

## Paisley Lawyer "Mr. Bruce County"



One of Paisley's best known citizens, David Forrester, QC, was the subject of an interesting article in The Kitchener-Waterloo Record recently. The sketch is reproduced below:

A nomination for the title "Mr. Bruce County" has never been made, but if such distinction were made now there seems little doubt that a Paisley man, David Forrester, QC, would be the choice.

No one in the county is better known or more highly respected than this man who has played such an important role in the affairs of Bruce over a period of half a century. He probably is best known for his work and activities with Bruce County Cour-

cil, where he served for 29 years as clerk.

Mr. Forrester, born in Saugeen Township, is a son of Bruce pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. William Forrester, who came to this county from Scotland. He received his early education at what was known as "Pipe Clay School" in Saugeen and also in Port Elgin. He then went to Owen Sound Collegiate and the Model School in Hamilton.

### Taught School

He taught school for a while and while filling his appointment as a pedagogue he successfully studied for his university degree. He was graduated from Osgoode Hall in 1907, and in 1908 opened a law practice in Paisley.

In 1912 he went to Regina as assistant city solicitor. In 1913 he returned to Paisley and has remained here ever since.

His active interest in municipal life brought him to the reeve's chair in Paisley in 1920 and here he remained until he was appointed county clerk four years later. He held this appointment for a record 29 years, and then was succeeded by his lawyer son, Stuart.

From 1926 he was president of the South Bruce Liberal Association and when the Grey-Bruce Liberal Association was formed, was elected vice-president.

He said he is living "semi-retired," but his activities belie this statement. He works daily at his office and is doubtless the best source of information on things pertaining to Bruce.

"Hiking," Mr. Forrester says, "is my number one hobby."

Paisleyites claim that he walks more than anyone else in the village. He also classes as hobbies: "Politics, visiting old haunts in Bruce, Scotch terrier dogs, fishing and gardening, but I must admit my wife does most of the latter."

As well as his son, Stuart, he has one daughter, Mrs. Elwood (Gwen) McGlenning of Toronto; three grandsons and three granddaughters.

## Shared School Seat With Mackenzie King



—Photo by McCannel. Courtesy Kitchener-Waterloo Record

A resident of Paisley for 62 years and dean of the village's business men, Isaiah "Ike" Shoemaker is the subject of an interesting biographical sketch published in The Kitchener-Waterloo Record last Friday. The story is reproduced here in full:

A few years ago when an alligator was reputed to be resident in the Nith at New Hamburg, a Paisley merchant suppressed a chuckle. He recalled that a similar scare was current at nearby Conestoga nearly three quarters of a century ago. Also, this man who has adopted Bruce County as home, out-tuffed Trusdale, as he landed the monster.

Ike Shoemaker, as a boy, landed the two-foot reptile by jugging it in the side with a fish hook. The animal was on display for some time until someone tried to remove the large hook and it died. Mr. Shoemaker does not know just what kind of animal he caught, though it was called an alligator. He says it was too large for a lizard.

### Sat With King

Mr. Shoemaker was born in Conestoga 82 years ago, the son

of Henry Shoemaker, a wagon-maker there. His grandfather, George Shoemaker, was a Waterloo County farmer pioneer. When 12 years of age Ike moved to Berlin with his parents and while attending school there shared a seat with the late William Lyon Mackenzie King. Another schoolmate and close friend was Senator William D. Euler.

Finishing his schooling, he apprenticed to Charles Alteman, a jeweller in Waterloo. On completing his apprenticeship he headed north and 62 years ago set up a jewellery business in Paisley, which he has conducted ever since.

Mr. Shoemaker soon became a part of his adopted county. He entered municipal politics, was reeve of Paisley for six years, in 1911 became warden of Bruce, youngest, up to that time, to hold this position. He was 37.

### Likes Horses

A son, Winston, is a partner in the jewellery business. In all Mr. Shoemaker has six sons but no daughters. His wife died 15 years

ago. A brother, Henry W. Shoemaker, was a druggist in Kitchener until his death two years ago.

As well as keeping active in his jewellery and watch-making profession, he is also an optometrist and an engraver. A member of Knox United Church, he also is a Mason, an Oddfellow and a Rotarian. He says that he "loves horses" and a framed picture of "Man of War" hangs in his store.

He gets many a smile from a 55-year-old advertisement displayed in his shop. Put out by the "Berlin and Racycle M'fg Co.," it shows a pipe-smoking, sun-helmeted white man, calmly bicycling away from a pursuing horde of mounted, saber-wielding Arabs. Underneath the picture the verse: "Though famed for speed, The Arab steed, Can not o'er take the Racycle."

Arthur Peguenat was owner of the bicycle company, Mr. Shoemaker recalls.

"Kitchener certainly is growing," he observed, comparing the city today with the Berlin of his school days.