

FORD MOYNES

# on the MAIN STREET



Little is known about how Lindsay received its name or the name of the Ontario Land Surveyor who had the contract to map the Town, suffice to say that he did a good job.

The grandfather of Dr. Cliff Laidley is reported to have been one of the "chain gang" some 135 years ago. He apparently farmed in the Omegee - Reaboro district and it is said he was only on the survey two short days when something happened, he was handed his pay and that ended the experience.

Remember when the Lindsay fire fighting apparatus was hauled through the streets by a team of beautiful bay horses? Every time the big fire bell sounded a fire alarm, people in the vicinity rushed to the hall to see the heavy set of harness drop from its place on the ceiling and land just on the right place on the backs of the team. The big bays were well trained and

trotted from the stalls to the front doors. An alert fireman, and there was only one permanent fireman on duty, quickly handled a couple of spring snaps and the team quickly left the hall, down the slanting platform and swung on to Cambridge Street. Volunteer firemen dropped whatever they were doing and ran to the rear of the truck and ride behind the galloping horses. Horses and buggies on Main Street were lined up against the sidewalks with their hoofs in the gutter and store keepers and clerks left everything, and all who were their own bosses followed the fire wagon and many onlookers marvelled how the fire truck driver managed to turn corners on two wheels and still keep going. The volunteers under Chief Henry Bell and later under his son Jimmie Bell, were well trained and did a good job.

Old pictures reveal that the

first fire hall in Lindsay was on the south side of Kent Street and was located where Woolacott's store is now situated and that there was a fire bell high up on stilts at the north side of the Academy Street at Kent Street East, as well as another one at St. Paul and King Sts.