



***A.J. Smeltzer***

At the tender age of two, A.J. Smeltzer arrived in Sackville with his parents from Halifax in 1897. He attended school on the Old Sackville Road.

Smeltzer earned his living by being a blacksmith on Sackville Drive, approximately where Disco Deli is today. He was known for his decorative ironwork. It has often been said that Smeltzer made the perfect horseshoe, which is interesting considering he never actually shod a horse, as the story goes.



**Albert (Bert) Smeltzer, a well-known local blacksmith (on left), stands in front of the old blacksmith shop.**

When not working near his forge, Smeltzer worked for Standard Paving, and at twenty-one years of age he became a school trustee. He was also a founding member of the Sackville Chamber of Commerce and the Sackville Volunteer Fire Department. Smeltzer was elected to three terms as a county councillor, with his last term expiring in 1970, after nine years of elected office.

Mr. Smeltzer was an active member of the community outside business and political circles. He was also a member of the St. John Anglican Church, the Bedford Masonic Lodge, and served as a board member on the Halifax County School Board.

As a result of his dedication and devotion to the community of Sackville, a school on Prince Street was named in his honour as a reminder of the good works and contributions he made to help Sackville become the community it is today.



**A group of children outside Smeltzer's blacksmith shop circa 1930.**