

"The Lindsay Central Exhibition seemed to take on new life in the days of the late B. L. McLean." The speaker was Mr. N. H. Thompson, a resident of Neepawa Street in Ottawa, who was caught in a somewhat reminiscent mood. Mr. Thompson, now retired, visited Lindsay on different occasions when he represented the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa. "Among my ~~jobs was the interesting one~~ of visiting several Fall Fairs, and Lindsay was one of the best in those days," said Mr. Thompson.

"Bert McLean was a colourful gentleman and one who had a fine imagination," continued Mr. Thompson. "The building of the two tunnels under the race track was a great idea. Lindsay Fair has one of the finest grounds of any fair, especially among those I visited for the Government. I understand that the fair is now called on Exhibition and that it ranks fourth among the big Fall Fairs in Ontario."

"I was impressed with the fountain just inside the entrance gates at the Lindsay Fair where the statue of a boy tops a very good sized

drinking fountain. I understand the fountain known as the 'Boy and the Boot' is a replica of one which was somewhat renowned in a city in Europe. The idea of the water emptying from the toes of the boy's boot attracted my attention. I am told that the replica was secured by Manager McLean of the Lindsay Fair Board after it had been used in a campaign by the Toronto Telegram in war days when the Tely sponsored a big patriotic drive for funds to send milk from Ontario overseas."

Mr. Thompson in the course of his Governmental duties visited the Beaverton Fair. He recalled a visit to a hotel in Beaverton which was apparently operated by a family named Hamilton. "I remember the dining room walls were of some special design, probably of solid oak and that the operators of the hotel took special pride in a beautiful set of dishes on which was stamped the Hamilton crest, something like a tree and two crossed axes. If I remember right the dishes came from the Hamilton family in Scotland and the crest marked a special achievement of a man named Hamilton who had per-

formed some outstanding work in connection with cutting roads through a forest, or something of that sort."

Mr. Thompson had a number of interesting experiences while working with the Federal Department of Agriculture. Incidentally he has known Mr. Jim Groves, a Lindsay boy, for a number of years when the latter was associated in a prominent way with the Agricultural Department at Ottawa, as Personnel Manager and also as an Administrator.