

The house on the Donald Campbell farm, now owned by James Beattie, was totally destroyed by fire last Friday morning. Mr. Beattie had started a coal fire in the kitchen stove and had gone out to the barn to do the morning chores. It is thought that the smouldering coal generated gases which exploded, thus setting fire to the kitchen woodwork. The other occupants of the house were still sleeping and shut off from the kitchen by two closed doors so the smoke and heat of the fire was not noticed until it had gained great headway and there was just barely time enough for the people in the house to escape, and practically none of the household goods were saved from the flames. So rapid was the spread of the flames that there was not even time to save a gold watch and about \$150 in cash belonging to members of the household, and this together with all other clothing, furniture and personal effects were consumed by the flames. This was one of the largest and best farm residences in this part of the county and the loss to Mr. Beattie will be very great, though fortunately the building and contents were insured to the amount of \$3500. There is no misfortune so great, however, that it might not have been worse; had the wind been in a little different direction some of the other splendid farm buildings might have been destroyed, and fortunate it was too, that in such a quick spreading fire, no lives were lost.
