

FAMED ORNITHOLOGIST HOSPITALIZED

Fire ruins Ivor bird sanctuary

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By JIM ROBINSON

An early morning fire Tuesday destroyed the Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary belonging to famed ornithologist Roy Ivor razing his home and killing 21 birds.

Mr. Ivor, who is 91-years-old and recognized as one of Canada's top bird experts, was found standing bare-foot in the snow

Within a few hours of the disastrous fire, businessman Don Homan had set up a fund to raise money for the possible rebuilding of Roy Ivor's sanctuary. For story, picture see page A3.

when Mississauga firefighters arrived on the scene at 6:55 a.m.

Fire gutted Mr. Ivor's single stone frame home and an adjoining building suffered smoke damage.

Mr. Ivor, whose feet may have been frost-bitten, was first spotted at the back of

his house. He was covered with a blanket against the three-degree temperature and was subsequently rushed to Mississauga Hospital to be treated for frost-bite and shock.

Roy Ivor has operated the Winding Lane Sanctuary for many years on Mississauga Rd. opposite Erindale College.

Ontario Humane Society wardens who were dispatched to the scene of the blaze found three birds, all owls, still alive.

The wardens brought the remaining dead birds, including an eagle and a silver pheasant, back to the Humane Society shelter to be cremated.

ESCAPED

One Humane Society spokesman said there was a strong possibility that many other birds had been released or had escaped from the flames before firemen arrived.

The cause of the blaze was not known at presstime.

The Mississauga Fire De-

partment sent two pumpers and 15 men to Mr. Ivor's home. When they arrived they found the house was already gutted.

The adjoining building, where many of the birds were kept, was not destroyed by fire.

However, heat or smoke could be the cause of the death of the birds found inside.

The pumper trucks had some trouble negotiating the 1400 foot entrance to the sanctuary and had to stop 100 feet away from the house as the pumpers could go no further.

Freezing temperatures hampered firemen with steam from the water sometimes confused as smoke.

A fire official said 1400 feet of hose had to be laid from Mississauga Rd. to the scene of the fire to combat the blaze.

The fire was declared under control by 8 a.m.