



On The Main Street

With FORD MOYNES

Nov 21 1918

Two words seldom heard in today's vocabulary are "sleuth" and "cop" and the word "detective" is not heard today as much as several years ago. The word cop meaning an officer of the law, was in every day use, as was the word policeman. Lindsay had a number of courageous policemen but it was not unusual to have the town of 8,000 policed by one man in the day time and one man at night.

The name of John Short stands out above all the rest. He was over the average height and when he wore his persian lamb hat in the winter months he looked four inches taller; it was a high wedge shaped piece of fur. Fur gauntled to match. At times after making an arrest the gloves were hard to find and an onlooker often kicked the gloves into a convenient snow bank.

In the days of bar rooms brawls there were many crowds of people gathered to "see the fun", but it was never much fun for the policemen especially when he encountered tough guys and there were many, especially after men returned from shanties in the northern woods.

The first place many lumber jacks gathered after spending weeks and months

in the bush was in the hotel bar room where they met old friends and as long as they had money to spend they had friends. As a rule the fine lumbermen had already turned over a thick wad of green backs to the little woman with the long white apron in the home kitchen.

These were good days and the camps in the main were good fellows who loved their wives and were particularly fond of their children. One little old lady remarked "I well remember when Daddy came home from the camp and he always handed over his money to his wife and she, like the good soul she was, handed a bill or two back "to treat the boys."

Saturdays were the big days of the week and if Johnny weaved his way home after the bird crowed the little woman generally managed to sober him up so that he could attend church with the family. If Johnny could sing and he was in good voice he joined loudly in the old hymn "Rescue the Perishing", "The Old Rugged Cross", "The Lily of the Valley", "Shall We gather at the River", "Abide With Me" and other favorites.

Perhaps a few of these old hymns might be interspersed with the modern hymns of today — Then the congregation might really sing.