What might have proved a very serious fire was narrowly averted last Thursday afternoon when one of a number of small boys who were shooting firecrackers, threw a lighted match into the "Red Sentry" gasoline pump in front of the Hannaford Mercantile store. The accumulated oil and drippings instantly caught fire and the whole pump was soon enveloped in flames. Sand and chemicals were at once applied to the blaze which was soon extinguished. What might have happened had the fire reached the tank is a matter for conjecture.