

FORD MOYNES

on the MAIN STREET

Jan. 15/1970



Webster's Dictionary states that a cemetery is a public burying ground and the word public was loosely used. In centuries of the past burial plots or graves were to be found in a corner of the orchard, 'neath or near a tree and many times close to a church. For many years past a small wooden fence enclosed a solitary grave of a child on the roadside near the Village of Argyle. One story states the grave was that of a soldier and another that it was and is the grave of a child.

History records that the first recognized Protestant cemetery in Lindsay, was on the north-west corner of the north ward school grounds and later on the eastern boundary of the town in the proximity of Kawartha Drive. Some of the tombstones from this ground were transported and replanted in Riverside Cemetery.

Tombstones in the old Roman Catholic Cemetery on the west side of Angeline Street south, were removed and erected in the present cemetery on Lindsay Street south.

In years gone by, and not too far back, motorists on the Lindsay - Oakwood highway, often viewed a small graveyard on the old Costello farm, a few yards west of the present home of Percy Chase and close to the Clem Jordan farm. This little burial ground was situated on a green knoll and was also recognized because of a Lilac tree, other trees and short shrubbery. It has vanished. Perhaps some readers could enlarge on this bit of history.

It is reported that the first little log church, followed by

a wooden frame church, was located near the burial ground and that this "edifice" was moved to the line north of the old stone house now on No. 7 highway.

What has become of Mac-Indoo's Cemetery south of Woodville and other old resting places for the dead?

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Remember when there were hundreds of horses and the sturdy and muscular Blacksmith was a hero and a mighty strong man in the eyes of youngsters? When there were a number of "Smithies" in Lindsay and one in every village in the district?

Turning back the pages of memory: Remember wide-eyed boys gazing in the open door of the blacksmith shop, the dark skinned man wearing a leather apron, one long and sinewy arm and big hand holding a pair of tongs which he thrust into the forge and the red hot horse shoe was then thrust into a tub of black dirty water; the showering spark and the red hot shoe which

was doused in the water and the horse shoe was then deftly hammered and battered on the anvil into the right shape.

Remember how the Smithy grabbed the shoe and how he quickly grabbed a big horse's leg and in seconds was fitting the shoe on to the hoof of a sometimes docile and other times a fractious beast? It was heavy work but was simply child's play for the Blacksmith. Many shops in the country were gathering places for idle men and in some instances the shops were political hot beds. The old 'Smithy "under the spreading chestnut tree", as referred to in the old Fourth Reader has long ago disappeared, with the horses as well but memories linger on.

Blacksmiths in Lindsay included Bill Carley with a shop on Kent Street east and Padget in the same location, Jones and later Wallis Battle and Edgar St. John on Cambridge Street south, and John O'Leary on the opposite side of the street; Andrew and Louis Cain on Lindsay Street south; and Ex-Mayor Richard Kylie is reported to have operated a blacksmith shop at the corner of Peel and Cambridge Streets.