

ON THE MAIN STREET

with FORD MOYNES

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"Mighty oaks from little acorns grow" is a sentence which is familiar to boys and girls who attended the little red schoolhouse in the wild-wood, and the caption can aptly be applied to the birth and growth of the Victoria and Grey Trust Company, which has its roots in Lindsay, but whose branches now spread throughout Ontario.

The recent acquisition of the British Mortgage and Trust Company has resulted in escalating the local company to the position of having the largest Trust Company in Ontario with 24 branches.

It is within the memory of several shareholders that the original Victoria Loan and Savings Company was launched on the sea of financial business when the first office was at the south-west corner of Kent and Cambridge Streets around 1898. The manager was John Mahood, a meek, mild-tempered man, short of stature and dark of complexion, well mannered and neatly attired.

A few years later a financier named James Low became manager. He afterwards took up residence in Vancouver.

The manager who probably did the most in the way of development of the Company was Charles E. Weeks, a young barrister from Woodville. He met defeat in the political arena when he was a Liberal candidate in Victoria County,

but he endeared himself to many people. When a vacancy occurred in the management of the Victoria Trust and Loan, he was induced to fill the managerial chair.

It was a wise choice. C. E. Weeks was in every sense of the word a gentleman, an eloquent speaker, a beautiful baritone soloist, and of him it could be truthfully said that his word was as good as his bond. He was the personification of sincerity and in him the people had utmost confidence. Under his guidance the Victoria Trust spread its wings.

Closely associated with C. E. Weeks was another highly respected personality Newton Smale. In fact the Company has been blessed with having a number of 'key' individuals, and as a result, the banking and loan business has been greatly increased. Shareholders through the years have enjoyed fattening dividends.

Today the institution has splurged and merged and is looked on very favourably by people as a whole. Lindsay continues to be the head office location of the Company, and the Company has been good to Lindsay.

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Members of the Committee in charge of the forthcoming reunion of the 109th Battalion in Lindsay have received upwards of seventy-five replies

to invitations from originals of the Battalion who anticipate a big time of friendship and fellowship when they meet old comrades.

An invitation has been issued to Lady Eaton who donated the colours to the unit. It has also been arranged to have the colors brought in from the United Church at Omemee, and they will form a foremost part in the decorations at the banquet hall. Friday will witness the reunion dinner in the Canadian Legion Hall when there will be several distinguished guests. Souvenirs will be passed out to the veterans.

On Saturday the Battalion will be the guests of the Lindsay Central Exhibition Board and on Sunday divine service will be held in St. Andrew's Church and a wreath will be placed on the cenotaph in the Library park.

A reader of this column has produced an attractive three coloured covered book which was dedicated to the 109th Battalion many years ago. It contains many fine poems and the author was Captain H. B. MacConnell, Adjutant of the Battalion.

Members of the MacConnell family are living in Lindsay today. They are well and favourably known, namely Mrs. Nell, MacConnell who has been with the Mother's Allowance

and Welfare Department for a number of years as well as her daughter Mrs. Jos. C. Holtom.

The book displays a crest of the Battalion on the front cover, and a number of photographs on the inside pages.