

1977-01-06 NBG 03

New Berlin Gazette

A long time business of the New Berlin area was very heavily damaged by fire early Tuesday morning. The firm of Medbury and Nielsen is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sewell Nielsen and family of New Berlin. They employ seven people. Their business was in serving area farmers with all kinds of feed, mixing and grinding of feed and general farm supplies.

The wood building was approximately 30'x160' with a 12'x100' shed along side to house trucks.

An employee, Harold Bryden, was able to get a tractor -trailer and a bulk feed truck out. Firemen were able to stop the fire before entering the offices and sales rooms. Lost in the fire were the mixing and grinding rooms, feed storage room, corn dryer, which was new recently, mixing equipment, elevators, grinders, large motors, several tons of feed and ingredients. Estimate at press time was several hundred thousand dollars damage.

Cards Auto Parts and Salmon's Texaco building's were in immediate danger along with many other buildings and businesses if the winds had been strong.

New Berlin Firemen received the alarm at approximately 12:25 a. m. and immediately called for mutual aid from South New Berlin, Norwich, Edmeston, and Pittsfield. Several firemen from Sherburne, Oxford and surrounding area helped in saving the offices and nearby buildings.

Auxiliaries from South New Berlin, Pittsfield and New Berlin, along with much help from the Corner House Restaurant, served hot coffee and sandwiches to the 150 plus firemen who worked thru the night and Tuesday keeping the fire under control.

One fireman, John Ross, suffered smoke inhalation and a leg injury and was taken to M. I. B. Hospital in Cooperstown by the New Berlin Emergency Squad, and later released.

The building was only partially covered by insurance and at this time the company members have not decided what their future plans will be.

Transcribed by Tom DeForest, 2020-10-21

*Front View of Medbury-Nielsen Summer '76*



Photo by Sperry

*Side View Summer '76*

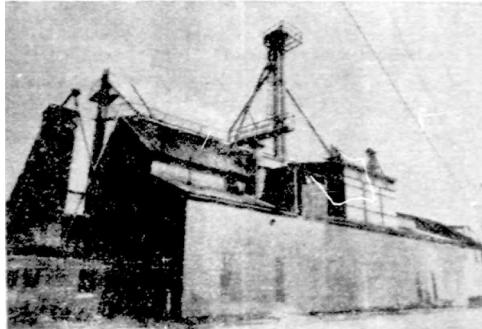


Photo by Sperry

*Front View January 4, 1977*



*Side Views January 4, 1977*

