

On The Main Street

Jan. 26/67

with Ford Moynes

"G. E." are the initials and proper prefix when mail is addressed to Ted Oke, but the use of "Mr." is seldom, if ever, used in connection with Ted Oke. This familiarity bespeaks the popularity of the gentle-

man who recently announced the sale of the Edwards Hardware Store and his retirement from business. The new owner is Lloyd Wagg, who hails from Uxbridge and learned the hardware business in Brampton.

Ted Oke is a member of a pioneer family with grass roots in the Town of Whitby and in farming district around the County town of Ontario County.

His rise in the business world is backed by experience on the farm, in and adjacent to Whitby, aided by a wealth of experience as a harvest hand on the board expanse of Prairie Lands in Western Canada when he worked with blistered hands with the old and very much experienced farm laborers.

He early learned the angles of business in the home town of Whitby and this experience aided him greatly when he became a clerk in the Edwards Hardware store in Lindsay upwards of forty years ago. He was keen and he was methodical and his liking of business resulted in his securing a personal interest when the store was owned and operated by the late R. E. Stinson.

Later on he secured control of the business and under his personal ownership he was able to develop the business which today is one of the most stable in Eastern Ontario.

Aside from business Ted Oke has taken his place in the community as a former member of the Town Council, a Past Officer of the Chamber

of Commerce, a past officer of the Canadian Club, a member of the Historical Society Executive, a member of the Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite and as an Elder of Cambridge Street United Church.

Ted Oke spends much of the summer months at his cottage at Long Beach, Sturgeon Lake. Although not actively engaged in sports, as proprietor of the Edward Store he has sponsored an annual Bonspiel at the Peel Street Curling rink.

The hundreds of friends of Ted Oke wish him well in his retirement.

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In the month of June the official board and congregation of Cambridge Street United Church will bid farewell to the present incumbent ministers, and at the same time, will welcome two new ministers.

Rev. Hugh Pritchard has announced his transfer to Burlington, and it is authentically reported that the assistant minister, Rev. John Gertridge, has accepted a call to the United Church at Pickering.