



Consumed by flames, a once stately barn was reduced to rubble.

Berks County writer experiences tragic loss of barn and contents

By LAURELSCHAEFFER
Berks County Reporter
SINKING SPRING, Pa. -
The people of this area are worried, and have the right to be, especially if they have a barn. Fire has taken two barns already and almost had a third one.
The first fire was on March 1. It was the barn of Donald Schaeffer, my husband. We lost all of our hogs, some of our equipment and crops, along with the countless "odds and ends" which never seem like much until they are gone. It was

practically full of hay and straw.
Now we can truly sympathize with others who have watched their hard work and countless efforts to up in flame, knowing how helpless their livestock were. Our weren't just pigs, they were more like our family. And the worrying, how will we ever get back on our feet again?

But one good thing, we
**TRY A
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have many people to thank for their generous help when it came time to work.
Another barn was destroyed on March 10. It was the barn of Lester Kreider, only minutes away from ours. They too have unfortunately experienced the horrid terror when their "turn" came.
The Kreider barn was full of cattle, fortunately they were evacuated in time, but that was all that was saved.
A third barn in the same vicinity was almost another victim. Thankfully that one was saved.

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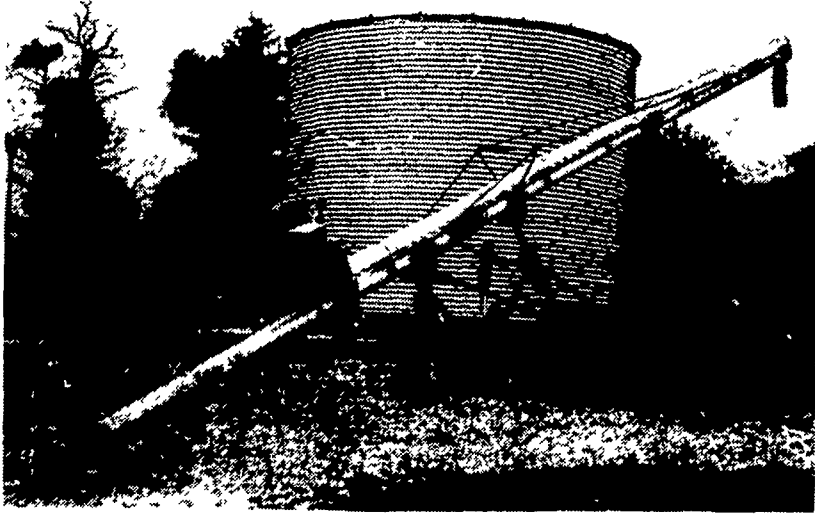


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