



NEIGHBORS OF DOUGLAS SILLS, 9th concession of Thurlow township, view damage wreaked by sudden twister which struck the Sills farm

early Sunday morning. Top of silo was carried nearly half-mile away.

Freak Twister Hits Local Farm

It was only late last week that Mrs. Douglas Sills, ninth concession Thurlow township, noted how lucky was the Quinte area — un plagued by hurricanes and tornadoes.

But today she is not quite so sure.

Sunday about 2 a.m. a freak twister cut a 50-foot swath across the Sills' farm, miss-

ing their house by only feet but carrying away a henhouse, driveshed, the roof of their silo and heavily damaging their barn.

The roof of the silo was carried across several fields and dumped in a neighbor's grainfield almost half a mile away.

A tractor plow weighing easily a half ton was thrown 30 feet, and extension ladder was picked up off the barnyard and deposited unharmed in a cornfield 80 rods away.

A neighbor's new field cultivator parked within feet of the Sills' plow was untouched.

Two big maple trees near the Sills house were ripped out by the twister and tossed across the road, completely blocking traffic. A section of the Sills spruce windbreak was also ripped out.

Mrs. Sills gave credit to the windbreak for saving the family residence.

"If it hadn't been for the windbreak I am sure the house would have been damaged," she said.

Mrs. Sills was the only one of the family to hear all of the twister's attack.

She said she was awakened by the noise of the wind and got up to shut a window.

"The noise got louder and louder—just like an approaching freight train."

She heard the twister smash the roadside trees and the

windbreak, then sweep across the barnyard.

The noise of the twister lasted only two minutes — then there was complete silence.

The twister startled Mr. Sills and the four children out of their sleep but none of the neighbors heard the storm.

Half the steel shingles were ripped off the Sills' barn and the barn frame was shifted on it's foundation.

Today neighbors and township road personnel are assisting in cleaning up the damage, while carpenters are at work repairing the barn.