

Many happy and tuneful songs are heard at this season of the year including "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow, and everyone is happier when a white mantle of snow covers the earth.

Oldtimers claim that the drafts and mounds of snow which used to hem in the farmers for a week at a stretch, and town folk shovelled snow up to their knees was no exaggeration.

Country cousins never attempted to tackle the drifts which were five and six feet high, and the horse drawn snow plows took a week to partially clear the sidewalks.

Those were the days when the farmer's wife baked loaves of bread and dozens of buns and the farmer's larder was generally the back woodshed.

Those were the days when there was a local market at the town hall, and, weather permitting, the annual winter carnival sponsored by the Board of Trade was held on the wide main street. When horse and cutter racing was held on the main drag and butcher shops and grocery

stores displayed turkeys, geese, ducks, roosters and chickens, and it was possible to buy a side of pork or a quarter of beef and not be concerned about where it came from or the present standards of sanitation, and as far as was known, no one suffered ailments from consuming the choicest of cuts and quarters.

Few will remember the days when there were wooden awnings or verandah structures on Kent Street and when the merchants like R. S. Porter and Jerry Britton, the jeweller, guarded the front door with iron gates which were put in place every night and taken down in the morning. Even Lindsay's first liquor store had a guarded front entrance with a tall pair of iron gates.

Christmas was a great time in the year as it is today. Store keepers, especially grocers, cluttered the three-foot wide wooden counters with large round cakes of cheese, generally covered with mosquito netting, and there seemed to be more tang and flavor to the cheese than today.

The clerks were not stingy when cutting off thin slices for mother and her young scamp. Large cakes of dates and figs had their place on the counter, and old fashioned cream candies and shining red apples were always available. Apple cider seemed to taste better when it flowed from a tap or a spigot attached to the keg.

It was also possible to buy imitation plugs of tobacco in the form of licorice candy and for the youngsters, small imitation candy brooms and equally hard candy called suckers. Candy canes, long and short, were delicious when sucked slowly, especially the

logs made from brown sugar.

Remember the conversation lozenges? They were especially popular with the young folk and were often produced when the young swain took his best girl to the picture show or the opera house. The heart-shaped ones with the sentimental messages were passed in the dim light of the theatre.

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Remember when the "call boy" knocked at doors of rail-

way men and informed them that they "were due out" at a certain time in the night or morning?

Remember when every railway employee carried a large gold watch and this watch had to be regulated for accuracy at the recognized watch-maker's store which was Beall's?

Remember when every factory and saw mill had a distinct whistle by which many people set their watches?

Remember when there were a hundred box cars and vans and engines in the "yards" at the Grand Trunk round house and shed?

Remember the hobo jungle at the Grand Trunk iron bridge?

Remember when Davey Dunoon delivered milk, stopped the vehicle on the street, when the housekeeper walked out with a large pitcher and when the milk was dipped out of a large milk can and sold by the pint or quart?

Remember when Jack Crimmons was agent for soft drinks and had a plant at the corner of St. Patrick and John Streets?

Remember when millions of bushels of grain passed through Lindsay from Midland on the Grand Trunk and from Port McNicol on the C.P.R.? At that time the train load consisted of over 50 cars.

Remember when the present baseball park on George Street was the circus grounds and when the circus people started the day with a large parade of animals, bands and painted women?