

FORD MOYNES

on the MAIN STREET



Lindsay has been fortunate in the matter of serious fires. A real conflagration swept across the town in 1861 and following that date the next big fire was about sixty years ago when the Kitchener Rider Saw mill and Barrel mill south of the railway iron bridge was levelled to the ground. A. D. Kitchener suffered another loss by fire when the planing mill and factory of the Gull River Lumber Company was devastated when it was located in the north-west corner of the Sylvester building on Kent Street.

Saw mills were at one time

the life blood of Lindsay and they were prone to fires. The Parkin mill on Bond Street on the east side of the river, near Lindsay Street provided a spectacular blaze and the fire which completely laid low the John Carew saw mill on William Street North made a terrific blaze.

A fire which caused great grief in Lindsay occurred when the old skating and hockey rink on Lindsay Street south burned. The town was without a rink for five years, until the Kiwanis Club built the first arena on Russell Street. A disastrous fire also

completely destroyed the front end of this building several years ago.

One of the fiercest and beautiful" fires was the night when the Flavelle cold storage and egg plant went up in smoke on King Street. The blaze was so great that home owners for blocks around had to form bucket brigades to protect their homes. Frank O'Connor and Joe Hennessey recall seeing the melting cheese and soft boiled eggs streaming down from the factory and filling the river with a yellow blanket from bank to bank. Hundreds of white rats scampered out of the fiery furnace to the Scugog River.

One of the worst fires in Lindsay's history took place when Carruther's Drug Store and Blackwell Building was ravaged by flames, the loss including a hair dressing salon, a couple of apartments and water drenched the law office of the Frost firm and apartments in the "Temple Building" and the Oddfellows Hall.

The first which destroyed

the Beal, Larrigan and harness factory at the Wellington Street bridge was disastrous, and the blaze which took place in the present factory of the Northern Casket Company on King Street caused plenty of excitement.

There were many pay earners without work when the Horn Woollen Mills were gutted and the fire which destroyed a three dwelling terrace on Cambridge Street across from the Fire Hall was a hard one to fight, as was the fire in the old Candy Stick Factory behind the present McCombe Billiard Parlour.

A huge fire in the former Adams Block at the corner of Kent and Cambridge Streets did untold damage.