



On The Main Street

With FORD MOYNES

WOODVILLE

This lovely village has for many decades been one of the brightest gems in the history of the County of Victoria. This village has been the home of a countless number of very fine people and many illustrious citizens were born here, and received their early education in the old public school. Many fought for Canada and the Empire as soldiers in two World Wars and some of them shed their blood in the cause of Freedom and Liberty.

Among the bulwarks which have continued to withstand the stress and strain of well over a century, have been two very worthy Christian edifices, the old Methodist and now the United Church and the Presbyterian Church, and it is worthy of note that the United Church is about to observe a long and glorious record of over a century of active work in community and church life.

Turning back the pages of history, the writer can recall the old time Christmas concerts, when it was the custom to erect rows of hard wooden planks on the pulpit platform, when the pulpit was placed against a wall and choir chairs removed.

Boys and girls thrilled their parents when they stepped forward to "speak their piece".

Remember the girls in their pink dresses and their hair hanging down in pig-tails and the boys with stubborn hair slicked down with soap. Heavy boots were polished and long stockings firmly fastened with

rubber bands from the pickle jars and with elastic bands covered with cloth?

Every kid had to recite or sing a ditty. Then some man stood up and said that Santa Claus was near and everybody in the Church turned around to watch the little old be-whiskered bundle of joys find his way down the aisle to the Christmas tree. The tree was stripped of presents and Santa always had a present for every boy and girl.

It is interesting to learn that the ladies of the Church are at the present time preparing the history of the Church and in doing so have discovered that among the boys who attended the Church were three Moynes' brothers, and that for several years Mrs. John Moynes was organist. Other members included a gentleman named Cavalrey, a merchant; also C. E. Weeks, a lawyer.

Staunch members of the Church included the Hancock family, the Coad family of Lorneville, and the Grills' family of Argyle.

Woodville had three hotels,

several fine stores, a blacksmith shop, a woodworking shop, a grist mill, a railway station, a stone jail and a constable.

Simon Dumant was the constable; Adam Staback was the postmaster and C. E. Weeks, the lawyer. Murray Wilson was a stern man, but a mighty fine teacher.

McKee ran the butcher shop and Ainsworth was the hotelman at the east end of the main street. McLachlan was the grocer and Faed was a druggist. The conversationalist was a barber; Hepburn, or Hepinstall and Roy Ferguson were well known newsboys. These are a few names which will no doubt bring back memories.