading southward.

The Dalles and Hood River: Cloudy through Wednesday; little light rain or drizzle tonight, rain Wednesday; highs 36-42 east and 42-48 west; low tonight 30-37; gorge winds mostly east 10-18.

Bend: Mostly cloudy through Wednesday; highs 37-43; low tonight 22-28.

Baker and La Grande: Mostly cloudy through Wednesday; high 36-42; low tonight 23-32.

Portland - Vancouver: Mostly cloudy with occasional light rain Wednesday; highs about 46; low tonight near 40.

Western Oregon: Mostly cloudy tonight, occasional rain Wednesday; highs 44-54, except 40 south interior; low tonight 40-46 except 34 south interior.

Eastern Oregon: Mostly cloudy with some patchy fog, little light rain north, through Wednesday; highs 34-37 north and 40-45 south; low 25-33.

Gas, Dust Blamed For Blast

MARTIN, Utah (UPI) — Methane gas and coal dust, possibly ignited by a spark, was blamed today for a searing explosion that killed nine miners and turned a "model coal mine" into a "black and dusty hell."

Ten miners survived the explosion that rumbled through a drift a half mile underground in the Carbon Fuel Co.'s No. 2 mine Monday. Only one of the survivors was injured.

Jesus Nunez, 45, received severe lacerations, multiple contusions and suffered from shock. He was in fair condition in a hospital at Price, Utah—a short distance from the disaster scene.

Mrs. Burton Divorces Actor In Mexican Court

MEXICO CITY (UPI) — Friends predicted today Elizabeth Taylor will soon divorce Eddie Fisher to marry Richard Burton, whose wife Sybil got a Mexican divorce Monday.

"I don't think Liz and Richard are going to wait very long," one friend said. "It looks as if they will be married soon."

Burton and Mrs. Burton arranged details of a property settlement and custody of their two children before she filed for divorce in Puerto Vallarta, the tiny Mexican fishing village where he recently completed work on a movie.

Miss Taylor had no part in the movie, but she accompanied Burton to Puerto Vallarta and was on the set almost every day, keeping him company. They shared a villa.

Went to Village
Burton's lawyer, Aaron Froesch of New York, went to the village to represent him in civil court when the divorce was granted. Burton also was represented by a Mexican attorney, as was Mrs. Burton.

Froesch said Mrs. Burton charged that her husband treated her "cruelly and inhumanly" and said he was "in the

Fire Report

10 a.m. Monday to 10 a.m. Tuesday
Klamath Falls Fire Department
10:59 p.m. Monday—1224 Mon-Claire, chair and davenport in front of gas stove afire, house full of smoke, occupant Lorna Pomeroy.

County Fire Department
12:37 a.m. Tuesday — Rte 2, Box 673, Hill Road, clothing in upstairs closet afire, wall and floor scorched, smoke damage, occupant Harvey Wise.

State Loses Bird War

ATLANTA (UPI)—State officials put on a great show of force Monday but lost another round in their battle to dislodge thousands of starlings from the Capitol.

Eight selected marksmen fired shotguns into the swarming birds for 20 minutes, killing an estimated 2,000. But one discouraged official remarked "that didn't even dent them."

The pesky birds picked the Georgia Capitol for their winter roost and come in at night, defacing the Capitol.

Secretary of State Ben Fortson tried various means of getting rid of the birds, before hitting on the shotgun approach.

"The idea is not so much to kill them as to scare them," he said.

"We let them settle down good in the trees and get comfortable and then we blast away and keep them moving."

Young Sinatra Aided FBI

cool role of detective played by Frank Sinatra Jr. while he was held by his kidnapers was credited today for the speedy capture of his abductors.

Although the FBI continued to remain silent concerning the clues that led to the arrests of three persons last Friday and Saturday, Frank Jr.'s role was learned by United Press International for the first time Monday.

Blindfolded and nervous, the 19-year-old youth nevertheless was able to provide many clues to the FBI, including distances counted by footsteps, sounds heard at the hideout and—in a moment when his eyes were uncovered—the name of a hamburger stand on a wrapper.

The discovery of the hideaway where Sinatra Jr. was held in nearby Canoga Park from the time he was abducted a week ago Sunday night to his release on payment of \$240,000 ransom early last Wednesday has been credited as the major break in cracking the case.

And young Frank Jr. was apparently able to provide the clues that led to its discovery.

The account of Frank Jr.'s role in the apprehension of the trio accused of kidnaping him

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came to light as the FBI made plans to transport John William Irwin, 42, suspected ringleader, from the jail in San Diego, Calif., to federal jail facilities here.

The two 23-year-old suspects, Barry Worthington Keenan, scion of a wealthy Los Angeles area family, and Joseph Clyde Amster, Playa Del Rey, were held on \$50,000 bail each.

Multiple indictments against the trio were expected to be returned by a grand jury within three weeks.

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