

Long ago but memories linger on. July 1st has "come and gone". Confederation Day, better known as Dominion Day, does not have the glory, noise and thrill for Lindsay citizens today when the celebrations of the past are recalled.

For several years the Independent Order of Oddfellows planned and carried out big celebrations. The calithumpian parade was an exciting feature when merchants, manufacturers and tradesmen spent many hours preparing floats and vied with each other for prizes.

The morning parade attracted thousands of people to Lindsay's fine main street. Two or three brass bands entertained the throng and also competed for excellent prizes. Kent Street was decorated with evergreen trees and banners were suspended across the street. Clowns entertained the children and boys and girls darted away from parents to pick up grab bags.

The parade over, many an onlooker hurried to get a seat in Terry's or McWatter's ice cream parlours — the days when long glasses of sodas and ice cream dishes were heaped to the top and overflowed with froth. The straws in the soda drinks always collapsed in the fingers but there was always a generous bit of ice cream to finish off a delicious soda.

How many can recall the days when Mom made homemade ice cream and how many men, then pesky urchins, remember licking the sides of the freezer can?

How many readers had the thrill of helping the storekeeper make ice cream, pounding the ice around the can into a lot of salt and then waiting for the first dip of the delectable frozen food?

How many recall band nights in the park when the entire family sat on park benches or perhaps walked up and down the park sidewalk? When the band finished a number of people clapped their hands and motor car owners honked horns. For many the band concerts were not long enough but not so for members of the band who were not paid for their services. The Band received an annual grant from the Town Council and this body of men were never very generous spending the taxpayers' money on brass bands.

Lindsay had a number of first class bands. Four of the trombone players at the time were Jack Bradshaw, Charlie Davidson, George Carruthers and Fred Martin. Other players in this band were the Ingle Brothers, "Toot" Wynn, Harry Stoddart, Art Hooper on the kettle drums and Alf Bates on the big bass drum. Herb Harry and Fred Taylor were in the clarinet, piccolo and flute section and Hec and Art Cuthbert were in the horn section.

Pat Jakins, a barber, was one of the finest musicians and played the brass horn, a reed instrument and was also occasionally on the drum . . . These were the days when bandsmen were not docked a day's pay when absent on parade. The "Good Old Days".