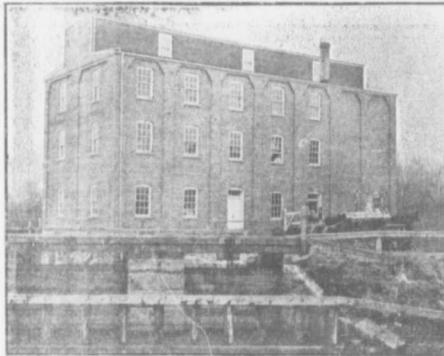


R. Cooper, Riverside Mills.

One of the most enterprising and progressive of Welland's wide awake citizens is Mr. Robert Cooper, who has not only built up a most successful flour, grain and farm seed trade, in Welland and its contiguity, but in connection with Welland's progressive constituency, has been instrumental in the advancement of the town's interests in many ways. Mr. Cooper's business career covers a period of something over fifteen years, his place of business being located on East Main Street, near the east bank of the canal, and which is practically the headquarters of a large retail trade in flour, meal, buckwheat, mill feed of all kinds, and farm and garden seed of every description. In connection therewith Mr. Cooper has a three story ware-



house, 45x50, located parallel with the G.T.R. tracks, which has a storage capacity of some 20,000 bushels of grain, and within which is a feed chopper of a capacity of 30 bushels per hour, and which is operated by an 8 h.p. gas engine. Within the past year Mr. Cooper has erected a three story brick building with monitor top, 84x38, which is located upon the east side of the canal near the lower end of East Main Street, for milling purposes. Without exception this structure is one of the largest, most substantial and modernly equipped flour and feed mills in Welland county, it being classified as a one hundred barrel mill, this being exclusive of other products. This mill has been installed with the best and most modern machinery and fixtures, comprising five double sets of 9x24 rolls, three gyrator bolting machines, two double sets of buck-

wheat rolls, an emery feed chopper of twenty bags per hour capacity, a patent improved corn cob grinder of 75 bushels per hour capacity, an improved corn sheller by which the corn for meal is quickly separated from the cob, and a clover seed cleanser. Mr. Cooper handles large quantities of the latter. The basement of this building is occupied by operating machinery, the mill being run by water of a 100 h.p. capacity. Upon the first floor are the rolls and flour packers, the second floor being utilized for the purifiers and bran and shorts dusters, and the upper



floor by gyrators, cleansing machines and dust collectors. The storage capacity of the building is about 30,000 bushels of grain besides several hundred bags of flour. In addition to milling, Mr. Cooper deals in horses, and has purchased many which have been shipped to South Africa. He has been a member of the town council at one time and another for several years, was a Deputy Reeve and member of the County Council for a year, and has been County Clerk since June, 1891.

W. G. Somerville, Agricultural Hall.

Located on North Main Street, between West Main and the river bridge, is the agricultural implement warehouse of Mr. W. G. Somerville, who has successfully conducted the same for nearly a quarter of a century. Mr. Somerville occupies a three story building, 50x70, including basement, the latter being for storage, the main floor for farm machinery and machine sundries, together with a commodious office, and an apartment for the sale of the Newcombe piano and Dominion organ, this latter being in

charge of his son. The upper floor is for the display and sale of light carriages and farm wagons. Mr. Somerville is the accredited representative in this section for the Massey, Harris Co.'s farm machinery, comprising binders, rakes, drills, cultivators, disc harrows, etc., in addition to which he is the agent for the Sawyer-Massey Co.'s threshing, road machinery and rock crushers and engines. Mr. Somerville also represents the Canada Carriage Co., of Brockville, and the Wm. Gray & Sons, of Chatham, manufacturers of light single and double carriages of all kinds, open or closed, rubber tired and otherwise; as also a superior line of sleighs, at prices that are compatible with the style and workmanship of the article desired. In farm wagons he deals in the Bain, of Woodstock, and the Adams Wagon Co., of Brantford, all of which are well known for durability and service. He also deals in the celebrated Verity Plow Co.'s plows, steel rollers and sufflers, as also the Wilkinson plows, steel rollers and scrapers, and represents the Battle Estate in the sale of cement, and the best American Ohio sewer pipe. Mr. Somerville is one of Welland's progressive citizens, and when a member of the town council, and chairman of the market committee, was the prime mover in securing the new town hall, which is one of the finest structures of its character to be found in any town the size of Welland.

C. B. Bennett, County Treasurer.

The subject of this sketch, Mr. C. B. Bennett, at present treasurer of the County of Welland, is and has been a resident of Port Robinson, township of Thorold, where for nearly a third of a century he has most successfully catered to public patronage as a general storekeeper. The contents of the store being such as is usually to be found in an establishment of this character, comprising groceries, hardware, boots and shoes, crockery and glassware, and general merchandise. Mr. Bennett has been post master of Port Robinson since 1897, and was Reeve of the township of Thorold in 1891-2-3 and 4. He was elected Warden of the County of Welland in 1893, and was chosen County Commissioner in 1899, and in 1900 was appointed county treasurer.

