

# Settler's descendent with new ideas

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It was a good thing that Rod Pinkney had not seen the current issue of our paper when he received me last week, or he might not have been so affable. There it was, in big type, announcing the Mississaugan who would be the subject of my story this week — and the announcement had the name wrong.

It was Bob Pinkney forsooth, instead of Rod. Only a printer could have pulled a blooper like that — I hope.

The Mississaugans I have interviewed for this series so far have been representative citizens, prominent locally, but not Big Names on the national stage. Although some will undoubtedly gain national recognition the thing which has impressed me is the satisfaction they are finding in serving their own community — this community of Mississauga.

### Farming Background

Rod Pinkney is true to pattern — he may have his eye on Ottawa, but his heart is here. He is different from most of the others I have interviewed for with the exception of Harry Hare they have been late-comers to the area. Rod is a native, descended from one of the early settlers who took up land near Cookville in



Rod Pinkney, descended from one of the early settlers in Cookville, with his wife Helen and their two children, Elizabeth and Eric.

Pinkney, Rod.

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world we dream about. Nor will our children see it, but if we do the best we can, the promise will be a little clearer for them . . ."

Something like that, it was.

### **Dreams Dreams**

Mostly we talked about planning a subject of special interest to Rod Pinkney and one about which he has a lot of good practical ideas. He is particularly concerned that urban development in the years to come should be based on a communication system designed to facilitate and support it.

"It's no good waiting for this or that area to be developed, then linking them together at enormous expense after the logical transit routes have been built up," he said. "We should be more fore-sighted than that. As far as we can see into the future it looks as if some form of go-transit will be the ideal system of communication in the urbanized area developing around the Golden Horseshoe — it will be some form of communication, anyway, demanding land routes. Monorail — that's a possibility.

### By ARTHUR LOWE

Pinkney secured a job with the Swift Canadian Company as a chemist. He held this for five years and then, with the war on, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy and put in a year and a half's stint below decks. After the war he gravitated into the investment business and spent eight years with the investment house of Walwyn Stodgell. From there it was only a short step into his own highly successful enterprise.

In 1957 Rod Pinkney married Helen Taylor of Hamilton and they have two children, Eric aged 6, and Elizabeth aged 7 . . .

It was listening to him talk of his children that I caught something of Rod Pinkney's dreams. It was some silly comment of mine about the apparent futility of planning ahead in a world where the only news was bad news that unleashed his tongue. I can't remember his exact words, but it was something like this.

"My children are going to live in this world and I am going to do what I can to make it a better place for them and for other youngsters. Because things seem to be in a mess, that's no reason why we should throw up our hands. We may not be able to clear up the mess, but even if we can make a start cleaning it up — that's something.

"We won't see the final result, nor much promise perhaps of the fine new

### **A Planner**

"It is my feeling that the land for these routes should be purchased now while it is still available at comparatively low cost. I think we should be planning now for twenty years ahead — not forever waiting, then straining to catch up."

That's Rod Pinkney for you — a Mississaugan who has dreamed dreams, who is restless to get going and who believes in looking ahead.