$6000 Fire Destroys Big Poultry Plant at Pelham

1500 Hens, 1500 Chickens and 5000 Eggs Lost at F. A. Houle Farm

PELHAM, N. H.—Fire swept through the large poultry plant of Frederick A. Houle at North Pelham, shortly after 4 a. m. today, causing loss that may exceed $6000. The plant, a four-decker, was housed in what formerly was the Marshall barn. It was remodelled into a large poultry house about 15 years ago.

The fire started in the incubator cellar of the plant and has spread upwards through the four levels of the building to the roof when it was discovered at 4 o'clock by Mrs. Donald H. Burton, a sister-in-law of Houle, who lives across the road from the farm. Firemen responding on the alarm, found the fire had spread to the attic of the Houle home, but they were able to prevent any serious damage to the dwelling.

The poultry plant was completely destroyed, however, and with it were lost 1500 hens, one batch of 1500 chickens ready for delivery, 5000 eggs in the process of incubation, grain valued at $150, eggs worth $200, 100 gallons of fuel oil and a considerable amount of equipment.

The poultry alone were valued at more than $2600. Fire Chief Richard G. Mansfield was in charge of the firemen and reported that the loss was partially covered by insurance.