

Main Street

with Ford Moynes

Of all the religious denominations, or sects, in Lindsay today the Salvation Army is the only one which literally went through "Hell and Brimstone" to champion the fight for existence. This week the Salvation Army will observe 86 years of continuous service.

Eighty-six years ago Salvationists, a wee handful, were showered with sticks and stones and spat upon when they held service on Kent Street. Courageous and undaunted they shed good red blood as they were hounded and driven to the County jail where they spent a night for defying the law.

For many years afterwards, the men in red shirts and women in blue bonnets continued to assemble on Main Street in front of the Hotel Benson and it was a common sight to see people standing on the big wooden balcony tossing down coins which landed on the big bass drum.

It was eighty-six years ago that the Army held meetings in Bell's Music Hall, then located on William Street north, where the Skitch terrace is now located. Years later the Army bought an old log cabin on Peel Street, burned the cabin to the ground and erected the first hall, adding to the rear and the front of the Hall, which later on became a barracks in name and still later became known as the Citadel.

In a drive for money the corps raised the objective of \$25,000 to renovate and build the fine Citadel of today and it is stated that the late James Boxall, a prominent local business man, was the central figure in the campaign.

The Salvation Army has been blessed with good leadership and a dedicated number of Salvationists and two popular and hard working members of the Corps were Miss Nellie Richards, a relative of Walter Richards, now a S.A. Commissioner in Halifax, N.S. and Mrs Whiteside, now a commissioner living in England.