



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Die In Gas Explosion; Deaths Feared Murder

Dormitory Fire Fatal To Students

MOSCOW, Idaho — Three University of Idaho students died today in an early-morning dormitory fire and officials said it may have been murder by arson.

Two of the students were trapped in a hallway and burned to death in Gault Hall, a new \$500,000 dormitory housing 130 men. The other sought refuge in a shower room and suffocated.

It was the fourth dormitory fire in a week on the campus and aroused university officials, and police started an intensive investigation.

The victims were Paul Johnson, Davenport, Wash., a sophomore, and freshmen John Knudson of Idaho Falls and Clair Schulzberg of Toronton, Idaho.

Two of the other three fires broke out in the lounges of Willis Sweet and Chrisman Hall, men's dormitories, and caused about \$3,500 damage. They were listed as arson.

The Gault Hall fire today also broke out in the lounge and spread quickly to sleeping quarters upstairs. One of the students in the hallway was cut by glass in a vain attempt to escape out a window.

First Chief Carl Smith said it was the work of an arsonist. C. O. Decker, dean of students, called the students' death a "murder."

Wads of partly burned paper had been found stuffed in dormitory and magazine racks at Willis Sweet and Chrisman Halls last Friday and Saturday.

By CHARLES KUBALT
Charlotte News Staff Writer
A thick fog of confusion has settled down over the need for new city and county school buildings.

Cutting through the fog as much as possible, here's the situation: We need new schools—23 million dollars worth in the next five years, according to the most recent school survey — to keep up with mushrooming enrollment.

To get them, Mecklenburg County will have to issue more bonds. The County Commission doesn't want to assume the debt for two reasons. One is that County Attorney Henry Dockery advises that in his opinion the commission does not have the authority to do so. The other is that even though



HERMAN MARTENS, 76-year-old retired baker, matches his 32-inch-long moustache with the 36-inch-long pig tails of fellow traveler Heidi Merkle as both arrive aboard the liner Italia at New York. Both were returning from Germany where they visited relatives. (AP)

7 More Injured In Blast

HERRIN, Ill. — A bottled gas depot was raked by explosions and fires Thursday that caused six deaths and injuries to seven others.

The injured doctors at Herrin Hospital said, "There are a lot we won't be able to do anything for."

The explosion occurred at the depot on the west side of this southern Illinois town from which cooking gas is distributed in small tanks to customers in Herrin and rural areas.

Police Chief Roy Cole said Henry Scheffer, 50, operator of the depot, was filling the small tanks from a large tank when a leak apparently developed.

The area was filled with escaping gas, Cole said. "In some places it was ignited. The flow kept increasing. Then one of the small tanks blew up and that set off the rest."

Firemen were at the scene before the blast and fire, having been summoned when a leak reportedly occurred. The flames burned fiercely for about an hour before they were brought under control.

The injured included Mrs. Imogene Keller, 29, mother of Charlotte Jarvis by an earlier marriage, and of Robert Lee Keller. Charlotte's twin sister, Sharon, and another sister, Susan Jarvis, 7, and their grandmother, Mrs. Gladys McGee, were injured.

The Williams' 7-month-old son, Randy, and Kerley's wife, Elizabeth, 42, and their son, Carl, 20, also were hospitalized.

Police said Scheffer was unharmed but suffering from shock.

Evening Prayer
O God, we too would be conscious of our need of communion with Thee, in order that our human contacts may reflect Thy mind and spirit, in Christ's name. Amen.

ADLAI B. STEVENSON fired a fresh volley at Vice President Nixon at a Democratic rally in Lexington, Ky., today after completing a two-day swing through Michigan and Ohio. Asserting that Eisenhower is considered a candidate and not a party leader, Gov. Stevenson said Ike's re-election would mean "the Republican party leadership (with Nixon at the helm) would take over."

The President was in California today, firing another salvo at the Democratic presidential nominee in a major address in Los Angeles. Hollywood Bowl. Eisenhower made two speeches in Portland, Oregon, at that city's Public Auditorium yesterday to capacity audiences.

Rallies in Wilmington, Del., and Baltimore, Md., were attended by Vice President Nixon today, completing 25,000 miles of campaign travel before a scheduled weekend rest.

Sen. Estes Kefauver, Democratic nominee for vice president, denounced as "monstrous nonsense" what he called Republican reasons for refusing to discuss an end to H-bomb tests. The senator addressed rallies in Las Vegas, Nev., and Salt Lake City, Utah.

(More Political News on Pages 2, 9-A)

Will County Allow Voting Over Bond Debt Hassle?

The County Commission doesn't recognize the pressing need for new schools, the commission doesn't like the idea of adding to the tax burden of Mecklenburgers at this time.

So the County Commission is resisting the suggestions of the school boards that it take over the debt.

This situation has dragged on for a long time. Way back in 1950, the city used the county to require it to take over the debt, then much larger. The case was never argued, and the city finally withdrew its suit last year.

Now the City School Board is talking about a new way to require the county to take over the debt. It wants to put the matter up to the voters in a referendum.

At its meeting Wednesday it voted to try to get the question on the same ballot with the December bond issue.

If the school board means what it says, it will have to hurry, since the proposal must go on the ballot six weeks before the election.

To get it on the ballot, the County Commission will have to agree to put it there. There is some doubt whether the commissioners will do that. They could effectively block the proposal by simply refusing to consider it.

Attorney Dockery said, in his opinion, a referendum would be sufficient to require the county to take over the debt.

School Board Finance Committee Chairman J. P. Hobson said See DEBT on page 2-A

Notice To Readers

Effective tomorrow, The Charlotte News will increase the single-copy price of its Saturday editions to 10 cents. Monday through Friday single copies of The News will continue to be sold for 5 cents.

This change is being made in order to bring the single-copy price of The News in line with the home-delivered subscription cost. The News' street salesmen and dealers will receive a substantial share of the five-cent increase.

Despite mounting production costs, this is the first change made in The News' single copy price since 1941.

Ike Bangs Away At Adlai Policies

PORTLAND, Ore. — President Eisenhower, "planning to continue to lay the facts on the line," headed for California today in the major vote-seeking bid of his West Coast tour.

The presidential plane took off for Los Angeles after the President in a speech here last night had banged away at Adlai Stevenson's military draft and H-bomb views.

White House press secretary James C. Hagerty indicated Eisenhower will fire another salvo of criticism at the Democratic presidential nominee in a major address in Los Angeles' Hollywood Bowl tonight.

In California, with 23 electoral votes, the President goes into the thick of a hot battle against the Democrats. Eisenhower, carried the state in 1952, but Stevenson forces feel they have a good chance to win it this year.

"The President plans to continue to lay the facts of the campaign on the line," Hagerty said in advance of Eisenhower's departure from Portland.

The press secretary declined to say whether the President would hit once more — as he did in a nationwide television address from Portland last night — at Stevenson's proposals that H-bombs go first to fields — Sterling FRIENDSHIP RINGS \$1. (advs.)

The Campaign In A Capsule

ADLAI B. STEVENSON fired a fresh volley at Vice President Nixon at a Democratic rally in Lexington, Ky., today after completing a two-day swing through Michigan and Ohio. Asserting that Eisenhower is considered a candidate and not a party leader, Gov. Stevenson said Ike's re-election would mean "the Republican party leadership (with Nixon at the helm) would take over."

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(More Political News on Pages 2, 9-A)



Brown Booked After Brawl (AP)

Operators Fined

Audience Applauds Elvis' Acquittal

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A service station manager sported a bout of black eye today, souvenir of a brisk fist fight with Elvis Presley, the teen-ager's rock 'n' roll idol.

The fistfight flared yesterday when station manager Ed Hopper became irate because a crowd drawn by Presley and his \$10,000 car was blocking business at the gas pumps.

Presley, 21, Hopper, 42, and a late comer to the fight, station attendant Andrew Brown, 31, were free in \$52 bonds, all charged with assault and battery and disorderly conduct.

Both charges were dismissed against Presley when he appeared in city court today. The courtroom, crowded with adults and a sprinkling of teen-agers, applauded when acting Judge Sam Friedman cleared the singer.

Hopper was fined \$25 and Brown \$15 on the assault and battery charge. Disorderly conduct charges against both men were dismissed.

Presley, home for a few days from his rock 'n' roll tours, said the trouble started after he drove his glossy, white Continental Mark II into the downtown station and asked Hopper to check the gas tank for leaks.

A crowd began to assemble, blocking traffic. Hopper finally asked Presley to move on so the station could get back to normal business.

A witness, Harvey Huff, told police that Presley, seated in his car signing autographs, agreed to move on but delayed to oblige eager fans. Huff said Hopper slapped Presley on the back of the head and snarled:

"I said to move on."

Presley, 6'1, and 185 pounds, jumped from the car and crossed a right that set Hopper (5-10, 175) back on his heels and cut a half-inch gash at the corner of his left eye.

Huff said a policeman and another man broke up the fight and then Brown, 6'4 and 220 pounds, moved in and also drew a Presley right.

ELVIS PRESLEY
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ELVIS PRESLEY

Adlai Blasts Ike's Aides

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Adlai B. Stevenson launched a fresh attack on President Eisenhower's aides today.

It came as his campaign manager was saving the presidential race said in an advance test of a talk here that as one example "a vote for Eisenhower is a vote for Secretary of Agriculture Benson, whose friends for the farmer depends on the proximity of an election."

Stevenson's return to the assault of the man around Eisenhower appeared to be related to a decision of his strategists that while they believe they have halted any political gains by the President, Stevenson's prospects also have leveled off.

James E. Finnegan, Stevenson's campaign manager, said in his opinion the presidential contest reached the point where voters who list themselves as undecided will tip the balance next month.

Coming from a two-day swing through Michigan and Ohio, Stevenson ripped into Eisenhower's statement that Nixon is the "best qualified man to serve" as vice president.

Asserting that the Republican congressional leaders value Eisenhower as a candidate but ignore him as a party leader, Stevenson said that if Eisenhower is re-elected, "the Republican party leadership team will take over."

"What does this mean?" he asked. "It means that a vote for Eisenhower is a vote for Richard Nixon because if the Republican President doesn't want to or can't be the real leader of the Republican party after the election, his vice president can and wants to be."

Stevenson found some refreshing backing from Democratic Gov. Frank J. Lausche in Ohio.

Select POPEMOST MILK Products at your favorite store. — Adv.

2 Dead As Bus, Truck Collide

ROANOKE, Va. — A Greyhound bus and an oil tank truck collided and burned at two nearby Monday today with two known deaths. The truck driver was trapped in the cab of his truck and apparently died instantly.

The driver of the bus, S. L. Mitchell of Roanoke, received cuts and bruises.

Two men riding in the pickup behind the tank truck said the truck exploded, setting their own vehicle on fire. The two men, James Hicks of New London, and William E. Brown of Flinton, received deep burns and other injuries.

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Our Weather

Mostly cloudy and little change of temperature with occasional light rain or drizzle today, tonight and Saturday. Outlook for Sunday partly cloudy and mild.

Low this morning — 60
Low tomorrow morning — 57
High today — 74
High yesterday — 74
High tomorrow — 78
Sunrise today 6:32 a.m.
Sunset today 5:44 a.m.

More Weather Data on Page 4-A

4 days to go REGISTER then VOTE

Deadline for new registrants is Oct. 23. You can't vote if you're not registered.