

"Pollution". The word is being tossed around in all parts of the hemisphere and the volumes of gas fumes pouring out of auto tail pipes today has professors and scientists working "around the clock" in an effort to create a "gas-fumeless" motor. In the meantime a couple of Toronto University students are working on another fumeless motor — electric.

Forty and fifty years ago two Lindsay men were greatly interested in a car propelled by electricity. One was a machinist named Webster who had a bicycle and machine shop on William Street, north, immediately next to the Daily Post building and the other was a young man named Sadler who lived with his parents on St. David Street. The car was topless and had no swing doors. The driver almost sat over the small one cylinder engine and the gears were shifted by an upright stick. The chain drive was exposed to view as the dash board was small and quite convenient. The horn was actually a large rubber bulb which the driver squeezed with his fingers and the sound was like the bleating of sheep. But the contraption ran and on roads which were rough and dusty.

One of the first businessmen able to buy these early but improved cars was the late Dr. J. A. White and another was the late Dr. Herb Irvine. Another car pioneer was a garage operator L. A. Race of Race Motors, who was a pioneer in the business in a town in Western Canada. Two of the largest automobiles in the early days of automobiles were owned by Ex-Mayor R. M. Beal and the late Chas. Squires, the first mentioned gentleman operated the Beal Leather Company along with his son Arthur P. Beal, Adelaide Street. Mr. Squires operated the Squires Pea Factory at the corner of Russell and Victoria Avenue, Lindsay. Incidentally Sir Sam Hughes owned one of the first cars in Lindsay which was also one of

the first to travel up and down the rocky roads of Haliburton in election days. The late Dr. H. A. Nesbitt, dentist, drove one of the first Ford cars in Lindsay and later on one of the first Buick cars.

Among the first auto dealers in Lindsay was Jos. A. Carroll, who had a dealership with a car on display in the building at the south-west corner of Kent and Lindsay Streets. Fred Thomas had a garage and a Hupmobile show room south of ~~5~~ on William Street. Isaac Solomon Grey Dor. Street where he ran a horse and buggy livery for many years.

Thos. Arnold had the first McLaughlin-Buick agency and Madison and Charles Williams the first Ford dealership. Guy Tripp of Omemee was the pioneer Overland dealer in Lindsay and built the garage at the corner of Cambridge and Peel Streets.

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Seldom does one notice a man spitting on the streets of Lindsay. This filthy habit was lawed against many years ago. It was the late chief of Lindsay's one - man police force who once remarked that in all his days "walking the beat" on Kent Street, he loathed to see a man expectorate on the sidewalk or in the gutter. He welcomed the day when a town bylaw forbid the

habit, and yet he warned many an infractor, instead of hauling him into court. Many a man chewed tobacco in much the same way as a cow chews its cud, and to some the habit was harder to break than drinking. Former Chief Short always warned an offender.

Probably very few remember the old brass cuspidor, or spit-toon, one of the ornaments in the old hotel bar. They are collector's items today and this was evidenced recently when the writer saw one of these articles in the Victoria County Museum. Here let us digress a second to advise readers to drop in at the local museum. The 50 cents admission is well worth the coin and the Society needs the money.

Former bar room frequenters recall the big brass spittoon. There were usually three or four handy, and spitters could expectorate with accuracy, some times as far as 10 feet. If there was a ping noise then the customer knew he had hit the mark. The closing of the old bar room was a good idea but it spelled the end of a "beautiful" dream for many a "chewer".

It was at times amazing how some bartenders could produce a tall glass of beverage, topped with froth, and slide the tumbler down the glossy mahogany bar with an accuracy in which never a drop was spilled.

Genial hotelman, Joe McConnell had a beautiful large police dog that did everything his master told him to do. The animal could pick up a quarter off the bar make a trip to the cash register, push a tab and deposit the coin in the till.

Sometimes to the annoyance of a neighbor, who ran a store on the opposite side of Kent Street, the dog at his master's bidding ran across the street and picked up a man's boot or a straw hat and carried the article back to the hotel and to Mr. McConnell.

Incidentally an item in an old edition of the Daily Post credits Thos. McConnell of

the Royal Hotel as being the first man to install a "modern" bath tub and flush toilet in Lindsay. It is stated that he bought the article while on a visit to the city of New York.