

State Official Attacks Proposal

Offer Maine Indians Land Package, \$25M



Photo by staff photographer Dick Blume

Volunteer firemen sift through the charred wreckage of what was the home of Theodore Sidelnik on Bennetts Corners Road, Camillus, Thursday in search of the cause of the blaze that took the lives of Sidelnik and his 17-year-old daughter, Eva. An old wood-burning stove was determined to have caused the fire.

Camillus Fatal Fire Girl Trapped By Nailed Door

By JAMES EHMANN
The young woman might have escaped the flames, investigators said, but the front door was nailed shut. The attitude in which her remains were found indicated that she had been struggling to open the door when she was overcome.

Use of coal in a wood stove is unsafe per se, Lewis said, noting that coal burns at more than 1,600 degrees — about twice as hot as wood burns.

The pre-dawn Thursday fire at the house on Bennetts Corners Road, Camillus, took the lives of the young woman,

Investigators found a coal supply in the basement of the house. The boiler in the basement was apparently under repair, as its door was open and tools were scattered about nearby. Stauffer speculated that the home's radiator heating was thus out of order and that Sidelnik had tried to warm

Option to Buy More Land Included

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Some 4,000 Maine Indians, who claim title to 60 percent of Maine's territory, were offered an out-of-court settlement Thursday of \$25 million cash, \$1.7 million a year for 15 years and 300,000 acres at \$5 an acre.

The proposal, worked out by a presidential task force and representatives of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribes, needs approval from the state government, the Congress and 14 private land owners, mainly paper companies, which would sell the land.

If agreed to by all parties, the package settlement would cancel all further Indian land claims in Maine.

Joseph Brennan, Maine's attorney general and a candidate for governor this year, immediately attacked the proposal as "irresponsible and indefensible." He and Gov. James B. Longley, who had no comment Thursday, have long said they wanted to fight the land claim in court.

Both Brennan and Longley have criticized President Carter for not consulting them enough, although they previously turned down opportunities to join the talks.

There was no immediate response from the landholders, whose ranks include Scott Paper Co., Georgia Pacific, Great Northern and other international giants. Representatives of the landholders are to be briefed in Washington Friday by federal officials, said one company spokesman.

The tribes claim that 12 million acres in Maine was taken from them more than a century ago in violation of a 1790 treaty. That treaty, known as the Nonintercourse Act, barred states from making deals with tribes without specific congressional approval.

The Indians put a value of \$25 billion on their claim for land and damages when they filed their suit in 1972.

The case is considered a major test of the 1790 treaty's legal standing and may affect the outcome of as many as 1,000 other Indian land claims nationwide. The federal government has tried to settle the matter out-of-court, in part because a decision upholding the Nonintercourse Act absolutely could block any congressional



Photo by staff photographer St

Sarah Auchinloss, left, shares a moment with Ramona Baxter Bowden, Post-Standard religion editor, at Thursday's Women of Achievement luncheon co-sponsored by The Post-Standard and the Syracuse Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Auchinloss was cited in a new cate-

gory, Human Rights. More than 800 men and women turned out to honor the 11 women filled the grand room of Hotel Syracuse. The featured speaker was Dr. Gloria Steinem, International Woman of Achievement and the Girl Scout of the U.S.A.

Community Honors 11 Women of Achievement

By NEVART APIKIAN
American women are on the move, said Dr. Gloria D. Scott, president of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., who spoke Thursday

There are five things to consider, she continued, in this passage:
— In order to move there will be power shifts and the question is, who will be the

not only in formal education, informal education.

— To get there from here, we need knowledge that we are all in this women's movement whether



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Camillus Fatal Fire

Girl Trapped By Nailed Door

By JAMES EHMANN

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The pre-dawn Thursday fire at the house on Bennetts Corners Road, Camillus, took the lives of the young woman, Eva Sidelnik, 17, and her invalid father, Theodore, 62. Investigators blamed improper use of a wood-burning stove for the blaze.

The house was destroyed. "The brick shell remained, but the interior was completely gutted," said Sheriff's Sgt. Dan Stauffer, a fire investigator. The second floor burned through and caved into the first, he said.

The young woman's body was found "almost in a sitting position by the door," said Camillus Patrolman H.L. Perkins. The door was nailed shut, he explained, because the exterior steps, which were under repair, were missing. Sidelnik had not wanted anyone to open the door and step out accidentally.

Sidelnik's body was found alongside his wheelchair in the kitchen, where County Fire Investigator Al Lewis said the fire began. The free-standing, open-box style stove in the kitchen had been fueled with coal, Lewis said. Near it were several cans of the type used to hold such flammable liquids as charcoal starter.

Lewis said Sidelnik had probably used the liquid to get the hard coal to ignite, "and some of it or some of the hot coals fell through the crack in the bottom of the old stove and set the floor on fire."

Perkins said the stove had been cracked for a long time and indicated Sidelnik had been warned repeatedly by local police and fire departments, and by neighbors that the unit was unsafe.

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Mostly Sunny

There will be sunny periods today, according to the National Weather Service. The high will be about 19 degrees.

The winds will be light and variable at less than 10 miles an hour.

Tonight's forecast is for partly cloudy skies. The low will be about 13 degrees.

The chance of snow is only 10 per cent today and tonight.

Saturday's outlook is partly cloudy skies. The low will be about 25.

There was no new snow recorded Thursday.

Thursday's high temperature was 24 degrees, 35 lower than the 1925 record. The low was minus 1, 23 degrees higher than the record set in 1934. The mean was 16, nine degrees lower than last year and eight below normal.

The sun will set today at 5:29 p.m. and rise tomorrow at 7:08 a.m. Vehicle lights should be on by 6 p.m.

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