

Train derailed behind Brown's

garage

Continued from Page 1.
Garage and Chris Lewis' Quinte Battery Service, among others. At J.T. Warren's there was a large wooden ramp leading to the second floor where cars were stored. In the winter Rodberg would whip down the "wooden hill" on her sleigh.

At J.T. Warren's Brown was occasionally taken away from his usual job and paid to chauffeur former prime minister Sir Mackenzie Bowell to and from special events.

After leaving Quinte Battery Service, Brown opened his

own business.

"He never wanted to be big. He just wanted to have a job," says Rodberg. And that he did. After his regular hours he often went out in the middle of the night to make repairs to trucks that had broken down on the highway.

Evidently he kept his sense of humor, because inside the garage was a bird cage with two spark plugs on a perch. An inscription on the cage read, "These birds were caught stealing gas."

After work, Brown was ac-

tive in the Standard Church and served as president of the Quinte Garage Operators' Association for a while.

After 30 years in business he had only lost 72 cents to people defaulting on their bills. A wily businessman, Brown asked for collateral to back unpaid bills. He once held a customer's guitar until the man's account was cleared.

Brown sold the property and retired in 1963 at 72. He died in 1982 at the ripe old age of 91 — his clean living paid off.



Clockwise from top, Don Brown with employees Jack McPherson and Bill Chamberlain in June, 1946, Don Brown in the doorway of his shop; the garage where Brewers' Retail is today; and directly above, Olive Wilson.

