

It is coincidental that a number of years ago two important societies in Lindsay, of major importance, were known as the Home for the Aged Society and the Children's Aid Society. Both held meetings in the large brick house facing on Victoria Avenue at the corner of Glenelg Street. Incidentally this building was at one time McCarty's Hotel and for many years after the hotel closed its doors the place became a boarding house, especially patronized by railway men.

History records the information that the entire block was at one time a baseball field surrounded by a high board fence. Kids were not allowed in the field unless they produced a nickle. Some of them peeked in at the game through knot holes.

The original Children's Aid Society was in the same building and became known as a shelter, when a tall and dark thin faced woman, Mrs. Ellen Sharpe was in charge and was also the truant officer in Lindsay. This position was not a popular one, but Mrs. Sharpe did a tremendous job.

Years afterward the position of secretary was in the capable hands of Mr. Alex Clarke and he filled the position well. Alex Clarke was a merchant sailor in the days before men's suits were manufactured in factories. This gentleman was also popular as the organizer and operator of free Sunday night song services held in the Academy Theatre, when the building was packed and when the audience sang "loud and long" the old time hymns, unfortunately seldom heard today.

Recently signal honour was bestowed upon a very worthy local citizen, Allan Blewett, a gentleman who was for many years superintendent of the C.A.S.

In fact he was a tremendous worker and a good friend to hundreds of people, young and old. This gentleman was signally honored when it was decided to name the Society building on William Street, the Allan Blewett building. This gentleman is the son of a prominent citizen of the past, Capt. Ned Blewett, who was a pioneer steam boat captain in the days when large and small steamers and rags plied the waters of the winding Scugog River and contributory lakes. Allan Blewett was at one time a Lindsay merchant when he operated a grocery store on Lindsay Street south. He did not be-

come a joiner of fraternal societies but he has been a faithful member of Cambridge St. United Church for several years. Allan Blewett has had as a worthy helpmate through the years his devoted wife, the former Olga Staples, a daughter of the late Joe Staples, who will be remembered by hundreds of people as the owner of a grocery store at the corner of King and St. Peter Streets. Orchids to Allan Blewett.