

Downtown Hamilton

I remember streetcars instead of buses,
and Cambridge Clothes, The Market on York Street, Kresges,
Robert's Meat Market, and Woolworth's, Robinson's, and Eaton's.
I worked at Robinson's and made 25 cents an hour.
I was supervisor at Cambridge Clothes for 23 years.
I worked at Kresges.
Me too! I made the hotdogs...I ate a lot of hotdogs!
And what about The Market on York Street...
Only local growers then
Ah, fresh fruit from the market
And trucks with big wheels of cheese...oh give me a taste!
Did you know that if you went at night you could get it cheaper,
that's what my dad did.
A vase of gladiolas for 25 cents.
The fish smell, it was very strong, and they all came
wrapped up like a parcel
Sweet fish, the surprise that we knew about
And remember, the trout is cooked, when his eyes are pearls.
And what about Robert's Meat Market...
Where chickens in the summertime were sometimes left out too long
And Kresges and Woolworth's on the same corner...
And what about the lunch counter...
Do you remember the lunch counter?
Best clam chowder, 5 cents a bowl, and 2 butter tarts for a nickel
Oh, but the shellfish in England...
And Eaton's, and Robinson's, and The Right House...
Do you remember Cadman from The Right House? the milliner?
Or the elevator lady from Eaton's with her white gloves?
Or what about Robinson's, and the man at the bottom of the escalator?
Or when the mannequins would walk through the store
showing the dresses?
I remember streetcars instead of buses,
And Cambridge Clothes, The Market on York Street, Kresges,
Robert's Meat Market, and Woolworth's, Robinson's, and Eaton's.