

On The Main Street



with FORD
MOYNES

Lindsay Central Exhibition is, to use an old saying, "As old as the hills." The Fair dates back in the memory of Lindsay Senior citizens over 85 years ago but as a matter of fact, it is over 100 years old. Remember the past Secretaries including: James Keith, J. P. Ryley and H. Bethune Black?

The name J. P. Ryley "rang a bell" with one local historian. "I recall J. P. Ryley as a citizen who in his prime of life was identified with several organizations and businesses," said one senior citizen.

"He was associated with the running of the Ingle Planning Mill at the corner of Cambridge and Wellington streets and he at one time operated an old time chicken hatchery in the west part of the south ward. He was interested in horses and as a friend of the late Wes Fanning, Mr. Ryley also had a carriage horse.

J. P. Tuley, who came from Bethany, is best remembered as the Secretary of the Lindsay Fair and also as Division Court Clerk with an office on William Street north in the Greg-Mac block. He was married to one of the well-known family of Mathews of the Mathew-Blackwell packing firm and his son the late George Ryley was associated with the business at Brantford. One daughter Isobelle was married to the late Dr. Mulligan.

What few people are aware however, is the fact that J. P. Ryley was at one time a hardware merchant in Lindsay and it is reported that he bought out a hardware merchant in Lindsay and it is reported that he bought out a hardware store business from a gentleman named John Thexton, the latter was a member of a well known pioneer business family

in Lindsay. The store was apparently located on Kent Street east of the Hotel Benson.

In this connection the writer was loaned a copy of the Evening Post, dated 1891 which contained the closing out advertisement. It was a gem in descriptive language and read as follows:

CHANGE OF BUSINESS

I have recently purchased the Hardware Business of R. D. Thexton at a rate on the dollar, and purpose to carry on a General Hardware Business, in the same store, No. 22 Kent Street, one door east of the Benson House.

I intend to devote my time and attention exclusively to the business, and propose to introduce new ideas, new methods and new prices which will be more in accordance with the progress of the 19th Century than has hitherto been customary in this line of trade.

I cordially invite everybody whether they are builders, carpenters, mechanics, farmers, lawyers, doctors or pound-keepers to call and get quotations of my prices.

This week I am making an extra push on sporting goods, and am prepared to give the very closest quotations on

powder and shot, cartridge and shells, wads, primers and every other requisite necessary for sportsmen.

Sports, come and see me before you buy, and with your permission, I will make pecuniary application that will remove the cobwebs from your optics.

J. P. Ryley,
Hardware Merchant, No. 22 Kent Street.

Lindsay, September 2nd, 1891.

J. P. Ryley is remembered by senior Lindsay citizens as a tall man and in many respects was a "hale fellow well met" individual, interested in many Lindsay activities and engaged from time to time in a number of diversified business undertakings.