



The Louth Methodist Choir, under the direction of Mr. Alec Meanwell, performing at the Central Hall, Grimsby, as part of the hall's 40th anniversary celebrations.

CHOIR BRINGS BACK THE MEMORIES...

THE DAYS of the full-blooded Methodist chapel choir were recalled for many senior citizens at Grimsby Central Hall. Making a first visit there was the Louth Methodist Choir, conducted by Alec Meanwell, which gave a concert during the Senior Citizens' Weekend. The occasion was part of the celebration of the Central Hall's 40th year of existence.

The programme was simple; there was no attempt at oratorio but there were some lovely old songs. A choral "Bless

This House" opened the concert, followed by "Annie Laurie," "Curly Headed Baby," "Two Roses," and "Lovely Peace."

Peter Smith evoked the sadness and the exultation of that long-gone organist who struck "The Lost Chord"; Irene Swaby bade us "Think On Me." Piano solos by Rachel and Kathryn Shucksmith, and Karen Hand served as beautiful punctuations in the flow of voices.

Following the concert came half an hour of community hymn singing, and how the congregation of senior citizens joined in! Many of the hymns had been requested, every one was well known, and with

the choir setting the pace, the Central Hall was filled with happy sound.

At a service conducted by the Rev. D. W. Lewis, of the Grimsby Baptist Church, the choir further reinforced memories by singing an anthem, often part of a Methodist service once upon a time.

Louth Methodist Choir came into being as a result of the merging of some of the Methodist churches in the town. With a sprinkling of singers from nearby villages, with a lot of hard work, with a lot of dedication, they have succeeded in re-creating a sound which, one feared, had vanished from the chapels of the land.—G.H.B.