Fire-Gutted Tavern To Be Replaced By Modern Structure

The building which housed the Bris Collins cafe, 405 N. Washington st., destroyed by fire Monday, will be replaced by a modern one-story brick and concrete block tavern structure, Walter Parlier, deputy state fire marshal, said he was informed Wednesday night.

Completing his investigation with the aid of Lester P. Manace, chief city fire inspector, Parlier announced Monday's fire was caused by an overheated furnace.

Carbristo "Bris" Collins, proprietor of the tavern, listed his loss with Parlier as $12,500, including $6,000 in equipment and fixtures, a $1,278 juke box purchased two weeks ago, a large supply of liquor, and damaged air conditioning unit. Contents of the building was not covered by insurance, it is reported.

Negotiations are being completed by Collins for the purchase of the property from the Edward Rosenberg estate at Pekin. The proposed new building reportedly will be of fire proof construction with concrete floors.