

and phone lines. At present the fire alarm system, walkway lights, and a monitor to a biology lab have also been temporarily reconnected.

Coles said that it will take at least 6-8 weeks to get new cables in to make the connections permanent, and that restoring everything damaged back to normal may take upward of 2 months.

"However," said Coles, "there is no reason why we cannot function on a normal basis."

Coles could not offer an estimate of the dollar amount of damage.

Dalton Hall suffered the most smoke damage and cleaning crews worked through the weekend to allow the building to be used again by Monday.

Most other buildings on campus were also scrubbed with a cleaning agent to reduce smoke odour.

PREVENTION

Coles said that the insulating pipe that fed the fire is one that is commonly used. He said that although the insulation is flammable, it is coated with a thick layer of PVC plastic and that once the pipe is in place, it is un-

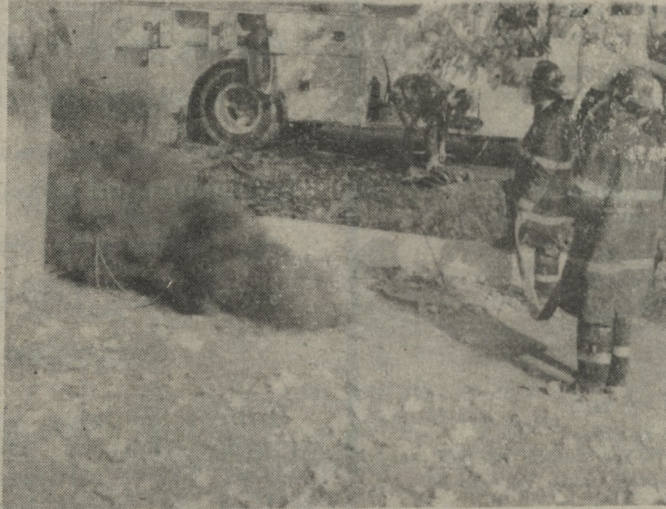
likely for something to get through that insulation to expose the flammable material beneath.

However, welders from Steens Contractors, the firm hired to install the heating pipe, said that they did not know the exposed insulation could burn. This proved to

be a very dangerous and expensive lack of information as it was a welders torch that apparently started the blaze. In fact, because of the plastic insulation coating the pipe, the only time it could conceivably set on fire would be during installation when the flammable section is exposed.



Manhole behind Dalton where fire began



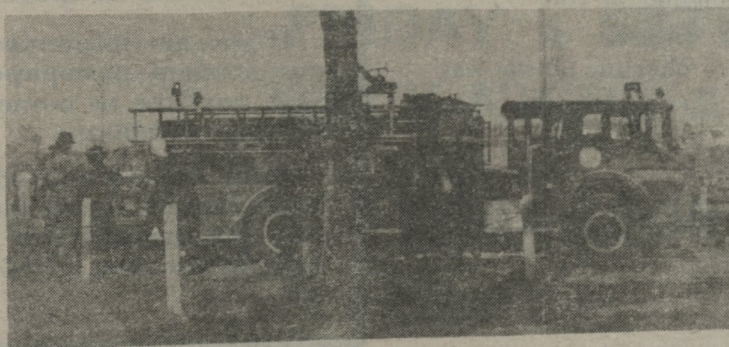
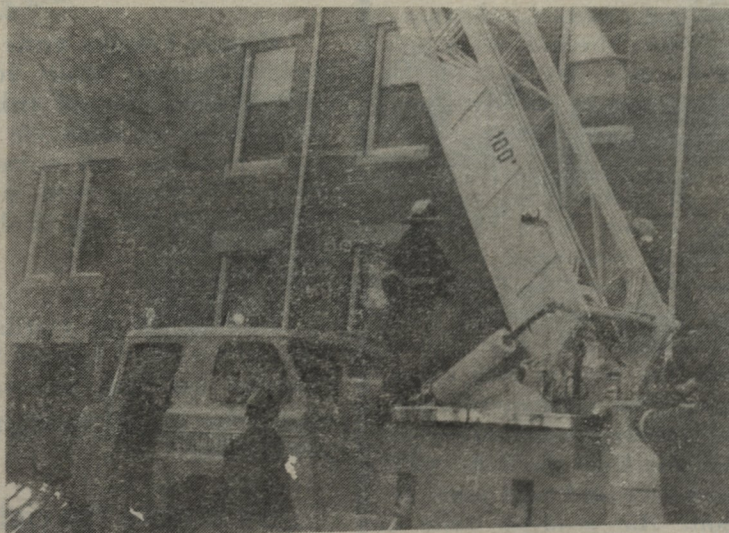
CIMN off air again

ONE CASUALTY of the tunnel fire was CIMN radio who had cables linking the station to its transmitter destroyed again.

The 700 AM regular broadcast of CIMN to Blanchard, Bernardine, and Marian Halls will not be able to be heard until technicians can replace the cable destroyed. Fortunately the cable broadcast of CIMN on the FM band has been unaffected.

A source at CIMN said that it shouldn't take long before service to the residences is up and running. The cable is readily available and it is only a matter of going into the tunnels and replacing them.

Unlike the last time CIMN was cut off the air, the source at CIMN said that they began receiving complaints from listeners who could no longer tune in the station almost immediately after the fire.



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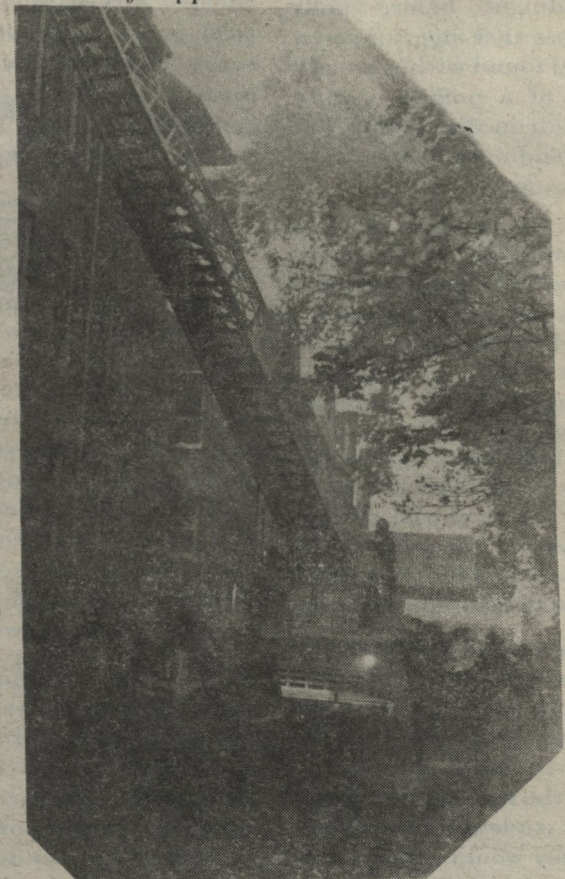
The university has no plans to call for the replacement of the pipe. However, at least now the workmen know it is flammable.

Don Coles said that the university will be looking into preventing smoke from another such fire from affecting campus buildings. He said that one solution would be to install blowers in each building's maintenance room, where the service tunnel enters the building. In the event of a fire, the blowers would be activated causing positive pressure to blow smoke back into the tunnels and out manhole covers.

to have learned something from the Propane incident of 1985, however. With that near-disaster, four hours passed before the fire department was called.

Two years later they have improved their response time as it appears the fire department was called immediately. Now after this near-disaster hopefully the university will take another step—that of more prevention so that there will be no such event two years from now in late October 1989. ■

The university appears



Firefighters check for people in building