

FORD MOYNES

on the

May 30/90

MAIN STREET



Lindsay's Academy Theatre is reported to be one of the finest in Ontario and following the present financial appeal it is expected the Theatre will be the first in the province to operate under an Endowment Fund. Since the erection of the building in 1892 by a contractor named William White, the interior and exterior of the Academy has been changed and enhanced from time to time.

"Once upon a time" the main entrance was through an arch in the centre of the building and there was a small store at the north and at the south side at the front. There was a main aisle down the centre, with aisles on both sides of the main floor, and at one time there were 300 seats on the floor plus sixteen boxes which were generally occupied by Lindsay's "upper crust". There was also a railing circling what was known as the dress circle where the patrons with the money sat more or less in state in evening dress.

The gallery was steep and rows extended to the peak of the rear wall, a capacity crowd of five hundred could be accommodated and seats in "the god's" were at one time at a premium. There were two flights of stairs into

the gallery with one door leading onto a fire escape on the south lane. One former Lindsay citizen is the authority for the statement that years ago there was a huge chandelier hanging from the high ceiling which could be lowered by means of a rope.

The gallery was in the years following straight across the theatre and later on replaced by a circular railing and still later replaced by the present straight line gallery.

Records relate when the theatre opened in 1892 that the child prodigy Marie Dressler was on the stage with her mother who was visiting in Lindsay. Marie Dressler was a native of Port Hope and it is understood that this home of the world renowned actress is now one of the hallowed historic places in the lake-front town.

The Theatre underwent renovations in 1930 and for a time, the theatre was closed in 1956. However Lindsay citizens were always theatre minded and following further alterations was operated successfully as a picture show house and for the holding of many travelling road shows, concerts and local amateur productions.

Extensive alterations and rebuilding of the interior and

exterior has resulted in the Lindsay Academy being one of the finest and citizens are urged to support the drive now underway to endow the Academy Foundation. It is a very worthy cause.

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Friends who gathered at the Mackey Funeral Home to pay their respects to the late Mrs. Olive Williamson Wilson recalled the period when the deceased served her country and the Empire as a Military Nursing Sister in World War One. Mrs. Wilson was one of four Nursing Sisters who saw service in France.

The late Mrs. Wilson, who was the daughter of the late Herb Williamson, tonsorial artist, was a deeply dedicated member of the military forces and her loyalty was manifested many times when she had the responsibility of placing the flags on Remembrance Day on the pulpit of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, where she was a member. Other loyalties included her active membership in the Progressive Conservative political party. Geo. Williamson, Lindsay business man, is a brother of the deceased.

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Mr. and Mrs. Ralph H. Lawler of Scarboro, received hearty congratulations a few days ago on their having attained their 50th wedding anniversary.

Ralph Lawler served as police chief in Lindsay for 30 years and in that capacity he served so well and faithfully that he had hundreds of friends who sincerely regretted the day he decided to retire. He was recognized by

judges, lawyers and others associated with law and order as being particularly well versed and skilled in his chosen profession. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Lawler on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.