



On The Main Street

with Ford Moynes

Begg Bros. operated a soda water and soft drink plant in Lindsay upwards of 100 years ago and Jim Begg was a "man about town". In fact he was a town councillor and also was held in high esteem as mayor.

Definitely in the limelight as a public spirited citizen he followed his tenure of office as mayor by being induced by the Liberal party to offer his services as a Member of Parliament but fell by the wayside after an onslaught of Conservatives.

His busy career also included the honorable and digni-

fied position of Deputy-Grand Master of the Masonic Order in the district of Victoria. In fact he received signal honor by being the Founder of the Gothic Masonic Lodge No. 608 Grand Lodge of Ontario.

All this preamble leads up to a discovery made a few days ago by a resident of Beaverton. This gentleman was digging up an old Canadian National Railway track and was three feet down in mother earth when he unearthed a pop bottle which bore the embossed label of the Begg Soda Water Works of Lindsay. The label was topped with the replica of the Begg bottle. Being buried three feet down, the article is believed to be of very old vintage.

Coincidentally it can be stated that a brother of James Begg was a pioneer in the dealership of General Motors cars when the Begg Sales outlet covered an entire business block, the largest agency in Western Canada. This sales gentleman began his business career as a sales clerk in the drygoods store of the late Ald.

E.E.W. McGaffey in Lindsay. A brother, Herb Begg, played hockey in Lindsay before becoming a partner in the automobile business in B.C.