An Unsung Hero Of Lincoln County's Past

*By WAYNE LOCKEY, Mountview School

Since the beginning of time all kinds of ships have been a necessity. They have been used for transportation of people, food and freight. If it hadn't been for ships, nothing but the Holy Land would have been discovered yet, and we would not have been living in this wonderful, free, uncrowded country.

But somebody had to design and build these ships to withstand the long treacherous voyages across the Atlantic Ocean to Canada. Had it not been for ship-builders, the heroes of Canada's past would never have been known so I think shipbuilders should also be classed as heroes.

Once Canada was discovered the furtraders found ships were a necessary requirement. They couldn't have travelled through the dense bush for hundreds of miles to their fur grounds. They went by canoe up the streams and lakes to bring back these precious furs. The pioneers too had to have ships to cross the ocean to Canada. They couldn't come by ox-cart or walk. Even after they reached Canada, they built their farms near a body of water for a means of travel. It was much easier for a pioneer to go to town for a year's supplies in a canoe than to walk. If they had to cross a deep river, many couldn't swim so they had to go across by canoe or ferry. They could not have survived without boats. Few people had the talent or patience to construct good, reliable boats and those that did have it, were great distances apart. They were the artisans of a new world.

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