

On The Main Street

Many thousands of Canadians "were tuned in" retently listening to stories concerning Sir John A. McDonald, one of the founders of Canada.

One of the finest tributes came from the lips of another great Canadian statesman, Hon. John Diefenbaker, who has many times been termed one of the country's finest statesmen.

Sir John, while in his prime, visited Lindsay and the late Sam Howe Sr., a local tinsmith, used to talk about walking to the old Grand Trunk Railway Station at the south end of William Street, just to get a closeup glimpse of McDonald's special coach, and following the crowd to the town hall and listening to Sir John as he spoke to a large gathering of citizens.

The address was delivered from a small balcony at the south-east corner of the Hall. Mr. Howe added that the tall windows on the Kent Street side of the Hall, second storey resembled the windows in the first Parliament Buildings.

As was the custom whenever notable people visited Lindsay, school children were granted a holiday and the holiday was observed in schools in the villages and in the country. It was the custom to decorate store fronts and erect long banners across Lindsay's 100 foot wide main street. Street decorations included rows of small cedar and pine trees and store windows displayed large pictures of McDonald and of the illus-

trious Queen Victoria "the good".

It was a gala attraction long remembered by the people in "the good old days".

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