WATERBURY RECORD WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 27, 1935

Hire Cansed

Heavy Loss

Cattle, Horses, And Poultry Perish When Flames Consumed Shonio Barn.

Seen For Miles

Crossett Hill Property Made Huge Beacon In Night Sky As Damage Ran To Thousands.

About a dozen head of young cattle, three horses and part of the poultry perished in a disastrous fire which Thursday night destroyed the large, well equipped barn on the Crossett Shonio farm on Crossett Hill.

The loss will run into many thousands of dollars as practically everything in the 100 by 50 foot, three-story barn was destroyed.

Members of the Shonio family had just finished supper when the flickering glow of the blaze was noticed and it was found the barn was all in flames. There was scarcely time to release the 29 cows which were saved, so rapidly did the fire spread through the hay-filled building.

Bucket Brigade

Neighbors quickly gathered and they formed a bucket brigade to save the milk house and tool house from burning. The absence of any wind was all that saved the house which was only a few yards from the blazing barn and did not catch fire. However, when it seemed that the house would so up in flames at any minute, furniture and personal belongings were removed to a safe distance and the four small Shonio children were bundled up and placed in an automobile far away from the flames.

Very Heavy Loss

Included in the loss, besides the horses, cattle and hens, were about 80 tons of hay, practically all of the farm machinery, including a new mowing machine, corn planter and horse rake, the Delco lighting plant and considerable grain and farm tools. With destruction of the lighting plant, electric lights in the home were extinguished and the water supply cut off.

The Waterbury Fire Department (Continued on page 4)

SHONIO BARN BURNED

On Crossett Hill Thursday Night; Cattle, Horses and Poultry Perished

(Continued from page 1)

responded to a call, but there was little it could do. Volunteers had already protected the out buildings and the house was apparently safe from the flames.

Built In 1867

The barn was built in 1867 by Janus Crossett, great-grandfather of Mr. Shonio, following a disastrous fire which leveled all the buildings on the farm. It was an up-to-date structure and well-equipped.

Besides the nine members of the Shonio family, including hired help, the house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Boardman. Boarding with the Shonio's was Douglas Wood of Barre while living with the Boardman's was Herbert Boardman of Barre, a brother of William Boardman. Mr. Wood and Herbert Boardman are members of the Mid-State Lumber Company engaged in a lumber business on Crossett Hill.

WATERBURY RECORD WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 27, 1935

Firemen To Repair Toys

The Waterbury Fire Department at a meeting last night voted to again co-operate with the Welfare organization in Waterbury in the matter of repairing toys and playthings for needy children at Christmas. All who have broken or used toys which can be spared are asked to leave them at the V. L. Perkins Company where the Firemen will call for them and repair and repaint them for distribution by the Welfare workers. Last year nearly one hundred toys were made usable and like new by the Firemen and it is hoped this number may be doubled this year. Nothing in the way of toys is too poor or too small to the accepted. Mrs. Chas. B. Adams stated today that in the estimation of the committee last year, the business of repairing and repainting used toys was a very important help in making Christmas boxes to needy families reflect the Christmas spirit in which they were sent.