

auctioning loud--"Gentlemen, he says, "When I used to pull this old bell cord, I was gettin' a hundred and my chewin'. And now it rushes me to get my chewin'." And old Greene McCurtain, settin' over there just died off laughin'. (Much laughter) He thought it was crowdin' him to get his chewin'. It was just enough to say he burnt it up. That was what I thought. He just laughed about it. He said he wasn't gettin his chewin'. We don't know what happened. They sais when they discovered it--the first fire--the boys slept in the dormitory overhead, up stairs. The first thing they noticed the fire was raging in the stairway, come from the stairway, you know. They had no way gettin' down. Some of the jumped--crippled 'em up, burnt two of 'em up. George Frame lost his boy there. His boy would got out--he said he did get out but he went back after his clothes. Just had his night clothes on and he went back after his clothes and it caught 'im. Pat Frame, he was a kid about oh, nine or ten years old. He was a smart little kid. And George had come after 'im. He wasn't dead. He had a new wagon and sheet and bows and bed on there--fixed nice. At that time they had no cars, no conveyances, no other way. They come by Judge's on Sunday mornin' and I was over there and saw 'im. And they had 'im bound in cotton nearly and ever little bit he'd call for water. He stopped at Judge's and got some water to carry along with 'im, you know. Course Pat didn't live but a day or two--burnt too bad. They picked Tubby Walker now, to go and notify those people. They come from way down east around ever where to the Academy, they scattered ever where, you know. They come in buggies and wagons, all the way they got goin', you know. They sent Tubby Walker around in there horseback to notify those people about the boys that burnt up. And they come. I seen a woman pointed out the place where her boy had burnt, you know. She had an old red handkerchief, you know, and she went around there, pickin' up the bones and sayin'--

(But just two of 'em were burned?)