

THE  
HESPERIAN

# HESPELER

CANADA



## *A Souvenir of the Factory Town*

Compiled and Published by

OSCAR S. EBY

Publisher of the *Hesper Herald*

... Photos by ...

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| D. PRINGLE    | GEO. GINGERICH |
| BARBER        | R. W. KARCH    |
| L. E. WEAVER  | W. BROWN       |
| HAAS MCINTYRE |                |

ENGRAVED AND PRINTED BY  
THE GRIP PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO. OF TORONTO, LIMITED



NORMA,  
Mr. Elliot's Daughter.

OSCAR S. EBY, Publisher,  
Hesperite.

# THE TOWN OF HESPELER.



THIS Souvenir is issued just at this time to commemorate our incorporation as a town, and also to put on record, in enduring form, some of the attractions of what we consider the busiest and most enterprising little town in Canada.

Like Rome, Hespeler seems built upon seven hills, with the business portion of the town lying in a pretty little valley, through which the River Speed wends its way southward. Situation and surroundings alike being most picturesque.

Hespeler is essentially a factory town—a manufacturing centre—and as such is known throughout the Dominion, and the goods manufactured here find their way into almost every corner of the known world. But it is also a town of happy, prosperous families and comfortable homes, towering above which are the tall chimneys of the factories which have made it so, and away beyond its encircling hills are the wide plains of well-tilled farms of the "agricultural garden of Canada," all contributing to make Hespeler just what so many have

found it—an ideal Canadian home.

In the succeeding pages we have gathered together a bit of history, some of our factories, our business places, our churches, our homes, some of the men of the past and of the present, and we believe that this, the first "Souvenir of Hespeler," containing, as it does, nearly everything and everyone of note in the new town, will prove most interesting to hundreds of persons, both at home and abroad.

We have tried to make it as concise and as complete as possible, and believe our efforts will be thoroughly appreciated.

## HISTORIC HESPELER.



The Town of Hespeler has just attained the allotted three score and ten years, for although Joseph Oberholtzer secured a grant of a large tract of land, including the present town site, in 1830, it was not until the following year that his sister, Mrs. Michael Bergey, to whom he had deeded part of the land, came from Pennsylvania with her husband, and started the little settlement of Bergeytown, building and living in the house on Queen street, remodelled in quite recent years by Mr. L. Bock.

Within a couple of years there were a number of settlers here, and Mr. Bergey started a saw mill on the flats, just south of The Forbes Co.'s present mill property. Soon afterwards, Joseph Oberholtzer started another saw mill just south of Forbes' race, and John Beck started a foundry near by. The land was then a number of feet lower than it is at present, as the dam was not built for a number of years after.

The name of the settlement was changed from Bergeytown to New Hope in 1835.

In 1840, John Gingerich opened the first store in the building torn down a few years ago to make room for C. M. Schultz's new block, and in the same year, Abram Clemens built a saw mill on part of the land now occupied by the Brodie Mill, and this he ran until 1844, when Jacob Hespeler arrived on the scene, and purchased the saw mill, as well as a large tract of the surrounding lands.

From the day of Mr. Hespeler's arrival the settlement seems to have gone ahead. His first act was to tear down the old saw mill and remove the machinery to a new one, built on the site now occupied by the Canada Woolen Mills' fine property, and to build a grist mill, which he had in running order early in 1847.

The settlement school was a log building on the site of the present Presbyterian church, and was taught by a Mr. Thompson. This building was later utilized as the first Methodist meeting house.

Galt, Guelph and Preston were quite healthy villages when New Hope was struggling along, and Lowell's four-horse stage had been running between Galt and Guelph for a number of years, but New Hope did not have a post office till 1849, when an office was opened in the building now occupied by Mr. Geo. Devitt, and which Mr. Hespeler had built for that purpose.

In 1849 Mr. Hespeler built a distillery in addition to his flour mill, and began the work which has ever since stood as a monument to his energy and enterprise. He cleared the forests, drained the swamps, built roads, and spent many thousands of dollars in necessary and lasting improvements. In 1850, Adam Shaw built a saw mill on the site of the old carriage works building, which same building was built a few years later by the late Robert Forbes, who rented it to Jonathan Schofield to be used as a woolen mill.

In 1858, the Great Western Railway was extended from Galt to Guelph, and Mr. Hespeler took advantage of the presence of the navvies to have a census taken, with the result that New Hope, or rather Hespeler, was incorporated as a village on July 12th of that year. The first Village Council being, Jacob Hespeler, reeve, and councillors Adam Shaw, Conrad Nohrgaug, David Rife and Chas. Karch.

In 1861, Mr. Hespeler built a woolen mill on the site of the present Brodie mill, and this he ran until 1870, when it was totally destroyed by fire. In 1862, Randall & Farr purchased the Oberholtzer saw mill and the Beck foundry, tore the old buildings down, and built a woolen mill, which they operated until 1873, when they sold out to Schofield & Forbes, Mr. Farr removing to Holyoke, where he died a few weeks ago.

In 1882, Mr. Schofield retired from the firm of Schofield & Forbes, and Mr. Forbes continued the business until his death, when The R. Forbes Co., Limited, was formed, and this firm has steadily increased their business and facilities until they now occupy their present large premises, photos of which will be found in this Souvenir.

In 1880, The Hespeler Manufacturing Company was formed, and bought out Mr. Hespeler's property, turned the grist mill into a woolen mill, and in '81 the ruins of the old woolen mill were cleared out and a new cotton mill was built, and this they operated until Messrs. Harvey & McQuestion took over the business, running it till '87, when the mills were closed down.

In 1880, Messrs. A. W. Brodie & Co. purchased the property; and Mr. Robt. T. Brodie retiring about four years ago, Mr. A. W. Brodie ran the business until early in the present year, when the Canada Woolen Mills Co., Limited, was formed, and this big mill went into the combine.

A. B. Jardine & Co. started here in a small way some thirty years ago, and the business has steadily grown, until they are now the largest manufacturers of blacksmiths' and boiler-makers' tools in Canada.

The late Chas. Karch started a foundry here about '58, and the business has been continued by his sons—Mr. H. W. Karch, the present proprietor, doing a large business in woolen mill machinery. The flour mill and saw and planing mill of Mr. W. A. Kribs, illustrations of which appear in this issue, were started by his father, Mr. Lewis Kribs, away back in the fifties, and they, too, are busy on large orders which the energy and enterprise of the owner keep crowding on to them.

We may at some later date issue a fuller history of Hespeler, her manufacturers and her prospects, but, for this time at least, we needs must be brief in order to leave room for the pictorial views of the present, which, we think, will be found fully as interesting as ancient history.



### ... WHAT WE HAVE...

Hespeler has, first of all, a population of 2,551, and is steadily growing.

Hespeler's net debt on January 1, 1900, was only about \$8,000, and the rate is 16½ mills on the dollar.

Hespeler has two of the largest woolen mills in Canada, each employing 500 hands.

Hespeler has a large machine shop, a large foundry, flour mill, saw and planing mill, cider and jelly factory, etc.

Hespeler has the best volunteer fire brigade in Canada.

Hespeler has an electric fire alarm system.

Hespeler owns and operates its own electric light plant.

Hespeler has a fine public school, employing eight teachers.

Hespeler has a public library, containing over 3,000 volumes.

Hespeler has granolithic pavements, macadamized roads, etc.

Hespeler has splendid railway facilities, the G.T.R. and C.P.R. both running into the town.

Hespeler has seven churches.

Hespeler is situated in the richest farming district in Ontario.

Hespeler has a branch of the Merchants Bank, C.P.R. and G.N.W. Telegraph Companies, Dominion and Canadian Express, Money Order Office, etc.

Hespeler has lots of room for more manufacturers, and the new town is prepared to deal quite liberally with any industry employing heads of families, and which may wish to take advantage of our low tax rate, our splendid railway facilities, etc.



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF HESPERIA, TAKEN FROM FORDES' TOWER.



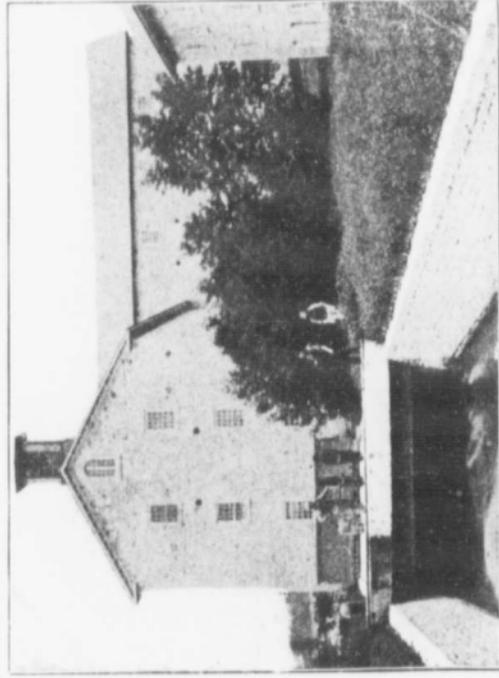
QUEEN STREET, BEFORE THE PAVEMENTS WERE LAID.



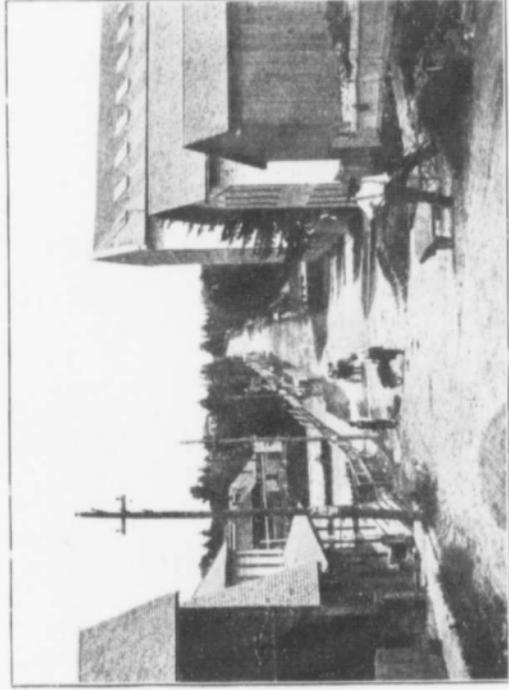
QUEEN STREET, 35 YEARS AGO.



QUEEN STREET, 12 YEARS AGO.



JACOB HESPELER'S ORIGINAL FLOUR MILL AND MALT HOUSE



LOOKING UP AVENUE STREET, 12 YEARS AGO.



QUEEN STREET—LOOKING EAST FROM SCHULTZ'S CORNER.



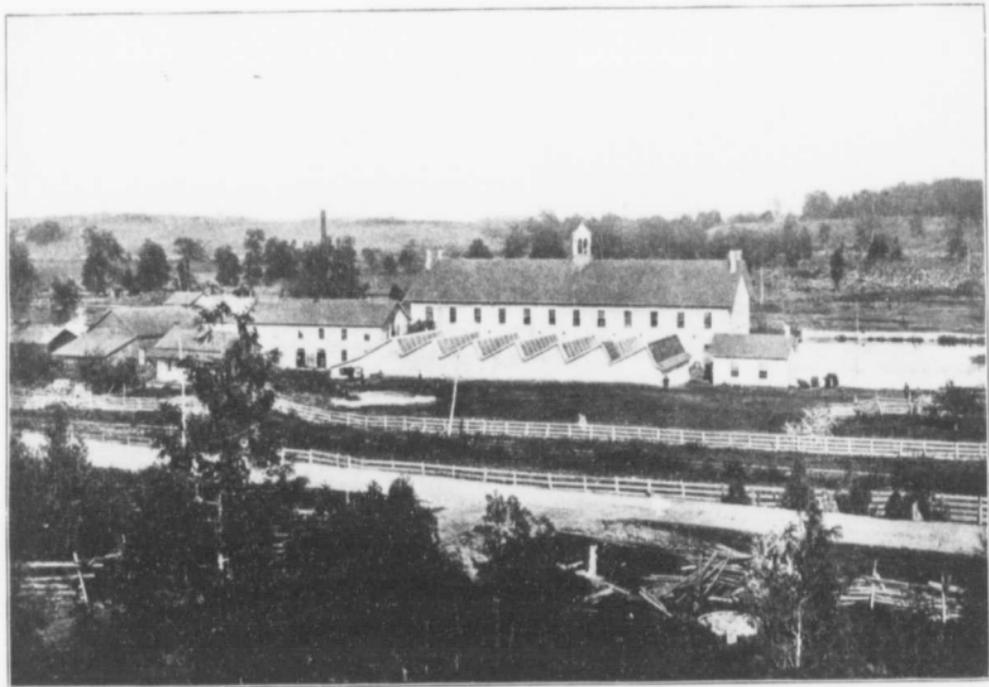
THE BLOCK, 35 YEARS AGO, WITH TOWN HALL AND SAW MILL.



BIRD'S EYE VIEW FROM LUTHERAN CHURCH TOWER



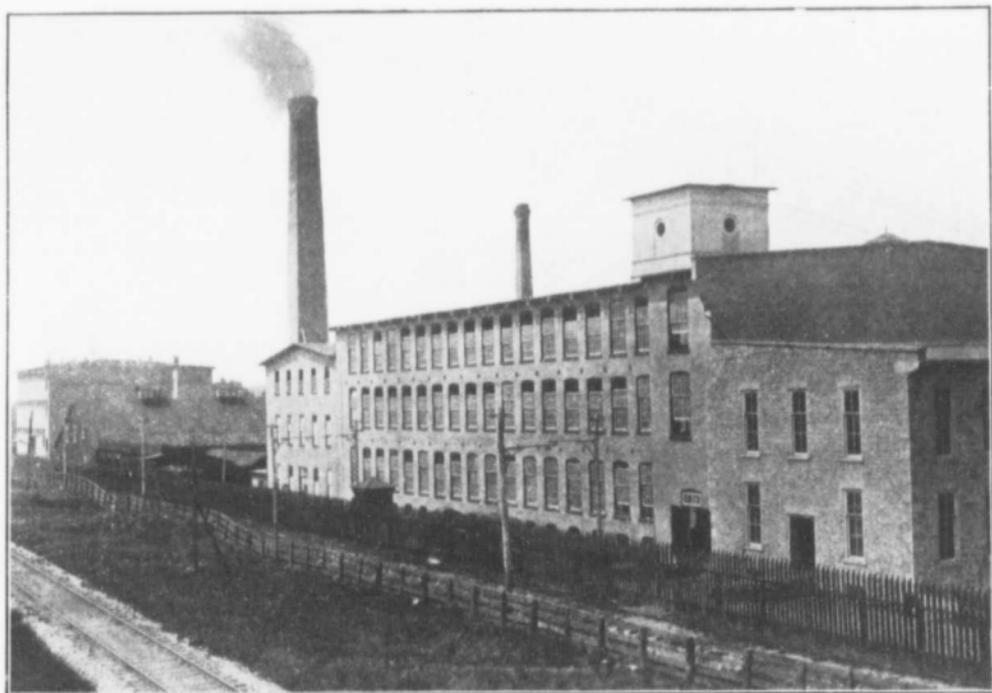
QUEEN STREET—LOOKING WEST FROM JOHNSTON'S CORNER.



THE FORBES MILL IN 1860.



THE FORBES MILL IN 1899.



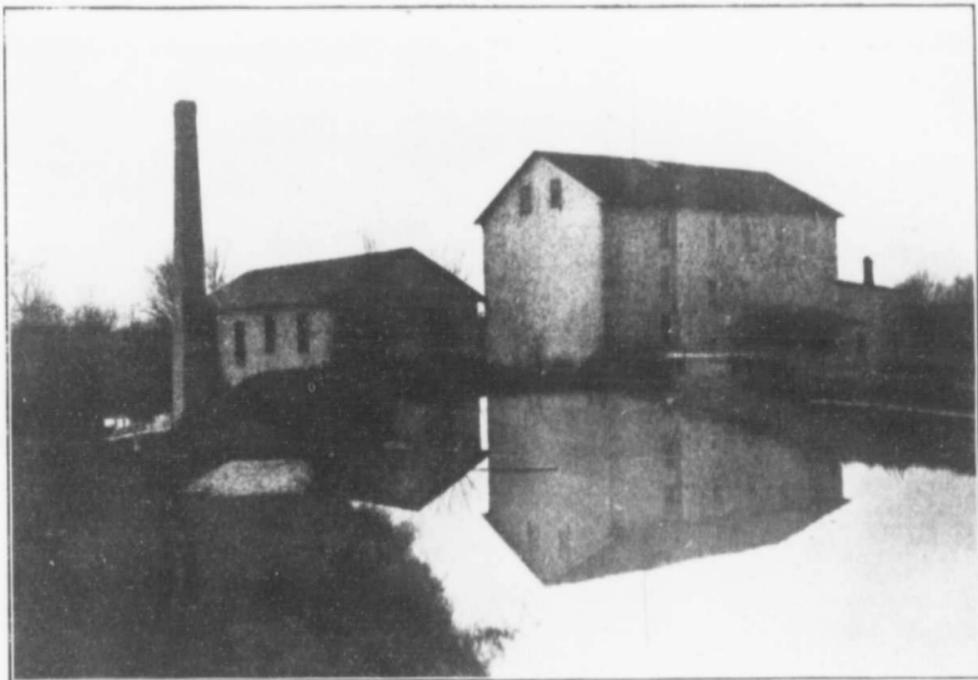
THE FORDES MILL, 1900.



A. B. JARDINE & CO'S MACHINE SHOP.



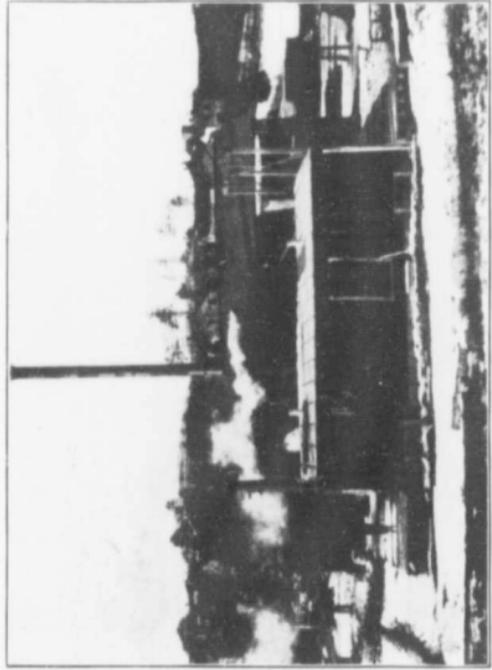
THE CANADIAN WOOLEN MILLS, LIMITED—AVENUE STREET FRONT.



W. A. KRIBS' FLOUR MILL.



VIEW OF COBETOWN.



H. A. KRIBBS SAW MILL AND DRY KILN, AND A BIT OF COBETOWN.



LANG & BEER'S DRY GOODS AND MILLINERY STORE.



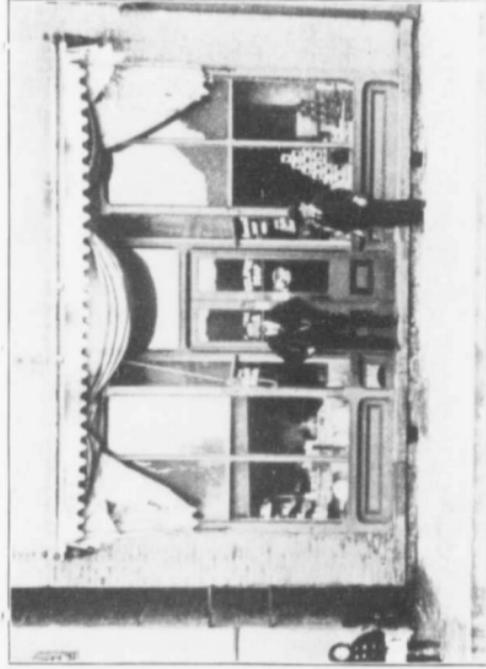
J. E. PHIPPS DRY GOODS STORE.



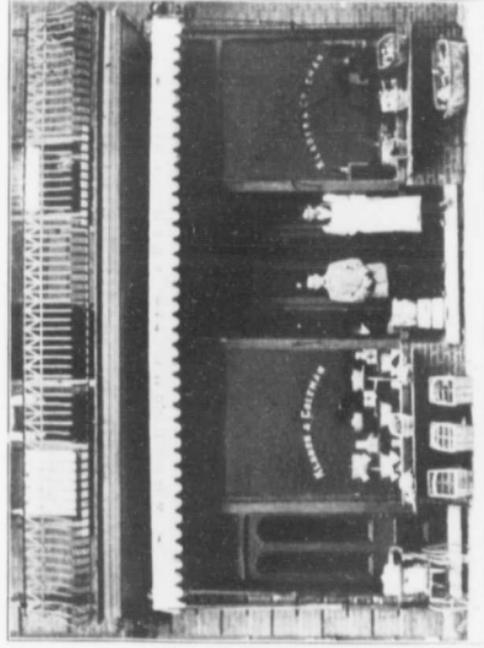
C. M. SCHULTZ'S SHOE STORE.



H. N. LAPSLEY'S SHOE STORE.



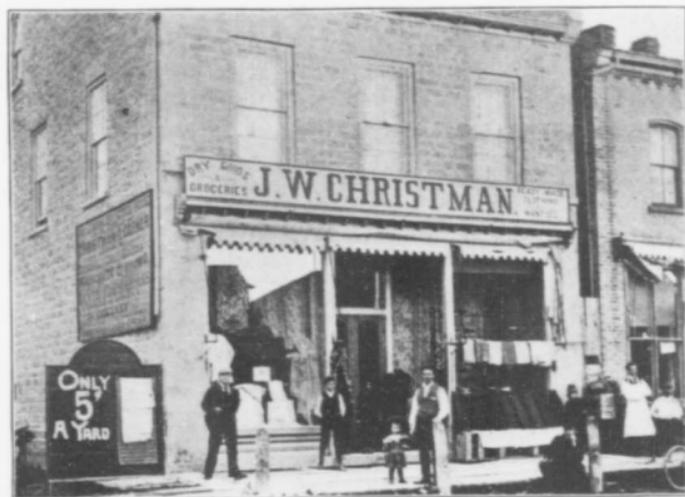
J. E. HUEN'S GROCERY STORE.



J. E. KLAUER'S GROCERY STORE.



S. H. NORTHCOTT'S DRY GOODS STORE.



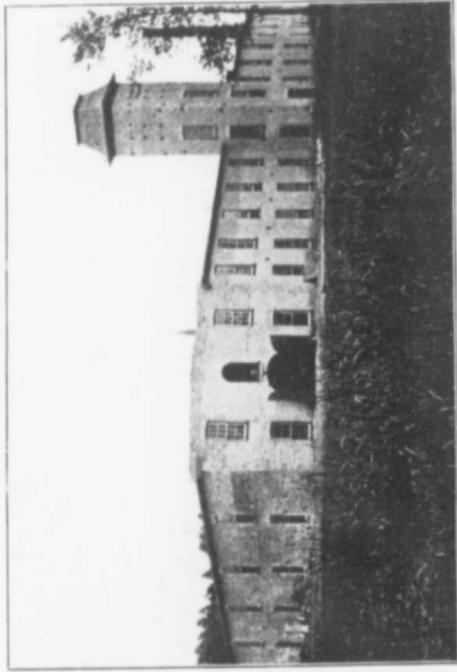
J. W. CHRISTMAN'S DRY GOODS STORE.



J. H. KEELEER'S DRY GOODS STORE.



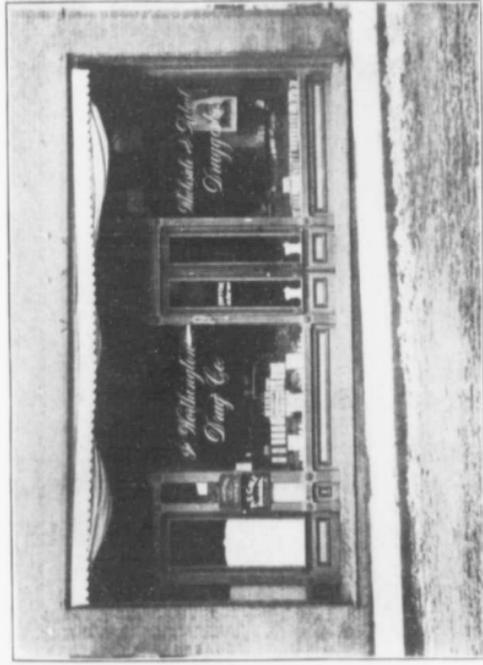
J. E. TURNER'S JEWELLERY STORE.



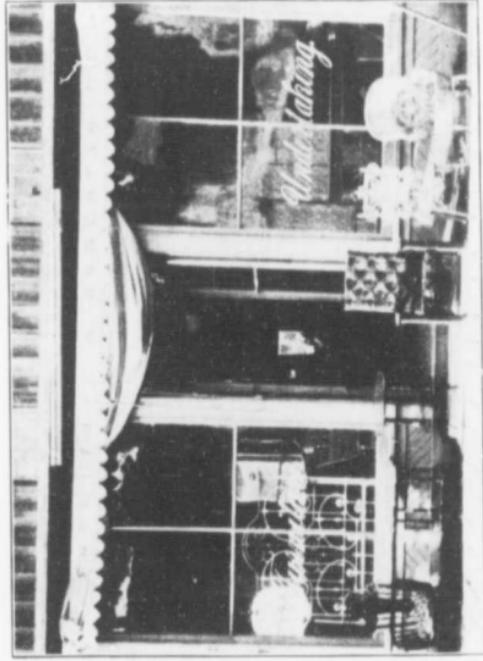
THE BRODIE SHODDY MILL.



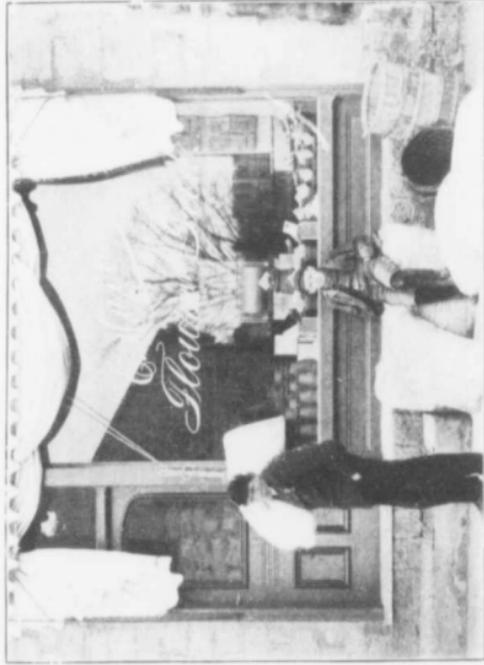
OCHS' BLOCK.



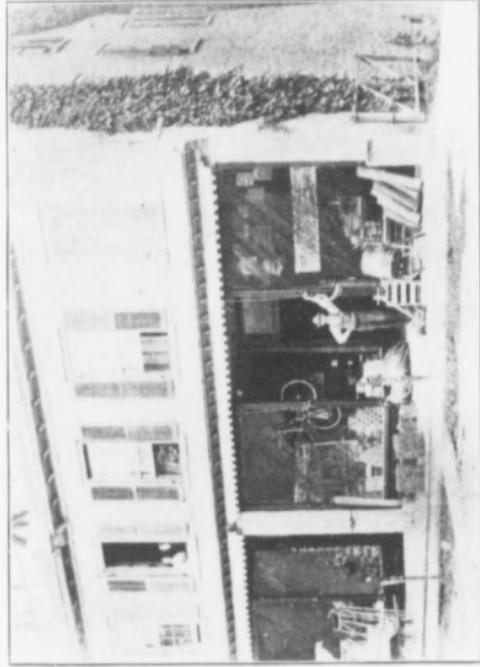
THE WORTHINGTON DRUG CO'S STORE.



STAGER & CO'S FURNITURE STORE.



EDWIN HARRIS FLOUR AND FEED STORE.



ZEYD AND CO'S HARDWARE STORE.



A. HACHMEIER'S GROCERY STORE



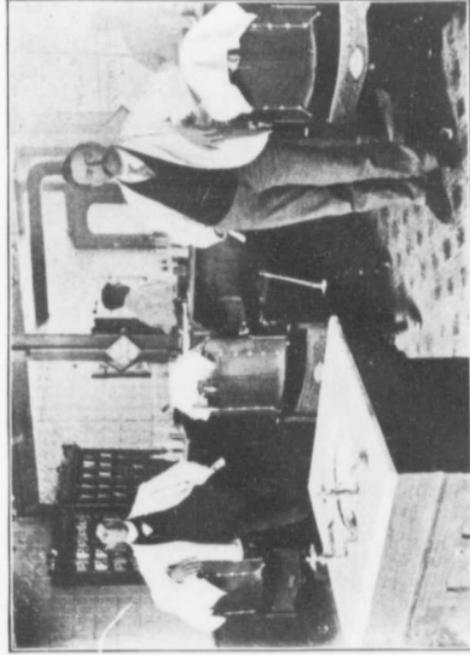
BESPELER PUBLIC SCHOOL



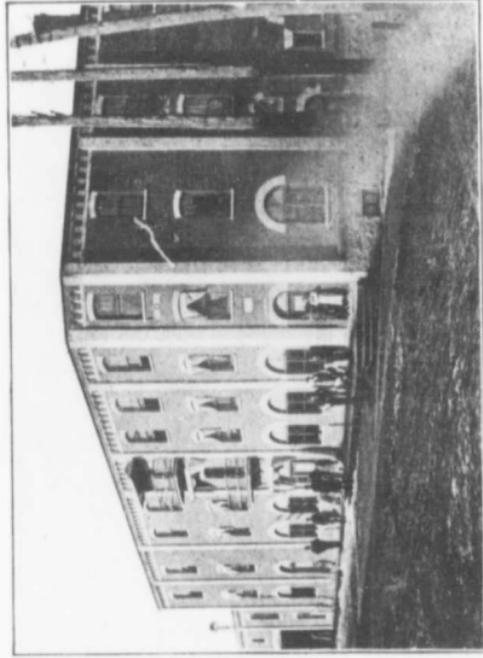
POST OFFICE BLOCK.



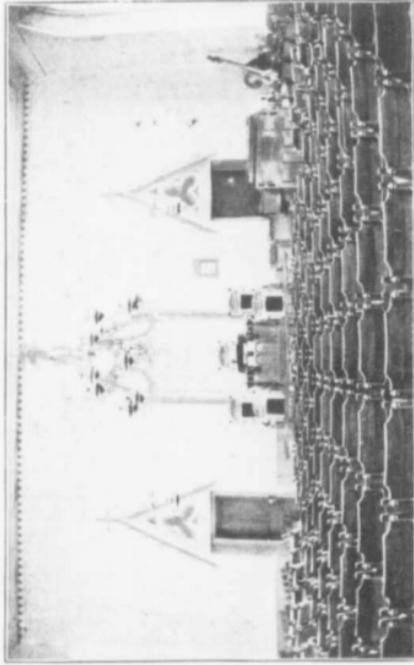
A. A. PANABAKER'S BAKERY AND STORE.



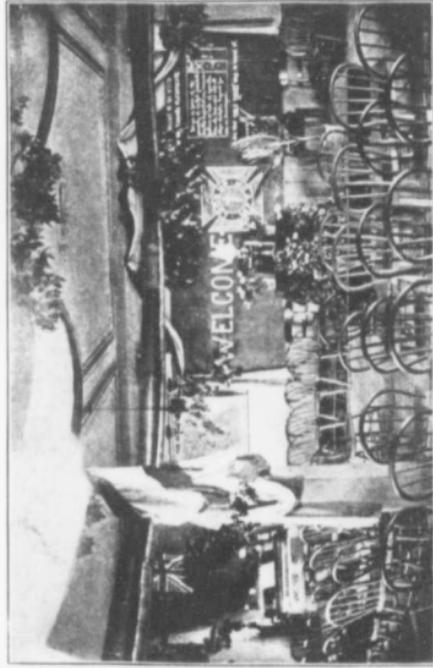
INTERIOR W. E. SAULT'S BARBER SHOP.



QUEEN'S HOTEL.



INTERIOR OF METHODIST CHURCH.

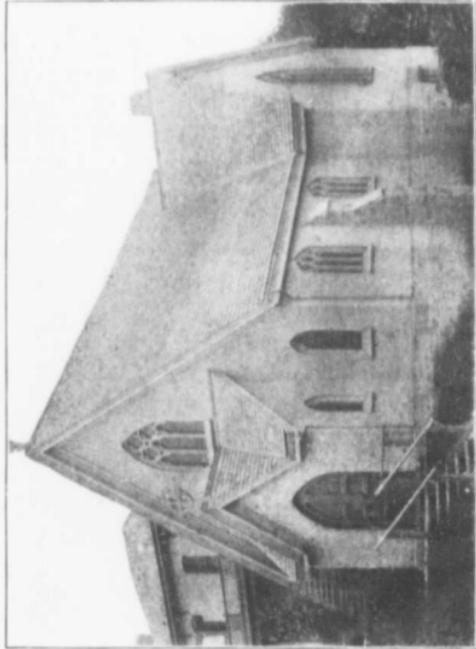


INTERIOR OF METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY



R. C. CHURCH.



ST. JAMES (ANGLICAN) CHURCH.

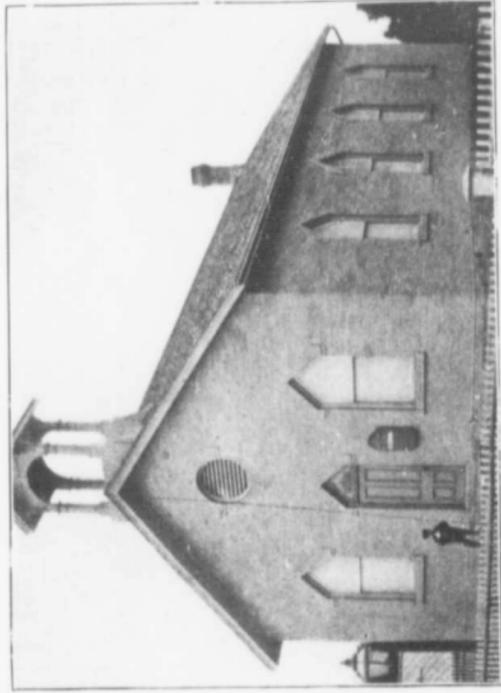
THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON



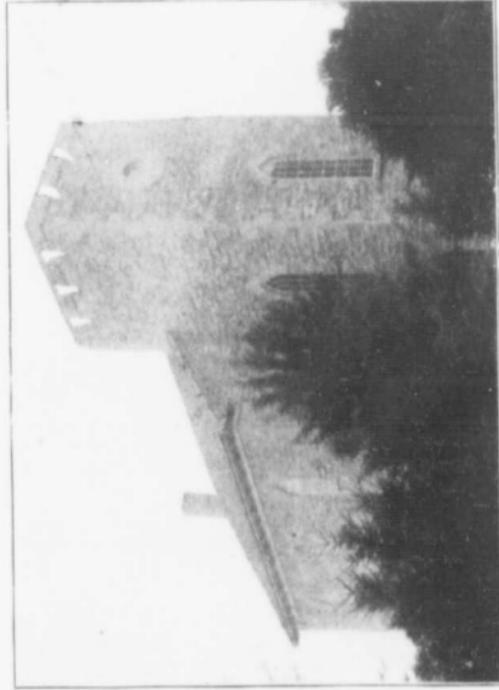
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



LUTHERAN CHURCH



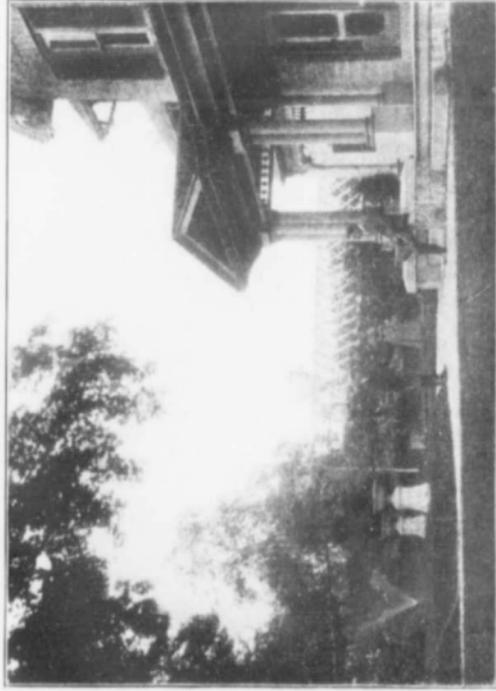
BAPTIST CHURCH



EVANGELICAL CHURCH



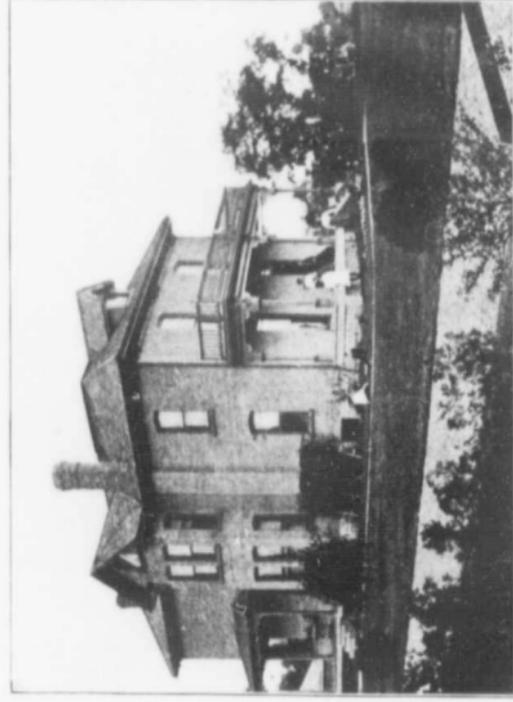
RESIDENCE OF W. H. WEAVER—QUEEN STREET



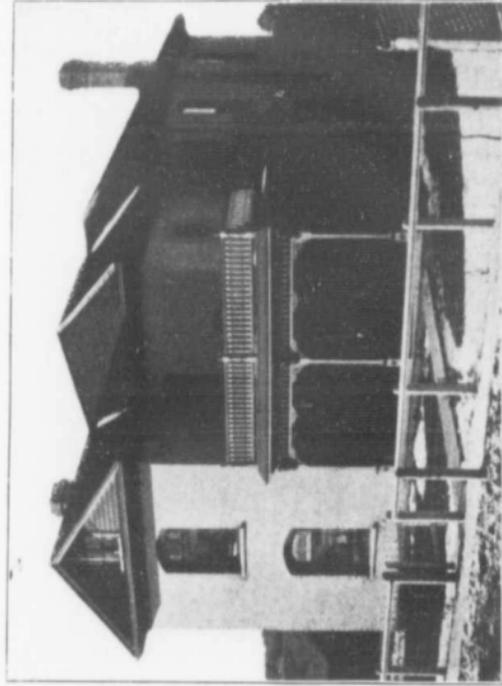
ENTRANCE TO W. H. WEAVER'S RESIDENCE



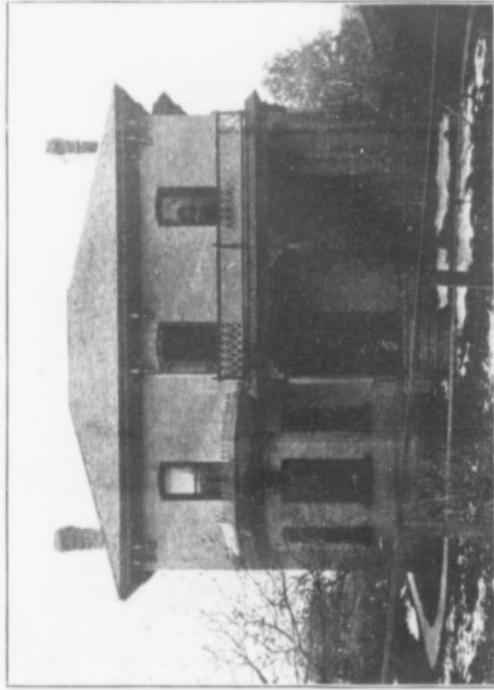
RESIDENCE OF JAMES JARDINE, J.P.



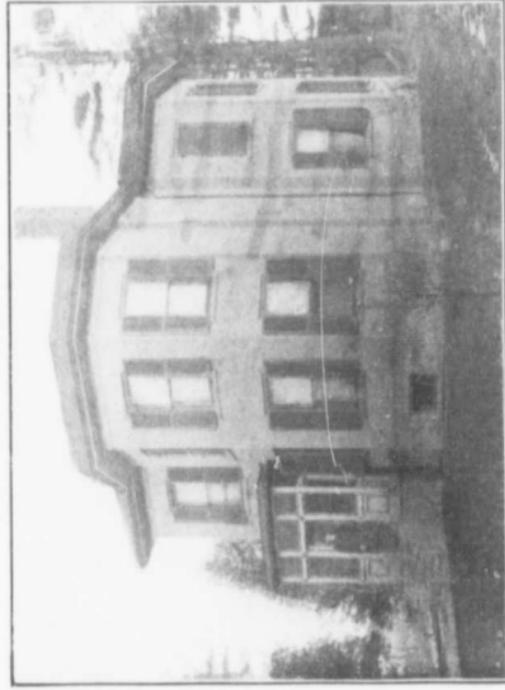
RESIDENCE OF W. A. KEADS, M.L.A.



RESIDENCE OF DR. R. MCINTYRE.



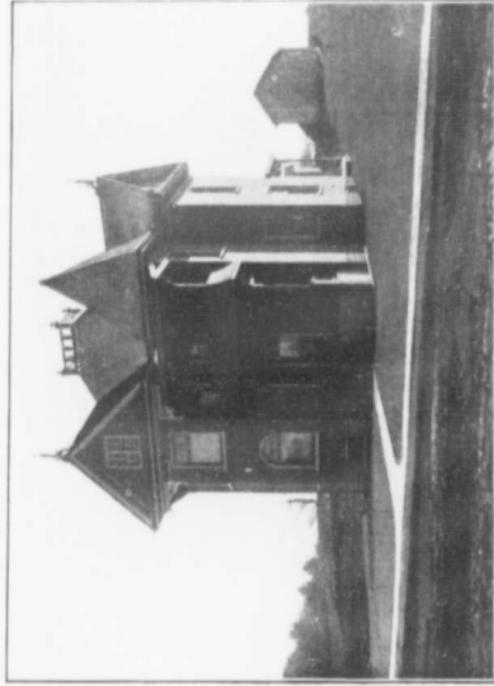
RESIDENCE OF A. T. PAVABAKER.



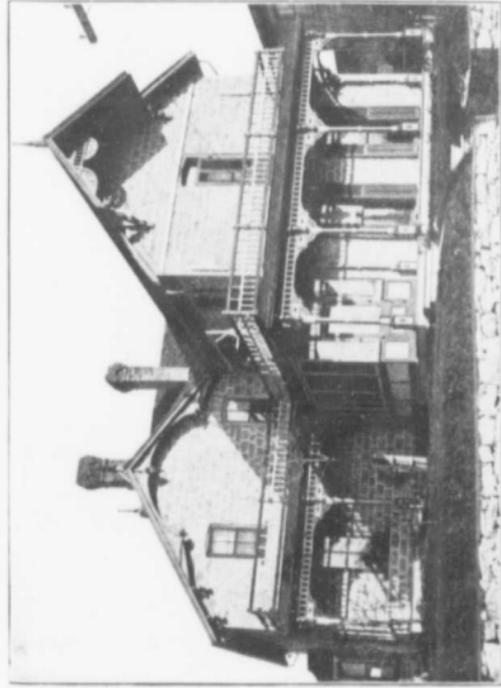
THE PRESBYTERIAN MANSE.



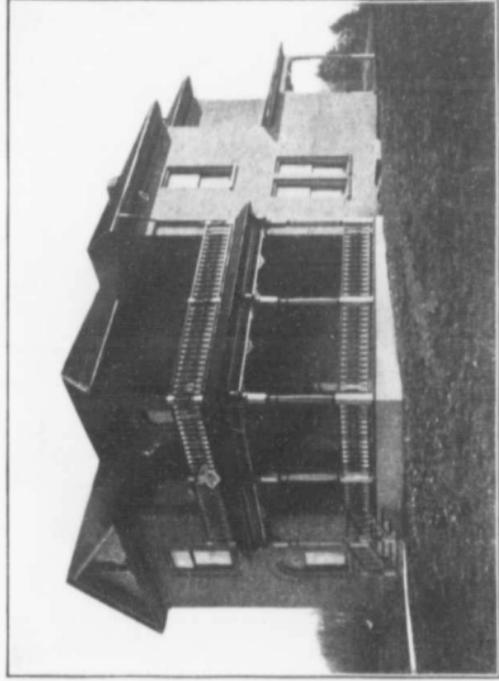
RESIDENCE OF GEO. D. FORBES.



RESIDENCE OF JAS. EAGLE



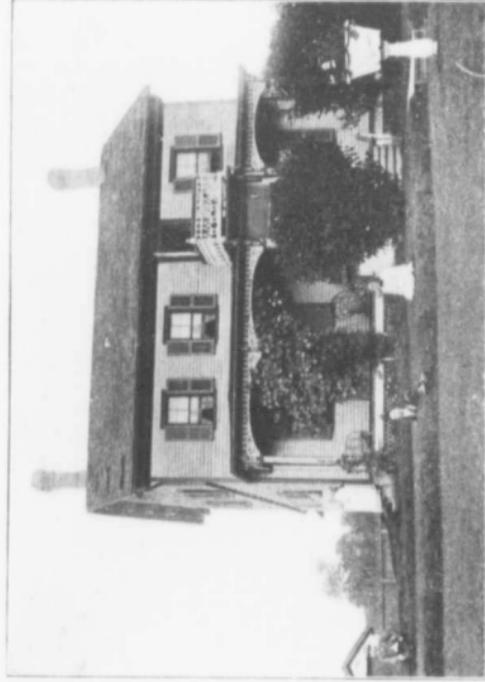
RESIDENCE OF GEO. E. CHIPMAN



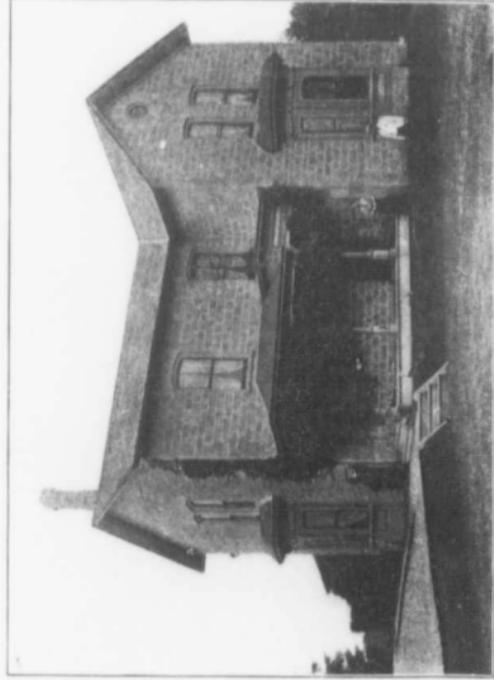
RESIDENCE OF DAVID S. FANABAKER.



RESIDENCE OF DR. R. J. LOCKHEART.



RESIDENCE OF PRINCIPAL KNOWLES



RESIDENCE OF THOS. SHAW.



RESIDENCE OF W. D. FRASER.



TROPHIES WON BY THE HESPELER RIFLE ASSOCIATION.



TOWN COUNCIL, FOR 1903.

1. ALF. G. PAISE.  
4. WIL. MEE.

2. L. A. W. BRODIE, RECV.  
3. J. D. RAMSEY.

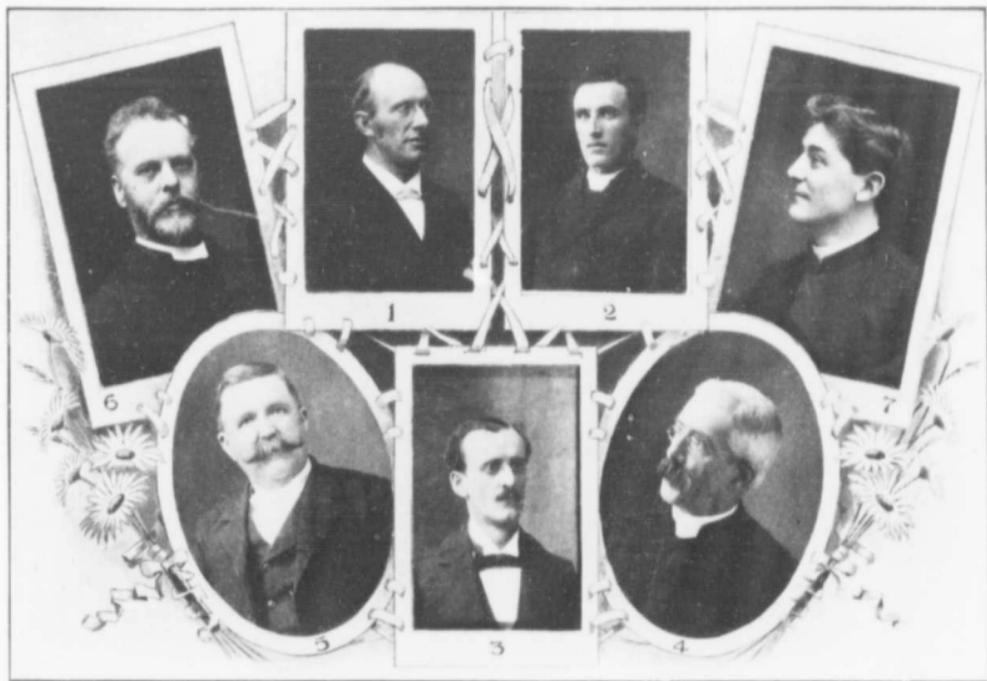
5. JAMES EAGLE, JR.  
6. A. J. BREWSTER, Clerk and Treasurer.





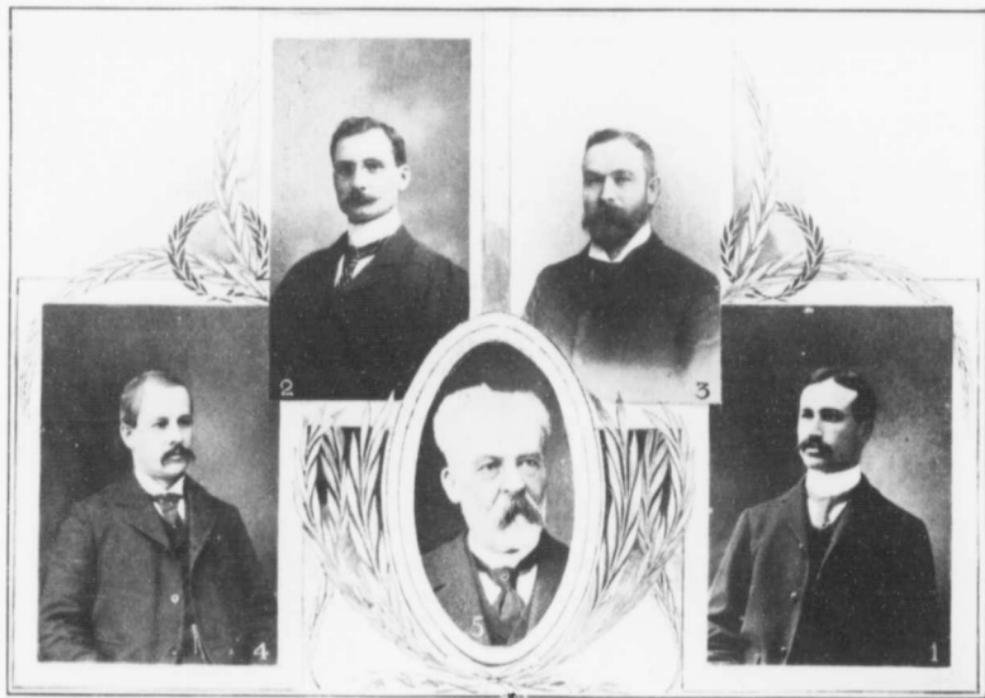
THE TOWN OFFICIALS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 2. R. H. KNOWLES, Principal of Public School.  | 3. ENOCH E. EATON, Chief of Fire Brigade.   |
| 4. A. H. WITTRAM, Assessor and C. P. R. Agent. | 1. A. J. BEBSTER, Town Clerk and Treasurer. |
| 6. J. D. RAMSEY, Second in Command of Schools. | 5. DR. R. MCINTYER, Medical Health Officer. |
|  | 7. T. McMASTER, Chief of Police.            |



THE TOWN CLERGYMEN.

6. REV. J. W. SHELTON, Methodist. 1. REV. ADOLPH EGGERS, Lutheran. 2. REV. ROBT. POCK, Presbyterian. 7. REV. FATHER GEHL, Roman Catholic.  
 5. REV. A. R. MACDONALD, Baptist. 3. REV. S. M. HAYES, Evangelical. 4. REV. WM. DODD, Anglican.



OUR PROFESSIONAL MEN.

4. DR. A. OGDEN.

2. DR. S. E. CHARLES.

3. DR. R. J. LOCKHART.

5. DR. R. H. McINTYRE.

1. DR. C. K. HENDERSON, DENTIST.



C. M. SCHULTZ,  
Boot and Shoe Merchant.



S. H. NORTHCOTT,  
Dry Goods Merchant.



HERMANN KRIEG,  
Coal and Wood Merchant.



E. E. DORMAN,  
Proprietor of Commercial Hotel.



B. BARBER,  
Photographer.



G. H. WORTHINGTON,  
Proprietor of Worthington Drug Co.



JOHN REVITZER,  
Proprietor of Commercial Hotel.



THOS. SHAW,  
County Commissioner.



W. A. KREBS, M.L.A.



GEDA D. FORBES,  
Who will be Hospital's First Mayor.



SERGEANT ARTHUR D. DANGLEISH,  
Just returned from South Africa.



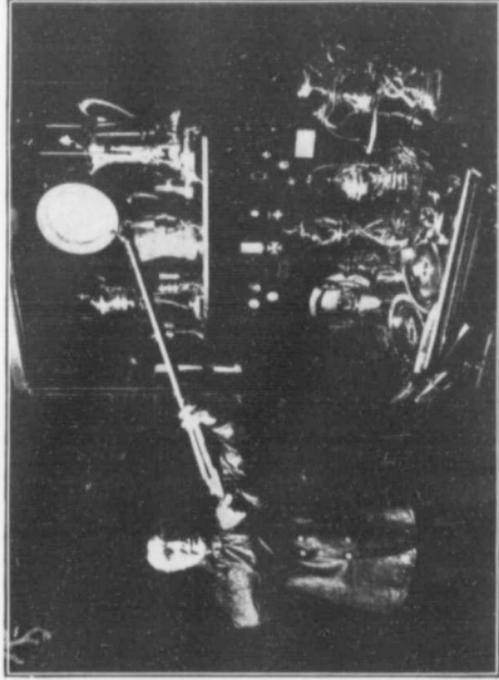
GEDA E. CHAPMAN,  
Postmaster.



THE LATE GEO. GUNTHER.



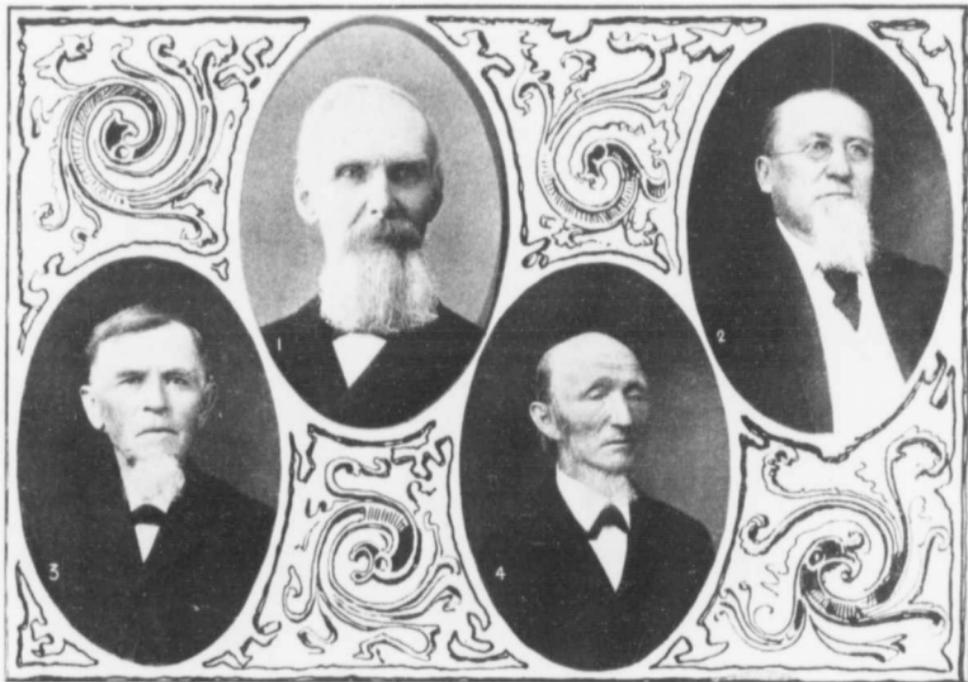
REV. FATHER CRAVEN, R.C.



JOSH WAYER,  
Champion wing-shot of Canada, and a few of his trophies.

GROUP OF BUSINESS MEN, TAKEN AT THE MERCHANTS POINT A YEAR OR TWO AGO.





A QUARTETTE OF EARLY SETTLERS.

3. ADOLPH SCHMIDT.

1. JAMES ANDERSON.

4. CHAS. FIDGEE.

2. CHRIS. PAIST.



ANOTHER LOT OF PIONEERS.

1. ANDREW B. JARDINE.

2. DAVID PASARAKEE.

3. JAMES P. JOHNSON.

4. ELIAS WILMAN.

5. PETER E. GILCHRIST.



THESE MEN HAVE LIVED IN HESPELER FROM EARLY YOUTH TO OLD AGE.

1. DAVID H. WITMER,  
4. GEO. LONGE.

2. JOHN ZEYD.  
5. GEO. ALLERDORF.

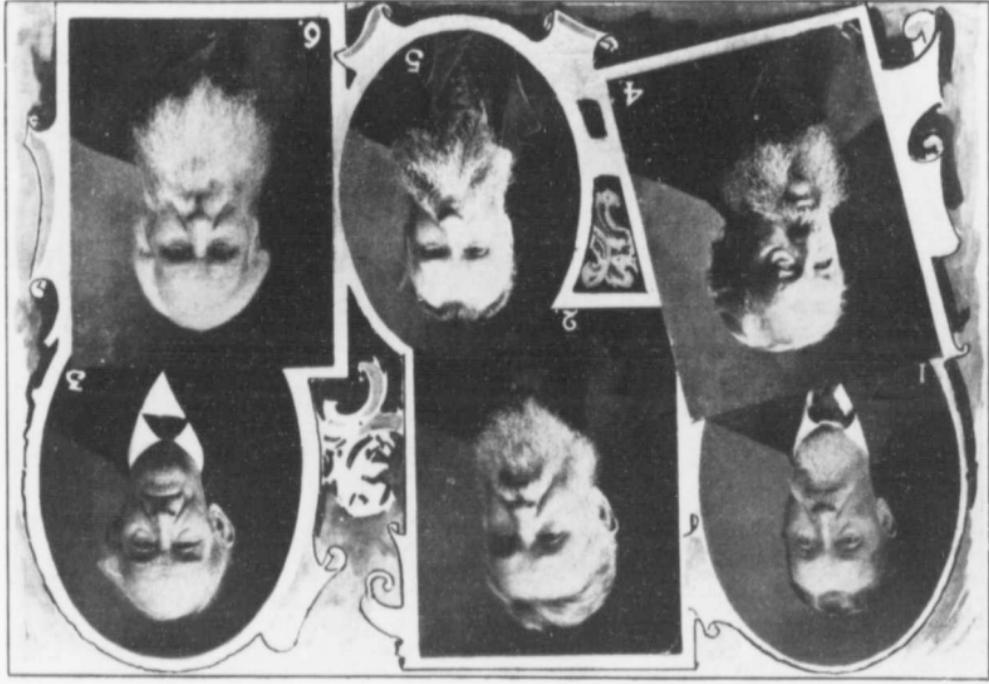
3. H. McTEARNEY  
6. JONATHAN SCHOFIELD.

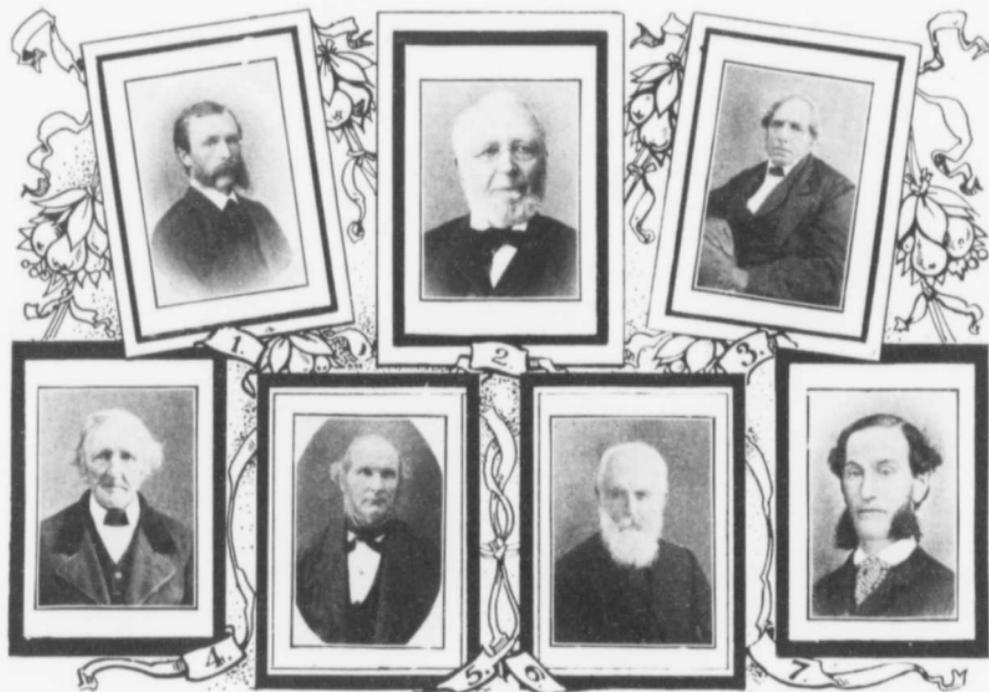
1. JOHN PETER.  
4. LOUIS KIRBY.

2. EDWARD HARRIS.  
5. JOHN HILL.

3. EDWARD HARRIS.  
6. EDWARD HARRIS.

A GROUP OF THE OLD BISHOPS.





MEN OF THE PAST.

1. THE LATE H. M. FARR,      2. THE LATE ROBT. FORBES,      3. THE LATE ELIAS BERGEY,  
4. THE LATE ADAM PANABAKER,      5. THE LATE WALTER RENWICK,      6. THE LATE JOHN SIFES,      7. THE LATE JOHN CHAPMAN.

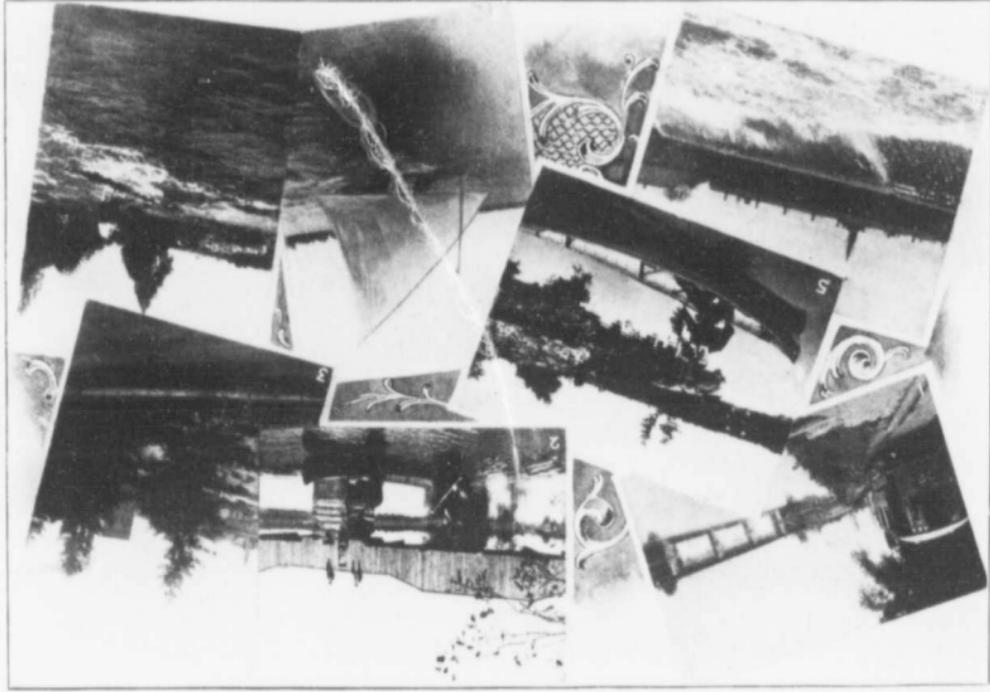


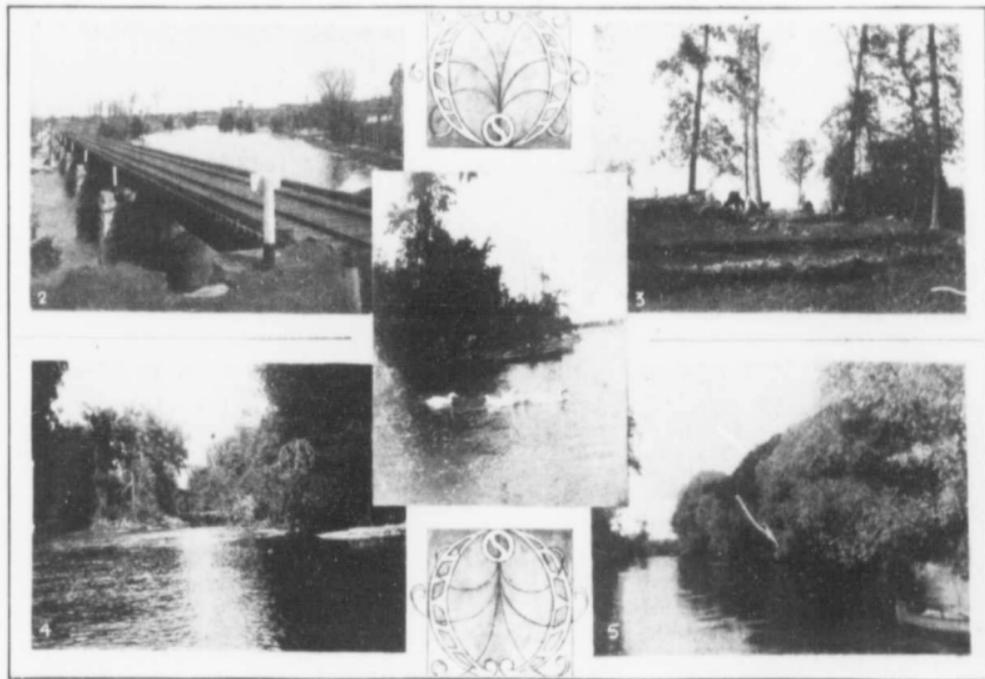
MORE MEN OF THE PAST.

1. THE LATE SQUIRE PIER.      2. THE LATE JACOB HENFRIEK.      3. THE LATE DAVID BICE.  
4. THE LATE CALVIN CLAYTON.      5. THE LATE JOHN GEARE.      6. THE LATE PHILIP LARKNER.      7. THE LATE ADAM SHAW.

1. GROSS HORNS FOR THE BIRN.      2. Looking South from AVENUE STREET.  
 3. ONE OF WILB HORN'S FISHING SCENES.      4. The BIRN IS THE BIRN FOR BIRN.  
 5. The BIRN ISLAND.      6. BOGIE AT KIRK'S MILL.  
 7. SAUNO AT FISHER LANE.

SOME PRETTY SCENES IN AND ABOUT HESSELBERG.



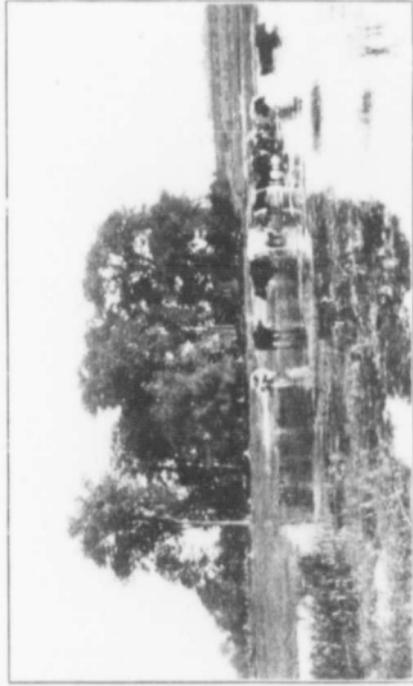


MORE PRETTY SCENES IN AND ABOUT HESPELER.—VIEWS ON THE SPEED.

1. UP THE RIVER (BY BROWN).      2. THE GRAND TRUNK BRIDGE OVER THE SPEED.      3. A VIEW BY PRINGLE.  
 4. SUNLIGHT AND SHADOW.      5. THE CHANNEL.

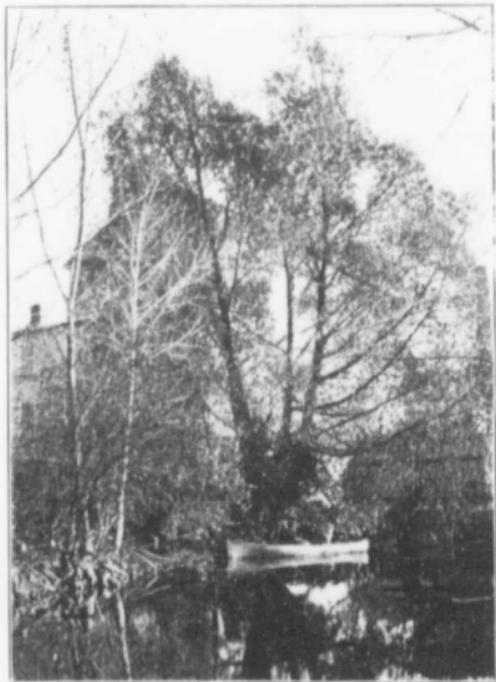


THE OULET.



AT EVENTIDE.

Photo by G. G. G. G.



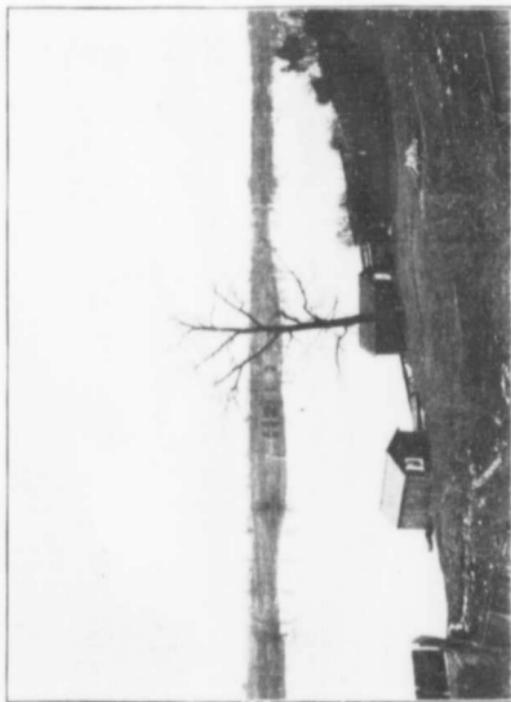
BEHIND THE MILL.



A SYLVAN DREAM.



A QUIET SPOT ON THE SPEED.



THE SPRING HILL AND BROOKS FARM.