

On the Main Street

With FORD MOYNES

"Harmony Hour, as expected, attracted a large audience and one that was very appreciative judging by the applause which followed every vocal skit and stage performance. The majority in the audience clapped hands more with more entertainment, but those in charge watched their watches constantly and the bulk of the audience returned to work and labor on time.

Apart from the box lunch, which was excellent, the gathering greatly enjoyed the sing-song and the variety program.

In many respects the Harmony Hour recalled the days of yesteryear when citizens flocked to the the Academy to laugh and cry at performers who made their debut on the stage.

People in the audience used to show their pleasure and their displeasure and when the audience yelled "Get the Hook" a stage hand walked out from the wings with a large hook, passed it around the performer's anatomy and pulled him or her off the stage.

This interruption tickled the fickle audience but embarrassed the vocalist when their throats strained while attempting to reach high C and the baritones attempted low A — but it was fun.

Amateurs were numerous and only a few could afford to pay tuition fees. Popular instruments included the banjo, the guitar, the accordion and tap dancers and cloggers were on most programs.

Tenors sang high and basses sang deep down; Sopranos were a "dime a dozen" and

there were several fine altos
and contraltos.

There appeared to be more

interested singers than to-
day, when mother sang so-
prano, father sang bass. These

were the days when country
folk gathered in the old fash-
ioned parlor and sang old

fashioned hymns in the old
fashioned way — but how
they could sing! Remember?