

On The Main Street

With FORD MOYNES *ed: 28/72*

Remember George Brooks, at one time owner and operator of a taxidermist place of business on Lindsay street north, where the McQuarrie and Hill Law office is now situated?

Remember the large stuffed and mounted deer heads, the big long fish and mounted birds which graced the walls?

It seemed the custom some years ago to have deer heads mounted, especially if they were topped with horns. For a time these moth-gathering deer heads could be seen on many parlor walls, usually over the fire place.

Remember the large black bear hides, head and claws which adorned the parlor floor to be stumbled over?

George Brooks was a busy man in those days. When that type of business petered out then George Brooks became the proprietor of a billiard parlour in the Tangney block and this was a profitable business. There were a few "sharks" around to take care of the "eager beavers" but there was very little "bamboozelers".

Billiards and pool was a scientific game and still is. It was a popular pastime and a player could play and let the low man pay or it was fun and experience to play for higher stakes. It was recognized as a gentleman's game.

Remember George Brooks as a curler? He was very good at the game and was called the gentleman curler because every time he brushed off the stone he followed by standing erect in the "hack" and invariably touched the peak of the hat with his fore-fingers before delivering the rock, as if saluting the skip.

One thing that only members of the Masonic fraternity remember about George Brooks is that he knew the memory work so well that he became one of the tutors for beginners. He was quite an individual.
