

“Medical doctors know their medicines and know many people, but veterinary Doctors not only know their medicines and many people but they also know about horses, cows and other animals including dogs.” The observation was made by J. W. McKay, V.S., of Fenelon Falls. “Main Street” met the gentleman at a park bench on William Street and as he was patiently waiting for his good wife to come out of a local beauty parlour, Dr. McKay had plenty of time to chat.

“In the old days a Veterinarian’s job was mostly to doctor horses but today with horses practically being a minus quantity on farms, the Vets. make more money treating and clipping dogs,” said Dr. McKay.

The genial doctor went back in his memory to the days when Dr. Broad, Dr. Rice and the late Dr. Lawrence were busy Vets. in Lindsay. Dr. Broad was particularly interested in race horses and other matter equally interesting. His barn on Peel Street, west of the Curling Rink, was known to the public by a large horseshoe sign with the head of a horse designating the business practiced.

Dr. Rice, it was stated, was the citizen who erected the fine red brick house at the south east corner of Cambridge and Russell Streets. He was the first professional man to introduce the snowmobile in these parts, a vehicle he used and found very convenient as he made calls in the country when sometimes roads were impassible for the ordinary motor car.

Dr. Lawrence practised on Russell Street, near York, where his son is now in business.

Dr. McKay referred to the late Dr. J. Mason, a Veterinary who lived in Fenelon Falls, who became the Conservative Member of Parliament for Victoria in the Provincial House. "There was also a Veterinary at Bobcaygeon, one at Woodville and one at Sunderland and there is still a Vet. at Bobcaygeon."

"It was a common occurrence to receive a call to Donald, Gelert, Kinmount, Gooderham and other places back in Haliburton County and many of these trips were in zero weather when the roads were almost impassible," said Dr. McKay.

"Today the Vets. are kept busy looking after and treating dogs of all sizes and pedigrees. In fact some Vets. gets \$10 every time they cut and trim the dogs of today. They have good kennels and the little pooch and the big police dog or Great Dane get just as much attention as a baby in the hospital at Lindsay. There are a number of women Veterinarians and they do all right," added Dr. McKay, "especially with dogs and cats and other pets."

Having been a resident of Fenelon Falls for half a century the Doctor knows the town and the people "like a book". "There has been a complete change in ownership of stores on the main street in Fenelon Falls," said the Doctor, "but business goes on just the same."

For six years Dr. McKay represented the people on the Council and was also a member of the County Council. He can talk Village politics as well as Parliamentary politics and he appears to know the Hydro-Electric situation in the Cataract Village like unto the

“blue book”. “We have our own power plant and it gets by financially but I guess the large number of homes in the town heated by electricity helps a lot.”

“Fenelon Falls will always be a good place in which to live, for the people are friendly and most of them take pride in the Village,” added the Doctor.