

# Sunday Twister Strikes Kingarf Area, Barns Destroyed, Hewitt Home Shambles

For the second Sunday in succession storms pummeled this area, attaining twister proportions in Kingarf section and leaving a trail of tell tale damage, as barns were flattened, buildings unroofed, livestock killed and one home turned into a shambles by the force of the brief but powerful passing tornado.

In Kincardine there was no damage reported, but downpour of rain inundated the town and lakefront area. There was a brief, heavy shower at ten o'clock in the morning and again at three o'clock in the afternoon the heavens opened to dump close to an inch of water over the land.

It was at this time that the twister ripped through inland sections, with Kingarf and the section west of Paisley directly in its path. 1956

In two brief minutes the storm created havoc and caused damage approximating \$500,000.

Few of the owners of damaged buildings had wind insurance, which makes the loss that much heavier.

Chief victim of Sunday's twister was Wilbert Hewitt, who lives on the former Latchford Thacker property near Kingarf.

The barn on the farm was flattened and damage was heavy to the well-built brick house. Windows were blown out, doors ripped from their hinges, wallpaper stripped from the walls and a heavy organ carried across the room.

Seeking shelter in the cellar, Mr. Hewitt suffered minor injuries when struck by a falling door. His wife found safety in a clothes closet.

Despite the damage, the telephone remained intact and he sent an emergency call to neighbors who were quick to rally.

Other phone and hydro users, more fortunate as far as houses and barns were concerned, were deprived of the utility services.

Chimneys were torn from the Hewitt residence and even a windmill was bowled over by the force of the wind.

In a field nearby a large elm tree was completely denuded of bark.

On the farm of Orville Needham large barn was flattened and, closer to Kincardine, at Mrs. William Hayes' property the barn was unroofed.

As the gale ripped barn on James Thompson's farm a flying timber hurtled 100 yards through the air and killed a steer. Hay stored in the barn a few days earlier, was intact.

Section of barn roof, torn from barn on Stanley Cooper's farm struck the house and tore a gaping hole in the wall.

In Greenock township, 18 miles northeast of Kincardine, damage was also extensive, with six barns levelled and two badly damaged.

Among major victims were Alexander Brothers livestock breeders, who lost two barns and Arthur Donnelly, who suffered similar loss.

Horace Clarke lost garage and had new car crushed.

Barns were lost by George Grey, Charles Bain, John Hittrik, Emerson Stewart, Eldon Reid, Alfred Sawyer, William McFadden, Millard Bell and Wilmer McFadden.

Scott Webb and John Wolfle had barns damaged.

Craft which had put into Kincardine harbour stayed in shelter until the storm subsided.

During Sunday after the storm and most of Monday, hundreds visited the area to view for themselves the extent of the damage.

## A Fatal happening

Sept 11th - 1914

On Friday afternoon while thrashing oats on the farm of Mr. Samuel Lindsay a very serious accident happened which resulted in the death of Samuel Lindsay and the disablement of his father Walter Lindsay and also of David Robinson also of the 9th. of Kin. About 100 bushels of oats had been thrashed and the engine was stopped for more steam. When sufficient steam was raised and after about ten minutes of thrashing the compression of the accumulated steam which was neither escaping through the safety valve or registering on the steam gauge, became too great for the old engine and bursted. The engine, from the force of the explosion, shot up the grate to the barn, broke a 10 X 10 inch of post and went about 14 feet into the barn falling mainly against the gallery. It is reported that Mr. Robinson was coming out of the barn as engine passed and resumed in Mr. Robinson's leg being cut twice. Mr. Lindsay who was sitting near the wagon, was struck by flying parts and both arms were broken, which were set Sunday at the Kincardine hospital. We learn while going to press he is doing very nicely. Sam, as he is called and known, being a cattle buyer in these parts, was sitting at the time of the explosion and it is very likely was also struck by loose parts hitting him. He succumbed to his injuries Friday night never regaining consciousness. Part of the grate were found at the house and another beyond the house. Mr. Samuel Lindsay was buried at Kincardine Cemetery on Monday of this week.