

on the **MAIN STREET**



Many citizens of the older vintage simply smile when they listen to residents of today talk about a few degrees below zero, weatherwise. "The storms we have had this winter are mild compared to the real blizzards and the big storms of the early nineteen hundreds."

One former railroader remarked: Back in 1914 in the days when hundreds of Lindsay people depended on the railway business for their bread and butter, snow storms were almost as regular as clockwork. In that winter the rails were imbedded in huge drifts and at times all traffic ceased. Big snow plows traveled ahead of trains and many times they were stuck out in the country for hours, and at times for a couple of days. The coaches were not always well heated and the old pot bellied iron stoves at times were red hot as passengers huddled around to keep warm.

"These were the days when the big locomotives at times failed to reach destinations on time and when big double-headers failed to get even Her Majesty's royal mail through on time, the days when the firemen had to shovel snow into the tender to keep the wheels moving.

Many times passengers had to spend the nights in station waiting rooms heated by one lone stove. There were times when trains were completely blocked "a mile from nowhere" and fortunately were able to keep warm until relief came to their rescue and there were many cold and stormy nights when passengers managed to follow members of the

crew with lighted lanterns to a nearby farm home where they spent the night around a kitchen stove. Those were memorable days but on the whole happy days.
