

BAD FIRE AT MEDINA

Accident with welder causes destruction of Garage, feed-barn, and two houses at Medina on Sunday, October 3, 1943.

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A disastrous accident occurred at Craig's Garage on Sunday which threatened to wipe out the entire village of Medina. About 1:30 p.m. Wallace Craig, proprietor of the Medina Garage, was working on a car belonging to Fenton Rumble of the village and while making his way from beneath the car with the welder in his hand he accidentally hit the gas tank with the welder making a hole in the tank and igniting the gasoline which came pouring out of the tank. Instantly the whole inside of the garage was in flames and Mr. Rumble who had just entered the garage and Mr. Craig were powerless to prevent the fire from spreading.

The Fire Brigade from St. Marys was called, but before it could arrive the fire had spread and destroyed Wallace Craig's house as well as garage and Stanley Hutton's Feed Barn and also his home. Most of the furniture was removed from the houses and with much effort the Stanley Hutton Mill close by was saved.

Wallace Craig suffered badly burned hands in the accident and was treated by Dr. Widdis of Lakeside.

The Craig family - Wallace, his wife Helen and four children Jean, Grace, Rand and Leslie spent the first few nights after the fire at the George Towle home. Later they moved across the road into the Everett Towle house and to make their home there until December 1943 when their new garage and home were built at Medina. They moved in just before Christmas.

The Stanley Hutton's moved into part of Mr. George Martin's house just north of Medina. They lived there until such time as Mr. Hutton bought a residence at Lakeside where Mr. and Mrs. Robert Greason and family now live.