

his own expense. It was built with the greatest economy at a cost of about \$10,000. This building was not fully finished; but while preparing for painting and completing some fixtures, it took fire, and was entirely consumed.

This sad occurrence and severe loss to Mr. Nichols, was noticed in the *National Aegis*, published in Worcester, as follows:

“ BURNING OF NICHOLS ACADEMY AT DUDLEY.

“ On Thursday, April 11, at about 3 o'clock, P. M., the large and elegant building, erected and owned by Amasa Nichols, Esq., in the center of the town of Dudley, and designed for an academy, was consumed by fire.

“ In less than one half hour after the fire was discovered the building was burned to the ground.

“ The structure contained twelve large rooms for the use of the school and steward, with a spacious chapel above the same, with galleries and a stage for speaking; the whole admirably calculated for exhibitions and the accommodation of such an institution; for beauty and novelty it exceeded any building in this part of the country.

“ The carpenters' work and lathing had been nearly completed; one room only had been plastered, in which the school had been commenced and kept one quarter, which ended the Friday previous; and after a vacation of three weeks was to have been continued, the prospects for which were encouraging to Mr. Nichols, and bid fair to be highly beneficial to the community.

“ The loss sustained by Mr. Nichols can not be much less than \$10,000, which alone he has to bear, unless a generous public should feel charitably disposed to contribute to his relief.”

“ His persevering exertions for two years past in an undertaking for the benefit of the rising generation give him a peculiar claim upon the generosity of a benevolent public.

“ DUDLEY, April 15, 1816.”

Lee 2 H Squill

A Souvenir

OF THE

Conant Memorial Church

Its Inception, Construction,
and Dedication

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

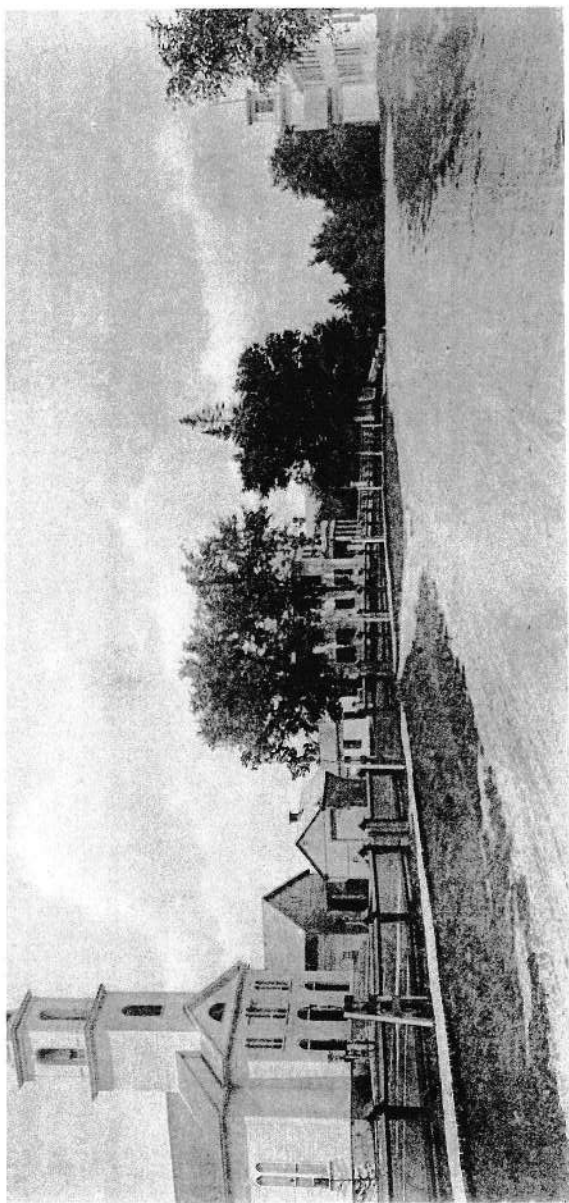
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BOSTON

FORBES LITHOGRAPH MANUFACTURING COMPANY

1893



MAIN STREET, BEFORE THE FIRE.

THE CONANT MEMORIAL CHURCH.

ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 3, 1890, the town was thrown into great excitement by the discovery that the old Congregational Church was on fire, and that there was great danger that the whole of the property on Dudley Hill would be swept away by the devouring element if help from Webster was not forthcoming. It was the largest fire the town of Dudley ever suffered. Flames were discovered issuing from the roof of the church, just below the bell-deck, by some of the students of Nichols Academy, about two o'clock. The alarm was given, and the citizens and pupils of the Academy began at once to fight the fire. When first seen, the blaze was but small.

Meanwhile the fire on the roof was spreading rapidly. As soon as ladders could be procured, and spliced together, they were raised to the roof and efforts made to quench the flame by means of extinguishers; but for some unknown reason only one could be made to work, and that could not be reloaded. This method was abandoned, and the slow process of passing water up thirty feet of ladder commenced. A hole was cut in the

CHURCH.

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THE CONANT MEMORIAL CHURCH. 3

dwelling-house, and barn of Moses Barnes, lying next to the Morris house, were much exposed; the furniture was removed from the house, wet carpets spread on the roof and gable of the store, and water poured on all the roofs. The chances were ten to one in favor of the fire, and it seemed that the street north of the church must go; but before the flames could spread further, the fire department of Webster arrived, and quickly had them under control, saving the Barnes property. Considerable difficulty was experienced in finding sufficient water, as wells and cisterns were quickly exhausted; but these made up in number what they lacked in size. Nearly every building north of the church was several times on fire. Across the street also the buildings suffered. The old Bemis store and the Methodist Church were on fire, and in considerable danger, but a stream from the steamer put it out. The efforts of the firemen were rewarded by confining the fire-loss to the church and the houses and barns before mentioned.

The run of the Webster fire department, with a steamer, a hose company, and the hook and ladder company, was one of the best pieces of work ever accomplished by it. The two and a half miles to the fire were covered in just twenty-eight minutes from the time the alarm was telegraphed from the

Academy telegraph office. When the firemen and their apparatus reached the church, they were obliged to keep shifting from well to cistern, as one after another was drained, in this way fighting the flames under great disadvantage, but soon obtaining control of them.

The fire is supposed to have started from sparks from a tinman's stove. Extensive repairs were being made in and around the church, and two workmen were attending to some tin work in a part of the belfry, both unconscious of the fire burning a few feet below them. They were apprised of their danger, and barely escaped before the belfry and roof were all ablaze. When first seen, the flame on the roof was but little larger than a man's hand. The alarm was first given by Frank Nichols and Henry Barnes, two Nichols Academy students, who were at the well after water. The church and Academy bells were rung, the former until the rope burned off. As soon as the fire was found to be serious, the call for aid was telegraphed to Webster, and the fire company quickly responded.

The spire remained until the last. The bell fell upon the granite steps and into the basement, where it was found broken after the fire. Most of the smaller pieces of the bell were taken by some of the former worshippers as relics, but the

larger were recast in small bells and lacquered for souvenir paper-weights.

It is, however, a very ill wind that blows nobody good; and this is agreeably enforced in the calamity on Dudley Hill, for no sooner was the church in Dudley burned than the people commenced to make arrangements for building anew. A snug sum was already in the treasury, placed there to pay the cost of repairing the old edifice. Each day letters were received containing expressions of sympathy and generous offers to assist in rebuilding. A meeting was appointed for Monday night, June 9th, in Washington Hall; but another agency had been at work. Sunday morning, as the congregation rose to receive the benediction, Hezekiah W. Williams stepped forward and read the following letter:—

PAWTUCKET, R.I., June 5, 1890.

To H. W. WILLIAMS, ESQ., DUDLEY, MASS.

My Dear Sir,—The old Dudley Church is gone,—gone up in a chariot of fire and smoke. I felt sad when I heard of it, as if an old friend had departed this life, never more to be seen by us here. Although I might truthfully say that I sympathize with the Dudley people in their great loss, yet I feel it as much a bereavement to myself as to them. I have many recollections associated with the old structure, extending over the last half-century, and among them the periodical “fixing up,” repainting, whitewashing, repairing,



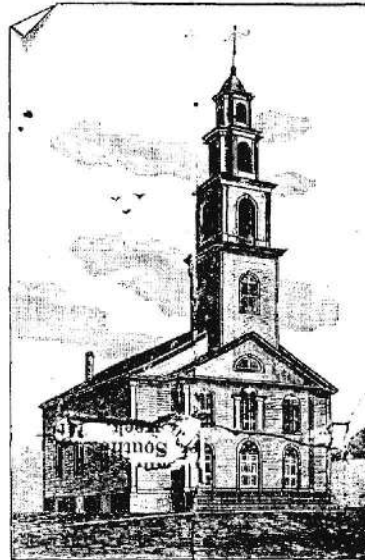
WEBSTER, MASS., FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1890.

AN OLD LANDMARK GONE

Dudley's Great Fire.

Webster Tuesday afternoon June 3 was thrown into great excitement on receiving the news about 2 o'clock, that the old Congregational church in Dudley was on fire, and that there was great danger of the whole of the property on Dudley Hill would be swept away by this devouring element, if help from Webster was not forthcoming. It was the largest fire the town of Dudley ever suffered. The fire was discovered by some of the students of Nichols Academy who were at the well drawing water, at 1:55, on the roof of the church, just below the bell deck. The alarm was at once given and the citizens and pupils of the Academy at once began to fight the fire. When first seen the blaze was but small. Water was carried from the well in front of the Academy and passed upstairs to the men within.

Meanwhile the fire on the roof was spreading very rapidly. As soon as ladders could be procured and spliced together they were raised to the roof and efforts were made to extinguish the fire by means of chemical extinguishers; but for some reason only one could be made to work, and this could not be re-loaded. This method was abandoned and the slow process of passing water up 30 feet of ladder adopted. A hole was cut in the steeple so that water could be carried upstairs and passed to the man on the roof. For a time it seemed that the fire was being got under control, but it was working in the steeple above the roof of the church, and suddenly blazed out in the vicinity of the bell, and then spread above and below till steeple and roof were one seething mass of flames. Then the fire got the mastery and the church was doomed. Help had been called for from Webster and now the people were anxious, as the sparks were flying over the hill in great quantities, setting fire to roofs on the adjacent houses around. The efforts of those fighting the fire were now directed to keep the fire back from the other houses and prevent its spreading. The first house to be occupied by Mr. Thomas



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

around the church. A gang of L. Barnes & Son's men were at work painting and papering, etc., preparing for the coming of the new pastor, Rev. T. C. Richards, whose goods had come that day and who is to occupy the Burnett cottage as a residence. Messrs. E. P. Carpenter & Co., of Pawtucket, were making new carpets for it.

The alarm was first given by Frank Nichols and Henry Barnes, two Academy students, who were at the well after water. When first seen, the flame on the roof was but little larger than a man's hand. The church and Academy bells were rung, the former until the rope burned off. As soon as it was seen that the fire was of a serious character, the news was telegraphed to Webster and the fire company quickly responded. Dudley may thank that organization that the ruin was not total. It was supposed that everything of value had been removed from the burning buildings, but when time could be found to look around, Mr. Lemuel Healy discovered that a mahogany bedstead, very ancient, and for which he recently refused an offer of \$100, had been overlooked and consumed in Mr. Larned's house.

The spire remained until the last.

destroyed by this fire. The town built the basement and was to use it as a town hall, which it did until within about eight years; while the society should furnish the funds to put up the edifice itself. The building was 55x50 feet, and the belfry towered to the height of 127 feet, and is said to be the tallest in the county. It was a landmark for miles around. The committee that had the work in charge were Major Brown, Captain William Larned, William Robinson, Remember Ingraham and Amasa Nichols on behalf of the town and Aaron Tufts, Jephthah Bacon, Phineas Bemis, Col. Moses Healey and Captain William Hancock with Mark Elwell and Isaac Amidon added at a subsequent meeting, as the committee of the church. The town paid \$600 for the basement and the society raised by subscription \$2,712 towards the cost of erection. The largest single subscription was given by Aaron Tufts, which was \$300; four others gave \$100 each. The citizens gave considerable help on raising the frame and the Indians, who were numerous at that time and had their wigwams on the slope of the hill, also helped in the erection. The contractor and builder was Mr. Jonas Lamb, of Charlton. The church has been in constant

Then followed Rev. E. to 1869; he graduated College in 1850 and Eastham 1853, and was di 1869; Rev. F. E. M Acting Pastor, 1870-71 Wolcott, 1873 to 1880, h ham, Vt.; Rev. E. S. 1886. Since then Rev. supplied the pulpit mo

It is a very ill win body any luck, and this forced in the calamity last week, for no sooner in Dudley burned than menced to make arrang ing a new one. Already was in the treasury, pl the expenses of repair. Each day letters were ing expressions of sym ous offers to assist in re ing was appointed fo June 9th, in Washi another agency had be day morning, as the pec the benediction, Mr. stepped forward and which the writer, first e sorrow at the loss of which held so many j associations. Then, fact that it was really a landmark and relic t ble place in which to h to assume the entire e a new church, with capacity as the old on modern furnaces, th brick, and, when com ed over to the peopl the only condition th family should have a during their lives au putting in a memori petuate the name ar family and ancestors. say that the letter wa kiah Conant Dudley factor. Even strang and it was in brok hymn was sung, whom all blessings fi Rev. T. C. Richards, sermon as a settled p the church, taking fe clause of the 6th ver ter of Nehemiah. " a mind to work."

The Nichols Budget

OL. 1

DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS, DECEMBER 17, 1931

No. 2

FIRE IN BUDLEIGH TOWERS COMPLETELY DESTROYS BUILDING

High Winds and Dry Wood Create Roaring Inferno

LOSS OF \$75,000—NO SERIOUS INJURIES

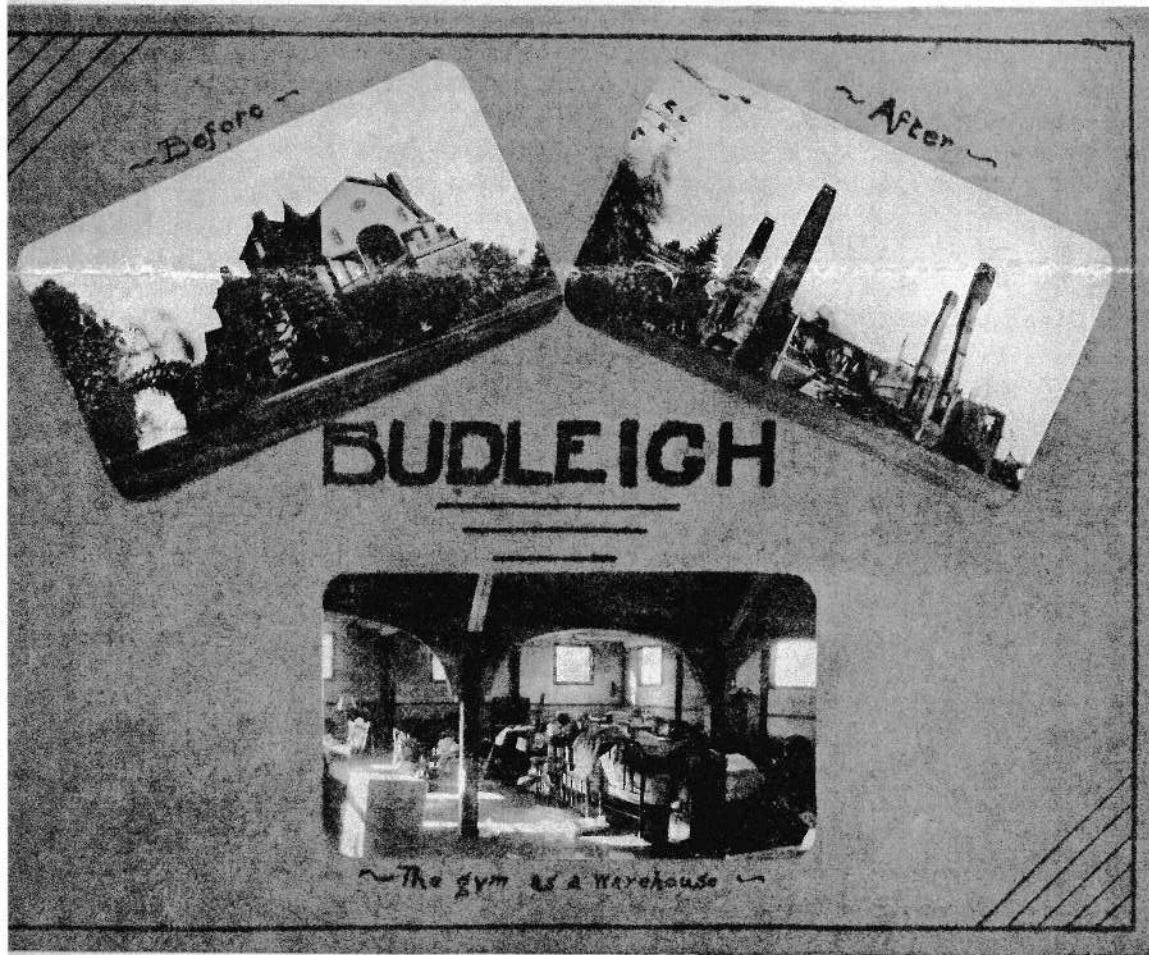
New Building to Go Up on Old Site

In the morning of Wednesday, December the second, fire completely destroyed Budleigh Hall which housed the administration offices of Nichols Junior College of Business Administration, provided living quarters for the president, Mr. James L. Conrad, and served as a dormitory for twenty-six of the students. The first evidences of the impending conflagration were detected shortly after eight o'clock when flames were seen to issue forth from the peak of the tower located in the northwest part of the building. The entire student body was at that time attending classes in the Academy Building but were called out by telephone.

The men who lived in Budleigh Hall hastened to the rescue followed shortly by those from the Roger Conant Hall, dormitory who had stopped long enough to gather all the available fire extinguishers. Courageously, almost recklessly, the students fought the stubborn blaze with buckets of water, axes and extinguishers, but their work was in vain. A

An hour after the flames were discovered it became clear that the building was doomed and the work of salvaging whatever was possible became imperative. High upon a hill the building soon presented a terrifying spectacle as the wind whipped the flames into a roaring furnace tossing blazing embers far out on the landscape. Crowds were attracted from afar and soon the roads up to the hill were lined with the cars of spectators.

A pathetic sight were the men as they poured over their personal effects strewn about the lawns and grounds of the building. In some cases the men were able to save nearly all their belongings which had any value, but there were a few cases where practically everything was destroyed, these being chiefly those men located on the third floor of the building. Upon the ground floor in the rear were located Mr. Conrad's quarters and very nearly all of his effects were carried out in time. When it became clear that the wind would not carry the



FOOTBALL BANQUET

HELD NOVEMBER 24th

Affair Voted Successful

MANY AMUSING INCIDENTS AT FIRE

FOOTBALL BANQUET

HELD NOVEMBER 24th

Affair Voted Successful

The first banquet of the year was held Wednesday evening November twenty-fourth, in honor of the football team. Several guests of Mr. Conrad and coach Lawrence were present.

Mr. Sherman, our toastmaster, was a great success and his dry humor was applauded time and again by the students after each of his verbal attacks on the speakers. A short address by the toastmaster was followed by a short speech from Coach Lawrence. In his address the Coach gave all possible credit to his men and congratulated them on the fine spirit they showed throughout the season. Coach Lawrence awarded letters to the entire squad, not on the basis of games played, rather for the spirit they maintained throughout the entire season. It might be mentioned at this time that Coach Lawrence received his training at Brown University and was out of the famous Brown Iron Men.

President Conrad was the next speaker on the program and the text of his address was based on "Spirit." Full credit was given the men for their ability to take punishment from much heavier teams and to come back for more. The president's speech was delivered from man to man and not from president to students. President Conrad's address will be remembered for a long time to come as the highest tribute any one can pay a team.

The third speaker of the eve-

(Continued on Page Two)

NICHOLS FACULTY ACQUIRES NEW MEMBER

Lauri Myllykangas to Coach Teams

Since the last issue of "The Budget," the Nichols Faculty has acquired a new member in the person of Mr. Lauri Myllykangas, who has come to the school in the capacity of a coach. He will handle the basketball and baseball teams of Nichols during the coming season.

Mr. Myllykangas, or Lauri, as he is more popularly known, is a graduate of Fitchburg High and of Dartmouth College. While at the college he made enviable records for himself in both basketball and baseball, playing each sport for three years. In addition, he was a member of the Green Key, a Junior Honorary Society; Vice-President of the Senior Class; Member of Paleopitus, Dartmouth's student governing body; member of Sphinx, a senior class secret organization; and a member of the Kappa Kappa Kappa and Kappa Phi Kappa fraternities.

"The Budget" wishes to take this opportunity to wish Lauri success with the teams he will sponsor.

MANY AMUSING INCIDENTS AT FIRE

Clocks and Radios Thrown Out — Pillows Carried Down Stairs

Now that the Budleigh disaster is over it is easy to recall some of the methods sudden necessity brings out.

Cahoun was in a hurry to save his radio and very nonchalantly threw it out the window. He immediately realized his mistake and rushed down stairs with an armful of pillows to break the fall. Unfortunately he was two seconds too late.

Hallock played the base of a pendulum with a rope around his waist and chopped furiously at the roof, until it was announced that the party was over and the roof was ready to cave in from his brutal attack.

Red Slocum managed to steal a fireman's uniform, from hat to boots. The owner of the outfit received a good drenching, but Red remained dry.

Drake reached the roof nicely but began to slip and decided to take off his shoes. He placed them on the skylight and bet the fire he could out race it. Drake ran a close second and lost the shoes when they first came in first.

Arnie Inman gave an argument when his waste basket was emptied on the floor of his room and then utilized as a fire bucket. He was well repaid when an ax broke and he was hit in the back with the blunt edge.

Doc Hughes saved his suit coats but forgot his pants, but then

(Continued on Page Four)

had stopped long enough to gather all the available fire extinguishers. Courageously, almost recklessly, the students fought the stubborn blaze with buckets of water, axes and extinguishers, but their work was in vain. A very high wind which approached that of a gale swept over Dudley Hill turning each glowing ember into a crackling flame. When the fire departments of Webster and of Southbridge reached the scene the work of saving the structure was left to them and the students then turned to saving the contents.

GLEE CLUB REHEARSES

Plans for forming a glee club among the students of Nichols were seriously impeded by the fire in Budleigh Hall, but progress has been gradually resumed, and in spite of the loss of music and other materials in the fire, Mr. Morris has gotten together a good group.

An impromptu rehearsal was held, but it was necessarily hindered by a lack of music. At this rehearsal, most of the time was spent in stressing the importance of voice, and in voice training.

Thirty-seven students have manifested an interest in the organization. The prospects are very bright for a club of good performers. Among the candidates may be found several who have had experience singing with the Glee Club of New Hampton School.

Plans are being discussed for several trips to surrounding towns for the club, but to date nothing definite has been announced. It is believed, however, that a concert will be arranged for at some time in the near future.

building. Upon the ground in the rear were located Mr. Conrad's quarters and very all of his effects were carried in time. When it became that the wind would not carry embers toward the gym and the dining hall, the buildings in the college the belongings were moved to the gymnasium.

Lunch was served at the large time and as the school was down very little remained. It was once one of the most interesting buildings in this part of the country. Budleigh Hall was destroyed after Budleigh in Devon and the ancestral home of the Conants whose residence was at one time. The family descended directly from Roger Conant who is engaged in the product thread in Pawtucket and has been a generous benefactor of Dudley, Massachusetts. The cost of the building amounts to approximately \$75,000, part of which was covered with insurance.

Readjustments were made after the fire much to the credit of the men and who showed fine spirit through the ordeal. The refugees from the fire were housed temporarily in Roger Conant Hall by doubling in the larger rooms which were practicable. This arrangement lasted for two days when permanent quarters were found for the men in the Glee house, one of the vacant buildings upon the hill. The offices of the school were also placed in Roger Conant Hall for a time, but were later moved to the Academy Building. Throughout the entire calamity events relating to the disaster men showed a fine heroism. Usually there are one or two outstanding heroes for every

(Continued on Page Five)

I WONDER

If Bud Sessions remembers how many phonograph records he lost in the fire?

If Mr. Woodman gave everyone an "A" in place of the lost grades?

If the falling roof missed Arnie, or if Arnie missed the roof?

If Joe Donahue still believes that the wind helped blow the fire out?

If Colombia, S. A., has news of the fire yet?

If the hockey candidates will wear skates after their tennis shoes are worn out?

If this column is worth carrying on?

BUDLEIGH DESTROYED
BY FIRE

(Continued From Page One)

trope of this sort but each man lent a helping hand making himself useful wherever he was needed. Many of the students aided the firemen in hauling and handling hose lines, and although the temperature was below freezing, adding to the general distress, many of them were drenched with water in the vain attempt to save the structure.

Although the loss of the building dealt a staggering blow to the school which was struggling to get started this year, nevertheless school activities were not interrupted. On the next day, Thursday, classes were resumed and were generally attended by the student body except for one or two students who went home

CLOCKS, RADIOS
THROWN FROM FIRE

(Continued From Page One)

Doc is up to date in style, so now we will have to burn ours if we hope to compete with him.

When Mr. Conrad announced that there was a fire in the dorm he was as calm as if giving the Law I class a quiz, but he sure worked when he arrived at the fire.

The fire chief lost his hat and was seen exchanging hats frequently until he found his own. The fire did not wait.

Mr. Burke tried to light a cigarette on his last trip upstairs but only succeeded in scorching the end of his nose and hair.

Drake had a cigarette but could not find a light.

Bud Sessions threw his electric clock out the window and some one made a beautiful catch. Lucky boy.

Sonny Fish was greatly handicapped with his sprained ankle. He did help his room-mate sort their clothes and lost no time in hanging out the trade sign, "Cahoun and Fish, Shysters at Law." They guarantee protection from unjust insurance companies.

Mr. Morris made a fifty yard sprint up the fire escape to his room. Fortunately the students had rescued most of his belongings, because the only thing he rescued was some exam papers. If the students were not such poor shots he could not have saved them.

Mr. Woodman lost all his exam papers but saved his grade book. Why did the fire have to spare it? Is there no justice?

Mr. Hutchinson saw the photographer and picked up a piece of furniture long enough to have

were ejected forcibly by the firemen. It's a good thing the students were there or else nothing would have been saved.

The critics blame a defective flue for the fire, but Mr. Hutchinson claims it was Joe Donahue getting hot on his Law book.

This proves that when a fellow gets all hot and bothered he does not know what he is doing.

Milt Carlisle is a junior champ at golf but the old fire got the best of him and he threw stick after stick out the window. Lost his temper when he got hot.

Berkey played Empress Eugenie and wore Miss Coggon's hat. He was unsuccessful in vamping anyone. Even the firemen would not give him a bust. The Nichols fellows are used to him, so he did not have much success.

Todd played nurse maid to the articles saved and was seen wheeling them to and from the gym.

Potter saved a derby hat and looked like a truck driver on a holiday as he loaded his car with salvaged goods.

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Frank W. Bateman

Dudley Hill

TO MY OLD GEOGRAPHY
AND PHYSIOGRAPHY
INSTRUCTOR

The world is round.

I'll swear to that

Though Mr. Sherman claims it's flat.

I'll also swear that I'm alive

Though he can prove I died, at five.

For if I thought these things were true,

I'm sure 'twould be unfair to you
Who struggled with me year on year

To make your adverse statements clear.

—Durward Drake.

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get started this year, nevertheless school activities were not interrupted. On the next day, Thursday, classes were resumed and were generally attended by the student body except for one or two students who went home to obtain more clothing. While the smoke was still rising from the desolate ruins on the top of Dudley Hill plans were being drawn to replace the loss with a new structure. It will probably be impossible to build such an impressive edifice as was Budleigh Hall, but still it is believed that an adequate dormitory can be reared upon the same site which will do credit to the splendid location.

In retrospect there are numerous things for which thanks can yet be given. Had the fire broken out at night, it is likely that some lives would have been lost. As it was, there was only one accident and that a minor injury to one of the firemen. It is also a good thing that the wind was blowing in direction which carried the sparks away from the rest of Dudley Hill and the other

papers but saved his grade book. Why did the fire have to spare it? Is there no justice?

Mr. Hutchinson saw the photographer and picked up a piece of furniture long enough to have his picture taken, he then dropped it. Good old Hutch.

Bennie Rogers lost his Connecticut volunteer's badge and was greatly handicapped while working.

Robbie Robinson held a fire hose for fifteen minutes while waiting for the Southbridge fire truck to be repaired, and then looked in the nozzle for the water at the same time it was turned on. Result, Robbie was hit in the nozzle by the water.

Some paper said the students college buildings. Created in a crucible of flame and common suffering a new spirit of friendliness and brotherhood is noticeable seeming to rise from the ashes of old Budleigh Hall and although bought with a fearful price, it can yet be considered a possible good result of the misfortune.

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1932 Class History

November 21, 23, 24, 1931.

Mid-term exams.

November 24, 1931.

Volume I, Number I, of "The Nichols Budget" made its appearance today. It was greeted by the approval of the student body.

This evening a banquet was held for the football men. Mr. Sherman was toastmaster. At this affair Mr. Myllykangas was introduced to the fellows.

November 25, 1931.

The fellows departed for home for the Thanksgiving recess.

December 2, 1931.

The student body was called from the first period classes today to find Budleigh Towers in flames. Before the day ended nothing remained but smoldering ruins of what was once the landmark of Dudley Hill. The boys who roomed in Budleigh were hastily quartered in Conant Hall for the night while most of their things were stored temporarily in the Gym.

December 3, 1931.

School continued without a break as if there had been no fire at all. Classes were held, the office was moved to temporary quarters in Conant, and Mr. Conrad moved into the Babcock House.

December 5, 1931.

The refugees of the fire moved to more permanent quarters in the Gramlich House next to the post office. Things are beginning to quiet down somewhat. The school office is now located in the Academy Building. The basketball team practiced all through the excitement.

December 9, 1931.

Nichols played its first basketball game tonight, meeting and defeating North Grosvenordale High. A good start.

Nichols
Budleigh
Oct. 14 1932

The Nichols Budleigh

VOL. 2

DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS, OCTOBER 14, 1932

Budleigh Hall Used First Time in Sept.

Fire-proof Structure Which Replaced Budleigh Towers is Opened Officially to Incoming Students

The opening of Nichols in September officially inaugurated the use of Budleigh hall, Nichols' new dormitory, as a dormitory, when 53 students moved into rooms assigned to them in the recently completed structure.

The New Budleigh is the \$50,000 fire-proof, colonial building which replaced Budleigh Towers, which was destroyed by fire last December 2. It is of modern construction throughout and is efficiently designed for use as a dormitory.

The building which previously occupied the site upon which now stands the beautiful new dormitory, originally was the home of the Conant family, one of the most prominent families in Dudley. For years it was used as a home by the Conants and was later used by the Dudley Bible Institute as a dormitory.

When Nichols opened its doors to students as a junior college of business administration in September 1931, Budleigh Towers was the home of thirty students and faculty members. It soon found a place in the hearts of all who lived in it because of its homelike atmosphere which seemed to dispell the pangs of home-sickness.

Shortly after the start of classes on December 2, the fellows were called out to find smoke pouring from the mansion. Many of the students entered the building in an attempt to find the fire and extinguish it, but the wind outside quickly spread the flames and soon the building was a roaring inferno.

Clothing, trunks, books, furni-

Clothing, trunks, books, furniture and every conceivable type of personal belongings were hurled from the windows and later collected in piles around the campus a safe distance from the fire. The Webster fire department arrived, but were unable to do anything against the flames in the face of the gale that was blowing, and before the close of the day, Budleigh lay a mass of charred and blackened ruins, and thirty people were without a home.

The matter of sleeping quarters was quickly taken care of when everyone moved into Conant hall for the night, doubling up with fellows wherever it was possible to do so. Within a day or so, arrangements were made to house the victims of the fire in the Gramlich house, one of the vacant homes on Dudley Hill.

Almost before the ruins were cool, James L. Conrad, president of Nichols, had the machinery for a new dormitory in motion, and early in June of the following year the dormitory now in use was completed and ready for oc-

(Continued on Page 2)

Budleigh Hall

(Continued from Page 1)

cupancy by the fellows.

In the dormitory is everything one could wish for to insure comfort. There is a basin with hot and cold running water in every room with a shower room on each floor. The offices of the college are located in the new building and on the main floor is a very attractive reception room. On the second floor are several apartments which are used by Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Donoghue, and by Miss Margaret Conrad and Mrs. Catherine Andrews, who are employed in the office as secretary and bookkeeper respectively.

The outside of the building presents an unusually attractive appearance with its colonial columns and broad plaza. The most impressive thing about the building is its appearance from the front where five huge white columns present an imposing yet harmonious and inviting doorway. Much has been done to beautify the grounds around the building in the form of sodding and planting, and the building is certainly all a fellow could desire for a dormitory. The fire was conceded by all to be a terrible thing at the time, but when one looks at the building which replaced old Budleigh Towers, the feelings of regret are replaced by ones of satisfaction in knowing that the new Budleigh Hall is many times more efficient and at the same time very beautiful as a dormitory.

The first team opened the game and after a few moments of fast

(Continued on Page 2)

BUDLEIGH FIRE OCCURRED ONE YEAR AGO DEC. 2

Thirty Boys Forced to Flee as Building is Total Loss

The first anniversary of the fire which completely destroyed the Budleigh Towers passed December second. The three story structure housed twenty-six students, the offices of the college, and provided living quarters for President James L. Conrad. The weather that dreadful day was very cold and a high wind aided the flames in their quest for destruction. Classes had just begun when the first evidences of a fire were noticed issuing forth from the peak of one of the towers. The entire student body was called from classes by telephone, but their efforts to extinguish the flames were in vain. When the fire departments of Webster and of Southbridge reached the scene, the work of saving the structure was turned over to them and the students turned to saving the contents.

It was apparent that the flames had won a hard fought victory and the building was doomed. Students worked feverishly to save any possible part of their belongings until the building be-

(Continued on Page 4)

Nichols Budget
Dec. 15, 1932

Budleigh Fire One Year Ago

(Continued From Page 1)

came a roaring furnace and they were forced to stand by and watch the flames reach out to the heavens.

A pathetic sight met the eyes of many onlookers when the students poured over their personal effects which had been strewn about the lawns and grounds of the building. In some cases, men were able to save all their belongings of any value, while others lost practically everything they possessed. When it became apparent that the wind would carry the embers toward the other buildings, the belongings were moved into the gymnasium.

The total lost in building value amounted to approximately \$75,000.00, part of which was covered by insurance. The inferno started at approximately eight o'clock in the morning and the entire building was leveled by its devastating destruction at eleven o'clock, just three hours later.

Work of readjusting was promptly undertaken by the students and faculty, who showed fine spirit throughout the ordeal. The refugees of the fire were housed temporarily in Roger Conant Hall, by doubling up in the larger rooms wherever possible. The arrangement had but few days duration, however, for more permanent quarters were found in the Grimlick house, one of the vacant houses on the hill.

School activities were not interrupted, as many people thought they would be, because of the loss of the building in the first year of the school's operation. Classes were resumed the next day with all the students present except for one or two unfortunate ones who lost all their possessions and had gone home.

Plans were immediately made for a new dormitory, which is now occupied by eighty students, instructors, and offices. It is a four story brick building, of colonial design. The new building overlooks the broad and spacious campus, and permits views into three states. Fire hazards were checked as much as possible during the making of the plans, which is one reason for the building being fire-proof. One of the many convenient features of its construction is a wash stand in each room and a tile bath and

or a chance to brightly at one time ally failing. Rigel is on the right of Bet the enormous dist: hundred and one t years away, (a light ly six trillion miles) Lower down on t line with three stars of the constellation Dog Star, Sirius, th

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PHI DELTA HOSTS AT IN TH

Members an Enjoy Pa Russian

The Phi Delta fraternity at Nicholher at the Russia Thompson, Connec of new men, wh pledged next week lent steak dinner

A short speech made by President er. Brooks Moor outline of the hist ternity and the pl ture.

Mr. Conrad has ternity official re pins have been se be here after Chr

The guests we Burton Teague, E ence Ingraham, J Martens, Charles Henry Vignot. Th

(Continued o

THE NICHOLS BUDGET

VOL. 3

DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS, MARCH 22, 1934

NO. 10

PHI DELTA CHI SELECT NEXT YEARS FRATERNITY HEADS

Sumner, Jackson and
Hamilton Are
New Staff

The members of the Phi Delta Chi fraternity, on the evening of March 13, met to elect next year's officers and to draw up the program for the continuance of the ideals and standards of the fraternity into the third year of its existence. Due to the absence of the president, Duncan Briggs, Jacob Katz, vice president, presided over the meeting. The officers resulting from the election are the following:

President—Louis B. Sumner, of Swampscott, Mass.

Vice-President—Milton C. Jackson, of Andover, Mass.

Secretary-Treasurer — Robert B. Hamilton, of Waban, Mass.

Lew Sumner, stepping into the shoes of Duncan Briggs, is finding them pretty big to fill in more than one sense of the word. The strapping six-footer who preceded him did a thorough job

TOWN GRANTS FIRE HOSE *Will Equip Fire Truck with 800 Ft.*

New Fire Company Will Be Organized By College With Picked Men and Chief

At the annual session of the Dudley Town Meeting, it was voted by those assembled to appropriate the sum of eight hundred dollars with which to purchase eight hundred feet of standard fire hose, to be used on the fire truck known as Combination Number One, stationed at Nichols. Also, an annual payment of one dollar was voted for the maintenance of the hose.

Last year, President Conrad was largely instrumental in the acquiring of Combination Number One. This truck is a valuable asset to the Dudley Hill section, as it is within three minutes of any

possible dangerous conflagration in the vicinity. At the time of the purchase of the truck, rumors of a student fire department spread, but these never materialized. The students en masse formed the volunteer department. The truck has only served in two fires so far, one having occurred last spring at a residence on the Southbridge road, and the other being the fire on the roof of the Academy Building.

However, it has been realized that without organization and drill, no body, no matter how large or willing, can function properly. Accordingly, plans are being formulated for a student

fire department, the first in the history of Nichols. This department, if it meets with the approval of President Conrad, will drill at frequent intervals, and set up an organization of its own, including chiefs and lieutenants. Each man will have his place on the truck, and, in case of fire, will be well-trained in his duties.

With the granting of eight hundred feet of hose and the necessary connections, the complement of the truck will be practically complete, and Nichols will become an important factor in the safety of the Dudley Hill residents.

INDEPENDENTS CLOSE SEASON WITH WIN

Picked Team Led By
Capt. Cecil Barnes
in Fray

Closing the season triumphantly with a win over the Slater Seconds, the Nichols Independents played their finest game of the year. Not one defeat has marked the irresistible progress of the team.

Organized last year primarily as the second floor team of past inter-dormitory fame, the group continued their good work this year on the third floor. They have won the coveted prize of the inter-floor teams of both dorms for two years in succession. Since the close of the legitimate season they have been carrying on independently playing town teams and mill groups. Amateur and professional rules are used according to the situation.

The greater part of the group starred in the regular Green and Black varsity. Cecil Barnes is captain, and center, Dick Jones,

MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00

9:00-10:00

10:00-11:00

11:00-12:00

1:30-2:20

2:30-3:30

... was called away for his governmental duties and since then assumed charge of the corporation's activities in this district. The corporation strives to assist the owners in meeting tax delinquencies and help pay for insurance for yearly protection, or aid prospective home owners build modern homes, or repair and reconstruct old fashioned houses. Most of this is done on a small installment rate basis. Money is loaned to 80 per cent of the total value of the security or property.

The tremendous reaction to this plan of reorganizing the real estate market and enhance land value throughout the land is indicative of the success of the corporation's activities.

It is furthest from our minds to foreclose on any property unless the financial risk is so great that it is totally non-feasible to allow any extension of the credit. We do in many cases allow the owners extensions on both principal and its interest, if

(continued on page two)

Issues To Decide On Rings This Week

Within the week a proposition concerning the class rings for both seniors and juniors will be put before the respective groups in their meetings. Under the supervision of a member of the Justinian Society a representative of a well known jewelry firm will place various kinds of rings, charms, and pendants before the students for their consideration.

It is the wish of the Justinian Society to establish a traditional class ring, charm or pin, with an engraved seal which will carry on the message to come.

deliberated upon. The Broadway success for over a year and only in the past week definitely decided in favor of producing the play.

Modern Air Story

"Ceiling Zero" is the product of Frank Wead, a navy man. It is the story of a modern airline, and the life of the men who fly both the mail and passenger planes. The entire action takes place in the operations office of the Federal Air Line. Percy Hammond, dramatic critic of the New York Her-

ald, Jack Fones, and Ralph DeTrentini. Parts were assigned last Tuesday in tryouts at the Academy building auditorium. Enthusiasm shown by the club members augurs well for the success of the production.

Some Roles Unfilled

Several other roles are yet to be announced by Director B. M. Kingman. There are a few feminine parts which are expected to be

(continued on page two)

amous mystery story writer, is the scene of the action. An old employee returns after a period of a year and attempts to rob and kill Van Zorn, when the Sheriff intervenes. William Maynard in the role of the country sheriff, gave a creditable performance as did Jack Fones, as the writer, Van Zorn.

Woven through the play's plot was a peculiar twist of offstage in-

(continued on page two)

floor tables gave off the only light on the floor.

Eddie Quinton and his orchestra, Providence, R. I. organization, provided some lively musical arrangements and seemed to please the young group of dancing couples. His seven-piece combination drew applause many times with their clever interpolations. Tom Mullen, the famous campus crooner, obliged several times with popular songs over the p. a. system backed up by the orchestra. He sang the "Gentleman Obviously Doesn't Believe", "Night and Day", and a hot number, "Dinah".

The junior committeemen included Morgan Smith, William Lyttle, Richard Redmond, Jack Fones, Charles Scott, Sheldon Potter, Tom Mullen, John Dalzell, and William Riley. Senior men who assisted

(continued on page two)

BUDLEIGH TOWERS FIRE OCCURRED FOUR YEARS AGO WITH LARGE LOSS

Passing Week Recalls Spectacular Blaze on December 2, 1931

(See Picture on Page Four)

The passing of this week in the annals of Nichols Junior College marked the anniversary of the \$75,000 loss by fire of the original Budleigh Hall, then known as Budleigh Towers, after an early morning blaze, whipped by a high wind, leveled the structure despite the efforts of the student body and the fire departments of both Webster and Southbridge. The building which housed the administration offices and served twenty-six students as a dormitory was burned to the ground within a few hours.

Started About 8 A. M.

Flames were first detected shortly after eight o'clock on the morning of December 2, 1931, in the northwest corner of the building, near the peak of the towers. Students, who were then in their morning classes, were summoned immediately to the scene. They

fought the fire with the best means available. Some ascended to the roof and hacked away at the roof in order to reach the origin of the smoke and flame. Others seized small hand extinguishers, axes, while groups teamed up on bucket lines until the arrival of the organized town departments.

The students on the roof uncovered the base of the flame and fought hard to subdue the fast moving fire, but a high strong wind which was sweeping across the building spread the flames through the entire roof structure and it was a matter of moments before the entire roof was an inferno of intense heat. As the day drew to a close the Towers was a ghastly sight with its chimneys the only remaining evidence of a once fine landmark of a long ancestral line.

Budleigh Towers was named after Budleigh in Devon, England, the ancestral home of the Conants. The descendants of the Conant lineage founded textile mills in Pawtucket, R. I., and maintained residence in the Tow-

Former Home of Famed Conant Family

ers up to several years ago. When Nichols was inaugurated the Conants aided materially in the plans of the institution, being generous benefactors on many occasions.

Little Salvaged

Scenes after the blaze were pitiful ones for the students who had once lived in the dormitory. Their personal effects, the little that were able to be salvaged, were stored temporarily in the gymnasium, later to be moved to the Grimlick house near the residence of Dr. Q. H. Merrill, where the unfortunate students took up their abode.

About two months later contracts were let to a local firm to begin immediate construction on a new Budleigh Hall on the same site. This building was finished late that summer at a cost of \$50,000 and the incoming class and senior classmen used the new hall for the first time that September.

Sports Editor Selects All Opponent Eleven

In a belated review of the fall season of football games, our sports department has seen fit to pick an all-opponent team of players who displayed outstanding ability against our gridiron squad.

ALL OPPONENT SQUAD	
Panciera, l.e.	Conn. State '39
Killian, l.t.	Conn. State '39
Custeldy, l.g.	Rhode Island '39
Fox, c.	Conn. State '39
Novak, r.g.	Green Mt. Jr. Coll.
Kasson, r.t.	Clark Jr. College
Nevulis, r.e.	Marianapolis Col.
Ross, qb.	Green Mt. Jr. College
Thompson, hb.	Conn. St. '39
McCaffrey, hb.	Clark Jr. Coll.
Gough, fb.	Rhode Island '39

The Budget Dec 10, 1935

1937 Ledger



Fire Sweeps Hall At Dudley College

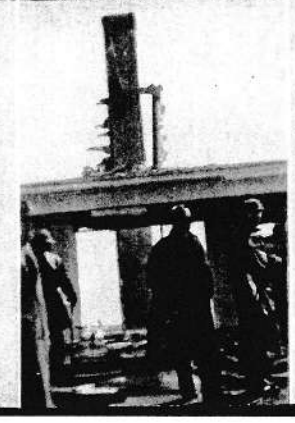
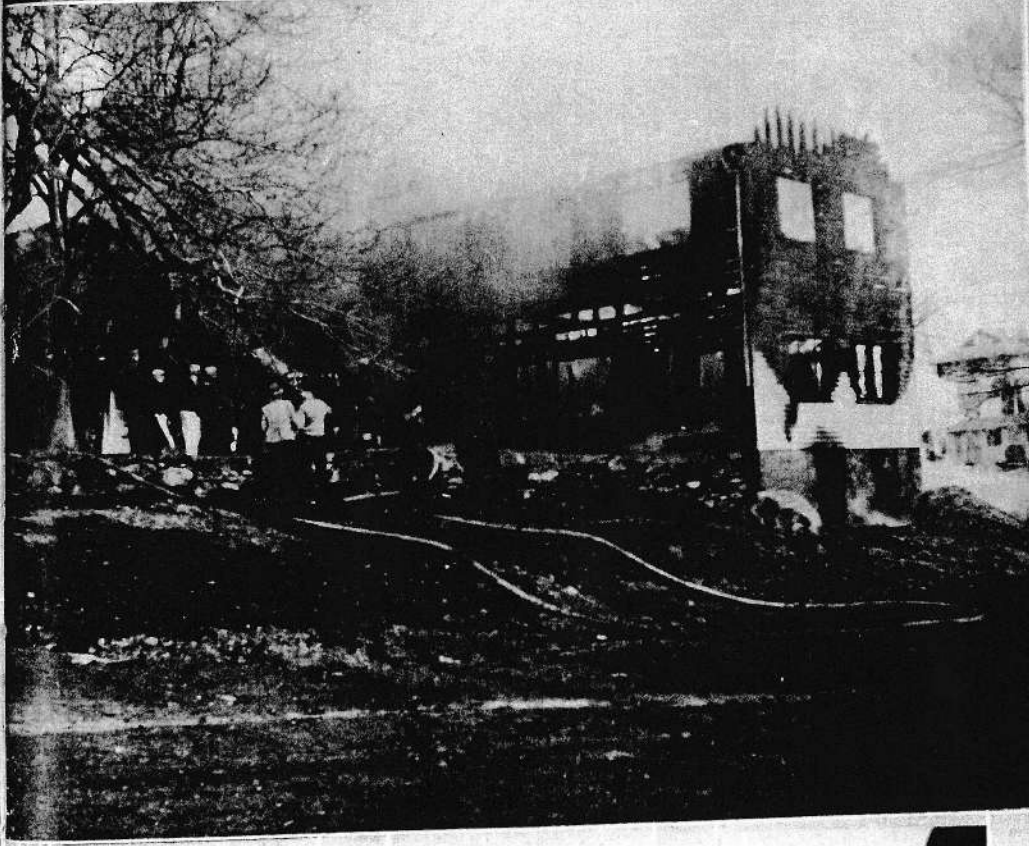
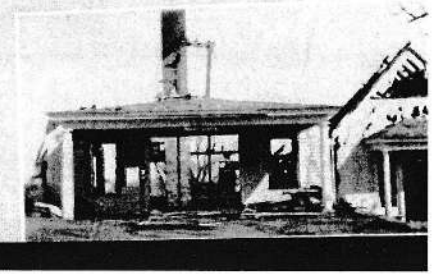
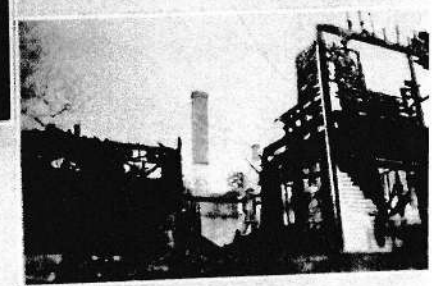
Flames Level Dining Hall of Exclusive Nichols School, Causing \$35,000 Damage But Most of Students, Home for Easter Not Endangered--Webster Aid Called.

Dining Hall at Dudley School Is Destroyed

Valuable Equipment Is Lost--Students Off On Vacation

NICHOLS COLLEGE FIRE LOSS \$25,000

Overheated Chimney Blamed For Blaze



Apr 1 28, 1937

Spring Dance At Cohasse May 8

EDDY QUINTON TO PLAY

Chairman Scott of the Social Com-
 ee, recently announced that there
 be a formal dance held at the
 ase Country Club in Southbridge,
 on Saturday evening, May 8,
 Eddy Quinton and his Orches-
 providing the music.

Because of the existing conditions
 traditional Spring Dance will not
 held in the Nichols Gymnasium.
 of the Cohasse Country Club has
 secured for the affair, however,
 with pleasant remembrances of
 Winter Carnival dance, we can
 predict a successful spring
 nal. Upon popular request, the
 al Committee has signed Eddy
 on, whose music was so greatly
 ed at the 1935 Winter Carnival.
 on is well known among the so-
 circles of Boston and Providence
 s rhythmic dance music, and has
 ly been engaged to play for
 nades at Brown and Dartmouth.
 e authorities have announced
 a baseball game will take place
 afternoon of May 8, thus ad-
 color and enjoyment to the oc-
 . Following the game, students
 iends will entertain their guests
 umer.

Brick Building To Replace Destroyed Dining Hall

Board of Trustees Vote in Favor of Two Story Building. — Large Infirmary to Be on Second Floor

“All efforts to have a new dining hall ready before this year’s graduating class makes its departure, in June, are being extended”, was the most recent announcement made by Dr. Quincy H. Merrill, president of the Board of Trustees, early this week.

Estimated cost of the new building, which will be erected mid-way between Budleigh dormitory and the gymnasium, are figured at between \$16,000 and \$20,000. Plans call for a brick colonial front, and in addition to the dining hall, there will also be an infirmary on the second floor. The dining hall will be so arranged that the faculty tables will be at the right of the entrance and guest tables at the left. Beneath the infirmary will be located the main dining hall for the students. There will also be available room for the storehouse, kitchen, and living quarters for the employees.

Chalmers Discovers Fire

Fire which occurred early Tuesday morning, March 30, completely leveled the former college dining hall. Students were away on their annual Spring vacation at the time of the disaster and the only students remaining were Paul Granville of Canada; Manuel Calvo, Bob Mercade, Joe Carrio, and Orencio Garcia, Cuban students. Hal Chalmers on his way to work, discovered the blaze and a general alarm was sent out. The fire is believed to have started when a spark from the chimney ignited the wooden shingles on the roof. Once on fire, the building was a blazing furnace which destroyed over a thousand dollars worth of stored food, all kitchen equipment, and electric appliances as well as all of the furniture; the entire structure being reduced to ashes. Three cars underneath the kitchen were removed safely and two tables and a few chairs were saved. All other efforts were concentrated on keeping the blaze away from the other nearby buildings.

Gym Temporary Dining Hall

At present the gymnasium which is also used for social functions, is serving as the dining hall. The kitchen now occupies the section which was formerly the entrance and lounge to the gym. Refrigerators, stoves, washers, and other necessary equipment has been installed. New tables and chairs make a splendid appearance on the playing floor which is proving very adequate and furnishes more room than did the destroyed dining hall.

Every member of the '37 graduating class is eager to be among the group at the dedication of the new dining hall, which they hope will be completed before Commencement, June 12.

ARTLETT

CE —

Webster, Mass.

COOPERATE ON JUSTINIAN TAG DAY

Webster Cab

Telephone 88

WEBSTER, MASS.

Parker's Restaurant & Grill

Spend a Pleasant Evening Dining and Dancing in the Grill Room

— Orchestra —

MARCUSTRY'S BOWLING ACADEMY

Gives You Service and Quality Plus Cleanliness at Excellent Alleys.



NICHOLS HURRICANE DAMAGE IS \$15,000

Academy Building Falls in Terrific Fury of the Storm

NO PERSON INJURED

Falling Trees, Flying Slate Were Added Dangers

(By Samuel Munson)

Whipped several hours by a lashing 120-mile wind the main roof of the century-old Academy building finally collapsed on Wednesday afternoon, September 21, 1938. Thirty students taking English exams escaped serious injury when the heavy roof crashed under the fury of the worst storm New England has ever had.

An hour prior to the crash, several freshmen witnessed large trees crashing to the ground and felt the room rock. At approximately 4:30, plaster started to fall and students in the rear of the room ran to the front. About

under the fury of the worst storm New England has ever had.

An hour prior to the crash, several freshmen witnessed large trees crashing to the ground and felt the room rock. At approximately 4:30, plaster started to fall and students in the rear of the room ran to the front. About four seconds later part of the roof came through. One freshman, Wallace Stebbins, was trapped up to his waist with bricks, plaster and other debris.

Stebbins Rescued

Despite danger to themselves, several other freshmen rushed back and pulled Stebbins out. He suffered minor cuts and bruises. Bob Taft in an effort to escape from the building, jumped to the ground two stories below, but was unhurt. Several other students received minor injuries from bricks and falling glass.

Dean Spencer, who happened to be directing the tests, guided the freshmen through the hallway to the library where Mr. McInnis, librarian, checked on all boys. At first, one student, Jerry McKee, was thought to be lost, but a later checkup found he was safe in another building.

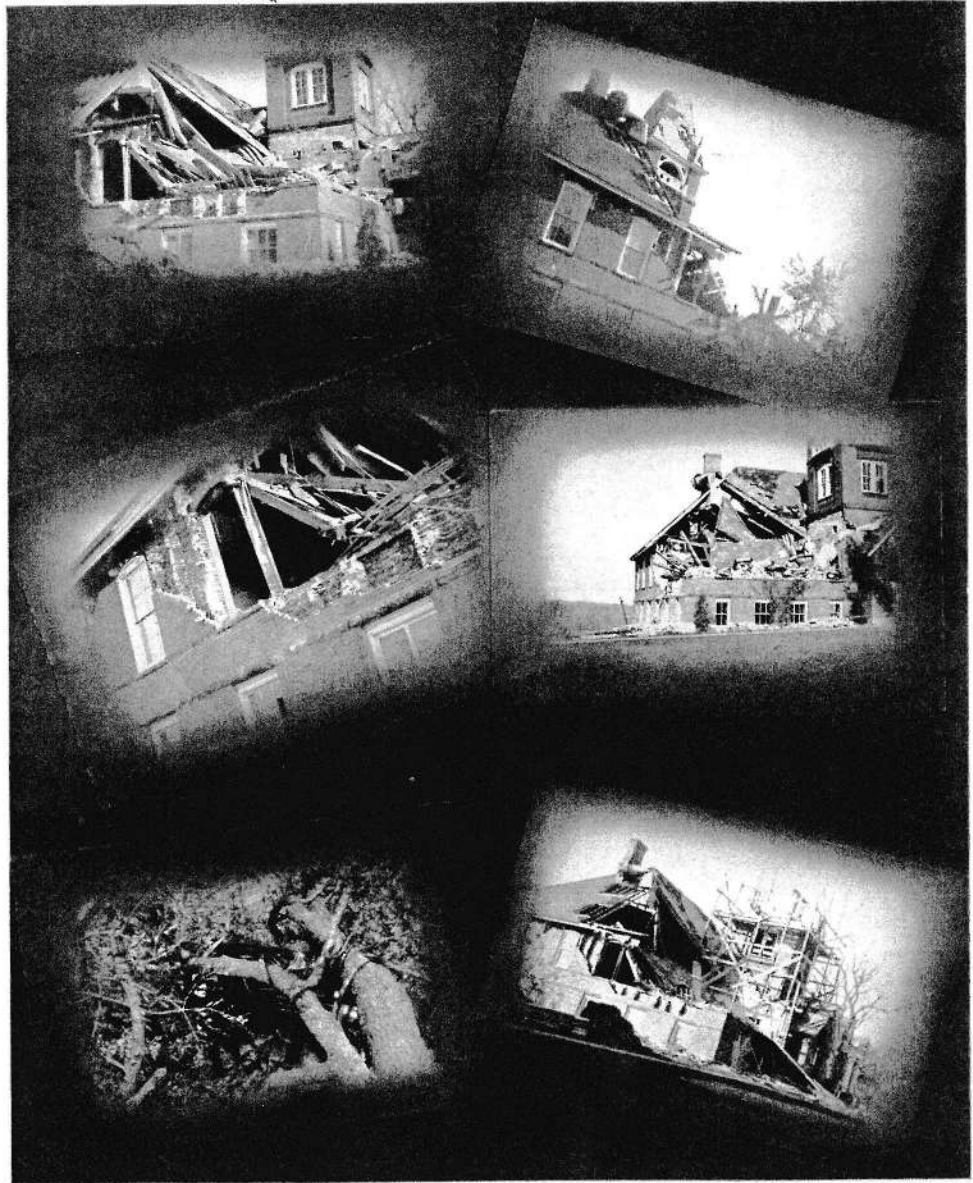
The wind uprooted large trees and sent slate flying from the roofs to increase the danger. Many students went in groups of three to insure not being blown away.

Tower Sways

Many students watched the Academy tower rock and sway before the mighty blasts and rain that beat it with terrific force. By nine o'clock the refugees in the several dormitories managed to obtain sandwiches and cocoa.

As it was feared that the third floor of Conant and Budleigh might possibly break down, instructions were given that no one was to sleep on that floor. Also, as another safety precaution, no one was allowed to leave the building that night for any reason.

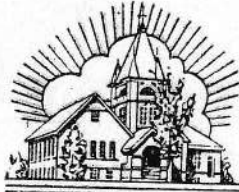
The ~~Ledger~~ ^{Tower} 1939



The Hurricane Strikes The Hill

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The Nichols Budget

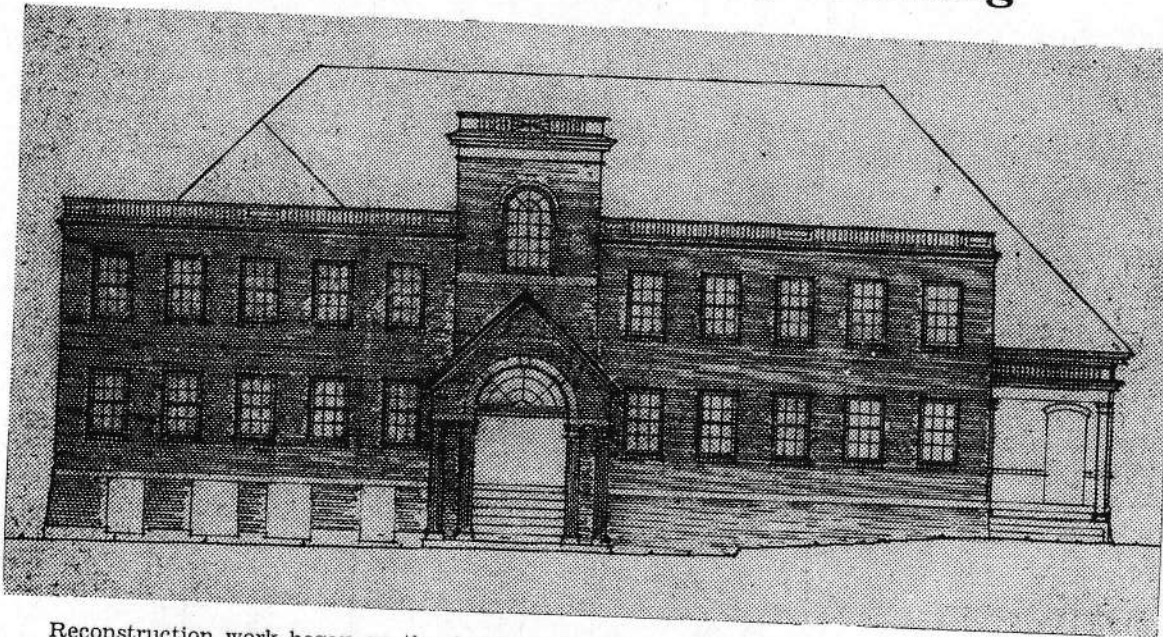


DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

DECEMBER 2, 1938

NO. 4

Plan Of New Academy Building



Reconstruction work began on the Academy Building, which was considerably damaged by the hurricane, during the Thanksgiving vacation. The new alterations will change the appearance considerably as extra classrooms and office space have been included in the plan of the new building. The building when finished will have nine classrooms and two offices, in addition to the other regular features which are contained in it now. Following the colonial style of architecture which has been instilled on the campus, the new building will have small columns in front of the arcade entrance.

The construction will be of brick veneer, supported by oaken beams, allowing elasticity in case of future high winds. Experts, after a study of the damage caused by the last hurricane, have declared that "entire brick" construction was found to have suffered the most as far as wind damage was concerned, whereas those buildings of brick veneer construction stood up the best.

The building will be ready for occupation shortly after Christmas, according to the contractors.

SPARKS, KNIGHT ARE CAPTAINS

Chosen Football And Soccer Leaders

By Louis E. Spencer

Nichols athletic forces set the Buffaloes 1939 football and soccer campaigns off to an early start by electing Bob Sparks of Wakefield, Mass., as football captain and James Knight of Woodsville, N. H., as soccer captain.

The election of captains was part of an elaborate program the Tuesday before Thanksgiving recess in which 33 varsity letters were presented to the football and soccer players. Sparks, formerly of Saint Johnsbury Academy, was one of Coach Chalmers mainstays on his injury ridden but constantly fighting squad. Playing not only his usual guard position Captain-elect Sparks also played at center, tackle, and did some kicking. Captain-elect Knight, former star of several soccer teams at Worcester Academy, is rated as one of the best

TESTS
SUCCESS

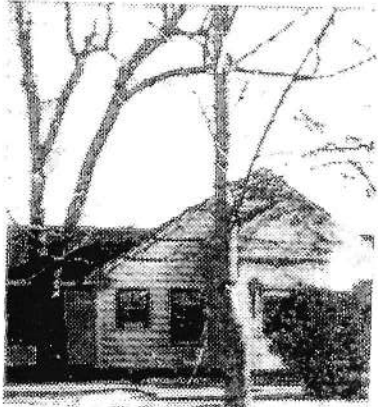
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T-HALL DESTROYED BY FIRE



T-Hall makes its stand as usual

All but the exterior of T-Hall was destroyed by fire on Wednesday, November 26. The fire was discovered by Luke Binder (faculty member) at 2:45 p.m. Mr. Binder had just finished painting a portion of his floor when he saw black smoke rising from the first floor stairway at the opposite end of the hall.

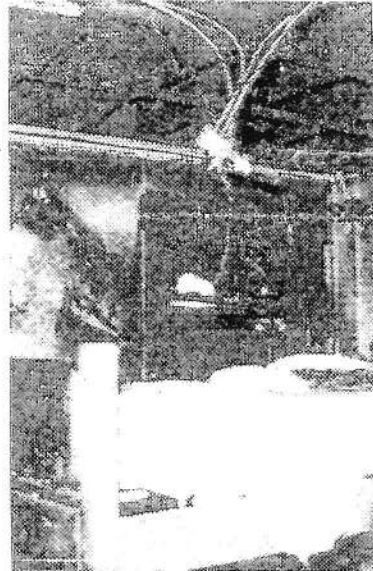
Mr. Binder rushed for help, but help other than from the town fire department was useless. Mr. Alfred Eddy and others were able to secure the fire hose from the garages, but the hoses were useless. Two hoses burst before the water had a chance to get to the nozzle. Al-

but was unable to do so. It was estimated that, had the hose been in working condition, hundreds of dollars of property could have been saved.

Mr. Eddy reported the response of the Webster Fire Department as being very quick. The fire was reported as being completely out by five o'clock.

The fire started on the first floor of the building — the cause apparently unknown, despite the rumors of arson, hot-plates and faulty wiring.

Seven or more boys were reported as not being insured against fire or theft of property. Hank Pierro said to this Bison reporter that claims on stolen property approximating \$2000.00 were filed with various insurance companies.



"And the bedding crumbled as uninsured Frank Urdambidelus pulled the covers back"

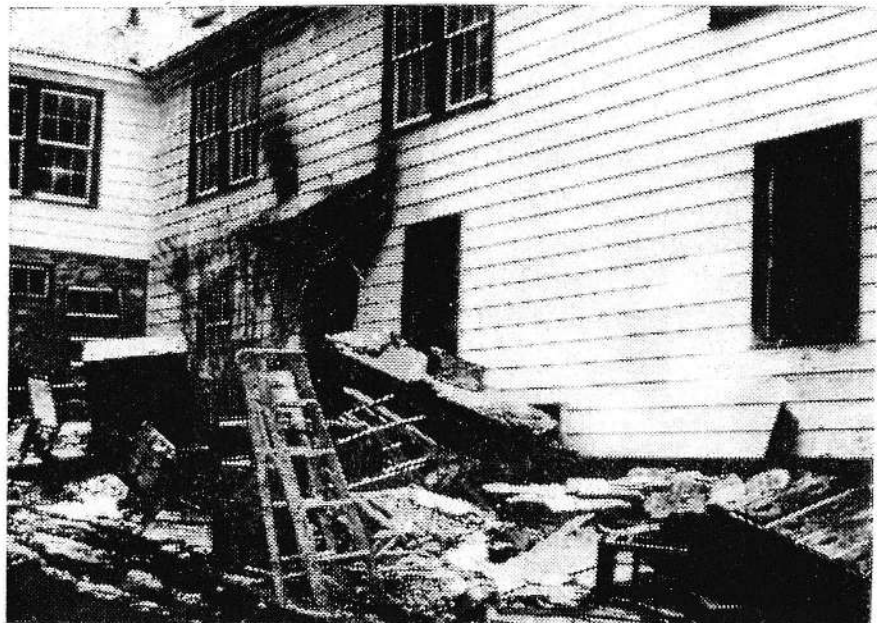
According to a Bison source, the damage to the building and property belonging to the school caused by the fire, is estimated at \$30,000.00. All fire laws and regulations governing such buildings "were adhered to" in this case.

The Quinebaug Fire Department responded to the alarm together with the Webster department. Forrester, Loyal Avery was the only student present to participate in fighting the blaze. The rest of the

college had left for Thanksgiving recess at twelve noon, nearly three hours before the fire was noticed. All the T-Hall residents were notified by Thursday night of the fire. The incident was celebrated at the Ivy Jazz Band Ball in N.Y.C. on Friday night by various college students.

"Has anyone seen Luke's loafers?" he can't find them reports Moe Knudsen.

The Nichols Fire Department is now being organized and is headed by Jack Gifford and Robert Ruston. They will file a report on fire safety conditions and equipment in each dorm to President Conrad this week. It will be available to those interested.



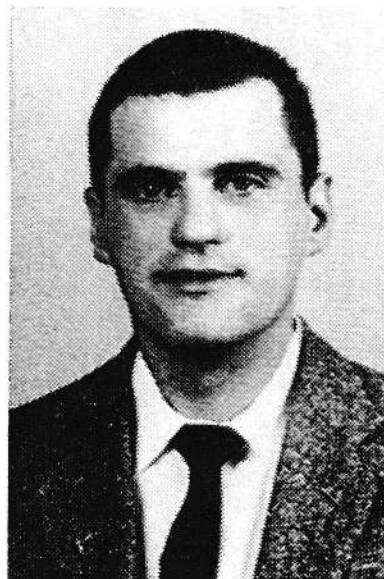
T-HALL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Fire destroyed the interior of T Hall on Wednesday, November 26, 1958. The fire was discovered by Mr. Luke Binder, faculty member, at 2:45 p.m. Mr. Binder was alone in the dormitory at this time, since all students had departed for their annual Thanksgiving recess.

The fire started on the lower floor of the building and the cause was apparently unknown, but damages were estimated at \$30,000.

According to President Conrad, T Hall will be rebuilt with an additional floor and a five-room faculty apartment.

Students who formerly lived in T Hall are now quartered for the balance of the school year at the Black Tavern and the Justinian House.



Carl Benvenuti '57, former football player at Nichols, is now employed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., in Worcester, Massachusetts.

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*Nichols Alumnus
Nov. 1958*

major, was succeeded by Robert N. Fossom, another management major. Bob furthered the good relations of the department with the towns of Quinebaug and Webster. Many times the N.C.F.D. answered brush fires in Quinebaug during the academic year of 1966-1967. It was during that year that the department purchased a radio tuned into the frequency of our neighboring town in Connecticut. A ready room (fireman's jargon for a place where alerts are made and aid is dispatched) with a phone was also provided that year. Last year's chief was Jeff Havlick, a park management major.

The Fire Department, under the direction of the Worcester Fire Department still sponsors a thirty hour course in fire fighting and continues to use all possible methods to keep fires from starting. As in the past, it administers first aid, gives transportation service to and from the Hubbard Hospital to all on the hill and in the community that need it, and keeps in close contact with the neighboring towns. Under the leadership of Chief Bob Seiffert, an accounting major, the department has made headway in improving the relations with the Dudley Fire Department. It is hoped that the N.C.F.D. will be able to participate in fires in Dudley soon. The only bottleneck is the insurance problem. The department is also arranging for an alarm service which would hook up with each dorm. With the system installed, there would be no need to use the phone to call for help.

In ten years and under six chiefs, the Nichols College Fire Department has gone a long way. Each member (dues are \$5 each semester) is a fully qualified fire fighter and experienced in first aid. There are three trucks, a pumper, a hose truck, and a ladder. Membership means full dedication and many hours. The department receives money from the college (not from the Student Government), dues and donations. Any man will tell you that the N.C.F.D. is a Godsend. This year's officers are: Bob Seiffert, Chief; Scott Shank, Deputy Chief; Ken Spector, 1st Captain; Craig Peterson, 2nd Captain; Matt Sullivan, 1st Lieutenant; Bob McIlvain, 2nd Lieutenant; and Phil Boucher, 3rd Lieutenant.

N.C.F.D. SAVES OLSEN HALL

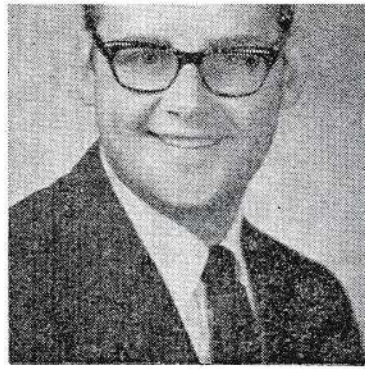
by Jim Green, '71

One of the most tragic fires ever to hit Nichols College unfolded on February 18 to Olsen Hall due to an electrical overload according to the state fire marshal. The blaze spread from the middle floor to the third floor causing extensive damage to the dorm. The basement floor had a limited amount of fire damage but underwent excessive water damage as a result of the huge amount of water necessary to extinguish the conflagration.

Bob Seiffert, Chief of the Nichols Fire Department felt that conditions such as the time of the day and weather conditions were extremely important in limiting the blaze to mostly the middle floor. However, the strong wind caused



DEPUTY CHIEF SHANK



CHIEF SEIFFERT

much smoke odor to spread to nearby Budleigh Hall.

Up to this point the only fire this year was a minor mattress fire in Goodell Hall just before Christmas vacation. Yet, this was the first major fire to hit Nichols in some ten years when Olsen again underwent extreme fire damage which ironically occurred during the first year of our campus fire department's existence.

Many important elements of how to fight fires and how to eliminate defects in equipment were learned by our own department. And at the present time they are endeavoring to set up a central alarm system in the ready room which will hopefully save much needed time in locating the exact source of any fire. This system will be based on a board of lights which will be electronically connected to the telephone system throughout the college.

Unfortunately, the same night of the Olsen fire two small fires of undetermined origin were started in Merrill Hall. These fires are still under investigation.

According to Dean Quinn, the eventual outcome of Olsen as to the construction of a new dorm or possibly rebuild the present building is, "still up in the air."

The Bison would like to tip its horns to all fire departments including the Quinebaug, Dudley, and Webster units as well as our own which assisted in controlling the blazes and also to the numerous members of the student body who helped not only in extinguishing the fire but also stayed up all that night for the fire alert.

The Bison
March 28, 1969



ROAD TRIP TO THE BLACK TAVERN

by Robert Keller, News Editor

(This is the third in a series of articles on the history of Dudley)

If one was to take a stage coach between Hartford and Boston in the very early part of the 19th century chances are that you would come up over the hill behind what is now the Congregationist Church on the campus and follow through to what is now Tanyard Road. By this time after riding many hours in the bumpy coach you will be glad to see a big black house with white trim.

The sign in front says Healy's Inn, which is decorated with pediments of guns and cannons flanked by flags and military men in uniform. This sign was held up by two tall posts, who's unintended purpose, was a test of sobriety for the drivers who would see if they could make it through the posts after a night of drinking whiskey.

Upon getting off the stage coach you would be greeted by a

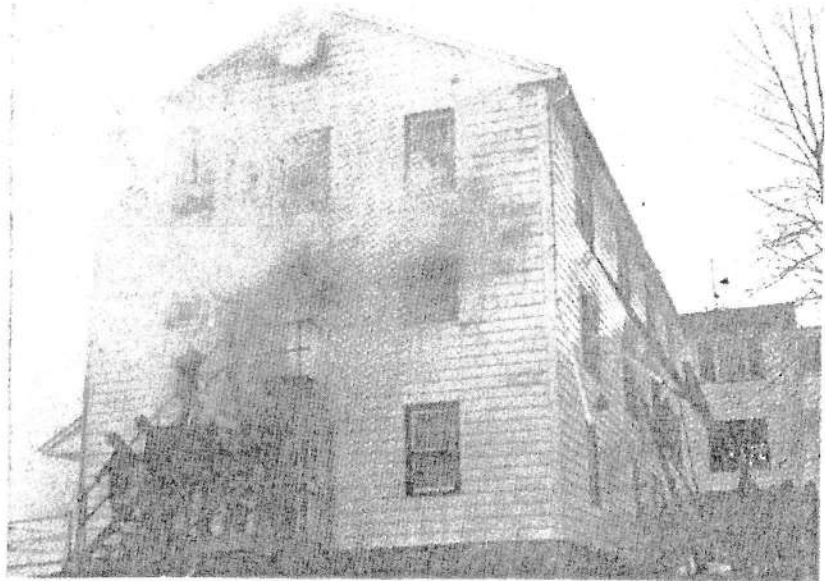
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THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

WORCESTER, MASS., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1969



Dormitory Is Destroyed by Blaze at Nichols College

Possessions Ruined In Blaze at Nichols

By BRUCE S. BAKER
Of The Telegram Staff

DUDLEY — "I'm in today and a way to have a holiday," said James Marello of Chester, N.Y., his belongings destroyed in yesterday's campus fire.

Marello was in class when, like the majority of the students at Nichols College, received word of the fire at Oberlin dormitory. Marello was dejected.

"I lost everything every day," he said. The fire broke in his room, on the second floor, he said.

"The other students who were in the building when the fire broke out, it was a total disaster," he said.

But 18-year-old William Robbins, a freshman from Longwood, "All of a sudden there was an explosion and it sounded like a ton of brick fell on the building directly above me."

Clothes Damaged

Robbins said, "The fire alarm went off and I heard someone say, 'There's a fire on the first floor.' All of my clothes were damaged by water and smoke."

James Morris of Leominster said he was running on the first floor, he thought a fire drill was taking place when he heard the alarm.

"Then I looked in my room and my roommate was gone so I ran out of the building," he said.

Marello credits Marello, Walker of Waterbury, the Nichols Yearbook which he is taking with leaving him helpless in injury.

Jack Hills, a senior from North Andover, who holds the title of college manager, said he never gotten out of the building. He said the Nichols College Student Fire Department was pouring from a room and he smothered the fire alarm. He

then woke Miceli, who was sleeping at the time.

James W. Reid, Robert A. Wood and William F. Grobner, who are credited with bringing the wife and children of professor H. John Choo from the building, huddled in Dudley Hall after the fire and attempted to piece the rescue together.

Grobner said "When I heard someone yell fire, I went to Mrs. Choo's door and told her there was a fire and that I would be right back. I went out and Jim (Reid) and Bob (Wood) helped me."

Grobner said he carried Choo's son, while Reid carried the one-year-old daughter. Wood assisted Mrs. Choo.

Reid said when he went in to get Mrs. Choo, "She was shaking and trying to dress the kids."

He said he grabbed the daughter and rushed downstairs and the others were right behind me."

Donald A. MacQuarrie of Beverly, a dormitory prefect, said he was in class when he heard the news.

"Anyone Hurf"

"First I wondered if anyone was hurt, especially the Goo's," he said. He later went into his room and found it completely ruined. His loss included photographs, cameras and notes for agent John Walker of Waterbury, the Nichols Yearbook which he is taking with leaving him helpless in injury.

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Firemen poured water on the building from all sides.



Campus Department B Nichols 'Touch and Go'

By JOSEPH C. CAPILLO
Of The Telegram Staff

DUDLEY — Strong winds fanned the blaze which destroyed the Oberlin dormitory at Nichols College yesterday and for some period of time, fire fighters were concerned the flames would spread to nearby buildings.

One fire fighter described it as "A touch and go fire" meaning that it could have developed into a much more serious situation.

Big Assist

The 27 member college fire department was credited with a big assist by the fire department. The department is supervised by Professor Charles A. Grant, who is also chairman of the college's fire department. The department was set aside in 1967 and was organized 18 years ago to intervene in the case of a fire in the college building.

The college has five fire trucks and the students have received instructions in all phases of fire fighting and live saving from the Worcester Fire Department.

Preparing for Action

The department is commanded by Student Chief Robert F. Safford, 21, and Deputy Chief Scott Shank, 21, Seiffert, Shank and the rest of the force were called from classes to go to the scene.

"It was quite a thing," said the college official, "washing cars and these boys were for the limit. Dr. Clarence J. Stapp, who is in charge of the school's fire department, said the fire department was set aside in 1967 and was organized 18 years ago to intervene in the case of a fire in the college building.

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Fund Drive Lau By Webster Ho

WEBSTER — About 200 area Edward M. residents attended a kickoff dinner Wednesday for the general convocation messages of the Middle Regional Baptist which the

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