

Tucson Fire Department
1961, 3rd Edition (2)



July 1 & 4, 1961:

6-28-61
**Short Is Blamed For
\$650 Apartment Fire**

An electrical short was blamed for an apartment fire about noon yesterday which caused about \$650 damage.

Firemen said the blaze gutted the living room of an apartment occupied by Matty Ware, 211 W. McCormick St. She was not home at the time of the fire, firemen said.

STAR

SON DAILY CITIZ

7-4-61
**\$1,150 Fire
Started By
Smoker** CITIZEN

Careless smoking is believed the cause of a fire last night at the home of Frank E. Smith, at 344 E. Columbia St. which resulted in an estimated \$1,150 loss, firemen said.

The blaze, which was reported by neighbors, apparently started in a front room sofa after the occupants left. Most of the loss was due to heat and smoke, firemen said. The fire was confined to the front room of the home.

A storage shed fire at 613 W. Lester St., yesterday apparently was caused by faulty wiring, firemen said.

Damage was estimated at \$600. Half the loss was to contents.

Owner George R. Malone spotted the blaze from his kitchen window about 10 minutes after he left the shed where he had been working, firemen said.

7-1-61
**Fire Hits
Tire Firm**

Fire at the Southern Arizona Tire & Supply Company, 934 S. 6th Ave., Saturday caused damage estimated at \$2,500 by owner Frank H. Tegarden.

The blaze, which sent up clouds of black smoke, started about 6:30 p.m. in a pile of ground rubber in the rear and then spread to used tires outside before it was doused by firemen.

Tegarden estimated damage to the building at \$1,000 and the remainder of the loss to tire casings and a newly-received shipment of recapping rubber.

Firemen said the blaze probably was caused by a carelessly thrown cigarette.

7/4/61
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July 2, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:**In Shallow Water****Boy Drowns In Swimming Pool****Child's Body Pulled From Portable Pool In Which Several Children Were Playing**

A 9-year-old Tucson boy drowned in a small portable swimming pool yesterday. The water in the pool was less than three feet deep.

Ronald Dee Coburn, of 5231 E. 21st, drowned in a neighbor's backyard pool while playing in the water with about eight or nine other children.

Dr. Louis Hirsch, pathologist for the city, who performed an autopsy, reported that there had been a hemorrhage in the back of the boy's scalp indicating that he had possibly struck his head against the pool's steel ladder before drowning.

The Coburn child's death marks the ninth drowning fatality in Tucson and vicinity this year. Three of the victims have been young children, while four were boys under 18 years of age.

The boy's lifeless body was first noticed by his sister, Brenda Joyce, 13, who was in the pool and gave him a nudge. When he failed to respond she screamed for help. Police Sgt. Jack Lane said the group was playing games similar to tag, underneath and above the water.

Owner of the residence, William E. Towle, of 5220 E. 21st St., pulled the boy out and placed him on the lawn, administering artificial respiration.

Capt. James Roberts, head of the Fire Dept.'s eastside rescue unit, said on his arrival he applied a resuscitator and simultaneously gave closed heart massage, a new method in first aid, in which the heel of the hand is pressed against the heart at a rate of 60 times a minute.

Roberts, who continued the process for 45 minutes, said the boy had not discolored yet and that there was a slim chance to revive him. Kerr Mortuary ambulance drivers assisted firemen in applying the cardiac massage.

In less than 30 minutes a doctor arrived at the scene and gave Coburn an injection of adrenalin in the heart, but shortly after pronounced him dead.

The possibility that the youngster may have suffered an electric shock was investigated when other children reported they felt a "tingling" in the water just before the drowning.

Hirsch and police officers inspected the pool and found that it was insulated properly and that there was no evidence of faulty equipment. Hirsch discounted the theory, reporting that any electric shock would have electrocuted other children as well. The pool, about 15 feet in diameter has a filter attachment.

Aside from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dee W. Coburn, and his sister, the boy is also survived by his grandmother, Mrs. Estella Clements of Tucson. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Neighbors Brave Fire Save Tucson Woman

A retired Army nurse was in serious condition after suffering third-degree burns last night when an easy chair she fell asleep in at home apparently caught fire from a cigarette.

Credited with saving the life of Mrs. Minnie Lee Jones, 47, of 1120 E. 8th St., who held the rank of major in the nursing corps, were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shinkle Jr. of 4515 E. Fairmount St. who were visiting relatives next door to the victim.

Shinkle said his wife noticed smoke and called him. He ran inside the house, pulled the unconscious Mrs. Jones from the smoldering chair and threw the chair outside. As the chair hit the ground, it burst into flames, Shinkle said.

Police were called who notified Fire Rescue. Engine No. 3 firemen were first on the scene and administered first aid to the burn victim.

The woman's husband arrived home as first aid was being given. Mrs. Jones was taken to Davis-Monthan Air

Force Base hospital by ambulance.

She suffered burns on her back, side and arms.

Blaze At Tire Shop Causes \$1,200 Damage

Fire caused about \$1,200 damage to a South 6th Ave. tire shop last night, the Fire Dept. reported.

The fire apparently started in a pile of ground rubber in the back of the Southern Arizona Tire Supply, at 934 S. 6th Ave. It spread outside to a pile of used tires before firemen extinguished it.

Damage to the building was estimated at \$1,000 and to contents \$200.

Owner and operator of the tire business is Frank H. Tegarden.

July 1, 4, 9, 1961:

7-4-61 Carport Tool Shed Destroyed By Blaze

STAR
An electrical short was believed the cause of a fire that destroyed a carport tool shed yesterday at 613 W. Lester St., the Fire Dept. reported.

Firemen kept the blaze from spreading to the adjoining house. Owner George Malone said he had left the shed about 10 minutes before he noticed the fire. Damage to shed and contents was estimated at \$600.

7-1-61 Ex-Nurse Seriously Burned

A retired Army nurse, rescued from a smoldering chair in her home Saturday night, was still in serious condition today with third-degree burns at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Hospital.

The victim, Mrs. Minnie Lee Jones, 47, of 1120 E. 8th St., suffered burns on her arms, back and right side after she fell asleep in an easy chair which apparently caught fire from a cigarette.

Mrs. Edward Shinkle Jr., of 4515 E. Fairmount St., was visiting relatives next door to Mrs. Jones when she noticed smoke and called her husband.

Shinkle ran inside the house and pulled the unconscious woman from the chair, which burst into flames as he threw it out the door.

A Fire Rescue unit administered first aid to the woman, who held major rank in the nursing corps.

7-4-61 Cigarette Starts Fire At Southside Home

STAR
A southside home received about \$1,150 smoke and heat damage from a fire believed started by a cigarette, firemen reported yesterday.

The fire started in a sofa in the front room of the Frank E. Smith home at 344 E. Columbia St. The family was away when the blaze started. Firemen said most of the damage was restricted to the front room.

The carbon filament incandescent electric lamp was perfected by Thomas Edison during 1879.

7-10-61 Blaze At Residence Causes \$1,000 Loss

A fire which started in a storage shed yesterday afternoon caused about \$1,000 damage to an east side house. Its origin wasn't determined.

Officials said the blaze started in a shed adjoining the house of William C. Wilson, 5302 E. 26th St., and damaged contents, a carport and part of the east roof.

Connecticut and Pennsylvania have the same state flower, the Mountain Laurel.

7-9-61 Infant Fatally Burned In Apartment Blaze

A 7-month-old girl was burned fatally yesterday in a \$15,000 fire that destroyed seven apartments at Continental, on the Nogales highway, the Sheriff's Office said.

Tanya Kay Branton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Branton, of Continental, died at the County Hospital about two hours after the fire. She was brought to the hospital by a neighbor.

Deputies said the fire broke out while the mother was cooking supper on a butane stove. She threw water on the stove when it began to smoke, the flames leaped up and enveloped the kitchen in fire.

The blaze blocked the entrance to the bedroom where the infant was sleeping in its crib. Mrs. Branton ran to the nearby apartment of her sister-in-law Alice Branton. Mrs. Branton broke down an out-

side door to the bedroom and carried the baby, whose clothes were on fire, outside.

The baby's father was away from home at the time, working for Farmers Investment Co., which owns the apartments. A company spokesman told deputies fire loss for the cement block apartments and their contents was about \$15,000.

The infant is survived by her parents and a brother, James. Arizona Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

7-4-61 Letters To The Editor

VALUE OF LOYALTY OATH DOUBTFUL

To the Editor:

This question of the new Arizona Loyalty oath should have the careful consideration of every thoughtful person.

Mrs. Barbara Elfrandt, who is contesting it, is a member of the Religious Society of Friends. For nearly 300 years Friends have regarded the taking of oaths as contrary to the teaching of Christ, who said, "let your yea be yea and your nay be nay, more than this comes of evil." Requiring an oath assumes that without it one might not tell the truth. Friends believe that we should tell the truth at all times.

THE VALUE of a loyalty oath seems doubtful. Anyone contemplating an act of disloyalty would not likely hesitate to sign the oath. Many loyal, conscientious employees object to it because it is another step toward a police state. Our country was founded on the principle that a man is considered innocent until he is proven guilty.

In our fear of communism we are adopting the police tactics of those whom we fear. The true basis of loyalty is not fear; but love and respect. These cannot be secured by requiring a loyalty oath.

E. T. KIRK, D. O.
801 N. Swan Rd.

MY REASONS FOR LEAVING OBVIOUS

To the Editor:

After spending over two years on the City of Tucson Fire Department, with vain hopes of a wage increase, my present salary is \$380 per month. Simplified, on a weekly basis, I work 62 hours with a take home pay of approximately \$67. My reasons for leaving are obvious.

IN LOS ANGELES the salary of a rookie firefighter is \$575 per month. The training and hardships are appreciated, and the firemen there are compensated for their high standards of performance.

The citizens of Tucson know of the poor wage conditions of the police and firemen, but the city fathers have taken no corrective action on this critical matter.

THROUGH SOME soul-searching, I feel I am taking the proper step by joining the many police and firemen who have left for California before me.

RICHARD S. CRANE
1510 E. Grant Rd.

Letters to the editor must carry the complete name and street address of the writer. In extreme and unusual circumstances, the writer's identity may be held confidential and a pen name used for publication purposes. Short letters are given preference. The normal maximum allowed is 300 words. The right is reserved to reduce the length of letters.

1961

July 5, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Fireworks Chief Lives His 'Past'

Rudy Black, Tucson **Fire** Dept. captain, said he still gets a bang out of setting off fireworks at the annual **fire**-works show despite 32 years of doing it.

"I lived on a cattle ranch near Sonoita when I was a kid and I never got a chance to shoot off fireworks 'cause we were afraid of starting a range **fire**," Black said.

"I guess I had to grow up to have the fun I could have had when I was a kid."

July 7, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Patrolman's Child Hurt In Pool Fall

A **Fire** Department Rescue unit and the Highway Patrol teamed yesterday to bring a 20-month-old girl to Tucson Medical Center from a ranch near Vail after she fell into a dry swimming pool.

Shari Shearer, daughter of Highway Patrolman and Mrs. Henry Shearer, was in fair condition with head injuries. She fell about nine feet into the pool.

Fire Rescue No. 2 answered the call to the La Posta Quemada Ranch. The child already had been placed in a Highway Patrol car when firemen arrived. Firemen placed their resuscitator in the patrol car and administered oxygen en route to the hospital.

Firemen said the child was conscious and responded to the oxygen.

Firemen Control Blazes At Dumps

A bulldozer and two water trucks rigged with sprinkler systems assisted firemen last night in putting two city dump **fires** under control.

The **fires** at the city dump on W. 40th St. started smouldering Wednesday and broke out in flames late yesterday afternoon.

A bulldozer remained on the scene throughout the night pushing dirt over the trouble spots.

1961

July 7, 9, & 22, 1961

THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR

7-22-61

FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 7, 1961

Sutton Death Settlement Reached Out Of Court

The family of a high school boy who died after an anesthetic exploded as he was undergoing dental surgery has reached an out-of-court settlement with the two dentists involved.

The youth, Robert Sutton, 15, died March 15 about two hours after his lungs and windpipe were torn by the explosion as an impacted tooth was being removed at the offices of Drs. J. Winterhoff and Richard J. Burch.

Mr. and Mrs. Delbert C. Sutton, 6438 Calle de San Alberto, are the parents. It was learned from an informed source that the settlement amounted to \$25,000.

However, Tony Terry, attorney for the Sutton family, denied that this was the amount and declined to divulge the figure. He said it would be highly unethical for him to disclose the figure.

When the fatal accident occurred, Dr. Burch was administering the anesthetic to the youth and Dr. Winterhoff was performing surgery.

The two dentists were later exonerated of any blame in the boy's death by the Southern Arizona District Dental Society.

Later, at a hearing into Sutton's death, Justice of the Peace Norman E. Green said that the dental society "should be ashamed of itself" for the way the investigation was conducted.

It developed during the hearing that none of the death was entirely familiar dentists who investigated the death was entirely familiar with the equipment and the type of anesthetic being used when the explosion occurred.

Sutton was a promising athlete at Rincon High School.

Tot Injured In Fall Into Empty Pool

A 20-month-old girl was injured yesterday when she fell about 9 feet into an empty swimming pool in Vail.

Shari Shearer, daughter of Arizona Highway Patrolman Henry Shearer, was admitted for observation last night at Tucson Medical Center. She was reported in fair condition with possible head injuries.

A fire rescue unit spokesman said the tot apparently wandered from her play area and toppled into the backyard pool.

The victim was rushed 30 some miles to Tucson in a patrol car while fire rescue unit personnel administered oxygen with a resuscitator.

\$3,000 House Fire Blamed On Cigaret

A carelessly discarded cigarette was believed the cause of a house fire early yesterday at 1125 N. Euclid Ave. that resulted in an estimated \$3,000 loss, firemen said.

The blaze was reported shortly after 3 a.m. by a passing motorist. The occupants, three university of Arizona students, were gone at the time.

The fire apparently started in the living room. Firemen found the entire front of the house in flames when they arrived.

Owner Max Frank, 1127 N. Euclid, told firemen that he was covered by insurance.

July 10, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Home Of Students Damaged In Blaze

An early morning **fire** yesterday gutted the living room of a northside home, causing about \$3,000 damage.

Firemen said the blaze in the rear house of 1125 N. Euclid Ave., apparently was started by a carelessly discarded cigaret. The occupants, three university students, were not at home, firemen said. Owner of the property is Max Frank, of 1127 N. Euclid Ave.

Children Blamed For Brush **Fire**

About 200 square feet of brush in the northeast side of Tucson was set afire yesterday by children, the **Fire** Department reported.

Firemen said two engines were needed to extinguish the blaze in the vicinity of the 300 block on N. Sycamore Rd. and that it took about 90 minutes of **fire** fighting.

1961

July 11, 1961, Fire Run Report, TFD—

Typical Report

WIRE DEPT
Report No. 5 RUN REPORT Date July 11, 1961
Eng. Co. # 4449-9 ALARM: Box Tel x Misc Still
Co. # TIME: AM. 3:10 PM. Tap Out 2:35P
Co. #
Location 3613 No. Campbell
Occupant See attached sheet for ownership and occupant
FIRES CLASSIFICATION OTHER THAN FIRES
Business Residence Rescue or Emerg False
Misc. Vehicle Needless Accidental
CAUSE OF FIRE Undetermined; Under investigation
HOW EXTINGUISHED AND EQUIPMENT
OTHER TOOLS
HOSE
1" Ft. Eng. Co. Out on arrival
1 1/2" 200 Ft. Eng. Co. 8 Ladders Ft
1 1/2" Ft. Eng. Co. Salvage Covers
2 1/2" 1800 Ft. Eng. Co. 8
2 1/2" Ft. Eng. Co. Mileage, Eng 8 / 2.5
WORKING TIME Hrs. Min. Eng
of Pumpers Hrs. Min. Eng
Lad
Est. of water Gal 50000
Men on duty at time of alarm (Names)
Higuera, Bearden, Michael and Gellahan
Names of any not responding and reason Pousel Day off
Off Shift (Names) Hrs Min
"LOSSES"
Value Bldg. Value Cont.
Ins. Bldg. See attached sheet Ins. Cont.
Loss Bldg. Loss Cont.
Dispatcher Baldwin and Herreras Officer in charge Higuera

Catalina Lumber Co., 3625 No. Campbell.
Owner: Sidney Van Kirk, at present in Chicago.
Manager: H.L. Haskin

Value of Saw shed: \$5000. Loss: \$8000.
Insurance: Yes.
Value of Contents: \$2000. Loss: \$2000.

Craven Hague Construction Co., 3613 No. Campbell.
Owner: M.P. Craven
Value of building: ? Loss: ?
Insurance: Yes.
Value of contents: \$5000. Loss: \$5000.

Ohms Building 1819 E. Prince.
Occupant: Tropical Paints. Roy and Frank Anthony
Value of building: \$20000. Loss: \$2000.
Insurance: Yes.
Value of contents: \$16000. Loss: ?

Construction of Bldg
No. of Stories 1
Type Occupancy Business

Give a complete account of the work of the fire department:

where each company worked, etc. Describe how and where fire apparently started. In case of building fires, where appropriate, make a sketch to show positions of hydrants, pumpers, buildings, hose lines and their lengths.

0 On arrival at the scene, we made a one line straight lay from the hydrant ~~xxxxxx~~ located between Olsen and Campbell on greenless where Engine Co. 5 had hooked up.

We laid our line between the Texaco Service Station and the Ohms Building and with the balance of our hose we help set up a relay utilizing the hose of Engine 12, Engine 8 and Engine 22. Engine Co 22 hooked up to the hydrant at the corner of Vine and Prince and relayed to Engine 8.

Saw shed belonging to the Catalina Lumber Co. was a total loss as was the Shed, its contents and lumber belonging to the Craven Hague Construction Co.

The fire in the Tropical Paint Store was confined to the store room at the rear. Most of the damage there was to the roof, ~~xxxxxx~~ ceiling, plus water damage and smoke damage to the building.

Michael was sent to the Tucson Medical Center after being overcome from heat and smoke. The time was approximately about 4:15 PM.

Bill Bearden hurt back

1961

July 12, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



Aiding Stricken Firefighter

Fireman Gerald Michael is attended by fellow-workers after he was overcome by heat and smoke while fighting a \$35,000 northside fire yesterday afternoon which damaged three businesses. Michael and two other firemen were taken to a hospital. (Jack Sheaffer photo)

Cause Undetermined

Next page

July 12, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Three Firemen Overcome At Northside Fire

\$35,000 Blaze Burns Lumber And Tools; Firefighters Save Row Of Businesses

By DICK CASEY

Three firemen were overcome by smoke and heat yesterday afternoon while battling a fire which swept through a lumber storage shed and caused an estimated \$35,000 damage to three northside businesses.

A storage shed, containing several hundred gallons of paint and other inflammables, and a nearby gasoline station were threatened by the fire, which shot clouds of smoke high into the sky.

Three firemen, Gerald Michael, Samuel Plank and Al Barnes, were taken to the Tucson Medical Center for treatment after they were overcome by the heat and smoke. Michael and Barnes were admitted for observation. Plank was released.

Gusty winds hampered firemen who fought the blaze for nearly two hours before bringing it under control.

The Catalina Lumber and Supply Co., 3625 N. Campbell Ave., and the Craven-Hague Construction Co., 3613 N. Campbell Ave., were involved in the fire and the Tropical Industrial Paints, 1819 E. Prince Rd., received an estimated \$5,000 loss from smoke and water.

Only a thin outside wall the flames from reach gallon cans of paint and combustibles inside. The construction firm had estimated \$15,000 loss of plywood building and other construction materials were destroyed.

H. L. Haskin, of 19 W. Ventura St., one of the co-owners of the lumber firm, would not comment on the amount of damage, but firemen estimated it at close to \$15,000.

Haskin said the lumber shed, which was destroyed, contained power saws, small tools and a quantity of plywood planks. The loss was covered by insurance, he said.

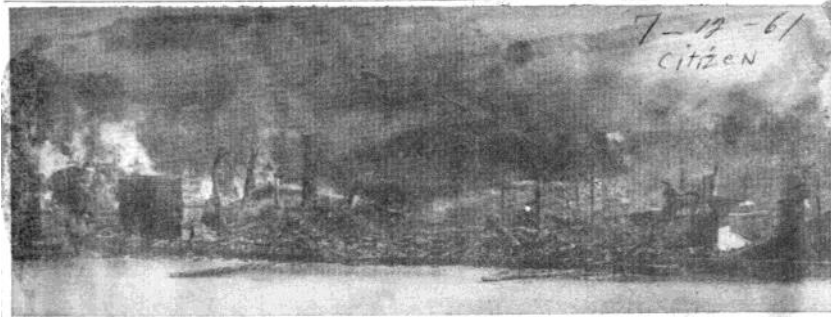
Chief Fire Inspector Howard Danielson said it had not been determined how the fire started. Danielson said it appeared the fire broke out near the lumber shed and then spread into an outside storage area at the rear of the Craven-Hague firm.

Whipped by hot winds, the flames threatened a row of businesses facing Prince Rd., but firemen poured thousands of gallons of water on the buildings in danger to prevent a worse fire.

A shipping area behind the paint firm was badly charred,

1961

July 12, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:



SEARING BLAZE LEVELS LUMBERYARD

Lumber stored at the Catalina Lumber & Supply Co., goes up in smoke along with a storage shed.



FIRST AID FOR FIREMAN

City fireman Gerald Michael is given oxygen after collapsing from heat and smoke inhalation while battling yesterday's \$35,000 fire on North Campbell avenue.

3 Firms Damaged By Blaze

**\$35,000 Loss;
Firemen Hurt**

Three firemen were overcome by smoke and another was injured yesterday while battling a \$35,000 fire on the North Side.

In 105-degree afternoon heat, more than 30 firemen fought the blaze which apparently started in a lumber storage shed at the Catalina Lumber & Supply Co., 3625 N. Campbell Ave. Flames spread to the Craven-Hague Construction Co., and damaged the Tropical Industrial Paint firm.

Three firemen, Gerald Michael, Samuel Plank and Alfred Barnes were overcome by heat and smoke. Michael and Barnes were hospitalized at Tucson Medical Center. Plank was released after treatment.

Capt. Kenneth N. Regilio suffered a back injury and underwent examination this morning at TMC. He is not believed seriously hurt.

Hot winds fanned the blaze as firemen laid more than 7,400 feet of hose. The nearest hydrants are several blocks away and water pressure was low.

The blaze which started about 3 p.m., was under control in about two hours but trucks stayed at the scene until after 10 p.m.

Firemen were forced to head into the fire because fences prevented their fighting the blaze from the rear. Chief Fire Inspector Howard Danielson said today that investigation continues to determine the cause of the fire.

Damage to the lumber company was estimated at \$15,000. The adjoining construction company had about \$15,000 loss. Smoke and water caused at least \$5,000 damage at the paint company.

All the losses are believed covered by insurance, the Fire Department said.

July 13, 1961:

City Joins Fire Defense Institute

The City of Tucson will now have a voice in forming local fire insurance rates by its enrollment yesterday in the Fire Defense Institute, established by the American Municipal Assn.

The program, which gives cities a united voice in practices and policies by which they are rated, is aimed at securing national recognition of new methods and techniques which will increase effectiveness and economy of fire defense programs.

A membership fee of \$260 was approved by the City Council.

Property Loss Set At \$489,410

Year's Blazes Took 8 Lives In Old Pueblo

Damage, Death Tolls Show Increase Over Previous Period, But Below U.S. Average

By BARBARA SEARS

Eight persons lost their lives, and property valued at \$489,410 was consumed by fire in Tucson during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961.

The toll, reported this week by Fire Chief John H. Freeman, shows a considerable increase over the figures for the previous fiscal year when two persons died and the property loss total was \$423,749.

Loss per capita also rose from less than \$2 to \$2.19 but, as it did last year, remains less than half the national figure. Freeman estimates the national average as close to \$5 per person.

He pointed out that all the deaths occurred in private dwellings and attributed them without exception to carelessness of some kind, adding that he cannot recall a fatality from fire in a public or business building in Tucson in many years. Fire precautions in such locations are, he believes, generally more strictly observed.

He lists smoking and misuse of electrical equipment as, in order, the two chief causes of local fires.

On the positive side of the ledger, he cited the high degree of cooperation given the fire department by Tucsonans, especially in connection with the 51,240 residential inspections and 5,396 business inspections made during the year.

A breakdown of the property loss figure indicates \$183,388 as residential; \$271,985 as business; \$25,682, vehicles; \$8,355, miscellaneous.

A total of 3,488 alarms were turned in; 1,732 were fire calls. Of the almost equal number of remaining calls 1,013 were for first aid and rescue; 186, vehicles leaking gas; 378, miscellaneous and 139, needless calls.

There were 1.82 building fires per thousand population, well below the national average of four. This was figured on a population of 220,000, compared with 210,000 the previous fiscal year.

Property loss for the calendar year 1960 amounted to \$341,643.

Fire Damage Set At Near \$10,000

Damage to the Catalina Lumber and Supply Co., one of three firms involved in Tuesday's fire that saw three firemen overcome by heat and smoke, amounted to less than \$10,000, according to Howard L. Haskin, agent for the owners of the lumber firm.

Haskin was erroneously identified in Wednesday's Star as co-partner of the lumber firm. He said yesterday he is merely acting as a representative of the owners.

Alfred Barnes and Gerald Michael, two of the firemen overcome by heat and smoke, were released from the Tucson Medical Center after overnight treatment. The other fireman, Samuel Plank, was treated and released from the hospital Tuesday afternoon.

The \$10,000 loss by the lumber firm was \$5,000 less than estimated at first.

Chief Fire Investigator Howard Danielson said after an all-day investigation yesterday that it appears the fire started from a carelessly discarded cigarette.

The Craven-Hague Construction Co., 3613 N. Campbell Ave., and Industrial Paint Inc., 1819 E. Prince Rd., are the two other firms involved.

1961

July 18 & 21, 1961:

PAGE 2

7-18-61 CITIZEN

Second class matter
Post Office, Tucson, Arizona

City Joins Group Reviewing Fire Insurance Standards

The City Council yesterday voted to spend \$260 to join a municipal fire defense institute, sponsored by the American Municipal Assn. and aimed at giving U. S. cities a voice in determining fire protection insurance standards.

Mayor Don Hummel, who is president of the American Municipal Assn., explained that insurance underwriters are now the sole judges of the standards that regulate fire insurance rates in municipalities. He said they often fail to recognize new methods and techniques that allow cities to keep the same actual level of protection while cutting costs.

For instance, Hummel said, the insurance men now re-

quire fire hydrants at close intervals for some classifications of protection, while new pump developments make these unnecessary. Cities could save money on hydrants and get low insurance rates for homeowners at the same time if the new pumps were recognized, Hummel said.

The new institute will work out technical data aimed at convincing the insurance groups.

In other actions the council approved a resolution of intention for the paving improvement district on East 5th street, clearing the way for engineering design of the project.

Turned over to the city manager's office, for investi-

gation and report, a petition from 25 Broadway merchants asking that westbound Broadway traffic be detoured down First avenue instead of Euclid during the coming construction of the new Broadway tunnel.

Tentatively accepted the offer of Signature Construction Co. to give the city a swimming pool, as yet unbuilt, in Warwick Village Subdivision, with the understanding that it would be open to everybody at a small charge.

Commended retiring city employes Clinton Helbig, streets superintendent, and Police Det. Herman King, for 25 and 20 years of city service, respectively.

\$25,000 OUT OF COURT 7-21-61

Dental Gas Death Suit Is Settled

By DOMINIC CROLLA

An out-of-court settlement has been reached between the family of Robert Sutton, 15, who died Mar. 31 as a result of an anesthetic explosion in a dentist's surgery, and the two dentists who are involved.

Tony Terry, attorney for the Sutton family, said today that the amount of the settlement is \$25,000.

Sutton was being treated for an impacted tooth by Dr. Walter J. Winterhoff and Dr. Richard J. Burch, both oral surgeons. Winterhoff was performing the surgery and Burch administering a cyclopropane anesthetic.

A special board of dentists set up by the Southern Arizona District Dental Society, investigated the accident three days after it occurred and cleared Winterhoff and Burch of all blame.

Later, however, the dentists were reproached for the "cursory manner in which they had conducted their inquiry" by Justice of the Peace Norman E. Green.

Terry said today, "We understand that the city is going to adopt an ordinance incorporating the Fire Protective Assn. recommendations for safety in operating rooms in connection with the use of inflammable anesthetics. This would effectively stop an accident like this happening again in Tucson."

July 23, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Fire Department Bails Out Flooded City Police Station

While police were being dispatched throughout the city early yesterday morning to assist flood victims, firemen were assisting officers at police headquarters.

Shortly before 3 a.m. yesterday flood waters reached the police station, situated in the basement of city hall, and seeped in through the rear door of Police Chief Bernard L. Garmire's office, covering most of the station's floor with more than two inches of water.

Engine No. 1, from the **Fire** Department's main station, with a crew of five men led by Capt. Paul A. Williams, re-

sponded to the police call for help.

Obtaining a portable pump from the water department, firemen solved the sudden problem and with the aid of a few mops and almost two hours of work, firemen departed leaving a damp but unflooded police station.

1961

July 25, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

July 26, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Eastside Belted By Storm

(Continued From Page One)

Lightning struck a tree in front of the home at 2133 E. 6th St., and the fire department was called to extinguish the resulting fire.

The fire department received 13 calls concerning downed power lines, including one in the 1500 block of N. 7th Ave., where a main power line was down over a 4-block area. No fires were reported as a result of the loose wires.

The storm began shortly after 7:30 p.m. in the southeast corner of the city, but although a steady downpour was reported, there was little wind activity. Similar reports of heavy rain but little wind came from Swan-22nd St., Speedway-Wilmot and Speedway-Alvernon. The rain was reported to have lasted for about 30 minutes.

Downtown Tucson was

Tucsonan's Quick Work Saves Drowning Girl

Quick work on the part of a Tucson man yesterday morning was credited with saving 3-year-old Martha Seath from drowning at an eastside swimming pool.

Police and fire rescue workers said that J. F. Miller, owner of the Lazy Cactus Hacienda apartments, 5419 E. 2nd St., administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation after the girl was pulled from the pool by her mother.

Mrs. Cynthia Seath told police that her little girl was hanging on the side of the private pool when she apparently lost her grip. Mrs. Seath said she was

lying at the edge of the pool when the tot disappeared from her sight.

The mother ran to the pool and saw Martha at the bottom. She jumped in and pulled the girl to safety.

Miller ran up and quickly began the mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until the Fire Rescue Squad arrived. Firemen then applied an inhalator and the girl began to breathe normally again.

The youngster was taken to the nearby Craycroft Medical Center where Dr. Daniel S. Forsyth attended to her. The doctor said that with a little rest the girl should fully recover from the ordeal.

July 26, 31, 1961:

Arizona Youngster Wins Fire Fighter Award

By Clarence Harris, President,
Local 479, Tucson, Ariz.

Fire Fighter July 1961

Little 8-year-old Joanne Ford of Tucson, Ariz., is unabashed about being a heroine in her community—she is only proud and happy that she was able to save the lives of her family when an early morning fire broke out in the Ford home.

Awakened by the smell of smoke seeping into her bedroom, the third grade youngster cautiously slipped into the hallway and discovered that the living room was a mass of flame.

Without hesitation, Joanne quickly

aroused her grandparents and then carried her 3-year-old brother from his crib to safety. Realizing that her grandparents and parents hadn't fled the house, she returned to find their whereabouts and called to them to evacuate the premises.

Because of her heroism, the brown-eyed youngster was presented the first annual meritorious award of Local 479, Tucson, Ariz. Joanne's citation is in the form of a plaque with her name engraved on it. An inscription

reads: "For her heroic action in saving the lives of her family. . . ."

A letter given Joanne with the plaque said: "We are pleased to present a plaque in acknowledgment of her courage in performing this worthy service under such dangerous and frightening conditions."

The youngster was selected for the award by a committee from Local 479 composed of Brothers Ellis Franklin, Rufford Plummer and Oscar Lujan.

for JULY, 1961

[7]

Severe Electrical Storm Keeps City Firemen Busy

Skies will be
Only partly cloudy,
But thunderstorms
Will continue rowdy.
—Feddup

Last night's thunderstorm which whipped across the city from the east dumped up to .74 of an inch of rain in the central part of the city and was accompanied by the most severe electrical storm of the season.

City firemen made 10 runs in little more than an hour, extinguishing minor lightning-caused power line fires and standing by while emergency utility workers repaired damage.

Although chances of general rains are expected to decrease tomorrow, thunderstorms are predicted for tonight. But they probably won't be as severe as they have been since last Friday.

Several power lines were knocked down, one in an alley between 7th and Stone avenues for about four blocks north from Drachman street. Firemen said a circuit breaker failed to cut out when the line fell, and utility employees found it sparking when they arrived.

Police said traffic signals

on East Speedway were briefly knocked out.

Power lines were knocked down at 2626 E. Seneca St., at 213 and 231 E. Drachman St. and 1500 N. Stone Ave.

Lightning set fire to a power transformer at Camden Ave. and McKinley St.

Wind blew down a tree in the backyard of the Richard E. Paulsen home, 2626 E. Seneca St., about 8:20 p.m., knocking down power lines and a transformer which served that immediate area.

Firemen barricaded Adams street, just west of Stone avenue, for a short time while they doused burning live wires which had fallen across the street.

Last night's downpour increased in intensity as it

swept across the city. There was .28 of an inch of rain in the Cloud Ridge area, .42 near the Ft. Lowell Ruins, .74 at Tucson Blvd. and Elm St. with .66 falling in only 10 minutes, and .03 on Hardy Road west of Oracle Road.

Only .01 of an inch of rain fell in official rain gauges at the Municipal Airport, bringing the yearly total to 2.05 inches.

It will be warmer tomorrow with a 98-degree high predicted. Yesterday's high was 93. Tonight's low will be about 75. Last night's coolest was 72.

At noon today it was 93 with 35 per cent humidity.

Weather Report, Page 7

Fireman Assaulted By Pair In Car

A city fireman told police he was assaulted by two youths early Saturday after he stopped his auto on West Grant road when the pair in a pursuing compact car yelled insults.

Sam N. Fadala, 23, of 2252 E. 36th St., was treated at Pima County Hospital for head cuts.

The fireman said he was driving his fiancée home when the youths in the late model car began trailing him, sped ahead, slowed and refused to let him pass.

Fadala said the pair jumped him, knocked him down, kicked him, and threw rocks before speeding away.

1961

July 30, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

City Fireman Is Assaulted By 2 Youths

A city fireman was treated for head injuries early yesterday morning shortly after he was assaulted by two youths in an isolated northside area.

Sam Fadala, 22, of 2252 W. 36th St., who was taking his fiancée home after a date, said he was traveling north on the Freeway when he observed a white, late model compact following him.

The vehicle passed him and later, while Fadala was driving east on Grant Rd., the same car tried to force him off the road. Fadala stopped to avoid an accident and two youths jumped out of the vehicle, one attacking him from the front and the other from behind.

Fadala said he was knocked to the ground, kicked, then struck on the head with a hard object. His fiancée defended herself with a rock.

Police are attempting to trace the assailants, who Fadala said were about 18 and 21 years of age, and smelled of intoxicating liquors.

The **Fire** Department said Fadala was unable to report for work yesterday but that he was in satisfactory condition at his home.

Fire Guts Home On Columbia St.

The home of a Tucson family, which left Friday night on a fishing trip, was partially gutted by **fire** early yesterday morning.

Firemen said the blaze which started in a closet of a rear bedroom, caused more than \$2,000 in damage to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. George Shaw, 364 W. Columbia St.

Neighbors said the Shaws had left their home at 8 p.m. Friday headed for Apache Lake, apparently to spend the weekend. Capt. Vince Amaro reported that the **fire** was caused by an electric short. Flames gutted one bedroom, a bathroom and a hallway, before the **fire** was extinguished.

July 31, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Hero Of 1935 Bomb Case Dies

Gas Fumes Fatal To 'Shorty' Garcia

A Tucson man who lost both hands and his sight trying to disarm a bomb endangering a large crowd, and who five years ago wanted to live to be 105, yesterday took his life at the age of 60.

Alberto (Shorty) Garcia, of 610 N. Contzen Ave., was found dead in his home yesterday by police. A blanket shrouded his head; a gas valve was open. A suicide note was found nearby.

A passerby phoned police after smelling gas and seeing the man lying in his bedroom. Police broke through the locked door, a **Fire** Rescue squad was called, but Shorty was dead.

The farewell note, written with chalk on a piece of fiber board, said, "Mr. (George) Chambers, please, I couldn't help it," and asked forgiveness from his wife, Sara, and a son, Sammy, now living in St. Louis, Mo.

Chambers, general manager of Tucson Newspapers, Inc., and long-time friend of Shorty, said illness and money worries had lately depressed the little cabinet maker. Garcia had mentioned suicide a number of times recently to friends.

Garcia lost his sight and hands in 1935 when trying to pull a fuse from a dynamite bomb that landed near a crowd of Cinco de Mayo celebrators in Tucson. No one else was injured when the bomb exploded.

After his injury, he supervised construction of a cabinet making shop behind his home, invented a paint sprayer and a Mexican "burro" charcoal cooker. He taught himself to use a typewriter and partially regained his sight through medical aid from the Lions Club.

Before the Cinco de Mayo tragedy of 1935, he had been an assistant manual training teacher at Tucson High School, a railroad machinist and toolmaker for the State Teachers College in Santa Barbara.

His wife and 18-year-old daughter Sylvia lived with him. The daughter was away and his wife was spending the weekend with another daughter, Martha, when Garcia died.

Tucson Mortuary is in charge of funeral arrangements.

In 1956, a feature story in the Star told of Shorty's "burro" charcoal cooker invention. At that time he told the reporter he wanted to live to be 105 and "I sure hope God is willing."

1961

August 1, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Taxes, Taxes, Taxes

Editor the Star:

While we're getting our share of war scares, I'd like to bear to mind the fact that nearly every copy of every newspaper gives warning of higher taxes wanted, for this, that and the other thing, until it makes we poor folks here, trying to retire on pensions, social security and meager savings, cringe with fear and misgivings as to what our lot will be in the near future if these tax-hungry blunderers have their way, and unsuspecting voters, lulled with false promises, make the mistake of voting for some of the luxuries wanted from time to time.

It seems that the word "economy" or meaning thereof has long been forgotten, and evidence of wanton extravagance can be seen everywhere about town. One example is the plush, lavish, wash rooms in fancy glazed tile and large mirrors in the No. 7 **fire** station, far better than actually needed.

The idea of asking the already over-taxed citizenry from one end of the city to the other to foot the bill for the urban renewal or slum clearance of the extreme west end of the city is about as ridiculous as anything yet heard of. All because the property owners in this slum area are doing nothing about it, then nothing is done to force them to take action.

I moved to Tucson from Michigan to retire, but I see where I made a sad mistake, with taxes already at the strangulation point. If you improve your property a few dollars worth immediately comes out a tax assessor to assess the added patio roof, or whatever it is, and if you remonstrate, you are told about the wonderful year around sunshine you get here in Tucson.

PAUL W. CURWIN
5141 E. 25th St.

August 2, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Three Youths Injured In Car Crash

A three-car accident last night at S. Liberty Ave. and W. Ajo Way hospitalized three teenage boys, with one in guarded condition at St. Mary's Hospital.

Police said two boys in a southbound pickup truck were thrown from the vehicle when it collided with an eastbound sedan on Ajo. The truck then skidded up against **Fire** Station 13, while the sedan slid into a stopped station wagon headed north on Liberty.

Firemen gave first aid to the injured before ambulances arrived.

Truck driver John N. Hubbard, 16, of 3827 S. Liberty was in fair condition with a possible head injury. His brother, Jim, 15, was in satisfactory condition with a possible head injury.

Sedan driver Jimmy L. McKaskle, 18, of 2642 W. Quail Rd. suffered a knee injury and was in satisfactory condition.

Station wagon occupants Mr. and Mrs. Raul Y. Garcia and their two children, of 4520 S. 11th Ave. were not hospitalized.

August 3, 4, 1961:

THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 3, 1961

False Alarms Dangerous, Costly, Fire Chief Says

By PETER BARR

A fire truck racing through the streets in answer to a call always is a potential danger to both lives and property.

The great risk is necessary, of course, when fire endangers lives and property. It's senseless when the alarm proves false.

"Whoever is responsible for a false alarm," says Fire Chief John Freeman, "should realize the risk involved for everyone, including the firemen."

False alarms also figure in the over-all cost of running the Fire Department.

During the past fiscal year, the Tucson Fire Department's total cost of operation was \$1,363,226.35 and firefighters answered some 3,448 calls.

Of these, 111 calls proved to be false alarms.

"The Fire Department must answer every call," said Freeman.

"It is a physical impossibility to check every call before dispatching equipment," he said. "We can't afford taking the chance. If the truck isn't out of the station in 45 seconds, the crew answers to me."

Fortunately for the department, false alarms are not frequent, nor do they run

heavier at a particular time of day or year.

The department has been lucky in having few accidents involving fire trucks. And to the chief's knowledge, no truck has been involved in a false alarm accident.

Why people turn in false alarms is still a mystery to fire department officials.

"Children seem to be the worst offenders," said Freeman.

"I guess they just like to see the big red trucks and hear the noise," he added.

Rank Of Captain Given Three By City Fire Chief

Tucson's Fire Department will have three new captains effective Sunday.

Fire Chief John Freeman yesterday announced the promotion to captain for:

Timothy J. Kain, 42, with the department almost 10 years, who has five years service here, and Leon T. Porter, 37, a Tucson fire fighter six years.

Kain and Porter were advanced from the driver truck and Delgado was advanced from alarm operator.

Each new captain will have charge of a company of men at a substation.

Firemen being promoted to driver to replace the vacancies are Wilford Discher, Richard Holbrook and Hector Felix.

STAR

TUCSON, FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1961

City Gets Insurance Report

Two Plans Submitted For 1,200 Employees

By DEAN FAIRCHILD

Consultants who have been studying the 1,200-employee city group insurance plan expect to submit their findings to the city manager today or tomorrow.

First-year annual premium cost of the plan authorized in the 1961-62 budget was estimated last night at a total of about \$250,000.

One of the consultants, Professor R. M. Howard, U of A College of Business and Public Administration, said yesterday he and Dr. Nestor R. Roos, the other consultant, have narrowed down to four the number of companies which provide the type of coverage the city wants for its employees.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer said he did not know when City Council would take action on the proposal as he, Mayor Don Hummel and the six councilmen will have to study all aspects of the complicated proposal before a contract is let.

"Some of the bidders (which submitted bids June 23) did not meet our specifications," Homer said yesterday. City Purchasing Agent Sidney A. Wilson said 19 firms bid on the contract.

The first year the insurance plan will run for only nine months, Professor Howard said. Thereafter it will be on an annual basis with dividends, if any after claims, applied to the net cost of the annual premium. The city contributes part of the premium cost, the employee the remainder.

Homer said it would be up to the City Council to decide which firm to select.

City employees may elect to use one of two plans, but in order to qualify for city financial assistance they have to sign up for the basic coverage.

Plan A covers, in general, hospital, surgical, medical and major medical payments, together with life and weekly indemnity insurance for the employees and all but life insurance and weekly indemnities for city employees' dependents.

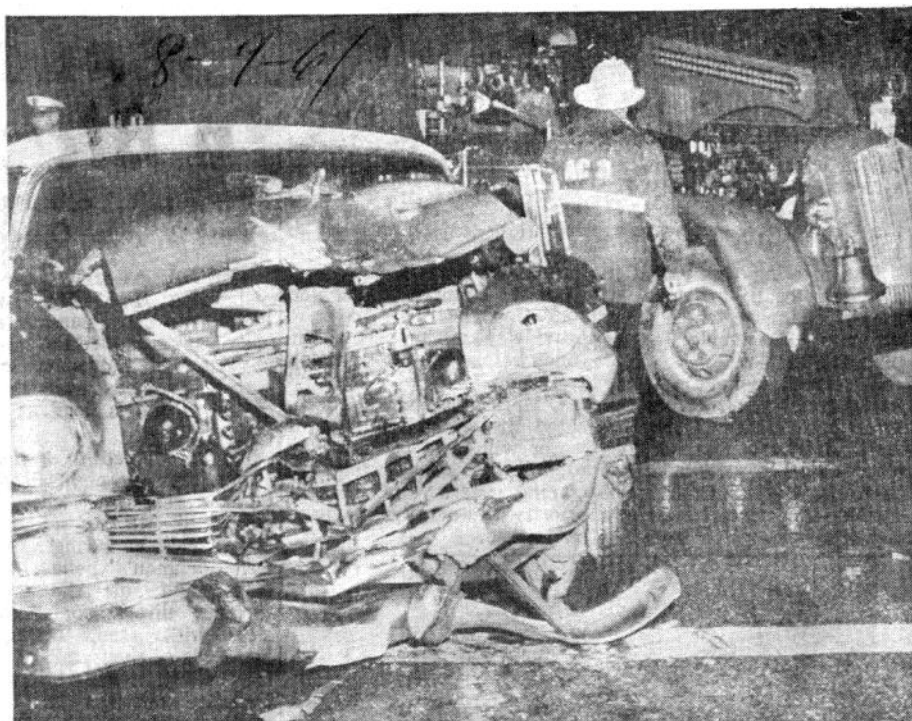
Plan B would provide Blue Cross, Blue Shield major medical, life and weekly indemnity insurance for city employees, while their dependents would get all of those benefits except life and weekly indemnity.

Professor Howard and Dr. Roos were retained as consultants by the city government to make a study of all facts of the proposal and to oversee the calling for bids and the analysis of the bids received.

The consultants report provides the basis for Council action.

1961

August 4, 8 & 13, 1961:



Signal Blackout Blamed In Crash

A collision involving a fire engine at an east side intersection injured fire-fighter Paul Wesson and housewife Peggy L. Goff, 28, of 304 E. Blackledge Rd. Both were treated at Tucson Medical Center. The accident occurred during last night's electrical storm, at N. Swan Rd. and E. 5th St. The traffic light had stopped functioning due to a power failure. The southbound truck, driven by John Walker, was headed with red lights and siren for 5942 E. 33rd St., on a call to investigate smoke. The car, totally wrecked, was eastbound. Mrs. Goff's 8-month-old son and her husband, Dean escaped injury. (Jack Sheaffer photo)

3 Locked^{8/8/61} In Museum Patio Freed

Firemen used ladders yesterday to free three persons locked inside a walled patio at the Arizona Pioneer Historical Society, 949 E. 2nd St., after police efforts to find a key were unsuccessful.

George Lem, 37, of 916 S. 8th Ave., said he, his wife, Virginia, and a niece, Irma Chavez, 13, were "looking at historical artifacts and rock specimens, and just lost track of time."

Locked inside when the building closed at 4 p.m., the stranded persons attracted the attention of a passerby shortly afterward, but weren't rescued until an hour and a half later.

Police called firemen after they were unable to find persons responsible for opening and closing the building.

Fire Routs Guests At Hotel

STAR AUG 13 1961

Basement Blaze Damages 3 Firms

Two firemen were overcome by smoke as a hotel was evacuated and an unknown amount of damage was caused to three businesses by a basement fire at N. 6th Ave. and E. 10th St. yesterday evening.

Five engines, one ladder truck and a rescue unit took part in the fire fighting. The fire was brought under control in less than an hour, but mopping up lasted another two hours.

Smoke was the major problem in bringing the fire under control, and caused the most damage, filling the establishments with dense clouds while air-masked firemen contained the fire.

Station No. 2 fireman Charles Molander was taken by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital after being overcome by smoke. Central Fire Station Fireman Harold McCarty was given oxygen at the scene after collapsing from heat and smoke. Molander was later released.

The fire, possibly caused by a carelessly tossed cigarette or match, started on a sealed-off basement stairway under the Juvenile Furniture Mart, 39 N. 6th Ave., according to Assistant Fire Chief John F. Steger.

It spread into the Chenault School of Beauty Culture on the south side. Smoke filled both of those businesses, as well as a vacant shop south of the beauty shop and Kaye's Children Shop at 45 N. 6th.

About 30 people staying at the Arizona Hotel, located across the street, were evacuated shortly after the smoke filled business after 6 p.m. when desk clerk Kay Sinafer smelled smoke and called the fire department.

August 6 & 7, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Blaze Fails To Interrupt Remodeling

A gasoline **fire** that broke out during the remodeling of a three-story garage in the downtown area brought five **fire** engines to the scene yesterday.

Firemen said the blaze at the former Allright Parking Garage, 110 E. Alameda St., started when sparks from a cutting torch ignited excess gasoline on a dump truck that had recently been refueled.

The burning truck on the second story ramp was visible from the west end of the building, where a large portion of the block wall had been removed by the salvage firm.

A large chunk of ceiling above the truck had been detached and was hanging partially into the truck's carriage. The sight led a large crowd of viewers to believe an explosion had occurred.

The flames were confined to the vehicle, and workmen continued with their reconstruction job while firemen extinguished the **fire**.

Two Women Hurt In Crash Of Car, Truck

Two women were hospitalized yesterday after being seriously injured in a two-car collision at N. Tucson Blvd. and E. 4th St. The vehicles were demolished.

Mrs. Mary Katherine Jones, 39, of 2438 E. 23rd St., was taken to Tucson Medical center with a critical head injury suffered when her pickup truck was knocked on its side, pinning her head and arm against the pavement.

The driver of the second vehicle, a compact car, was Mrs. Polly Leeds, 70, of 4074 E. Monte Vista Drive. She also was admitted to the Medical Center. Police said her vehicle was thrown on a sidewalk.

Residents, alerted by the loud crash, rushed to the accident and helped officers lift the truck upright and free Mrs. Jones. **Fire** Dept. rescue members administered first aid to the victims.

Fiber Glass Boat Is Destroyed In Blaze

A small 12-foot fiber glass boat was destroyed by **fire** early yesterday morning in the rear yard of the L. E. Bragg residence, 3241 E. Glenn St.

The **fire**, which started in a wooden trash bin and spread to the boat, was sighted by Bragg shortly after midnight.

August 9, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

House Damaged By \$5,000 Fire

Fire caused an estimated \$5,000 damage to a two-bedroom, concrete block house and its contents at 3230 N. Chapel Ave. yesterday afternoon.

The owner, James Cochran, and the occupant, Freddie Benson, said the blaze started in a storeroom, but they did not know what caused it.

Neighbors aided Cochran and Benson in putting out the **fire** with garden hoses. The roof and bedrooms were destroyed.

A duplex just west of the house was scorched by the blaze.

August 13, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Fire Routs Guests At Hotel

Basement Blaze Damages 3 Firms

Two firemen were overcome by smoke, a hotel was evacuated and an unknown amount of damage was caused to three businesses by a basement **fire** at N. 6th Ave. and E. 10th St. yesterday evening.

Five engines, one ladder truck and a rescue unit took part in the **fire** fighting. The **fire** was brought under control in less than an hour, but mopping up lasted another two hours.

Smoke was the major problem in bringing the **fire** under control, and caused the most damage, filling the establishments with dense clouds while air-masked firemen contained the **fire**.

Station No. 2 fireman Charles Molander was taken by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital after being overcome by smoke. Central **Fire** Station Fireman Harold McCarty was given oxygen at the scene after collapsing from heat and smoke. Molander was later released.

The **fire**, possibly caused by a carelessly tossed cigarette or match, started on a sealed-off basement stairway under the Juvenile Furniture Mart, 39 N. 6th Ave., according to Assistant **Fire** Chief John F. Steger.

It spread into the Chenault School of Beauty Culture on the south side. Smoke filled both of those businesses, as well as a vacant shop south of the beauty shop and Kaye's Children Shop at 45 N. 6th.

About 30 people staying at the Arizona Hotel, located across the street, were evacuated shortly after 6 p.m. when desk clerk Kay Shafer smelled smoke and called the **fire** department.

August 10 & 14, 1961:

8/10/61 Grande Asks Wage Hike For Police And Firemen

Mayor candidate Art Grande, in a bid for the policemen and firemen vote, yesterday said he will set up a three-man commission to govern the two departments and will endeavor to raise wages.

Grande, former Pima County Undersheriff and a Democrat, spoke to the Young Democrats Club.

He said that low wages bring a high turnover in the departments. "During the year 1960 there was a personnel turnover of 63. This is very costly because new men have to be trained," Grande said.

He said that the element of risk in both departments also warrants better pay.

Turning to the city's \$700,000 deficit, Grande took a poke at Vice Mayor F. T. (Limey) Gibbings, also a candidate for mayor.

"The vice mayor states that he will operate in the black," Grande said. "He's had at least six years to help do so and now that he's a candidate for mayor he has the solution."

Grande said that if he is elected, he will devote full time to the office.

8-14-61 Building On Main Is Damaged By Blaze

About \$4,000 of damage was estimated to the interior and basement of a vacant building that was gutted by fire early yesterday morning.

Firemen said the building at 23 N. Main Ave. had been used by vagrants, and that a carelessly discarded cigarette probably started the blaze. Batavia Realty and Insurance Co. is believed to be the owner.

8-14-61 2 Firemen Overcome By Smoke

Two firemen were overcome by smoke Saturday in a fire which heavily damaged four businesses in downtown Tucson.

The fire, believed started by a carelessly discarded cigarette, apparently started in a sealed-off basement stairway at the Juvenile Furniture Mart, 39 N. 6th Ave.

A desk clerk at the Arizona Hotel call the Fire Department early yesterday when smoke drifted into the second story hotel above the furniture store. About 30 hotel guests were evacuated from rooms above the burning area.

The fire spread into the Chenault School of Beauty Culture, 31 N. 6th Ave., and smoke damaged Kay's Children's Shop at 45 N. 6th Ave.

Firemen Charles Molander and Harold McCarty, both of Engine Company 2, were given oxygen and treated for heat exhaustion. They both returned to duty yesterday.

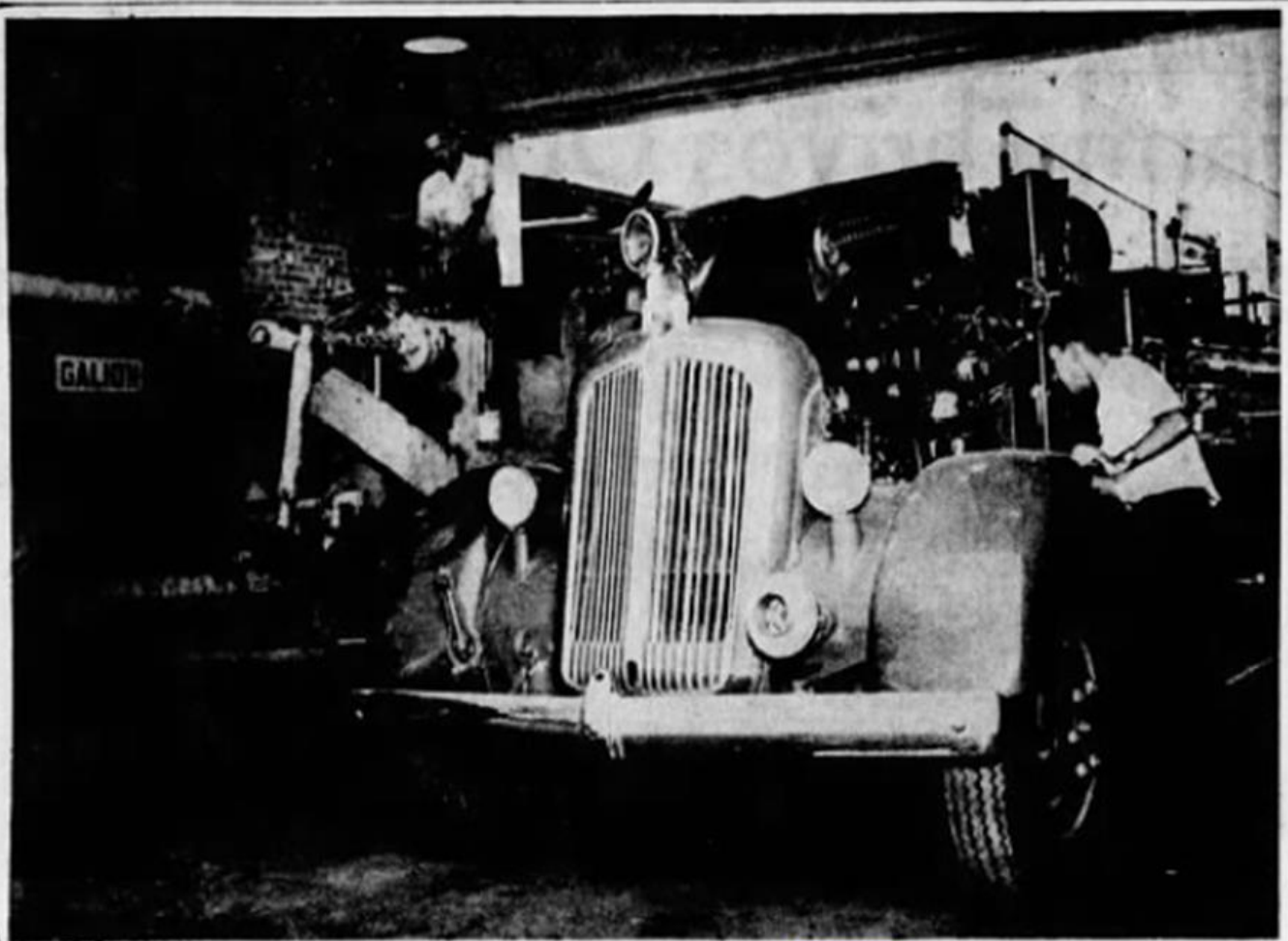
Fire department investigators and insurance men are assessing damage to the four establishments today.

In a second weekend fire, damage was estimated at about \$4,000 early yesterday when a vacant building at 23 N. Main Ave., owned by the Batavia Realty & Insurance Co., caught fire about 6:30 a.m.

The fire which broke out in a freight elevator shaft also was believed caused by a carelessly thrown cigarette. The building once housed Steinfeld's department store.

1961

August 13, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



Boss Checks Damaged **Fire** Truck

Jack B. Baty, City Automotive Shops supervisor, checks damage done to **fire** truck, which collided with a car recently, in preparation of writing repair cost estimates. Mechanic Elmer Hendry, atop motor grader, adjusts controls. Team of

26 personnel repair, service and maintain some 435 pieces of city-owned mechanized equipment ranging from a \$200 hammer knife mower to a \$41,000 D-8 Caterpillar crawler tractor.

August 13, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

'Jacks Of All Trades'

**Diversification Needed
At City Automotive Shop****Cars, Compressors:
They Fix 'Em All**

By DEAN FAIRCHILD

Diversification is no watchword at the City Automotive Shops—it's a necessity.

Jack B. Baty, shops supervisor, and crew of 26 repair and maintain 435 major pieces of mechanized equipment ranging from police cars and fire trucks to compressor engines and asphalt rollers.

They're geared 17 hours daily, six days weekly to slip a new tire on Mayor Hummel's official sedan or put a new chain on a three-wheel motorcycle for the Police Dept.

All of the city divisions own their own cars. They take them to the automotive shop for repairs, gasoline, tires, etc., and the department is charged by the mile just as they would be by a private leasing firm, except that charges are at bare costs.

And those divisions rack up the miles. About 5.5 million miles per year, according to Baty.

The auto force pumps some 700,000 gallons of gasoline annually, mounts about \$25,000 worth of new tires and a spate of recaps.

Virtually every type of repair necessitated by the mechanized midgets and monsters—from garbage packers (for Public Works) to scooters (for the City Water Dept.)—under the shop's care get the full treatment at the sprawling plant located at 510 W. 18th St.

plained he's asked for one, but a shortage of space and funds has denied it.

Baty roughly estimated the department spends \$400,000 per year for parts, gas, tires, batteries, etc., needed to keep 'em rolling.

He said the 13 mechanics, six servicemen (lubrication and tire men), two welders, two foremen and two clerks handled about 17,000 repair orders annually.

Repair parts are, in most in-

stances, on hand at the City Purchasing Dept. stores located near the garage area.

To install the parts on such a wide range of equipment takes some exceptional mechanics, says Baty. "It takes a pretty good man to be able to work on everything," is the way Baty says it.

Does he have much trouble getting those kind of men?

"Not much," the supervisor replied, "for we have a very low turnover of personnel."

The auto shops also maintain cars for the Public Works Dept. which are assigned to a motor pool for the use of personnel who don't usually have vehicles assigned. For example, if City Clerk Mrs. Mary Fields wanted a car to go to Phoenix on official business it would be provided—at a cost to the City Clerk's office comparable to the per-mile cost of maintaining the car.

The Police Dept., for example, pays the auto shops .065 cents per mile for every mile the department's fleet of 52 cars travel. That figure covers the cost of gas, tires, lube service—total maintenance costs of each vehicle.

Garbage packer trucks are charged about .35 cents per mile.

Fire trucks are not charged a by-the-mile rate, but repairs made on them are charged against the department as they would at a private garage. One glaring-red fire truck recently collided with an auto.

Baty said Friday it probably will have to be sent out to a body shop as his department doesn't have one. He ex-

1961

August 13, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Boy Loses Clash With Glass Door

A 9-year-old Ohio boy was hospitalized Friday night with leg cuts after crashing through a sliding glass door at an eastside home where he and his family had just arrived on a visit.

Robert Drach, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Drach of Athens, Ohio, was in satisfactory condition at St. Joseph's Hospital.

A **Fire** Dept. rescue unit arrived at the home of W. R. Sullivan, 5708 E. Holmes St., and administered first aid.

Robert told **Fire** Capt. Matt Garry he thought the glass door was open.

August 14, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Boy Freed From 'Trap' In Pool

Fire Department rescue members were called yesterday to free a 13-year-old boy who was barely able to keep his nose above water after getting his leg caught in a swimming pool water pipe.

Firemen spread the pipe to free Bill Viviano, of the Desert Haven Trailer Court, 332 N. Romero Rd., who had been swimming in the court pool when his leg became stuck.

He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital for a check-up.

1961

August 17, 1961:

8-17-61

TUCSON DAILY CITIZEN

Hold Fire Drills Often, Tucson Principals Told

Frequent fire drills in schools were urged today by Battalion Fire Chief Howard Danielson, head of the fire prevention bureau, at a meeting of the Tucson District 1 principals.

"Through adequate and frequent fire drills, the kids know what to do," said Danielson.

While Tucson has had very few school fires, Danielson said, there are "no less than five school fires a day throughout the country.

"The better prepared we are, the better chance we have in an emergency."

School Supt. Robert Morrow told reporters after the meeting that schools located in the county have the same fire protection as those in the city.

The city fire department will respond with its equipment to emergency calls from schools outside the city limits, he said.

Dr. Willand Bessent, new director of the bureau of school services and survey at the University of Arizona, who also spoke at the session, told the principals:

"The reputation of Tucson schools has even spread to Texas (where Bessent previously worked) and they ad-

mit there that you have excellent schools here."

Bessent offered the services of his bureau as a means of working in closer cooperation with public schools in the state.

The principals meeting was the first for the 1961-62 school year. It was called mainly for issuing announcements by department heads on new procedures and schedules.

Jack's Drive Inn Damaged By Fire

Hamburgers were charred yesterday at Jack's Drive Inn when a barbecue pit fire danced higher than it should have and ignited grease on a vent hood.

Flames roared and spread rapidly to rafters and ceiling joints, causing about \$2,000 damage to the building and \$500 damage to equipment before city fire-fighters were able to extinguish the blaze. Owner of the business at 356 E. Grant Rd. is Jack Banks.

Fire Station Opening Is Delayed

Delays in repairing a fire truck damaged in an accident last week will hold up the opening of the city's new fire station at Timrod St. and Irving Ave. for about 10 days, Fire Chief John H. Freeman said today.

The truck, a Seagrave pumper unit, is about 20 years old and it is difficult to get some parts, Freeman said. The repairs are being held up while mechanics try to locate a new flywheel housing.

If they can find one, the truck and the station will be operating on Aug. 28. If not, the part may have to be made at the factory and this will cause additional delay, Freeman said.

1961

August 17 & 23, 1961:

STAR THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1961

Station Opening Delayed By Loss Of Fire Truck

A cracked-up city fire truck was cited yesterday as the cause for delay in opening the \$47,576 fire station at Timrod St. and Irving Ave., where residents battled the City Council long and hard over its construction.

Fire Chief John H. Freeman said one rig is being repaired following a recent collision with a car. Freeman said he would not open the new station (No. 11) until the truck is back in service.

The chief added that he hopes to have the station in full operation about the end of August, at which time formal dedication ceremonies are planned.

Area residents bitterly contested the erection of the station at that location. The Council tried to placate them by suggesting alternative locations. But, invariably, residents at the sites complained noise and the building's appearance would be objectionable.

Finally, the Council instructed architect William Wilde to design a station which would appear to be something other than a fire house. Plans completed, the Council established the site and let the contract to Richard B. Taylor Construction Company.

Freeman recently said an electric hose-drying cabinet was installed inside the new

building as a concession to the neighbors.

The chief reported his men are readying the installation for immediate occupancy and that no complaints have been received.

Some 10 men, comprising a pumper company, will be stationed at the house after it opens, Freeman said.



LIFE-AND DEATH-LINE

8/23/61

City firemen used a life line to get to a car owned by Mary Squyres, of 6950 Sorrell Lane, after it came to rest near Nebraska St. and Santa Cruz Ave. Miss Squyres was rescued after the car was swept

away from a point south of Drexel Rd. and S. 12th Ave. Her companion, Carolyn Grubbs, 20, of 2731 W. Mossman Rd., was found dead this morning along a tributary of the Santa Cruz river.

Two-Pronged Attack

Chamber Of Commerce To Ask City To Clear Weeds, Bill Lot Owner

A two-pronged attack to clear vacant lots of weeds was announced yesterday by the Tucson Chamber of Commerce.

Bob Fort, acting manager, also reported that the chamber's Tucson Beautiful Committee has passed a resolution commending the Arizona Daily Star for an editorial that appeared last Thursday urging weed control.

The editorial asked Tuc-

sonans to "go after weeds now before the seeds can ripen." It pointed out that better weed control would aid pollen sufferers and the appearance of the city.

Fort said the chamber will draw up a bill proposing that the city have power to clear weeds from vacant lots and bill the lot owner for the cost.

He said both state legis-

lation and a city ordinance will be sought by the chamber, as a double effort to deal with the problem.

Fort said the chamber also plans to seek legislation to require trucks to have coverings over loose materials they carry. He said this is aimed at preventing gravel, cotton and other materials from being scattered along roads.

8-23-61
Citizen

1961

August 20, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Fire Damages Furnishings At Aid Unit

Used house furnishings which were scheduled to go to the needy were damaged by fire early yesterday morning. South Tucson police reported.

The fire, which reached 50 mattresses, chairs and couches in the storage yard of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, 2231 S. 4th Ave., was reported at 5:17 a.m., shortly before a work crew arrived to remove the items.

Arson was suspected by an official of the charity group, who said the articles had been water soaked and were not likely to ignite easily.

Officials of the town's fire department said there had been several complaints from neighboring residents concerning the open storage of the mattresses.

The fire caused about \$200 damage to the furnishings, most of which were contributed by local families for use by the destitute. A building on the site was not damaged, officials said.

August 23, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Power Line Falls On Shop, Causes \$3,000 Fire Loss

A fire caused by a high-voltage line which dropped on a roof yesterday afternoon caused an estimated \$3,000 damage, the fire department reported.

Fireman said a small picture framing shop, owned by Anthony Fiello, 2401 E. Aviation Dr., caught fire when the wire shorted out on a metal roof vent.

Fire investigators reported that workers for the Commonwealth Electric Co., Phoenix, were repairing power lines which run directly over the building when the inci-

dent occurred. The Phoenix company was doing work for the Tucson Gas, Electric Light and Power Co.

Witnesses said that shortly after the high tension wire dropped on the roof, smoke was noticed and the fire department was then called to the scene.

Firemen said that about half of the contents and one-third of the building were damaged by the blaze.

Iron is said to comprise about four percent of the earth's crust.

1961

August 23, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

15

TUCSON, ARIZONA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23, 1961



Cloudburst Fills 'Lake Elmira'

The N. Stone Ave. subway, long known during the rainy season as Lake Elmira, was good only for submarines and skindivers after the runoff from last night's deadly cloud-

burst filled the 13-foot underpass from "brim" to "brim." The diamond-shaped sign at the upper left has a significant message: "Subway Floods In Rainy Season."

Downpour Exceeds 2 Inches

Autos Are Swept Off Thoroughfares

(Continued From Page One)

filled arroyos to overflowing and homes in scattered areas were flooded by the hard-driving rain that measured 2.42 inches at the U. S. Weather Bureau at the airport.

The measurement in the downtown area was 1.75 inches, according to the rain gauge atop the Tucson Newspapers Inc. building.

Damage was expected to run high as business houses were flooded in and around the central business district. Kay's Furniture, 141 S. Park Ave., was hit hard as furniture was washed out of the door where some of it was snatched up by passersby. The furniture left in the store was described as completely ruined.

All the underpasses leading into the heart of the city were transformed into lakes. When the subways could hold no more, the water backed up into nearby business places.



Broadway Becomes Water Way

Flood waters pound down E. Broadway toward the Broadway subway forming a vast lake of muddy water and gushing over curbs as it heads into the midtown area. This

picture was taken near Park Ave.-E. Broadway intersection shortly after 9 p.m., about an hour after Tucson was battered by a cloudburst.

into nearby business places.

The rampaging water swept cars off roadways and into ditches where their occupants scrambled for safety.

At Tucson Blvd. and Arroyo Chico, a woman and a child were pulled from their car by members of the Fire Dept. Rescue Unit. A similar emergency was handled in the 5900 block of S. 6th Ave.

So severe was the flooding that Pima County Sheriff's deputies went to the aid of the Tucson Police Dept. Even the Animal Shelter truck was pressed into service by the emergency.

Everywhere, at every major intersection and wherever water could accumulate, cars became stalled as drivers tried in vain to ford the rain-swollen streets. Reports of persons stranded in their cars were so numerous that the city police were hard pressed to handle them.

The hardest stricken area, police said, was Nogales Hwy. and Bilby Rd., where water the height of cars, stalled some 15 motorists. Police called for reinforcements after losing one of their own patrol cars.

Other intersections requiring police aid were Campbell and 14th St., Tucson Blvd. and Arroyo Chico; Grant and Swan Roads; W. 6th St. and Main Ave.; and Ft. Lowell Rd. and Navajo St. Police said motorists were caught in those localities, plus some

1961

August 23, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



Convenient Sign

Jon Leon, an employe of the Coca Cola Bottling Co., believes in stop signs. He clung to this one for a few minutes last night after storm waters flooded the N. 6th Ave. subway and raced on toward E. 6th St.



Watery Bus Stop At Park-Broadway

Water stood high on this Tucson Rapid Transit bus when it stalled at S. Park and E. Broadway at the height of last night's cloudburst. The storm virtually crippled transportation as buses, cars and trucks stalled at numerous intersections. (Jack Sheaffer photos)

those localities, plus some seven other residential areas.

Deputies reported rescuing a 70-year-old woman from her car after it became submerged in water in an arroyo at Country Club Rd. south of the Benson Hwy. More motorists were bogged down at the S. 12th Ave. extension on the San Xavier Indian Reservation.

At 10 p.m. a check of the various rain gauges around the city showed: 1.75 inches at the Tucson Newspapers Inc. building; 1.80 inches of rain at Burns and Columbus Blvd. and still raining; one inch at 5th St. and Tucson Blvd. and still coming down; .60 of an inch in Oro Valley after 15 minutes of storming; and an unofficial three inches in the Alvernon-22nd St. area. Water was 10 inches deep in homes near St. Mary's Hospital, six inches deep in homes on Aviation Dr., a foot deep on S. Park near Irvington.

Streams-in-the-Desert Lutheran Church lived up to its name as a wall of water rolled through it followed by 18 members of the parish with mops and buckets.

August 24, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

August 27, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Storm's Damage Wasn't All Wet At Motor Firm

Despite Tuesday night's heavy rains which left most of the city in a soggy condition, a **fire** broke out at Giles Motor Center, 711 N. Stone Ave., yesterday morning and caused an estimated \$300 damage.

Firemen said the blaze apparently started when a large neon sign on the roof of the sales room shorted out and caught **fire**. The blaze spread to the sales room, eating through the roof and into the building itself, firemen said.

An estimated \$250 damage was done to the building and an additional \$50 to the contents, the **Fire** Dept. said.

Fire Damages House; Children Blamed

A frame house at 1220 E. 35th St. was severely damaged by **fire** yesterday afternoon.

The owner, Sam Gibson, was not at home.

Firemen, who estimated the damage at \$3,000, said they believe children set the blaze with matches.

August 26, 28, 30, 31, September 6, 1961:

Timrod Fire Station Will Open Friday

The new fire station at Timrod St. and Irving Ave. will open Friday without public fanfare.

"No formal ceremony is planned," said Fire Chief John H. Freeman.

The \$47,576 structure will house one pumper truck. Four men will be on duty at all times, the chief said.

One of its unusual features is a dormitory plan with built-in bunks and lockers arranged in cubicles so as to give a private room effect to each of the four around-the-clock men assigned to the station. Study desks also are provided.

Another feature is an electric drying cabinet to hasten the drying of hose, eliminating the need for leaving hose to dry on the ground for long periods.

Man Burned Cleaning Clothes

A Tucson man using gas for cleaning greasy clothes in the utility room of his home suffered burns last night when the solvent, placed near a hot water heater, exploded.

Jack Spivey, 35, of 825 W. Calle Ramona, dashed outside and rolled in the grass to put out flames on his shirt. He was given first-aid by firemen for first-and-second-degree burns on his hands and arms.

Spivey's son, Kegler, 14, who raced to his father's aid, suffered burns on his upper extremities and was treated by a private physician.

Firemen estimated damage in the utility room at \$25.

Children Blamed For House Fire

Fire Saturday badly damaged a vacant house at 1220 E. 35th St., bought just a week ago by Sam Gibson, 65, of Phoenix.

Damage was estimated at \$3,000. Children playing with matches were believed by firemen to have started the blaze.

Gas Fumes Fell Man At Home

James Thalls, 31, was treated at Pima County Hospital last night after sheriff's deputies said he was overcome by gas fumes at his home, 650 W. La Pasadita.

Deputy Sheriff Arthur Brooks said S. T. Freeman, of 642 W. La Pasadita, pulled Thalls from his home. Fire department rescue squad personnel administered oxygen to the victim.

Thalls told Brooks he apparently was overcome while lying on his couch after lighting the gas water heater in his home.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 30, 1961

2 Palominos Injured As Trailer Crashes

Two palomino geldings owned by Tucson Atty. Bob Barber were injured at 5:30 a.m. today when the horse trailer they were riding in crashed into a cement abutment on the Freeway, south of Congress street.

Patrolmen Louis Gomez and John Frazer quoted Dr. Daniel Durniak, local veterinarian, as saying the horses were not critically hurt.

Gomez said Barber, of 2542 S. Cottonwood Ln., was driving his 1959 pickup truck north on the Freeway when the two-horse trailer it was pulling came loose.

The trailer crashed into the abutment and flipped over on its side, sending one horse crashing down on top of the other, police said.

About 10 policemen and volunteers pulled one of the

horses from the trailer.

Capt. Ruben Morales and fireman Richard Moreno of the Fire Department's Rescue Truck 1 used an oxygen-acetylene torch to cut the other horse from tangled steel.

The animal was covered with an asbestos blanket and remained calm, firemen said.

Fire Hits East Side Restaurant

Fire yesterday afternoon caused at least \$1,250 damage to an East Side restaurant.

The Rib Bar-B-Q at 4866 E. Speedway suffered damage about 2:45 p.m. when a wooden shed surrounding an outside barbecue pit caught fire. When firemen arrived the shed's roof had collapsed and the blaze was spreading toward the main building.

Firemen said the shed was a total loss with about \$1,000 damage to interior stock, including foods and a freezer. There was at least \$250 damage to an air conditioning equipment, refrigeration units and other electrical equipment. Cause of the fire has not been determined.

Fire Hits Home Of Policeman

Firemen last night blamed a smoldering cigarette for a blaze which caused about \$500 worth of damage at the home of a city patrolman.

The fire apparently started in the couch at the home of Patrolman Ronald Byerly, 1627 W. Higgins Lane, and spread to other parts of the house before it could be put out, police said.

The Byerlys were not home when the blaze was reported.

September 1, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:September 1, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Timrod Fire Station Now In Operation

The city's new fire station at Timrod St. and Irving Ave. finally opened for business today.

It was completed nearly a month ago, but the opening was held up when a fire department pumper truck was involved in a traffic accident and was out of service for repairs.

The station, labeled No. 11, houses a pumper and a four-man fire company, and will protect an area that extends for about a mile in all directions from the station.

When the station was in the planning stage, residents of the area protested bitterly about the location and the City Council tried unsuccessfully to find a new site.

Fire Chief John Freeman said today he has had no complaints from the neighborhood since the station was constructed.

Controversial Fire Station Opening Set

The much-disputed Timrod St. and Irving Ave. fire station will go in service at 8 a.m. today.

Fire Chief John Freeman said the delay in opening the \$47,576 station came about because the truck scheduled for service there was smashed up recently in a traffic collision and is just now being put back in service.

No formal opening ceremonies are being planned, despite earlier reports there would be. Residents of the area fought long and bitterly against the choice of location for the station, but the City Council finally overrode their protests.

When Chief Freeman said there would be no formal opening ceremonies he explained the city desired to erase any resentments that may have been built up.

"We're even hoping some of the people will bake the boys a pie," he added.

September 4, 1961:

Council OKs Fire Station

The City Council yesterday voted formal acceptance of one new fire station and approved a shift of bond funds, earmarked for another station, to be used for new equipment instead.

The new station is located at Timrod St. and Irving Ave. Firemen hope to go into action at the new location some time this week.

In the 1958 city bond election a total of \$420,000 was voted for fire protection. This was to provide four new stations and some new equipment.

Three of the stations, including the Timrod-Irving installation, have been built and the fire trucks purchased. However, the city is having a hard time finding the right location for the fourth new station, which will be on the South Side.

Meanwhile, the Fire Department is now on standby equipment. So, City Mgr. Porter W. Homer yesterday asked council permission to spend the station money on two new pumper trucks.

The station will later be constructed from budgeted funds earmarked for new fire trucks, Homer said.

Flash Fire Of Gasoline Burns Man

Trapped briefly in a flaming utility room, a Tucson man yesterday suffered burns on the arms and legs in a fire believed caused by spilled gasoline.

M. W. Acklin, 46, of 4358 La Jolla Circle, was in satisfactory condition at St. Joseph's Hospital today.

He received first and second degree burns.

Mrs. Acklin said her son, Marvin, 11, came out of the utility room where he had a gasoline-burning model plane and a model car, began crying and said he'd accidentally turned over a can of gasoline.

She said her husband rushed into the utility room and it burst into flames almost immediately afterward. Explosive pressure of the sudden fire slammed the door shut, she said. Gasoline fumes ignited from a hot water heater in the room.

Her husband yelled for help. "Luckily, I was standing very near the door and got it open quickly. My husband had climbed up on some metal storage drums to escape the flames. He jumped through the fire and out of the utility room when I opened the door," she said.

Acklin, despite his burns, grabbed a garden hose and played water on the fire until a fire truck arrived.

"The truck got here within 10 minutes; it couldn't have been quicker," said Mrs. Acklin. Damage, estimated at about \$260, was confined to the utility room.

Strangely, Acklin's clothes didn't catch fire. His burns, Mrs. Acklin said, came from the first burst of flame and from fire licking upward at him on his perch on the storage drums. His arms and hands were burned in his jump through the fire to the outside of the room, she said.

City Worker Insurance Bids Listed

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer yesterday handed the City Council a thick report on four alternate bids for the city's new employee insurance plan.

The council will study the bids and probably make a decision on the plan it wants at the next council session, scheduled for Sept. 5.

The plan, along with a 5 per cent across-the-board pay increase for city workers, will go into effect in October. The plan includes health and life insurance for city workers and their families. The workers will pay about half the cost with the city picking up the rest.

A total of 20 companies submitted bids for the insurance plan, which will include nearly 1,000 employees. All but four were ruled out by the city's insurance plan consultants. The councilmen will have to decide among the four remaining firms. Homer did not name the companies but listed them as A, B, C and D in his report.

The four bids fall within a narrow range of costs, Homer told the councilmen. Total cash outlays required for the first fiscal year vary from \$199,049 to \$218,429.

The original bid call set up alternates between a straight health and life insurance group plan and a plan that would supplement a basic Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage. However, the latter plan appeared more expensive in most of the bids, and the council will now consider only the bids on the straight insurance plan.

September 4, & 6, 1961:

9/4/61
**Trailer Fire
 Damage
 At \$2,000**

A fire last night extensively damaged a trailer parked on the Thousands of Auto Parts property, 1220 N. Anita Ave.

City firemen, who were called out at 11:44 p.m., blamed the fire on a short in electrical wiring.

No one was reported injured.

Damage to the trailer and contents, owned by A. C. Googe, was estimated at \$2,000 by the fire department. It was not determined whether the trailer was used as a home or office by Googe, who was reported to be out of town.

3 Escape Plant Blast By Seconds

By RON LONGENBAUGH

"It sounded like an earthquake—I thought the whole building was coming down on top of us," said Walter Laos, owner of Arizona Fruit and Produce, 420 N. 7th Ave., after a \$10,000 explosion rocked his plant yesterday. Laos and two other men escaped injury by seconds.

The blast, about 2 p.m., was caused by the explosion of a 1,000-pound metal tank used in the plant's refrigeration system and filled with compressed ammonia gas. The 10-foot tank ripped through a chain link fence and then smashed through a foot-and-a-half brick wall at the rear of the building, where it left a gaping 4-foot hole.

"It was elevating just like a rocket and was headed toward 6th avenue," Laos said.

The airborne cylinder struck the jutting roof of an adjacent building and crashed onto another brick wall as it fell into an alley more than 100 feet from where it had been bolted onto a cement pad.

"WE HAD JUST left there," said Laos. He had been discussing installation of a freon refrigeration system with two officials of Lee Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, 1928 E. 17th St., Lee Mast, owner, and Donald C. Grondahl, sales engineer.

The trio had stopped briefly to look at the ammonia unit before going into a cold storage room.

Seconds later, the tank exploded, releasing gas containing about 500 pounds of liquid ammonia. Nearly all the employees, about 15, had left the plant more than an hour earlier.

"We ran outside to see what happened," Laos said. The spreading gas was "like a thick white fog," he related. "You couldn't stand within a block of the plant for nearly an hour."

FIREMEN, wearing air packs and working in teams which shuttled back and forth, diffused the gas in the plant by spraying it with water from four lines. Capt. Reuben Morales said the ammonia gas was the heaviest concentration he'd seen. He added that firemen used 35,000 pounds of compressed air for the air packs in their hour-and-a-half effort. The gas causes a burning sensation wherever a person accumulates perspiration. One fireman, Steve Murtha, was taken to a nearby shower facility after he doubled up with pain from the gas.

Laos, in the produce business here since 1924, said he didn't know what caused the explosion, but mentioned as possible a malfunctioning of either a valve or automatic diaphragm.

Fire Hits East Side Restaurant

Fire yesterday afternoon caused at least \$1,250 damage to an East Side restaurant.

The Rib Bar-B-Q at 4866 E. Speedway suffered damage about 2:45 p.m. when a wooden shed surrounding an outside barbecue pit caught fire. When firemen arrived the shed's roof had collapsed and the blaze was spreading toward the main building.

Firemen said the shed was a total loss with about \$1,000 damage to interior stock, including foods and a freezer. There was at least \$250 damage to an air conditioning equipment, refrigeration units and other electrical equipment. Cause of the fire has not been determined.

1961

September 5, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



Fire Station No. 11 Open For Business

The **fire** laddies from Station No. 11, Tucson's newest fire station, at Timrod St. and Irving Ave., take the station's engine out for a trial run. The new facility officially opened last Friday. (Jack Sheaffer photo)

September 6, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Cafe On Speedway Damaged By Fire

A **fire** that broke out in the patio of an E. Speedway Blvd. restaurant caused about \$650 damage to a storage shed and equipment yesterday afternoon.

Three engines went to the blaze at the Rib Bar-B-Q, 4866 E. Speedway Blvd., to extinguish flames which gutted the shed, a refrigeration unit and a freezer compressor.

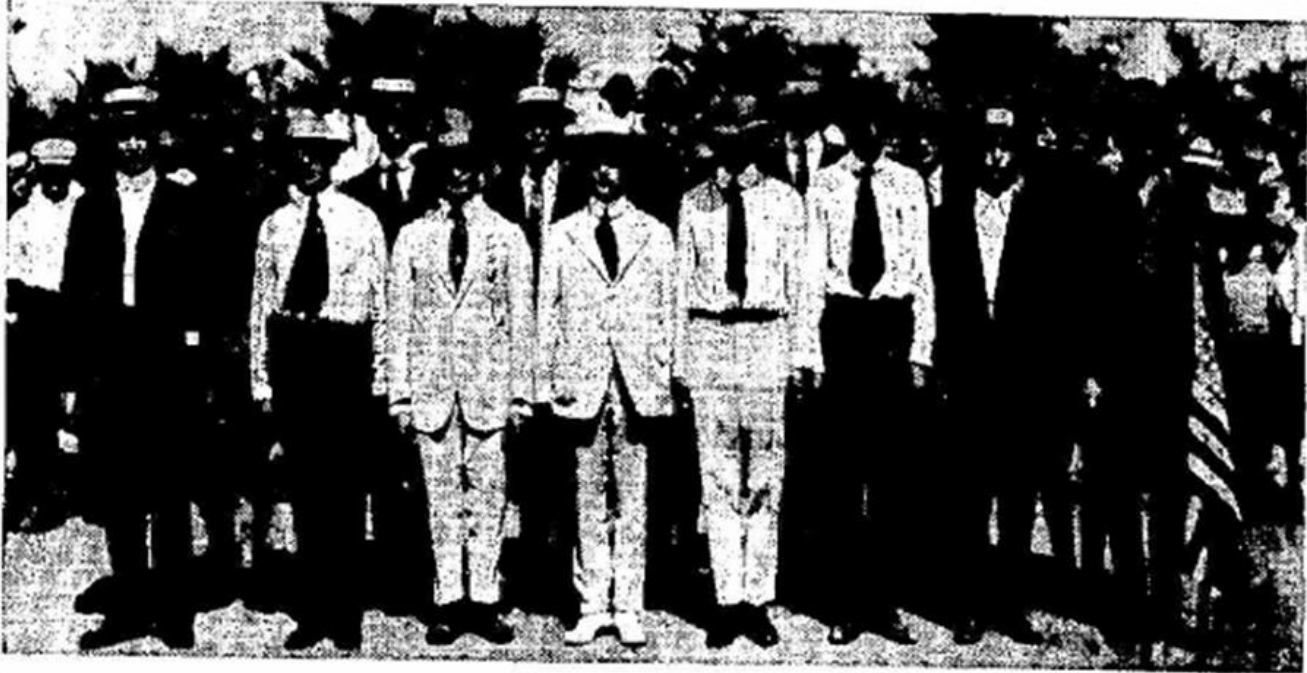
A portion of the patio wall and a door to the main building were also damaged. **Fire** department Capt. Manuel Gallardo said an overheated compressor motor, which shorted out, possibly caused the **fire**. Owner of the business is Lester G. Jensen, of 5433 E. 6th St.

September 7, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Arizona Album

EARLY MILITARY FIGURES

Edited by Albert R. Buehman



PIMA COUNTY'S FIRST DRAFT CONTINGENT IN '17

Pima County's first draft contingent in World War I is shown here as the men appeared in 1917, about to march off to war.

This group was not only a first, but it held several other records: Every member was accepted into the service, all went into the Army, every man survived the war and most of them returned to Tucson.

Front left to right, they are as follows:

Front row—Andrew P. Martin, Harold C. Schwalen, Leonard Klein, Howard C. Moice, William F. Norton, James Donald Johns, Joseph Russell Norvell, and Joseph A. Roberts, former Tucson fire chief.

Rear row—Arnold Lane Pixley, Temple Faust Penrod, George C. Ruskell, Harry I. Chambers, William W. Pickrell, J. C. Nevenzel, and Joseph F. Fox.

The unit left Tucson on a Sunday afternoon, Sept. 9, 1917, from the El Paso & Southwestern depot, at about

2:30 o'clock, after marching behind a band from the draft board headquarters, then in the courthouse. This photo was made by the late Henry Buehman.

Martin, already a former state senator, was named head of the contingent by the draft board and, according to the *Citizen* of Sept. 10, 1917, Martin made a talk to his companions and the crowd at the depot, pledging that the contingent would at all times remember they represented Arizona.

A couple of days earlier Tucson had put on a tremendous farewell party at what is now Armory Park. Speeches were made by several leading citizens, including President von KleinSmid of the University of Arizona. Mrs. Allan B. Jaynes, wife of the editor of the *Citizen*, presented wrist watches to the draftees. (Courtesy of Andrew P. Martin.)

1961

September 7, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



After Projectile 'Launching'

A city fireman points at a heavy-duty ammonia tank that traveled more than 100 feet, demolishing fences and a brick wall before coming to rest, after the explosion of a refrigeration unit at Arizona Fruit and Produce Co., 420 N. 7th Ave. The cylinder finally bounced off the wall of Tucson Warehouse and Transfer Co., at the rear of the produce firm. A dense aroma of ammonia permeated the building, necessitating firemen to wear air masks while clearing the air with water.

September 7, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:**Tank Shoots Through Wall****Two Men Escape Death In High-Pressure Blast****Workers 'Born Again' By Moving In Time**

Two men escaped death yesterday by less than 10 seconds when a refrigeration machine they had just inspected exploded, sending a heavy metal tank through a three-layer brick wall.

Walter Laos, head of Arizona Fruit and Produce Co., and Don Grondahl, a mechanic for Lee Refrigeration Co., said they were "born again" yesterday when they moved away from the produce firm's ammonia compressing machine. Seconds later the unit blew up.

The blast released the contents of the 1,000-pound heavy duty tank, causing a

dense concentration of ammonia in the warehouse. Fifteen firemen were rushed to the building at 420 N. 7th Ave. to diffuse the chemical with water.

After being blasted from the main unit, the ammonia receiving tank traveled more than 100 feet, demolishing everything in its path, until it struck another brick wall.

First breaking through a chainlink fence, the 8-foot-long cylinder smashed through a wooden fence, a wooden door, a wall three bricks deep and a cast iron drain pipe. Once outdoors the tank rose in the air, struck the edge of a warehouse roof, ricocheted off another brick wall, and after a final bounce came to rest on a cement ramp.

Laos, who had been in the warehouse deciding on a place to install a third refrigeration unit, had checked the pressure on the machine. He said it read 25 pounds, and that the gauge probably had gone around several times, without his knowledge.

Laos and Grondahl then walked up to the nearby refrigerated compartment. The blast occurred immediately after they closed the door behind them.

Laos said some 15 men whom he employs had finished work and left about 1:45 p.m., about 15 minutes before the explosion.

Although there was no fire, firemen said the greatest danger was caused by the excessive concentration of ammonia. Required to wear compressed air masks and unable to remain inside the building for more than five minutes at a time, firemen organized a shuttle team in and out of the warehouse.

A fire official said a dense amount of ammonia can cause severe stinging and burning, regardless of what is worn. One fireman, Steve Murtha, who remained inside about seven minutes, was affected by the chemical and rushed to a shower for decontamination.

Five fire units dispatched to scene, each carrying several 2,000-pound tanks of compressed air for the masks, were not sufficient, and firemen called for additional supplies. A total of 35,000 pounds of compressed air was used during the diffusing operation.

Firemen battled the chemical for an hour and a half before reducing the ammonia to a safe level. Laos said a large storage of fruit and vegetables in the adjoining refrigerated rooms, would be disposed of.

An estimated \$10,000 damage was caused by the explosion.

Civil Defense Classes Start Here Tomorrow

Local civil defense officials hope at least 30 Tucsonians turn up for tomorrow night's start of a new series of CD classes.

But they aren't too optimistic about the number who may turn out. Although civil defense classes have been held here regularly since 1953, only 275 persons have completed the course.

And of that number, fewer than 85 persons, 20 of them housewives, are still actively dependable in the local civil defense rescue program.

Phillip Meade, of 4002 E. 32nd St., director of the CD light rescue training program, says the series are held twice a year, on Friday nights at civil defense headquarters, 2855 S. 8th Ave.

Classes starting tomorrow, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., will continue every Friday evening for 11 weeks through Nov. 17.

Courses include discussion of civil defense rescue aims, casualty handling, stretcher

lashing, damage appreciation, fires, radiological defense, mountain and desert searches, panic control and mob handling, and others.

Instructors are members of the Pima County Search and Rescue unit, Davis-Monthan AFB, the city Fire Department, CD officials who have been trained by the federal government and first aid specialists.

Meade says a second part of the course, to begin later, will include advanced first aid techniques.

Equipment for the course includes the CD rescue truck, resuscitators, air packs, ladders and various rescue tools.

Woman Flees As Home Burns

Mrs. Doris Lea Woodcock fled through a rear door of her home at 1811 E. Blacklidge Dr. early today after she was awakened by fire raging through her living room.

City Patrolman Manuel Castro said Mrs. Woodcock escaped injury. Damage to her home was estimated at \$1,500, plus another \$2,000 worth of damage to the contents of the house.

Firemen tentatively blamed the blaze on a smoldering cigarette which apparently had not been put out when Mrs. Woodcock went to bed.

Castro said Mrs. Woodcock lives alone at the house, which is owned by Mead I. Birdsall, of 1804 E. Blacklidge Dr.

1961

September 7 & 11, 1961:



AMMONIA EXPLOSION SCENE

Fireman Tony Cardova examines a drain pipe which was severed by a flying ammonia tank yesterday at Arizona Fruit and Produce, 420 N. 7th Ave. The tank shot through the wall and landed 100 feet from the building.

Terrier Didn't Survive Ordeal Of Being Lost

Tops, a brindle Boston bull terrier, left home only once in 14 years—and it cost him his life.

The bulldog was rescued by firemen from a 40-foot abandoned well near E. Broadway and Wilmot Rd. Saturday.

"Tops disappeared on Labor Day," said Mrs. W. A. Greer, of 6132 E. Eli. "It was the first time in 14 years he had gone away from home."

Mrs. Greer said that the family searched for the dog and called the Animal Shelter each day to see if he had been picked up.

"He had cataracts on his eyes and didn't see well," she

said. "I think he wandered off and couldn't find his way home."

Tops was discovered in the well by children playing in the vicinity who heard his yelps for help.

Fireman Stan Moody of Station 9 was lowered into the well on a ladder-rope and brought Tops out.

The old dog apparently had suffered a heart attack because of the long fall into the well.

"We took him to a vet who said he wouldn't pull through," Mrs. Greer said. "His heart was very bad."

Tops was put to sleep.

Timrod Fire Station Now In Operation

The city's new fire station at Timrod St. and Irving Ave. finally opened for business today.

It was completed nearly a month ago, but the opening was held up when a fire department pumper truck was involved in a traffic accident and was out of service for repairs.

The station, labeled No. 11, houses a pumper and a four-man fire company, and will protect an area that extends for about a mile in all directions from the station.

When the station was in the planning stage, residents of the area protested bitterly about the location and the City Council tried unsuccessfully to find a new site.

Fire Chief John Freeman said today he has had no complaints from the neighborhood since the station was constructed.

September 9, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Flames Damage Eastside House

Fire which broke out at an eastside home early yesterday morning caused about \$3,500 damage, according to the **fire** department.

Police and firemen reported that Mrs. Doris L. Woodcock, of 1801 E. Blacklidge Dr., awoke about 1 a.m. and found her home burning. Mrs. Woodcock said she fled through the back door and called firemen.

Firemen, who were at the scene more than an hour, estimated damage to the building at \$1,500 and \$2,000 to the contents. They said a cigarette might have caused the blaze.

September 12, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

2 Firemen Going To Las Vegas

A five-day convention of **fire** chiefs scheduled to begin Sept. 24 in Las Vegas will be attended by two captains of the Tucson **Fire** Department.

Capt. Wallace May and William P. Dupont will represent Tucson at the 88th International Assn. of **Fire** Chiefs, in place of John H. Freeman, **fire** chief.

Some 1,000 chiefs expected to attend the affair will pool their efforts to help solve a number of problems confronting the nation's **fire** service, for the most part involving **fire** prevention and safety. Salary and wage scales, increasing **fire** losses, and arson also will be explored.

September 12 & 14, 1961:

9-14-61

Voice Of The People

Trash Burning

STAR

Editor the Star:

I, a resident and taxpayer of Tucson for the last 36 years, have been having some interesting experiences lately. I own a $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre lot and try to keep the weeds cleaned out and burned. Recent tenants left the weeds four feet high. A neighbor boy and I worked 12 hours, piled up two piles four feet high, six-feet in diameter, 200 feet back of the street where garbage is collected. I had four other piles of trash, dried weeds, grass and tree prunings, which I set afire and burned Saturday evening, Sept. 2, at about 8 o'clock. I have six water hydrants, with five garden hoses permanently attached. Yet within a half hour a police officer and the local fire department setup were out. When I pointed out that the fires were being watched, there was no menace to property and that I had garden hose handy to douse them when burned down, I was informed that the city ordinances did not permit such fires; that the fire chief should be asked to issue a permit and that I should douse the fires immediately.

RUTH B. FITZGERALD
412 E. Mohave St.

Air Pollution In Arizona

9-14-61 STAR

When various responsible, and some not so responsible, people urge the expenditure of private and public funds to investigate air pollution in and around Tucson and elsewhere in Arizona, they are reacting in one of the most popular American ways.

We Americans assume that money can do just about anything. If there is something wrong, money will correct it. If there is something like air pollution, spend money for research. Presto! A solution will be discovered, of course.

However, without spending a penny, it is possible to observe the various sources of air pollution, and propose suggestions as to means to diminish them. Yet, after such a costless survey is made, or after spending millions of dollars the way California has done, all of the sources of pollution can be set forth, but the one big cause remains unsolved. That cause is the fumes from gasoline and diesel internal combustion engines.

While that is true of the Tucson area, and Phoenix also, there are causes that can be abated, but one more that cannot. One only has to drive on unpaved roads to see the clouds of dust that rise. Or one has only to drive out East Speedway past Craycroft Road, where there are no curbs and the road narrows, to see the dust that is churned up by cars that get off the pavement. There is a simple remedy for that—paving and curbs.

Los Angeles definitely has found that home incinerators do add to air pollution, and has pictures to prove it. Los Angeles has abolished such incinerators, while Tucson has forbidden such fires save on a permit from the city.

9-14-61

Barley Dust Makes Like Big Blaze

STAR

With red lights flashing and siren wailing, Engine 2 out of Fire Station 1 answered a hurried call last night at the Arizona Flour Mills at 177 E. Toole.

Giant clouds of smoke billowing from the roof had prompted a passerby to place the emergency call.

The smoke, it turned out, was really a reflection of the city's lights playing on clouds of dust being raised by the grinding of barley inside the huge mill.

Where there's smoke there's . . . firemen?

Man Wants Job Back; Hearing Set

The City Civil Service Commission has scheduled a Sept. 21 afternoon hearing to consider the appeal of a former city fireman who wants his job back.

According to City Personnel Director David Fitzgerald, the former firefighter, Alfred Swegard, resigned from the

department to take another job, but later changed his mind and asked to withdraw his resignation.

Fitzgerald said the circumstances of the case never have been ruled on by the commission and it must determine if the resignation had taken effect at the time Swegard asked to withdraw it.

If the resignation is effective, Swegard would have to make a new application and await an opening and appointment to the fire department in order to get back on the job, Fitzgerald said.

9/12/61

Fire Destroys Storage Shed

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed a storage shed and caused slight damage to an adjacent house at 1416 N. El Rio Dr. yesterday before firemen extinguished the blaze.

The loss was estimated at \$500, about half of it to furniture, tools and other contents of the razed storeroom, firemen said.

The property is owned by Roosevelt Foley.

September 18, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

City's Communications Center Opens This Week

By PETER STAPRETT

The city's new communications center at Randolph Park this week will start "canning" about 350 hours of gab monthly.

The public works department's radio dispatching operations, which include water department vehicles, moved into the new building Saturday to join police and fire operations already located there.

The "canning" of the talk, talk that goes on 24 hours a day at the new center is done by recording every word spoken, on incoming and outgoing radio, on thin plastic records that hold a half hour of conversation on each side.

These are set up on dictating machines that are triggered to begin recording at the sound of a human voice.

The Federal Communications Commission requires that radio dispatchers either keep a written log of all incoming and outgoing radio dispatches, or record them.

Since the conversations used to keep in touch with working vehicles scattered over the city mount up to the thousands on some days, keeping a log is difficult and slows down the operators. The recording is all automatic.

Each dispatcher has a pair of recording machines. When a record runs out, the system automatically switches to the other machine. The operator changes the record on the idle machine when he gets time between calls.

The government requires that the records be kept for a year, but on the request of the city attorney's office the communications division keeps them for two years. Sometimes the conversations and field reports in a moment of emergency become important elements in a court case. They are also helpful in crime and fire investigations.

After two years, the plastic records are sent back to the manufacturer who irons them out again under heat and returns them to the city to be used again.

The records cost about 14 cents each now, but it costs

only 6 cents to reprocess them. Don Richards, the communications division chief, estimates the thin plastic disks can be reused from six to eight times before they get to a point where the recording quality is unsatisfactory.

The communications center, near the middle of Randolph Park, was set up with \$125,000 in city bond funds plus "a lot of junk we scrounged from the federal government and pasted together," according to Richards.

It utilizes a new broadcasting tower in the Catalinas that puts out a loud, clear signal over the entire Santa Cruz Valley.

At present, the operation consists of a public works dispatcher, a police dispatcher and two firemen, plus a general supervisor.

Plans call for gradual replacement of the firemen and policemen who man the boards with non-uniformed dispatch-



—Citizen Photo

CITY DISK JOCKEYS

City Communications Supervisor Robert L. Keiser (left) files some of the 350 hours of "canned" gab produced monthly at the city's new communications center at Randolph Park. Every word spoken on the city's communications system is recorded automatically and filed for reference. At right, communications operator Hugh Anderson sets up a new disk for another half-hour of conversation.

September 18, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Pranksters Set Off 3 False Fire Alarms

Pranksters apparently drove through a six-block area of the near northside early Sunday morning pulling three fire alarm boxes which sent a total of six engines from four stations on needless runs, firemen reported.

The series of false alarms began at 4:18 a.m., with the box at 4th Ave. and 4th St. going off. Four minutes later, alarms from the boxes at N. 1st Ave. and 2nd St. and N. Euclid Ave. and Speedway Blvd. went off almost simultaneously.

September 15, 20 & 25, 1961:

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 15, 1961

TUC

Personnel Director Details City's New Insurance Plan

By PETER STARRETT

The city's new group insurance plan will cost the average city employee about \$5 every other week and provide him and his family with hos-

pitalization, surgical and medical payments, income while sick and from \$4,000 to \$5,000 life insurance.

Figures on the plan were released by Personnel Direc-

tor David Fitzgerald today as city departments moved into a program of departmental meetings to explain the plan to the 1,200 to 1,300 eligible employees.

Ironically the mayor and councilmen who voted the plan into being will not be eligible to benefit from it.

The City Charter provides that the city fathers cannot vote themselves pay raises during their term of office and City Atty. H. Earl Rogge has ruled that the insurance, for which the city pays half the cost, is by the nature of a pay increase.

New mayors and councilmen, or the present incumbents if they are elected to a new term, will not only be eligible, but required to join the insurance plan under a regulation that says all new employees must join. Participation is optional for present employees.

Rogge also "opinioned" himself out of insurance bene-

fits. He and City Clerk Mrs. Mary Fields are appointed for a definite term of office and cannot be given a raise during that term. They will be eligible if reappointed when their terms run out.

The insurance plan, which goes into operation the last week in October, is set up for nine individual pay levels. The amount the employee pays, plus the amount of sick-time income and life insurance he gets, is geared to his pay scale. The hospital, surgical and medical benefits are the same for all employees and their families.

The basic plan calls for hospitalization payments of \$21 a day, plus X-rays, laboratory tests and other extras up to a total of \$420, plus surgical costs up to \$450. In addition, the plan calls for extra medical expense payments on a \$100 deductible basis and is geared to pay 80 per cent of all other medical costs up to \$10,000.

An employee can collect from \$20 to \$100 a week income while sick and will have from \$2,000 to \$10,000 in life insurance, depending on his rate of pay. The income and life insurance benefits are for the employee only. The other benefits extend to his wife and children.

The weekly pay benefits extend for up to 26 weeks and start after the employee has used up his regular city sick leave or after eight days, if he has used his sick leave.

More than 1,000 city employees fall into the Class 3 or 4 group.

The class 3 group earns \$3,250 to \$4,550 annually and would have \$4.95 deducted from his bi-weekly paycheck for the insurance. The city would contribute an equal amount. The employee and his family would receive all of the health benefits and he would receive \$40 weekly sick pay and \$4,000 life insurance.

Class 4 employees earn from \$4,550 to \$5,850 and pay \$5.20 bi-weekly for family health benefits, plus \$50 weekly sick pay and \$5,000 life insurance.

Rates are lower for employees without families.

In addition to the insurance plan, city employees are scheduled for a pay raise of about 5 per cent in October.

Voice Of The People

Trash Burning

Editor the Star:

According to your Sept. 14 editorial on air pollution, I believe there is quite some concern here in Tucson.

It seems that some people think they are living, not in a populated area, but in the middle of the desert when they burn trash.

I was glad to hear the police and fire departments worked fast in putting out a recent trash fire.

I was visiting a friend when one of her neighbors was burning trash in a container with holes in it. The smoke was in the house in no time, and since my friend and I are both in Tucson for respiratory ailments, we both had coughing spells as the smoke filled the room.

There are several other similar containers in that area, which are sometimes used. Isn't there some ordinance against this sort of thing?

It was found in Los Angeles that incinerator fires caused much air pollution.

BERTHA KASTAN
1426 N. Dodge Blvd.

Boy Starts Blaze, Summons Firemen

A 7-year-old boy who left Sunday school early and accidentally started a fire in his home yesterday while his parents were still in church, called the fire department himself when the blaze spread.

Not being able to understand the boy clearly, firemen dispatched two engines, one to 433 E. Elm St., the other to 433 E. Helen St. Capt. Matt Garry said Lonnie Williams Jr., of the Elm St. address was searching in a closet with a match when some clothing caught fire.

Some \$1,000 damage was caused by the flames, which were confined to the family room. The boy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Williams, were contacted in church and told of the incident.

September 25, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

Women Pilots Beginning Training In Aid Work

By PETE BARR

Having pilots capable of flying into a disaster area and being able to render vital first aid to victims is a goal of the local chapter of 99s, Inc., an international organization of women pilots.

Normally, during a time of disaster, the 99s would serve mainly as a transportation unit, said Mrs. Arthur (Shirley) Marshall, chairman of the local group.

"But we want to make full use of our abilities by having a knowledge of first aid so we could actually pitch in and help care for injured victims," she said.

The local group, numbering 15 women who are all quali-

fied pilots, has taken the first steps to receive such training.

With the cooperation of the Tucson Fire Dept., the organization will be given a demonstration of rescue equipment Oct. 1 by Rescue Squad 2, which operates out of Fire Station 7, at 3210 E. 1st St.

Under the command of Capt. Jim Roberts, the rescue

unit will display and operate two types of resuscitator machines.

The practical demonstration, which will be given at Fire Station 11, at 4075 E. Timrod St., will include showing of a film on mouth-to-mouth respiration, which, said Capt. Roberts, is the first thing that should be done to aid a person who has stopped breathing.

The following Saturday, Oct. 7, the 99s will observe a large scale test of fire fighting equipment and techniques.

Fire fighting units of the Air National Guard and the Municipal Airport will work together to coordinate the use of foam and dry chemicals in combating jet fuel fires.

John McNeill, the Tucson Airport Authority chief of security and head of the TAA fire units, will direct the test at the Air National Guard area near the airport.

The 99s will be able to see the problems encountered in fighting jet fuel fires when some 3,500 gallons of JP-4 fuel will be set ablaze in three tests.

At the test will be representatives from the Tucson Fire Dept. and maintenance

department personnel of commercial airlines.

Mrs. Marshall said that in addition to attending the two demonstrations already set up her group plans to take courses in radiological monitoring, offered by Civil Defense, and first aid.

"It's a big program that we are undertaking, I know," said Mrs. Marshall, "but we want to know how best to prepare ourselves in case of an emergency."

"Anyone, walking or flying, should have this knowledge to help others," she added.

BUT FIRE STOPS LONNIE

'Get Me To The Church On Time'

Seven-year-old Lonnie Williams Jr. of 433 E. Elm St. got his shirt dirty yesterday while attending Sunday School at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 210 E. Lester.

When the class ended, he raced the three blocks to his home to change his shirt, intending to scurry back to hear the pastor's sermon.

To help him find his shirt in his bedroom closet, he struck a match. Some clothing caught fire.

Lonnie raced into the kitchen and got a cup of water to douse the fire. It was too little, too late. He tried to smother the flames with a coat he jerked from the closet. The flames were out of hand.

Lonnie, a second-grader at University Heights School, called the Fire Department.

A neighbor called the church and asked an usher to inform the parents their house was on fire.

When Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Williams Sr. reached home, firemen had the blaze under control.

The damage they surveyed added up to about \$1,000, including the boy's ruined bedroom, some of its contents and smoke damage to the kitchen, living room, dining room and hall. The house is a seven-room brick structure.

Williams said the loss was insured.

September 26, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

Raging Fire Destroys Warehouse

A raging fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Arizona Moving & Storage Co. warehouse on 36th street this afternoon, as city fire equipment stood by unused.

The warehouse, located between the Alvernon overpass and Country Club road on 36th street, is outside the city limits. City fire equipment is not used to put out fires on county property but is sent to the fire location to protect city property.

The county has no fire protection equipment.

A spokesman for the company estimated damage at \$150,000.

The structure destroyed was a two-story building of wood and metal.

The first alarm was received at 12:36 p.m.

Flames from the blaze jumped as high as 30 feet and a black column of smoke could be seen from the downtown area.

Persons at the scene reported hearing two minor explosions during the fire.

Warehouse officials stood by helplessly as the fire consumed the warehouse contents.

Located nearby is the Grant Road Lumber Co. warehouse. It was not damaged by the fire.

Manuel Gutierrez, of 517 N. San Jose, the caretaker,

was outside eating lunch at the time the fire broke out. Gutierrez said he heard "something crumbling". He looked inside the main storage section and saw a large section in flames.

Adjoining the warehouse is the G & G Steel Co., scrap metal dealer. The manager, Henry Schiff, of 4356 E. Poe St., said he saw the building burst into fire at 12:30 p.m., and "it went fast."

John Nordin Jr., is president and general manager of the company.

One man was killed and five other persons were injured when the warehouse collapsed in 1952 as a giant dust devil swirled through the building's open end.

The body of Sebastian K. Merrill, a workman, was found buried beneath sections of the fallen roof truss. Five other employees were injured, including Adolph Flores who suffered a fractured skull.

The dust devil was described by other employees as the biggest they had ever seen.



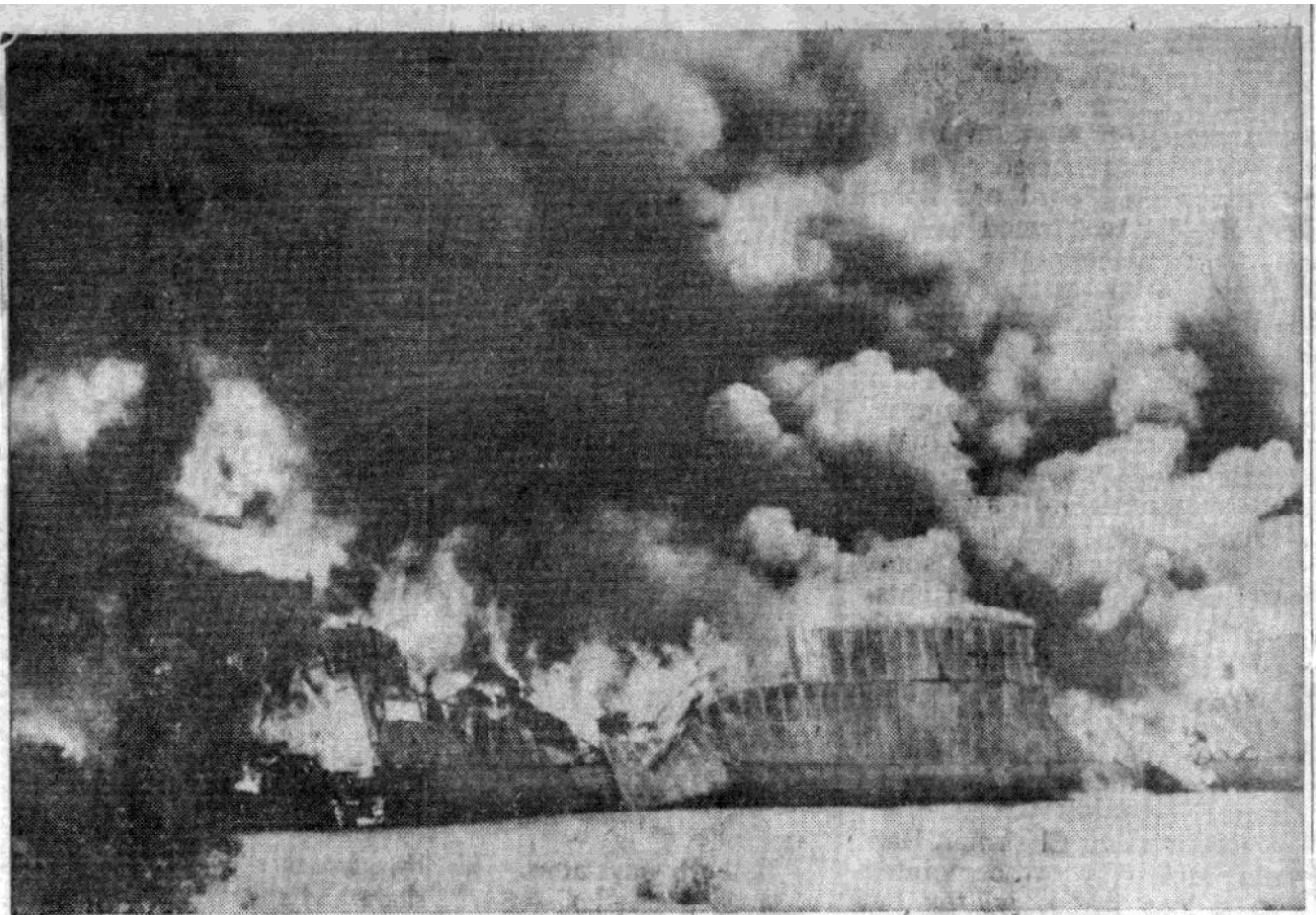
'IT WENT FAST . . .'

A witness to a fire this afternoon at the Arizona Moving & Storage Co. warehouse gave that description of the way flames ate through the building at E. 36th St. near S. Country Club Rd. Preliminary estimates put damage to the building and contents at \$150,000. Cause of the fire was not immediately determined.

1961

September 27, 1961:

TFD did not respond



9/27/61

UNCHECKED FLAMES IN WAREHOUSE

Flames of undetermined origin raged through warehouse on 36th street owned by Arizona Moving & Storage Co. in a fire which broke out early yesterday afternoon. City firefighters stood by near the scene but were unable to fight the fire because the warehouse is in the county.

1961

September 27, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

TFD did not respond

Cause Of Destructive Warehouse Fire Probed

The cause of a fire yesterday which quickly razed a large warehouse in the southeast industrial section was not known as an investigation continued today.

The warehouse of the Arizona Moving & Storage Co. at 36th street between Alvernon overpass and South Country Club road was leveled early yesterday afternoon in a blaze which sent clouds of black smoke skyward.

No estimate of the loss could be given by the firm, but a deputy sheriff unofficially said yesterday the damage might reach \$150,000.

The building contained mostly household furnishings.

An investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters is expected to join sheriff's deputies in the investigation.

"We have no idea what started the fire," said John Nordin Jr., president and general manager of the company, "nor can I estimate the loss, which was fully covered by insurance."

A Tucson Fire Department truck arrived at the scene within 20 minutes, but was forced to stand by a block away because the burning warehouse was located just outside the city limits.

City equipment may not answer a call in the county area unless, said John H.

Freeman, chief of the Tucson Fire Department, it is a school or hospital and lives are in danger.

The fire was discovered shortly after 12:30 p.m. by two warehouse employees, Manuel Gutierrez, 34, of 517 N. San Jose Ave., and Art Gomboa, 407 W. 44th St., who were eating lunch inside the building.

Gutierrez said they heard sounds from the main storage section and went to investigate.

"The fire apparently started on the east side of the building," said Gutierrez, "but it was going too fast for us to do anything about it."

"Even if the city could have helped, by the time the truck got there," he said, "the building was too far gone, anyway."

By 1 p.m., he added, the roof of the building was gone and most of the walls.

Two fire trucks from Davis-Monthan AFB and a Civil Defense fire truck were called to the scene of the fire by the sheriff's office, but these vehicles could only keep the blaze from spreading to adjoining businesses.

The G & G Steel Co., located next to the warehouse, was not touched by the flames, but a company spokesman said material stored in a nearby lot suffered unestimated damage from fire.

The 10,000-cubic-foot structure, leased by the storage firm from the Arizona Land Title & Trust Co., was used mainly for the storage of civilian and military household goods, and for crating stored items, Hardin said.

The firm's central storage facilities and offices are located at 1039 N. Alamo St.

A Davis-Monthan spokesman estimated the building contained some 30 lots of household goods belonging to military dependents. A lot can range from 100 to several thousand pounds of goods and furniture.

The warehouse was the scene of a 1952 tragedy when a giant dust devil swirled through the building's open end, collapsing the roof, killing one workman and injuring five other employees.

1961

September 27, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

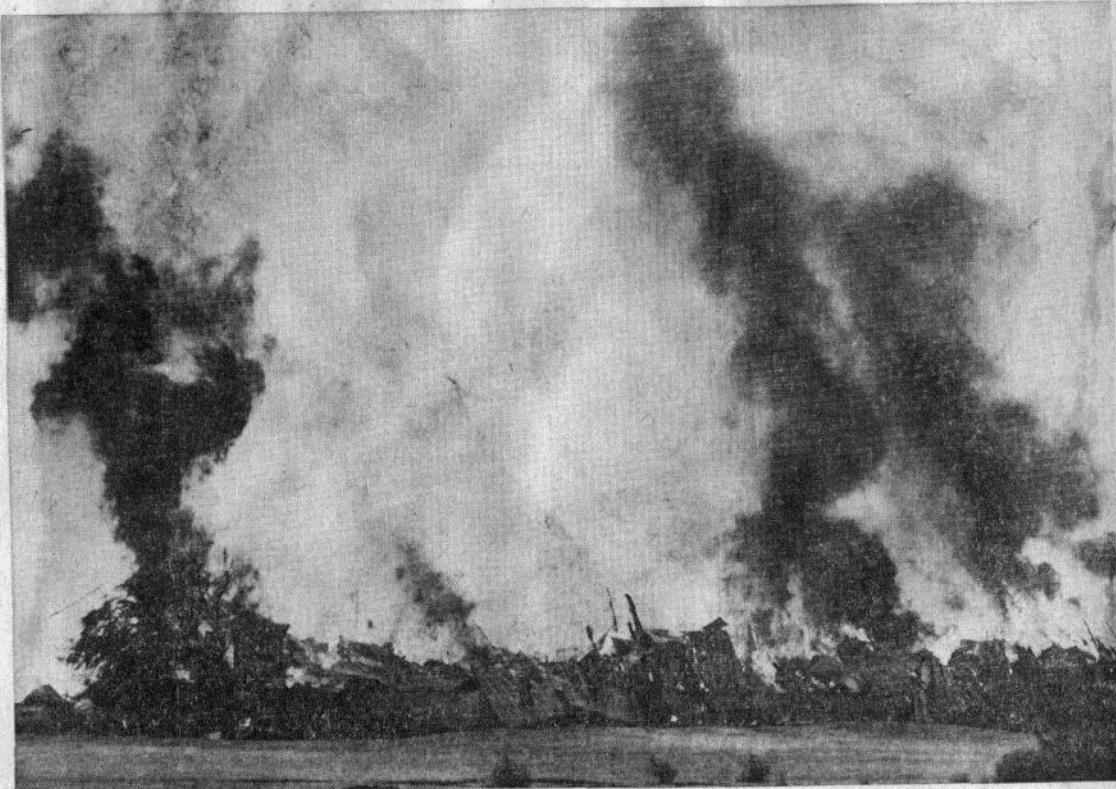
WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 27, 1961

SECTION B

PAGE C

Moving, Storage Firm Hit

Flames Destroy Warehouse; Loss May Reach \$150,000



Smoke Clouds Visible For Miles

Clouds of black smoke—visible from almost every point in the city—boil up from a fire which yesterday afternoon destroyed a storage warehouse of the Arizona Moving and Storage Co., at 3251 E. 36th St. causing an estimated \$150,-

000 damage. The fire, which was located just outside the city limits, raged unchecked and the warehouse was destroyed. An electrical short may have touched off the blaze. (Jack Sheaffer photo by Dick Wisdom)

September 27, 1961:

Smoke Clouds Visible For Miles

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000 damage. The fire, which was located just outside the city limits, raged unchecked and the warehouse was destroyed. An electrical short may have touched off the blaze. (Jack Sheaffer photo by Dick Wisdom)

Fire Was Out Of Bounds To City Trucks

By DICK CASEY

Flames triggered by what may have been an electrical short destroyed a two-story storage warehouse of the Arizona Moving and Storage Co. yesterday afternoon, causing an estimated \$150,000 damage.

Clouds of smoke boiled up from the warehouse located at 3251 E. 36th St., shortly after noon and fire reduced the 60-by-200-foot building to smoldering rubble two hours later.

Located just outside the city limits, the fire raged unchecked as units of the city fire department stood by some distance away. Only when it was too late did two fire trucks from Davis-Monthan AFB and a truck from the Pima County Civil Defense arrive.

John Nordin Jr., president of the Arizona Moving and Storage Co., said the warehouse was almost full of crates containing household goods and belongings being stored for both military and civilian personnel.

Two employees, Manuel Gutierrez, 34, of 517 San Jose Dr. and Art Gamboa, 34, of 407 W. 44th St., told Sheriff's Deputy Carlos Contreras that they were eating lunch at the front of the warehouse when they heard a "crumbling noise."

Gutierrez, caretaker at the warehouse, said he opened the large sliding doors leading to the interior where the goods were stored and found one entire aisle of crates on fire.

"There was nothing I could do," he said.

City firemen were called and the sheriff's office was then notified when it was determined the fire was outside the city limits. City firemen cannot respond to fire calls in the county.

Black and gray clouds of smoke, clearly seen from almost any point in the city, attracted a throng of curious citizens and covered the valley with a smog-like haze.

Some of the flames spilled over into a large storage area of the G&G Steel Co. Inc. and manager Henry Schiff, of 4356 E. Poe St., said electrical and aircraft equipment was damaged.

While the fire raged several muffled explosions were heard among the warehouse debris.

Nordine said he would not attempt to make any kind of a guess as to the total loss but added that it was fully insured.

"We're hurt but we're still in business," he said.

Joseph Guinta, traffic officer at D-M, estimated that 500 crates of goods valued at \$1,000 each were inside the warehouse at the time of the fire but Nordin said, after checking books, he doubted that the figure was that high.

The warehouse site is the same one which in 1952 was the scene of an accident which claimed the life of a Tucson man when a savage dust devil whipped into the building, causing part of it to collapse on top of a workman.

The warehouse then belonged to the Del E. Webb Construction Co.

1961

September 28, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Investigation Of Destructive Warehouse Fire Continues

Sheriff's detectives today continued to dig into the charred remains of the Arizona Moving & Storage Co. warehouse in an effort to determine the cause of the blaze.

The building was leveled by fire shortly after noon Tuesday.

After a preliminary investigation yesterday, Sheriff's Det. Norman (Tex) Ranger said no leads had been uncovered. The ruins of the large structure, located at

38th street between Alvernon overpass and South Country Club road, still were too hot to probe into when he and a deputy went over the scene, Ranger said.

Leased by the storage firm from the Arizona Land Title & Trust Co., the razed building contained mostly household furnishings belonging to civilians and military dependents. A deputy sheriff unofficially said Tuesday that damage might reach \$150,000.

The loss was fully covered by insurance, according to John Nordin Jr., president and general manager of the company, whose central storage facilities and offices are located at 1039 N. Alamo St.

The exact amount of damage to goods stored in the yard of G & G Steel Inc., 3251 E. 36th St., adjacent to the moving company warehouse, has not been determined.

But a spokesman said electronic equipment, hardware and airplane parts were damaged by flames and damage was expected to amount to several thousand dollars.



TT T T ,

September 28, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Firemen Flock To TNI Blaze

Five fire engines were sent to the Tucson Newspapers Inc. building last night when an accumulation of residue in an air shaft ignited sending a gust of smoke from the building.

Dense smoke poured from the rear of the fourth floor where the ventilator is situated above the newspaper's stereotype department. James Huffman, foreman of the department, which produces lead casts of print for the press room, said he was unable to extinguish the smoldering grit with a carbon dioxide container and called firemen to assist.

1961

October 2, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

October 2, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

QUESTION—I am shocked to hear about the \$150,000 fire damage to the Arizona Moving and Storage Co. when much of this might have been avoided by using city fire trucks. Why couldn't residents of Pima County be furnished fire protection either directly by the county maintaining its own fire department or else working out some contractual basis with the city or a private fire department? —Jack Spelden, 2350 E. Elm.

ANSWER—County Supervisors Tom Jay and Dennis Weaver said that all present state laws permit the county to do is authorize volunteer fire departments. County Atty. Bob Hillock backed them up with Arizona Revised Statutes 9-1001 and succeeding sections. Any unincorporated area may set up a volunteer fire department. But the only contribution the county may make is a token sum equal to 1.2 per cent of the assessed value of all vehicles within the area to be served. It also may levy up to 12 mills on residents in the area for use by its volunteer department. The law does not expressly authorize city-county fire protection contracts.

Asst. City Mgr. Roger O'Mara said city service in a county area would seriously jeopardize insurance ratings, whether one block or one mile across the city limits. So you have three alternatives: A volunteer department, annexation, or no fire protection at all.

Sun's Rays Start Fire In Vehicle

A fire was caused in a car yesterday morning by the sun's rays magnified by a glass bottle in the rear seat of the vehicle.

Firemen said the rays shining through the bottle, which was filled with liquid, ignited the upholstery and caused some \$25 damage.

The car, a 1957 Buick owned by William Kersy, was parked on the 2700 block of E. Speedway when the fire broke out.

October 4, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Tucson Expecting More Than One Bid On Trucks

City Purchasing Agent Sidney A. Wilson said yesterday he expects to get more than one bid on the two \$30,000 fire trucks on which the city will accept bids by Nov. 20.

He said the specifications on which bids will be opened before the City Council are nearly the same as those used in March, 1959, when the city bought two Sea-graves pumpers at a cost of \$29,970 each.

However, Wilson added his office had changed the requirements drawn by Fire Chief John H. Freeman to the extent that where a specific manufacturer was recommended for auxiliary parts the purchasing department had added the phrase "or equal."

October 3 & 4, 1961:

Councilman Asks**Detailed Plans Hurting Bids?****Fire Truck Specifications Are Challenged; Council Okays Cleveland Baseball Pact**

Republican Councilman Ray O. Weaver questioned yesterday whether specifications drawn on the proposed purchase of two city fire trucks were too specific, perhaps limiting the number of manufacturers who could bid.

He asked City Mgr. Porter W. Homer during yesterday's City Council meeting if the detailed specification "would in any way exclude some companies."

Weaver declared the 32-page set of specifications for the two pumpers estimated to cost to \$20,000 each "probably aims at antiquated reliability." But he said he felt some bidders might be precluded from the bidding.

Homer explained the fat set of specifications were drafted "because the city tries to get the best equipment available." Homer said he felt there would be more than one bidder.

Mayor Don Hummel suggested the council call for bids based on the specifications prepared by the City Purchasing Dept. and Fire Chief John H. Freeman and see how many bids are filed.

"We'll certainly hear from those who feel this is unfair," observed the mayor, adding, "Let's pass the resolution and wait for the complaints to come in."

The council concurred and authorized the purchasing department to advertise for bids for the two pumpers, to be paid for out of reassigned bond funds.

The council also authorized the execution of an agreement with the Cleveland Indians Baseball Co. for a 10-year contract with the city.

The new agreement generally provides that the club will build an estimated \$40,000 clubhouse, half of which is to be reimbursed by the

her concluding remarks.

Mayor Don Hummel, noting delays have been encountered in forming the paving district because of litigation over the city's annexation of the area, detailed the Hummel administration's policy toward the formation of improvement districts.

Hummel pointed out that historically Tucson has always tried to have initiation of the districts come from the residents involved.

"This administration has had a policy where residents pay for one curb and gutter and 20 feet of paving (half the width of the usual residential street)", added Hummel.

Fire Buff Loses Car, Finds It Properly Parked

Five engines and a ladder truck answered a general alarm call to Tucson Newspapers Inc. last night, but firemen didn't have to battle flames. At any rate, the excitement touched off a needless stolen car report.

It started when James Huffman, stereotype foreman, summoned firemen about

10 p.m. when he was unable to put out a smoldering accumulation of ink dust and other residue on a stack used to carry smoke out from a pot of molten lead. Huffman said he sprayed a tank and a half of CO₂ into the exhaust unit above the molten lead, used for casting plates, before calling for help. Firemen arrived in full force, hustled up to the third-floor shop and quickly doused the smoldering residue.

A short while later, a man

rushed into the sheriff's office and told Sgt. Orval Skeen that his car was stolen while he was at the fire. The man said he had parked across the street from the fire scene and that the vehicle was gone when he returned.

Directed to the city police station, the man filed a stolen car report and returned a short while later to cancel it. During the fire excitement, someone apparently moved the auto onto a nearby parking lot, he said.

Fire School Will Be Held At Monument

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument will hold a structural fire school Oct. 11 at the Monument headquarters as part of national Fire Prevention week.

All monument employees and their wives will participate in the program.

October 4, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

PAGE 14 WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCT. 4, 1961

Who's Going To Do What About Weeds?

Weeds are growing in every part of the city. You can see them in vacant lots, in alleys, along fences, around phone poles and street signs. You'll even find them in front of some occupied dwellings and small business establishments.

These weeds, which grew rapidly during the rainy season, are still lush and thick. They're unsightly. They're a health menace to thousands of hay fever victims who suffer from their pollen.

Nearly everyone would agree that Tucson would be more attractive and more comfortable if the weeds were removed. But a campaign urging property owners to clean them away hasn't been successful.

What can be done about weeds and who's to do it? The Tucson City Code covers the problem in chapter 14, sections 8, 9 and 10. We list below, not in the original language, the main provisions covering weeds:

(1) It is unlawful for the owner or occupant of any property to permit the accumulation of unsanitary or unsightly weeds anywhere upon the property.

(2) It is the duty of the owner or occupant to remove all such weeds from the property within five days after receiving official notice from the city. The notice may be given by the city health officer, fire chief or director of public works.

(3) The notice shall be given by registered letter to the owner and occupant. If the place is unoccupied, the notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the property. If the weeds have not been removed within 15 days after such notice, one of the city officials listed above shall have them removed at the expense of the owner.

This seems simple enough. But according to city officials, it won't work. Property owners won't pay, and legal steps to collect hundreds of small claims are too expensive. The city wants a state law allowing such a charge to be put on the tax bill, so it would become a lien against the property if unpaid. We do need such a law.

But in the meantime, there's much the city could do. Why doesn't it try posting weed-overgrown properties and see if that would induce owners to clean them? Why doesn't the city remove the weeds from all of its own property — and even do something about Bermuda grass and weeds growing in the gutters of busy Broadway and other city streets?

Fire Engine Specification Questioned By Weaver

City Councilman Ray Weaver has questioned if specifications for the new fire engines were not overly detailed to the extent of ruling out most of the potential bidders.

The specifications were drawn up by officers of the Fire Department and City Mgr. Porter W. Homer Monday defended them, explaining they were the result of years of experience and expert knowledge in the field.

Weaver, who holds a degree in engineering, but is not a practicing engineer, quipped, "I think perhaps they are aimed at antiquated reliability, but not at quality of efficiency."

The council—with Weaver in agreement—finally okayed the specifications for the pumpers on the ground that they will be sent out and the council can see how many bids and how many complaints come back from the dealers in fire equipment.

Weaver warned that he will reopen the question if the bids are too few and the complaints too many.

The specifications are detailed in a 32-page document drawn up by the Fire Department. Weaver noted, among other things, that in some parts they specify a six cylinder engine that must produce a certain level of power, without knocking, on 79 octane gasoline.

Weaver said he felt V8 engines might do the job just as well and noted that gasoline companies now set their octanes considerably higher to account for modern high-compression engines. "Why specify operation at an octane that you can't hardly buy

around here any more," Weaver asked.

The city wants to buy the new pumpers to bolster its expanded operations.

The council also gave final approval to an agreement with the management of the Cleveland Indians designed to keep the Indians major team and five or six of its minor teams in spring practice here for the next 10 years.

Under the agreement the city cannot bring other major teams here without agreement by the Indians.

Architect Santry Fuller was given a contract, not to exceed \$4,000, to design a swimming pool to be built this winter in Menlo Park. The city has decided to use the designs for the new Randolph Park pool as a model for most future city pools, but Menlo Park, on the city's West Side, is too small to accommodate the standard design.

Construction Materials Co. was apparent low bidder, at \$49,962.30, for the contract to pave the Contzen avenue and Alameda street district improvement. Three other bids were received.

Julian Tuthill, representing the Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Assn., asked the council to change the name of a short segment of East 29th street, to Barleycorn street to end confusion for people who are looking for the major portion of 29th, which lies farther east.

The suggested name would honor Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Barleycorn, who helped pioneer improvements in Pueblo Gardens.

The council turned the request over to Homer to investigate.

October 6, 7, & 11, 1961:

Firemen Act Fast, 'Save' Landmark

A Tucson landmark temporarily became "PA" Mountain last night—until the Fire Department "corrected" the situation.

Engine Co. 4 was dispatched to put out a fire on the south side, near the top of "A" Mountain. The blaze turned out to be 16 flare pots forming a giant "P".

Tucson police theorized that a group of local high school students took the flare pots from construction barricades and placed them on the mountain, to celebrate a football victory.

It was noted that Pueblo High School defeated Amphitheater High 20-12 last night.

Fire Fighting Exhibition Slated Today At D-M

Davis-Monthan AFB will hold a parade and fire fighting exhibition today as part of National Fire Prevention Week.

The parade, which will feature several floats as well as much fire fighting equipment from both the Tucson and Davis-Monthan fire departments, will be climaxed by the burning of a wrecked B47 jet bomber.

Inside the B47 will be a dummy that will represent a crew member trapped in the burning plane. Fire fighters working under a curtain of chemical fire fighting foam will rescue the dummy before the fire is extinguished.

The parade will start at 11 a.m. at National Blvd. and Davenport in the Wherry Housing area of D-M.

The parade route will be east on National to I St., then west on I St. to 3rd St. and left on E St. past the Post Exchange to the parade's termination point at 1st and E Sts. in front of Fire Station No. 2.

Signs will show spectators how to get to the D-M fire department pit area where the fire fighting demonstration will take place at noon.

Rincon High School's 135-piece band and the Air Police Color Guard are the featured attractions of the parade.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1961

For One Week

Fire Prevention Display Planned

Horse-Drawn Relics Among Show Pieces, School Kids To See Modern Equipment

Some old-time fire fighting equipment will be dusted off and displayed, and school children will be entertained with ladder trucks on their playgrounds during Tucson's observance of National Fire Prevention Week Oct. 8-14.

In charge of the week of events will be Battalion Fire Chief Howard Danielson, head of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Inspection.

He said brief ladder truck demonstrations will be given on each elementary school playground in the city.

The horse-drawn steam fire-fighting engine used in the Old Pueblo from 1910 to 1917 will be displayed on the mall at the El Con shopping center. In those days, the steam was used to boost hydrant pressure and for pressure in pumping water from canals.

Old fire helmets and other relics of the smoke-eating profession will be exhibited in windows at Montgomery Ward. In the Sears' windows will be photographs of fires that could have been prevented.

First-aid crews with rescue trucks will give demonstrations on TV. City fire vehicles will be in the parade at Davis-Monthan AFB on Wednesday of Fire Prevention Week. On the same day, employees of the

Carelessness, Smoking Cause Most Fires

Getting ready for Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 8-14, the Tucson Fire Department yesterday called attention to the No. 1 fire cause in the nation and in the city:

Carelessness with matches and smoking. That includes children playing with matches, said Battalion Fire Chief Howard Danielson, head of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Inspection.

The International Assn. of Fire Chiefs points out that the more than one million fires in the nation each year caused \$1½ billion damage and 11,350 deaths.

In the United States a fire strikes every 37 seconds and claims a life every 47 minutes.

Veterans Administration Hospital will be shown examples of fire hazards and how to correct them.

All fire stations will have open house during the week.

The following week, the fire department's four-month home inspection will be launched, Danielson said. Firemen attempt to visit every dwelling in the city, inspecting the premises, pointing out hazards and showing how they can be corrected.

October 9, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

D-M Parade To Mark Fire Prevention Week

The public is invited to attend Davis-Monthan AFB's observance of National Fire Prevention Week at 11 a.m. Wednesday when the base parade starts.

Because high winds and chilly weather prevented a large part of yesterday's open house at the base from being completed, a fire-crash rescue demonstration will be presented immediately after the parade.

The Rincon High School band, Air Force fire fighting equipment and floats with a fire prevention theme will be in the base parade. The parade starts on I Street near the base housing area and moves to the flight line.

Tucson's observance of fire prevention week features special exhibits of fire fighting equipment at most elementary schools. Fire Chief John Freeman said several downtown stores also have fire prevention displays in their windows.

The annual house-to-house inspection for fire hazards starts next week, Freeman said, and will take about 4½ months to complete.

As part of its observance of Fire Prevention Week the Tucson Fire Department has placed its oldest fire engine, a 1908 Nott Steamer, on display on the mall at El Con Shopping Center.

This horse-drawn pumper, which held 750 gallons, was used by the Tucson Volunteers until 1917. Included in the display are several antique items of fire fighting clothes and equipment.

Three Hurt In Separate Home Fires

Three Tucsonians suffered burns in three separate weekend fires and a dog was smothered in a fourth blaze.

David Meinema, 45, of 3201 E. Linden St., suffered burns on the hands and right foot in a fire at his home early Saturday.

Meinema thought his daughter Nancy, 14, was in her burning bedroom and rushed into the room to rescue her. The teen-ager was sleeping with a sister in another room.

Firemen blamed the fire on an overheated hair dryer Nancy had been using in the room Friday night. Meinema, treated at Tucson Medical Center, said he thought damage would exceed the \$400 estimate of firemen.

Dick Stainbrook, of 2631 N. Fontana Ave., was given first aid by firemen yesterday after he suffered a first-degree burn on his right hand when gas he was using ignited. Firemen said the victim was cleaning an auto generator with the fluid near the pilot light of an outside natural gas water heater.

In a similar accident, Walter A. Welch, of 2955 Chula Vista, suffered second-and-third-degree burns on his hands and arms Saturday night while cleaning floors at Broadway Village Market, 3016 E. Broadway. Police said cleaning fluid he was using was apparently ignited by a motor cooler. Welch is in good condition at Tucson Medical Center.

Damage to the floor was slight.

A fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell, 2702 Coconino Vista, Saturday morning gutted a bedroom and damaged other rooms before it was extinguished by firemen.

The Campbell dog was asphyxiated in the blaze, which resulted in about \$2,500 damage. Cause was undetermined.

1961

October 9, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

October 7, 1961, Arizona Daily Star:

MONTGOMERY WARD

3699 E. BROADWAY — EL CON SHOPPING CENTER — EA 7-7392

**SALE STARTS
MONDAY
OCT. 9
THROUGH
OCT. 21st**

**BE HERE EARLY.
LIMITED
QUANTITIES
ON SOME ITEMS!**

**16 PAGES OF
SAVINGS!**



See the fabulous
FIRE PREVENTION DISPLAYS
AT EL CON SHOPPING CENTER
(OCT. 9-10)



Tucson Daily Citizen
Montgomery Ward & Co., Tucson, Arizona

STORE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
FRIDAY 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

3,000 CAR FREE PARKING!
NEVER A TIME LIMIT AT EL CON SHOPPING CENTER



Make a Wish in Wards WISHING WELL

**Whatever you wish for in Wards
big store, can be yours!**

Wish for any single item of merchandise up to \$500 in Wards big store. Just come in and ask any of our sales people for an entry blank. Then write your wish and drop it in the wishing well. You do not have to buy anything or be present to win. Wishing Well located in our Appliance Department.

**Make your wish any day up to—
Saturday, October 21, 5:30 P.M.**

WARD WEEK SALE

10—EARLY BIRD SPECIALS

LIMITED QUANTITIES—SO HURRY!!

 LITTLE GIRLS' OXFORDS Reg. 4.99 Nylon laces and sole. Catfish. Code 400. 3.99	 BOYS' PLAIN SHORTS Reg. 1.99 Wash 'n' wear. Catfish. Code 400. 99c	 SAVES MISSIE'S CREWS Reg. 2.99 No split toe. Catfish. Code 400. 2.99	 SPECIAL NYLON BUYS Guaranteed or fine money back. At 2.99. 100% 49. 2.99	 \$4 OFF \$7.99 SAW Reg. 4.99. Only 2.99. Catfish. Code 400. 3.99
 KNIT DISH CLOTH Special. Extra heavy knit. Catfish. Code 400. 5 for 77c	 49% KITCHEN TOWELS 100% cotton. Catfish. Code 400. 3 for 89c	 CHEMISE SPREADS Regular 4.99. Catfish. Code 400. 3.99	 15-CUP PERCOLATOR Reg. 7.99. Catfish. Code 400. 7.99	 11.95 HAND MIXER 2 speeds. Catfish. Code 400. 10.99

NO MONEY DOWN ON ANYTHING YOU BUY ON CREDIT FROM WARDS

Fire Destroys 10-Room Home

Fire gutted a 10-room concrete block home on the south side last night, destroying furniture worth an estimated \$3,000 and causing about \$5,000 damage to the structure, firemen said.

Firemen said that by the time they got to the home of Mrs. Ora Hawkins, 1032 E. 33rd St., the structure was enveloped in flames.

Mrs. Hawkins and her six children were away from the home at the time of the **fire**.

October 8, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

City's Oldest **Fire** Engine To Be Shown

The oldest **fire** engine in Tucson will be on display on the Mall at El Con Shopping Center today through next Saturday in observance of **Fire** Prevention Week.

Chief John Freeman of the Tucson **Fire** Department will supervise the display.

The engine was built in 1908 and delivered in 1910. It was purchased by the city through a bond issue.

The Nott Steamer was pulled by three horses and manned by a two-man crew. The Tucson Volunteer **Fire** Department used this engine until 1917, when all horse drawn equipment was replaced with motorized equipment.

Also on display will be several items of equipment and clothing used by volunteer firemen in the early part of the century.

Man Suffers Burns While Saving Girl

A Tucson man suffered first- and second-degree burns and a dog was asphyxiated in two separate house **fires** yesterday. Total damage was put at \$3,000.

Firemen said David Meine-ma, of 3201 E. Linden St., was treated for burns at Tucson Medical Center, suffered when he rescued his 14-year-old daughter, Nancy, from a flaming bedroom.

An overheated electric hair dryer, left on during the night by the girl beside her bed, started the blaze, firemen said. On detecting smoke Meinema rushed in and carried his daughter, who was sleeping, to safety. About \$400 damage was caused.

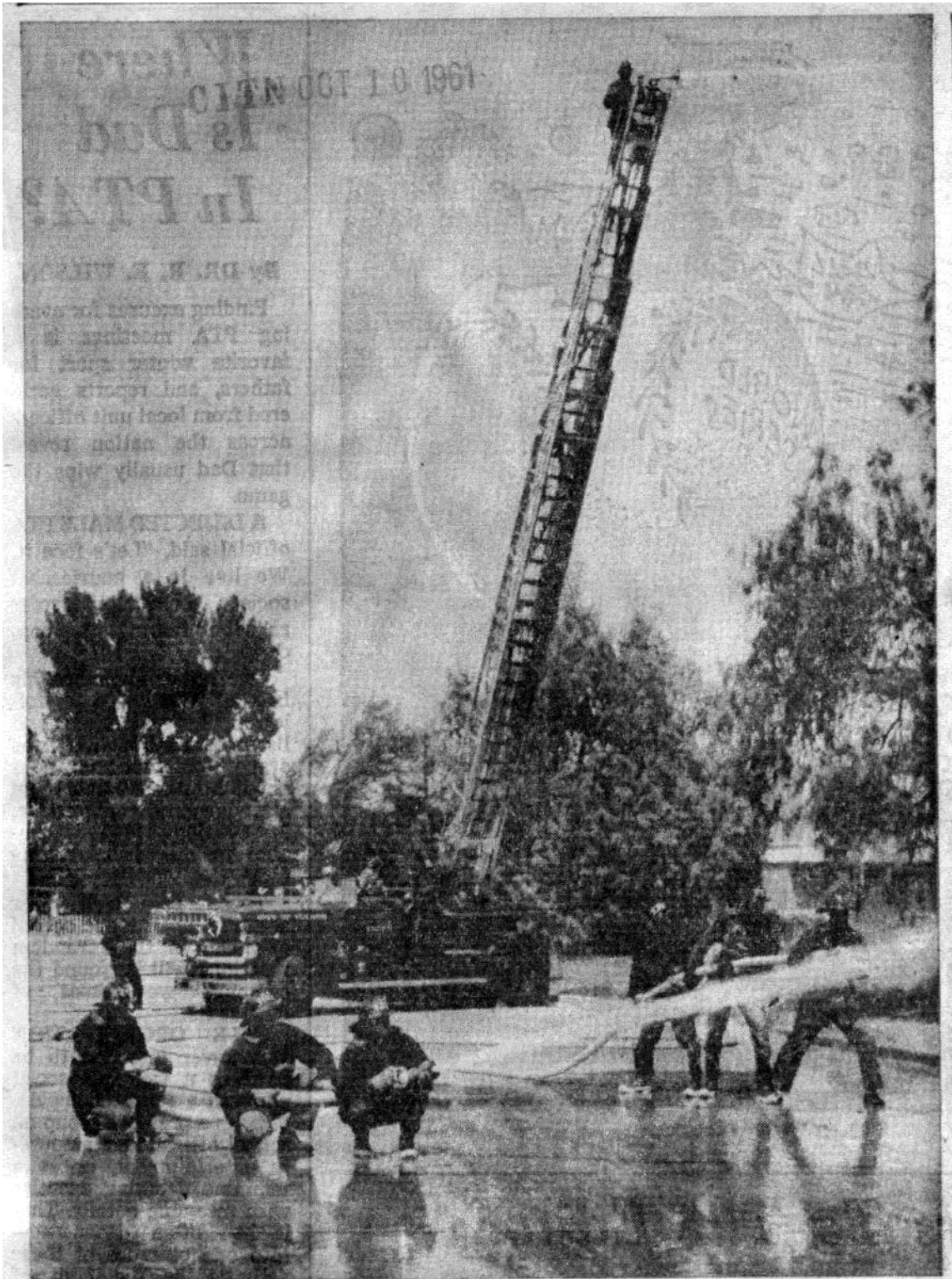
Two hours later, at 11:20 a.m., firemen were called to 2702 Coconino Vista, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell.

Firemen said the southeast bedroom was gutted and other rooms partially damaged by the flames before two engines and a ladder truck extinguished the **fire**.

Firemen said the blaze and smoke caused about \$2,500 damage, and smothered the Campbell's dog. The cause of the **fire** remained undetermined.

1961

October 10, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:



—Citizen Photo

STREET WORKOUT

Members of Ladder Co. 1, of the Tucson Fire Dept., hold a "wet" drill. For lack of a special training area, these firemen sometimes unlimber hoses and ladders on city streets.

October 10, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Sandlot Football Player Injured

A 12-year-old sandlot football player was hospitalized last night with a head injury after **Fire** Rescue efforts failed to revive the lad.

Robert I. Cunningham, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cunningham Sr., 3705 E. 33rd St., regained consciousness later in the evening and was listed in guarded condition at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Fire Rescue Capt. Matt Garry of Station 7 said the lad's mother told him the boy had been knocked out after being tackled in a neighborhood game. His friends brought him home and he passed out again.

Garry said that after oxygen and first aid failed to bring the boy around an ambulance was called.

October 9, 1961:

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Woman's Charred Body Found

By STEVE EMERINE

The charred body of Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister, an 80-year-old pensioner, was found this morning next to a burned bed in her bottle-littered cottage at 202 E. Michigan Dr.

Police and firemen also said they found the dead woman's next-door neighbor, Howard Tarpley, 63, sitting in a chair in the cottage his body badly burned.

TARPLEY, who lives in a trailer next to Mrs. Lister's cottage, was in poor condition at Pima County Hospital. Attendants said he suffered second-degree burns of the right elbow, knees and buttocks. In addition, they said, Tarpley suffered damage to his eyes from smoke or flames and has blackened hands.

Patrolman William Neathery said the fire apparently had died several hours before police and firemen arrived. Only the mattress of Mrs. Lister's bed was burned, he added. The metal frame showed little fire damage, indicating the blaze was one which smoldered, according to Battalion Fire Chief Howard M. Danielson.

Tarpley apparently tried to put out the blaze with his hands, police said, before going back to his trailer, where he collapsed in his bed.

Neathery and Sgt. Clarence Nelson speculated that several hours later Tarpley got up and went to a neighbor's home, where he called the fire department. He then went back to the cottage to await the arrival of police and firemen, the officers said.

POLICE reported they were unable to talk with Tarpley at any length because of his injuries.

Officers said they found a glass containing a few drops of wine next to the bed. Another drinking glass and a small shot glass were found on a table.

Officers found a half-full quart bottle of wine and three empty wine bottles along with an empty half-pint whisky bottle.

Both Tarpley and Mrs. Lister smoked, neighbors told police.

Neathery said the dead woman's purse contained \$15 in one-dollar bills and a passport for a Mrs. Lillian V. Smith, of Silver City, Miss. Officers found several burned letters and cards on the mattress.

October 10, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Firemen Must Practice To Be Ready In Emergency

BY PETE BARR

When your job is protecting lives and property from the ravages of fire, practice is vital.

A good percentage of the duty time of a fireman must be devoted to perfecting techniques in handling equipment and fire fighting procedures.

These are the sentiments of Tucson Fire Chief John H. Freeman, but there is one problem. Tucson lacks specially-equipped facilities where firemen—veterans and rookies alike—can learn new techniques or bone up on old ones.

"I think the need has been established," said Freeman. "But it is just a matter of lack of funds."

The rapid growth of Tucson in the past 10 years and the pressing need for other basic city services has not permitted expenditure of funds for a Fire Department training area, Freeman added.

Playgrounds, city streets and vacant lots now are pressed into service for training by the city's 19 ladder and engine companies.

Occasionally, a swimming

pool is used to test the pumping qualities of an engine.

The training problem increases in scope as the department grows in men and equipment. In the past 18 months, 119 new personnel have been added.

Training that many is a problem, said Freeman, but it is even more difficult when there are no proper facilities.

What is needed is about a 250x500 foot fence-enclosed area, said Freeman.

The central feature would be a four-story tower with a basement. Here training in use of fire hoses and ladders above the ground level would be a part of its use.

The basement would be used to simulate fires in a closed area where self-contained breathing equipment is needed.

The tower, of cement block construction, would also provide class rooms for discussing theoretical problems.

The remainder of the training ground would contain pits for water pumping tests and a pit for simulating petroleum fires, one of the most difficult to control and put out.

James Hobart, of the city manager's office, said the estimated cost of the project would be around \$60,000. The land would be of no cost, since the city tentatively has set aside a location on the southeast corner of S. Warren Ave. and E. 19th St.

Money for construction of the training facilities may be hard to come by. The city has a fixed property tax and budgets are tight. However, Hobart said, administration officials hope to find the funds and make the project a reality within the next three years.

Three years, said Chief Freeman, who has been asking for a training area for the past 15 years, would "not be a minute too soon."

1961

October 4, 16, 17, 1961:

10-4-68 CITIZEN CHARLIE SAYS . . .



—Citizen Photocartoon

"Just look at the size of these weeds, folks. They are growing in the right-of-way alongside one of the city's busy streets. Weeds are a problem on both private and public land. Why doesn't the city set a good example for private property owners by clearing the weeds from places such as this?" (See editorial.)

10/16/61
Rock-Polishing Shop Burns

Flames fed by materials used in a rock-polishing business caused \$900 damage yesterday to a workshop at the rear of 837 W. Congress St.

Capt. Burnett Gibbens said cause was undetermined, but indicated alcohol or sulfuric acid may have ignited.

The occupant, Edgar McAllister, called firemen. An auto and a back porch also were damaged, firemen said.

10/17/61
Grease Fire Attacks Restaurant

An accumulation of grease in an exhaust flu was blamed for a fire last night that caused an estimated \$600 damage at the Ye Olde Lantern, 1800 Miracle Mile strip.

The flames apparently melted a hole in an aluminum vent above a broiler in the kitchen and spread to the roof and ceiling, Manager Walter Clore said.

Clore summoned firemen after a man ran into the establishment and reported the roof on fire.

Firemen put out the blaze with foam extinguishers.

Clore said the blaze caused "quite a bit of smoke" and forced him to close down the dining room for the evening.

1961

October 11, 1961, courtesy Jim Roberts collection:

OFF DUTY CALL LIST
OCTOBER 11, 1961

1- Freeman, J.H., Chief	FA6-1662	7- McClane, W.C.	Insp	
2- Mickalay, H., Asst. Chf	MA3-3775	8- McGee, L.L.	Insp	EA7-3185
3- Steger, J.F. Asst Chf	EA5-6448	9- Gilmore, L.D.	Insp	EA5-6380
4- Peterson, L.F. Batt Chf	EA6-4288	10- Kenneday, J.A.	Insp	294-7476
5- Danielson, H. Batt Chf	FA6-1437	11- Stapp, R.G.	FF Clk	FA5-3142
6- Montoya, A.N. Mechanic	AX8-1250	12- Noon, D.E.	FF Clk	MA4-6684
7- Noon, D.E.	AX8-1250			

A SHIFT		B SHIFT	
1- Adams, C.M.		1- Abitz, G.W.	MA3-1949
2- Archbold	MA2-3093	2- Adams, H.M.	MA3-2987
3- Armenta, F.G.	MA3-9310	3- Aguilar, A.B.	MA4-4857
4- Arriaga, R.V.	EA7-3850	4- Amaro, S.V.	MA2-2382
5- Baron, H.	AX4-2553	5- Anderson, B.J.	AX8-1300
6- Bayless, R.H.	EA7-1741	6- Armstrong, J.E.	FA7-1686
7- Becker, R.J.	FA5-1209	7- Baca, O.C.	AX4-1245
8- Bell, F.H.	EA6-2641	8- Baldwin, R.C.	EA6-0867
9- Bell, N.G.	AX8-5238	9- Baldwin, R.R.	EA6-1215
10- Bellmeyer, W.M.	MA3-1045	10- Banton, R.H.	Disp
11- Bently, J.P.		11- Barnes, A.J.	MA4-0315
12- Berle, A.	MA4-7456	12- Barnes, E.B.	EA6-4846
13- Berline, L.L.		13- Bearden, B.M.	
14- Bradian, J.V.		14- Bell, R.K.	EA7-5340
15- Burnett, P.L.	EA7-7645	15- Beyer, D.W.	MA4-6957
16- Campillo, F.V.	Disp	16- Black, R.T.	MA2-1396
17- Carpenter, G.E.	MA4-6301	17- Blair, J.D.	MA3-4636
18- Castro, G.B.	AX4-3087	18- Borth, W.M.	AX8-4313
19- Centeno, H.R.		19- Branaman, D.L.	FA5-0980
20- Clark, N.D.	MA3-9695	20- Branaman, R.L.	EA6-8398
21- Cocio, M.C.	MA3-3946	21- Brethour, J.R.	FA6-6383
22- Cox, M.W.	FA7-0029	22- Briggs, C.V.	294-9649
23- Cordova, A.Y.	MA3-7074	23- Bruning, F.E.	AX4-1280
24- Devlin, A.L.		24- Bullock, C.H.	EA5-5552
25- Discher, W.A.	MA2-1679	25- Burns, J.R.	EA6-3795
26- Duffy, L.F.	AX8-5549	26- Burrel, C.F.	CY7-1420
27- Dupont, W.P.	EA5-6375	27- Callahan, S.G.	
28- Eberhardt, M.K.	AX4-4007	28- Cammarano, D.J.	MA3-1394
29- Etter, D.W.	FA6-8718	29- Cammaro, B.A.	EA5-6334
30- Ferguson, T.W.		30- Carranza, A.J.	MA3-5540
31- Fimbres, FF	MA3-4474	31- Carrillo, L.A.	AX8-4176
32- Fisher, W.G.	FA6-9319	32- Celaya, W.A.	MA4-1543
33- Foster, W.S.	AX4-1710	33- Cirivello, J.A.	FA7-3295
34- Franklin, F.L.	AX8-8253	34- Clauberg, G.A.	MA2-3014
35- Gabusi, R.	MA4-7153	35- Danielson, R.	AX8-5341
36- Garry, M.F.	EA5-8077	36- Dearing, W.D.	MA3-3318
37- Glover, R.L.	MA2-5643	37- Delgado, H.H.	793-1600
38- Grable, R.J.	EA7-1964	38- Dirks, K.F.	MA2-2736
39- Grace, R.	EA7-0306	39- Dull, G.S.	MA3-6078
40- Graves, J.M.	MA3-9623	40- Edds, H.R.	MA3-7230
41- Gritis, W.A.	EA6-5440	41- Elias, D.F.	MA2-3139
42- Gruchik, S.	EA5-4425	42- Facio, F.M.	MA4-1350
43- Gunter, L.M.	AX8-5478	43- Fadala, S.N.	MA4-5718
44- Hagan, F.F.	MA3-8517	44- Felix, H.G.	MA4-1416
45- Harris, C.E.	MA3-9098	45- Fousel, R.T.	MA4-2015
46- Henry, R.H.	MA4-1320	46- Fowler, F.E.	294-9576
47- Hitt, G.D.	EA5-0666	47- Frana, F.A.	EA7-3615
48- Heverly, S.W.	AX8-3438	48- Gage, H.T.	MA3-0140
49- Hobbs, L.D.	MA3-2163	49- Gallardo, M.E.	EA5-7720
50- Holbrook, R.F.	EA6-9943	50- Gemmill, F.C.	EA5-2194
51- Huber, F.A.	AX4-2974	51- Gibbens, B.B.	MA2-4397
52- Hurst, M.D.	EA6-9844	52- Gleason, J.F.	AX8-2093
53- Jackson, J.W.	CY7-0061	53- Gregory, A.H.	MA3-3848
54- Jensen, A.	FA6-2170	54- Griesmer, R.A.	FA5-8772
55- Jones, R.W.	EA7-2060	55- Hampton, R.S.	
56- Johnson, A.S.	MA3-3995	56- Hansen, H.C.	FA6-4116
57- Ketchum, F.M.	CY7-0918	57- Harris, J.C.	MA3-9098
58- Key, LL	AX6-0173	58- Hart, M.R.	FA5-8908
59- Lamanda, F.T.	EA7-7055	59- Herreras, A.Y.	Disp
60- Lanan, B.F.	FA7-2726	60- Higuera, W.F.	793-2540
			MA2-6139

1961

October 11, 1961, courtesy Jim Roberts collection:

OFF DUTY CALL LIST
OCTOBER 11, 1961
page #2

1- LeBaron, R.A.	AX6-0536	61- Holliday, H.	EA6-8688
2- Leoni, L.E.	EA7-4466	62- Hollinger, H.C.	
3- Lopez, A.S.	EA7-1435	63- Hopkins, W.F.	AX8-7673
4- Lovio, F.V.	MA3-5275	64- Houlf, H.A.	MA4-5937
5- Lujan, O.R.		65- Jacome, C.J.	EA6-7115
6- McClintock, R.M.	FA6-8974	66- James, H.W.	AX4-1656
7- McDonald, C.T.	AX8-9257	67- Kain, T.J.	EA6-7609
8- Machado, A.W.	MA4-5071	68- Kaveloh, W.	EA6-7214
9- Mager, P.W.	FA6-1872	69- Kwart, R.F.	AX8-0346
10- Martin, J.D.	AX6-0228	70- Lehr, K.	
11- Mather, R.L.	FA5-7390	71- Leon, R.L.	MA3-2247
12- Mattingly, D.J.	AX8-9140	72- MacKay, M.R.	MA2-1408
13- May, W.W.	EA5-4230	73- MCAdams, D.L.	MA4-0247
14- Mazon, G.G.	MA4-5480	74- McCarty, H.G.	793-8597
15- Mendoza, R.	AX8-4894	75- McMullen, C.E.	EA7-3916
16- Morales, R.D.	FA6-6767	76- MCSpadden, J.R.	MA2-8656
17- Moran, L.J.	MA2-0765	77- Maibauer, R.E.	EA5-0789
18- Moreno, R.M.	EA5-2571	78- Manternach, R.N.	
19- Morris, J.D.		79- Mares, L.C.	
20- Mungia, C.T.	MA3-4223	80- Martin, W.J.	793-0433
21- Murtha, S.A.	AX8-3277	81- Mathis, B.O.	
22- Navarro, R.	793-0002	82- Mendez, V.N.	FA5-3919
23- Nix, W.C.	FA5-3530	83- Michael, G.W.	MA3-6855
24- Oliver, B.J.	MA4-1678	84- Molander, C.P.	AX4-3653
25- Palko, J.J.	MA3-8756	85- Montano, F.M.	MA2-6220
26- Perez, F.G.	AX4-1868	86- Mowday, S.B.	AX4-3305
27- Phillips, C.L.	AX4-4097	87- O'Hara, C.E.	
28- Phillips, Jr., C.L.	CY7-0061	88- Parra, J.E.	
29- PPhillips, C.D.	MA2-3472	89- Pember, L.S.	FA5-6268
30- Plog, H.J.	MA2-0012	90- Pender, W.A.	793-7495
31- Putney, H.F.	MA2-6098	91- Perry, R.J.	AX8-2496
32- Redmon, J.A.	EA5-6750	92- Phinizy, H.J.	FA7-8175
33- Reimer, R.F.	MA4-6568	93- Plummer, R.	AX6-1488
34- Rogers, C.D.	AX8-1081	94- Porter, L.T.	AX8-4846
35- Rojeski, R.W.	EA7-2527	95- Putney, J.H.	MA4-6494
36- Rowzee, J.D.	EA5-7504	96- Rakow, R.E.	MA4-3982
37- Russel, H.E.	FA6-1784	97- Rankin, H.G.	
38- Russell, J.R.		98- Rascon, R.	
39- Salgado, R.P.	REMOVED	99- Regilio, K. N.	EA6-2712
40- Sanchez, A.R.	EA7-3382	100- Reimer, R.C.	AX4-0002
41- Schoup, R.F.	AX6-3403	101- Rice, C.F.	EA7-4680
42- Scott, W.L.	FA6-4269	102- Roberts, J.E.	EA7-3704
43- Sanchez, G.	MA4-9564	103- Saltagaver, R.F.	EA5-9408
44- Shay, J.P.	MA2-0574	104- Saturley, R.C.	MA2-8459
45- Shook, O.O.	MA3-9186	105- Schuler, D.C.	MA3-3213
46- Simmons, J.D.	FA5-0379	106- Sedlack, J.T.	FA7-1943
47- Slagel, R.B.	FA7-3027	107- Sepulveda, D.O.	MA4-4605
48- Solomon, F.	AX6-3067	108- Serino, J.A.	EA7-0176
49- Spaulding, D.F.	MA3-1422	109- Sheely, J.F.	AX4-1092
50- Stamets, R.K.	AX8-4729	110- Sneed, H.R.	FA5-5122
51- Stedman, G.C.	AX8-7328	111- Solberg, S.O.	AX8-1625
52- Stutz, R.D.	FA7-5024	112- Sprung, F.R.	EA7-1464
53- Tellez, A.R.	MA3-3119	113- Strand, R.A.	EA5-8319
54- Tamayo, F.A.	AX6-0104	114- Troiano, V.R.	MA3-1716
55- Trujillo, P.		115- Uthe, G.	EA7-1342
56- Valanzuela, A.M.	296-3060	116- Van Zandt, K.L.	EA7-8510
57- Vanover, E.F.	MA4-2877	117- Velasco, E.D.	EA5-4641
58- Vass, R.C.	MA2-4917	118- Walker, J.R.	MA2-0235
59- Wells, B.F.	EA6-7082	119- Wells, W.J.	AX4-4173
60- Weuve, A.R.	MA4-6824	120- Wesson, P.J.	
61- Zuniga, A.W.		121- Williams, P.A.	FA5-7382
		122- Wray, H.S.	MA3-6105
		123- Zuniga, R.V.	MA3-0166
		124- Saunders, F.E.	FA7-3542
		125- Rentfro, G.W.	MA4-4580

Cheat Tragedy! Observe Fire Prevention Week

This year Sunday through Oct. 14 has been set aside for the observance of Fire Prevention Week. Safety precautions during this vitally important time primarily involve the homeowner.

Fires breed and thrive in storage places where things have been allowed to collect haphazardly. Combustion often takes place in piles of old clothes, rags, papers and before long the entire house is adding fuel to the fire.

Why not spend some time this week taking the precautions that will prevent the occurrence of an emergency? From the kitchen, all through the house, to the patio, here are suggestions for making your home safer from the devastating danger of fire.

Do you know how to save the steak if it suddenly bursts into flames? The formula for salvaging hubby's dinner is first, don't panic; second, reach for the baking soda; and third, toss the soda right at the base of the fire.

Soda, in case you don't know it is one of the chief ingredients of most commercial fire extinguishers. And for good reason. The heat from flames almost instantly turns the millions of tiny soda particles into carbon dioxide gas which smothers the flames by cutting off their oxygen supply.

It's a good idea to be sure that you always have enough soda on hand to extinguish a fire, to keep a couple of pounds of it in a canister or old salt box within easy reach of the range.

Be sure, too, that the container is clearly marked "FIRE" in big bold letters so that in time of crisis, there's no chance of confusion.

Remember, the fat fire in the skillet or broiler is one of the most common causes of fire in the home. If

caught and treated promptly, it's easily controlled. If not, there's more than the steak at stake . . . perhaps even your home.

Throughout the house, the major causes of fire are improper storage of combustible items and defective wiring.

Gasoline, cleaning fluids, kerosene, turpentine, and other explosive liquids should be kept in containers whose tight-fitting caps keep the liquids and their fumes completely confined with no danger of container breakage. A broken container, a small spark, and fire can quickly result in snuffed-out lives.

Defective wiring can start the sparks flickering and smoldering and eventually ignite a fire that often has made tremendous headway before it is discovered. Don't forget to check your electrical system for frayed wires overloaded circuits and shorted outlets or switches.

It's a good idea too, to have certain fire extinguishing aids handy—a fire extinguisher and perhaps some steel pails in which water or sand can be readily carried for dousing small fires.

Also extreme caution should be used in burning rubbish in open bonfires.

Wind-stirred sparks can quickly ignite building roofs and cause not only great property loss but often loss of life.

Safety officials say the only way to burn rubbish or dry leaves is in galvanized steel rubbish burners with covers. Such burners resemble garbage cans but have perforations in their sides, bottoms and covers to permit air circulation for burning. But the perforations are too small to allow flaming materials to escape from the metal containers.

Take time out during Fire Prevention Week to look over your home and make it safe from any possibility of disaster. Precautions taken now will protect you in the weeks to come.

Smoking Believed Cause Of Fire

Careless smoking was believed cause of a fire that caused an estimated \$235 damage to an apartment at 3220 E. Terra Alta Blvd. last night, firemen said.

The blaze started in a bedroom of the dwelling occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cartin and burned furniture and the floor before it was doused by firemen.

Youth Saves Life Of Ex-TB Victim

An 18-year-old Tucson draftee was ordered to seek a medical checkup next month after police said he saved an ex-tuberculosis patient's life early today with mouth-to-mouth respiration.

Police credited the resuscitation attempt by Hector Garcia Federico, 18, of 5110 S. 17th Ave., with saving the life of 54-year-old John Cornman, Joplin, Mo., after Cornman collapsed at Broadway and S. Convent Ave. early today.

Federico told police Cornman was not breathing when he ran over to him after seeing him fall to the pavement. He said he gave mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to Cornman until the fire department rescue squad arrived to administer oxygen.

A&A Ambulance attendants also administered oxygen to Cornman en route to Pima County Hospital, police said. At the hospital, officers learned Cornman was released from the Missouri State Sanitarium on Oct. 25, 1960, but that tests during the past 18 months had not shown any presence of active tuberculosis in him.

Doctors made a preliminary examination of Federico, who leaves Wednesday for the Army, then advised him to have a follow-up examination next month to insure he did not contract tuberculosis.

Cornman was released from the county hospital after treatment.

Steel, Water, Truck Bids Weigh Heavy On Homer

Council questions about a \$50,000 pile of steel, a snarled water company deal and fire truck bid specifications all were calculated to give City Mgr. Porter W. Homer ulcers yesterday.

Councilman Charles Branin asked whether it were true that the city owns a stock of \$50,000 worth of steel for which it has no use. He also asked who bought it, why it was bought and why it was not bought on competitive bids.

Homer answered that former city purchasing agent, William Bray Jr., had purchased the steel over a period of time starting about four years ago.

This is high carbon steel used for special purposes, such as replacing the end on a bulldozer blade. It was hard to come by at the time and several city departments use it. Bray began stockpiling and bought it in small lots on a quotation basis because there was not enough available on the market for a bid call. The city will use it up in the next two to three years, Homer said.

"It was a mistake," Homer said. "I wish we didn't have so much of it. When I found out how much we had, I told Bray to stop buying it."

"But I am not going to go out and find false uses for it. We could have buried it by using it for something else a long time ago if we had wanted to hide anything. We have special uses for it and that is what it will be used for," Homer said.

Branin doubted the city

would be able to use it up in the next few years and the discussion ended after Homer said he would bring the council a full, written report on the steel.

Branin also complained that the city is supplying water—at the rate of \$5 per customer—to the Sawtelle Water Co., but making little effort to buy the firm. A four-month agreement to supply water was made in July, 1959, and is still going on, Branin said.

Homer explained the firm is a cooperative and is snarled up in a court bankruptcy proceeding that makes it impossible for the city to purchase it now. Water is being supplied as a means of insuring fire protection for the area, Homer said.

"Well let's push them. Let's do something to buy them out," Branin said.

The fire truck bids are Councilman Ray Weaver's project. When the bids went out two weeks ago, Weaver objected that the specifications were too detailed and exclude many potential bidders. He agreed to wait and see how the bids came in next month.

In yesterday's pre-council session, Weaver noted that an official of American La-France, the oldest fire equipment firm in the country, had said the specifications would eliminate his firm from the bidding.

No action was taken on the matter and Weaver apparently intends to wait until the bids are opened to decide whether he will press the issue.

October 17, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

Woman's Charred Body Found

By STEVE EMERINE

The charred body of Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister, an 80-year-old pensioner, was found this morning next to a burned bed in her bottle-littered cottage at 202 E. Michigan Dr.

Police and firemen also said they found the dead woman's next-door neighbor, Howard Tarpley, 63, sitting in a chair in the cottage his body badly burned.

TARPLEY, who lives in a trailer next to Mrs. Lister's cottage, was in poor condition at Pima County Hospital. Attendants said he suffered second-degree burns of the right elbow, knees and buttocks. In addition, they said, Tarpley suffered damage to his eyes from smoke or flames and has blackened hands.

Patrolman William Neathery said the fire apparently had died several hours before police and firemen arrived. Only the mattress of Mrs. Lister's bed was burned, he added. The metal frame showed little fire damage, indicating the blaze was one which smoldered, according to Battalion Fire Chief Howard M. Danielson.

Tarpley apparently tried to put out the blaze with his hands, police said, before going back to his trailer, where he collapsed in his bed.

Neathery and Sgt. Clarence Nelson speculated that several hours later Tarpley got up and went to a neighbor's home, where he called the fire department. He then went back to the cottage to await the arrival of police and firemen, the officers said.

POLICE reported they were unable to talk with Tarpley at any length because of his injuries.

Officers said they found a glass containing a few drops of wine next to the bed. Another drinking glass and a small shot glass were found on a table.

Officers found a half-full quart bottle of wine and three empty wine bottles along with an empty half-pint whisky bottle.

Both Tarpley and Mrs. Lister smoked, neighbors told police.

Neathery said the dead woman's purse contained \$15 in one-dollar bills and a passport for a Mrs. Lillian V. Smith, of Silver City, Miss. Officers found several burned letters and cards on the mattress.

TUESDAY EVENING, OCT. 17, 1961



DEATH BED

Battalion Chief Howard M. Danielson, chief of the Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau, examines the charred mattress of Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister's bed after police and firemen found her fire-blackened body this morning at her cottage at 202 E. Michigan Dr.

October 14, 1961, Arizona Daily Star:

Fire At Thrift City

Fire believed to have been started by a short circuit in electrical wiring caused an estimated \$110 damage to a utility room at Thrift City, 5851 E. Speedway yesterday, police said.

\$10,000 Loss Caused By Home Fire

Fire believed touched off by an electrical short circuit early this afternoon caused an estimated \$10,000 damage to the home of C. R. Glover, 2210 Roller Coaster Rd.

Sheriff's deputies, who extinguished the fire with a garden hose, said flames damaged every room in the one-story, one bedroom ranch home.

No one was home when the fire started. Glover is the owner of the Glover Fence Co., 2522 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.

1961

October 17, 18, 21 & 23, 1961:

House On Fontana Gutted By Fire

A fire, apparently started by a short in faulty wiring, gutted a two-bedroom house early yesterday morning at 3044 N. Fontana Ave.

Firemen said the call was received as a tree fire and only one engine was dispatched. On its arrival it summoned assistance and a second engine and a fire truck were sent.

Occupant of the house, Jack A. Petersen, a Hughes Aircraft employe, was believed to be vacationing in Tennessee with his family. Firemen said damage to the house and its contents, which were totally destroyed by flames, was estimated at \$6,000.

October 16, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Sun's Rays Set Off Fire; Shed Gutted

Firemen reported yesterday that several bottles containing wood alcohol were ignited by the sun's rays and set a westside shed on fire.

The blaze gutted the shed at the rear of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar McAllister's home, 837 W. Congress St. Firemen said when they arrived flames had spread to the roof and a screen door of the house and into the McAllister's car. Damage was estimated at \$800.

Fire Razes Home; Loss Set At \$6,000

Fire, believed caused by an electrical short, destroyed a four-room stucco frame house at 3044 N. Fontana Ave. early yesterday, resulting in an estimated loss of \$6,000.

The occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Jack A. Petersen, were said by neighbors to be visiting in Tennessee.

Firemen were dispatched to the home shortly after 5 a.m. on the report of a tree fire and found the structure in flames when they arrived. The engine company sounded a second alarm and two additional fire trucks were sent in an effort to save the dwelling.

Capt. Clarence Harris said firemen laid 34 fifty-foot sections of hose from a water hydrant two and a half blocks from the scene.

A small storage shed adjacent to the home, which was being remodeled, also was destroyed.

Cigarette Blamed For Fire Death

Blisters found on the victim's fingers and chest have led Fire Department experts to blame a cigarette for yesterday's fire that took the life of an elderly woman.

The body of Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister, 80, was found in her cottage at 202 E. Michigan Ave., early yesterday after police and firemen were summoned by a neighbor, Howard Tarpley, 63.

Tarpley, who suffered second-degree burns and smoke damage to his eyes when he attempted to put out the fire, was listed in satisfactory condition today at Pima County Hospital.

Mrs. Lister apparently fell asleep while smoking in bed, officials theorized.

Tarpley, who lives in a trailer next to the cottage, told police he had been with Mrs. Lister before the fire.

URDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1961

Tucson Man Succumbs To Burns

Death claimed the life yesterday of a Tucson man who had suffered second-degree burns while fighting a fire in a neighbor's house Tuesday night.

Howard Tarpley, 63, of 202 E. Michigan Dr. died in Pima County Hospital.

He had attempted to put out a fire that took the life of 80-year-old Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister, who lived in a one-room cottage at the same address.

After trying to put out the fire, Tarpley stumbled to his nearby trailer, where he collapsed into bed. Police speculated that Tarpley awoke a few hours later and called firemen from a neighbor's phone. Police and fire investigators found the body of Mrs. Lister beside her bed.

Palms Mortuary is in charge of arrangements for Mr. Tarpley.

October 17, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Children Find Matches, Apartment Blazes Up

An apartment fire, apparently started by two youngsters playing with matches, caused an estimated \$700 damage yesterday morning.

Firemen were called to a group of apartments at 1050 S. Wilmot Rd. and found the bedroom of an apartment engulfed in flames.

Mrs. Ilene Williamson, who lives in the apartment which is owned by C. W. Edwards and Gary Wade, told firemen her two sons, David, 3, and Clay, 4, had somehow gotten some matches and were playing with them on the bed when the fire started.

October 17 & 23, 1961:

Fire Engine Bid Dispute Arises

STAR
10-17-61
**Councilman Weaver Says Specifications
So Drawn That Only One Firm Can Win**

Republican Councilman Ray O. Weaver reiterated yesterday charges that city specifications calling for two fire truck bids "are drawn so that only one company can bid."

Weaver broached the subject again after an American LaFrance official wrote the Star yesterday that "the specifications are extremely restrictive. They are drawn to eliminate competition and to favor one bidder."

The Sixth Ward councilman said during a pre-council meeting that he had discussed the specifications "with several people who concurred."

Weaver took exception to the way in which performance ratings, turning radii, and dimensions were listed in the 32-page set of specifications drawn by Fire Chief John H. Freeman and City Purchasing Agent Sidney A. Wilson last month.

Weaver said: "We're cheating the city if we let these go through as they are."

The LaFrance firm's letter, signed by H. Walker, assistant vice president, said the firm had checked the city's specifications on the two pumping engines (estimated to cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000) and found destructive clauses. Walker said one firm could meet the city's requirements but "other bidders will have to take exceptions, and thus their bids are informal."

"On a performance basis, we could meet the specifications," Walker added, "but we cannot submit a bid under the present specifications."

Walker explained the specifications call for a 6-cylinder engine "with not less than 1091 cubic inch displacement." He said the only engine to meet this requirement is the Hall-Scott, made by Hercules Motor Co., Canton Ohio. There is also an option in the requirements to use a V-12 engine, "but this is made only by the Seagrave Corp."

Walker said that if the city had asked for specific performance data "we could meet the requirements."

No, They're Not THAT John F. And Caroline

FT. LEWIS, Wash., Oct. 16 (P)—Mr. and Mrs. John F. Kennedy, their 3-year-old daughter, Caroline, and their 21-month-old son, John F. Jr., have taken up residence at this military post.

Kennedy, a native of Macomb, Ill., and his wife recently came here from the presidio of San Francisco. Kennedy, a chief warrant officer, joined the 39th Infantry as supply officer.

There is no relationship between Kennedy and the President.

restrictions. They could bid if they would put a Hall-Scott engine in their chassis."

But Walker added that overall length sought is limited to 290 inches while the American LaFrance rig is 313. Walker also belabored the city's requirement for a 56-inch distance from front axle center line to front bumper. Walker said American LaFrance's is 75 3/8 inches which could provide "a much superior turning radius than specified."

The American LaFrance vice-president listed three other points of contention and noted there "are some conflicts in the specifications." For example, he noted the city has asked for a water tank outlet to handle 300 gallons of water per minute but lists a 200 GPM pipe from the water tank to the pump.

Walker also notes the specifications call for a lift of not less than 200 feet at sea level

On this point, Chief Freeman said American LaFrance, one of the world's largest fire truck manufacturers, ruled itself out because American LaFrance "has an agreement to use Continental engines exclusively."

Added Freeman: "The engine I really want in those trucks is a Hall-Scott. American LaFrance set their own

for the pump capacity. Wrote Walker: "I am quite sure that neither the National Board of Underwriters nor the Arizona Rating Bureau would agree to this requirement as they will require that the test be run at Tucson (elevation 2,350). Credit will be given by the rating bureau only for the capacities produced at Tucson."

The council discussed the matter at some length. Mayor Don Hummel observed in closing: "Certainly there is no desire on anybody's part to pay more than we should to get first-class equipment." He added that if there are restrictive clauses in the specifications "then it will be thrashed out when the bids come in (Nov. 20)."

House On Fontana Gutted By Fire

A fire, apparently started by a short in faulty wiring, gutted a two-bedroom house early yesterday morning at 3044 N. Fontana Ave.

Firemen said the call was received as a tree fire and only one engine was dispatched. On its arrival it summoned assistance and a second engine and a fire truck were sent.

Occupant of the house, Jack A. Petersen, a Hughes Aircraft employe, was believed to be vacationing in Tennessee with his family. Firemen said damage to the house and its contents, which were totally destroyed by flames, was estimated at \$6,000.

Woman Is Burned To Death

An 80-year-old woman burned to death as she slept sometime early yesterday morning when a fire broke out in the victim's one-room cottage at 202 E. Michigan Dr.

Police and fire investigators said they found the charred body of Mrs. Emily (Emma) Lister beside her bed after the woman's neighbor, Howard Tarpley, 63, reported the fire.

Tarpley was burned about the knees, arms and buttocks when he tried to put out the fire, police said. Tarpley was in poor condition last night at the Pima County Hospital suffering from second-degree burns.

When firemen arrived they found only a smoldering mattress in the woman's home. Investigators said it appeared the fire didn't erupt into flames but had been smoldering for several hours. No other fire damage was done to the house.

Patrolman William Neathery said Tarpley apparently tried to put out the fire before returning to his nearby trailer, where he collapsed in bed.

Police speculated Tarpley awakened several hours later and then went to a neighbor's home where firemen were called. Police said they could not question Tarpley to any extent because of his injuries.

Several empty and partially empty wine bottles were found littered about Mrs. Lister's home, police said. A glass containing a few drops of wine was found on a table plus a small shot glass, police reported.

Witnesses told police that both Tarpley and Mrs. Lister smoked. A carelessly dropped cigarette may have started the fire, firemen theorized.

The purse of Mrs. Lister, a pensioner, was found beside the charred bed. It contained \$15, police said.

House Is Nearly Destroyed By Fire

Flames apparently started by an electrical short caused an estimated \$15,000 damage to a ranch-style home on Roller Coaster Rd., yesterday afternoon, sheriff's deputies said.

Dep. Cletus Bushroe said that the owner of the home, C. R. Glover, of 2210 Roller Coaster Rd., was not at home at the time of the fire.

Deputies battled the fire with garden hoses but nearly every room in the one-story home was destroyed by the flames.

According to Bushroe the fire appeared to have started in a hall closet and then spread rapidly to adjoining rooms. Glover is the proprietor of the Glover Fence Co., 2522 E. Ft. Lowell Rd. Dep. Howard Briggs said the fire started at shortly after noon yesterday.

House On Fontana Guttled By Fire

A fire, apparently started by a short in faulty wiring, gutted a two-bedroom house early yesterday morning at 3044 N. Fontana Ave.

Firemen said the call was received as a tree fire and only one engine was dispatched. On its arrival it summoned assistance and a second engine and a fire truck were sent.

Occupant of the house, Jack A. Petersen, a Hughes Aircraft employe, was believed to be vacationing in Tennessee with his family. Firemen said damage to the house and its contents, which were totally destroyed by flames, was estimated at \$6,000.

1961

October 27, 1961. *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 27, 1961

Firemen Battle Huge Blaze, 2nd In Week At City Dump

For the second time within a week, city firemen last night battled a huge fiery mass of tree trimmings and rubbish at the city dump, 40th street and the Santa Cruz River bed.

The blaze, about 200 by 300 yards, sent flames leaping high into the darkness and scores of spectators were attracted to the scene, causing a minor traffic jam at the outset.

Firemen laid 1,100 feet of hose and doused the flames with more than 25,000 gallons of water during a three-hour period after the fire was reported shortly after 8 p.m.

Two city bulldozers were being used to bury and pack the wet smoldering debris into shallow excavations as mop-up operations continued early today. The area had earlier

provided fill for Freeway construction.

Captain Reuben Gabusi said cause of the fire, which endangered nearby power lines at one time, was unknown. Children playing in the area or persons dumping hot ashes may have been to blame, he added.

It was the third fire at the dump in a little over three weeks. Previous fires occurred on Oct. 3 and 20, Gabusi said.

Gabusi said that nearly all the rubbish at the site comes from city collections, but that contractors and private individuals also use the facility.

FOX WEST COAST THEATRES

October 27, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Bulldozers Fight City Dump Fire

A fire at the city dump at W. 40th St. and the Santa Cruz River burned out of control for more than three hours last night before firemen, assisted by two city bulldozers, were able to extinguish it.

Station 13 firemen said the blaze, about 200 by 300 yards in size, was in an area being filled with tree trimmings and cuttings. Approximately 25,000 gallons of water were used to put out the fire.

Visible from many parts of the city, the blaze attracted a large number of sightseers that caused a minor traffic jam on S. 12th Ave.

1961

October 23, 26, 28, 1961:

MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 23, 1961

TU

Insurance Fraud Suspect Guilty

Richard Patrick Mullee, 27, defraud an insurance company, will be sentenced at 9 a.m. Thursday. Superior Court Jury Friday night of arson with intent to Mullee, of 2525 N. Estrella

Ave., was accused of setting fire to his 1955 station wagon last January and then filing a claim to collect insurance money.

Deputy County Atty. William Schafer conducted the state's case in the one-day trial before Judge John F. Molloy. Mullee was represented by Atty. Robert Royal.

Short Brings Fire Scare At UA Building

An electrical short in an underground tunnel caused a brief fire scare at the University of Arizona last night after smoke was seen pouring from a third-floor window of the Aeronautics Building.

Patrons of Louie's Lower Level, a cafeteria in the nearby Student Union building, were forced to sip soft drinks by candlelight after the short knocked out lights about 11:30 p.m.

Assistant Fire Chief John Steger, who led firemen into the underground maze he used to inspect while a UA student, said the smoke was caused by a rag that ignited on a pipe. Steger said an elaborate underground tunnel network houses utilities at the college.

A Tribute —

To Our Firemen!

When fire breaks out at four o'clock in the morning, your alert hook-and-ladder guardians are instantly on the job. Heroically, and oftentimes tragically, these brave men in helmets think only of YOU, your family, and the protection of your property. The Fireman is an integral part of our City Government. He must be always physically fit. He must respond without hesitation at the clang of the bell. Night and day, summer and winter, he must be on call to fight the flames and scale the towering ladder. He is a man of ACTION, upon whom all of us depend. We salute his bravery and commend his faithfulness!



CATALINA SAVINGS

AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

CATALINA SAVINGS BLDG., 2201 North Stone

Open Mon.-Thurs. 9-4:30, Fri. 9-6

See the painting and mosaics by Elizabeth Thomas on display at our office this month.

October 30, 31, 1961:

NEW CASE REPORTED 10-31-61

Asphyxiation Victim's Wife Dies In Hospital

Mrs. Maria Rodriguez died yesterday at St. Mary's Hospital, nine hours after she was found unconscious near the body of her husband, Salvador, in their gas-filled home at 913 W. Congress St.

Meanwhile, a woman was taken to Pima County Hospital early today after she and her son reported feeling weak and queasy in their gas-filled home.

Mrs. Gertrude Mary Salzman, of 326 Elvira St., was administered oxygen, then released from the hospital. Her 18-year-old son, Melvin William, was not treated, although he told police he felt queasy.

The Rodriguez couple was discovered shortly after 8 a.m. yesterday by their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Porfirio Rodriguez, of 125 S. Melrose Ave., who went to their home after Mrs. Rodriguez failed to appear for work at 7:30.

Police said Rodriguez was dead in his bed, and Mrs. Rodriguez was barely alive in an adjacent bed.

She was given oxygen and emergency care throughout the day at St. Mary's but she died shortly after 5 p.m.

The deaths were the first two from asphyxiation this fall, police said. Dr. Louis Hirsch, coroner's pathologist, classified the deaths after performing post mortem

examinations on the couple. He said the deaths appeared to be accidental.

After the latest case, police issued a warning to all Tucsonians to insure they have proper ventilation in their homes while using gas heaters to combat the recent cold snap.

Officers advised also that all homeowners have their heaters inspected by qualified maintenance personnel before turning them on for the winter.

The Tucson Fire Department inspects home heaters and ranges to insure they do not present fire or asphyxiation hazards.

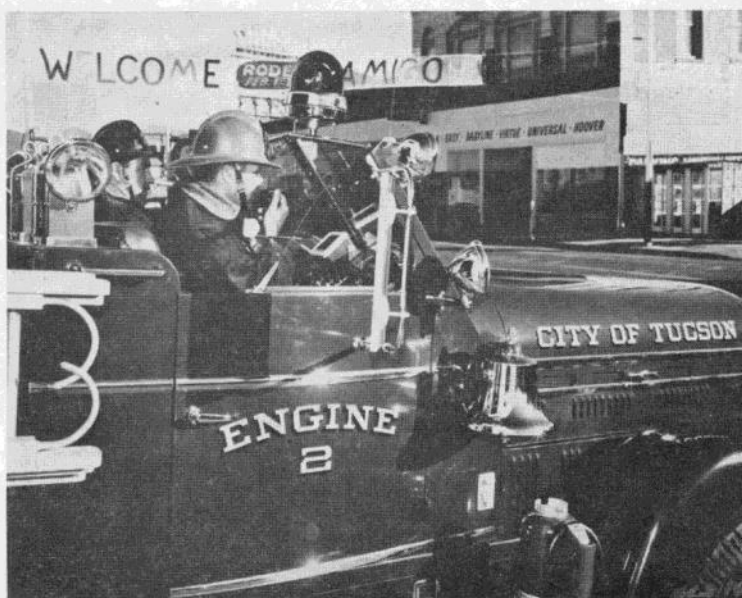
Couch Burns; Home Damaged 10/30/61

A smoldering couch fire filled with smoke, but no fire caused an estimated \$800 damage to a home at 4642 when she returned about noon.

E. Sylvane St. Saturday while the occupants were away from home.

Thomas O. Harbison left home early to go hunting. His wife found the house

Capt. Gus Mazon said flames probably would have destroyed the house if a door or window had been opened while the couch was burning. Cause of the fire is not known.



Combination of portables and units in fire trucks (left) give Tucson Fire Department flexible communication system designed to meet all situations. Apparatus is in constant contact with headquarters while responding to alarms or at scene of



fires. Firemen carrying portable radiophones (right) remain in radio contact while inspecting buildings. In case of fire alarm for district concerned, quick assembly at apparatus parked nearby is possible—All photos courtesy of Motorola Inc.

Radios add flexibility to Tucson Fire Department operations

TWO-WAY radio is the key to effective fire protection coordination for the Tucson, Ariz., Fire Department. Flexible communications are made possible by a radio network that includes some 30 mobile units installed in department vehicles and four two-way portable radiophones.

No matter what the conditions, the combination pays off, report department officers. With all the units operating on the same frequency at fires, officers on the ground can talk directly with firemen on ladders or inside fire buildings. Up-to-the-second reports are relayed on the path of the fire and the progress being made in putting it out. Fire officers carrying the portables can direct the forces on the ground to critical locations, and in turn, the men on the ground can relay orders to the fire fighters inside the building. Greater flexibility in supervision is achieved by equipping officers on the ground with portable units so they can move around the area of the fire rather than be confined to vehicles, depending on conditions.

A portable unit has been assigned to the rescue squad and is carried to all emergencies. Firemen can then radio for immediate aid, request a doctor or ambulance or have the dispatcher alert a hospital.

The portables are proving useful in still other ways. The fire department conducts regular building inspections

throughout Tucson. While making inspections, fire fighters carry the radiophones in order to remain in constant contact with apparatus parked outside.

Value of the units to the Tucson Fire Department was aptly described by one of the firemen who commented, "Our portable radios can go anywhere man can." □□



The rescue squad utilizes both radio-equipped vehicles and portable units. Quick relay of messages in emergencies has facilitated operations

1961

November 1, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 1, 1961



—Citizen Photo by Bill Hopkins

TOOL OF DEATH

City Patrolman Louis Gomez inspects an unvented room heater that took the lives of Salvador and Maria Rodriguez Monday. Unvented heaters are a seasonal threat to Tucson residents. Simple precautions can prevent tragedy.

Next page

November 1, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Tragedy Can Be Avoided By Check Of Heater System

By DALE WITTNER

Tucson was tragically reminded Monday of the seasonal visitation of a deadly silent killer—or rather pair of killers.

Though carbon monoxide poisoning will be listed as causing the deaths of Salvador Rodriguez and his wife, Maria, at their West Congress street home, carelessness was a second, deadly factor. Simple safety precautions would have prevented the tragedy.

Science has provided the knowledge to deal with gas, but only care can defeat carelessness.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas produced in the burning of natural gas in appliances. The deadly by-product is present in varying quantities wherever gas is burned and by whatever means.

Even the best and most efficient burner releases what could be a fatal quantity under the right conditions.

Because the lethal gas is undetectable, a fool-proof system for disposing of it must be maintained.

The answer: VENTILATION!

Proper venting of appliances, especially of room heaters, is a simple matter made simpler by the properties of the gas itself.

Because carbon monoxide is lighter than air it rises. The fatal mistake of do-it-yourselfers is installing heaters without a vent or trying to force the gas on a downhill journey through a venting system.

With an improperly installed heater, the stage is set for death.

Along comes the first chilly day. The house is closed as tightly as possible, supposedly to conserve heat, and the heater is lit.

Every flame requires oxygen to burn just as every person needs it to breath. But now oxygen used by the heater is replaced by the deadly gas. In the sealed-up house no new oxygen can get in nor can the gas escape.

The result: death by suffocation (lack of oxygen) and/or carbon monoxide poisoning.

The Rodriguez couple were the victims, authorities said, of an unvented heater.

Handy as a do-it-yourselfer may be with tools, he is not a professional. Authorities advise having your heater inspected before you turn it on—the inspection may save your life.

And remember these rules:

Breathing and burning require oxygen. If you seal your house you may be sealing your coffin, whether your vent is good or not.

Check the pilot light every time you light an appliance.

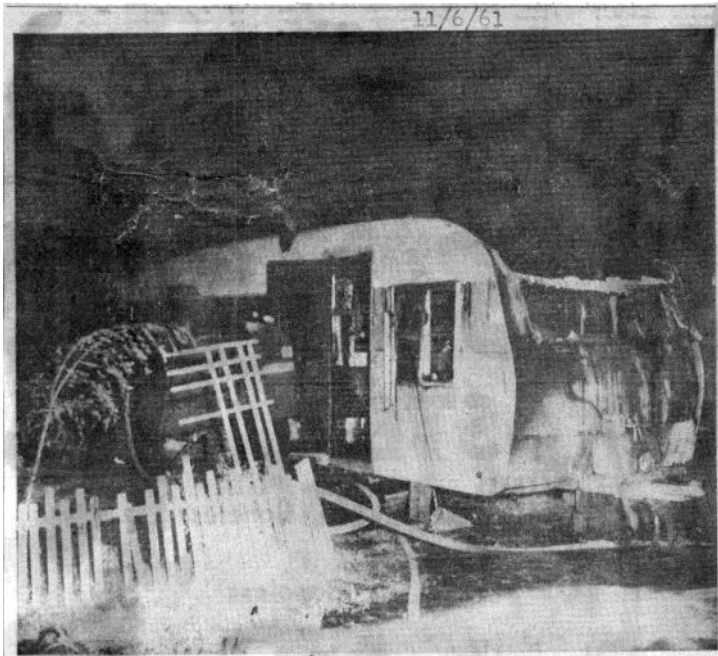
Keep the area around a heater or appliance clear of debris.

Installation and repair of appliances are jobs for professionals.

And—most important at this time of year—have your system inspected.

A call to the Pipe Trades Industry (MA. 3-2559) can lead you to a qualified inspector. The industry annually promotes a safety campaign in connection with the seasonal threat and maintains a list of inspectors to recommend.

November 3 & 6, 1961:



TRAILER FIRE DEATH SCENE

City firemen examine the trailer of John H. Wilson, 40, after finding his charred body early today. Fire gutted the trailer, parked at the Sycamore Trailer Court, 1513 N. Sycamore Ave. Flames prevented firemen from entering the trailer to check on Wilson.

—Charles Quinn Photo

Housewife Puts Out Grease Fire

Quick action by a Tucson housewife yesterday averted heavy fire damage after a skillet full of grease on a kitchen range ignited and spread to kitchen cupboards.

Mrs. Sammie Howard, 27, of 5512 E. Kelso St., ran to a carport for sand which she threw over the stove to extinguish the fire.

The blaze caused an estimated \$175 damage to the wall, cupboards and a ventilator hood and fan over the range.

Man's Body Found In Burned Trailer

Police and firemen discovered the charred body of John H. Wilson, 40, early today after dousing a fire which gutted his trailer at the Sycamore Trailer Court, 1513 N. Sycamore Ave.

Three firemen were treated for minor burns after they were struck by burning debris which was blown by heavy winds. None was injured seriously, the fire department said.

Firemen reported a butane tank connected to the trailer was turned on when they arrived.

ALTHOUGH investigation is continuing, police indicated the probable cause was smoking in bed.

Viola Lee Clark, 60, also a resident of Sycamore Trailer Court, told officers she noticed nothing wrong when she arrived at her trailer at 1:30 a.m.

But five minutes later, she said, she spotted flames coming out from under the bottom of Wilson's trailer.

Another court resident, R. C. Roberts, 38, said he was awakened by smoke at 1:35 and ran to Wilson's trailer to try to arouse him. He received no answer to his calls, he reported.

Flames were so intense that firemen were unable to enter the trailer to see if it was occupied until the blaze was doused.

ONLY THEN did they discover Wilson's charred body and that of his pet cat.

Residents of the court indicated that Wilson, who lived alone, had no relatives in or near Tucson. They said he was employed by the Holiday House Cafeteria, 1145 N. Alvernon Way, and had lived at the trailer court for about eight months.

Firemen estimated the fire damage at about \$600.

Wilson's body was taken to Tucson Mortuary, where funeral arrangements are pending.

The death was the seventh from burns this year in Pima County and the fifth such death for 1961 within the city limits.

Second Traveler Dies On Train

A woman passenger on an eastbound train was fatally stricken yesterday despite attempts by a fire rescue unit to revive her when the train arrived in Tucson.

Azlie Johnson, 78, New Orleans, was believed returning home from a California trip, firemen said.

The body was taken to the Tucson Mortuary.

This was the second of two similar fatalities here within four days. Last Thursday night, Frank Sharkozy, 67, Racine, Wis., collapsed and died on a train stopped at the Southern Pacific Depot.

Suit Filed In Fire Death Of Child

A damage suit was brought in Superior Court yesterday as a result of fatal burns suffered by a 3-year-old girl when her dress caught fire from a gas heater.

The suit, which seeks fair and just damages, was filed by the estate of the victim, Angelia De La Rosa.

Angelia was burned Nov. 4, 1959 when her dress caught fire from an open-flame gas heater in her home. She died about a month later.

The girl's father, James De la Rosa, then an airman at Davis-Monthan AFB, was next door paying the rent and the mother was away from home when the accident occurred.

Listed as defendants in the complaint, prepared by Atty. Paul Rees Jr., are three unknown men and women and two unidentified corporations.

November 6, 8, 10, 13, 1961:

Iowa Couple Felled By Gas Heater

An Iowa man and his wife, found unconscious in a local gas-heated motel room yesterday, were in critical and fair condition, respectively, early today at Pima County Hospital.

Louis Collins, 71, of Clarrion, Iowa, and his wife, Mar-

garet, 73, became the fifth and sixth victims of accidental carbon monoxide poisoning here within a week. Two of the victims died.

William McCarthy, operator of the Benson Motel, 3314 Benson Hwy., found the couple in bed unconscious about

2 p.m. after he decided to check their room because they hadn't been seen.

A fire rescue unit revived Collins and his wife with a resuscitator and they were rushed by ambulance to the hospital.

McCarthy told Sheriff's

Deputy Nolan Lewis he knocked twice on the door, then heard deep breathing, but got no answer. When McCarthy opened the door, the odor of gas hit him, Lewis said.

The motel owner said he found a panel ray gas heater burning and turned as high as

it would go and all windows closed.

Lewis said a ventilator, about eight inches in diameter, did not appear to be plugged.

Collins was revived after several minutes, but firemen said they had to work on his wife for about 20 minutes before she started to regain consciousness.

Woman, Boy Made Ill By Gas Fumes

A Tucson woman was treated and released from the Pima County Hospital yesterday morning from what police said was the result of inhalation of gas fumes. It was the second such incident in two days.

The woman, Mrs. Gertrude Mary Salazar, of 326 Elvira St., told police that both she and her 18-year-old son, Melvin, became ill yesterday morning in their home from gas fumes from a heater. Mrs. Salazar was given oxygen at the hospital but the boy said he was only a little nauseated and was not treated.

Monday morning a Tucson couple, Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Rodriguez, of 931 W. Congress St., died from carbon monoxide poisoning due to a poorly ventilated house.

The man was found dead at the couple's unventilated home, and his wife, Maria, died yesterday afternoon at St. Mary's Hospital.

Dog-Caused Fire Damages House

A fire believed caused by the family's dog last night about \$4,500 damage to the Clyde Whitman home at 901 Carnegie Dr., the Fire Department said.

Damage to the three-bedroom house was estimated at \$2,500, and to the interior at \$2,000.

Firemen said Whitman told them their dog knocked over an oil heater in the den. The

flames were confined to the den but heat and smoke damaged other areas.

Action, Please!

If you have a question or a problem to be solved, involving any governmental agency or public matter in the Tucson area, write to Action, Please, care of the Tucson Daily Citizen. Reporters will investigate your queries and answer them in this column. Questions must be submitted in writing, and must contain your full name and street address (which will be withheld from publication on request).

Cars For City, County Workers

QUESTION—Are city and county employees authorized to transport other city and county employees to and from work in public owned vehicles? On my way to work each morning, I see a county owned station wagon, a city owned station wagon, a city owned pick-up truck, and frequently, a fire department sedan. They are picking up and transporting to work persons whom I presume to be employees of city and county agencies. Are the persons with these public vehicles authorized to use them for private use?—Name withheld by request.

ANSWER—Private use of public vehicles is out. However, a fine line of distinction exists here. City and county employees, apt to be called out at night, are authorized to take these cars and trucks home. Also, many of these persons are making field trips on their way to and from work. Frequently, they are picking up co-workers for this purpose. As the city manager's office points out, this is advantageous. That office says, also, it has no objection to the personnel picking up co-workers along the route to and from work. For one thing, it helps the parking problem. Generally, the same holds true of county employees using county vehicles. The Board of Supervisors say they believe, and certainly hope, that those authorized to take their cars home are responsible enough to use them properly.

Trailer Burns; \$1,000 Damage

Neighbors manning a garden hose doused a trailer fire yesterday at Silent Wheels Ranchome, 1811 W. Prince Rd. The fire caused \$1,000 in damage.

The occupant, Mrs. Joyce I. Kohler, 32, left about an hour before the blaze broke out. The interior of the trailer was destroyed.

Careless smoking was believed the cause of the fire, firemen said.

50 Cotton Bales Catch On Fire

Firemen were forced to unload nearly 50 bales of cotton from a railroad boxcar at the Southern Pacific yard near 22nd St. and Aviation Hwy. to extinguish a smoldering fire last night.

The bales, each weighing about 500 pounds, were partially damaged in the fire, which may have started from the friction of bale bands rubbing together, firemen said.

Capt. James Archbold said firemen chopped a hole in the boxcar roof to fight the fire.

A railroad employe discovered the fire. Estimate of the loss is not yet known.

Dog Tips Oil Heater, House Catches Fire

An oil heater that was apparently tipped over by the family dog, caused an estimated \$2,500 damage last night at the home of Maj. Clyde M. Whitman, 901 S. Carnegie Dr.

The blaze, starting in the den, destroyed that room and caused heavy smoke and heat damage to the remainder of the three bedroom, single story structure.

1961

November 14, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:



—Citizen Photo by Bernie Sedley

FLAMES DESTROY POOLSIDE CENTER

Recently the scene of merrymaking by bathers, this combination snack bar, health center and residence on the Benson highway, was destroyed by flames early

this morning. Damage to the leveled buildings, which were unoccupied at the time, has been estimated at more than \$35,000. Another picture, Page 21.

Next page

November 14, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Explosions, Fires Raze Pool Buildings

By DALE WITTNER

Flames touched off by two separate explosions 100 yards apart this morning destroyed buildings at the Country Club Swimming Pool, 2627 E. Benson Hwy.

The possibility of arson was being investigated after fire fighters found at least 10 empty gasoline or fuel cans at the scene of the three-alarm fire.

The blaze was the second in less than 15 months to damage a building housing the health center, a snack bar and residence. Damage in the August, 1960, fire was set at \$35,000, but it did not touch a second building, another residence-storeroom, leveled this morning.

Fire Chief John Freeman said damage in today's fire would be more extensive.

No one is believed to have been injured in the fire and explosions, which tossed debris 300 yards. The first alarm was sounded at 4:59 a.m. after city Patrolman Ismael Bobadilla saw the blasts from his parked car blocks away.

Fire fighters still were at the scene late this morning, wetting down the ruins.

Freeman confirmed the finding of the fuel cans and the fact that firemen found timbers apparently soaked with gasoline or some other combustible mixture.

"We are investigating the possibility of arson," Freeman said. "However, there are circumstances under which this could be accidental."

Det. Tom Hanning joined Battalion Chief Howard Danielson, the fire department's chief investigator, in the probe.

The pool owner, Joe Blankenship, and his family who usually live in the two buildings destroyed, are out of town, possibly camping in the Mt. Lemmon area.

Blankenship also owns the Country Club Trailer Resort immediately east of the swimming pool.

No damage was reported to the trailer court.

The swimming pool and health facilities had been closed for the season. Larry

Mount, who manages the trailer court for Blankenship, said he was not sure of the Blankenship family's whereabouts.

The force of each of the two blasts blew flaming debris more than 300 yards through the air, Bobadilla reported.

"I saw these two fireballs coming from the direction of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and thought it had been hit," he said.

Four fire engine companies responded to the alarms. A rescue unit also was dispatched but returned when there were no injuries.

As 30 men fought the blaze well into the morning, billows of white smoke and steam continued to rise into Tucson's southern sky.

Whether the buildings were insured and, if so, to what extent could not be determined until authorities contact the operator.

Firemen said the Aug. 23, 1960, fire probably was started by carelessness with a cigarette or spontaneous ignition.

1961

November 14, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:



—Citizen Photo by Bernie Sedley

HOME OF POOL OWNER LEVELED

The home of pool owner Joe Blankenship and an adjoining store room were destroyed by a mysterious fire on the Benson Highway early this morning. Shown here is the razed, single story house as

firemen continued to soak the ruins. The house was located about 100 yards from pool buildings destroyed in a simultaneous blaze. Another picture, story on Page 1.

1961

November 14, 1961, 2627 E. Benson Hwy, TFD—



November 16, 22, 1961:

Fourth Firm Protests Bid Call

Fire Truck Supplier Flays Restrictions

A fourth fire truck supplier yesterday protested the city's restrictive clauses in a competitive bid call for two pumpers estimated to cost about \$60,000.

Frank Fletcher, of Arizona Mack Trucks at Phoenix, said that because Tucson Fire Chief John H. Freeman is seeking a 1091-cubic inch engine in the trucks, Mack's informal bid will "be from \$4,000 to \$5,000 higher than it would with our own engine which will do the job Freeman wants done."

Fletcher said the City Purchasing Dept., which with Freeman drafted the city's requirements for bids returnable to the City Council Nov. 20, should use only the specifications established by the Arizona Rating Bureau and the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

"Then almost any major fire apparatus manufacturer would be able to bid on a competitive basis," Fletcher said.

Fletcher concurred with City Councilman Ray O. Weaver, who has maintained that only one firm can meet all of the city's specifications and submit a formal bid.

The Phoenix representative said he also agreed with officials of American-LaFrance, General Safety Equipment Corp. and W. S. Darley Co., who have said tightly-drawn specifications restrict their bidding. The three have said they will not submit bids.

"We'll be ruled out because our bid will be too high due to the special engine requirement," explained Fletcher. He said that for any other firm than Seagraves to submit a bid will mean the building of an expensive custom-made truck.

The city's last fire truck purchase was from the Thunderbird Sales Co. of Phoenix, sales representative for Seagraves trucks. The city about two years ago purchased from Thunderbird two pumpers (the same as being sought now) and two aerial ladder trucks.

The City of Phoenix specifications for 1,250-gallon-per minute pumpers it bought on competitive bids last year are much looser than Tucson's, allowing more firms to bid.

Tucson's bid call, for example, lists to a quarter of an inch the distance the steering wheel of the vehicle shall be from the driver's seat. Fletcher termed this requirement "ridiculous, a limitation to discourage other bidders."

THURSDAY EVENING

Blankenship Whereabouts Unknown

Police and fire department personnel today still were trying to contact the owner of the Country Club Swimming Pool which was partially destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning.

Joseph Blankenship, owner of the establishment, was out of town at the time the blaze started and still has not been located as far as either police or fire department officials know.

"His brother said he went to Phoenix, but he didn't leave any forwarding address," said Fire Chief John Freeman.

Explosions are believed to have touched off two major fires at the area. Ashes and other evidence gathered at the scene, 2627 E. Benson Hwy, are being tested at the police crime laboratory in an effort to throw more light on the mysterious blazes.

Sixteen five-gallon cans which had contained gasoline and other fuels and some timbers and clothing soaked with the fuel led investigators to believe the fire may have been deliberately set.

The property is reported to be covered by insurance.

Phoenix's bid call describes in much more general terms limitations on distances and widths. Also, it allows for pump performance tests at the altitude of Phoenix (1,100 feet) instead of at sea level, as Tucson has done.

Mayor Don Hummel said at the time Weaver raised the question before the Council that if there were restrictive clauses "then it will be thrashed out when the bids come in."

Councilman Weaver said this week that if further evidence of restrictive clauses is shown Monday during the bid opening, he "will move to have all bids thrown out."

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The property is reported to be covered by insurance.

City Firemen Quell Upholstery Blaze

What appeared to be a large fire from dense concentration of smoke last night in a small upholstery shop, turned out instead to be smoldering fabrics which firemen had to use flashlights to locate.

The fire at Art-Craft Upholstery, 4227 E. Speedway Blvd., had apparently smoldered for about two hours creating a heavy accumulation of smoke which seeped into neighboring shops.

Earlier it appeared as if three small businesses were blazing.

Firemen on entering the shop finally located the fire—a mass of fabrics on a cutting table slowly burning. Only the roof of the establishment was charred.

The call followed another smoldering fire in a box car filled with cotton bales near 22nd St. and the railroad crossing. Firemen assisted in unloading the freight car and inspecting each bale for fires.

November 21, 22, 1961:

City Receives Bids On Two Fire Engines

The city yesterday received three bids for two new fire engines. However, it will not be known until they are tabulated if they are competitive enough to overcome the objections of Councilman Ray Weaver who has complained the bid specifications were too detailed to allow for open bidding.

Weaver said last week that if the city did not receive at least three good competitive

11-21-61
bids he would fight to have the bids thrown out and the specifications redrawn.

Tucson Utility Supply Inc., which handles Mack truck equipment was the apparent low bidder for the two pumps at a total of \$64,131.62.

Contractor & Mining Service Supply Inc., Tucson, representing the Crown Coach Co. bid \$34,004.89 for each of the trucks. It also submitted an alternate bid of \$32,854 for each with some items of equipment eliminated.

Thunderbird Sales Corp. of Phoenix bid \$67,564 total for the two trucks. It handles Seagrave equipment.

The council turned the bids over to the purchasing department to be studied and tabu-

lated to determine if all three came within the specifications laid down in the bid call.

City Studies Bids On Two Fire Trucks

11-21-61
The Tucson distributor of Mack fire trucks submitted the apparent low of three bids opened by the City Council yesterday in a bid call aimed at acquiring two 1250 gallon-per-minute fire pumers for the Tucson Fire Dept.

Tucson Utility Supply Inc. submitted a bid of \$64,131.62, but the question of whether this bid meets all of the city's specifications will depend on a study to be made by City Mgr. Porter W. Homer.

Crown Coach Corp., through Contractor & Mining Service & Supply Inc., of Tucson, submitted two bids on each of the two trucks. Crown's Bid A was for \$34,004.89 each, and \$32,854 each on Bid B.

Thunderbird Sales Corp., of Phoenix, submitted a bid of \$67,564 for the two trucks. It handles Seagraves engines.

Councilman Ray O. Weaver, who recently questioned whether the city's specifications were so tightly drawn they restricted competitive bidding, asked whether all of the bids met the specifications drawn by Fire Chief John H. Freeman and City Purchasing Agent Sidney A. Wilson.

Mayor Don Hummel noted that due to the complexity of the city's requirements spelled out in the bid call it would be difficult to determine without complete study of each bid.

The City Council concurred and referred the matter to the city manager with instructions he study all of the bids to see which one meets the city's requirements.

City's Insurance Plan

11-22-61
QUESTION—Is the City of Tucson's hospitalization-insurance plan a good one? I'm a woman working for the City. It has adopted a fine hospitalization-insurance program for all employes and their families except for one thing. If the wife is employed by the city instead of the husband, she will have the hospitalization only for herself and her dependents—not her husband. Please???—Name withheld by request.

ANSWER—Since we're not in the insurance business, best we provide you with the reason behind this aspect of the plan and hope it helps you to answer the question. The city employe committee, which worked with two University of Arizona staff members in drawing up the program, felt most husbands were covered by insurance programs at their places of employment. Consequently, coverage by the city plan would be duplication. In addition, it was felt that in cases where husbands were not working, the reason would be health. Generally, they would not be working because they were ill or had some physical disability. This would make them a liability on the city's program. That would raise the cost to all city employes if situations such as this were included. The program went into effect Oct. 29. Its terms and coverage are subject to review and revision at the end of one year. Until that time, the city manager's office says there is no possible way to change the plan, even if it were desired.

Fire Damages Upholstery Store

11-22-61
Fire of undetermined origin caused an estimated \$1,500 damage to the Art-Craft Upholstery store at 4227 E. Speedway last night.

Two engines and a ladder company fought the blaze which, firemen said, apparently started near a work table where upholstery material was piled.

About \$200 smoke damage was reported at Lil's Fabrics, next door to the Art-Craft shop, firemen said.

1961

November 22, 24, 1961:

Pool Owner Booked On Tax Count

The owner of the Country Club Swimming Pool, which was the scene Nov. 14 of a mysterious \$50,000 fire, was booked at city jail yesterday on suspicion of failure to make tax returns.

Joseph Ernest Blankenship, 31, of 2627 Benson Hwy., was arrested by detectives on a warrant sworn out by City Finance Director Lloyd Wixson last Aug. 10.

Wixson signed a complaint against the local businessman citing 12 counts of failure to make tax returns from Aug. 15, 1960, to July 15, 1961.

Previous to his arrest, Blankenship could not be contacted, and at the time of the fire, the Blankenship family was believed to have been camping in the Mt. Lemmon area.

The \$50,000 fire was the second within 15 months to strike Blankenship. In August, 1960, a fire swept the building housing a snack bar, health center and the Blankenship residence with an estimated loss of \$35,000.

Investigation of the November fire was launched after police found 16 five-gallon gasoline cans or fuel at the scene, police said.

Meanwhile, Fire Chief John Freeman today said he wants to arrange a meeting "as soon as possible" between Blankenship and Battalion Chief Howard Danielson, chief of the fire prevention bureau here.

Joe Bush, arson investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, also may attend, Freeman said.

"Until we talk to Blankenship, our investigation is at a standstill," Freeman added.



CAVE-IN VICTIM TAKEN FROM ARROYO

One of three children buried in a cave-in at a West Side arroyo is removed by stretcher for transfer to a hospital. Neighbors and members of the Rescue Squad dug the children free.



INJURED GIRL TELLS OF ORDEAL

Linda Garcia, 5, of Avra Valley, comforted by an unidentified boy and a rescue squad member, tells city Det. Robert Harris about the arroyo cave-in which pinned her by the legs and buried her three companions. Linda's injured leg had been placed in a splint by the rescue squad first aid men.

November 24, 26, 1961:

Two Others Injured As Wall Falls

By JAY HALL

Two children died in a West Side arroyo cave-in this morning and two others were injured.

Andy Majuta, 9, and Aurora Bravo, 7, were dead on arrival at St. Mary's Hospital.

Andy's sister, Patricia, 8, was also totally buried but responded to artificial respiration at the scene.

Leg injuries were received by Linda Garcia, 5, of Avra Valley.

Hospital attendants said both Patricia and Linda were in satisfactory condition.

ANDY WAS the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Majuta of 1812 W. Lester.

Aurora was the daughter of Mrs. Artemisia Bravo of 1807 W. Linden.

The tragedy occurred about 8:15 a.m. in an apparently unnamed arroyo meandering through a big open field just to the east of a subdivision lying between Silver Bell road and Chiricahua avenue.

Linda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Armando Garcia, was a niece of Mr. and Mrs. Majuta. The Garcias were visiting the Majutas. Linda's parents had gone back to Avra Valley for a few hours to look in on

their ranch when the tragedy occurred.

Dazed, Mrs. Majuta said her younger son, Roger Majuta, 6, and Armando Garcia, 9, saw the arroyo cave-in bury the children and notified her immediately.

She and Mrs. Bravo quickly hurried to the scene, shouting their alarm to Arden Holstad of 1801 W. Linden St. as they ran to the scene.

HOLSTAD GRABBED a shovel and rakes and joined the mothers. In about 10 minutes, they had Patricia's face uncovered.

"I gave her respiration by breathing into her mouth," said Mrs. Majuta. "When we were sure she was breathing, we didn't bother to uncover her any further, but tried to find the other children first."

"We had two out when the rescue squad (the City Fire Department Rescue Squad) arrived."

RESIDENTS in the area said children attending Tully School, near the scene of the cave in, cross the arroyo from the housing area to reach the school. There are no bridges across the arroyo, only paths of the kind the children were using today.

A committee of the Tully School PTA called a meeting for tonight to discuss possibilities on what action can be taken to force the construction of a bridge over the arroyo.

"WE DON'T KNOW what we can do as the arroyo is federally controlled," said J. V. Stroud, Tully principal.

Stroud suggested that in addition to a bridge, fences should be put up on both sides of the arroyo.

The principal termed the tragedy as "just horrible."

Holstad said it was about 12 minutes after the rescue squad's arrival before Andy was brought out.

"I DUG with my hands and I couldn't get my boy out," Mrs. Majuta wept.

Holstad said no sign of the three buried youngsters was visible when he arrived. He guessed that the cave-in had occurred not more than 10 minutes earlier.

Patricia, he said, was "sort of on her hands and knees underneath the earth," a position he thought might have saved her life by trapping at least a little bit of oxygen.

The arroyo is about eight ft. high and about 15 feet wide. Along with loose dirt, boulder-like hunks of caliche also fell on the children. It was one of these that trapped Linda by the legs.

"THAT CALICHE dirt — when it drops, it drops like stone," said Holstad.

Mrs. Majuta said the children told her this morning, "We're going to take a walk. I said, 'Don't play in the river (arroyo).'"

The accident occurred in the vicinity of the Jolie Ville housing area.

'Live' Fire Engine Proves Key To Boy's Freedom

It took an invitation to see a "real live fire engine" and the tactful persuasion of a fire department captain to convince a three-year-old boy to unlock the door of a bathroom yesterday.

Sean McGee, of 2901 E. 1st St., had locked himself inside the bathroom almost an hour before Capt. Bob Slagel was summoned to assist. Meanwhile the boy had ignored the pleas of his mother, Mrs. Virgil McGee.

Capt. Slagel wasn't even sure he was going to succeed. He called for rescue equipment to pry the door open, but before it arrived, Sean yielded to the temptation of seeing the big red fire engine sitting in front of his home.

1961

November 24, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

November 25, 26, 29, 1961:

Pool Fire Probe To Be Continued

Fire: Chief John Freeman today said his investigators will meet again Monday with Joseph Ernest Blankenship, owner of the Country Club Swimming Pool, to investigate a \$50,000 fire at the pool Nov. 14.

Blankenship, 31, of 2627 Benson Hwy., met with Battalion Chief Howard Danielson of the department's Fire Prevention Bureau and Joe Bush, investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, on Monday of this week, Freeman added.

Also attending the meeting were City Det. Thomas Hanning and Lyndon Gilmore of the Fire Department.

An investigation of the fire was ordered after police reported finding 16 five-gallon gasoline or fuel cans at the scene of the blaze.

Meanwhile, Blankenship is awaiting court action on 12 charges of failure to make city sales tax returns to the City of Tucson. He was arrested on the 12 counts earlier this week.

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ON CITY TAX COUNTS 11/25/61

Country Club Pool Owner Facing Trial

The owner of the Country Club Swimming Pool resort, scene of a mysterious \$50,000 fire Nov. 14, is scheduled for a City Court trial Jan. 19 on a dozen county counts of failure to make city tax returns.

Joseph E. Blankenship, 31, who resided at the pool site, 2627 E. Benson Hwy., pleaded innocent to the charges when he appeared late yesterday.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that Blankenship met Monday with Battalion Chief Howard Danielson of the fire department's Fire Prevention Bureau and Joe Bush, investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Also at the meeting was City Det. Thomas Hanning.

A police investigation of the fire was initiated when

firemen reported finding 16 five-gallon gasoline and fuel cans near the scene of the early-morning blaze.

Blankenship could not be contacted for several days after the fire and was thought to have been camping with his family near Mt. Lemmon.

His arrest by city detectives came Wednesday on a warrant charging the 12 tax violations from Aug. 15, 1960, to July 15, 1961.

The recent pool fire was the second in 15 months to ravage Blankenship's property. The first, in mid-August, 1960, caused an estimated \$35,000 damage to the pool buildings.

11-29-61 Downtown Smoke Mystery Cleared By Dump Check

A thin smoke screen which permeated the downtown area last night alerted police and firemen to the possibility of a concealed fire inside a building.

Two patrol cars were dispatched to cruise the downtown region shortly after 10 p.m. to determine the smoke's origin. Meanwhile the Fire Department reported they were fighting a blaze at the city dump, near 40th St. and Mission Rd.

Officers later said that large gusts of smoke from the garbage fire was carried by the wind into the downtown area. The dump fire, which was reported at 9:01 p.m. burned for more than an hour and a half before it was extinguished.

11-26-61 Two Housewives Overcome By Gas Fumes

Two housewives were overcome by fumes from gas heaters this weekend and were given oxygen by the fire department rescue squad.

Late Friday night Mrs. Lillian Pauline Fogelstrom, 60, was found almost unconscious in her bed by police. She was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where she was in satisfactory condition last night.

Firemen also responded to a similar call at 903 E. Valencia Rd., where Mrs. Opal Ellis, 30, was also overcome by fumes and lack of oxygen. She was revived by the squad's inhalator unit.

Firemen said in both cases the heating units had no means of ventilation.

November 27, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

4-Year-Old Boy's Death Under Probe

Coroner's pathologist Ralph Fuller is conducting tests to learn the cause of death of a four-year-old Tucson boy who suffered a series of seizures Saturday night.

Mike Dominguez, son of Henry Dominguez, of Midville Farm and Tucson, started having the seizures early

Saturday morning while at the home of Mrs. Amelia Alcantar Garcia at 4469 S. 12th Ave., according to police.

Authorities said the boy lived with Mrs. Garcia when his father was working out of town.

Police and a fire rescue unit were called when the boy stopped breathing. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Pima County Hospital.

Dr. Fuller said he expects his tests to take about three weeks.

'Live' Fire Engine

1961

December 1, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1961

PAGE 11



—Citizen Photo By Bill Hopkins

DIESEL TANKER BURNS AFTER CRASH

When the brakes of this diesel tanker gave way, truck driver John Long, 44, of 4819 E. Baker St., was forced to crash off the road to avoid hitting a truck in front of him and possibly injuring a construction worker who was flagging down traffic. But Long was not

aware of the ditch that was between him and the dirt pile he had intended using as a buffer. No sooner had the truck stopped when it burst into flames. Two construction workers helped him out. Accident occurred yesterday on the Freeway, just south of Grant road.

1961

December , 1961, TFD—



DEMONSTRATING THE BATRONIC VENTILATOR - DEC. 1961

December 3, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Drive Launched For Safe Christmas

A Christmas safety campaign for Tucson to guard against tree fires and other hazards of the season was launched yesterday at a meeting of the fire prevention committee of the Chamber of Commerce. William Griffith is the committee chairman. Tom Rallis is chairman of the publicity committee.

The first action of the committee

will be to prepare and distribute 30,000 tags carrying a list of do's and don'ts for those who plan to have Christmas trees in their homes. These tags will be distributed to all tree dealers and the purchaser of a tree can get one by asking for it.

The committee will also soon publish a formula for treating a tree so it will be fireproof. This

can be done by the tree purchaser with the proper chemicals. The fire department will provide the formula for the committee to publish.

After the Christmas holidays the committee will supervise the disposal of trees, with the co-operation of the fire department, the Tucson Association of Insurance Agents and the Boy Scouts.

December 1 & 3, 1961:

5

12-1-61

TUCSON, ARIZO



Faulty Brakes Spell End For Truck

This tanker-truck was destroyed yesterday afternoon when it lost its brakes and crashed into a ditch on The Freeway near Grant Rd. and caught fire. The driver of the truck, which was carrying 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel, was unhurt. City firemen extinguished the blaze in a short time but traffic on the Freeway was tied up for more than an hour. (Jack Sheaffer photo)

Diesel Fuel Truck Burns After Crash Into Ditch

A tanker-truck containing 1,500 gallons of Diesel fuel caught fire and was destroyed yesterday afternoon when the truck lost its brakes and crashed into a ditch on the Freeway near Grant Rd.

The driver of the rig, John Paris Long, of 4819 E. Baker St., told Patrolman Robert McCallister that he was traveling north on the Freeway at about 40 mp.h. when the brakes failed.

Approaching Grant Rd. several cars were in front

of Long waiting to turn onto Grant, the driver said and he headed the truck onto the shoulder in an effort to avoid a collision.

Long got by the traffic but rammed into a 30-foot-deep viaduct being dug for the future Grant Rd. overpass.

The rig caught fire underneath the cab and Long said he jumped out as the fire began spreading to the Diesel fuel.

Four fire engines raced to the scene and doused the

fire but the truck was a total loss, police said. Long was not injured. The truck is owned by Hanson's Direct Service Stations.

Howard Morgan, of 1265 W. Navajo St., was working in the ditch at the time of the crash but jumped out when he saw the truck heading for him. He was not injured, police said.

Traffic along the Freeway was backed up for a half mile in either direction until the fire was extinguished, police said.

Precautionary Measures Cut Fire Hazards

Don't let a costly home fire spoil your Christmas holidays. That's the advice of fire prevention officials, who recommend caution in handling Christmas trees and gift wrappings.

The fire safety experts say that Christmas trees should be kept as moist as possible while they are in homes, and gift wrappings should be disposed of quickly and safely so that they can't catch flame or add fuel to a fire.

An excellent way to keep a Christmas tree moist is to place it in a galvanized steel laundry tub filled with sand. Water can be added to the sand as needed to keep the tree fresh and fire-resistant.

A practical way to use this idea is to place a Christmas tree in its usual holder and then put the holder and tree base in the tub. After sand and water are added to the tub, it is almost impossible to tip over the tree — another safety factor.

When placing lights on a Christmas tree, be sure they are in good repair and do not come into contact with the tree's water supply.

Gift wrappings are special hazards, because gift packages are opened when people are carefree and careless. One cigarette spark may set wrappings on fire.

A safe practice is to collect all gift wrappings and place them in a galvanized steel refuse pail. This type of pail has a close-fitting cover which protects flammable wrapping materials from fire. The sturdy, steel pail can't burn, of course, so even if its contents catch fire, flames are confined to safe areas.

1961

December 2, 1961, Tucson Daily Citizen:

New Mayor, Council To Face Hot Issue Of Fire Engines

The problem of whether to accept bids on two new fire engines will be a thorny business item facing Mayor Lew Davis and the new all-Republican City Council at its first session Monday.

The transition from the old mayor and council to the new will occupy the morning hours.

The new mayor and council will get down to business at 1:30 p.m.

When the city asked for bids on the new pumpers Councilman Ray Weaver, one of the three who will remain on the council, said he thought the specifications were too detailed to provide good competitive bids.

He said if there were not at least three good bids he would ask the specifications be changed and new bids sought.

Three bids were opened two weeks ago. However, in checking them over, officials

find that all have some exceptions to the specifications and one of the bidders—the one with the lowest apparent bid—went so far wide of the specifications the bid may not be acceptable.

The city must accept one or reject all of the bids Monday and the hot potato will be in the hands of the new officials.

They also will consider a demand from the Speedway Merchants Assn. for widening and improvement of Speedway from Wilmot road to the Tanque Verde Loop road.

Most of this stretch is in the county and the association also has asked the Board of Supervisors for some action. But the tricky intersection at Wilmot road is mostly in the city and that would be part of any such project.

City officials are working on a solution for the corner, but there are right-of-way problems to be overcome before anything can be done.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer will recommend to the new council initiation of industrial zoning to set up an industrial park area west of the

Freeway and south of Congress street.

He also will deliver a report on complaints that the parking lot in Himmel park is being used as a lovers' lane.

Bids will be opened for the Winterhaven Subdivision sewer improvement project and the new council will hold hearings on a half dozen routine rezoning cases.

It also will consider for passage the final ordinances on eight rezoning cases previously decided by the old administration. Included will be the controversial Monroe-Rudman rezoning.

A suggestion for a change in bicycle licensing practices and eight routine liquor license applications round out the agenda.

December 3, 1961, Arizona Daily Star:

Drug Firm Opens Mobile Pharmacy

The Ryan-Evans drug store, 531 W. Valencia St., destroyed by fire on Oct. 12, has re-opened its prescription pharmacy in a trailer next door.

The trailer-pharmacy will enable the store to continue its pre-

scription service and delivery until a new store is opened.

E. L. Hawkins, manager of the store destroyed by fire, is in charge of the new prescription pharmacy.

December 3, 6, 1961:

Teamwork Helps Child Win Fight For Life

By DENIS SEARLES

His breathing stopped twice by convulsions but due to his father's immediate aid, and the assistance of police, Fire Rescue, nurses and emergency surgery two-year-old Mark Steward Bradley was apparently winning his fight for life early this morning.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Bradley, of 1553 W. Mohave St., Mark was in critical condition last night at St. Mary's Hospital with a head injury.

Mrs. Bradley, expecting their fifth child, had only praise for the aid Patrolman Ken Bedient, Fire Rescue No. 1 and a Sheriff's Deputy.

"I can't say enough for the patrolman (Bedient), or the rescue squad or the deputy. They're tremendous. Without them I don't think we'd have Mark now."

His father said the child had fallen out of bed Friday night. He appeared all

right but the parents took him to bed with them in case something happened.

It did. Early Saturday morning, Bradley awoke to find Mark in convulsions. Fire Rescue No. 1 was called while the father gave mouth-to-mouth respiration.

Patrolman K. Bedient arrived and assisted Bradley and calmed the family. Fire Rescue gave oxygen to the boy. A Sheriff's patrol car rushed the child to the hospital rather than wait on an ambulance.

Bedient accompanied the stricken child in the elevator to surgery. The child stopped breathing again and two nurses massaged Mark's heart and gave mouth to mouth respiration.

The child failed to respond and surgery was performed to relieve pressure on the brain.

At press time, Mrs. Bradley's sister, Carrol Crowder a registered nurse, was attending Mark. Mrs. Crowder said, "All we can do now is pray and wait each hour."

Fire Damages Room; Loss Set At \$5,000

One of four bedrooms of a \$22,000 house at 3514 Calle Alarcon was damaged by fire yesterday morning. The loss was set at \$5,000. The occupant is Mrs. David Present.

Fire Capt. Richard Bayless said there was smoke and heat damage throughout the house. Damage to bedroom furniture was estimated at about \$2,000.

Firemen, who still are investigating the cause of the blaze, said it may have started from a faulty control of an electric blanket.

Lucsonan Rescued From Gas Fumes

A 93-year-old man was in satisfactory condition yesterday after he was rescued from his gas-filled home Friday night.

Police said they found the home of Chong Ong, of 2914 S. Park Ave., locked with no windows open. A neighbor had reported smelling gas at Ong's house.

Officers, who later found a gas stove burner turned on but unlighted, said that by knocking they awoke Ong, who was able to reach the door. Fire Dept. rescue members gave him oxygen before he was taken to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment.

Police Probe For Arson In House Fire

Police and Fire Department officials are investigating the cause of a \$2,000 fire last night at the home of Eldon E. Carbiener, 6942 E. 4th St. Police said there were indications the home was ransacked and set afire.

Damage to the single-story, three-bedroom home was confined to a central hallway and closet off the master bedroom, police said.

Carbiener told investigators the house appeared to have been ransacked, but could not immediately determine if anything had been taken.

1961

December 4, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

City Firemen Do More Than Battle Blazes

The Tucson **Fire** Department performs valuable public services, other than fighting **fires**, it is reported by the **fire** prevention committee, whose members have unearthed a story to prove just how valuable that service can be.

On Nov. 25 firemen from Station No. 4, Grande avenue and Alameda street, were making a routine inspection tour in the vicinity of the station. Calling at one home, they found a woman suffering from a severe attack of asthma. The inspectors contacted the central **fire** station by radio and summoned the city's rescue truck.

On arrival, the trained personnel from the department got permission from the woman's physician to administer oxygen, called an ambulance and had her removed to a hospital. The department's rescue, emergency and first aid truck is equipped with oxygen, all types of first aid appliances, and tools for extricating injured persons from smashed cars or from any other place of danger.

Members of the committee pointed out that this emergency and rescue service is available to the public without charge. **Firemen** provide it as a part of the day's work.

December 5, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Quick Action With Extinguisher Puts Out **Fire**

F. C. Bair's quick action with a CO2 **fire** extinguisher was credited last night with preventing a worse fire when curtains caught **fire** in the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Bair, 110 E. 2nd St.

The **fire** occurred shortly before midnight when flames, shooting up from the burning contents of a pan overheated in cooking, ignited the curtains over the kitchen sink.

Mrs. Bair's screams for help brought her father-in-law, who lives in a rear apartment, running in with an extinguisher. The **fire** was out when firemen arrived a few minutes later.

Capt. Dick Bayles of the Tucson **Fire** Department estimated total damage at \$12 to \$15.

Fire Does \$1,300 Damage To Home

Fire yesterday caused an estimated \$1,300 damage to the home of Wesley Well, of 1207 E. Mitchell St., Tucson **Fire** Dept. officials said.

Firemen said the cause is believed to have been a forgotten cigarette in an upholstered chair.

December 5 & 7, 1961:

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TUC

Council Sets Aside Problem Of Pending Fire Engine Bids

The problem of pending fire engine bids was considered briefly by the new City Council yesterday and set aside for further study.

The three bids that have been made do not have to be accepted or rejected until Dec. 19 and the council will have another regular session Dec. 18.

The new councilmen want to bone up on the situation before making a decision.

In a report to the council yesterday City Mgr. Porter W. Homer said the apparent low bid submitted by Tucson Utility Supplies, for Mack Trucks, was too far outside the bid specifications to be considered a good bid. The

firm bid \$64,131.62 for two pumpers.

The bids supplied by Contractor and Mining Service Supply of Tucson, for Crown Coach, and by Thunderbird Sales Corporation of Phoenix, for Seagrave trucks, are acceptable although they also have some exceptions to the specifications.

Homer recommended the council accept the Crown Coach bid of \$32,854 for each of the two pumpers needed. Thunderbird bid \$67,564 for both pumpers.

Fire Chief John Freeman appeared at the meeting and told the council the fire truck specifications were drawn by his department from local ex-

perience and with the help of officials in other cities.

Asked whether he was helped by representatives of any of the firms that would bid, Freeman said he was not.

The council discussed at length the problem of the drainageway near Silvercroft subdivision where two small children, Andy and Aurora Bravo, died in a cave in of an embankment.

Residents of the area have asked for a footbridge for the children and have had the materials and labor offered to build it.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer said this could be done, but it might be better to rechannel the drainageway first.

The problem was turned over to Homer and to City Atty. H. Earl Rogge to unsnarl a complicated situation as to the ownership and jurisdiction of the drainageway.

In other business yesterday the council:

Passed an ordinance creating permanent, non-transferable license registration for bicycles and upped the fee from 50 cents annually to \$1 for the permanent registration.

Ordered gates placed on the three entrances to a parking lot in Himmel park, which the neighbors have complained is being used as a lovers lane. The gates will be locked at night.

Okayed the installation of a modern play structure for children in Pueblo Gardens

park. The neighborhood Assn. wants to give the \$500 structure to the city.

Agreed with members of the Craycroft-Wilmot Neighborhood Assn. that it is silly not to pave Camden street in the improvement project even though it is of substandard width. City Engineer Glenton Sykes said it can be done if the councilmen want it and they said to go ahead.

Disagreed with the same group that new water mains should be put in their area right now and said they would look in the cash register and see whether any money was available for the job.

Opened bids for the Wintehaven subdivision sewer improvement project and found GTR Construction Co. was the apparent low bidder at \$63,813.22.

Awarded a \$17,860.85 contract to M. M. Sundt Construction Co. for the Haskell drive, Winstel boulevard paving and sewer improvement project.

Sidestepped passage of a final ordinance on the two-year-old Monro-Rudman zoning case so the new councilmen can become familiar with it before taking action.

Approved four routine zoning cases, turned down one and held up four others for study.

Approved six routine liquor license transfers and refused

Blast, Fire Damage Trailer Home

Firemen checking a home several blocks away dropped the routine investigation and extinguished a trailer fire yesterday at 1625 N. Craycroft Rd.

Damage was estimated at \$400 to the trailer and \$100 to contents. Firemen believe the blaze was touched off by a butane gas explosion. Officials said the occupant, Floyd Weyrauch, was not at home.

A gas burner on a stove was left on, firemen said. A neighbor heard an explosion, saw the flames and summoned help.

1961

December 8, 1961. *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Cigarette Blamed For Building Fire

A smoldering cigarette dropped onto a rooming house bed is believed the cause of a \$1,000 fire in the downtown area early today.

Four roomers at a lodging house owned by Ermenia Juarequi at 141 S. Convent Ave., were driven from their beds by the blaze which broke out about 2:30 a.m.

A frame and tin shed attached to the main building was destroyed and the main adobe and frame building had heavy smoke and heat damage, firemen said.

Damage to the rooming house at the corner of Convent Ave. and Corral St. was estimated as at least \$700. Firemen said damage to contents was about \$300.

Man Unhurt In Trailer Gas Blast

A Tucson man escaped unscathed in a butane gas explosion last night which knocked out windows and buckled sides of his 19-foot camping trailer, causing an estimated \$1,000 damage.

Working in the light of a lantern, Lyman Creek, of 6112 E. 26th St., had just finished repairing a water leak in a hot water heater inside the trailer, parked at the rear of his home.

Creek said he stepped, outside, turned on the gas at a butane tank mounted on one end of the trailer and was returning to the heater.

"About the time I got to the middle of the trailer (inside), it blew," said the owner. Startled but otherwise all right, he quickly doused flames with a water hose before firemen arrived.

Leaking gas, apparently ignited by the lantern, was blamed for the explosion, firemen said.

December 8, 1961:

12-8-61
 Would Charge Property Owner 12-8-

Weed Clearance Statute Is Urged



Vanishing Fire Plug

A yellow-domed fire plug peeks from a morass of weeds along the curb of a northside street, graphically illustrating the problem city officials are confronted with until they find a way to put teeth in existing anti-weed ordinances.

Problem Is Aired By Officials

By DEAN FAIRCHILD

City officials are studying a proposed ordinance amendment which they hope would give them power to charge for weed clearance on private property and readily collect for it.

They're making a move in view of the uncertain future of recommended state legislation which would permit cities to slap a lien on weed nuisance property cleared by city forces.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer said yesterday that City Atty. H. Earl Rogge Jr. had submitted an amendment to him for study which might utilize existing City Charter provisions.

Rogge said recently present state laws authorize cities to pass ordinances permitting them to clean up weed-choked private land and charge the owner for it.

However, there is no provision which would give the city an easily-obtained lien on the property. "We could have a thousand law suits under way at one time to collect for work we've done under the present laws," noted Rogge recently.

Pima County legislators concede legislation which would give cities the authority they seek probably will be introduced at the next session of the Arizona Legislature.

"My guess is the bill will not have clear sailing," said State Sen. David S. Wine, "but we may be able to work it out. I'll check it out with other legislators and see what we've got."

Rep. Douglas S. Holsclaw declared, "I doubt very much whether much will be done with it this year. In principle, I think the bill (amendment to allow the lien power) is good, but it would impose a terrific burden on some property owners."

"I tried once to work out a way where city prisoner labor could do the work, but I don't think even that has much of a chance."

Rep. Etta Mae (Ma) Hutcherson strongly echoed Holsclaw's view. Said she: "I think the City Council should pass an ordinance allowing the city to take those bums and loafers out of jail and put them to work."

Mayor Lew Davis is concerned over the problem from the health angle. He said in substance: health-seekers come here to find relief, only to be subjected to an irritating weed-pollen fallout blast.

"I intend to stay right with this problem," said Davis, adding that he is watching a Phoenix city test case which might result in a decision more favorable to municipalities.

The mayor added, however, he "would rather have adequate laws and to get them we must have the co-operation of the state legislature."

Davis, observing that rural legislators have bucked tightening weed control laws, said he thought the problem might be solved "if legislation were confined to the metropolitan areas of the state."

December 10, 11, 12, 1961:

12-10-61 Planning Is Necessary To Avert Yule Fire

Due to the many traditional customs—such as, colored lights, decorations involving candles and Yule logs in the fireplace—Christmas is not the time to be heedless of fire dangers.

One need not go to extremes about being too careful and not following these traditional customs. All that is needed is common sense, good judgment and a few helpful hints.

Trees, for example, are a big fire hazard if they are not fresh cut. When the freshly-cut tree is brought home, stand it in water until it is brought into the house and keep it in water as long as it is in the house.

Support it well to make sure it does not fall into the fireplace. Also, be careful when smoking near it. Be sure to take it out of the house as soon as possible after Christmas.

Make sure that the tree does not block an escape route. It may look nice from the inside if placed in front of a window, but, in case of fire, that window may be the only exit.

Check lighting sets for frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets. Never use indoor lights outdoors. The weatherproof equipment and cords were designed for a purpose.

the house or retiring. If paper decorations are used near lights, make sure that they are the burn-proof or noncombustible kind.

Most of all, plan in advance what must be done in case of fire. Figure out at least two routes to the outside from every room in the house, especially the bedrooms. Allow for blocking of stairways or hall.

12-12-61 Fireman's Lifesaving Try Fails

Mouth-to-mouth respiration by a policeman and resuscitation efforts of firemen failed to revive an 8-months-old baby yesterday.

Eliaza Diane Cunningham, daughter of Mrs. Don C. Cunningham, of 2009 E. 32nd St., was dead on arrival at Pima County Hospital. The girl's father, private 1st class in the Army, is stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

Mrs. Cunningham summoned help when she found the child, in her crib, was not breathing.

Patrolman Robert Henry gave the child mouth-to-mouth respiration before the arrival of firemen, who used closed-chest cardiac massage and a resuscitator.

Mrs. Cunningham told police that the infant had become ill with a cold during the night and that she had used a vaporizer, as recommended by a family doctor.

Authorities said the death was from natural causes.

12-10-61 Flames Destroy Southside House

A vacant southside house was destroyed by fire last night with loss estimated at \$4,800, firemen said.

Owned by Delbert Hulsey, of Prescott, the three-bedroom, stucco-frame home at 418 W. Canada St. was engulfed with flames when firemen arrived. Cause was unknown.

Engine Companies 13 and 14 laid about 2,500 feet of hose from the nearest fire hydrant three blocks away at W. Dakota St. S. 12th Ave.

12-12-61 Flames Damage Speedway Cafe

An electrical short was believed cause of a \$3,500 fire at an E. Speedway Blvd. cafe last night, firemen said.

Structural damage to the Roundup Cafe, 3208 E. Speedway, was estimated at \$2,500, while content damage was set at \$1,000.

Capt. Matt Garri said the fire apparently started from an electrical extension cord wrapped around a nail in the cafe's kitchen.

12/11/61 Mattress Firm Fire Spectacular

Four engines and a ladder truck answered a call to the Jenkins Mattress Co., 525 W. 22nd St., last night to extinguish used mattresses and upholstery ablaze in a rear lot. Flames were visible a mile away at the outset, witnesses said.

Fire Captain Paul A. Williams declined to place a value on the loss.

December 11, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Deputy County Atty. Kain, Wife Injured In Car Crash

Deputy County Atty. Sidney L. Kain and his wife were reported in fair condition today at Tucson Medical Center after their auto was struck by what police said was a speeding car at Columbus Blvd. and E. 5th St.

Kain, 30, of 924 N. Alvernon Way, suffered a possible fractured spine and multiple cuts and bruises. His 22-year-old wife, Persis, an expectant mother, received a fractured left arm, a scalp cut and scrapes.

Police said Kain was eastbound when his convertible was hit broadside by a southbound auto driven by George T. Taylor, 25, of 6252 E. 27th St.

Taylor, hospitalized overnight for observation, was charged with drunk driving, drunk (accident) and destruction of city property. A passenger in Taylor's car, James H. Chastain, 28, of Davis-Monahan was booked on a drunkenness charge.

Police said Taylor's auto ran a stop sign at an estimated speed of 45 miles per hour. The vehicle knocked over a street sign and a stop sign at the southeast corner of the intersection. Officers said Mrs. Kain was apparent-

ly thrown from her husband's auto and dragged underneath the vehicle.

In other accidents:

Nathan Talbott, 44, of 1521 E. Water St., was in satisfactory condition at St. Mary's Hospital with a concussion suffered in a two-car smash-up last night at E. Grant Rd. and N. Park Ave. Four other persons involved in the accident were released after treatment for minor injuries.

Talbott was a passenger in a northbound car driven by James M. Mahar, 32, of 2030 Calle Alta Vista, which collided with a westbound auto driven by Wilson Hetrick, 21, of Miami. Riding with Hetrick were Joan Brown, 37, and Linda Brown, 18, both of Miami.

No citations were issued. The intersection is signal controlled.

Jarrod J. Yates, 31, of 930 N. 4th Ave., was injured Saturday when his coupe left the Nogales Highway about 30 miles south of Tucson after the motorist apparently went to sleep at the wheel, the Highway Patrol said.

In satisfactory condition at St. Mary's Hospital, Yates suffered a fractured rib and multiple cuts and scrapes

when his northbound auto struck a guard rail, jumped a 30-foot ravine and came to rest 182 feet away in a ditch.

Tucson Fire Capt. Fred Sprung, injured Saturday night in a three-car pileup at N. Country Club Rd. and E. 5th St., was released from Tucson Medical Center yesterday.

He suffered multiple bruises and a possible chest injury when he attempted to make a left turn off Country Club road and collided with a northbound sports car driven by Bonnie Buchman, 18, of 3801 Calle Guaymas. Sprung's auto then collided with a third car stopped at the intersection.

December 12, 1961,
Tucson Daily Citizen:

Fire Razes Home, \$4,800 Loss

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed a vacant stucco-frame home at 418 W. Canada St., Saturday night, resulting in an estimated \$4,800 loss.

Firemen said the three-bedroom dwelling was owned by Delbert Hulsey, of Prescott. About 2,500 feet of hose, laid from the nearest hydrant three blocks away, were used in fighting the blaze.

Natural Cause Ruled In Death

Justice of the Peace Clark H. Johnson said today the death of 4-year-old Mike Dominguez Nov. 25 was of natural cause. The youngster had a history of epileptic seizures, he said.

The boy, son of Henry Dominguez, of 4469 S. 12th Ave., failed to respond to police and fire department resuscitation attempts.

Coroner's pathologist Ralph Fuller recently completed an autopsy and turned his findings over to Johnson.

Auto Firm Fire Damage \$3,500

Fire caused an estimated \$3,500 worth of damage to Desert Auto Sales & Wreckers, 3029 N. Alvernon Way, early today.

Patrolman William Neathery said the blaze was reported at 2:30 a.m. by David Kincaid, 20, of 3250 N. Edith Blvd., who saw it as he was driving past the firm.

Neathery said firemen indicated faulty wiring may have been the cause of the fire. The firm is owned by Kenneth M. Crothers, 25, of 4101 E. 27th St., police said.

1961

December 10, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

John S. Bent Found Dead In Apartment

A 63-year-old man was found dead last night inside his tightly closed apartment at 273 N. Main Ave. Police said an autopsy will be performed to establish the cause of the death.

Members of the Tucson **Fire** Dept. Rescue Squad told police a gas heater in the room was burning when they arrived.

He was identified by police as John Sedgwick Bent, a 30-year Tucson resident.

Bent, well-known about the downtown area, was found standing, his upper body slumped over a chest of drawers near an outside door.

Police Sgt. Ken Ice said it is believed that Bent took his own life. Several notes were found on his person, he said.

Patrolman Nat Russell, who investigated the death, said the gas heater had made the apartment unbearably hot. Bent may have been trying to reach the door when he became unconscious, Russell said.

Police and the **fire** department were called at 5:30 p.m. after a friend, M. B. Korn, and the landlady, Natalie Stevens, found his body.

A veteran of World War I, Bent is survived by a brother, Thomas, of Los Angeles. Reilly Funeral Home is handling the funeral arrangements.

December 11, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Apartment Suffers Damage In **Fire**

Fire caused an estimated \$2,000 damage to an apartment at 948 E. 17th St., last night, firemen said.

The building, owned by John Mararak, was heavily damaged by smoke, according to Tucson **Fire** Dept. reports.

Three engines, under Chief John Steger, were sent to combat the blaze which was first reported at 9:49 p.m. Cause of the **fire** is believed to have been a forgotten cigarette left on a sofa, firemen said.

Bomb Scare In Tucson Is 'Hoax'

A bomb scare at 12:10 a.m. today cleared the Greyhound Bus Station at 28 S. Church Ave. as police hurriedly searched lockers for 12 sticks of dynamite an anonymous caller said would explode at 12:10.

Police said the caller sounded "dead serious, not like a drunk or a crank."

At least 12 patrol cars and a **fire** truck were dispatched to the scene as occupants of the station were routed. An estimated 75 persons were reportedly in and around the station at the time the police notified station officials of the call.

Police found no evidence of a bomb plant.

Three incoming buses were stopped by police a short time the time had passed.

December 11 & 13, 1961:

KTKT Lets It Happen, And Makes News

"If you don't want to hear about it on KTKT, don't let it happen."

This admonition is broadcast daily from Tucson radio station KTKT.

Today the radio station and its disc jockeys ignored their own advice.

Shortly after 8 a.m. they let it happen. And whether you hear about it or not, you can still read about it.

A short circuit in a tiny remote control unit almost caused a fire. The instrument smoked and the fire alarm was turned in promptly.

Three trucks from the Tucson Fire Department rushed to the scene. Traffic was at a standstill at North Stone Ave. and Alameda St. for about 15 minutes. There was no fire.

But KTKT had made news by letting it happen.

City Will Buy Fire Engines Next Monday, Mayor Says

The hassle over fire engine bid specifications ground to a halt yesterday after the City Council considered all the objections in an informal session.

"We are going to buy the fire trucks on Monday" Mayor Lew Devis said following the session.

Some of the council members had felt the specifications might be too restrictive for competitive bidding and the council was considering throwing out the bids and specifications and starting all over again.

Yesterday's decision means the council probably will accept the recommendation of City Mgr. Porter W. Homer and buy two Crown Coach pumper trucks from Contracting & Mining Service Supply Co. of Tucson at \$32,854 each.

The firm made the lowest of the two acceptable bids. Thunderbird Sales Corp., Phoenix, handling Seagrave equipment, bid \$33,782 for each. Tucson Utility Supplies Inc., handling Mack Trucks, bid a low \$32,065 for each, but Homer and Fire Chief John Freeman ruled the bid out because of unallowable variances to the specifications.

Freeman explained the specifications had been drawn by combining specifications used by Los Angeles and other Southwest cities and altering them to fit Tucson's needs. "These specifications were tailor-made to meet our problems here," he said.

Councilman James Kirk said he feels the city should draw specifications around performance requirements and not name specific equipment and measurements to be included.

Homer said the city does not have the trained personnel or testing facilities for this kind of complex specifications.

It has to depend on its experience and the finding of other cities.

Tucson expects to get 20 years of life out of its equipment and therefore must insist on engines that have a long life. "It is also a life or death matter when fire equipment fails. We don't think this is a field in which we should experiment. I wouldn't recommend it," Homer said. "It represents too much of a risk."

Vice Mayor Charles Branin said he did not understand why there were so few bids.

Representatives of the major fire equipment firms present explained there are only five firms in the country that produce the kind of custom-made fire engines Tucson is seeking. One makes no bids in the West.

The others are Crown, Mack, Seagrave and American

La France. Representatives of American La France told the council the firm could have bid by making exceptions to the specifications but felt its bid could not be successful and did not present one.

Much of the discussion centered on the Hall-Scott engine the fire department feels gives the kind of power and performance it wants. The bid specified this engine should be in the equipment, but left room for the use of engines with the same performance characteristics.

The La France representative said his firm uses another engine exclusively and added that the company's engineers feel it does the best job, although it does not come within the specifications laid down by the City of Tucson.

The Crown Coach bid included the Hall-Scott engine.

December 13 & 19, 1961:

Freeman Defends Choice Of Trucks

12-13-61
**Fire Department's Specifications Are
Tied To City's Needs, Chief Declares**

Fire Chief John H. Freeman declared yesterday the specifications written for two fire pumper trucks costing about \$65,000 and needed by the city were tailor-made to Tucson's requirements and were not restrictive in nature.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer backed up the chief during an informal City Council session called by Mayor Lew Davis to give the press, the public and fire truck firms and their representatives an opportunity to raise further questions first broached by Councilman Ray O. Weaver.

Weaver maintained that when the city called for competitive bids on the two trucks Freeman and City Purchasing Agent Sidney A. Wilson may have drafted specifications too tightly, shutting out bidders.

City has received bids. The Council is scheduled Monday to make a decision on whether to award purchase contracts to Crown Coach Corp. (as Homer recommends) with a low bid of \$32,854, or the Seagrave Corp. with a bid of \$33,782.

Homer rejected the \$32,065.81 bid of Mack Trucks Inc. on the grounds its bid "is not in sufficient conformity with the specifications to be considered."

At yesterday's session, Homer said the city was attempting to get quality equipment it will use for some 20 years. He said he was also concerned over performance, adding that "We are going on general knowledge gained over a period of years from our department and others. This is a life and death matter and we cannot afford equipment which might fail."

Councilman James L. Kirk suggested the city draft its specifications for engines for the trucks around engine performance curves and other engineering tests.

Kirk pointed out the University of Arizona and independent testing laboratories might be utilized to get the city the best equipment for its money "instead of leaning toward proprietary interests."

Kirk maintained broadening the specifications "would get us more bids and it would be axiomatic the bids would be lower."

Homer disagreed on the basis that the city hasn't the personnel to prepare finely detailed specifications "and further this is not an area for experimentation and I'm going to recommend against it."

Councilman C. E. Branin said he was concerned because only three firms bid. Why not more bidders? he asked.

Representatives of fire truck manufacturers agreed there are only about six or seven major firms which manufacture the type of equipment the city requires.

From three of them the

12-19-61 Council To Be Asked To Buy Fire Trucks

A proposal that the city buy for \$65,708 two fire pumper trucks from the Contractor Mining Service & Supply Co. of Tucson will be presented to the City Council Monday, City Mgr. Porter W. Homer said yesterday.

He said the Council would be asked to grant an extension of time to the The Ashton Co. Inc., contractors, and architects Friedman and Jobusch, to complete construction of the \$622,875 City Hall addition dedicated by former Mayor Don Hummel Dec. 3.

Homer said he was recommending that the Council authorize the purchase of Crown Corp.'s 1250-gallon-per-minute pumpers through the Tucson firm on the basis that it was the best bid submitted.

Previously, Councilman Ray O. Weaver had complained that specifications for the trucks had been too tightly written, restricting firms from bidding.

1961

December 13, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Thieves Set **Fire** To Curio Shop

Burglars broke into the Minniehaha Curio Shop, 4914 E. Speedway, yesterday morning, started a **fire** and stole a \$60 table model radio, police reported.

The **fire**, which caused an esti-

mated \$300 damage to merchandise and \$200 to the building, was brought under control by the Tucson **Fire** Department.

Fire Inspector Howard Danielson and City Detective Kenny cated the **fire** was set by "persons unknown." Entry was made by breaking a rear window in the building, police reported.

Owner Anna Thies said two youths, about 16 to 17 years old, were in the shop Wednesday afternoon "acting suspiciously."

1961

December 14, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*: Former TVFD member.

Arizona Album

CITIZEN DEC 14 1961
MAYORS OF TUCSON

Edited By Albert R. Buehman 46-25-73



CHARLES MOSES STRAUSS

Mayor 1883-1884

Tucson's first public library, the largest in the territory at that time, was established through the efforts of Charles M. Strauss during his term as mayor.

He also inaugurated bond issues to finance construction of a city hall, fire station and hospital.

Strauss was born Apr. 15, 1840, in New York City and educated in Boston. He came to Tucson in 1880 and entered the merchandising firm of L. Zeckendorf & Co., predecessor to Steinfeld's.

He became mayor Jan. 8, 1883, and served until Aug. 4, 1884, resigning when the Council adopted a resolution over his veto.

He is credited with starting the sale of bonds to begin construction of University of Arizona buildings before the 14th Legislature could repeal the act which had created the institution.

Strauss died Mar. 13, 1892. (Photo courtesy Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society).

December 15, 1961:

'Samaritan' Burned Out

By DOMINIC CROLLA

Clutching the charred remains of an old Bible, 79-year-old Joseph Kimble sat this morning in the ruins of his 3-room house at 1043 E. 25th St., contemplating the fire that last night had cost him everything but the clothes on his back.

Heavy rain dripped huge puddles on the floor as the old man sat on the coil springs of a steel bed surveying the rubble that yesterday was home.

Nothing could be salvaged. Everything was gone. Even the \$30 he had put aside to help make Christmas a happy one for some of his relatives and neighbors.

"Old Mister Kimmie," as the neighborhood children call him, is known throughout the area in which he lives for his goodness of heart.

Now he is in need.

The fire that destroyed his home and all his possessions started at 10:20 p.m. while he was away caring for a friend's house. A neighbor came by and told him his house was on fire. A carelessly discarded

cigarette is believed responsible.

Kimble's possessions are few. But his friends are many.

They are not going to let him down, said neighbor Roy Robinson, of 1044 E. 24th St.

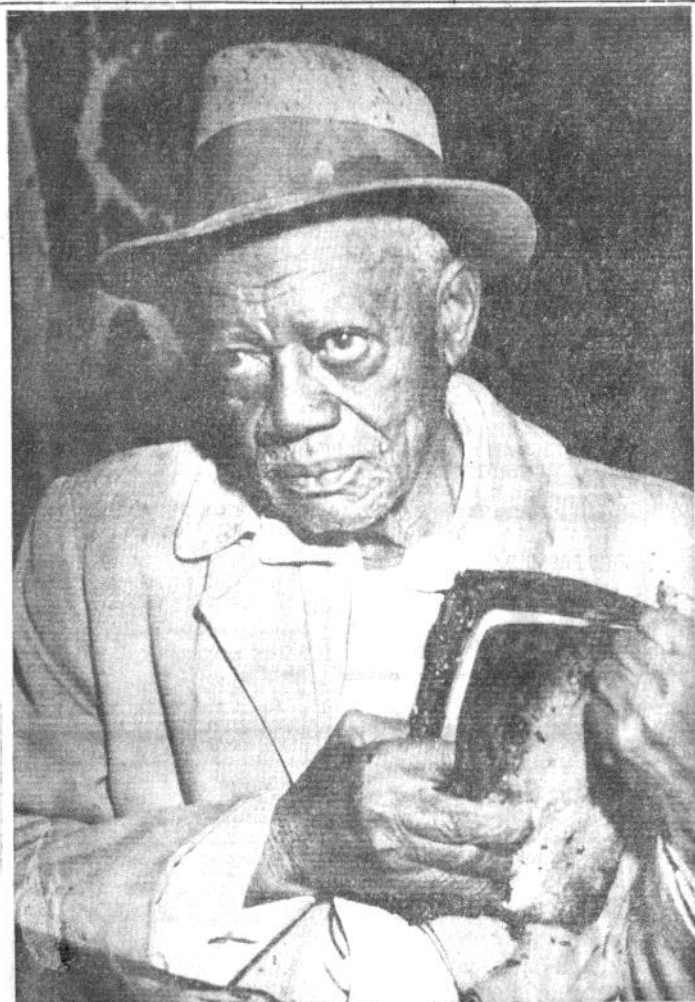
"He's always helped others in need by getting them clothing and helping the Elks Club provide Christmas food baskets. My kids think the world of him. They go over every morning to see him.

And when the fire started, they wanted me to make room for him at my house," said Robinson.

The old man will stay at a friend's vacant house "until I can build my own again."

"It's not going to be easy," he said. "I'm not as young as I used to be."

Firemen estimated damage to the building at \$1,000. Value of the contents was set at \$700.



12-15-61

HIS HOME GONE

—Citizen Photo By Dan Tortorelli

For Joseph Kimble, a Bible is his only consolation.

December 16, 19,
1961:

City Finally Accepts Bid On Two Pumper Trucks

By PETER STARRETT

After an additional hour of discussion over bid specifications, the City Council yesterday voted unanimously to accept the bid of the Crown Coach Corp. for two new pumper trucks.

Crown, represented by Contracting & Mining Service Supply of Tucson, bid \$32,854 each to supply the trucks.

The only other acceptable bid was made by Seagrave Corp., represented by Thunderbird Sales of Phoenix, at \$33,782 each. Mack Trucks, represented by Tucson Utility

Supplies, bid \$32,065 each, but the bid was rejected because of too many exceptions to the specifications.

When the bids were called for Councilman Ray Weaver objected that the specifications were too detailed to get good competitive bids.

Weaver said yesterday he thinks the city is getting its money's worth, but he still doesn't like the way it arrived at the decision.

Mayor Lew Davis and others indicated they would like to see broader specifications on future bid calls.

Most of the discussion time was taken up listening to William Benedict, who was a fire chief for the armed forces in the South Pacific during World War II and said he has bought millions of dollars worth of fire equipment. He is now building superintendent of the State Office Building here.

Terming the specifications "mumbo jumbo," Benedict said the city didn't need the 1,250 gallon per minute pumpers and could get by with less equipment and smaller trucks that would pump 700 gallons per minute.

Fire Chief John Freeman explained to the council that the insurance underwriters set insurance rates by the pumping capacity the fire department has in a given area. The big pumpers give efficient, high-capacity pumping, he said.

Smaller trucks could be used, but the city would need more of them to reach the same pumping capacity and this would require extra crews and higher equipment expense.

"We don't often use the full capacity of the big pumpers," Freeman explained, "but it's awful nice to have it there in an emergency when you need it."

FIRE VICTIM

Friends Offer Help To Homeless Man

Homeless Joseph Kimble's Christmas may be a happier one after all.

On Thursday night, fire burned down his house and left him with nothing but the clothes on his back.

Yesterday, as a result of a story in the Citizen, the

79-year-old man learned that his possessions might be few but friends were many.

Touched by the poor man's misfortune, donors have offered to send money, clothing, bedding and labor to rebuild Kimble's house. An appliance dealer offered to give him a refrigerator and possibly a cook stove and breakfast set.

Kimble has brought a little happiness into the lives of people in the past by gathering clothing and distributing it to the needy, said a neighbor, Roy Robinson, 1044 E. 24th St.

"Now the shoe is on the other foot. Mr. Kimble needs the charity now," he added.

Robinson said he is willing to receive donations for the old man and would be willing to coordinate efforts to help him.

Meanwhile, Kimble is staying with a friend at 1702 S. Cherry Ave.

Two Suffer Monoxide Poisoning

Two residents of the Stage Coach Ranchette motel, 8504 Nogales Hwy., were listed in fair condition at St. Mary's Hospital this morning after suffering monoxide poisoning in their bedroom, the Fire Dept. reported.

The victims are Ray Ellyson, 53, and Ames Thomas, 44.

Fire Dept. Rescue Unit No. 1 was summoned to the scene shortly before 7 a.m. after Ellyson awoke and found he could not move. Thomas summoned help from the motel office and both men were sitting in a dazed condition in the office when firemen arrived.

December 17, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Telepathy Gets **Fire** Engine To Back Up Plea

Enrique Andrade, who operates an auto wrecking plant on the Freeway near 19th street, must have thought he was getting super-service from the city **fire** department yesterday.

Andrade, who has been forbidden to burn cars because of a new anti-smoke ordinance, was asking the City Council to have firemen come down for a demonstration to show he doesn't violate the law.

As he spoke, the wall of fire engine sirens interrupted. Engines were approaching city hall lickety-split.

They pulled up in front and it was found that a false alarm had been turned in from the box at the corner.

After the Councilmen returned to their places, they gave Andrade permission to arrange his demonstration.

December 19, 20, 23, 1961:

Christmas Tree Safety Measures Outlined

Fire Chief J. H. Freeman's idea of a merry Christmas is a holiday without fires. He suggests:

First, never leave small children alone in the house.

Second, have fireproof decorations, put the tree up just before Christmas and take it down afterward as soon as it dries out.

Third, turn off the electricity in the Christmas decorations when you leave the house and before you go to bed.

Something new in perils to Christmas trees is a product of modern industry. Freeman says "spun glass" by itself

is non-flammable. Likewise, the "snow" from aerosol spray cans by itself won't burn, either.

But mix the "spun glass" with the "snow" and a new substance is created that will burn, the fire chief said.

You must use one without

the other, if you want to be safe.

"If a Christmas tree," said Freeman, "is covered with 'spun glass' and then sprayed with 'snow' the tree may become more of a fire hazard than it already is."

Since the pine tree itself is easily set on fire, Freeman suggests precautions to keep it from becoming a torch.

Locate the tree out of the home traffic lanes, so it won't be knocked down easily. Brace the tree well and put

in a cool part of the house.

Use only flame-proof decorations. Never use candles in the tree. When needles near a light turn brown, move the bulb. Never use worn, threadbare electric cords. Keep the switch to the lights away from the tree.

Don't build the electric railroad under the tree.

Keep the paper wrappers and other litter cleaned up. Have plenty of ashtrays on hand. And choose a little tree instead of a big one—the fire hazard is less.

Boy Who Drank Oil Improving

A two-year-old boy who drank camphorated oil yesterday was still in critical condition "but improving" at Tucson Medical Center today.

Douglas Mifflin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip W. Mifflin, 4561 E. 31st St., is reported to have had a convulsion after swallowing the medicine. His mother said she had used it for treatment of a cold.

A fire rescue unit induced vomiting with soap and water and the stricken child was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital where the boy's stomach was pumped. Later, he was transferred to Tucson Medical Center.

THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Swimming Pool Owner Accused Of Assault

The owner of the Country Club Swimming Pool, Joe E. Blankenship, was arrested yesterday afternoon on a simple assault charge when he allegedly "roughed up" a sheriff's civil deputy who attempted to attach some property to satisfy a tax lien.

Blankenship was booked in the County Jail on the misdemeanor charge and was released on bond.

Deputy Fred P. Gerold said he went to the Golden Pan Restaurant, located near the Country Club Swimming Pool, 2627 Benson Hwy., to execute a tax warrant.

Gerold said Blankenship began arguing with him about attaching the property. Gerold said he then got a cup of coffee and while he was drinking it Blankenship grabbed him by the tie and began jerking him around.

Blankenship was then brought to the sheriff's office where a complaint was obtained from the county attorney's office charging the suspect with simple assault.

The swimming pool, of which Blankenship is the proprietor, recently was leveled by the second fire in nearly a year, causing an estimated \$50,000 damage.

The fire is still under investigation by fire and police officers, who said that several five-gallon cans of gasoline were found among the debris

after two violent explosions apparently ignited the blaze.

December 19, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Merchant Faces Arson Charge

Carl Teguns Accused Of Agreeing To Pay Another Man To Set **Fire** To His Store

By DICK ALEXANDER

Carl Teguns, president of the Seat Cover King, 941 N. Stone Ave., was charged yesterday with agreeing to pay another Tucson businessman, Mathew Ginsburg, \$10,000 to set **fire** to Tegun's business establishment last Oct. 9.

A complaint, authorized by the county attorney's office, was filed yesterday afternoon in Justice Court No. 2 charging Teguns, 46, with two counts of arson to defraud the insurer, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. City police said they would attempt to pick up Teguns today.

Meanwhile, County Atty. Raul H. Castro said that Ginsburg and Howard A. Starr, operator of the Golden West Amusement Co., will be state's witnesses and tell what they know about the case.

Ginsburg, manager of the Vim Appliance Store, pleaded "guilty" Nov. 22 to third degree arson and was placed on a probation of two years by Superior Court Judge Herbert F. Krucker.

Starr, 27, has been remanded to Superior Court on a third degree arson charge but no information has ever been filed against him.

Four airmen stationed at the Mt. Lemmon Radar Station gave statements to police the night of the **fire**, placing Starr and Ginsburg at the scene shortly before a **fire** broke out on a display counter.

Damage, limited to the counter, seat covers and chrome accessories, was estimated at about \$150.

The complaint alleges that Teguns intended to defraud the New Zealand Insurance Co. and the Employers Casualty Co.

It further accuses Teguns and Ginsburg of feloniously conspiring and "agreeing between themselves to commit the crime of ar-

(Continued On Page 11A, Col. 1)

Police File Charges Of Arson

(Continued from Page One)

son and arson with the intent to defraud the insurer."

According to the complaint, the following "overt acts" were committed by the pair:

They met at the home of Teguns (940 E. Edison St.) and planned the "aforesaid crimes" and later met at the Tucson Inn's Bagdad Room.

"At the Bagdad parking lot the defendant dropped his keys to the Seat Cover business establishment and Mathew Ginsburg picked the said keys up as had been previously agreed."

Ginsburg, in compliance with his agreement, would be paid \$10,000 for his efforts and go to the Seat Cover King and sprinkle gasoline throughout the premises and start a **fire** according to the complaint filed by City Detective Kenny Chronister.

At a preliminary hearing on Oct. 28 before Justice of the Peace Clark H. Johnson, the self-styled auto seat cover king, called as a state's witness, testified that his business "was very good" and he had made a "substantial profit since the beginning of the year."

He said at the hearing that he "sure don't know of anyone who would want to set **fire** to my store."

When asked at that time if he agreed to pay Starr anything to start the **fire**, Teguns replied, "Absolutely not."

Bond on the arson counts has been set at \$5,000.

1961

December 21, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Former TVFD member:

12-21-61
Arizona Album

MAYORS OF TUCSON
Edited By Albert R. Buehman

+12-73



HENRY H. BUEHMAN
Mayor 1895-1899

Born in Bremen, Germany, May 14, 1851, Henry H. Buehman became a master photographer. He came to the U.S. in 1868 and traveled from New York to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

Traveling by mule-drawn wagon in 1874 and headed for Mexico, he abandoned his plans when he reached Tucson. He settled in the Old Pueblo and opened a photographic studio.

He was elected public administrator of Pima County in 1882 and held the office two years. He also served as school trustee and county supervisor. He served two consecutive terms as mayor of Tucson. He died Dec. 19, 1912.

His son, Albert R. Buehman, has been politically active in the Republican Party and is a prominent citizen of modern Tucson. (Photo courtesy Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society).

December 19 & 26, 1961:

Unanimous Vote 12-19-61

Council Okays Buying Of 2 Fire Trucks

Mayor Hints That Next Request May
Avoid Controversial Specifications

By DEAN FAIRCHILD

The City Council unanimously authorized yesterday the purchase of two \$32,854 fire-pumper trucks before Mayor Lew Davis hinted that the next request would be written around less controversial specifications.

Councilmen sanctioned buying the trucks from the Crown Coach Corp. through Contractor and Mining Service and Supply Co., Tucson, after testimony from Fire Chief John H. Freeman and William Benedict, a former U.S. Air Force fire chief in the South Pacific.

Benedict said he "never saw such a bunch of mumbo-jumbo in my life" as were the specifications the city put out to get bids for two 1,250-gallon-per-minute pumpers. He maintained the city could have gotten by with smaller, less expensive trucks.

"I can't see any justification for the trucks you are asking for . . . the price is unreasonable . . . and I estimate you could buy trucks to do the job for \$25,000 each," Benedict said.

Freeman strongly disagreed. He said the city needed the larger trucks, for with smaller ones more trucks would be required. The chief said the National Board of Fire Underwriters had not requested the city to have 1,250 gallon pumpers "but it's awfully nice to have them in an emergency."

The chief further declared the larger trucks, together with the city's heavier equipment, would help keep fire insurance premiums down.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer concurred, seconding the statement that additional trucks, crews, fire stations would be needed if the city bought more of the less-expensive, smaller trucks.

"In terms of dollars and cents," said Homer, "the point is to bring comparable volume (of water) into a given area."

Mayor Davis declared the city might or might not save as much as 10 per cent by buying smaller trucks "but we are saving taxpayers thou-

sands and thousands in insurance premiums."

Last Oct. 2, Councilman Ray O. Weaver termed the specifications which brought three qualified bids "restrictive." But yesterday he seconded the motion, made by Councilman James L. Kirk, that the purchase contract go to Crown.

Weaver said he thought the city was buying "excellent pieces of equipment, but I don't think we got it in the right way. The extra money is not wasted, but we are paying a top price. The only quarrel I have is the way we arrived at it."

Davis, after the Council had awarded the contract, said he hoped that Freeman and Homer would take note of the complaints raised and that future specifications would be drawn in a manner which might preclude challenges.

Kirk noted that the American LaFrance Corp. which did not bid, it said, because it did not have the Hall-Scott engine Freeman wanted had asked that all bids be thrown out and a new bid call issued.

However, Kirk agreed a time delay and other factors might preclude calling for another bidding session.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1961

Make This Christmas Free From Tree Fires

Tucsonans were cautioned yesterday about the use and care of Christmas trees during the holiday season in regard to fire prevention.

Fire Chief John H. Freeman warned that "spun glass" and artificial snow used for decorations are nonflammable materials when used by themselves but when the spun glass is sprayed with the "snow" a flammable substance is created.

Freeman said that if a tree is covered with the spun glass and then sprayed with the snow, the tree then becomes more of a fire hazard than it already is.

The fire chief offered these suggestions for a fire-safe holiday:

1—Choose a small tree. It is less dangerous than a large one and just as pretty.

2—Set the tree up just before Christmas. Keep it outdoors until then.

3—Place the tree in a cool part of the house. Never let it block an exit, and brace it so it can't be knocked over.

4—Keep the tree in wet sand or water.

5—Use only flameproof decorations, and only flameproof cotton.

6—do not put electric trains under the tree.

7—Use approved light

cords. Be sure light cords are in good condition.

8—Never use candles.

9—Have a remote switch to control the tree lights away from the tree.

10—Keep gift wrappings cleaned up and away from open flame and heat.

11—Turn the lights off when no one is home and when you retire.

12—When the tree needles near the lights turn brown, move the lights.

13—When the needles start to dry out or begin dropping off, dispose of the tree.

14—Never leave young children alone at home.

15—Have adequate ash trays.

\$500 Is Taken From Market

Two men followed owner Jack Lichtenstein into the Western Market, 828 N. Stone Ave., this morning and robbed him of an estimated \$500.

Lichtenstein told Patrolman Peter Wright the men kept their right hands in their pockets as though they had guns. He said they followed him into a back room and forced him to take the money from the store safe.

Lichtenstein said both men were between 25 and 30 years old and wore Levi jackets and pants. One was a Negro and the other white, he added.

"Business was lousy. I came down today to get a few extra shekels, but I guess I'd have been better off if I had stayed at home," Lichtenstein commented.

December 25, 26, 1961:

12-25-61
CONDITION 'FAIR'**Boy, 11, Is Burned
Playing With Gas**

By RON LONGENBAUGH

"It could have been a lot worse—we thank God it wasn't," said a Tucson mother whose 11-year-old son suffered severe burns yesterday.

The victim, Richard Ramer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doyn W. Ramer, of 1515 S. Cloverland Blvd., apparently was playing with gasoline in a utility room at his parents home when it ignited.

The boy was listed in fair condition at Tucson Medical Center with second-degree burns on his face, arms and stomach and third-degree burns on his right leg.

The boy was alone at the

time. "We had just gone over to our pastor's house to pick up some pills for my cold," said Mrs. Ramer. She added that she and her husband were away only several minutes.

She said her son took the can of gas into the storeroom and was playing with it when the fluid was apparently ignited by a hot water heater.

Patrolman James Van Hoff said neighbors heard the boy screaming and ran to his aid.

An unidentified man was credited with helping the boy put out the fire on his clothing. He left the scene before the child's parents could get his name.

Van Hoff said the boy's socks had burned away and his jeans were partially burned.

A fire rescue unit gave oxygen to the child, semi-conscious and suffering from shock, until the arrival of an ambulance.

Firemen said neighbors doused the fire in the storage room area before their arrival. Loss was negligible they said.

12-26-61
Within 4½ Hours**Robbers, Fire
Rack Market**

**Owner Opens Store To Two Bandits,
Closes It On Cutting Room Flames**

Jack Lichtenstein opened up the Western Market yesterday morning and within 4½ hours had an armed robbery and a fire.

The first "customers" he had when the front doors were opened about 9 a.m. were two men wearing matching blue denim jackets, who robbed him of slightly under \$1,000.

At 1:22 p.m., a few minutes after Lichtenstein had closed the market, a fire alarm was turned in. A blaze of undetermined origin caused an estimated \$3,500 damage in the meat cutting room.

Lichtenstein, 65, told police he had just opened the safe when he heard a voice say, "Let's have it . . . Keep quiet . . . Don't look up." One of the two men, tall and dark complexioned, had his hand in his jacket pocket as if pointing a gun.

After putting the cash in a paper bag the men forced the market owner into the produce section of the store and then fled.

The fire started in the meat cutting room, which was extensively damaged. Firemen chopped holes in the roof to let the hot air escape.

Lichtenstein told officers he thought he smelled something just before he closed the market but thought nothing of it. The store contained about \$20,000 worth of groceries, but only the perishables were damaged.

12/26/61
**\$3,500 Fire Hits Market
On Heels Of \$500 Holdup**

Four hours after the proprietor was robbed of \$500, fire struck the Western Market at 828 N. Stone Ave. yesterday, causing damage to the interior estimated at \$3,500.

Firemen said an electric heater in a meat-cutting room apparently caused the blaze.

No estimate was given for damage done to the market's contents, valued at some \$20,000, firemen said, but perishable goods in the main part of the store suffered smoke damage.

Equipment in the meat-cutting room was considered a total loss, it was reported, and the room badly charred.

Early arrival of fire fighters was credited with saving the building from further damage.

The fire was halted just as it spread to the attic, which had no firewall and ran the length of the building, firemen said.

Proprietor Jack Lichten-

stein, victim of the earlier robbery, said he thought he "smelled something" just before closing the store, but thought nothing of it at the time. Later, he decided to check the store and discovered the blaze.

Lichtenstein told police two men—one a Negro, the other white—came into the store, followed him into a back room and forced him to take the money from the safe.

December 25, 26, 1961:

12-25-61

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—Citizen Photo

WOODRO BECOMES A CHIEF

Woodro Dent, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum's pack rat, became the first assistant chief of the Tucson Fire Department for his dedicated work in fire prevention. Woodro, who is a faithful member of the Desert Ark educational project animal crew, works constantly to remind children not to play with matches. Woodro received his badge from Tucson Fire Chief J. H. Freeman.

DAMAGE AT \$2,200

12/26/61

4 Cars, Fence Set Afire; Probe On

Chief Howard M. Danielson of the Tucson Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau today launched an investigation of four man-set car fires and a fence blaze reported on the South Side within a 1½ hour period early yesterday.

The blazes, apparently set by a person using gasoline, lighter fluid or some other combustible mixture, caused approximately \$2,200 worth of damage, according to police.

A late model foreign car, from Avis Rent-A-Car Service, 139 N. Scott Ave., was a total loss following a fire of undetermined origin which was reported at 4:03 a.m., police said. Robert Abernathy, of 34 W. Columbia St., renting the car, attempted vainly to fight the blaze which engulfed the \$1,600 vehicle.

Shortly before 5 a.m., fire damaged a car belonging to H. W. Sellon, 35, of 319 W. Aviation Dr.

Sellon told officers he awoke yesterday morning to find the car ablaze with damage later estimated at \$500.

A Pima County Recreation Department station wagon, parked in front of the home of Gilbert Ray, of 331 W. Michigan St., received some \$50 in damage from a fire.

Less than a block away, at 431 W. Michigan St., another \$50 car fire was reported by Paul Galvez Caltio, the owner.

Mrs. Frances F. Walsh, of 4522 S. 11th Ave., told police someone set fire to a fence around the Tom Thumb Nursery, 4532 S. Elida Ave. The loss was estimated at \$10.

December 24, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Warning Removed House Occupants Just In Time

Warning of a possible **fire** hazard came just in time for Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Larson, 2321 N. Madelyn Circle, yesterday. **Fire** broke out in the \$21,500 home scant hours after the Larsons vacated the house.

Larson, an independent distributor for Tucson Newspapers, Inc., told reporters that he had had an insurance adjustor at the home only yesterday morning to check on a leak in a water pipe which had damaged a rug.

The pipe was leaking, the adjustor told Larson, but that was nothing; there was also a very serious gas leakage—so serious, in fact, that the Larsons and their seven children shouldn't remain in the house until it was repaired.

Larson said he moved the children and most of the family's clothes to the homes of friends.

Last night at about 7:45, the **fire** started, but not as a result of the gas leak. Electrical wiring in a hall closet between the children's bedrooms short-circuited, burning bedroom doors, rugs, walls, clothing, and putting a fair-sized hole in the roof, the Catalina **Fire** Department reported.

December 25, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Fire Guts Frame House; Damage Set At \$6,000

Fire early yesterday gutted a frame house at 1932 W. Pabasco Dr. and caused an estimated \$6,000 damages, sheriff's deputies said.

The house, owned by Carolyn Sumner, was completely wrapped in flames shortly after the **fire** was discovered at 1:15 a.m. yesterday.

No one was injured in the blaze, as the family had recently vacated the house and moved to a new home 50 feet away.

Deputies John Walker and John Horner fought the **fire** until the arrival of the Drexel Heights **Fire** Dept., who prevented the flames from spreading to nearby homes. Leaping flames destroyed nearby telephone poles and lines.

The **fire** was believed to have started from a hot plate left burning on Monday, deputies said.

December 25, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

CONDITION 'FAIR'

Boy, 11, Is Burned Playing With Gas

By RON LONGENBAUGH

"It could have been a lot worse—we thank God it wasn't," said a Tucson mother whose 11-year-old son suffered severe burns yesterday.

The victim, Richard Ramer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doyn W. Ramer, of 1515 S. Cloverland Blvd., apparently

was playing with gasoline in a utility room at his parents home when it ignited.

The boy was listed in fair condition at Tucson Medical Center with second-degree burns on his face, arms and stomach and third-degree burns on his right leg.

The boy was alone at the

time. "We had just gone over to our pastor's house to pick up some pills for my cold," said Mrs. Ramer. She added that she and her husband were away only several minutes.

She said her son took the can of gas into the storeroom and was playing with it when the fluid was apparently ignited by a hot water heater.

Patrolman James Van Hoff said neighbors heard the boy screaming and ran to his aid.

An unidentified man was credited with helping the boy put out the fire on his clothing. He left the scene before the child's parents could get his name.

Van Hoff said the boy's socks had burned away and his jeans were partially burned.

A fire-rescue unit gave oxygen to the child, semi-conscious and suffering from shock, until the arrival of an ambulance.

Firemen said neighbors doused the fire in the storage room area before their arrival. Loss was negligible, they said.

1961


December 26, 1961, *Tucson Daily Citizen*:

Former member TVFD.

12-26-61

Arizona Album

MAYORS OF TUCSON + 7-2-73
Edited By Albert R. Buehman



CHARLES F. SCHUMACHER
Mayor 1901-1905

The 16th man to serve as mayor of Tucson, Charles F. Schumacher was another native German. Born in March, 1847, he moved to Philadelphia at an early age. He enlisted in the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry and stayed with that command throughout the Civil War.

He moved to Tombstone in 1881 and settled in Tucson in 1884. He owned the Union Meat Market in partnership with his nephew, C. F. Webber.

Schumacher was elected to the City Council, the county Board of Supervisors and the Territorial Legislature. He served two terms as mayor. He died June 24, 1910. (Photo courtesy Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society).

December 26 & 27, 1961:

PAGE ONE

SECTION 8

High-Rise Action**Height Limit
On Buildings
Is Raised****City Council States Restrictions
For Skyscrapers In Tucson**

Building heights for structures in B-3 zoned areas (heavy business) were raised from 140 to 300 feet yesterday by the City Council, but tight restrictions were imposed on future skyscrapers.

Its unanimous action stipulated that high-rise buildings soaring to some 30 stories must:

1. Be erected on a site bounded on all sides by existing streets (full-block development).
2. Provide one parking space for each 750 square feet of net tenant (rentable) area.
3. Include off-street pickup and delivery and auto passenger discharge space.
4. Leave undeveloped some 25 per cent of the total site for vehicular and pedestrian uses and that the ratio of the ground area to the building floor area not exceed six to one.
5. Allow for "wedding cake" setbacks in the building as it rises to provide adequate air and light space for adjacent streets and buildings.

City Mgr. Porter W. Homer told the Council he anticipated no major problems with high-rise buildings insofar as water, sewerage, firefighting and electrical, plumbing and building codes were concerned.

He termed major problems inherent in the revision the city's mechanical code, unlimited heights which might interfere with air traffic and street traffic patterns.

The Council, however,

isting ordinance raising the building height limit with the restrictions listed.

Behind the Council's action was the request of developer Lyle R. Palant to build a proposed \$16 million office-apartment-hotel complex on a block surrounded by Council and Franklin Sts. and Court and Church Aves.

The Council's action gave Palant the high-rise requirement he needs, but it withheld B-3 zoning for the property.

That zoning case will be heard later with two other B-3 petitions filed by Herman E. Francis on Church Ave. and Bruce B. Dixon on Court Ave.

Palant's attorney, Boyd Morse, stipulated to the Council that his client would abide by a yet-to-be-approved 1961 City Uniform Building Code and revised 1960 Fire Prevention Code. Morse also concurred in granting the city rights-of-way for the expansion of an abutting street and one-way traffic around the proposed building.

Homer also recommended, and the Council requested, that Palant comply with the provisions of the Phoenix City Mechanical Code.

Homer also cautioned about spreading further developments similar to Palant's around Tucson. Said Homer on water, for example: "If B-3 zoning is extended beyond the downtown area other than its present extension there may be some water problems."

Said Homer on sewage: "Again, if B-3 zoning is widely extended there may be problems in handling sewage." He also warned of increasing heights above 300 feet and the resultant air traffic interference.

The city manager said: "Such amendments . . . should not be undertaken without considering their impact on traffic and the formulation of an adequate street pattern to handle traffic. The city has already adopted a major street plan for the downtown area. The small collector streets within the downtown area should be fitted into this pattern as zoning progresses."

The rise in the height limitation is effective immediately.

ECEMBER 26, 1961

**Four Autos
Burned By
Arsonist****Fence Also Damaged
In Spate Of Fires**

Five fires, believed to be arson cases, occurred on the southside within an hour early yesterday morning, destroying two autos, damaging two others and damaging a nursery fence, police reported.

A rented late model foreign compact was found engulfed in flames about 4 a.m. yesterday at 34 W. Columbia St. Damage was estimated at \$1,600.

A 1958 sedan belonging to Harley W. Sellon was found burning at 319 W. Aviation a short time later. Damage was listed at \$500.

Police next were summoned to Tom Thumb Nursery, 4532 S. 11th Ave., where a fence was burning. While firemen were extinguishing the minor blaze, two other car fires around the corner on W. Michigan St. were reported.

About \$50 damage to car seats of autos belonging to Raul G. Caltio, of 431 W. Michigan St. and the Pima County Recreation Dept. station wagon ended the hour-long fire spree.

A 1950 dark green sedan was seen in the area of the fires, police said.

Firemen said some type of incinerating device was placed inside the autos involved.

December 27, 28, 1961:

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TUCSON DAILY CITIZEN

Shelters May Be Traps, Fire Expert Warns

By CHARLES GUDAITIS

A national fire protection authority cautioned in Tucson today against the preoccupation with makeshift fallout shelters.

They may provide protection at relatively long distances from a bomb's impact, but actually may become a trap where exposure to heat and blast is heavy, said T. Seddon Duke, board chairman of the National Fire Protection Assn.

An alternative is the setting up of artificial communities in deep shelters, but the costs would be staggering, Duke said.

His suggestion: Do those things now which involve a reasonable order of expense and effort.

The limiting of damage

from radiant heat will be a factor in survival, he explained, as superbombs will send firestorms sweeping across miles of country.

"Radiated flash heat will set fire to dead grass, fallen leaves, discarded papers, dry rotted wood, old porches, wood sheds and the like," Duke pointed out.

"Where such heat can get in windows, it will ignite window coverings, upholstered fabrics and other light combustibles."

A general community clean-up can reduce fires by the thousands, he said. As for firefighting, he said it would be an individual affair and suggested keeping pails of water and pump-type water extinguishers on hand.

"A person can reduce the

amount of heat hitting him if he can promptly duck behind something opaque," he continued.

A window shade may protect a person from skin burn from a distant flash, or perhaps a whitewashed window glass.

As for blast protection, just simply falling flat on one's face may be a means of survival.

Duke especially cautioned against exposure to falling glass.

"General neglect of the flying glass hazard is perhaps the least understandable phase of civil defense programs," he declared.

If a person has survived the initial exposure to the flash of a bomb, he has a minute or two, perhaps, to get to a

place where he will be safe from flying glass and other missiles created by the blast wave, Duke said.

"Blast waves travel at the speed of sound, which is considerably slower than the light from the flash. A person exposed to severe blast waves is likely to be killed by impact, the same thing that causes death in automobile accidents."

The idea of community evacuation was an unsound one when originally put forward by civil defense officials, Duke said.

"Any person of knowledge knew that evacuation was not only impractical but was a system of surrender and not a system of civil defense."

The matter of shelters, Duke felt, was still very

much in the "half-baked stage."

"Some of the difficulties of living in individual holes in the ground are immediately apparent. Young folks continue to have babies, and older folks continue to have heart attacks. Practically everyone is geared to living where the total forces of the community may be mobilized to help individual families."

"Shelter communities for people in cities or suburbs would have to have their own air supply facilities, multiple access and exit facilities, and pretty complete facilities for community living. Such shelters, of course, are possible."

His conclusion: "We can engage in a shelter program if we don't mind going bankrupt. However, there are a lot of things we can do for defense which involve a reasonable order of expense and effort."

TUCSON, ARIZON

Yule Trees Set For Burning

TAIA Schedules Times And Places

The burning of an estimated 50,000 Christmas trees will be carried out this year by 75 members of the Tucson Assn. of Insurance Agents and school personnel, assisting members of the Tucson Fire Department. The job will be done next week.

Children of the community will collect the trees and take them to the appointed places for burning. For their efforts they will receive tickets to the Christmas Tree Burning Show, set for Jan. 20 in the University of Arizona auditorium. There will be three shows in order to accommodate all of the children. They are scheduled for 10:30 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.

The show will be an hour and a half in length.

Ted Downey, fire prevention chairman for the agents' association, has assigned the times and the schools for the tree burning. The hour of burning each day is 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 3 trees will be burned at Flowing Wells School, 3725 Flowing Wells Rd.; Sam Hughes, 700 N. Wilson Ave.; Davidson, 3760 N. Alvernon; Duffy, 5145 E. 5th St.; Government Heights, 150 W. Ajo Way; Corbett, 5949 E. 29th St.; Ochoa, 101 W. 25th St.; and Liberty, 5101 S. Liberty Ave.

Thursday, Jan. 4 trees will be burned at Roosevelt School, 1201 N. 9th Ave.; Doolen Jr. High, 2400 N. Country Club; Amphitheater High, 214 W. Yavapai; Menlo Park, 1100 W. Fresno; Pueblo Gardens, 2210 E. 33rd St.; Julia Keen, 3538 E. Ellington Pl.; Kellond, 6606 E. Lehigh; and Mission Manor, 6115 S. Santa Clara Ave.

Friday, Jan. 5, trees will be burned at SS. Peter & Paul School, 1436 N. Campbell Ave.; Amphi Men's Club, 2902 N. Geronimo; Wright, 4311 E. Linden; Ft. Lowell, 5151 E. Pima; Eagle Field, S. 2nd Ave. and E. 16th St.; Bonillas School, 4711 E. 16th St.; and Sunnyside High, 1725 E. Bilby Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 6, will end the tree burning at Jefferson Park School, 1701 E. Seneca Irving Ave.; Robison, 7145 E. 18th St.; Holladay, 1100 E. Lind St.; Carrillo, 440 S. Main Ave.; Mansfeld Jr. High, 1300 E. 6th St.; and Holloway, 3500 N. Cherry Ave.

Editor

MUST THEY RELY ON SECOND JOB?

To the Editor:

One can go out anywhere in the city and find city employees who have lucrative jobs with steady income, and most of them have two jobs.

TELL ME—what is the City Civil Service doing?

I am a father of two girls and can't get a job. Everywhere I have applied, it seems they have a city employee (mainly firemen) working part time.

DOESN'T THE city pay these people a living wage so that they don't have to rely on a second job?

D. D. VARGAS
222 S. Main

December 28, 29, 1961:

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 28, 1961

Tree Burning Dates Set

Members of the Tucson Assn. of Insurance Agents estimate that more than 50,000 Christmas trees will be gathered by schoolchildren this year for the annual tree burning event.

For their efforts in lugging Christmas trees to schoolgrounds for burning, the children receive tickets to a tree

burning show at the University of Arizona Auditorium, at 10:30 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. on Jan. 20.

T. E. Downey, fire prevention chairman for the IAIA, said the Tucson Fire Department will assist 75 members of the insurance association in tree burning on four days next week.

Trees will be burned at 5 p.m. next Wednesday at the following schools: Flowing Wells, Sam Hughes, Davidson, Duffy, Government Heights, Corbett, Ochoa, and Liberty.

The burning next Thursday will be at Roosevelt, Doolen Jr. High, Amphitheater, Menlo Park, Pueblo Gardens, Julia Keen, Kellond, and Mission Manor Schools.

On Jan. 5, trees will be burned at SS Peter & Paul, Wright, Ft. Lowell, Bonillas and Sunnyside High School; Amphi Men's Club and at Eagle Field, S. 2nd Ave. and E. 16th St.

The Jan. 6 burning will be at the following schools: Jefferson Park, Robison, Holladay, Carrillo, Mansfield Jr. High, and Holloway School.

CITIZEN COMICS

—the world's best—

Off-Duty Fireman Works En Route

A service station office fire, believed caused by fumes from open gas cans near an unvented gas heater, was extinguished last night by an off-duty fireman and the station operator, firemen said. Damage to the Arizona Station, 3701 N. Oracle Rd., was estimated at \$1,000.

Operator Charles Clelland told firemen he was in the office when the fire started. As Clelland ran to a nearby cafe to phone the Fire Dept., Station 10 fireman Dave Schuler drove by and saw flames. He stopped and put a garden hose into action.

Clelland returned, and when Station 8 firemen arrived the fire was out.

Gas Station Fire Damage Set At \$1,000

Despite efforts of an off-duty fireman who helped extinguish flames, a fire last night caused damage to the Arizona Station, 3701 N. Oracle Rd., estimated at \$1,000.

Fireman David C. Schuler, of 4125 N. Iroquois Ave., was driving past the station when he saw flames at the front of the building. After telephoning an alarm, Schuler and the station proprietor, Charles Clelland, extinguished the blaze before fire engines arrived.

The blaze apparently started when fumes from gasoline cans near a gas heater ignited, firemen said. Damage to the building was estimated by Fire Department officials as \$500 with about the same damage to the station's contents and equipment.

December 27, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

Yule Tree Burnings Scheduled

City **Fire** Department To Conduct Program

The Tucson Fire Department has announced the schedule for the annual Christmas tree burnings and the show. Tickets to the show are given youngsters who deliver trees to be burned. The burnings and show are part of the department's safety campaign.

Burning schedules and the departments in charge are: Jan. 6 at 5 p.m., Doolen Jr. High, Catalina Fire Dept.; Government Heights, South Side Fire Dept.; Vacant lot at E. 28th and S. 7th Ave., South Tucson Fire Dept.; Northeast corner of N. 10th St. and Rillito, Pima Fire Dept.; Duffy School, Tucson Fire Dept., Engine H; Jefferson Park, Tucson Fire Dept., Engine 5; Julia Keen, Tucson **Fire** Dept., Engine 7, and Menlo Park, Tucson Fire Dept., Engine 4.

The schedule for Jan. 7 at 5 p.m. includes the following burnings: Ft. Lowell, Catalina Fire Dept.; Amphl Men's Club, Pima **Fire** Dept.; Himmel Park, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 3; Bonillas, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine H; Carrillo, Tucson Fire Dept., engine 2 and Pueblo Gardens, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 7.

The Jan. 8 burnings will be: Kel-lond School, Pima Fire Dept.; D-M Air Base, Davis-Monthan **Fire** Dept.; Davidson School, Catalina **Fire** Dept.; Peter Howell, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 6; SS. Peter and Paul, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 5; Roosevelt School, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 22; Robinson School, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine H.

The last scheduled burnings will be held Jan. 9 at 5 p.m. at John B. Wright School, Tucson Fire Dept., engine H; Corbett School, Pima Fire Dept.; Holliday School, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 7; Mansfeld Jr. High School, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 3; Eagle Field, Tucson **Fire** Dept., engine 2, S. 3rd Ave. and E. 31st St., South Tucson Fire Dept. and Northeast corner of E. Kleindale and N. Jackson, Catalina Fire Dept.

The show will be held in the University of Arizona auditorium Jan. 11. The first show will be seen at 1 p.m. with a second show scheduled for 3 p.m. Pupils living outside the city limits are requested to attend the first show.

1961

December 29, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:



Among Tucson's Indispensable Men

Leslie Silvers, water plant operator at Booster Plant No. 1, is shown changing graphs on one of the 14 meters which record the water pressure, water levels, and the different amounts of water being pumped throughout the city. He changes the graphs every night at midnight as he makes sure that there is an adequate supply of water available to the city. (Jack Sheaffer photo)

December 29, 1961, *Arizona Daily Star*:

While The City Sleeps

Leslie Silvers Has Key Post In Tucson Citadel

He Keeps Vigil Over Public Water Supply

Many Tucsonans earn their daily bread while the city slumbers—here is another in a series of stories about those who are on the job in the pre-dawn hours.

By GONZALO URIAS JR.

Making sure that you have an adequate supply of water at your home at all times is the task that Leslie Silvers, water plant operator at the city's main booster plant, is entrusted with while the rest of the city sleeps.

From 11 p.m. until 7 a.m. Silvers watches over a wall of meters and lights which reminds one of something seen in a science fiction movie.

Fourteen meters record water pressure, water levels, and the different amounts of water being pumped throughout the city. He also has remote control over 28 wells which he puts into use when the water level in one of the reservoirs drops below a certain point.

"The wells are located in different parts of Tucson and situated so they can pump water

into a reservoir when needed," Silvers said. In cases of a two or three-alarm **fires** we can give the **fire** department more pressure as well as set wells pumping so they don't run out of water."

Silvers said that the **fire** alarms go off at the booster plant as well as at the **fire** department so they can be a step ahead of the firefighters in making sure there is an adequate supply of water with which to fight the **fires**.

"We get all kinds of emergency calls during the night, as since we're listed among the emergency phones, and the callers range from people with their water shut off to people who can't turn off their water because of a broken fixture."

"Then," and he added, "usually at Halloween, we get a lot of calls from sororities at the university reporting the water has been turned off."

"Something else that gives us trouble are the power failures. When that happens all this electrical equipment doesn't do us

much good. We have two gas booster pump and one twin diesel pump that we use when that happens."

Silvers said there is approximately 31 million gallons of water in storage available to Tucsonans at all times. "My job is to see that they have an unfailing supply of it."

Silvers has been a water plant operator for almost five years. He rotates with three other men. The schedule is set up in three-man shifts and a relief shift. They change shifts every 10 days so that no one works the "graveyard shift" all the time.

A native of Virginia, Silvers came to Tucson in 1936 and in the intervening period has worked for service stations except for four years when he worked in a war plant.

He resides at 235 E. 5th with his wife, Louise, and two children. He has a son, Michael, 12-years-old, and a four-year-old daughter, Cathy. Silvers is a member of Odd Fellows Pima Lodge No. 3 and the Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Free China Outlines Development Projects

TAIPEI, Dec. 28 (AP)—National-

Stewart Observatory Sets Public Night

The only public night in Janu-

Greater Tucson Fire Foundation

Thanks you for taking an interest in Tucson Fire Department history —

This is one of many sections that contain information, documents, letters, newspaper articles, pictures, etc. They have been collected and arranged in chronological order or by a subject. These items were collected, organized and entered into a computerized database by Dave Ridings Assistant Chief Tucson Fire Department, Al Ring friend of the department, Greater Tucson Fire Foundation and with the help of many friends and fellow firefighters.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles. This also applies to other items such as documents, letters, etc.

Credit to the source of the documents, photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. The *Arizona Daily Star*, The *Tucson Citizen* and the *Tucson Daily Citizen*, for which we want to give a special thanks.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.

Should the reader have additional information on the above subject we would appreciate you sharing it with us. Please see the names and contact information on the 1st. TFD Archives page right below this paragraph.

