

# Flash Fire Razes Barn - \$30,000 Loss

A flash fire at the McNab township farm of Milton Neill last Friday evening completely destroyed a U-shaped barn, killing 29 cows and causing an estimated \$30,000 damage.

Over 1500 bales of hay in the barn also burned in the blaze which broke out around 5 p.m. A lightning storm had passed over the area about 3 p.m. and there was no sign of fire when Mrs. Neill went to pick up her

husband around 4.30 p.m. The fire must have been smoldering in the cow barn for shortly after the barn was in flames.

A neighbour, Ray McLean, managed to rescue six head of cattle from the burning structure. McNab township firemen arrived at the scene fairly quickly and poured water pumped from a nearby ditch on the barn.

This served to prevent the fire spreading to other farm buildings or the farm house, a short 50 yards away. The wind was blowing from the south, away from the house, and so fireman managed to save it.

Mr. Neill said on Saturday that he did not know what he would do if he did not have such wonderful neighbours. The neighbours brought him a load

of hay on Saturday to feed the remaining cattle of his 100-head herd which had been graxing in the fields when the fire broke out.

Mr. Neill has lived on the farm, the old Duncan Cameron place, for about fourteen years.

The cattle were insured but well below their market value while the barn was only partially insured.

## 14 Cows, 15 Calves Die in Fire

ARNPRIOR (Special) — A flash-fire ripped through out buildings on the McNab township farm of Milton Neill, 39, Friday, destroying 14 cows and 15 calves.

The blaze, thought to have been caused by lightning during a thunderstorm about 4.30 p.m., was noticed by a neighbor, Ray McLean. Mr. McLean managed to rescue six head of cattle from the burning buildings.

The Neill farm is six miles southwest of Arnprior. The family was at a brother's sugar-bush four miles away, making maple syrup.

About 1,500 bales of hay and some milking equipment were also lost.

Fire loss is estimated at \$30,000, it is partially covered by insurance.



DAN NEILL CLEANS THE FLOOR AT MCNAB PUBLIC SCHOOL AS HE PREPARES THE SCHOOL for the returning influx of students in September.

Mr. Neill must strip the floors, clean them and then add sealer and two or three coats of wax.

He figures that he will be finished about a week before school opens. The school has also received a new ceiling in the gym over the summer.