

Merchants on the south side of Kent Street between William and York Streets held "sidewalk sales" last Saturday and reports speak of the success of the idea. However, it was noticed that the local police paid a number of visits to the scene apparently to see that the displays were "within bounds" and not cluttering the walk and not dangerous to pedestrians.

There was a time when some merchants filled a wide area with merchandise and in the days when grocers and fruit merchants sold peaches, pears, plums and cherries by the basket which in many cases occupied a lot of sidewalk, few citizens complained — it was the common thing to do.

There was a fly in the ointment when complaints were stacked on the police by merchants in other lines of business and finally some political minded member of the Town Council had a bylaw passed forbidding the practice. Cluttering the street with merchandise was, and is, forbidden. Kent Street in a sense had its face lifted and a modern air was adopted and approved.

Many citizens can recall the days when the Haliburton train stopped at Kent Street in order to allow people from the North to "disembark" and save the long walk from the GTR station to William and Kent Street. These were the "good old days" before Henry Ford created the Model T car.

Kent Street took on a decidedly new aspect when merchants were strictly forbidden to pile tall rows of fruit baskets at the curb. These were the days when every visitor to the Lindsay Fair from the North always "trotted home" with a large basket of peaches or pears. These were the days when the "little woman" was veritably in her glory "doing down" her favorite preserves.

Gone are the days of home made preserves, beautiful jellies and even grand pickle makers, and fortunate the family which is blessed with a good cook and one able to do down preserves.

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Shepherds, according to the Bible, "guarded their flocks by night" against prowling beasts of the field. Many

shepherds apparently carried long sticks with a "crook" at one end and these were referred to at time as divining rods. A few years ago a number of farmers and well diggers in the local area prided themselves on being able to locate deep water wells by means of a small gad from the orchard cherry tree. In fact some farmers were reported to be quite adept and skilful with the use of the cherry gad — and were hired to locate water on the farm, or in the rear garden of town homes.

The trick or idea was to grasp the gad tightly in both hands and start walking. When the "expert" felt the gad twisting in his clenched fists — that is when he stopped walking and told the well digger to start drilling. Down went the steel shaft, sometimes fifty feet and invariably the water trickled or poured out.

Among the champions of the "divining gad" or rod, in the Lindsay district was a farmer at Mt. Horeb or Hill Head, east and south of Lindsay. He was a man held in high esteem and he located many wells by the use of the divining rod. Today more scientific methods are employed.

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Vern Powers, a Lindsay boy, who lived for a number of years in Toronto and is now a resident of Toronto, as a lad, recalled a few days ago that when he was a lad his father ran a bake shop, a confectionery store and a dining room, which at the time was located on the west side of William Street, two doors south of the present Drury store. Alex. Fisher ran a grocery store at the corner of Peel and his popular clerk was Neil McFadyen. The terrace, or block, included a number of family dwellings.

It is also reported that Dr. Kenny had a veterinary office in the same block. The terrace is one of the oldest in

Three other well qualified veterinaries were known as Dr. Broad, Dr. Rice and Dr. Lawrence. Dr. Broad had an office at his residence on Peel Street, immediately west of the curling rink. Dr. Rice worked from his home at the corner of Cambridge Street

south and Russell Street, and Dr. Lawrence on the corner of Russell and York Streets, where his son has been doing business for a number of years.

Dr. Rice was the first citizen of Lindsay to introduce the snowmobile which he used extensively in the days

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when the winters were long and cold and snow drifts were by the hundreds and pitch holes were deep and dangerous.