

In the dear, dim distant days

6 JAN. 1965

**OVER FIFTY YEARS AGO THE SCUGOG
AT LINDSAY BRISTLED WITH BOATS**

During the summer months past, the lakes, rivers and canals in and around Lindsay were picturesquely dotted with myraids of boats of all types and sizes, hundreds and hundreds of them. Be it known that over fifty years ago, in the year 1913 to be exact, the Lindsay district boasted of a very sizeable fleet of water craft of various designs and horsepower. Besides boating for pleasure there was also the thrilling excitement of racing. Yachtmen were particularly challenging in their skill at out-maneuvering enemy boats as they skimmed over long expanses of blue water and cleverly rounded the anchored bobbing buoys.

Regattas were the order of the day and there was great enjoyment in simply cruising for pleasure. Big palatial steamers, puffing tow tugs and large and small pleasure craft added to the exciting summer-past time in local waters.

Steamers were large enough to carry 400 passengers, and when the Flavelle Milling Company held annual picnics for employees, their families

and friends, it was often necessary to tow large scows laden with happy voyagers--and the band played beautiful music. Moonlight excursions were numerous when young swains in particular enjoyed holding hands and dancing in the moonlight.

Lindsay boasted a boat manufacturing company with Jesse Perrin at the head. It was located on the banks of the Scugog at the foot of Kent Street east. Following are the names of a few of the boat owners both gasoline and steam, and the names of some of the boats: Hugo Beall, Dr. Ogden Jones of Sturgeon Pt., Clifford Scott, A.S. Weksman, George Rea owned the "Neptune", L. Montizambert had the "Vim". Fenelon Falls constables J. Jones, Fred Tillcock

had a steel boat 20 feet long; O. Bewton and J. Crimmons had boats; Ernie Cartwright had an 18 foot canoe propelled by motor. James Mark and Albert Porter purchased a launch from G. W. Hall.

The "Sweetheart" was owned by Mrs. Clark at Sturgeon Point. F. W. Mathews of Toronto had a boat on the Sturgeon Lake as did Dr. Cavan. Herb Middleton had a launch on the upper Scugog and J. C. Grace of Toronto had the "Mavern" which he kept at Sturgeon, and Fred Reeves owned the "Bee". Jas Doran ran a boat, and W. Langdon and Frank Adams had the "Earl". A. S. Blair owned the "Mazpahand". W. J. Ferguson, Frank and Arthur Williams also operated boats.

The "Elva", a 30 foot launch

was owned by R. L. Morgan. The "Flying Arrow" was owned by Dr. McFadyen; J. W. Flavelle had the "Swananoa", a 35 foot boat at Sturgeon Point, capable of carrying 30 people. The "Reta" was owned by Joseph Brown. It was a steam yacht with a ten h.p. engine capable of ten h.p. and could carry 20 people.

John McCrae had the "Mac" also a steam boat. Henry Nedo, keeper of the lighthouse, operated a boat. Mr. Carscadden of McCrae's Foundry purchased a yacht from Mr. Porter of Janetville.

The "Arrahwabba" was owned by Dick Butler, a 20 foot boat carrying ten people. It was equipped with an Irwin double h.p. motor and had a speed of eight miles an hour. G. H. Hopkins owned the fast gas launch "Viking II", which made 16 miles an hour. This boat was fitted with wicker chairs and had an automobile top and searchlights. Bert Naylor sold his "Mayenoe" to

E. Mitchell and S. Halpin.

D. E. Hammond Lee, manager of the Machine Telephone Co. had a 17 foot launch, and the S. S. "Boneka" was owned by F. W. Sutcliffe, a 24 footer with a Fairbanks engine, with a capacity of 14 passengers.

E. Ferguson sold his yacht to George Dean. The "Scugog Queen" was owned by E. Gregory and Walter Reesor owned the "Golliwog". Wm. Flavelle had one of the fastest boats named the "Black Arrow". D. Cinnamon owned a smart little craft called the "Ambe". Thos. McConnell owned the "Tin Pan" and Sam Britton had a yacht called the "Tin Can". The "Onalinsa" was owned by G. Belland. John Jackson, the tax collector, had the "Vivian".

The "Flo Mac" was a large yacht, steam operated, owned by John McCrae. It made 10 miles an hour and carried 25 passengers. The "Monoline" was operated by Jim Buckley, a printer. The "Laura Mac"

owned by Joe McConnell was 30 feet long and the "Sea Gull" was owned by Alec Horn. James Horn ran the "May Queen" and the "Midget" was owned by Miss Morton.

"The Bank of Montreal" was the name of a launch owned by H. B. Black. A. B. Terry operated the "Sammy T". The "Juanita" was sold by Dr. Irvine to M. H. Sisson and Hugh Dixon owned "The Harold", a 25 footer, and "Sliver" was owned by Harry McConnell.

Bruce and Roy Wilson were among the enthusiasts and built their own boats always with an eye to speed. Bill Carley did most of his boating up the Scugog as did George Denison. Allan Gillies was a water enthusiast with a fine boat and in later years Dr. Nesbitt ran a steam boat. The two greatest rivals in the steam class were Jos. Brown with "The Reta" and Thos. and Jos. McConnell with the "Flo Mac".