

FORD MOYNES

on the

MAIN STREET

*Jan 2/61*



A memory test. What was the name of the first automobile you saw chugging and grunting its way down Lindsay's main street? It is reported that it was a Reo and it was owned by a gentleman named William Sadler. The name Sadler will "ring a bell" in the minds of many citizens. The Sadler home on St. David Street South was the centre of many a friendly gathering, especially young people, Reub and Fred were the boys and Genevive (the late Mrs. George Brady of Vancouver); Mildred, wife of the late Joe Cain; Frances and Reta (wife of Ray Scott), the latter three now residents of Oshawa.

William Sadler is reported to have had the first motor car. It was purchased in a Toronto show and the Toronto salesman had to drive the machine to Lindsay and teach the Sadler's how to drive. This Reo was a sporty looking car with four seats. A top rain protector covered the front seat only and the rear compartment was generally used by the younger fry. This car was passed over to a son-in-law Mr. John Hartnet, a gentleman who resides at 2 St. Patrick Street and who is well and favourably known to many residents. The car was sold to a cheesemaker who lived south of Lindsay and the rear seat was removed and a platform installed for holding of milk cans.

Other ancient horseless buggies in the early days of Lindsay included a funny looking open car which was propelled by electricity and the steering apparatus was an upright stick. It was said to have been a chain drive and the owner was a man named Webster who ran a machine shop on William Street North next to the present Daily Post building.

Dr. J. A. White is reported to have been the owner of one of the first automobiles in Lindsay and Dr. Herbert Irvine, Dentist, had the first Buick, an open door model. It is remembered that when the Dentist drove back north to Minden that this contraption was the first in the district and that he returned to Lindsay the snorting machine started three runaway teams of horses galloping down hills and into the country. This car was the first in the entire area which boasted of a heated steering wheel and the late William Hall who ran a machine shop on Wellington Street East who managed to insert a heated wire around the wheel and steering column.