



**PRESIDENT N.J. PERKINS
SHOWED GREAT LEADERSHIP
IN THE FACE OF TWO MAJOR
FIRES IN ONE WEEK AT FUMA.**

**FUMA
ARMORY ON
FIRE, 1923**



ARMORY BUILDING AT FORK UNION DESTROYED

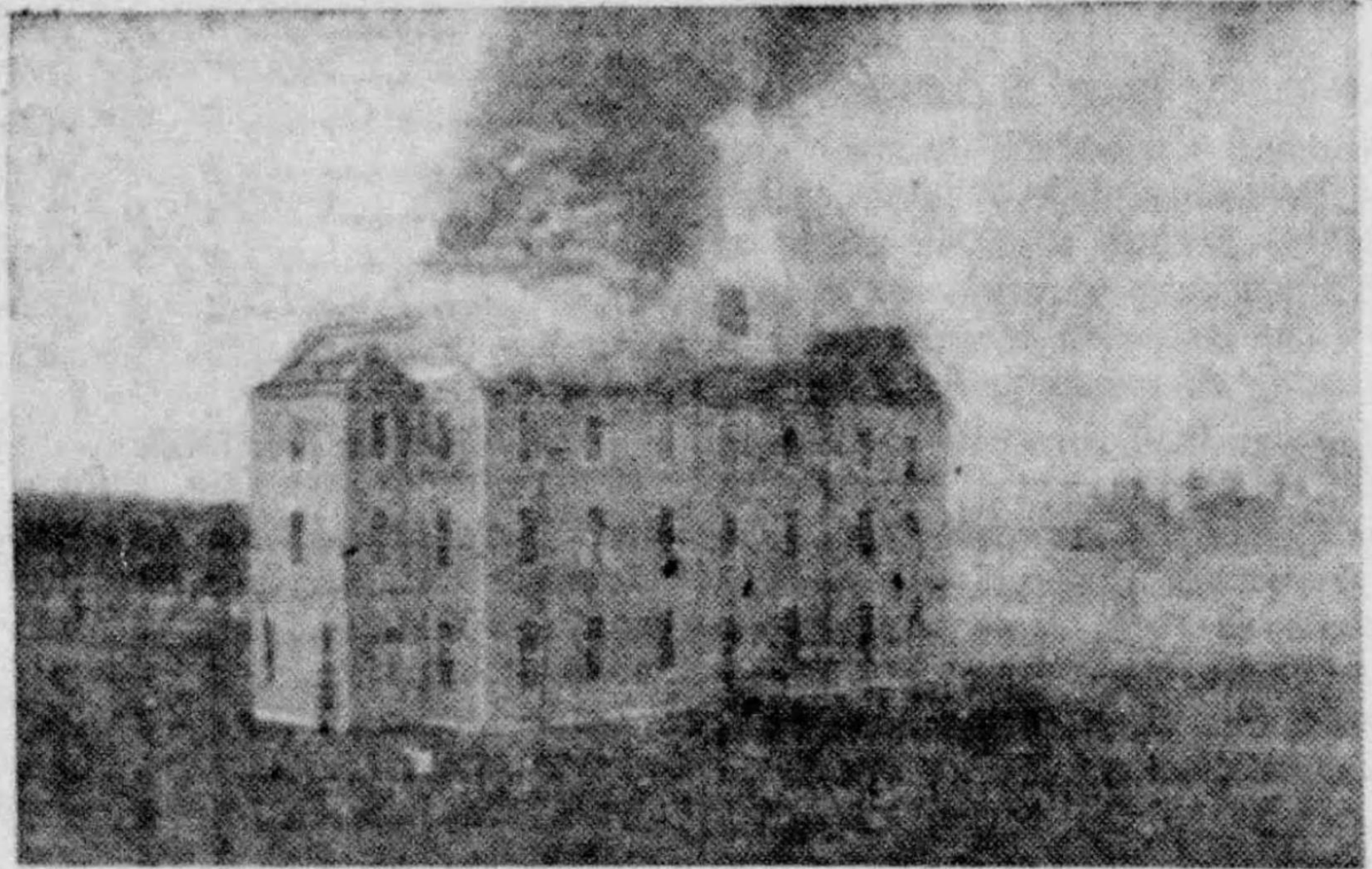
(By The Associated Press)

Fork Union, Jan. 17. — The armory building of the Fork Union Military Academy was destroyed tonight by a fire which authorities of the school believe originated in the roof of the building and was caused by defective wiring. The loss is estimated at \$40,000 and is covered by insurance.

Twenty thousand rounds of ammunition was stored in the armory and the explosion of the shells resembled an infantry battle. No one was hurt. A number of pistols were destroyed but the drill rifles used by the students were saved. These were kept in the barracks.

The armory building was located some distance from the main buildings and the latter were not damaged by the fire.

SNEAD HALL JAN 27, 1923



ON JANUARY 27, 1923, Snead Hall, one of the few buildings on the Fork Union campus, caught fire and was destroyed. The Academy continued to operate during the fire by converting local village buildings to classrooms, a gymnasium and other school facilities.

SNEAD HALL ON FIRE



Col. Perkins told the writer recently that a student pyromaniac was suspected of setting the fire, but that the suspicion could not be proved. Later, Col. Perkins stated, the same student went to Bluefield College, set fire to the only wooden building there, was tried and convicted of arson.

Second Fire May Close Fork Union

Fork Union, Jan. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—Fire of undetermined origin late today destroyed Sned Hall, one of the dormitories at the Fork Union Military Academy. Approximately 70 students were housed in the building. The loss is estimated at \$35,000. Colonel N. J. Perkins, head of the institution announced last night that the academy probably would be forced to close its doors unless temporary quarters can be obtained. The fire was the second within a week, the armory having destroyed a few days ago.



SNEAD HALL THAT BURNED

**SNEAD HALL (L)
AND
ARMORY (R)
IN 1910,
BEFORE THE
FIRES.**



Fork Union Will Continue Session

Richmond, Va., Jan. 23.—(By the Associated Press.)—Despite two big fires within less than a week, one of which on Wednesday last totally destroyed the armory and the other on Sunday, which totally wrecked a large dormitory, there will be no interruption to studies at Fork Union Military Academy. Plans for housing the students who were quartered in the dormitory destroyed and for providing class rooms were completed at a conference last night between Colonel N. J. Perkins, president of the school, and Dr. L. H. Walton, president of the board of trustees of the Baptist Church, which controls the institution. Some of the students will be provided rooms in the village and some class rooms also will be temporarily located outside the school premises. There are 168 students at the academy.

Studies Not Interrupted At Fork Union Academy

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