

The modernized Academy Theatre was, a few decades ago, known as the Academy of Music. Music of great variety was a prominent part of local theatrical productions.

One of the popular Sunday night inter - denominational Sabbath night drawing appeals was the Sing-song when a dapper business man Alex Clarke packed the old Academy. He appeared in front of a large screen and with the use of a long school teacher's pointer, led the crowd in a lusty and harmonized chorus with "Throw out the Life Line", "Rescue the Perishing", "Onward Christian Soldiers", "The Old Rugged Cross", "Where is my Wandering Boy Tonight" "Rock of Ages" and "O Happy Day".

He paused sufficiently long to have the collection plates filled with nickels and dimes and a few quarters, with the occasional green buck. But it was a popular rendezvous for old and young.

An inter - denominational Sabbath night assembly of an entirely different origin took place last Sunday night in the Academy Theatre. The theme "Festival of Faith" proved very fitting for the excellent programme.

In a sense it could have been termed "Festival of Music" as the largest adult choir, (160 voices), ever to appear before a local audience presented a tremendous programme.

Added to the musical success was the wholesome and educational contribution made by a number of Lindsay clergymen and lay readers from the different Lindsay churches.

It was a type of Sunday night programme never before attempted or equalled in Lindsay and the one thousand people who attended enjoyed every moment. The committee in charge was inter-denominational.

The work and accompaniment of the large choir was due chiefly to the ability and talent of William Perry, organist and choirmaster of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Don Lozon, organist of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. The young conductor contributed a beautiful solo in magnificent voice.

The "Festival of Faith" was an inter-church and inter-denominational success, a distinct step forward in the worldwide movement regarding the universal church.

Proceeds of the Festival will help the Santa Claus Stocking Fund. This fund dates back to the days of Allan Gilles and was handed over to the Kiwanis Club for collection and distribution. For several years past the Stocking Fund was handled by T. H. Stinson, Q.C., who made the annual appeal and assisted the Children's Aid Society by the administration of the fund.

* * *

Historical, beautiful and unique; past, present and future; retrospect, aspect and prospect. These were the three usages of words used by Rev. Canon Hesketh of Peterboro at the 80th anniversary services held Sunday morning at St. Paul's Anglican Church. Canon Hesketh was rector for 14 years at St. Paul's.

As well as being the 80th anniversary of the opening of the church, it was the 129th anniversary of St. Paul's Anglican parish.

Many were in reminiscent mood, especially when Canon Hesketh referred to the fact that the original church was built 129 years ago on Kent Street, the former site of the Post Office and the present location of the Dominion Stores.

To bring this fact home to the congregation the present incumbent David Lemon called the attention of the members to very ancient church records and valuable historic documents on display in the Marsh Memorial Hall and these were viewed by hundreds of people.

The ancient relics included a picture showing the interior of the church on Kent Street, a large frame structure with a big auditorium. The picture shows the old organ, the artistic oil lamps, the rows of wooden seats, the sturdy pulpit and other articles.

Canon Hesketh believes that the present church on Russell Street is one of the finest to be found east of Toronto, "It is beautiful in its architectural design, stately and impressive", he said.

It is interesting to learn that John Brooks, father of Mrs. W. Hungerford of Colborne Street, a member of St. Paul's, worked on the fine woodwork in the present tower and belfrey at St. Paul's, and was a contractor by occupation and employed with the Public Works Department.

George Coombs, father of Elwood Coombs, Wellington Street was one of the stone masons engaged on the erection of St. Paul's and Elwood's father and grandfather were stone masons when the Presbyterian Church was built.

Miss Margaret Hoadley, Elgin street, who never fails to attend church and was out on Sunday for the anniversary, recalls that her brother, sister and herself attended the present church as small children,

eighty years ago.

Miss Hoadley, who has a splendid memory, recalled past organists and choirmasters including Mrs. Palen, Miss Leary and also stated that many years ago School Inspector A. Knight was organist and choirmaster.

Anniversary services were attended by many from other churches and one remarked on the large number of beautiful stained glass windows and the loveliness of the ceiling with its fine woodwork, as well as the tone of the bells in the tower.