

Flames Destroy 15 Years' Work Of Scientist

Alpine, N. J., March 13. (AP)—Smouldering ashes held today the secret of Dr. John Clawson Burnett's experiments in medical electronics—15 years of scientific labor in the strange L-shaped, copper-domed laboratory erected on his 400-acre estate on the Hudson river palisades.

Flames believed caused by a short circuit swept the building yesterday. Fire officials estimated damage at \$250,000, but neighbors who surveyed the charred ruins of intricate chemical apparatus and reputedly valuable photographic equipment, believed the loss might amount to millions.

Dr. Burnett and his wife, the former Cora Timken of the roller bearing manufacturing family, were reported in California. The estate, which includes eight buildings, was in charge of servants.

Dr. Burnett, 53, former osteopathic student and Newark sanitarium operator, built the estate 15 years ago shortly after his marriage to the heiress. She designed the laboratory, built without iron or steel which might have affected Dr. Burnett's secret experiments in electronic energy.