

Kent Street's face has been almost entirely transformed in the past seven or eight decades. As a matter of fact there are apparently only three business names on the main street today which were prominent in the days when the stores were fronted with wooden verandahs, when the street illumination was by means of gas, and the wide expanse of roadway was ankle deep in mud.

The three names still prominent are Edwards, Gregorys and McCarthys who advertised they were in hardware, drug, and jewellery business.

There were three hotels, the Benson, Royal, and Irwin, the latter being the Grand Union of today.

In a recent article the names of a number of former bake shops and confectionery stores were listed. These included the name of J. H. Bate who was a pioneer in the business with a store located in the neighborhood of the present Agnew Surpass shoe store.

This gentleman had an up-to-date bakery and confectionery emporium, patronized by many people of Lindsay and district. This fact was attested to by Mrs. W. J. Waite, the former Gertrude Bate, now living on Victoria Avenue at the corner of Regent Street, who is a daughter of the late J. H. Bate.

Gertrude Bate was only four years of age at the time but her memory is still "ever-green" concerning the store, her father, and family.

During the intervening years, Mrs. Waite has contributed a great deal to the history of Lindsay. For several years she was associated with the choir of Cambridge Street United Church, and was a frequent soloist. In her private life, Mrs. Waite was a successful teacher of piano and voice, and hundreds of pupils owe their success in the musical world to Mrs. Gertrude Waite.

Mr. Bate died in his 88th year, which was some twelve years ago. A faded picture Mrs. Waite has shows the confectionery store window. Behind the glass may be seen bread, a large fruit cake, ornamented by Mrs. Bate, as well as other confections.

The picture shows Gertrude Bate, the present Mrs. W. J. Waite and brother Harold, as well as a third person who is unknown. Standing at the window inside the store are Mrs. Robert Bate, formerly of St. Thomas, an aunt of Mrs. Waite. Mrs. Bate has been deceased for several years; also is shown Mrs. J. H. Bate, mother of Mrs. Waite. For some time Mr. and Mrs. Bate made their home with their daughter.

Mrs. Waite is of the opinion that the store next to the Bate confectionery was occupied by a drygoods firm with Nat Kennedy as owner.

The Bate family lived in an apartment over the store and the bake shop was on Regent Street where J. H. Bate worked for his father, also a pioneer baker in Lindsay.

Many pioneer citizens of today, some of them live in other parts of the world, will recall two brothers of J. H.

Bate. They include Bob Bate, well known and somewhat famous in these parts as a baseball player, and also Alf Bate, who was connected with the Citizens' Band as a bass drummer, and who was also connected with the armoury.

The memory of the members of this pioneer family still remains dear in the hearts and minds of Lindsay people at home and abroad.

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Information of an historical nature regarding the octagon house on Peel Street, west of the Salvation Army citadel, will be very much appreciated. This is probably the only house of the octagon design in the entire area. Please telephone 4-2548 or 4-2113.