

Horticultural Societies in Lindsay have been born several times and the fact that another birth of the organization has recently taken place brings to light that the late Thos. Beall, grandfather of Lindsay's citizen, George Beall, can be said to have been the founder of horticulturalism in Lindsay.

Actually he was a greater lover and gardener of fruits and vegetables, but many decades ago he visited many towns in Ontario as a representative of Government, interested in promoting Horticultural Societies.

Aside from this bit of history the same Thos. Beall is authentically reported as having been the gentleman who had a great deal to do with planning Lindsay's beautiful Riverside Cemetery.

Thos. Beall, who planned and developed the lovely Beall estate on Albert Street South was more interested in fruits and vegetables, while his good wife was a dedicated lover of flowers.

The Lindsay Directory of 1877-1878 contains the following reference to: "The Lindsay Horticultural Society has been organized eight years. Fairs are held in July and September of each year. Rev. D. Smithett, President; Gerard H. Hopkins, Secretary."

There are historical stories of past Lindsay Horticulturists that gives the names of highly esteemed Lindsay citizens of the dim and distant past who were the pioneers in the urge to make Lindsay beautiful.

Recently the Lindsay Horticultural Society was reborn and it is timely that pioneer lovers of a beautiful Lindsay should be mentioned.

There was a period in Lindsay's history when E. E. Maxsom, an Englishman, started a flowerland where the present Hick Greenhouses are now located. He was a pioneer in the business.

C. H. Hughan, by trade a watchmaker and kreeler, was also a lover of flowers and for many years had a greenhouse on Kent Street West, directly west of the home and office of Dr. W. Crowe near Sussex Street.

It is recalled by Mr. Bruce McCarty, of McCarty's Jewelry Store, that in the days when he was a boy attending the South Ward School, that he and all pupils in the classroom were handed small packages of seeds and told to grow Asters. This was a school project and boys and girls received their first lesson in horticulture.

Asters sprouted in many a garden and boys and girls actually vied with each other in friendly competition. The boy and girl gardeners watered and cared for these Asters and then placed "the fruits of their labor" in competition at a flower show held in the Town Hall. The result was that many young people developed "a green thumb" which, in innumerable cases,

is still green. This is an idea which might be reintroduced in Lindsay in an effort to make the town more beautiful.

Lindsay lovers of flowers and successful amateur Horticulturalists include: Tompkins, a gardener on Elgin Street north; R. G. Corneil, Adelaide Street; Mrs. Lodge; James Gravestock, Felix Forbert, and others, while Mrs. A. R. Warner, Elgin Street, has a reputation as a very successful grower of myriads of beautiful flowers.

Harry Norton, who lived on Melbourne Street, was an expert at cultivating flowers and another sideline included the operating of an incubator chicken hatchery in the cellar of his home, fitted with expensive incubators.

His relaxation was lawn bowling and for some time he manicured two or three bowling greens on his lawn. He became one of Lindsay's best bowlers and was well known as a bowler when he and the late Charles Bell were engaged in tough competition in district tournaments and in provincial matches in Toronto.