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Fire Destroys Pulaski Fire Truck and Equipment

REFLECTIONS

(By the Editor)

Newspapers and the air-waves were carrying the name of Mount Pulaski profusely Tuesday night and the following day,

Playing up the rather unusual incident of a town's fire-fighting equipment being burned up,

And neighboring towns coming to the rescue of the hometown firemen, who were helpless to do anything about it.

While it is the unusual that gets the headlines and the publicity—good or bad—

There is always some good comes out of every such incident for the community as well as all others who read and do a little thinking.

In Pulaski's case it emphasized the fact that the city fire truck at the age of 24 years,

Was not the efficient piece of firefighting equipment it was in its younger days and should have been pensioned anyway.

Another fact that it undeniably emphasized was that all firefighting equipment should be housed in a fireproof building.

That, would be a good thing for some legislator who wants to find some pretext for having his name attached to a bill;

To get a law like that passed at the next session of the legislature.

At least, it would have more sense to it than the one that was passed last session legalizing the hunting of game with bow and arrow.

Pulaski has plans for such a new building but building conditions have been such that it was delayed.

Pulaski has already ordered a new fire truck of the latest type and another will be purchased within a short time for country use.

This will give them a firefighting unit that will prove indispensable in case of a major fire hazard.

So this fire loss may but be the blessing of giving Pulaski property owners much better protection from fire than they have ever had.

Other communities may profit by the experience of Pulaski in that they see that their vital fire fighting equipment

Be housed either in as near a fireproof building as possible, or at least, every fire hazard possible be avoided.

Another point we would like to reemphasize is the fact that with

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Lincoln and Latham Departments Called to Save Entire Block.

A rather ironical occurrence took place in Mount Pulaski early on Tuesday evening when fire broke out at the city fire department building and gained such headway before being discovered that the firemen were unable to use their own equipment to save their equipment. The country fire truck which was the newer of the two trucks housed there, was completely ruined, while the city truck suffered minor damages.

The fire was discovered by Fred J. Roth about 5:40 as he was looking out of the east window of his apartment on the west side of the square. Turning in a fire alarm, he rushed over to the fire house and seeing the predicament the local fire department was going to be in, called the Lincoln fire department. Fire Chief O. W. Mayer on his arrival, summoned the Latham fire department as well. The Lincoln truck covered the 11 mile trip in 10 minutes, and the Latham truck made the six miles from there in six minutes after being called.

The ground floor of the city hall on the east side of square, which houses the fire fighting equipment of the city, was soon filled with smoke and flames that the firemen were unable to enter the building to get at any of their equipment, and were powerless to do anything.

While waiting the arrival of the Lincoln and Latham trucks, efforts were made to drag the country fire truck out by using a wrecker, and two or three trucks. But their efforts were unsuccessful as the back wheels of the fire truck had sunk thru the burned floor.

By the time the fire trucks ar-

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PLANS BEING MADE FOR LEGION HOME

The first regular meeting of the Ryman-Fuitem American Legion post of Mount Pulaski will be held on Tuesday, March 11th in their spacious new home in Obermiller Heights.

The first major activity to be enjoyed by the Legion in their new home will be an American Legion party on March 18th, at which entertainment and refreshments will be on the program.

Open house will be held Sunday afternoon, April 6 for the public to inspect the new home. The dedication services will be held sometime in the spring or early summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Yagow have been engaged as caretakers and meals will be served on special orders. The building will be open to individual groups or organizations by making arrangements with the post commander after the first week in April.

SALE DATE LISTING

March 4 — Closing Out Farm sale of A. M. Parks, 2½ miles northeast of Mount Pulaski.

March 11—William J. Stewart closing-out sale at his home on the Orville Gasaway farm, one mile east and one mile south of Mount Pulaski.

GOV. GREEN PROCLAIMS PULASKI DAY MARCH 4

In an executive proclamation Wednesday at Springfield, Governor Dwight H. Green proclaimed Tuesday, March 4, as "Casimir Pulaski Day," in Illinois. Green urged the state's citizens to observe the occasion, which is the 200th birthday anniversary of the Polish General. Pulaski died fighting for the colonies during the Revolutionary War.

It would be fitting for the schools, etc., in Mount Pulaski to observe the day as this city was named for Count Pulaski.

PULASKI JOINS UP WITH BALL LEAGUE

Mount Pulaski is to be a member of the Central Illinois Amateur Baseball league the coming summer as the result of a decision made by the league officers Sunday afternoon at Lincoln, when this city was voted in as a member.

Two other new entries are the Staley club from Decatur, and Athens, replacing Tremont and Atlanta. Other teams are Lincoln, Latham, Clinton, Mason City and Delavan. The championship was won by Latham last year.

The season is scheduled to open Sunday, May 5th and will cover 21 games, with a home game every other Sunday. A meeting will be held March 30 to draw up the season's schedule.

A move to insure better umpiring this season was made when the clubs adopted the plan of paying each umpire \$7.50 a game, and stated that no hometown umpire be engaged when any team plays on their own diamond.

Officers in the league are Ellsworth Brown, Beason, president; Winfield E. Bates, Lincoln, vice-president; and Henry Fortman, Delavan, secy-treas.

Ed Dittus, president, and Geo. Underhill, represented the Mount Pulaski Fans Association at the meeting.

NORMA GULSO TO BE WED SUNDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Neal Gulso, living in the Copeland Christian church community southwest of here, announce the approaching marriage, Miss Norma, to Roger Miller of Williamsville. The wedding will take place at 3 p. m. Sunday, March 2, in the Copeland Christian church.

Miss Gulso is a graduate of Mount Pulaski High school, and the Springfield Hospital School of Nursing. She served as an Army nurse for 30 months, being overseas 27 months in North Africa and Italy. For 18 months she has been a nurse in Memorial hospital, Springfield.

Roger Miller is a son of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Miller of Williamsville. He graduated from Williamsville high, and has been in the Navy six years, part of the time spent in the Aleutians and Pacific bases. Following the wedding, and a visit at home, he will report back to California for re-assignment. He will be discharged from the Navy in September.

Urge Better Attendance At Community Chorus

Members of the Mount Pulaski Community Chorus and those interested in singing in the chorus are urged to be present next Monday evening at 7:30 at the High school gym for another rehearsal.

Attendance has not been as faithful as the director, Lester Wernitz would like, and in the interests of the chorus and its continued improvement, a better attendance is needed if the spring concert is to be given as planned, and creditably presented. Some forty have been present at each Monday night rehearsal but the full chorus is needed.

Regional Tourney Opens at Lincoln Tuesday Night

CHESTNUT GRADE TEAM GOES TO STATE

Chestnut grade basketball team journeys to Monticello Saturday where the State Grade school Lightweight Basketball Tournament will be held, beginning on Saturday, March 1 and ending on March 3. Sixteen teams from all over the state will participate, each a sectional champion.

Chestnut is champion of Section 10 by virtue of winning over Mount Pulaski on Feb. 15, and will meet St. Joseph school of Springfield in their first game, at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The Chestnut boys are again in good shape following recovery of a knee injury of Armstrong's, clever guard.

Coach Joe Armstrong hopes to have the boys in great form for the meet.

Celebrated Forty-third Wedding Anniversary

A group of relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Stoll near Chestnut on Sunday evening, Feb. 16, and tendered them a surprise in honor of their 43rd wedding anniversary. The guests arrived at 4:30 p.m. with well filled baskets of food, and a delicious supper was served.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Rell Schroth, daughters Harriet and Doris, of Mount Pulaski; Mr. and Mrs. George J. Stoll, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Stoll and daughter Connie, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Lakin, daughter Linda, and son Kenneth, Miss Clara Hagenbuch and Dorothy Thomas, of Chestnut and vicinity.

LIBRARY CLUB MEETING MARCH 4

The Library club will meet in the library rooms at 2:30 p. m. on Tuesday, March 4, the hostesses being Mrs. Chauncey E. Glose, Mrs. Rinaldo Bertoni, Mrs. Bertha Lipp, Miss Florence Wynd.

The musical part of the program will be vocal solos by Mrs. Pearl Waddell.

As a special program feature, Miss Ida Faye Wright, Springfield, has chosen as the title for her talk at this meeting, "Untangling a Library Mystery." She will illustrate the talk with a very colorful display of jackets from some hundred of the newest books just received at the Illinois State Library. The remarks will not be in the nature of book reviews, but will be an introduction to the subject arrangements of books in libraries with brief comments on a few of the books most outstanding in the various fields of interest.

MEN SERVED HAM SUPPER RECENTLY

The men of the Social Community club recently entertained their wives and children with a surprise ham supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Lakin between Chestnut and Mount Pulaski. Late in the evening refreshments of "green" ice cream, and angel food cake with "green" icing, were served. The men proved themselves to be capable hosts.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Elza Meachum, Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Stoll, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Buehler, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Buehler, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Aughenbaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Drake, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Schaffnacker and daughter Lois, Edward Schaffnacker, Michael and Betty Drake, Dorcas Buehler, Shirley, Linda and Kenneth Lakin, of Chestnut and vicinity; Mrs. Lucy Schaffnacker, Mr. and Mrs. Rell Schroth and daughters Harriet and Doris, of Mount Pulaski.

Pulaski Plays Atlanta in Opening Game at Lincoln Tuesday Night.

Rushville high's cage team will play the last home game on the Pulaski high court this Friday evening. Two games starting at 7 o'clock.

Mount Pulaski will open the 1947 regional tourney at Lincoln next Tuesday night at 7 o'clock, when they tangle with Atlanta in the first game. Cathedral of Springfield will meet Elkhart in the second game.

Wednesday night Lincoln meets Hartsburg and Williamsville will meet the winner of the district now going on at New Holland.

Pulaski meets the two toughest teams in the tourney, in their bracket—Atlanta and Cathedral. The locals have defeated Atlanta twice this season but they are always a threat and last year spilled a highly-favored Lincoln team in the regional. Cathedral looks like the biggest stumbling block although Pulaski defeated them earlier in the season, 26-23. But Cathedral has made rapid strides since then—but so have the Hilltoppers, so this should be the game of the tourney.

PULASKI 5 GAVE CHAMPAIGN TEAM EXCITING BATTLE

We've never seen so many folks so well satisfied with the world in general after losing a basketball game, as was the large delegation of Pulaski fans who rose to their feet as the gun sounded the end of the Champaign-Pulaski game there Tuesday night which the locals lost, 52 to 43.

The fact that the locals came out on so narrow a margin of loss that it was considered a "moral victory," whatever that is. The sensational fourth period play of the Hilltoppers was a revelation to fans of both teams. They outscored Champaign 20-6 and made them look pretty bad—much worse than the locals did when they were outscored 18-6 in the third.

Champaign Starts Fast
Champaign started out like the champions they are and every time they shot, they had 2 points, with Beach, Petry and Fletcher hitting. Manes drove in from the side however to score and Horn sank a long one, while they also picked up three free tosses to make it 15-7, Champaign, as the period ended.

Second Quarter
Pulaski picked up ten points in the second period on a drive in out of bounds play by Manes; Waddell scoring on a fast break; then Hatfield, who played the outstanding floor game of the evening, drove in and scored, and came back a few seconds later on an intercepted ball to score again. Litterly and Myrick scored free tosses as they were fouled going in for shots. In the meantime Champaign was pick-

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Buy Fire Truck

The city fathers have lost no time in purchasing a new fire truck following the destruction of the department's best truck and minor damage to the other one.

At a called meeting last night, the council voted unanimously to purchase a new city fire truck of the latest design and completely equipped. The firm they purchased the truck from is delivering a truck here today, to be used until they can make delivery of the one the council purchased.