

# ARMORY BUILDING DESTROYED BY FIRE

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The Armory, the large structure on Front St., the property of the Fair Building Association, is a mass of blackened ruins this morning, the result of a fire which was only prevented from spreading to the surrounding buildings by the efficiency of the fire department, and the fact that a light breeze from the north was the only wind blowing.

The alarm was turned in at 2 A.M., and when the firemen reached the building, it was a mass of flames, the light wood structure burning like a box of tinder.

For a time the buildings facing on

Soquel Av., from Front St. to the bridge, were threatened by the intense heat from the Armory, but the good work of the firemen held the flames to its original starting point.

The only occupant of the Armory is the caretaker, Dr. George Willey, who when seen this morning was at a loss to explain the origin of the fire, although he stated that some of the high school boys had been in the building last night, practising for their basketball game, and may have left fire in the heater.

It is said that there is very little insurance on the building.