

EXTRA!



SADDENED BY THE LOSS of a building in which he had been a teacher and an administrator for over 30 years, Salida high school principal L. E. King rallies determinedly after fire destroys the Salida high school building Saturday and starts planning anew, scheduling classes in temporary quarters in the buildings which were saved from the fire.



NOTIFYING THE SALIDA FIRE DEPARTMENT of the blaze at Salida high school was Mrs. Elizabeth Denison of 1031 E St., Salida. It was just a few minutes before 3:30 a.m. Saturday that Mrs. Denison got up briefly in the night to get a drink of water and from her kitchen window looked eastward and saw "a lot of smoke outlining the high school building". Stepping out into her back yard, she noticed a strong glow which she thought must be a fire and then immediately telephoned the Salida fire department.

Mountain Mail Photo



SALIDA FIREMEN ON DUTY when the fire at Salida high school was first reported at 3:30 a.m. Saturday were (from left) Robert Willcox and Charles Culp. The two men, aided by many other firefighters from throughout Chaffee county, paused in battling the blaze only after it had been brought under control, about five hours after the fire was first noticed by Mrs. Elizabeth Denison, 1031 E Street, Salida. Mountain Mail Photo



EAVES COME CRASHING DOWN—Before dawn Saturday, a fire which reportedly started at 3:30 a.m. in the office of the main Salida high school building had raged upward, destroying the roof entirely and sending the eaves crashing down to the sidewalk below. Mountain Mail Photo

Mountain Mail



SALIDA, COLORADO, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1962.

SPECIAL EDITION

Firemen Save Nearby Structures Salida High School Destroyed By Fire Early Saturday Morning

Story In 1910 Tells Of Promise Of New High School

(Re-printed from the Salida Record, Friday, Aug. 12, 1910. Article entitled, "Prosperity For Coming School Year")

The coming school year promises great opportunities for the youth of our town, greater than ever before. All arrangements are being completed rapidly and the two old buildings are being placed in first class condition for the grades, while our new high school is indeed one of which we can all be very proud.

On the first floor on the left in front, is the superintendent's office. On the right is a fine room for the library. In the rear are the chemistry laboratory, science lecture room, biology room and the two eighth grades. On the second floor is the large assembly hall with inclined floor and a good sized stage with dressing rooms on either side. Opening off from this assembly hall are four recitation rooms. Everything is finished in the most approved, up-to-date manner.

Downstairs are rooms which can

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Stunned and almost unbelieving, school officials, students and townspeople watched fire rage through the Salida high school main building in the pre-dawn hours of darkness Saturday morning. Starting at about 3:30 a.m., the blaze practically gutted the building before it was brought under control at mid-morning. Total damage from the blaze, cause of which is not known, was estimated at \$250,000.

The blaze was first noticed at 3:30 a.m. by Salida patrolman Karl Martellaro who noticed a strong glow in the area of the Salida high school office which is on the east side of the structure and on the first floor. As Martellaro drove near the building in his police car, the windows in the office reportedly blew out and the blaze erupted noticeably, spreading to the second floor and in a short time to the roof of the structure.

Contacted immediately by Martellaro, Salida firemen arrived promptly on the scene and bent their main efforts toward preventing the blaze from spreading to nearby Kesner junior high school. Fortunately, there was no wind at the time to fan or spread the blaze. Additional Salida firemen and Salida volunteers were called to battle the blaze and efforts of some of the firefighters were concentrated on soaking down the science laboratory on the second floor on the west side of the building. This timely action prevented the explosion of the bottle of oxygen which was

stored in the laboratory. The only explosion during the fire was that of a fire extinguisher. Shortly after arriving at the school, Salida firemen thought they had the fire under control, but the blaze broke forth with renewed vigor and was not controlled again until about 8 a.m.

Before dawn, Salida firemen were joined by firefighters from Poncha Springs, from the Salida fire district, from the Chaffee county and from the State Reformatory at Buena Vista.

By dint of dogged and untiring efforts, the firefighters had the blaze well under control at mid-morning. An initial survey indicated that the structure is a total loss, with the amount of damage to the building and contents estimated at \$250,000.

Salida Supt. of Schools Bill Andreas stated that the entire Salida high school plant, which would include all of the buildings in the high school area, is insured for \$1,450,000. Due to the many pressing demands of the moment, he was not able to state the amount for which the high school building is

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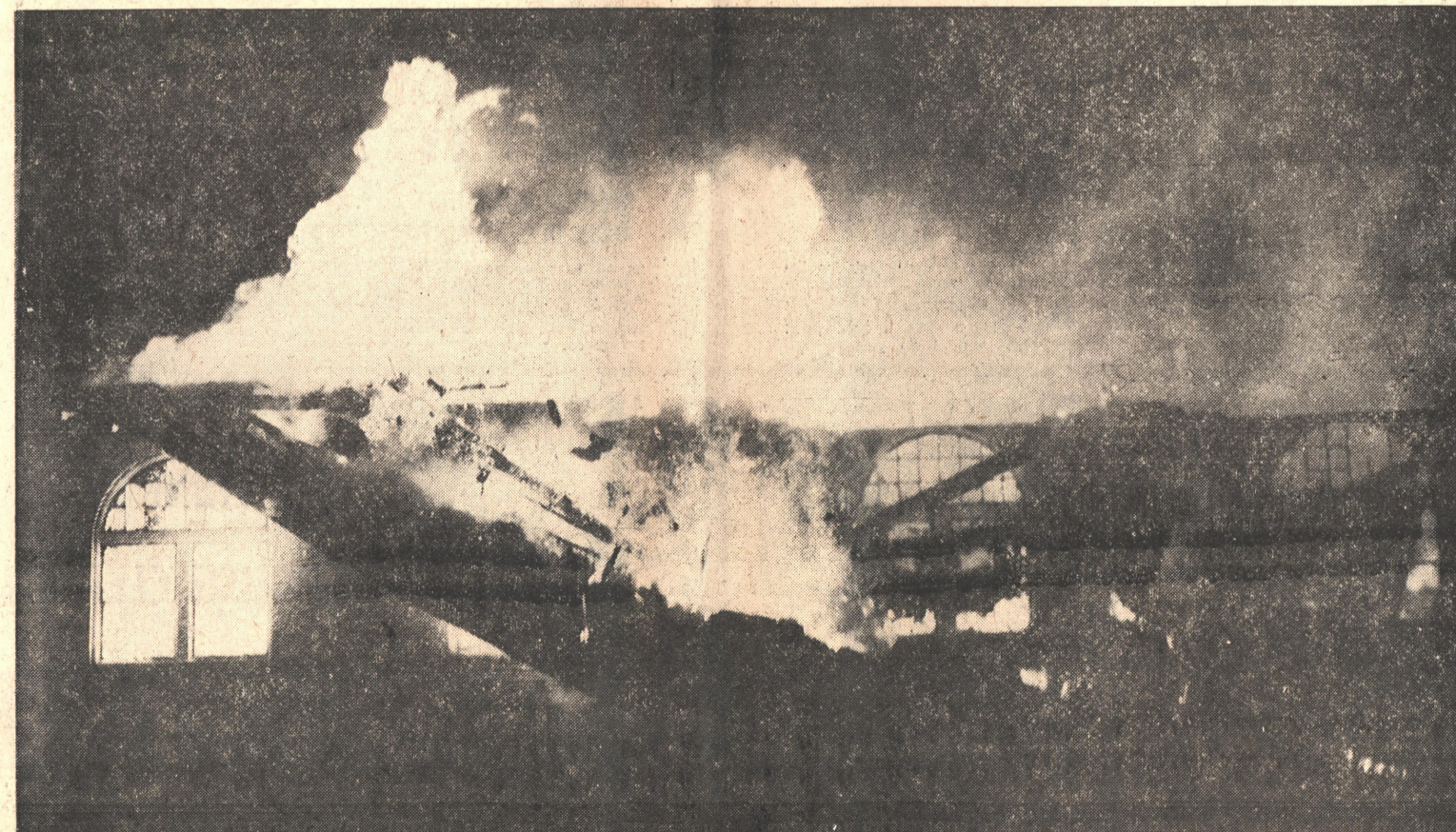
Schedules For Salida High Classes Detailed

It is expected that the following recommendation for the resumption of classes at Salida high school will be approved Saturday afternoon at a special meeting of the Salida school board occasioned by the fire which destroyed the main Salida high school building early Saturday morning. The recommendations have been drawn up by Supt. of Salida Schools Bill Andreas; Salida High School Principal L. E. King and Salida Junior High Principal George Eichman.

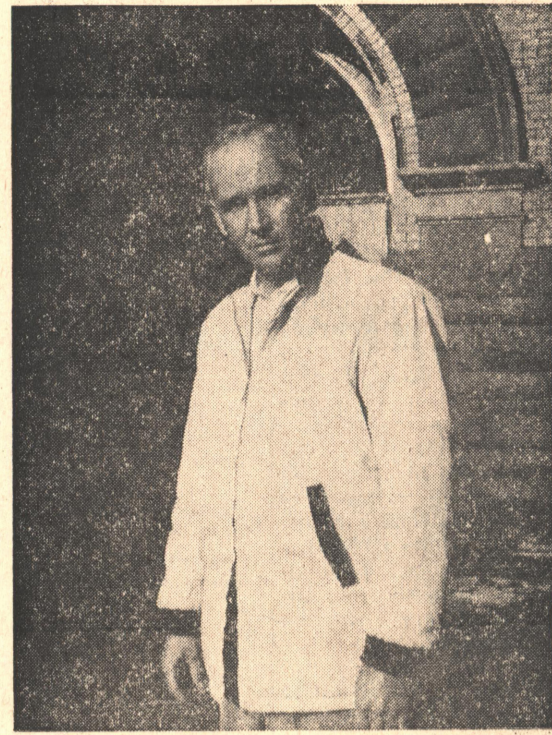
Sessions for junior high school students will be held Monday as usual in the Kesner building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Salida Contractor Frank Butala has assured school officials that he will have a good fence erected around the destroyed building; that the dangerous walls in the gutted structure will be torn down by Sunday night.

Students in Salida senior high school will attend an assembly at 9 a.m. Monday in the high school auditorium and at this time plans for class schedulings will be disclosed. The senior high school stu-

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EATEN AWAY BY THE RAGING FIRE, a section of the eaves on the west side of the Salida high school plummets to the ground. Firemen kept this side of the building well wetted down to prevent any explosions in the science laboratory and to keep the blaze from spreading to the nearby auditorium and gym. Mountain Mail Photo



EVERY EFFORT will be made to resume classes as soon as possible, Supt. of Salida Schools Bill Andreas stated Saturday morning as he viewed the fire-gutted shambles of Salida high school early Saturday morning. Supt. Andreas met with Salida High school Principal L. E. King shortly after the blaze was brought under control to formulate specific plans to meet the emergency caused by the fire. Mountain Mail Photo



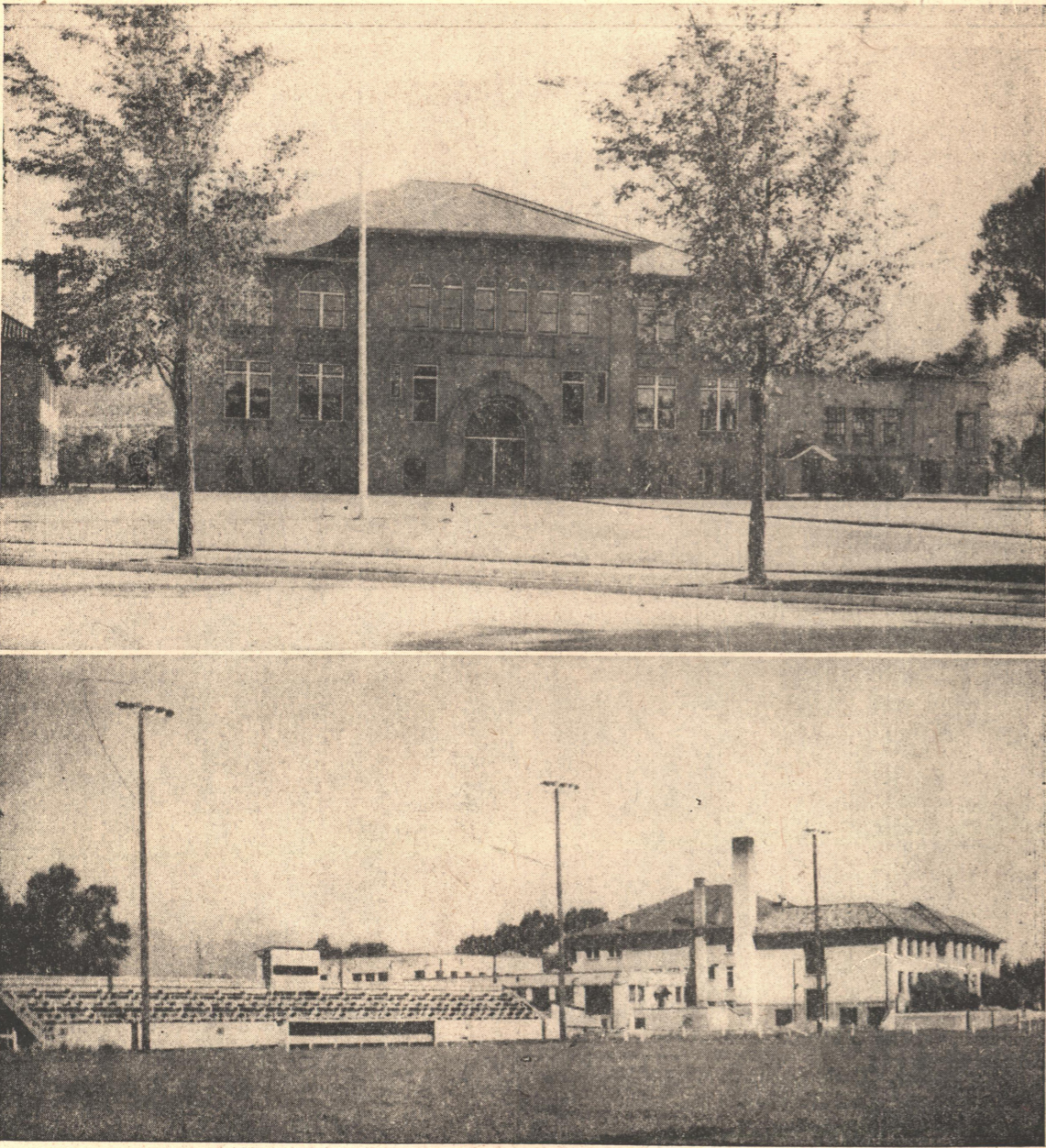
FIGHTING THE RAGING BLAZE at Salida high school Saturday morning were (from left) Clarence Rout, regular Salida fireman, and Salida Fire Chief Milton Myers. Salida Volunteer firemen, district firemen, as well as firefighters from Poncha Springs, Chaffee county and the Colorado State Reformatory at Buena Vista quelled the blaze and kept the fire from spreading to the nearby junior high school, the shop building, auditorium and gymnasium. Mountain Mail Photo



SALIDA POLICEMAN Karl Martellaro noticed a strong glow on the walls of Kesner junior high school at 3:30 a.m. Saturday and upon investigation found that the glow emanated from the office section on the first floor of Salida high school. It wasn't long thereafter, Martellaro stated, before the windows in the office blew out and the blaze started upward toward the second floor and roof of the school. Mountain Mail Photo



AN URGENT KNOCKING ON THE DOOR in the middle of the night was answered by Annie Baldino of 846 D St., Salida, who was informed by Billy Blosser of Missouri Park that Salida high school was on fire. The Blosser youth used Mrs. Baldino's phone to call Public Service Company crews and request that electricity to the burning building be cut off. Mountain Mail Photo



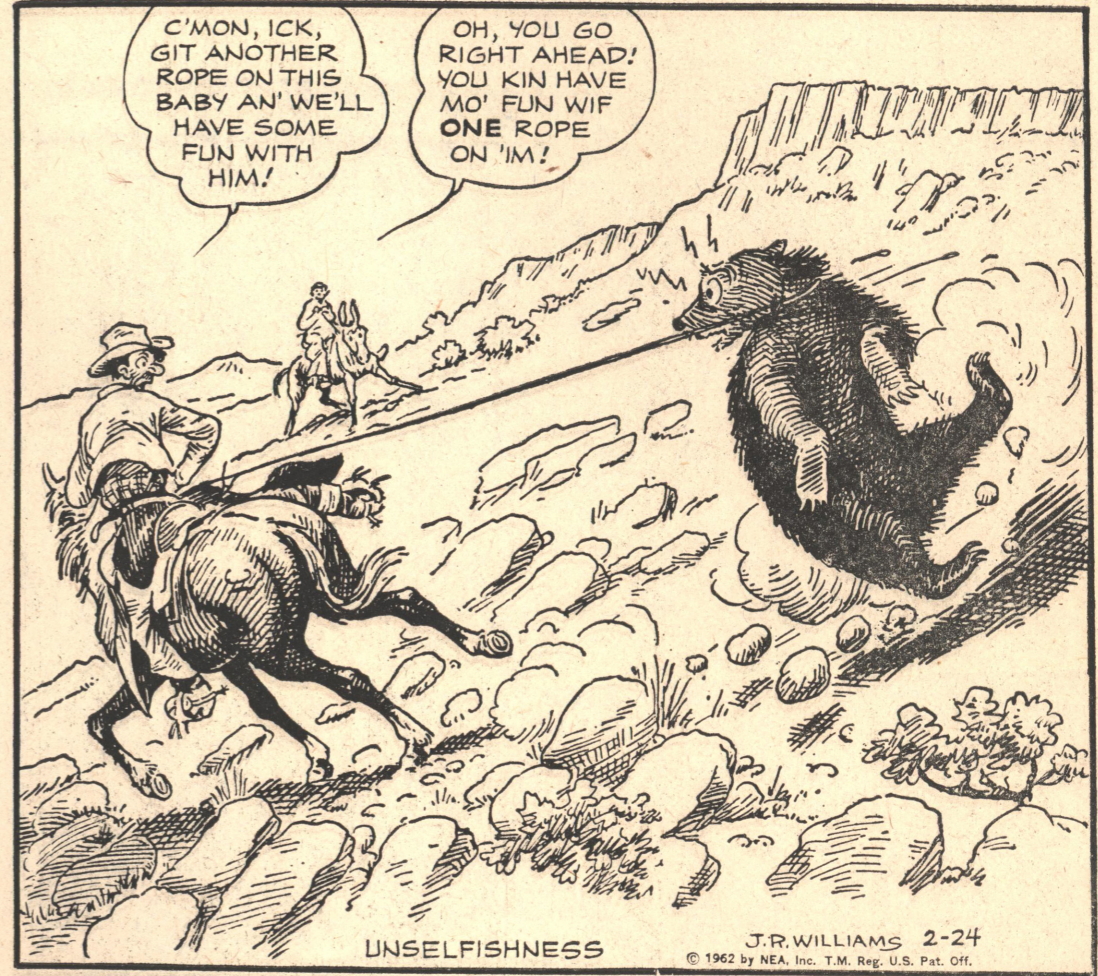
High School Bond Issue In 1909 Was For \$34,000

Re-printed from the Sept. 3, 1909 edition of the Salida Record. Story entitled, "Salida To Have New School Building"

Judging from the votes cast last Monday the people of Salida were not vitally interested in the proposed new high school building, because the vote stood 33 to 8 in favor of the bond issue of \$34,000. This is not a heavy vote from a city of 6,000 people but it might be construed that the citizens were all satisfied that the bonds be issued and hence did not take the trouble to go to the polls. It is very certain if there had been much opposition it would have been manifested Monday.

While the matter of a new high school has been under advisement for some time by the school board, nothing definite could be done until the tax payers had given their permission for the bond issue. Now no time will be lost in securing plans and beginning the work. Much can be done yet this fall and winter so that the building will be ready in ample time for the opening of school in the fall of 1910. There has been all manner of talk as to what the school board would do for a location, but at no time has serious consideration been given to other than the ground owned by the district on the site of the old academy building. The new building will be erected nearer the center of the ground and can be well under way before the material in the present structure is needed. The room in the present high school building now occupied by the janitor will be remodeled and used for the 6th grade now at the academy building, and the janitor will be provided with a residence nearby.

It was evident to every one that more school rooms must be provided and nothing would be suitable for progressive Salida but a modern well-equipped high school.



Salida High School Destroyed

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Schedules For Salida High Classes Detailed

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Students will be dismissed after this assembly.

On Tuesday, students in the senior high school will attend classes in the Kesner building from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Periods will be shortened to 45 minutes and all six periods will be held. Band practice will be held at 8 a.m. as usual and will be for a 45-minute period.

On Tuesday afternoon, Salida junior high school students will attend sessions in the Kesner building from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. All periods will be held and will be shortened to 40 minutes each.

School buses will run at the regular times in the morning for elementary school students and for all other students. It will be necessary to run buses at noontime in accordance with the demand for this transportation. Arrangements will be made for bus transportation for junior high students attending classes in the afternoon.

self is insured. Andreas anticipated that the insurance will cover the destroyed building to the extent of about \$100,000 and that the recovery for damages to contents will probably run around \$20,000. Andreas also stated that he expected that the amount of the proposed \$650,000 bond issue for a new Salida high school might be reduced by at least \$75,000 due to receipt of insurance payments on the destroyed school.

All of the records of present high school students were destroyed in the fire and it will be necessary to call in every student to obtain information necessary to reconstruct these records, Salida High School Principal L. E. King disclosed. Totally destroyed also were all of Charles Melien's guidance records.

Also reporting the blaze shortly after firemen were contacted by Salida policeman Karl Martellaro was Mrs. Elizabeth Denison, 1031 E St., Salida. Billy Blosser, who lives on Missouri Park, exhibited quick thinking as he phoned Public Service Co. of Salida crews to come and shut off the electricity in the burning building. Blosser made his phone call from the home of Mrs. Annie Baldino at 846 D Street.

Destroyed in the fire was the 4,400-volume high school library. Mrs. Mearl Brown, librarian for the school, noted that among these books were three valuable sets of encyclopedias received just recently.

Insofar as can be determined, there has been no previous school fire in Salida or in Chaffee county.

1909 Record Offers View Of New High School

The following outlines appeared in the Dec. 17, 1909 issue of the Salida Record, under an artist's conception of the proposed new Salida high school:

"The above is a picture taken from a water color of the new high school building on which work will begin in a few days. In a previous issue of The Record, we published a complete description, but at the time only the architect's plans were available from which to make a picture. The above, however, is a splendid perspective of the handsome structure.

The contract was let yesterday to A. F. Cherry, a contractor of Pueblo. G. W. Allen, of Salida, has a sub-contract for the brick and stone work. The contract for the heating was let separately and was awarded to the Bateman Hardware Company. Under the law the contract must be let to the lowest bidder. Only two Salida contractors submitted figures. Under the contract the building must be completed by August 15, 1910, ready for the school year. The contract price is \$34,600.00."

Young Annie Oakleys
ST. LOUIS (UPI) — The O'Fallon Tech High girls handed the O'Fallon Tech boys their first loss of the season in the St. Louis High School Rifle League.

The girls won by three points, 732-729.

Salida Record Describes School Building In 1909

Reprinted from The Salida Record December 3, 1909

The above is a view of the front elevation of the new high school building that will be built next summer on the site of the academy building (or directly in front of it) at the corner of D and 9th Streets. It will give the reader some idea of the structure as it appears from the front, while the side entrance is almost identical. The building will face the north and consequently the corner of the block. The new high school will be 95 x 86 feet outside measurement, and will have a basement and first and second floor. The basement wall will be of concrete, faced with stone and the trimmings of the building and archway at main entrance, will be of stone. The walls from the basement up will be of cement brick.

In the basement will be four living rooms for the janitor, boiler room and place for coal, and three school rooms devoted to domestic science, manual training and domestic art. Each of these rooms will be 22 x 23 feet. The basement will be divided in the center and the boys and girls will be separated and there are lunch rooms, wash rooms and toilets for each. The domestic science room is on the girls' side and the manual training room on the boys'. The entire floor of the basement will be of cement.

Then entrance to the building is on the first floor and one stairway leads from the vestibule down to the basement while another way leads to the second floor. On one side of the hall on the first floor is the superintendent's office and on the other is the library. A large hall in the center of the building 24 x 40 feet into which open the four large rooms, is an attractive feature. In this hall is also space for an ornamental and sanitary drinking fountain. In the two front rooms, for the first two or three years at least, the two eighth grades will be installed while other rooms will be used for the chemical laboratory, lecture room and physics. Between these rooms are conveniently arranged cloak rooms. All these rooms for school purposes are large, being 25 x 32 feet.

The ventilation of the building is a point that has received careful attention, and a special flue for that purpose is provided for each room. Radiators are provided in the foul air chambers in the attic to keep up a rapid circulation.

The building will be heated with steam and lighted with electricity. Taken altogether the new high school will be one that every citizen will be proud of, and like everything else in Salida will be strictly up-to-date. The building will cost approximately \$35,000.



"What do I say? Well, from the dashboard I'd say we were over Topeka, Kan., heading north-northwest at 485 miles per hour!"



CASUAL—Silk raffia chapeau casually falling to the face is worn captivantly by June Hargraves at summer fashion show in Brighton, England.



SUCCEEDS—Stanley Berman, 35, Brooklyn, N.Y., taxi driver and self-styled "World's Greatest Gate Crasher," looks pleased after he successfully crashed Academy Awards presentation in Santa Monica, Calif.



NIXON BACKER—Mrs. Lucha Walker, San Rafael, Calif., wears lapel pin on her earring to show her support for Richard Nixon, who is campaigning for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.



A Lot of 'Em Around These Days



Story In 1910 Tells Of Promise Of New High School

(Continued From Page 1)

be used for manual training, domestic science and drawing. The carpenters finished their work last night and the painters will be through Saturday night, so that everything will be ready on time.

There are only two changes in the corp of teachers from last year. Miss Ida Morrill, who taught here for several years has again accepted a position and Miss Florence Anderson, a cousin of Miss Annette Anderson, has been added to the force.

The assignment of teachers is as follows:

High school building, C. E. Tanton, principal, mathematics; E. A. Kenyon, science; E. E. Baker, Latin; Miss Deborah Pearsall, history; Miss Sarah Dow, English; Miss Hettie M. Rogers, eighth grade; Miss Annette Anderson, eighth grade.

H street building, Miss Sue Barton, principal, seventh grade; Miss Florence Anderson, fifth; Miss Lora Hungerford, fourth; Miss Sallie Sisson, third; Miss Wiley, second; Miss Minnie Buchanan, second and third; Miss Mary Notton, first.

Central Building, Mrs. Rose Ridgway, principal, seventh grade; Mrs. G. N. McCray, sixth; Miss Elizabeth Gillan, fifth; Miss Mabel Gloyd, fourth; Mrs. J. M. Foss, third; Miss Ida Morrill, second; Miss Evelyn Foster, first; Miss Helen M. Roberts, first.

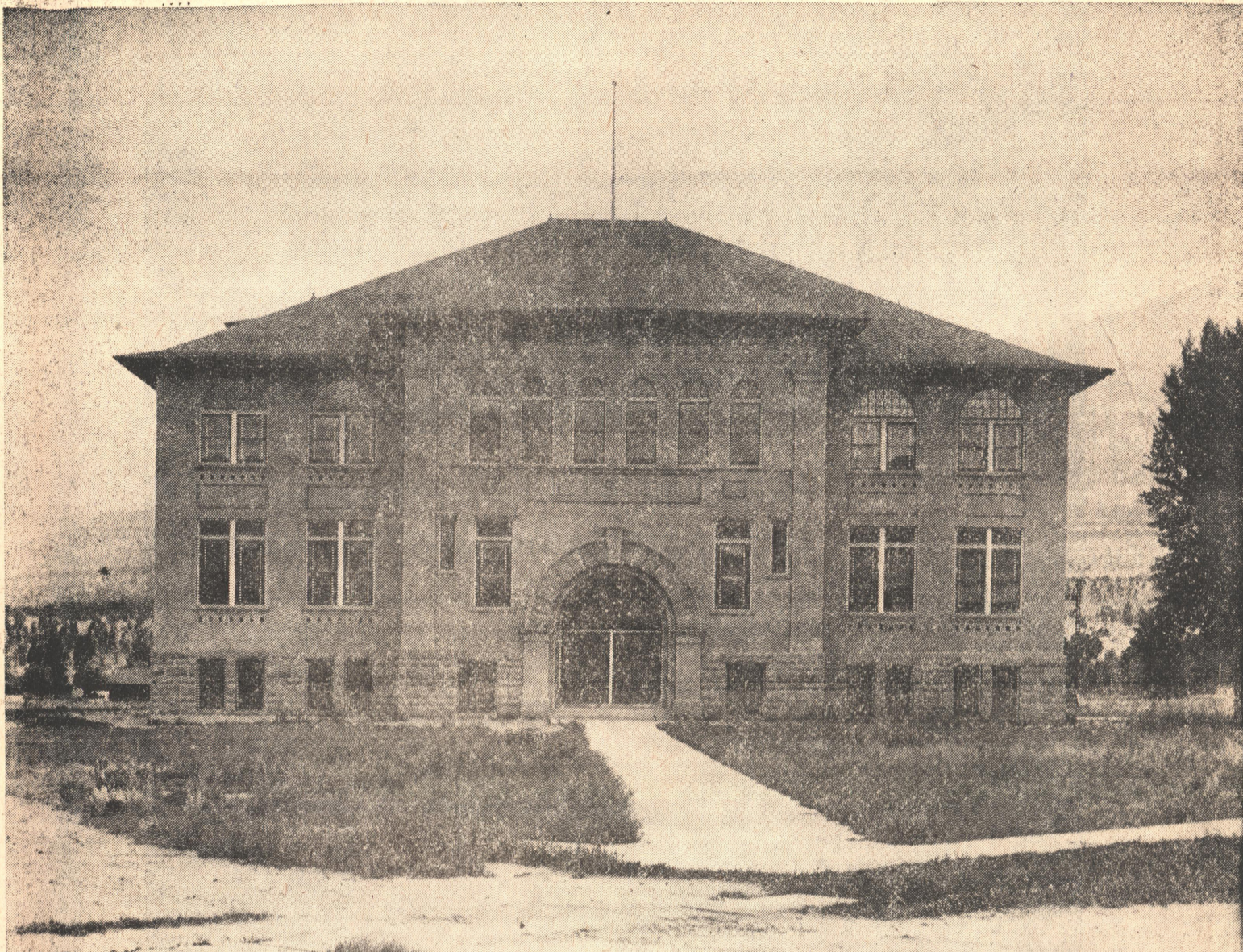
Drivers Welcome
NEWPORT, R. I. (UPI) — Whether you drive a low slung sports car with bucket seats or a vintage auto with lanterns for headlights you're welcome in Newport in June.

Belcourt Castle on legendary Ocean Drive will be the headquarters for the Newport Motor Car Festival the weekend of June 23.

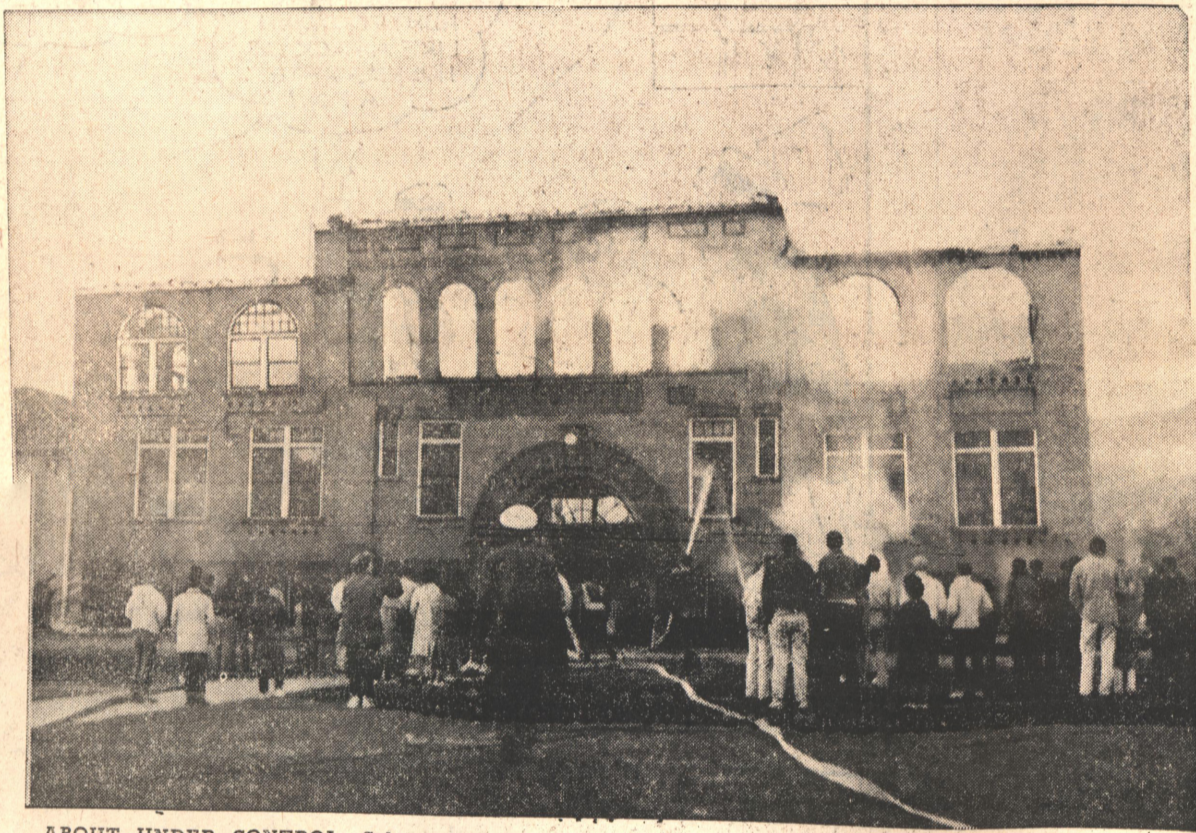


MANY A FORMER SALIDA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT will remember the old auditorium in the school, this section of the building converted into a library and study hall just a few years ago. In the above photo, Salida high students are gathered at the finale

of a dramatic production which, from the costumes, would seem to have been a play about the Pilgrims and the early days of our nation. (Photo courtesy of Fred and Jo Mazzulla)

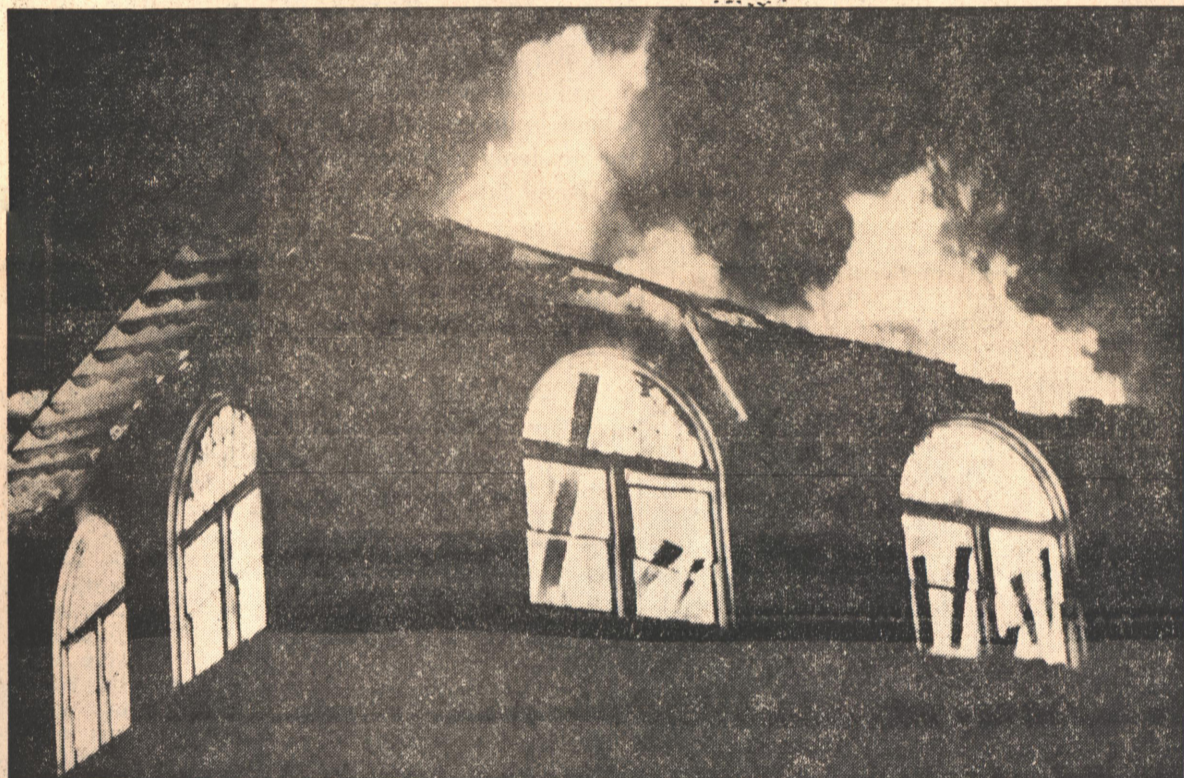


THIS IS A VIEW OF SALIDA HIGH SCHOOL after it was completed in the summer of 1910 and just before it was put into use in the fall of the same year. (Photo courtesy of Fred and Jo Mazzulla)



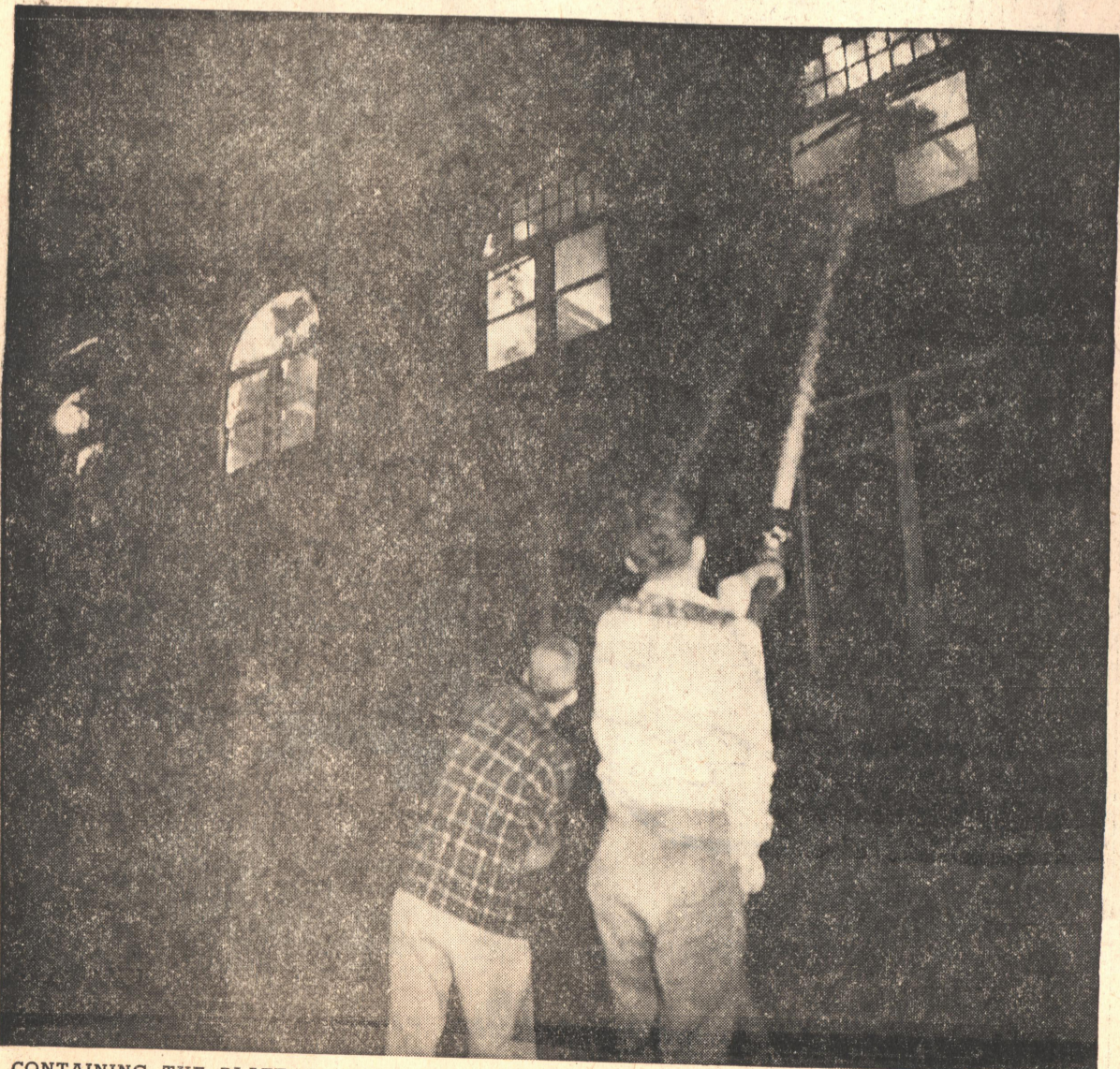
ABOUT UNDER CONTROL—School officials, students and townspeople watch in stunned fascination as a destructive blaze at Salida high school is brought under control, leaving just the shell of the building standing.

Mountain Mail Photo



LEAPING HIGH INTO THE AIR, flames rage wildly over the roof of Salida high school in the pre-dawn hours Saturday morning. Total damage from the fire has been estimated at \$250,000.

Mountain Mail Photo



CONTAINING THE BLAZE—In the early morning hours of darkness Saturday, firemen bent their efforts toward keeping a raging blaze at Salida high school from spreading to the nearby Kesner junior high school, the shop structure, auditorium and gymnasium. Helping Salida regular and volunteer firemen fight the blaze were firemen from Chaffee county, from the Salida fire protection district, from Poncha Springs and from the State Reformatory at Buena Vista.

Mountain Mail Photo

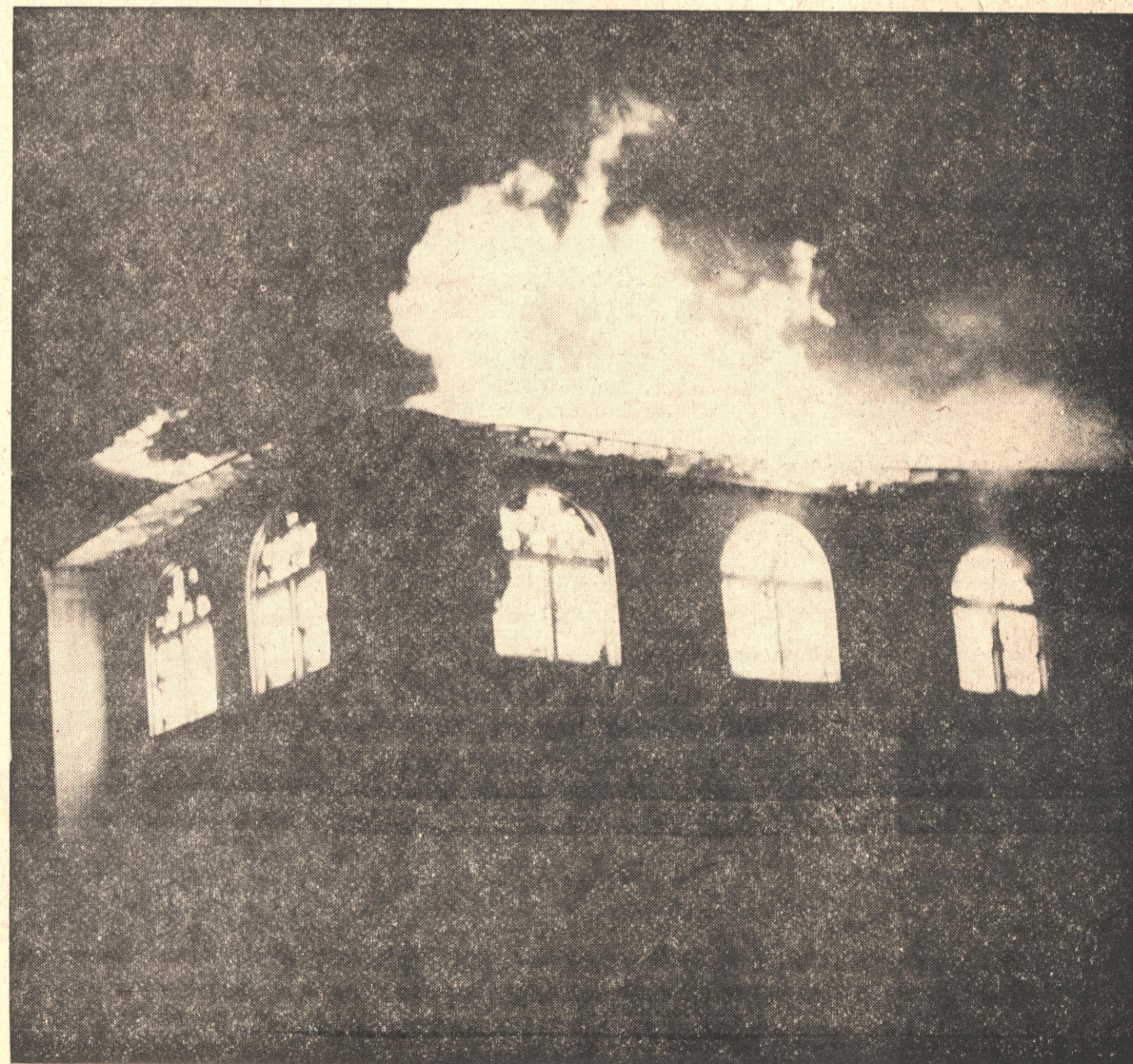
**Cooperation
Makes Possible
Fire 'Extra'**

The production of this special edition is made possible through the cooperation of many. The printer-crew of the Mountain Mail responded in force and gave up a day off to make the engravings, produce the type and make the press run to bring this special information to this newspaper's readers. Mrs. Al Runco, owner of Runco Studio, set aside her regular work schedule to enlarge many of the pictures used here.

Without special equipment, the pictorial coverage in this edition would not have been possible. A new picture-in-seconds camera purchased by the Mountain within the past two weeks enabled staffmen to start making engravings early this morning on an electronic engraving machine added to the plant over a year ago.

And, finally the loyal carrier crew of this newspaper stopped collections long enough to make distribution.

The editors wish to thank all who helped in the publication of this, one of the few, if not the first, special edition by the Mountain Mail.



AT THE HEIGHT OF ITS POWER, the fire at Salida high school relentlessly consumed the roof of the structure and left only the brick walls standing. This view of the blaze was taken from the west side of the high school building, looking up toward a classroom and the study hall.

Mountain Mail Photo