

TURDAY, JULY 19, 1952

Sprinklers On At Start of Alliance Fire

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Chief Says Probe Valve Apparently Shut Off Later

The sprinkler system at the Alliance Furniture Company, 615 Allen Street, was operating at the time of the fire which destroyed the company's plant Wednesday morning, according to Fire Chief Rudolph H. Swanson. He said, however, that the system had apparently been turned off sometime after the fire broke out.

He made this announcement after an inspection of the system Friday by fire underwriter investigators from Buffalo.

Employees of the company, were paid Friday for what may be the last time until company officials determine whether or not to resume operations.

Lester W. Berglund, company president, said the final decision as to the company's future will be made by the entire body of stockholders.

A meeting of officials was held Friday afternoon and another meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

Mr. Berglund said that circumstances prevent any quick decisions on the company's future. An insurance settlement is still to be made, possible new sites must be investigated and the possibility of acquiring new equipment discussed.

He added that those who do not want to remain in the corporation may withdraw, while others may decide to continue. It may be, he said, that the company will resume operations on a smaller scale and gradually expand to full production again.