

On The Main Street

Citizens who were in the public eye years ago, but who have been forgotten, include:

Bert McLean, who was an insurance agent for the Mutual Life and a good one. On the side he became a horse trader and he was equally good in that one time important community life. This gentleman was a salesman and he was a man of persuasive talk. This asset protruded him into local politics and he first served as chairman of the Board of Education for a term and was later elevated to the town council and became mayor.

B. L. McLean "made money" when his political friend, General Sir Sam Hughes placed him in the position of buying horses at the outbreak of World War One. He shipped horses by the car load to different army camps in Ontario.

This same ambitious citizen was a Kiwanis Club President, but his greatest contribution to the district was when he was a director and later manager of the Lindsay Central Exhibition and when he negotiated a contract with the own-

er of the Conklin Midway. This was not a short one-year contract but a five-year agreement in writing and the Conklin Shows have been the big midway attraction ever since. Bert McLean had two sons and one daughter, and one of his boys, Jim McLean, sacrificed his life for his country in World War II.

There were other McLean families in Lindsay including another by the same name, D. J. McLean, who also served as mayor. This gentleman was originally a farm lad from the Manchester - Prince Albert area. As a citizen of Lindsay he served on the waterworks board for several years before becoming mayor. As a business man, D. J. operated a wheel factory on Cambridge Street North, in the premises now occupied by the George McCombe, popular billiard parlor.

Another McLean family was centred around three sons, Jack, who was associated with the Squier fancy pea factory once at Victoria Avenue and Russell Street; Bruce worked as a miller in the Dundas and Flavelle stone grist mill on Kent Street East, and Stanley was a druggist with a pioneer Lindsay druggist, W. A. Gregory.

The McLean's made a fine contribution to the Lindsay of yester years.