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REVIEWS**CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE**

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From Russia with music. By Wesley Berg. Winnipeg: Hyperion Press, 1985. (151 p., \$12.95)

In recent decades Mennonite activity in the field of vocal and choral music has received growing recognition in Canada. The musical accomplishments of individual Mennonite conductors and singers as well as Mennonite community, college and oratorio choirs rest on a strong but relatively brief tradition of choral singing in Mennonite schools and churches.

The story of this Mennonite musical tradition is not unlike that of music and choral singing in Canada which, in the words of Helmut Kallmann, "takes as its subject not creative giants who determine the course of world music history, but humble musicians who instil a taste for their art among pioneers... it reflects the musical pastimes and aspirations of the many... in short, the record is concerned more with social than with artistic aspects of music" (A History of Music in Canada, p.3).

Mennonites of Swiss and South-German origin came to Canada from Pennsylvania as early as 1786. While they were influenced by the American singing-school movement around the middle of the nineteenth century, these first Canadian Mennonites, living primarily in Ontario, rejected choral singing and instrumental music. It was among Mennonites of Prussian-Russian origin, who came to Western Canada and to the mid-Western United States after 1874, that the Canadian