

Speaking of Our Music

"Gospel Boogie Woogie"

By Haldor Lillenas

No, it was not a tap dancing performance! A bit late in arriving, I entered the vestry and heard voices and instrumental music, but more distinctly, the tramping of feet, as the people instinctively fell into the rhythm of the tempo of the music. Where was this, you inquire? At the Church of the Nazarene, location not named.

Apparently the music of our church, and that of many other denominations as well, is being greatly influenced by the modern trend of the radio music which has been in vogue for many years. Before the day of radio, and more recently television, hillbilly singing was heard largely in the hills from whence it came and seemed to be welcomed only by those whose musical tastes required such music. Now the musical trend seems to be drifting more and more to the poorest type of music. Many of these songs are of low grade, from a literary, theological, and musical standpoint.

Fortunately the congregational singing among Christian people has not as yet been seriously affected by this trend. We still sing a solid type of hymns and gospel songs. It is true that many of these songs are being supplanted by the use of a great number of unrelated choruses which may have their place if properly used. But up to the present there is fortunately a feeling among Christian people that there can be no substitute for the well-written, theologically correct, and musically excellent, solid hymns and gospel songs of the Church.

The dangerous trend toward the light and trashy, half-gospel, half-jazz type of songs is to be found among the special singers of today. Unfortunately, the entertainment-loving public has encouraged this trend. Some years ago, I attended one of our large camp meetings. It was an afternoon service. A well-known and highly gifted men's quartet sang a number; the people cheered loudly. Another number was given, more cheering—the atmosphere seemed to be that of a concert. Finally, announcements were made, and this was followed by a gospel soloist who earnestly sang with the Spirit and the understanding, thus creating a spirit of worship which permitted the messenger of God to begin his sermon with some hope of having a sympathetic hearing.

I am aware of the fact that musical tastes differ. We are not pleading for a type of singing that goes far above the heads of the general public. There are those who are genuinely helped by the singing of persons who have very ordinary and untrained voices. A singer must use the type of songs he can best sing, but surely there are songs of a worth-while character which can be sung by those of very ordinary attainments, songs that will edify the saints and bring conviction to sinners.

Regardless of what gifts and graces a singer may possess, am I not correct in saying that a gospel singer should not sing to entertain the public? We are not commissioned to sing so as to tickle the fancy of the public, nor to present the gospel in a "cute" or catchy manner. Our task is to present the glorious gospel of our risen Lord through the magic means

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The King's Highway

Church News

RADIO BROADCAST CKMR NEWCASTLE

Dear Highway Friends:

I know you have plenty of financial burdens of your own, but we bring this before you for your prayerful consideration. We feel that to get the message of full salvation into the homes along the northern shore is a real challenge to our denomination. The station is small and cannot be heard by many of our own people, but it has been heard as far as Quebec on other broadcasts, and we are trusting the Lord to bless the Word as it goes out over the air. It would be wonderful to meet people in heaven who were saved through our radio work.

The cost of broadcasting is \$18.00 per week, and we feel if God's people will support our effort we can, with God's blessing, accomplish something for Him. We trust to hear from you in the near future, and in the meantime let us keep on the Highway of Holiness.

Yours for souls,

Neil Rice,

Doaktown, N. B.

P. S.—THE TIME OF THE BROADCAST IS FRIDAY, 7.00 P. M.—7.30 P. M.

SPECIAL SERVICES AT PERTH NOV. 9 — 23

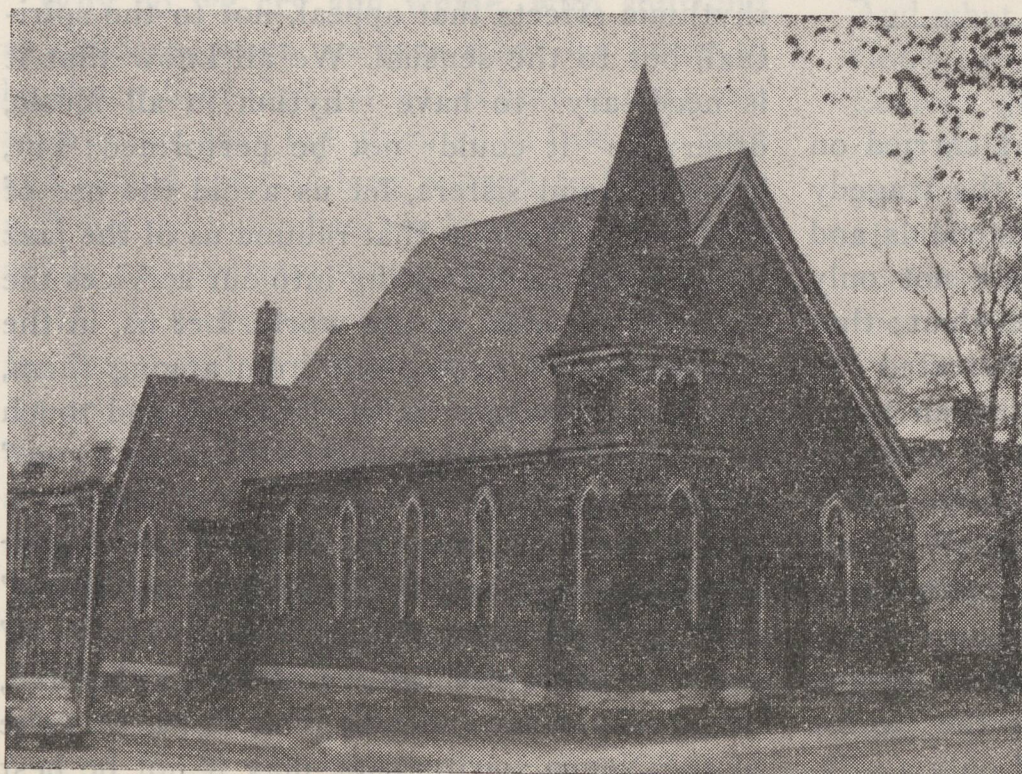
The Church at Perth, N. B., is now holding special services with Rev. R. T. Sellick, evangelist, and Deverne Mullen, song evangelist. This is a prayer call. Be sure to pray.

WHY NOT SEND A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO THE KING'S HIGHWAY TO A FRIEND?

HAS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE KING'S HIGHWAY EXPIRED? THE YELLOW ADDRESS LABEL WILL SHOW.

MRS. H. C. ARCHER'S ILLNESS

The many friends of Mrs. H. C. Archer will appreciate a further word concerning her condition. She has just returned home following three weeks in hospital and is slowly gaining strength. Our aged sister thanks all who have sent letters and cards during her illness. Prayer on her behalf is still requested.



THE REFORMED
BAPTIST CHURCH
AT HALIFAX, N. S.

FREDERICTON, N. B.

Dear Highway Readers:

It has been the high privilege of the Fredericton Reformed Baptist Church to have a gracious visitation from the Lord, Brother J. W. Turpel, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene of Gardiner, Maine, was our evangelist. He was no stranger to the Church or Pastor as this was the third meeting he has held in this Church, but every one felt he excelled himself in this meeting. We felt the services were good all through with some seekers at the altar, but on last Sunday of the revival we had an extra portion of the blessing of the Lord and a great service with a fine group praying through at the altar.

It gladdens our heart so many of our young folk praising the Lord for victory. We give God all the glory, and feel like pressing on to greater times in the Lord.

Yours seeking the lost,

H. E. MULLEN.

O'LEARY, P. E. I.

Dear Editor:

Greetings from the Church of the Nazarene, O'Leary, P. E. I. This church has been helped and blessed by the wonderful ministry of Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Mullen and their son, Paul, song evangelist. Their messages were God-anointed, conviction was upon the people, which resulted in thirty-four souls seeking God for salvation or holiness. The meeting began October 5th and closed Sunday, October 26th. We greatly appreciate the ministry of the Mullins. Trust the Lord will richly bless them as they go back to Truro.

Sincerely in Him,

(Rev.) Owen F. Underwood

SPECIAL SERVICES AT MONCTON, N. B.

The Moncton Church recently held special services with Dr. D. E. Wilson, of Binghamton, N. Y., evangelist, and Rev. and Mrs. L. Brechieson, singers and musicians. The faithful and scriptural preaching, and the ministry of music and sacred song, plus the blessing of God, resulted in some victories at the altar, and blessing to many others who attended.