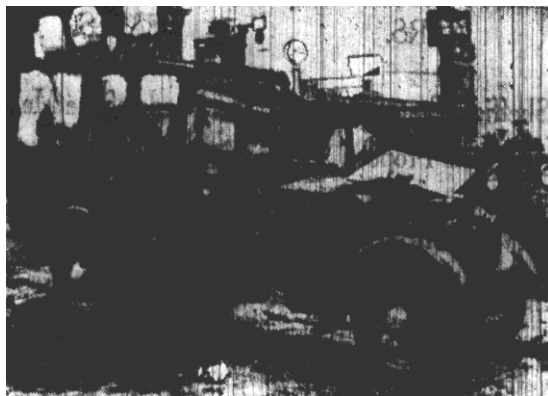


Motor Ablaze by Petrol Pumps Sheffield Youth Faces Fierce Flames to Remove Cause of Danger



A courageous act by a Sheffield youth today saved several petrol pumps and over 5,000 gallons of petrol from destruction by fire at the Exchange Motor Co., West Bar, Sheffield.

At about 9 o'clock a motor van, which contained several wireless sets, burst into flames outside the firm's petrol station.

The motor van belonged to Messrs. Hobday Bros., wireless dealers of Coulator Street, Sheffield.

The flames over 20 feet in height licked the sides of the pumps. The Sheffield Fire Brigade was summoned, but it was evident that if the pumps were to be saved something had to be done immediately.

Harry Renshaw (18), of 11, Minna Road, Pitsmoor, employed at the garage, ran to the blazing vehicle, and braving the fierce heat leaned inside and released the handbrake. It was then possible to push the van away from the pumps.

The Fire Brigade arrived under Superintendent T. Breaks, and quickly extinguished the blaze with chemicals, though not before the whole of the car and contents had been destroyed.

Within half an hour of this experience the Sheffield Fire Brigade was called to another motor car fire, in Middlewood Road. The vehicle had burst into flames as the driver Mr, Edgar Cooper of Minto Road, was changing gears.

Mr Cooper, however, was able to escape from the burning vehicle without being injured.

Some anxiety was felt at the time for adjoining shop windows which were endangered by the heat.

The Fire Brigade, under Inspector C. Teather, quickly extinguished the flames, but the vehicle was gutted.