

The short three letter word Fee has been knit and woven into the fabric of historical Lindsay. Back in the year 1877 and previously, there were more than an unusual number of Fee's in the Town Directory and they had much to do with the business and social life of the Town in the days when citizens struggled hard but industriously to make a living and generally support large families.

Lloyd S. Smith of Treasure Island, Florida, a descendant of Thomas Fee and Ann Kingsbury Fee as well as his great grandmother Eliza Kingsbury has been interesting himself in recent weeks in an effort to tie in a number of facts concerning the Fee family. Cemetery records disclose that Thomas Fee died March 20, 1908, aged 78; Ann K. Fee died Jan. 31, 1921, age 86; Eliza Kingsbury died Jan. 20, 1875, aged 74.

History records that the Fee family tree spread its branches in many directions. The Fee's moved from Scotland to Ireland and crossed the Atlantic in old sailing vessels for Canada. Some settled in Quebec and others in Ontario and Victoria County. Two sturdy and thrifty pioneers were Thomas Fee and W. B. (William Blackwell) Fee, Thomas (addressed as Tom) was the elder and a paragraph from an old Lindsay directory reports: "Thos. Fee, Manufacturer of lumber, lath, shingles, doors, sash, blinds, panel flooring. Apparently Thomas Fee was a mill owner and farmer, the farm being located about a mile west of Town on either the old Oakwood road, which is now an extension of Colborne Street or on Highway number 7 immediately West of Lindsay.

W. B. Fee was a very colourful gentleman, a farmer by direct occupation, but also a serious-minded business man.

He ran a farm east and north of Lindsay, which ran into the Scugog River and his son Milton J. Fee worked the farm and lived on it for several years. Mrs. (Rev.) Jean Frederick, Cambridge Street, Lindsay, is a daughter of the late W. B. Fee. Mrs. Frederick is very well and favourably known to many citizens, particularly because of her long and faithful connection with the Queen Street Church and with Cambridge Street United Church where she is a regular worshipper.

W. B. Fee lived for many years on Caroline Street and later on St. Paul Street. W. B. Fee was also listed as a contractor and builder and also proprietor of Victoria Skating Rink on Wellington, East side of Scugog River.

Lindsay was apparently born in the lower part of the South Ward, east of Lindsay street and south of Kent Street east. There was also a goodly popu-

lation in what has been for many years known as the East Ward. The fiery conflagration which swept through the town in 1861 laid low many dwellings as well as many dwellings on the north side of Kent Street. Following the fire considerable development took place in the East Ward, which included a number of business places as well as a couple of hotels. The East Ward also included a number of pioneer log homes. Many being located in what was known as the French Village, a section lying south of King Street and East of St. David Street. These log homes could also be noticed in other parts of the East Ward and there were a few log structures strewn about other sections of the town.

One of the latest of these pioneer homes to lose its identity was located on Mary street a couple of doors east of Lindsay Street. A number of years ago it was completely covered with white clapboard.

The Massaw family and others settled in the East Ward and there were other families of French extraction whose branches spread as marriages took place.

Among the early Fee families to locate in the East Ward were those of Capt. Wm. Fee and his brother Robert Fee. Capt. Fee was an engineer on some of the old side-wheel steamers and also on lumber tugs and Robert Fee was for many years a miller with the Sadler, Weedler and Flavelle Mill, the old stone mill on Kent Street east. Members of the Capt. Fee family included a daughter Cora and a son Bert. Robert Fee's family included: Sarah, now in Calgary; Margaret, deceased, a former school teacher; Bob Fee, lumberman and commercial traveller; Bill Fee, Grand Trunk Engineer and locomotive foreman; Randall, now in California, a former member of the Post printing staff; Mrs. A. G. Dunnet (Ruby) living in Ottawa with her two daughters; Joe of Peterborough, former

clothing merchant in Lindsay. The late Mrs. John Coburn, Caroline Street was a sister of Capt. Fee and Robert Fee.

One branch of the Fee family in Lindsay came to this part of the country from Huntington, Quebec and it is interesting to relate that E. D. Fee of Fee Motors, Lindsay, was a resident of Quebec before moving to Lindsay.

The Directory of 1877 lists a number of members of the Fee clan as follows: Agness J. Fee, tailoress, St. Patrick Street; Miss Elizabeth Fee, tailoress, Caroline Street, north of Queen; Eugene Fee, salesman, Wellington east side of river; James Fee, labourer, King Street; Mrs. Jane Fee, Francis Street; John Fee, labourer, King Street; Mary Fee, tailoress, King Street; Robt. Fee, labourer, Caroline near Queen; Samuel Fee, labourer, Caroline Street.

Another section of the Fee family settled in Emily Township and in Omemee, one familiar name of the past being Isaac H. Fee, for years a keen participant in municipal politics and father of Col. Havelock J. Fee, a soldier who was in charge of the 109th Battalion from Victoria and Haliburton which covered itself with glory in the First World War. Miss Gladys Fee, of Omemee, delights in recalling the days of the Fee family relating to Emily Township and district.