

Tuesday Morning Fire

# Queen's Line barn razed

by Stephen Cogan

A fire just before press time Tuesday razed a barn on the Queen's Line.

First reports were that all the livestock in the barn were saved—although a few head of cattle sustained burn injuries. But the structure itself, and all the stationary equipment in it were destroyed.

The fire started sometime before 10 a.m. Tuesday, when a rural mailman noticed smoke coming from the barn, owned by Hans Wytenburg.

Both the Foresters Falls and Haley Station brigades of the Ross Township Fire Department responded to the call shortly afterwards.

The Wytenburgs were not home at the time so firemen and a few neighbours went into the barn and brought out what they think were all the cattle inside [between 60 and 100 head]. Some were ill and had to be carried out, Fire Chief Roy Dittburner told The Sun, and a few tried to run back into the fire—but were saved. They were removed to another building on the farm.

During this time, the blaze was confined to the hayloft, but by the time the cows had been removed, the entire building was engulfed in flames. Chief Dittburner credited the barn's metal siding for holding the fire back while the cattle were rescued.

But later, Chief Dittburner said, the fire was too far advanced to be fought, so the firemen let it run its course.

According to the chief, there wasn't much danger of hot embers being carried to other barns—thanks to the low wind.

But he said he expected firemen would have to remain on the scene for sometime—at least until the Wytenburgs arrived home. They were reached by a neighbour and told of the fire.

No estimate of damage was available at press time; neither was the cause of the fire known.

The Wytenburgs have owned the farm for a little less than a year, neighbours said.



Several head of cattle were saved from a fiery death during a barn fire on the Wytenburg farm along the Queen's Line Tuesday morning. Fire

departments from Haley's and Foresters Falls responded to the blaze which burned out of control for several hours.