

One of the best known Lindsay families a few decades ago was that of William Barnsley and Bill as he was familiarly known, was a popular conductor on the Grand Trunk line with Haliburton village as the busy spot in the north.

Conductor Barnsley had no trouble being elected to town council where he served faithfully and well for several years. Genial, smiling and obliging, conductor Barnsley always "made the grade".

In conversation with conductor Barnsley's son Warry of Oshawa, it brought back many memories, like the days when Fred Reeves, a burly and good looking six footer, was a member of the Lindsay constabulary and became operator of a first class pool and billiard parlor in the Tangney block. Pool and billiards were recognized as games of skill and good players were plentiful.

The influx of the automobile and the picture house gradually captured the fancy of people and pool and billiards suffered a decline, but many people still claim this pastime is one of the best today and adepts at the game are to be found daily in Lindsay's two well run establishments, the George McCombe parlor on Cambridge Street and the Ivan Bryans parlor on Kent Street.

Mr. Barnsley recalled in an interesting manner the days when Joe McConnell ran the Royal Hotel and McConnell's beautiful police dog "Buddie". This canine obeyed his master's voice and commands.

Buddie was trained to pick up a 25 cent coin, even after the coin was hidden — the dog knew the smell of the shilling and it was trained to pick up a coin off the floor or on the counter, carry the coin to the cash register, open the

register with one paw and drop the coin into the till.

In the same period of time, Jake Houzer had a men's store at the south-west corner of Kent and Lindsay Streets when merchandise was displayed in front of the store. McConnell would command the dog to walk across the busy street and bring back a straw hat or a man's boot and the intelligent dog obeyed. The McConnell bar became the counter in the restaurant and was a popular eating place, especially after a hockey game in the old rink, which was located on Lindsay Street south, close to Kent Street.

Conductors Barnsley, White, Fall and Thompson were popular on the 'Haliburton Special' the train which transported hundreds to Lindsay before the automobile came into production. There are many readers who will recall the railroad days and popular conductors like former town councillor Bill Barnsley.