

# Partridge Again Refuses To Quit County Engineer Post

## Mowrystown Youth Is Killed by Lightning

A 21-year-old county youth was killed instantly when he was struck by lightning at his farm home, two miles north of Mowrystown, Thursday about 4 P. M.

The victim was Ted Roberts, son of H. Gleason Roberts, funeral director of Mowrystown, and Mrs. Roberts.

The youth was riding on a trailer pulled by a tractor driven by his father at the time. The mishap occurred at the start of a late afternoon electrical and rainstorm which struck the area.

Earl Whiting, an old-age pensioner who resides in a tenant

house at the farm, owned by the youth's father, was riding on the trailer with the youth. They were standing only about three feet apart. Whiting was stunned by the bolt, as was the funeral director, but only momentarily.

**ROBERTS SAID** they had been making the rounds with the outfit, putting feed in hog feeders at the farm, and were heading back to the barn when the tragedy occurred.

The youth was pronounced dead at the farm by Dr. Leslie Hampton of Sardinia, who was summoned to the scene.

The youth was born and reared in the Mowrystown community. He graduated from Whiteoak High School in 1951. He was a member of the varsity basketball team there for four years and was active in Future Farmers of America work. He had been operating his dad's farm since his graduation.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his wife, the former Joyce Dickey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Dickey, near Fairfax, to whom he had been married on April 5 of this year; one sister, Mrs. William Beltz, Jr., of Cincinnati.

Services were held Sunday at 2 P. M., at the Mowrystown Presbyterian Church, with Rev. Philip Ling and Rev. Anderson officiating.

## Youth Injured In Auto Crash

### Hit by Wheel After Being Thrown Out

A Bainbridge youth suffered severe injuries in an auto accident on Route 50, 3.3 miles west of Bainbridge Sunday about 4 P. M., the Chillicothe State Patrol reported.

Confined at Chillicothe Hospital is Frank Carroll, 20, of Bainbridge

## Misconduct Charges Drafted By County Commissioners

County commissioners and Prosecutor Richard L. Davis said Monday that they would confer with the attorney general in Columbus, Tuesday, concerning ouster charges which will be filed against Philip Partridge, county engineer, who refused to resign his post after confessing that he set fire to the Lincoln School building here on the morning of July 5.

## Name Hospital Bond Speakers

### Group Will Present Facts on Hospital

It was announced today by Vernon Seaver, chairman of the Highland All-County Hospital Committee, that a speakers' committee under the co-chairmanship of the Rev. Dr. C. E. White, Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hillsboro, and Howard Johnston, manager of the Ohio Bell Telephone Co., in Hillsboro, had been formed.

"Our reason for forming this group," said Seaver, "is to make available to every club and organization in the county a speaker who will tell a factual story about the proposed Highland County Hospital. We believe that our people want to know the facts, and so we are using this method to get the facts to a large number of people throughout the county."

**IN ACCEPTING** appointment, White and Johnston said that, "We are firmly convinced of the need for a modern hospital for Highland County. We are glad to have an opportunity to serve this very worthy cause. It is our hope that many groups throughout the county will avail themselves of one of our speakers, in order that more of our citizens may know about the need for the hospital. Any group wishing a speaker needs only to contact us and we will have one available at the desired time and place."

Highland Countians will vote on a bond issue and operating levy for a county hospital at the Nov. 2 election. The bond issue calls for the construction of a 64-bed

Officials said they had planned to file the charges of misconduct against Partridge Monday, but in a last minute conference, it was decided that the attorney general should be contacted on the matter.

The commissioners charge that when Partridge took the office, he took an oath in which he agreed to uphold the constitution of the United States and the state of Ohio. They charge that when he set fire to the building, he disregarded certain state statutes which are based on the constitution of the state, and thus violated his oath. They further charge that he is not qualified to hold the post, since he does not have a bond as required by law.

A copy of the charges, when filed, must be served on the engineer, Davis said, and then a hearing will be set before Judge George W. McDowell. The law calls for a hearing on the charges within 30 days after they are filed.

**COMMISSIONERS** had asked Partridge to resign his post after he confessed that he set fire to the Lincoln elementary school here on Friday morning of July 5. Partridge told officials a few days after the fire that he would not resign because he had done nothing wrong "as an engineer."

Following the engineer's return from the Lima State Hospital on August 13, officials had delayed the filing of charges against him, hoping that he would volunteer his resignation.

The charges were to have been filed earlier last week, but Partridge's attorney, Charles (Bud) Wilson, of West Union, reportedly asked for a conference with local officials before the charges were filed.

Davis said last week that Wilson was to appear here on Friday afternoon to talk to the county officials concerning the resignation,

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## House Destroyed By Flames Here

### Furniture, Clothing Also Lost in Blaze

The large house of Ervin Louderback, located on the Belfast Pike, just outside the city limits, was destroyed by fire early Saturday morning, it was reported.

Hillsboro firemen were summoned to the scene of the blaze about 8 A. M., Saturday, and three trucks were taken to the scene, firemen aid. The fire had apparently been burning for sometime, however, and was completely beyond control when the firemen arrived.

Fire Chief Fred Bennett said the department was notified of the fire by a motorist who had passed the Louderback home.

**IN THE FIVE** or six-room structure at the time of the fire was all the furnishings and clothing of the family, it was reported. None of the family was at home at the time.

Mrs. Louderback was reportedly spending the night at the home of her son, and Louderback was not at home.

First reports indicated that an employee who resided with the Louderbacks was in the house at

# Partridge Again

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but the attorney did not appear. Davis said he called Wilson late Friday evening and the attorney said that his client would not resign.

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**THE COMMISSIONERS** instructed Davis to draft the charges when they learned of the refusal Saturday morning.

An earlier plan, which called for a special session of the April term grand jury to be held within the week after the misconduct charges were to be filed, has been abandoned by the prosecutor, it was learned. Davis said that, since the convening date for the September term grand jury has been set for Sept. 13, there would be no point to calling the old grand jury back into special session.

In the meantime, county employees in the engineer's department, including both the office staff and the county highway workers, went without pay on the regular payroll date, Friday, due to the fact that there is no county engineer authorized to sign the payroll.

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**OFFICIALS** pointed out that the Cincinnati bonding firm which held the bond on Partridge as a county official lifted the bond after he confessed setting the fire. Therefore, he is not qualified to

act as an engineer in any matters of importance. County commissioners said following his confession that they would not honor any agreements or contracts made by Partridge on behalf of the county.

The prosecutor said that a deputy in the engineer's office was authorized to sign the payroll and contracts for the county for a 30-day period after the bond was lifted by the Cincinnati firm, but this authorization has expired. He said there is some chance that the engineer's force will not receive their pay until he is out of office and another engineer is appointed, but officials are attempting to get state officials to work out a plan for payment of the county workers.

Officials pointed out that, had Partridge resigned, arrangements would have been made whereby they could have met the payroll on time.

Opened packages of appetizer crackers will keep crisp and tasty in the freezer.

**NOTICE OF DRAWING JURORS**  
Office of Commissioners of Jurors,  
Highland County, Ohio, August 21st,  
1954.  
To All Whom It May Concern:  
On Monday, the 30th day of August,  
1954, at 10:00 o'clock, A. M., at the  
office of the Commissioners of Jurors  
of Highland County, Ohio, Jurors will  
be publicly drawn for the September  
1954 Term of the Common Pleas  
Court of said County.  
**B. W. FENNER,**  
**C. H. STEVENSON**  
Commissioners of Jurors  
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