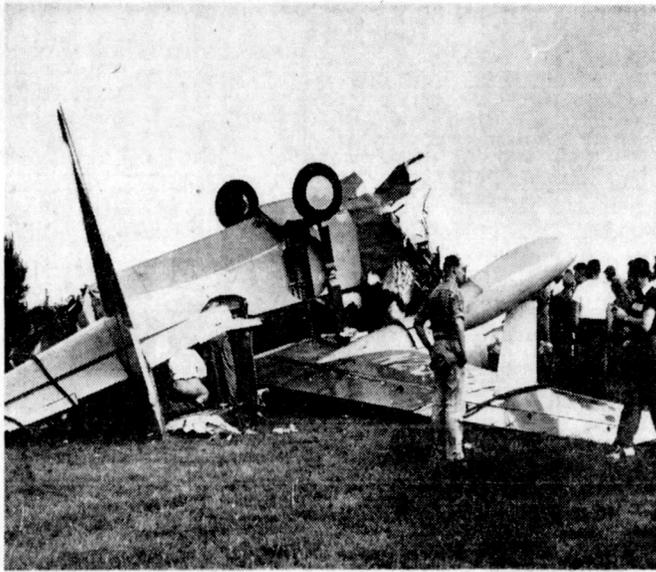


**PLANE CRASHES** The crash of this two-motored private plane yesterday afternoon at Municipal airport resulted in injury to its six occupants. The plane crashed against an embankment just off the runway after gaining an altitude of approximately 15 feet on take-off. Frank R. Pierce, Michigan industrialist, shown at lower right, was the most seriously injured. (Photo of plane by Jake Houston of The Observer staff.)



## Crash At Municipal Airport Injures Six

BY RANDOLPH NORTON  
Observer Staff Writer.

Six persons were injured—one critically—yesterday in the crash of a private plane at Charlotte Municipal airport.

The plane, a two-motored Gruman Mallard, was wrecked against an embankment just off the north runway during an attempted take-off. The craft burst into flames, but the quick work of airport and Air National Guard fire fighters saved the passengers from cremation.

Critically injured and still unconscious in Memorial hospital last night was Frank R. Pierce, 421 Arlington drive, Birmingham, Mich. He is president of Dearborn Motors Corp., subsidiary of the Ford Motor company.

### FIVE SERIOUSLY HURT

Seriously injured but expected to recover are:

Mrs. Pierce, wife of the Michigan industrialist and sister of Mrs. George Denny and Miss Helen Smith, 2122 Sarah Marks avenue, Charlotte.

W. J. Engman, 35, pilot, 9169 Parkway, Grose Isle, Mich.

George Findlay, 37, co-pilot, 22157 Garrison, Dearborn, Mich.

Latta R. Johnston, 831 Poinsettia road, Columbia, S. C., associated with the R. S. Dickson company.

Mrs. Latta R. Johnston, his wife. At the hospital emergency room, where more than seven doctors and numerous nurses and aides went into action upon the arrival of the injured in ambulances, attendants said the victims of the plane accident suffered generally from severe lacerations of the head.

All were conscious soon after arrival except Mr. Pierce.

### PILOT 'KNOCKED OUT'

Pilot Engman, who was "knocked out" by the crash, couldn't recall what happened. An attending physician said he was suffering from "retrogressive amnesia" due to his injury.

All of the injured were admitted for hospital care.

The plane made its attempted take-off about 2:15 p. m.

Witnesses to the crash said the craft never obtained an altitude of more than 15 feet. Its right wing was down and as it was righted the plane hit the runway and bounded back into the air. Then it struck the embankment off the runway near the Southern Airways hangar and burst into flames.

The airport siren was sounded immediately (both the C.A.A. control tower and the Air National Guard are believed to have pushed the button simultaneously) and the fire fighters with their equipment rushed to the wreckage.

Several ambulances and the Charlotte Life Saving and First Aid crew arrived promptly.

Dave M. Rea, airport manager, said the alert action of the airport and Air National Guard firemen saved the lives of the plane's passengers.

J. R. Surtman, president of the Carolina Ford Tractor company of Charlotte and host to Mr. Pierce during his two-day visit here in his company's aircraft, said he watched the plane crash. He had taken the Pierces and the Johnstons to the airport.

Mr. Surtman said it appeared to him that the plane's motors

(See CRASH, Page 2, Col. 2.)

## GRAHAM AGREES TO ONE PRIMARY

Smith, However, Rejects Reynolds' Proposal To Skip Runoff If Majority Lacking.

(Special to The Observer.)

RALEIGH, May 24. — Senator Frank P. Graham today announced he is willing to accept a proposition that the high man in Saturday's voting be declared the Democratic nominee for the Senate should neither receive a clear majority.

But from Charles P. Green, state campaign manager for Willis Smith, regarded as Graham's most formidable opponent in Saturday's primary, came rejection of the one-primary proposal. He said in a statement:

"Dr. Graham's so-called offer is really a cry for help by a candidate definitely on the downgrade. He is losing strength every day. Willis Smith is gaining strength every day. We are confident we will win in the first primary. If not, we are certain we will win in a second primary.

"We definitely reject any Graham offer to keep the majority of the voters from selecting the candidate. We reject your desperation offer, Dr. Graham. We are going to defeat you on May 27. If this defeat is not complete, we will complete it on June 24."

Under North Carolina law, the second-high man in a primary field of more than two candidates is entitled to demand a runoff primary if the top man does not receive a majority of the votes cast. A second primary in this year's senatorial

(See GRAHAM, Page 2, Col. 3.)



## Plane With 25 Persons Aboard Rams Volcano

BOGOTA, Colombia, May 24.—(AP)—Lansa Airways said tonight one of its DC-3 transports had crashed on a slope of Galeras volcano near Pasto, 95 miles south of Popayan. The two-engine plane was carrying 22 passengers and three crew members.

The air line said it had received no word on the fate of the occupants of the transport. The newspaper El Espectador quoted peasants in the region as saying they believed the plane exploded in the air and was destroyed.

The aircraft was en route from Popayan, 75 miles south of Cali, to Ipiales on the Colombian-Ecuadorian border.

### TUC Modifies Support.

LONDON, May 24.—(AP)—The powerful British Trades Union Congress (TUC) modified tonight its support of the Labor government's freeze on wages. The general council of the 8,000,000-member TUC decided that wage restraint must continue but should be more flexible. This was viewed as a tacit admission that pressure for pay boosts by British workers must be met with some wage increases.

## Rossellini And Bergman Reported Wed By Proxy

ROME, Thursday, May 25.—(AP)—A spokesman for Roberto Rossellini said today the Italian film director and Ingrid Bergman had been married by proxy at Jaurez, Mexico.

The marriage took place yesterday morning, the spokesman said. Witnesses were named as Marcello Girosi and one of Rossellini's lawyers in the United States, William Cocke.

Rossellini is the acknowledged father of Miss Bergman's son, born in Rome February 2.

The actress obtained a Mexican divorce from Dr. Peter Lindstrom, Los Angeles brain surgeon, a week after the birth of the baby.

Lindstrom never has recognized the validity of that divorce which was granted in Jaurez. He intends

to obtain a California divorce. Last month Lindstrom and Miss Bergman agreed to a settlement which gives him physical custody of their 12-year-old daughter, Pia, except for half her summer vacation. The actress cannot take the child out of the state of California, Lindstrom's attorney has said.

The spokesman for Rossellini said the proxy marriage was legal and that Miss Bergman now is legally Mrs. Rossellini in Italy and in her native Sweden.

The marriage climaxed a romance which developed while Rossellini and Miss Bergman were filming the movie Stromboli on a volcanic island of the same name. Legal barriers in the United States, Italy, and Sweden had stood in the way of their marriage.

# CRASH

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changed their tone during the attempted take-off, and that there was a crosswind. A thunderstorm was breaking at the moment.

The plane was to have taken Mr. and Mrs. Johnston to Columbia and then have proceeded to Dearborn, Mich. It had arrived here Tuesday from Nashville, N. C., where Mr. Pierce had addressed the "Waves of Green" world premiere. Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan, who also addressed the premiere gathering, had flown from Detroit to Nashville with Mr. Pierce.

Mr. Pierce is former vice president of General Motors and also former vice president of Nash-Kelvinator.

C.A.A. safety inspectors who investigated the accident said last night the Civil Aeronautics board's regional headquarters was sending officials here to conduct an investigation into the cause of the accident.

The plane was demolished.