

On The Main Street

with Ford Moynes

A striking example of the revolution and evolution in times, conditions and methods in the business world can be illustrated in the old and modern milk vendor business in Lindsay.

How many readers remember the days of such milk men as Dunoon, Murtha, Walker, Hutton, McMullen and possibly others.

Remember the days when Peter Murtha and Davey Dunoon peddled milk almost directly from old Bessie the bovine to the consumers in Lindsay? Fresh milk was carried in a large milk can in the back of a wagon or sleigh. The customer or woman of the house put out a pitcher, a preserve jar and some times a pan. The milk man had a one quart measure and a pint measure dipped the measure into the big can and then into the jar at the kitchen door. The milk man did not worry whether the cat had a good lick at the milk on the door step. That was a long way back before the sterilized fancy milk bottle of today was introduced.

Thos. Hutton was a milk man who was born on a farm west of Lindsay and he was a member of a large family. He was a progressive and industrious individual and when he moved to a high piece of land on the Verulam road he erected a fine brick home and a modern barn. Not content with the meagre profits he started a small dairy business starting with a few head of cattle and a milk route of 10 customers when the set price was 10 cents a quart. He built his patrons up to over 300 and increased his herd accordingly. At the time Tom Hutton stated no one would ever be without milk where there were children but some families had no money and many dozens of quarts were never paid for.

As time went on Thos. Hutton began to take an interest in Municipal politics and served several years as a member

of the Ops Township Council and three years as Reeve.

It is worthy of mention that Joe Hutton, a member of the present Council, is a son of the late Thos. Hutton and that he has been associated



with the milk business from early boyhood days to the present days and is now a member of the staff of Silverwoods. Councillor Hutton's hobby is hockey and he never misses a game of the Lindsay Juniors on home ice.