

## BURLINGTON DAILY NEWS TUESDAY - JUNE 16, 1942

### FIRE AT CAMP

As a result of a lively blaze early Sunday morning, the basement of the Waterbury Congregational Church will again be pressed into a community service when 115 young men and women engaging in mechanical training at the NYA camp at Little River will be fed for the next week or so.

The fire, which completely destroyed the kitchen and mess hall, was discovered shortly before 2 o'clock by Roger Farr, night watchman who noticed smoke issuing from one end of the kitchen. Farr reported to camp officials and as soon as the kitchen door was opened, the smouldering burst into flames in the vicinity of the refrigeration plant. The camp firefighting apparatus was pressed into immediate service and the Waterbury Fire Department, under Fire Chief W. E. Collins, responded, arriving at exactly the time when the camp pressure went down. Officials were high in their praise of the work of the department, stating that without such assistance the nearby buildings, including the barracks a short distance away, could not have been saved.

The buildings were constructed of wood and paper, to government specification during the building of the Little River Dam. A new hardwood floor had been laid in the mess hall which accommodates 15 and was completed only a week ago. New equipment for the kitchen had arrived and it had been planned to build an addition in the immediate future. It is believed that a short circuit in the refrigeration plant, possibly caused by lighting during the storm might have caused the fire which cost a loss of approximately \$2,500.

Plans are already in progress for immediate rebuilding and until completion, meals will be prepared and served at the church. This is reminiscent of the flood of '27 when the church basement was converted into a community kitchen.