

Hotels have played a part in the prosperity of Lindsay for many years and it is interesting to note that while there are only five in Lindsay today that the number totalled eight in 1875. They included: The Conway House at the northeast corner of Kent St. E. and Lindsay Street, which was for many years known as the Shier Block. Incidentally this block was the property of Dr. L. Shier, father of Dr. Leonard Shier who at present lives on Kent Street west.

Previous to the purchase of this block by Russell Taylor the building had a somewhat run down appearance. For several years it was occupied by J. A. Cain as a furniture store and at one time the late W. Moody operated an upholstery plant. At the same time the property immediately north of the big brick building was a frame structure and at the north end adjacent to the river a gentleman named Alex. Cullen had a machine shop. With the passing of Mr. Cullen the building was occupied by his daughter, Miss Cullen, the founder of a business college.

There are many people who can recall the time when a gentleman by the name of Mose. Grozelle had a shoe repair shop in the same location. This gentleman was an expert at making shoes and had many satisfied customers.

This building was located on long beams and cedar posts with an old wooden sidewalk at the front. When Mr. Russell Taylor secured the property he levelled the old building to the ground and built the present modern structure.

In the days gone by a photographer named Eli Williamson erected a two storey brick building immediately north of the Shier block and there he operated a photography gallery. As time went on George Brooks became a tenant and was the only taxidermist in Lindsay and for a time had a lucrative business stuffing and mounting birds, fish and other animals which included the preservation of a number of deer heads.

At this time deer hunting parties were numerous and many a hunter took pride in having deer heads mounted and these souvenirs of the hunt we often noticed on a wall in the business office and also over a fire place in private homes.

As years went by this type of business went out of style and George Brooks moved to the Tangney block on Kent Street where he successfully operated a billiard and pool parlor.

It is interesting to note that the playing of pool and billiards was a very popular pastime and that two large billiard parlors were located side by side in the Tangney block. These parlors were open day and night and were especially frequented by young and middle aged men of Lindsay as well as by commercial travelers. At times expert players visited Lindsay and pocketed many a dollar by taking on all comers and by teaching the art to many who were interested. Later operators of the pool room included George Brown and a gentleman named Hogan.

With the advent of the motor car the pool room business began to lag and a couple of billiard parlors closed their doors. The game, however, continues to have many exponents and the tables in the George McCombe place of business on Cambridge Street North, as well as the business operated by Ivan Bryans in the former Williams Cigar Store on Kent Street still flourish.

History records that the Veitch Hotel was located on Kent Street at the south east corner at Cambridge Street and later Mr. Veitch opened a small hotel, known as a little King Edward, which was situated immediately west of the present Century Theatre. A later proprietor was Albert Ashmore and when this hotel closed out the premises were taken over by Frank King who handled General Motors products.

The Albion Hotel was located at the north-west corner of Kent and Lindsay Streets which has been operating under the name of the Royal Hotel for many years. This hotel was under the ownership of Joe McConnell, whose father, Thos. McConnell, a popular curler, went by the name of "Tommy Dodd" and it is reported that the first flush toilet in Lindsay was installed in this hotel.

The Weese Hotel was located at the south-east corner of Kent and York which afterwards became widely known

as the Simpson House. William Simpson was a lover of race horses and his horses could be found on many tracks. A son, the late Arthur Simpson, was the popular manager of the hotel for many years and he was also the financial backer of a number of hockey teams including the Lindsay Midgets, Champions of the Ontario Hockey Intermediate League in 1909.

It is also recollected that another owner of this particular hotel was a man named Albert Jewett. Several years ago the Simpson House became the A. T. Claxton Departmental Store and is still operated under the name of Claxton.

One of the oldest hotels in Lindsay has been known for many years as the Grand. It is located on Kent Street opposite the town hall. For several years this hotel was operated by Jim Cowan, as well as by John Wardrobe and his daughter, Miss Wardrobe. In more recent years it was conducted by the late Bert Ever-

son. It is understood that the hotel was once known as the Market Hotel.

According to history the Lindsay House was situated at the south-east corner of Mill and Kent Street east and S. Mollette was the proprietor. The Lehanes Hotel was located on the north side of King Street between St. Paul and St. Patrick Streets, now the home of Ross Morrow. It is understood that some of the original woodwork in the old sitting room is still on two of the walls.

The Globe Hotel on the north side of Kent, where Woolworths are now located, was run by T. S. McCarthy, proprietor. Later this hotel was operated for several years by an ex-railway man, William Pym and still later became the Elsmure which was named after the Misses Elsie and Muriel Sutcliffe who at the time owned the Sutcliffe Department Store, today Zellers.

Old time records also reveal that there was an hotel at the north-east corner of William

and Peel Streets.

The Central Hotel on William Street south was for many years operated by a man named Carr and later by the Maunder's. There was also a small hotel a few doors south of the Maunder House.

The large brick building at the south-east corner of Kent and Cambridge Streets was the original home of the Veitch Hotel but for many years was operated by a Mrs. Butler and her stepson Richard Butler. The building is now occupied by Fee Motors. Hotel sheds on this property were demolished many years ago to make room for the workshop and garage of Fee Motors.

The large brick building at the corner of King and Lindsay Streets was originally an hotel with Arch Bradshaw as proprietor. Later on this building became the home of the Bryans Lumber Company and still later the office and factory of G. H. M. Baker, operating a sawmill and lumber yard.