

# on the *Jan 29/61* MAIN STREET



Oliver Smith, Ontario Land Surveyor, who passed away on Sun., Jan. 26 at the family residence at 29 Bond Street, when in his prime was widely known because of his professional ability in the Counties of Victoria, Haliburton, Peterborough and beyond.

The late Oliver Smith was one of three generations of Ontario Land Surveyors. For many years the deceased gentleman's father resided on a farm at the eastern outskirts of the Village of Woodville from which place he carried on his profession as a surveyor. Oliver Smith followed in his father's footsteps at Woodville but moved to Lindsay many years ago, the family home being established on Bond Street. Eldon Smith, a son of the deceased gentleman, has been carrying on the business of the firm since the retirement of his father some time ago.

As a Land Surveyor the late Oliver Smith was recognized as one of the best. Business increased with leaps and bounds with the opening up of summer resorts and hundreds of cottage developments in Victoria and Haliburton Counties, and the late Mr. Smith was kept very busy making surveys in various parts of Ontario but particularly in Victoria, Haliburton, Peterborough and Ontario Counties, as well as in Muskoka. The late Oliver Smith was contacted many times to give expert evidence in the courts when property ownerships were in dispute.

The deceased gentleman will be remembered by many for his Christian character. He was for years a faithful church attendant and at times was called on as a lay preacher. His charitable and Christian-like acts included visits to the County Jail and to the County Home where he was always a welcome visitor.

The late Oliver Smith is mourned by his wife, the former Maude McFadyen, and by his sons, Ronald of Montreal, and Eldon of Lindsay.

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Remember a few years ago when the vernacular included the saying "Skidoo" and at times the words which followed were "Get Lost". Today Skidoo is now heard on all

sides and the "perambulating" vehicle can be seen in the hundreds. They are marvelous for getting around and they provide exhilarating fun.

The fore-runner of the Skidoo in Lindsay many years ago was a big Snowmobile and it was the means of transportation for the late Dr. Lawrence, V.S., as he piloted the vehicle over roads piled high with snow drifts and as he made his way up many a farmer's lane when the drifts were so high that fences were buried under the snow.

In the old days snow shoes were popular and one Winter past-time was the organizing of snow shoe parties when a lively number of young men and their best girls wrapped up in heavy clothes, wore large mitts of heavy wool, a toque or fur hat and the feet were encased in warm moccasins. Mr. George Beall, Albert Street, recently recalled a large party of young people snow-shoeing from Lindsay to Pleasant Point, on the Scugog River and gathering at the cottage of Jack Hutchinson. Late in the evening the merry party piled into the Hutchinson sleigh and returned by road. The roads were drifted by snow banks higher than the fences. This was great fun several years ago.

Ancient history is always interesting. Few citizens are aware that years ago there was a Waverly Avenue in Lindsay and it was what is now known as the upper end of Bond Street. It was shown on the Town map and it extended one block from Adelaide to Albert Street. The large brick house at the corner of Bond and Albert Street, which is in the process of being converted into an apartment house by Russell Taylor, was built by a man named Neill McDougall who was the first Sheriff in Lindsay. McDougall had a clever son, a medical doctor, who was so fond of the outdoor life that he took to the forests, lakes and rivers and became an expert guide. He was recognized as the best in the business, so much so that when the Prince of Wales, late King George the Vth, visited Canada and wished to experience some wild life, young McDougall was the choice as a guide.