

# On the Main Street



with FORD MOYNES

The idea of a Centennial day in Lindsay during the winter of 1967 has been mentioned by different people who recall the Winter Carnivals of years ago sponsored by the Advancement Club, an organization which today would be likened to the Chamber of Commerce.

Charlie Lucas of Emily Township said there could be a lot of fun if the event was patterned after the carnivals of years ago. "I remember", said Mr. Lucas, "when Tom Middleton placed a large platform on his bon sleighs, when he held a square dance on the sleighs as the parade moved up Kent Street. I played the fiddle and Albert Ashmore, then proprietor of the King Edward Hotel was the caller-off. That Mr. Ashmore was the father of Albert Ashmore of the Ashmore Smoke Shop."

"It was a bitterly cold day," recalled Mr. Lucas, "especially for fiddle playing, but it was sure a lot of fun. Allan Gillies, Delix Forbert, Pat Breen and others were prominent workers in those days.

Incidentally Pat Breen was a tall auburn haired young man who had the foresight to purchase all the pasture lots on what is now Glenelg Street west and the area was named Breenlands.

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An unusual story of historical interest was related by a

Kent Street pedestrian a few days ago. The story was first told by the late John O'Reilly.

Away back when there was a large three storey building at the corner of Kent and William Streets, where the Bank of Commerce now stands, the lower part was occupied as a grocery store. The store became infested with rats and the proprietor was told that they could easily be exterminated. All he had to do was to catch one rat, dip it in coal oil and light a match. He caught the rat, lit the match and the rat failed to get out of the building. A fire resulted which laid the building low except for that portion at the

north end, a three storey brick building now occupied by Carl Brown, Jeweller and on the second storey by Dr. A. Woodrow.

The relater of this story added that he remembered the time when the grocery store was overrun with rats. He added that rats ran across William Street. The late E. A. Gregory had two beautiful terriers at the time and they used to have a rat run every morning.