

Jan 6-76



FIRST BROADCAST — In November 1925 The Hon. William Aberhart made the first broadcast which came to be known as the Back to the Bible Hour, from the Palace Theatre. Sunday 50th anniversary services will be held in the Jubilee Auditorium to mark that historical event. While this program now originates in Edmonton and the hour of broadcast changed, the message of Salvation remains the same. The above photograph was taken shortly before the founder's death in 1943 at which time he was premier of Alberta.

Alberta Jan 3/76

Bible hour broadcast began in Nov. 1925

By EVA REID

The 50th anniversary of The Canadian National Back to the Bible Hour will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Jubilee Auditorium with Senator E. C. Manning the principal speaker.

He will be assisted by Rev. Cyril Hutchinson, principal of Berean Bible College and a participant in earlier broadcasts and Rev. William Laing, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church. The musical program will be in charge of Muriel Manning.

The founder of the 50-year-old program was the late William Aberhart who was premier of Alberta when he died in May 1943. The broadcast was then carried on by the Hon. Mr. Manning.

In November of 1925 the Calgary Prophetic Bible Conference, headed by Mr. Aberhart, entered into contract with the W. W. Grant to broadcast two services each Sunday for the benefit of those in far away places who were not able to get to any religious services.

A native of Canada, Mr. Aberhart was born and raised in Huron County, Ont., not far from Seaforth, where he received his high school education and where he taught until 1910 when he moved west to Calgary and served as principal in schools including Crescent Heights high school, the largest Secondary School in Calgary.

As a member of a Bible Class in Knox Presbyterian Church, Brantford, Ont., he became interested in study and through a correspondence course published by C. I. Schofield, the editor of the Scofield Bible, he delved deep into Scriptures.

Mr. Aberhart who was also interested in Bible prophecy began preaching as a layman about 1905. He conducted many Bible classes after his arrival in Calgary and in 1918 instituted the Calgary Prophetic Bible Conference for the purpose of studying the Bible intensively.

The broadcasts which began in 1925 in the Palace Theatre continued every afternoon from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. until his death in 1943. However, the format changed from time to time.

The broadcasts reached far

and wide and in 1926 a radio Sunday School department was inaugurated, by which boys and girls as well as young men and women could obtain, gratis, a correspondence course in the stories of the Bible. In a little more than a year the enrolment exceeded 1,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pearce were in charge of this department. They now live at the Pacific Coast but it is believed Mr. Pearce will send a tape to the Sunday celebrations but since the material did not arrive from Edmonton as promised, this is not certain.

Mr. Hutchinson who is a graduate of the Prophetic Bible Institute also founded by Mr. Aberhart, and who frequently sang and spoke on the Sunday p.m. broadcasts, will sit on the platform with Mr. Manning and will give the history of the Bible school. Mr. Laing, also an institute graduate, will trace the history of the church (founded by the Conference) and its branches.

In 1927 the National Back to the Bible Hour originated from the Calgary Prophetic Bible Institute — "The Great Prairie Monument to the Faith" — located at 516 - 8th Ave. S.W. and recently demolished.

In the early decades of the broadcast those most frequently heard were: Dean and Principal Aberhart; Ernest Manning who often spoke and read the scriptures; Mrs. George McElroy, cornetist who was seen at the CPR station during two world wars "blowing a welcome or a farewell" to the boys in uniform; Muriel Preston (now Mrs. Manning) pianist; and the various pastors of the church. One not so frequently heard was Mr. Aberhart's daughter, Mrs. Charles (Ola) MacNutt, who possesses a rich contralto voice, and who sang the hymns dear to the heart of the founder.

The Back to the Bible Hour now originates from Edmonton with Manning as principal speaker.

If the weather permits it is expected scores of country people who heard Mr. Aberhart's broadcasts, will be present Sunday at the Golden Anniversary Services.

50 GOLDEN YEARS
1925-1975



PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND SPEAKER

Mr. Manning has throughout the years engaged in a wide variety of governmental and business activities but always finds time to direct the program and expound the scriptures from week to week.

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND PIANIST

Mrs. Manning shares the responsibility with her husband by directing and arranging the musical portion of the program. Recognized as a leading pianist in sacred music, she is heard each week on the piano as accompanist and occasionally with piano solos.



"WE HAVE GROWN"

It all began in 1925 when with characteristic vision Mr. Aberhart pioneered the broadcasting of the gospel by radio. We began to expand the radio ministry in 1948 when Mr. Manning with a real burden to reach Canada with the gospel by radio looked for and obtained new outlets. We now are heard on 66 stations covering Canada from coast to coast.

PROGRAM

OPENING

“As They Heard It In The Beginning”

HYMN

“O God Our Help In Ages Past”

“Voices From The Past”

“As We Remember Them”

INTRODUCTIONS

MUSIC

Golden Jubilee Artists

SCRIPTURE

PRAYER

Rev. W.J.Laing

Pastor Bethel Baptist Church

Rev. Cyril Hutchinson

President Berean Bible College

HYMN

“In The Sweet By and By”

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC

Golden Jubilee Artists

HYMN

“All Hail The Power of Jesus Name”

MESSAGE

Hon. Ernest C. Manning

HYMN

“The Old Rugged Cross”

BENEDICTION

SOME FAVORITE HYMNS

O GOD, OUR HELP

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come.
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come.
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

ALL HAIL THE POWER

All hail the power of Jesus' name:
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye Gentile sinners, ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall;
Go spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall,
Join in the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.

SWEET BY AND BY

There's a land that is fairer than day,
And by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way,
To prepare us a dwelling place there.

In the sweet by and by
We shall meet on that beautiful shore,
In the sweet by and by
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

We shall sing on that beautiful shore
The melodious songs of the blest,
And our spirits shall sorrow no more,
Not a sigh for the blessing of rest.

To our bountiful Father above,
We will offer our tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of His love,
And the blessings that hallow our days.

THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame,
And I love that old cross where the dearest and
For a world of lost sinners was slain. | best

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the
Has a wondrous attraction for me, | world,
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above,
To bear it to dark Calvary.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far
Where His glory for ever I'll share. | away,

PROGRAM

OPENING

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HYMN

**“O God Our Help In Ages Past”
“Voices From The Past”
“As We Remember Them”**

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BENEDICTION

GOLDEN JUBILEE PROGRAM

Jan. 11, 1976 □
Jubilee Aud. Calg

Male Dare To Stand Like Joshua
Duet He Touched Me (Marion and Ian)
Ensemble Thine Is The Kingdom

Violin Thanks Be To God

Male Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah
Duet The Wonder Of It All (Marion and June)
Arthur I Walked Today
Ensemble The Old Book and The Old Faith