



The corner that burned is now occupied by the Farmers State Bank.

1906 Mentone Fire Recalled

ANOTHER WOODEN ROW
DOWN AND OUT

Five buildings including the Fair Store on the corner of Main and Broadway, East to Ellsworth's Shoe-Shop in ashes.

The following account of the 1906 Mentone fire was taken from the Tri-County Gazette, Thursday, February 8, 1906:

INCIDENTS OF THE FIRE
Next summer will see the burnt district covered with new buildings.

The Gazette was printed a few hours too soon last week to contain the most exciting event of the week. Last Thursday morning at about 5:15 the editor of this paper was awakened by the smell of smoke, and immediately began an investigation.

scattered about the streets. Only a part of the goods were taken from David Ellworth's shop. L. D. Manwaring lost considerable amount of his household goods which were stored in the rooms over the harness shop. Issac Sarber, the tailor, over the Fair Store, lost considerable in the way of stock and fixtures. Miss Alice Jennings and Miss Lash who had rooms in the same buildings had considerable of their furnishings burned. The following is perhaps as fair a general estimate of the losses as can be made:

L. D. Manwaring, building, stored goods, \$2,500; W. W. Kime, building, \$1,000; W. D. Garrison, building, \$500; Ben Sell, outfit

the injury. As it was, Mrs. Sheffield received some bad bruises about her head and face. Del Hall tried to carry out one woman whom he thought was killed, but she got away from him and he couldn't catch her again.

Just because somebody failed to get Central when an effort was being made to answer several calls at once, the story was started, that the telephone building was burned and the 'hello' girl with the heroic escape, carrying the switch board under her arm across the street where she set it down in new quarters and proceeded with business immediately.

David Ellsworth moved his repair shop into the room formerly occupied by the telephone office, south of the burnt corner.

The Goshen News in its report of the fire includes Mrs. Jennings' fine residence, two harness shops and one large shoe store.

The Gazette office and Methodist church were burned by the hot writings of some of the young 'American' reporters.

Lewis Foor moved the Byer Brothers' produce repository into the rear part of the building now occupied by Jenkins.

There is but little doubt but that at least two substantial buildings will go up on the burnt district in the early spring.

The old maxim of it being 'cheaper' to move than to pay rent, doesn't apply in this case.

A purse of \$18 was made up for David Ellsworth, for which he is especially appreciative. Miss R. C. Cretcher and her niece, Miss Lizzie Bodey, have taken rooms in the Forst Building.

W. B. Doddridge, with his jewelry store, will be found in the post office.

I. H. Sarber moved his tailor shop up the west stairway in the Banner building.

Several parties were seen laying in a supply from the goods piled up on the streets. Some of them were known.

The school girls secured rooms at Dr. Heffley's residence, Franklin Street.

W. B. Doddridge claim that his loss by the fire was practically nothing.

The ruins are still smoking.

Accident Report

Mark S. Hartzler, 17, Akron, was southbound on CR 1000 E Saturday night when he lost control of his car. It slid off the east side of the road and tore down a fence owned by Lamoin Hand. The car received \$800 damage and there was \$125 loss the fence.

Squires Nip Flyerettes

The Akron G.A.A. Flyerettes' A team were defeated February 9 by the Manchester Squires. High scorers were Lu Ann Walters were 20, Jennell Geilger with 8, and Jane Schipper with 1.

Ault	1	0
Schipper, Jane	3	0
Schipper, Janet	0	1
Reed	0	0
Manchester	FG	FT
Rager	5	3
Keim	5	3
Knecht	1	2

inting establishment, we prepared to make an out-door search, but before leaving our rooms we observed from our west window a tongue of fire and smoke making its escape from the top of the Kime building, occupied by Ben Sell's meat market, four doors west of us. In passing the building on our way to the engine house to turn on the fire alarm, we observed no fire in the front, but as we returned a few minutes later the entire front was out and the whole two stories were a mass of flames. It is evident that the smouldering fire had been a long time burning and so completely filled the building with smoke and hot air that an explosion from this cause occurred. All departments of the fire company were soon on hand and as effective work as could be expected under such conditions were done. The people turned their attention to removing the goods from the adjoining buildings. Nothing was saved from the meat market, and but little from Mr. Lewis' branch store on the east. Most of the goods in Anginbaugh harness shop, Jenkin's Fair Store, Doddridge's jewelry store and Byer Brothers packing rooms were carried out and

Jenkins, damages, \$1,500; J.W. Anginbaugh, stock, \$40; Misses Jennings and Lash, \$35; total \$6,815. The only insurance carried was \$1,000 by Mr. Jenkins and \$500 by Ben Sell. The fire leveled everything from Broadway east on the south side of Main St. to the alleys west of the Gazette office and north of F. A. Wilson's except Mrs. Mollenhour's millinery store, Harvey Kesler's residence, an old ice house and the little shop on the south end of Manwaring's lot. The Gazette office was warmed up some but was well fortified against the devouring element.

NOTES

Several persons who felt their appreciation of the kindness and help of their neighbors and friends wanted to publish 'cards of thanks' to that effect, but we persuaded them that it was not necessary. Everybody knows they were thankful. Besides those who did their duty by rendering assistance acted only as they would wish and expect others to do for them if conditions should be reversed. As the people were taking down the goods in the Fair Store, a section of the shelving fell and several persons narrowly escaped serious

Indiana as a source of what was sent out from Warsaw all over the country. "The business portion of Mentone, this county, was destroyed by fire this morning. At last report the fire was beyond control."

Strange how people see things differently. Some people heard an explosion which sent flames and a section of the roof of the Kime building 150 feet into the air. Others standing by heard no sound, but the frying of fat in the meat market.

It is acknowledged now that the story that a charge of dynamite under the floor in the harness shop blew Abe Mollenhour up through the ceiling and that he came down without a scratch was slightly exaggerated. He never got through the ceiling.

The cause of that explosion has been attributed to every conceivable source from the leaking of a gas main in the basement to the bursting of one of Ben's Bologna sausages.

Mrs. Mollenhour's millinery goods were moved out, also the household goods from Harvey residences, then moved back when danger was over. The wires out of town were the hottest on account of the red hot stories that went over them in all directions.

High scorers for the Squires were Jan Keim with 15 and Donna Rager with 13. Final score with 42-37.

The Akron B-team defeated the Squires 22-17. High scorers were Rita Ault with 7, Wanda Reed with 6, and Janet Schipper with 4.

	FG	FT	PF
Akron	3	2	2
Geiger	8	4	5
Walters	0	0	3
Fisher			

10-Acre Banquet Is Set

The 1971 Fulton County 10-Acre Corn and Soybean yield recognition banquet and program will be Tuesday evening, Feb. 29, at 6:15 p.m. in the Lakeside Inn, Rochester. The Rochester Rotary Club will host the evening dinner and program, according to Allen Fishburn, Rotary President.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank, Rochester, sponsors the Junior and Senior trophies for the winners in each category. Each member who completed the 10-Acre yield contest will also receive a completion medal.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Dr. Ludwig Eisgruber, Purdue economist. He will discuss "Remote Sensing and Its Implications to Agriculture."

Score	1	2	3	4
Frieden	7	15	25	37
Akron	10	23	33	42

School of Blind Will Conduct Special Program

The Indiana School for the Blind will conduct a familiarization conference for parents on the training of preschool, visually handicapped or blind children. The conference will be held at the Indiana School for the Blind, starting on Friday, March 3, and will be completed by 12 noon on Saturday, March 4.

The keynote speaker will be Mrs. Dorothy Petrucci, principal of the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. She is an outstanding leader in the education of the blind.

Medical and educational specialists and resource persons will be on the program and will be available for individual conferences with the parents.

Parents of a visually handicapped child or other interested persons may obtain further information by writing or calling the Blind School for the Blind, 7725 No. College Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana 46240, telephone 317-253-1481.

Bell February