

Wednesday fire destroys lounge in Kierstead

A small fire in Kierstead Hall on Wednesday night resulted in a substantial amount of damage to the second floor lounge (rm 104). Most of the books in the lounge were destroyed, along with considerable damage to the interior of the room.

The fire was discovered around 8:40 p.m. after students studying on third floor called campus security, complaining of excessive smoke in the building. The

Fredericton Fire Dept. was called and a campus security officer, Corporal Hanlon, was sent to investigate and he discovered the fire in the lounge.

The Fredericton Fire Dept. quickly extinguished the fire using hand extinguishers and one small hose.

Chief Williamson of security praised the Fire Dept. as being "very efficient" in that water damage was kept to a minimum.

Williamson also said that he feels the fire started from a cigarette that was left smouldering and eventually caught fire and spread to the book shelf.

Damages are estimated to be about \$2000. A final tally of damages will not be available until the Fire Dept. finishes their investigation and releases the room to the University.

A security officer was posted to

the building for the night as there was an excessive amount of heat as could be testified to by the melted light fixtures in the room; and the possibility of sparks circulating through the ventilation system.

The Fire Department's investigation into the cause of the fire is being carried out at press time (Thursday morning) and results should be known early next week.



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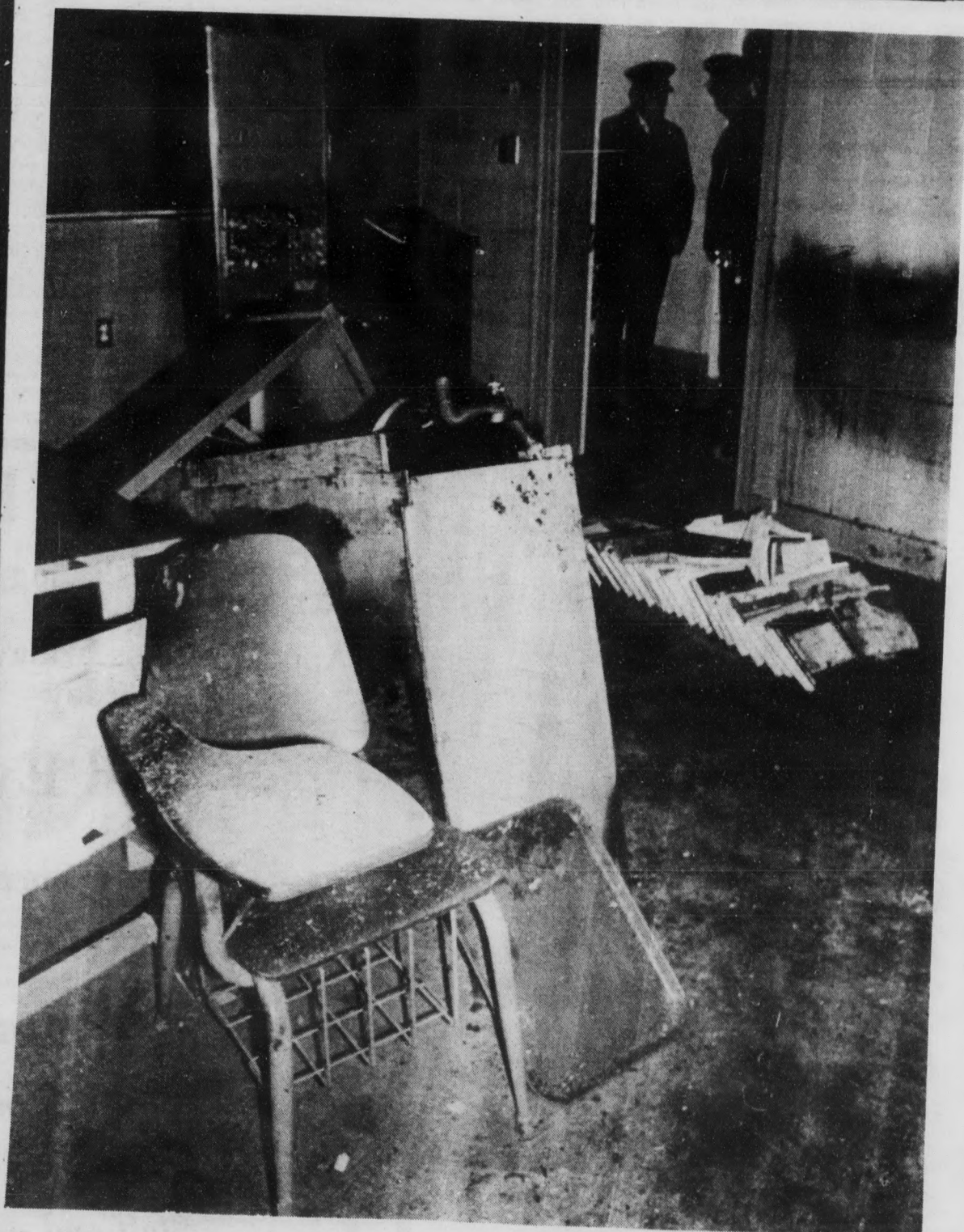
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A partial view of damages to the Kierstead Hall Lounge after Wednesday night's fire. Most damage was done to the bookcase that was originally on the wall at right.

photo by Kavanagh