

Once again delving back into Lindsay's historical past it will be interesting to note that the first Private school was apparently in a frame house immediately west of St. Paul's Church on Russell Street. In 1875 there were only three hockey teams in Ontario — Lindsay, Peterborough and Orillia. Four of the Lindsay players at that time were Tom Sadler, one of the founders of the Sadler - Flavelle Mill, known as the Grist Mill on Kent Street East; Bucky Knowlson. Dice Barr, who was familiarly known as one of the original football stars in Toronto and Jack McMillan, one of the best curlers at the time who met a tragic death when employed in the Flavelle Bros. Mill on Kent Street East.

The first waterworks for fire protection was a pump house at the side of the saw-mill. The pumps were run by Pete Forbert, a Frenchman, Tom Sadler and apparently this was also the source of supply for plants and flowers etc. for weddings and funerals.

The first waterworks' plant engineer was a man named Bigbee who lived on Huron Street and then moved to the corner of Lindsay and Glenelg.

Apparently one of the first schools in Lindsay was on Cambridge Street South, now the location of the Bus Terminal. This was also at one time the home of the Watchman-Warder.

A newspaper article also contains the information that one of the first schools in Lindsay was on Francis Street, opposite the Court House and two of the teachers were Miss

Holtorf and Samuel Armour.

It is also revealed that the Roman Catholic rectory and priest's home was filled with apples, grapes and berries and the property extended north to Kent Street East. At the same time the town playground in winter was Lander's Hill on Mill Street. Sleighs started at Russell Street and crossed Ridout, turned at Kent East and shot between two boat houses across the river.

It is reported that Father Laurent built a high bob that held ten. Friday and Saturday nights the run was lit by lanterns hung on the fences, and boys and girls slid down the

hill on old boiler lids, wash-tubs, dishpans, anything at all.



History records that Lindsay had a hotel called the Veitch House and it was located where Lloyd Flack, Optometrist is situated today. The hostelry was later called the Little King Edward and the proprietor was Albert Ashmore, father of Albert Ashmore, Kent street tobacconist. The hotel was followed by an automobile agency in charge of the late Frank King. Where the movie picture house is today, was once located a store operated by the late Jake Houzer. The building occupied by Kent Cleaners was in the old days a bakery and confectionery store owned by A. B. Terry, father of Mrs. Harold McMullen, now a resident of Bond Street.

The location of Bowes and Cocks, Realtors, was originally a furniture store and funeral home in charge of a man named Holtorf. For many years the same site was the home of the Watchman-Warder.

Before men's suits were manufactured by large Toronto firms, there were a number of tailors in Lindsay and they were experts in the trade. Geo. A Milne had a shop west of the present Pulver store and Andrew Cathro had a store where Henry Houzer is situated today. Alex Clarke was another merchant tailor on Kent Street and Lou Wickett had a tailor shop on William street north and many friends remember seeing Lou Wickett sitting on a long table, his legs crossed under his body as he made suits to measure. There were several bolts of cloth to make a selection from. This stand was also popular with newly initiated members of the Masonic

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Order, where they were coached in the ritual.

About the same time and long before, the firm of Dundas and Flavelle, with a large store, now Walkers, had three or four tailors all busy making men's suits and overcoats. There was no importing of clothing from Toronto or Montreal. Clothing repair men included Charlie Davidson and Billy Warriian. Another big operator, making and repairing suits was Albert Blair with a store along the west side of Elsmure Lane. Alex Clarke was a professional tailor and became known as Billy Sunday when he organized and conducted sacred services of song in the Academy theatre.

As time passed he became secretary of the Children's Aid Society.

Jack McAdam was a tailor and also was active in baseball circles when Lindsay was in the Midland league. McAdam was one who was instrumental in bringing Geo. Little from Kingston to Lindsay to play baseball and Little became the operator of the Little Booke Shop, a name well known in Lindsay today. Little was also exceptionally skillful as a curler and as a golfer.

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In 1889 John L. Sullivan, one of the greatest champion pugilists of all time, was a victor in one of his great fist-cuff battles, a match fought with bare fists. The big elongated master in the sawdust ring, before the canvas was introduced, lasted many rounds previous to the introduction of the 15 round battles.

Many years ago Sullivan passed through Lindsay and he travelled in his own private coach. The late Sam Howe used to recall the event, when he told of a large throng of people gathering at the old Grand Trunk railway station on William Street south, just to catch a glimpse of the popular champion.

The writer remembers a visit to a small village near Buffalo, N.Y., and a side trip to the barn or shed where Sullivan used to train. A set

of rings still hung from the rafters, rings used by the champ when preparing for his big bouts.

Lindsay never had many expert boxers or wrestlers. However when the Kiwanis Arena was first operated a number of boxers and wrestlers were brought to town for exhibition matches.

It was a big effort for the promoters, the erecting of large substantial platform snugly fastening the four corner posts and the securing of the rope which surrounded the high stage. A number of wrestling matches also attracted large and enthusiastic crowds. The attendance increased when the bouts were moved to the Armoury.

Excitement and fervor increased when local contestants appeared in the ring. The best local wrestler was Art Wileman and the popular boxers included Les Richmond, Percy Houzer and Lloyd Burrows. Probably a number of readers will remember the name Lou Marsh, Sports' Editor for the Toronto Daily Star, who visited Lindsay many times as a hockey referee and also was in Lindsay as a referee in the boxing ring.

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Lindsay citizens and the many and varied institutions have been well served by various utilities, especially regarding matters pertaining to health and welfare. There are very few objections to the payment of bills in connection with the continuous supply of water and light and to the

commissioners, managerial supervision and the work of general helpers has been unflagging and freely given. It took many years of hard work by members of the old Board of Health, by members of the waterworks board and hydroelectric commission before the present boards established a degree of perfection in management and operation of services.

Years ago members of these boards were besieged to buy more water power from a source at a small falls near Norland but they apparently wisely decided against the idea. At another stage of power development inducements were made to take over a small power unit at Bobcaygeon and this too was turned down.

Many decades ago Lindsay ratepayers voted down the plan to purchase part of the Seymore power outlet, handled through interests at Peterborough and Burleigh Falls. Apparently the public affairs of the town were ably handled by public spirited ratepayers years ago, probably just as efficiently as members of boards today.