

Speaker Takes Trip Into Lindsay's Past

LINDSAY (ENS)—Ford Moynes, a free-lance writer, took quite a few members of the Lindsay Kiwanis club down the vista of years when he addressed them on the Lindsay of yesteryears Thursday.

The first Methodist Church was on Wellington Street and the first Presbyterian Church was on Francis Street, he said. The first hall of note was on William Street.

C. L. Baker, one of the Lindsay pioneers, built a block of buildings at the corner of Cambridge and Kent Streets now occupied by the Royal Bank of Canada. He also built an abattoir on Cambridge St. just behind that block.

The first paved street was one block on Kent Street between Cambridge Street and Victoria Ave. The concrete lasted a year. The next paving was asphalt, and it was on William Street north North from Kent Street to Colborne Street.

Among the prominent citizens of those days he singled out Albert Matthews, a former Lt.-Gov. of Ontario and K. C. Woods, a former provincial treasurer of Ontario.

There were also two senators from Lindsay — John Dobson and George McHugh. A grocer, Dobson also sold liquor at the corner of Kent and William Street. McHugh was a farmer and the grandfather of George Hodgson.

Then there was the world-renown military statesman, Sir Sam Hughes, who recruited and despatched the first Canadian Expeditionary Force from Canada during the World War I.

Lindsay, Mr. Moynes said, had also produced some judges of distinction. Hugh O'Leary was sent to Fort William and G. H. Hopkins to Cayuga as judges. John A. Barron was judge in Stratford, Ont., and L.

V. O'Connor was judge in Cobourg.

Thomas Stewart was the founder of Beal Jewellery store.

In the days of old most businessmen cycled to work and Mayor R. M. Beal was no exception. Others among the cyclists were William Flavell, R. S. Porter and George Beall.

Mr. Moynes said: "Mayor R. M. Beal was a great reader, and a pioneer of a mild type of socialism in Lindsay. During his days as mayor, he was respons-

ible for the first paved streets and also the first to introduce modern street lighting.

The first library was in the Grand Trunk Railway depot. Then it was followed by the Mechanics Library on Kent St. Finally it was succeeded by the Carnegie Library which celebrated its 50th anniversary recently.

Mrs. Ellen Sharpe was an active social worker of the original Children's Aid Society, he said.

"One of the first cars in Lindsay," he continued, "was owned by R. L. Morgan who also built the inn at Pleasant Point and operated a yacht on Scugog River and Sturgeon Lake."

The first theatre known as the Opera House was located on the top storey of the present

town hall and it had tiers of seats at the east end.

"There was a small balcony over the east door of the old town hall and from this stand Sir John A. Macdonald addressed the people on his first and only visit to Lindsay," he summed up.