

BRIGHTON BINDERY CO.  
BOX 336  
BRIGHTON, IOWA 52540

# THE DALLAS POST

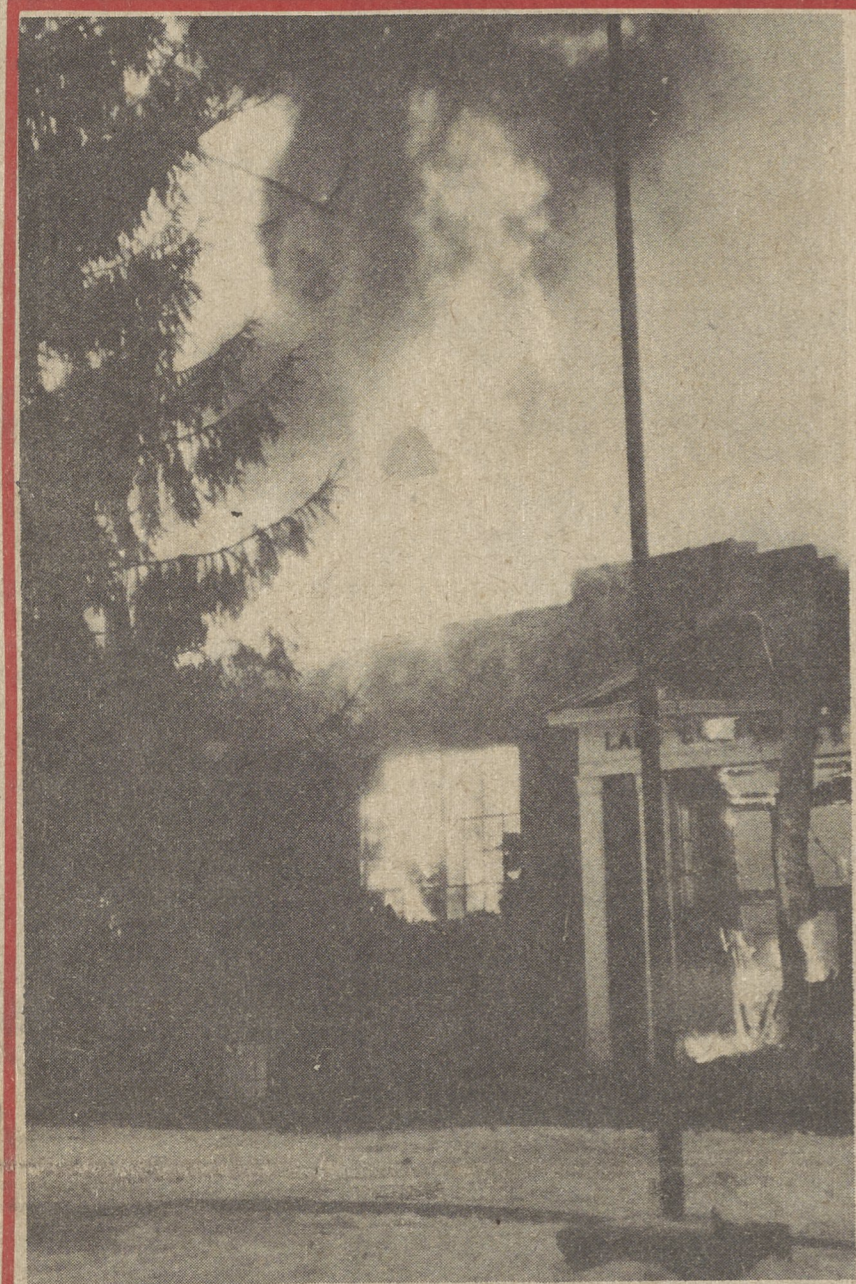
© 1979, Pennaprint Inc., All Rights Reserved USPS 147-720

VOL. 98 NO. 5

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1979

TWENTY CENTS

## Three charged in school fire



ANGRY FLAMES—Flames billowed 50 feet into the air and more at the height of the blaze which destroyed Lake Elementary School, Harveys Lake, Saturday. The fire was believed to be the work of arsonists and four men were arrested late Tuesday in connection with the fire. (Dallas Post Photo)

Two Dallas men and a Harveys Lake man were arrested last night on burglary and arson charges involving the Lake Elementary School fire and related incidents at the homes of William Gunster and Frank Lenz which occurred last Saturday morning.

Arrested were James Daubert, 18, of 161 Church St., Dallas; William Cilvik, 20, of RD 4 (Dallas) Harveys Lake; and Keith K. Kosak, 18, of 47 Parish St., Dallas. All three were apprehended by state police officials and charged by Magistrate Leonard Harvey in Dallas Tuesday night.

Daubert was charged with three counts of arson, two counts of burglary and two counts of criminal conspiracy. Cilvik was charged with the same while Kosak was charged with one count of criminal conspiracy to commit a burglary.

Daubert and Cilvik are charged with burglarizing the home of William Gunster, Pole 304, Harveys Lake, and then setting a fire or explosion which caused the structure to burn to the ground. In excess of \$50,000 damage was reported.

In addition both are charged with setting a fire or explosion which caused damage to the property of Frank Lenz, Pole 303, Harveys Lake. Approximately \$25,000 damage was reported to the Lenz structure.

Daubert and Cilvik were then also charged with the burglary and fire which destroyed Lake Elementary. In excess of \$100 worth of food was taken from the school before it was burnt to the ground. Kosak is charged with conspiracy in the burglary of the school.

Daubert and Cilvik were taken to Luzerne County Prison last night after they failed to post the \$100,000 bond set for them. Kosak was released after posting a \$10,000 bond.

All three will be arraigned in Luzerne County Courthouse March 8



James Daubert



William Cilvik



Keith Kosak

(Photos by Bob Tomaine)

### 'Things went well' in Lake adjustment

by Tom Mooney

"Things went unbelievably well today," said Dr. David Preston, superintendent of the Lake-Lehman School District Tuesday afternoon following the first day of the emergency plan developed over the weekend in response to the Saturday fire that destroyed the Lake Elementary School building.

Essentially, the plan consisted of maintaining regular schedules and placing the Lake building students in the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School building, wherever space could be found, for their own classes and programs.

However, Preston is also aware that the present method of coping with the difficulty is at best just a temporary expedient. "We have to be involved in continuous assessment," he said Tuesday afternoon, continuing his evaluation of the day's success, adding that the district would have to develop some adequate means of coping with pupil placement for the next school year.

The Lake-Lehman District has for some time desired to build a new elementary school near the location of the now-destroyed building, but the timetable, of course, did not take the

immediate loss of the Lake facility into account.

According to Preston, some elements of the elementary program must of necessity be impaired by the loss of the building. "We're definitely crowded," he conceded. "Our special programs—art, music, Title I reading—obviously have to suffer. Teachers and students are meeting in lockers and in nooks and crannies. The need for a new facility is very evident."

The combining of the two student populations, he said, was chosen in preference to the alternative of split sessions. It was believed to be less disruptive to the total educational program, less costly and less psychologically harmful to all concerned.

"We held a debriefing session today," Preston continued. "And we'll hold one every day. Right now we're just talking about finishing the school year—about 70 days."

Preston said he visited Lehman Jackson several times Tuesday, as did school board member Arnold Garinger. He praised the elementary administrative and teaching staffs for their response to the emergency, saying that they reacted "extremely well" to the situation.

## Dallas announces finance

In a special meeting Monday, the Dallas Area School District announced its plans for long-term financing of a substantial construction and alteration program.

According to figures presented by the board, the program will be financed by a bond issue of either \$2.4 million or \$1.74 million, depending upon whether or not work on the Westmoreland Elementary School is refinanced through the bond issue or kept covered by its present short-term note.

The board presented bids by various investment firms wishing to handle the bond issue and scheduled selection of an underwriter for its Monday meeting.

Dr. Richard Shipe, district superintendent, said that paying for the entire program in a single year would require a tax increase of approximately 86 mills, a figure obviously impossible to manage.

The program involves a large number of separate projects including purchase and renovation of the hitherto temporary Dallas Intermediate School (\$923,761), installation of a new roof on the senior high school (\$350,000), and, if desired, refinancing of the costs of Westmoreland Elementary (\$560,000 remaining).

It also includes work that must be done to bring Dallas Elementary, Trucksville Elementary, Dallas Township Elementary, the junior high school, and the senior high school up to standards specified by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry (\$105,650).

Included as well is the cost borne as part of two years' participation in CETA projects (\$95,000), various "contracted maintenance" items deleted in years past (\$100,000), and an architect's physical plant survey at Dallas Elementary and Trucksville Elementary (\$63,000).

Listed as "associated costs" were architect fees for work on the senior high roof as well as the Trucksville and Dallas Elementary buildings (\$23,139), contingency funding (\$80,000), and costs of financing (\$99,450 maximum).

Five investment firms submitted bids for the financing program. However, one did not bid on both possible bond issues, and no one firm gave complete figures for each and every element of the financing process. These elements include printing, legal fees, bond discount, bond discount percentage, bond rating and "miscellaneous," and trustee fees.

The apparent low bidder was Merrill Lynch with bids of \$44,425 for the larger bond issue and \$35,165 for the smaller one. However, Merrill Lynch did not include legal fees, a major element, in its bid.

Other bids were from E. F. Hutton (\$92,400 on the larger only); Elkins, Stroud (\$69,447-\$64,450); Kidder Peabody (not definite costs but ranges only of \$61,700 to \$96,700 or \$113,700); and Butcher and Singer (\$99,450-\$89,450).

The district indicated that some sort of millage increase would be required to meet the costs of the financing program. With 2.9 mills for the Westmoreland School work already figured into the district budget, the increase would not have to meet the full cost of the bond issue year by year.

Financing over 20 years on a "level debt" arrangement would require an increase of 2.16 mills, with 1.71 mills needed for a 25-year schedule and 1.46 mills for a 30-year system. A "23-year

wrap around" would necessitate an increase of .69 mills.

The millage figures were based on the assumption that state aid would lower a total \$2.4 million project by more than \$630,000 and leave just over \$1.765 million.

A brief argument erupted early in the meeting when school board member Patricia Gregory, who had chosen to miss roll call and sit in the audience, charged the board with trying to avoid public scrutiny by presenting just the minimum public notice required—legal ads in area newspapers.

District solicitor Atty. Benjamin Jones replied that the legal section was the proper place for such a notice rather than any other section of a newspaper such as the "sports" or "social" pages. School director Basil Russin asked Gregory if "perhaps you would like them to take out a headline."

Only two residents of the district attended the full meeting.

### Insurance covers school

by Shawn Murphy

Terms of an \$8½ million insurance policy carried by the Lake-Lehman School District will provide "full replacement value at current costs" of the recently destroyed Lake Elementary School, that district's school board members learned at a special meeting Tuesday night.

Donald Ralston, general adjustor for the Maryland Casualty Co., the company which wrote the school's insurance policy, was present at the meeting to discuss the procedures for recovering on the loss. The settlement would be based on replacing the destroyed building at current construction costs.

Ralston assured the board that he was "here to honor our contract with the school district," and he also noted that his company had had many claims by school districts throughout the state and "have never had one complain about the settlement."

Coverage on the Lake School was given by Ralston as approximately \$720,000.

He explained that estimates would be made for replacement costs to arrive at a figure that "everybody can live with," and noted that an inventory of room contents would be made by persons familiar with those rooms, probably teachers.

In response to a question posed by Solicitor Charles D. Lemmond, Jr., Ralston assured the board that the fact that the fire was thought to have been the work of arsonists would have no bearing on payment of claims.

Earlier in the meeting, Atty. Lemmond had announced that Fire Marshal Nicholas Gushka had returned his call "minutes before I left for this meeting" and had informed him that three persons had been arrested in connection with the blaze and were to be arraigned shortly. The solicitor also observed that the fire marshal had indicated that the persons arrested were "not connected with any of the parties involved," and that the arrests would likely "clear up a number of burglaries in the area."



TOE WARMER—Lehman Twp. Fire Chief Harold Coolbaugh warms his toes over the exhaust of the Luzerne fire truck during the Saturday morning fire at Lake Elementary School. (Dallas Post Photo)

### World Day of Prayer Friday

A World Day of Prayer and Fellowship Tea will be held in the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Dallas on March 2 at 1 p.m. Women of the Church will be in charge of the tea and jursery for pre-school children.

Mrs. Thomas E. Cease is Back Mountain, Chairman. Mrs. Leonard Bolinski is soloist and Mrs. Fred Swanson, organist. Miss Catherine Gilbert will have a souvenir table on Africa.

Program theme is "Spiritual Growth" prepared by the Women of Zambia, Africa. Theme song is "Kum-Ba-Yah."

Participating churches include: Idetown United Methodist; Huntsville Christian; Shavertown United Methodist; Prince of Peace, Episcopal, Dallas; Lehman United Methodist; Huntsville United Methodist; St. Theresa's Roman Catholic, Shavertown; Trucksville United Methodist; Our Lady of Victory, Roman Catholic; Harvey's Lake; Trinity United Presbyterian; St. Andrew's Orthodox, Lehman; Gate of Heaven Roman Catholic, Dallas; St. Paul's Lutheran, Shavertown; Dallas United Methodist.

All women are invited to attend the service.