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News Clipping - Early Morning Fire Destroys Building At Gardner-Webb

The Shelby Daily Star

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The Star Covers
Cleveland County
Completely
12 Pages Today

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

VOL. LIII—202

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

SHELBY, N. C., FRIDAY—August 23, 1957

TELEPHONE 2-1441

STAR INDEX

Classified ... 10 Markets 8
Comics 11 Social 8
Crossword ... 11 Sports 4
Editorial 4 Television ... 11

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Oldest And Largest On Campus

Early Morning Fire Destroys Building At Gardner-Webb

Companion Is Rescued

Fall Down Mine Shaft Kills Boy

TIMMINS, Ont.—(P)—Rescuers this morning uncovered the body of 15-year-old Ronnie Blakemore from a mass of debris wedged part way down a 1,400-foot mine shaft.

AEC Announces Powerful Atomic Blast By Russia

WASHINGTON (P)—Russia has resumed atomic tests with a blast of "substantial" power yesterday, the Atomic Energy Commission announced today.

A brief announcement from AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss said:

"The Soviet Union has resumed testing of nuclear weapons at its Siberian proving grounds. A detonation of substantial size took place on Aug. 22."

The development comes in the midst of Soviet maneuvers in the London disarmament conference with the ostensible aim of cutting off all nuclear tests.

The United States, while offering to call off tests for two years, is insisting on safeguards which the Russians reject.

The last previous AEC announcement of a Soviet nuclear weapon test came April 18.

ONE OF LARGEST

That blast was described as "one of the largest thus far in the

The body was found about 10 feet below the level where 16-year-old Bonar Scholes was rescued last night. The boys fell into the shaft while dropping stones to hear the echoes. Three other teenagers scrambled to safety when timbers covering the hole collapsed.

The shaft, with 30 feet of water at its bottom, was blocked with earth, stones and rotted shoring from the 20-foot level for an unknown distance.

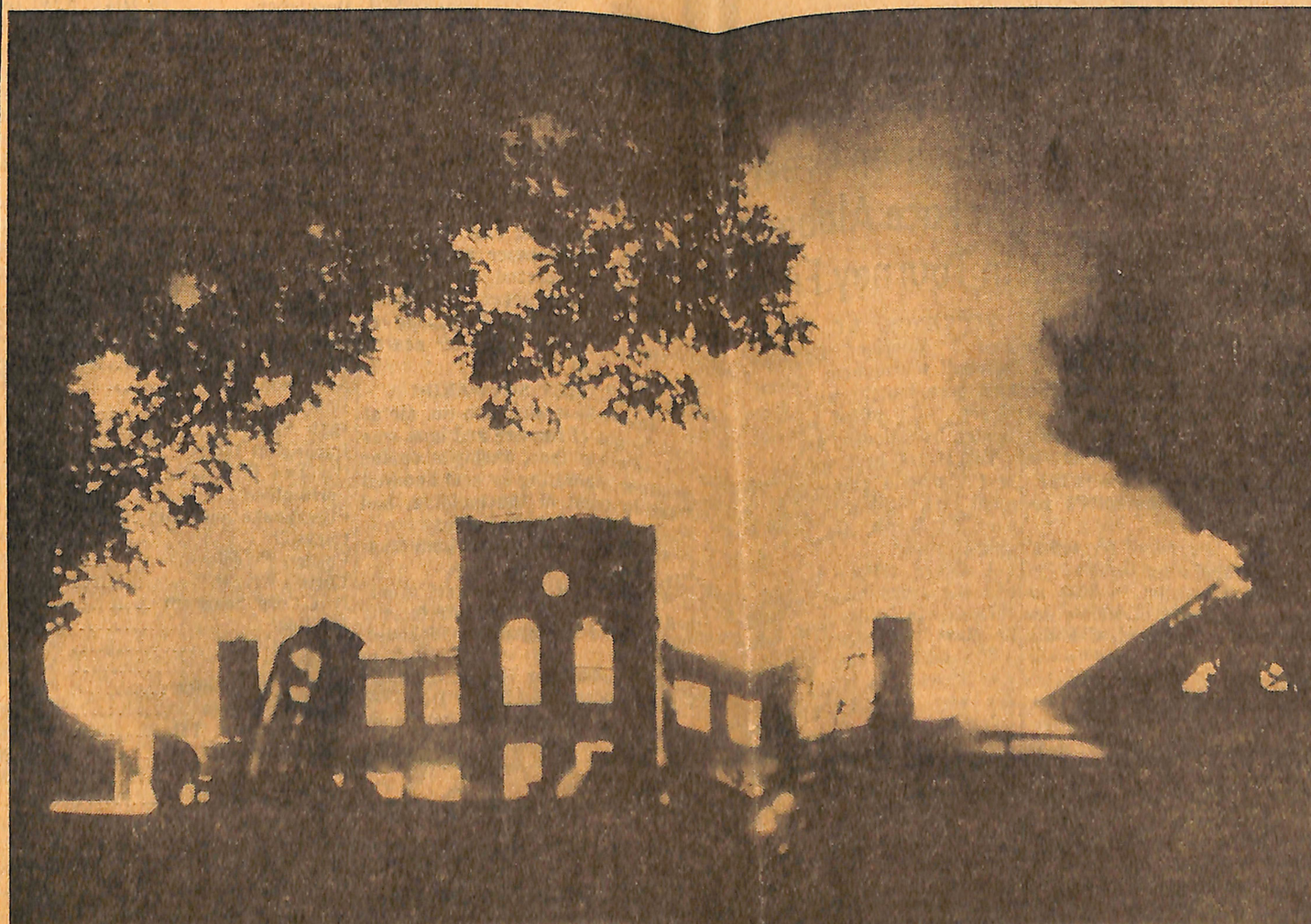
HAND SEEN

One of the dead boy's hands had been seen in the debris last night. It had been hoped an obstruction would provide an air-hole for him. But when his head and shoulders were uncovered today he was dead.

Only one man at a time could go down to dig for the Blakemore boy because of rotting supporting timbers. A companion helped put the earth into a container raised by a crane.

Both were protected from falling earth and rocks on their precarious perch by a wooden hood measuring 8 by 14 feet at its open ends. The cribbing had been built during the night by miners with ropes around their waists.

Scholes was saved after workers lowered by rope used their bare hands to remove the muck that had buried him waist-deep. Dr. W. G. Bissonnette of Timmings was lowered into the shaft



Flames Reach Skyward In Gardner-Webb Fire

(Photo by John Roberts)

Flames Discovered By Watchman

By BOB MYERS
(Star Staff Writer)

A spectacular early morning fire visible 10 miles away destroyed the 50-year-old Huggins-Curtis Building on the Gardner-Webb campus.

The three-story brick structure, used primarily as a dormitory for men and for storage, was the oldest and largest in the college plant.

Flames which apparently originated near the front entrance were discovered at 1 a.m. by C. O. Jones, college watchman.

SPREADS FAST

The rapidly-spreading blaze enveloped the building in a matter of minutes and raged unabated and out of control for three hours.

Boiling Springs and Shelby Fire Departments were unable to fight the blaze because of its headway and intense heat.

The Shelby department was summoned at 1:10 a.m. after it was feared that heat and showering sparks might ignite Decker Hall, a men's dormitory 100 feet away.

The building was a total loss. It was insured, along with contents, for around \$70,000. This represented the total value of the old building but comes nowhere near its replacement cost, estimated at \$200,000 or more.

Cause of the fire is not known. The building, housing President P. L. Elliott's office, physics lab, five classrooms and storage space, was reduced to a shell.

All furnishings and equipment valued at \$45,000, including \$12,000 in athletic gear, were destroyed.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Most critical loss was all but a few items of sports equipment.

Only six football helmets and three balls were salvaged from the Coach Norman Harris from the

Democrats Will Offer Own Plan On Civil Rights

WASHINGTON (P)—Speaker of the House Rayburn (D-Tex.) said today Democrats may have ready tomorrow a compromise proposal they hope will break the deadlock on civil rights legislation.

At a news conference, Rayburn gave no hint of what the proposal might contain. But he repeated Democratic objections to the compromise plan put forward Wednesday by Rep. Martin of Massachusetts, the GOP House leader, with President Eisenhower's endorsement.

Under that proposal, a judge could hear criminal contempt cases involving voting rights without a jury, but if he did so could impose penalties of no more than a \$300 fine and 90 days imprisonment. Jury conviction would make possible a sentence as high as six months imprisonment and \$1,000 fine.

JOHNSON TAKES PART

Rayburn said "We are in the process of conversation" about a possible counteroffer. He said he means principally Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Tex-

America Charged With Meddling In Middle East

DAMASCUS (P)—Syria's acting defense minister has charged the United States with meddling in the Middle East.

Cures For Inflation

Reuther, Curtice In Verbal Battle

DETROIT (P)—President Harlow Curtice of General Motors and Walter Reuther of the United Auto

City Will Have Free Off-Street Parking Lot

A new and free off-street parking lot is being opened through the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce of a Shelby prom-

current Soviet series. Strauss said it was the fifth in a series which began April 13. It was the 11th reported by the AEC since last August.

Altogether, including today's announcement, the AEC has reported 24 Russian nuclear test explosions. Strauss, however, has made it clear that not all of those detected are reported. He says they are announced only when there are circumstances of special interest.

U. S. Fires 13th Blast In Series

ATOMIC TEST SITE, Nev. (AP)—A blood-red fireball burst over the Nevada desert today as the United States touched off the 13th atomic explosion of the 1957 test series.

The flash of the blast at 5:30 a. m. was visible over a large area of the West.

Downtown buildings in Los Angeles were bathed in a flashbulb-bright glow. The flash was visible in San Francisco in spite of a heavy fog.

Newsmen, barred from the test site, witnessed the explosion from Angel's Peak, 45 miles from Ground Zero.

The device was exploded from a captive balloon 1,500 feet above the Yucca Flat test grounds.

The dark red fireball flared briefly, then faded. A mushroom cloud quickly rose, the rays of the rising sun turning it a snowy white.

Then, as the top of the mushroom detached from the writhing stem, the brightening sun turned the cloud pink.

WEATHER



MOSTLY CLOUDY

NORTH CAROLINA: Partly cloudy in the west and north, considerable cloudiness in the south-east portion and mild this afternoon, tonight and Saturday with a chance of scattered light showers near the lower coast. High temperatures today 80 to 85, lows tonight 55 to 62 in the mountains, ranging to near 70 along the coast.

Local Weather

High yesterday	83
Low last night	60
Reading at 8 a.m.	65
Reading at 1 p.m.	78
Rainfall	.00
Rainfall to date	29.79
To date last year	28.41

said to give the youth a sedative and feed him intravenously.

"He behaved like an absolute Trojan," the doctor said. "He cooperated in every way when he was pulled up although he was only semiconscious and must have been suffering pain."

DROPPING ROCKS

He was hospitalized.

The boys and three young friends were dropping rocks into the shaft to listen for echoes last night when a plank covering gave way. Two scrambled to safety and a third was pulled up from just below the edge.

The old Vipond gold mine is just outside this gold mining and paper center of 30,000 persons about 175 miles north of Lake Huron and 175 miles east of Lake Superior.

See FALL Page 2

First Cotton Bale Goes On Auction Block

Cleveland County's first officially ginned bale of cotton will be auctioned off on the west side of the court square in uptown Shelby on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The cotton bale, owned by Sam and Bill Lattimore, was ginned last Wednesday morning. Weighing some 600 pounds, the bale has been on display at the auction site for three days.

Customarily, local business firms bid on the first cotton bale of the season. The successful bidder displays the cotton in front of his place of business for several weeks.

of a Communist takeover in Syria in order to hide its own bid for greater Middle Eastern influence.

Khaled el Azem joined other Syrian officials in denying that Syria is falling under Soviet control as a result of leftist officers taking control of the army.

The United States knows Syria will not accept foreign influence, Azek told American reporters yesterday.

"You pretend we have become Communist and are under the influence of the Soviet Union. . . . You use this as a weapon and propaganda, hoping to frighten people who fear communism and who are afraid about their goods," the defense chief asserted. "You use it to force American and European public opinion to support American policy in the Middle East."

NOT FRANK

"If you told people frankly the real purpose, which is to replace British and French influence by your own and to guarantee the interest of oil companies and other monopolies, the American people would not help by giving you funds."

A statement read by Azem said the American people and President Eisenhower fail to understand the Arab mind and Arab aims. U.S. help to imperialism and Zionism "willing or unwillingly . . . is preventing any understanding between the Arab and American peoples," he declared.

"In addition, you (America) want to dictate your will to all people and want them to follow the same policy. You want to dominate large and small countries."

Azem said Russia "wants Syria to be entirely free from the influence of the West as well as the Soviet Union itself."

Workers were squared off in verbal battle today on inflation remedies.

GM, replying to the union's proposal for an average \$100 cut on 1958 car models, has counterproposed a two-year extension of its union contract that expires next spring.

Reuther, commenting on the countermove, accused General Motors of "shocking disregard" of public welfare. He also charged the company with intending to "go on short-changing American consumers through higher prices." The Curtice - Reuther exchange came yesterday. First, Curtice made his proposal in a letter to Reuther describing it as a constructive step against inflation. The United Auto Workers president followed up in a public statement.

REJECTION

He said Curtice's letter was an "arbitrary rejection" of the union's price cut proposal. He then denounced GM, declaring the company "evades basic issues."

Last week Reuther proposed to the auto industry's Big Three of GM, Chrysler and Ford that they cut 1958 car prices by an average of \$100 a car. In return he said the union would be willing to adjust next year's contract demands.

Reuther has not indicated what concessions the union might offer. The UAW has said it will seek higher wages and a shorter work week next spring when three-year contracts in the auto industry expire.

GM has been the first to reply to the union.

An extension of contracts, as Curtice proposed, would not infringe on cost-of-living changes or annual productivity increases nor provided for in the contracts. The auto worker's present average pay

See REUTHER Page 2

Mother Of Son Held For Murder Attempts Suicide

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—An ex-North Carolina mother, whose son is being held in connection with the pistol slaying of her fiancé, attempted to commit suicide yesterday, police said.

They said Mrs. Nina James Angus, 37, formerly of Dunn, N.C., was found unconscious in a Santa Monica residence. Doctors, who pumped out her stomach, said she apparently took an overdose of sleeping pills.

Meanwhile, the son, Charles Lee Guy III, appeared for a preliminary hearing before a magistrate. He was held for arraignment Sept. 10 on a charge of slaying Guy F. Roberts, an advertising executive, at a motel here Aug. 15. Mrs. Angus said she and Roberts were to be married.

Charles Lee Guy Jr., prosecutor of the Harnett County Recorder's Court at Dunn, N.C., came here to defend his son. A purported confession by young Guy was introduced in the record at the hearing over the objections of the elder Guy. The father argued that the confession, which the son later repudiated, was obtained under duress.

A Good Safe

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A fire shop safe was found with marks on the dial, face plate and handle where someone had tried to crack it but failed. Along side was this note: "You have a very good safe."

called on Rayburn this morning. Rayburn commented that the GOP suggestion was "very peculiar" in putting judges in the position of "passing sentence without knowing the facts."

"If we come up with anything it will be well-written—something a layman can understand," Rayburn said. And he added that if he makes public any proposal "I will send a copy to Mr. Martin."

This was a thrust at Martin for telling a news conference about his plan without, Rayburn, says communicating with Democratic leaders.

Asked whether the Democratic compromise offer might be ready tomorrow, Rayburn replied: "Anything is possible; that might be probable."

Rep. Keating (R-NY), a leader of GOP civil rights forces, had said he expected some word today on what the Democrats would do about the GOP plan.

Many members of Congress want to end the impasse so they can go home. Some already have left.

The civil rights bill passed by the Senate Aug. 7 now is stuck in the 12-man House Rules Committee. Chairman Howard Smith (D-Va.), a strong opponent of civil rights legislation, has refused to call a meeting of the group to act on the measure. A majority vote of the group's members is needed to call a meeting over Smith's opposition.

Rep. Bolling (D-Mo) said he has the support of five other committee Democrats in a move to force a meeting, but this still would not be a majority. The four Republicans on the rules group refused

Sixty new football shoulder pads and the school's trophies were destroyed.

The personal library of Dr. Elliott, nearly 2,500 volumes, historic documents and papers, was consumed.

A copy of the College Charter, a complete file of the College Catalog and student annuals were in the office.

A pipe organ given to the college by the First Baptist Church of Statesville, and forest fire fighting equipment were among the contents.

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OPENING NOT AFFECTED

The fire will not affect the opening of the fall term, Sept. 9, Dr. Elliott said this morning. Freshmen are scheduled to report for orientation week Sept. 2.

"We will carry on as though it hadn't happened. Provision is being made for housing men students in other dorms, including portions of a girl's dorm and the music building," Dr. Elliott said.

Athletics will be housed in the new physical education building where there is also space for classrooms. The building will be ready for occupancy shortly.

Huggins-Curtis was built for use as a dormitory by the Kings Mountain and Sandy Run Baptist Associations of Cleveland and Rutherford counties.

RUINS SMOULDER

Ruins were still smoldering at noon today.

Boiling Springs Fire Chief Robert Hamrick said his 26-man volunteer department laid 1,400 feet of hose and used three lines to keep the blaze from spreading.

The Shelby department laid 1,600

See DEMOCRATS Page 2

See FLAMES Page 2

U. S. Newsmen Going To Red China

Secretary Praised For Lifting Ban

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dulles won commendation in Congress today for his decision to permit 24 American newsmen to report from inside Red China.

Dulles' action yesterday allowing these newsmen to be stationed there on a six-month trial basis points to an end of an eight-year blackout on direct reporting by Americans from the China mainland.

Spokesmen for groups in the newspaper field said Dulles' move was a step in the right direction—but that it ought to go further.

Sen. Humphrey (D-Minn) called it "a long overdue but welcome retreat from an untenable position."

"If Red China will permit Amer-

ican newsmen to observe and report on happenings on the mainland, this could very well be the lifting of the Iron Curtain," Humphrey told newsmen.

"This could bring profound political repercussions. The next step might well be the release of American prisoners and a final settlement of the Korean War."

Sen. Knowland of California, Senate Republican leader, said in a separate interview it was "desirable to give the American people access to the news on the Chinese mainland without having to get it second hand, either through Red propaganda agencies or foreign news services of other countries."

Humphrey and some others

criticized the limitation on the number of newsmen to be permitted to travel to Communist China.

Dulles designated 24 news organizations and authorized them to send one reporter apiece. He said these were the organizations which had replied affirmatively to a poll on the question of stationing a full-time American correspondent on the China mainland for six months or longer. Officials said fewer than 100 replies were received to Dulles' survey of selected news organizations.

The Associated Press assigned John Roderick, now stationed at Hong Kong, to represent it in Communist China.

After the six-month experiment-

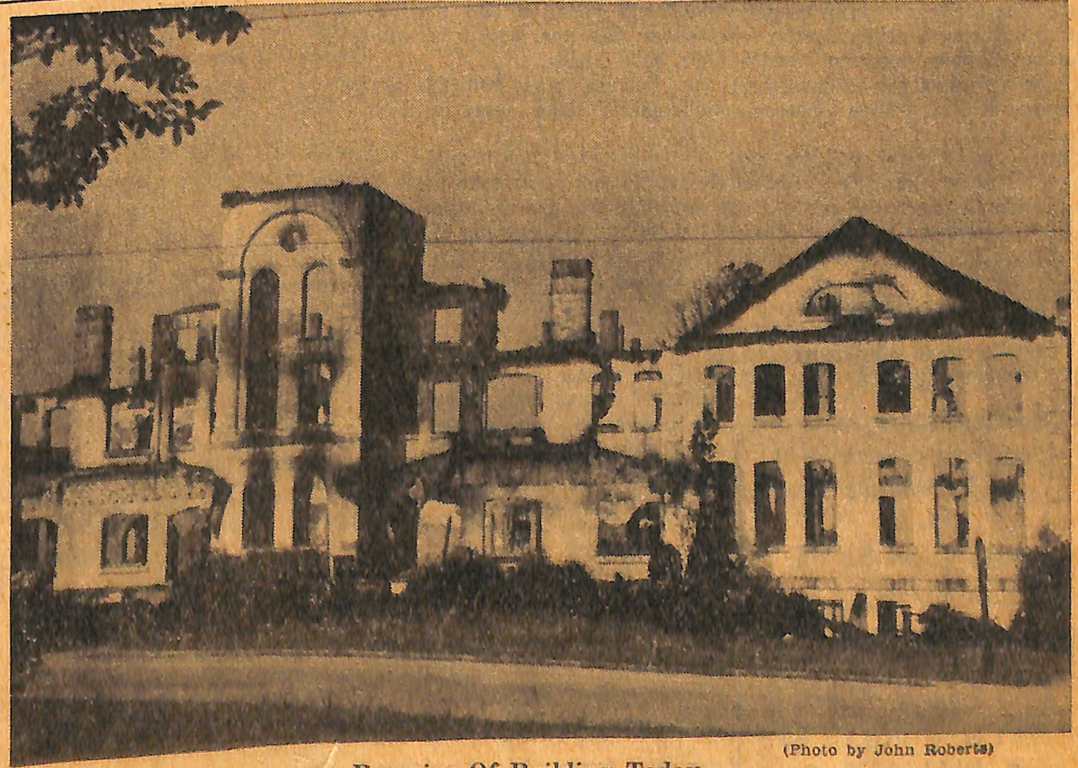
al period is over, Dulles will decide whether the arrangement has worked out. Officials said the chief factor in his decision would be whether the newsmen were able to report freely.

There is still the question of whether the Communist Chinese will allow the American newsmen to cross their borders, although in the past the Communists have invited U.S. reporters.

The new Dulles action does not permit Red Chinese newsmen to enter the United States—and this could cause complications.

Dulles long had resisted lifting the ban on sending newsmen to China. The State Department an-

See SECRETARY Page 9



Remains Of Building Today

(Photo by John Roberts)