



*Jean Seel  
Marius Seel*  
**A HISTORY OF THE  
VILLAGE OF LIPTON  
AND DISTRICT**

**Helen Materi**



Building the stretch of track west from Lemberg to Lipton in 1904 the C.P.R. had a surveyor in charge by the name of Miles Patrick Cotton. Two miles west they put in a water tower and called it Cotton. Eight miles west of Barcarres they built a station and section house and called it Patrick.

The next station, which is now Lipton, was named Miles by the C. P.R. officials, but the little settlement that had started there in 1883 objected. A committee consisting of Joe Atkinson, Charles Neil, Thomas Norris, John Redpath and others chose the name Lipton and the C.P.R. gave their consent. Lipton was chosen in honor of Sir Thomas Lipton, Scottish tea merchant and noted yachtsman, who in 1903 had lost his third try to win America's cup was prominent in the news of the day. This choice prevented three places in a row being named after one person. By this time the railroad had reached Lipton which was the end of the line until the Jumping Deer Creek bridge was built. A boom Town resulted with the influx of settlers. Lipton than became the supply point for the settlers who had previously had to go to Qu'Appelle or Fort Qu'Appelle for their supplies and groceries and was incorporated as the Village of Lipton in 1905.

Ernest Reed served on the first Council when it was incorporated in 1905, but we were unable to get the names of the other original councillors at that time. The councillors of the Village starting from 1919 are as follows:

F.C. Waite -1919. F.W. Newth-1919, then 1927 to 1932. C. Warwyn-1919 to 1921, then 1925 to 1930. R. Seel-1920 to 1934. A.M. Hayward-1920, then 1932 to 1937. T. Mannings, - 1921 to 1923, then 1938 to 1943. J.F. Lacina-1922 to 1923. F. Brinkworth-1924 to 1926. James Walton - 1924 to 1925. A. Gray - 1931 to 1948. P. Thompson 1934 to 1942. L.D. Cohn - 1943-1947. W. Rog-1944 to 1957. J. Yackel - 1948 to 1951. A.F. Waters - 1949 to 1959. A. Beutel - 1952 to 1953. Robert Senft- 1954 to 1956. then 1962 to 1965. A. Serfas - 1957 to 1959. Henry Wiese - 1958 to 1954. then 1968 to 1969. Albert Seib- 1959 to 1960. Jack Vonau - 1958. C. Kellsey - 1960 to 1961. John Hayball - 1960. Ralph Brinkworth - 1961 to 1963. Lorne E. Huber - 1961 to 1965. Wilfred Holtzmann - 1962 to 1963. Morris Marcovitch - 1964 to 1967. John C. Huber 1964 to 1966. Peter Meyer - 1965 to 1966. Reinhold Vonau - 1966 to 1970. Reuben Yackel - 1966 to 1972. Jack S. Walton - 1967 to 1968. William F. Miller - 1967 to 1968. August Hepting - 1969 to 1974. Henry J. Huber - 1969 to 1970. Jim Ripplinger- 1969to 1970. Otto Pelzer - 1971 to 1980. Fred G. Schmidt - to 1980. Gerald C. Huber 1971 to 1974. Walter F. McFadden - 1973 to 1980. Nick Isfan- 1975 to 1980. Ernest Sauer -1975 to 1980.

Village secretaries from 1922 are as follows:N.M. Lawson -1922 to 1929. James Walton - 1931 to 1941. Harold Seel – 1942. F.J. Allen – 1943 to 1948. Jack S. Walton- 1948 to 1955. Elizabeth Brinkworth - 1956. Ralph Ast - 1957. Jack S. Walton - 1959 to 1965. Orpha Huber - 1965 to 1980.

Most of the first business sprang up along Railway Avenue. Beginning at the east end there was a Chinese laundry, a Royal Bank and Waverly Rooming House. The laundry and bank were probably converted into houses and the Waverly House became a garage owned by Mr. Pringle later owned by Mr. G. Yackel, the top storey finally being removed. A new Royal Bank was built on main street in the present location but was burned down and replaced by the red brick building we know so well. Banking business was carried out in a room in Brinkworth's garage while the new bank was being built.

The first Bank Manager was Chas. Irvin, then Mr. Nicols, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Leper, Mr. J. Allen. Then far a time a Mr. Hough came once a week or so from Balcarres as we had no resident manager, then Paul Passler came, followed I think by Mr. Mart Miller, Glenn Fredeickson, John Sellinger, Len Schann, Elmer Scheidt and now Brian Almasi. I hope we didn't miss anyone.

The first grain elevator was the North Star, built in 1905 and run by Chas. Walwyn, it later became the Reliance elevator and finally the United Grain Growers. The Inland elevator was built in 1905 with Harry Palmer as agent was bought by Pioneer, then by Federal, it met its demise in 1970, when it collapsed one summer night. I neglected to mention that the United Grain Growers Elevator is operated by W.F. McFadden.

The Maple Leaf Elevator was operated by Mr. McKay, then J. Pendergast. It was bought by the Federal Elevator Company who in turn sold it the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool who still run it as a "B" elevator. What is now the pool "A" elevator was originally the Saskatchewan Co-operative elevator. It was pulled down and rebuilt by the Pool in 1928 or 29. It was updated with new equipment in 1974. Brian Hynds is the present agent. Mr. A. Gray, Mr. Phil Hornby, Mr. John R. Barber, John MacKenzie and John Nicholson are some of the agents serving the longest number of years and will be well remembered.

The Railway became a major part in the lives of the early settlers as they depended on it for hauling most of their necessities. There were two passenger trains daily, one from the west and one from the east. They met in Lipton with the east bound pulling up to the station while the west pulled onto the siding. When the east bound pulled out, the west bound backed up and pulled up to the station

where it also proceeded to load and unload, then went on its way and the excitement was over for another day.

I remember, as a child running down to the station to watch the trains during school recess. The Old Steam Engine or "Puffing Billie" seemed to hold a fascination for both young and old. There was also a freight train once or twice a week, but with the advent of cars and trucks the use of the Railway became less and less, and the need for repair also became less thus in the early 1950's the Section House was removed having been bought by Mr. Stecyk. The first section foreman I can remember was Mr. Yuras with Mr. Klause assistant. Then Mr. Kotylak with A. Campbell assisting. A Mr. Ondeck was here for a short time too.

The station house was bought by Mr. Ace C. Huber and moved out to the farm by the Gerald Bausmer movers in 1969. It now serves as a cattle shelter in a feed lot.

The steam engine was replaced by the Diesel which Somehow has never held the "Awe and Wonder" of the Old Steam Engine.

There is no passenger train on our line now and the railway is used mostly for hauling grain from our vast wheat growing area.

To those of us who remember, there will always be a bit of nostalgia when we reminisce on the past and recall so many of the things that played such an important part in our lives.

On the corner where the Co-op bulk store now stands there was a General Store owned by Tom Gibson, later owned by Craven and Applegate as a meat market and finally Hardware owned by Mr. C. Walwyn after his building burned on main street when the bank burned down. There was also a tying rail for people to tie their horses to where the Co-Op lumber yard stands. Fisher's owned a restaurant and confectionary which became a Chinese cafe and changed hands numerous times between Mike and Pat Smith, Charles and Jayce Brinkworth, and Etta Huber and Jack and Freda Hunge to name a few and not necessarily in that order. Abe Fisherman owned a general store which Dave Faschman bought and later sold to Lionel and Freda Sussman.

Brinkworth's garage was built on the corner Of Main Street, the first building was burned down, and replaced by the present one. During the war, Trapps awned the business - then Sam Smith, and finally bought by Ralph Brinkworth.

The Lipton Hotel was built on the other corner of Main Street where it still stands and was built by Love and Raymond, later owned by Bill Nix, then Charlie Wright, the hotel had a large Sample Room where the store Travellers could display their merchandise such as clothing, hardware etc. Lipton at that time having a passenger train going west at p.m. and one going east at 7 a.m. making it convenient for stop-overs. The hotel closed up for a time and the contents were sold and was then bought by Dregers around 1920. It has changed hands many times in recent years and is presently owned by Henry and May Stackowich.

Next was Mr. Newths implement shop where he had an office and was sub—Agent for Dominion Lands where people filed their homestead claims. The big event of the season was the Harvest Ball held in the building when the implements were pushed aside and the local citizens "Tripped the Light Fantastic" until the early morning hours.

Mr. Trapp Owned an International Harvester business there in the 1930's. This building and the livery barn were torn down and replaced by a building built by George Fry Sr. in which Ernest Bigalky had a Massey Harris business. Henry J. Huber now has his shop there. West of this was Mr. Larson's Implement shop later owned by Mr. F. Brinkworth Who previously owned a livery stable Which he sold to Mr. Bray. 1912, Moses Baltzan built a general store Which became Mr. Sam Naemark's Store and meat market. The Co-op house is located there. Across on Fife Street was a General Store owned by Jampoloskys, later owned by Pecketts and finally by Mr. L.D. Cohen. Next was Mr. Hawkin•s Harness and Shoe Repair Shop, where Lorne Huber now lives. Mr. George Schuster owned a blacksmith shop next, this was rented by a Mr. Schwam then Mr. Rink, and finally by Mr. W. Rog in 1930. Mr. Teichmann built

a cinderbrick shop which he black smithed in for a time then sold to Mr. Rog Who did blacksmith work until he retired in 1972. The building has since been removed and the Wm. Schmidts now live in a new home built on the lot.

Mr. Kellsey Sr. built a livery barn across the street where Gerald Bausmer now lives. Dave Kellsey had a livery service and spent many a cold trip taking the Doctor to visit the sick. Clarence Kellsey had a draying business and hauled supplies from the C.P.R. station to the store.

Buster Dobson also owned a draying business as there was plenty of work for both in those days before cars became so popular.

Main Street - East side - Brinkworth's garage, now White Implements owned by H. Brinkworth. Next the Lumber Yard first by D.H. McDonald, With C. Wood as manager. Bought by North American Lumber, Mr. Graham Mngr. then F. MacPhedron, Joe Lacina and A. Bailey to name a by Henry Wiese as Buy-Rite Lumber now owned by David Herrig.

The place now owned by Bill and Sandra Ford was the first post Office built by Joe Atkinson, later Owned by Mr. Calver when it then included patented drugs and an ice cream parlor. Reg and Irene Waters bought the business after the second World War. Later building a new post office farther down the street, and after a few years they built another post office on the west side of Main Street which is still in use today. Presently managed by Shirley Senft, assisted by Lorena Wahl and Eleanor Schmidt. The first Post Office changed hands many times as a drug store, novelties and lunch counter with such owners as Deigel, Wagner, Inge Wolf, Becker and Bausmer to name a few and not necessarily in that order.

The present Co-op grocery store was built on the site of Tom Mannings general store, later by Epstein before being torn down and rebuilt by the Co-op. Billy Waites barber shop and pool came next, later owned by Percy Thompson, then George F. Huber. Payne's flour and feed store was attached to the barber Shop, next was Schoffield's Hardware store which later became Costy Jampolsky's Hardware and John Jampolsky's General Store. Bought by Harold and Hertha Seel when Albert Beutel rebuilt it. Norman Reisdorf owned it for a time and it is now Don's Lucky Dollar Store. Gerald and Pauline Bausmer have a dry good store in this area too.

Nelson Foster owned an implement shop which later became a butcher shop. We couldn't remember the first owner but Emil Miller owned it for many years back in the 1920's or sooner. Other owners were Albert Beutel, A. T. Huber, P. Dross and Reisdorf. Rebuilt in recent years by Reisdorf and now Operated by Jack Wilson.

Next is the second Post Office mentioned before now operated by Ernest Reisdorf for sale of fertilizer and owned by Hertha Wilson.

Across Shamrock Avenue. Dr. McInnes had an office and drug store. This was bought by the Rural Telephone Company in 1918 with Mr. Jack Love as operator and troubleman. Later operated by Jim Pendergast and family, followed by Bert North, Bill and Lillian Meckling, with many operators too numerous to remember. Finally taken over by the director of Rural Telephone Company until the Saskatchewan Government installed the automatic telephones. The property was bought by the Village and the new Fire Hall and Village Office stands on Site. The telephone office is being erected across the street.

Backing up a little, we neglected to mention the Wagner Bakery which was much appreciated and is now closed. Also there was a Beaver Lumber Yard on the corner under the management of a Mr. Campbell who incidentally is the father of Clarence Campbell who became the president of the National Hockey League. (Just thought this might be of interest to all you hockey fans.)

West side of Main Street from the north, the hotel, already mentioned next to the Royal Bank then a Hardware Store owned by J.D. Dillon & Company and operated by Ernie Reed, later owned and operated by Chas. Walwyn, the bank and hardware both burned down and the red brick bank we all

know was built and Mr. Walwyn moved to where the Co-op bulk now stands, the old Walwyn building still remains on the back lane.

A General Store built and operated by Heptings, later by Sussmans, finally owned by Louis Koloniski and bought by the Lipton Recreational Board and replaced by a new building housing the bowling alley, pool hall and Senior Citizen's center.

A small rooming house was next run by Rempke, then by Chowans also served as a doctor's office.

A Real Estate office owned by Mr. J.L. Wilkinson and Eric McWean was later owned by James Walton as Village Office and Real Estate. Part of the building was used and run by Chas. Scott as a butcher shop. These buildings were torn down and replaced by Chas. J. Huber's Electrical Shop.

Next, Kowflesch Brothers General store, later sold to Leggate and Thompson, bought by Billy Shields then traded to Harry Jampolsky for his farm west of Lipton where Leo Wesa now farms. The building now owned by George W. Huber was built by Philip Seel around 1918 and was operated as a confectionary. Later operated as a liquor store by Dave White, then a grocery store by Sam Naemark and finally as a grocery store by George Huber. Farther south, the R.M. Office was built and was also used as the Village Office until 1965 when the Village built their own office. This is now the Lipton Book Nook. Mr. Wm. Banick built a bakery next to the R.M. building which provided bread to Lipton for many years.

The first school was built where the present community hall stands. This was two storey building which became the village hall when the red brick four room school was built in 1917. The upstairs of the old school housed the Rural Municipal office and Legion Room. The downstairs became the Village Hall which was torn down and replaced by the present hall in 1937 with the new dining area, kitchen and bathroom facilities built on by the Village of Lipton, the R.M. Of Lipton, and Tullymet in 1967 as our Centennial project at which time it became the Lipton Centennial Community Hall. A new modern School was built in 1958 with more rooms and a gymnasium added later.

The Lipton United Church was Lipton's first church built in 1905 by Mr. Brinkworth, Mr. Newth, Mr. Joe Atkinson and Dr. McInnis and was known as the Lipton Union Church since all its founders were of different denominations. It was served by a Presbyterian minister until it became officially the United Church in 1925. Presently served by Rev. J. Lambert.

The Anglican church was built in 1906. Both these churches are the original. The Anglican Church is presently served by Rev. Sells.

The first Evangelical Church was built in 1923 and dedicated by Reverend Domm. The new Church built in 1967, now served by Rev, Daku.

The Jewish Synagogue must have been one of the original churches. We don't know when it was built, but it was removed in 1961 when Mr. & Mrs. P.G. Smith bought the property and built their house on the lot.

The St. John Lutheran church was built in 1933 and the first resident pastor was Rev. Dahle. The present minister is Rev. Roberts.

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was built in 1953 with Rev. Threinion as the first pastor. Presently served by Rev. Symons. The congregation had previously held their service in the United Church.

The Roman Catholic Church was moved into town in 1950 and as it was only a shell the parishioners formed groups and finally lined it up and transformed it into suitable place of worship It was replaced by a more modern type building in 1966. Prior to 1950 services were held in a home, the school or Village Hall.

The Fire Hall was built by Mr. Panzer in 1924. The first Fire Engine was a chemical type and was pulled by six men until they finally arranged to have a team of horses or truck available for emergencies.

In 1961 a Coventry Climax Model ACP was ordered, the old fire hall was torn down, and replaced by a cinder brick building and the old fire bell was replaced by a siren in 1963. In 1978 a new fire hall was built which will house two fire trucks. Fire Fighters Training School was held and we now have a fully equipped Fire Brigade, consisting of a Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and eleven volunteer members.

1929 or 1930 electricity came to Lipton and although many people couldn't afford to have the lights installed in their home, most business places had it and the streets were lit up at night enabling people to find their way home more easily after dark.

At one time, Lipton had a flour mill on the lot where Walter and Kay Rog now live. It was quite exciting to hear them blow the whistle at noon the day they happened to be making flour.

There was a tennis court where the medical building now stands, an open air skating rink where the Lion's kiddies park is. This was the scene of many a rousing hockey game and once a year Ice Carnival when anyone who could skate got into costume and competed for prizes as well as racing and just anything to add the entertainment. The spectators stood around the wall on top of the snow which had been shoveled off during winter, no one to mind the cold and really enjoyed themselves. A new Skating Arena was built in 1960 and has also been the scene of many a good hockey game and figure skating carnival.

There was a very active curling club way back then too. A one sheet rink was made in the Exhibition Building (Will tell you more about that later). A two sheet rink was built in 1937 using poplar lumber and home made two by fours. The poplar for the 2x4's were cut from a bluff on the Norris farm and Tom Norris and Mr. Wm. Newth squared them off with a bench Saw. Mr. Brinkworth and Mr. Bert Anderson hauled poplar lumber from northern Saskatchewan for siding and Mr. Wm. Klein made some of the shingles and some were bought. The "Old Rink" stood the test of time and was witness to many a good game (and probably a few bad ones) until it was replaced by a new quonset style building in 1978.

The Agricultural Fair was a big event every summer when farmers proudly showed their livestock and competed for prizes in various events. There was an Exhibition Building where the women and children also showed their wares, competed in bread cake and other baking and handwork, and children displaying handicraft and wild flower displays to name a few.

All in all, it was an event that took second place to nothing in its day. The Chautauqua was also looked forward to with great enthusiasm every fall. This was a five or six day affair which travelled the country showing a different program every evening and some afternoon shows. There was drama, lectures and music like nothing we have seen since. There was real excitement at school the day the "Chautauqua Lady" came to teach games.

Another big event was the Circus which came to town every summer. They set up the "Big top" on the C.P.R. lot across from Cohen's garage and most of the circus acts we see on television were seen right here in Lipton. I sometimes think we saw more of Culture and the Good Things of Life back then than are seen today.

The 1930's depression brought a halt to all these forms of entertainment. There was also a school fair every year when the schools of the inspectorate gathered together to compete in handicrafts, singing and public speaking, etc.

An Agricultural Train also came for a day or and the school pupils were allowed to go down to the Station and See the exhibits that were all supposed to be educational. It was all very exciting, and something well worth remembering.

Some of the more modern conveniences were much appreciated when in 1961 a deep well was sunk and we had water on the Tap. This was even more when the sewer was put in in 1963. It was around this time too, that Natural Gas Was installed.

In the 1920's and 30's Mr. P. Seel had a Massey Harris business on the lot where the W. Materi residence now stands.

John Yackel built a John Deere Implement shop which he later sold to Henry Wiese in the early 1940's which he in turn sold to Ace Huber in 1964. The building burned down in 1968 and Mr. J. Gabriel now has a mobile home on the lot.

Sam Kovish, better known as Sam Cabbage in those days, owned a second-hand store where the H.R. Robertson residence now stands. So you see we had a great variety Of businesses "Way Back When".

My Sincere apologies for any errors or omissions and my thanks to Mr. Jake Huffman without whose help I couldn't have oven done this well.

Helen Materi