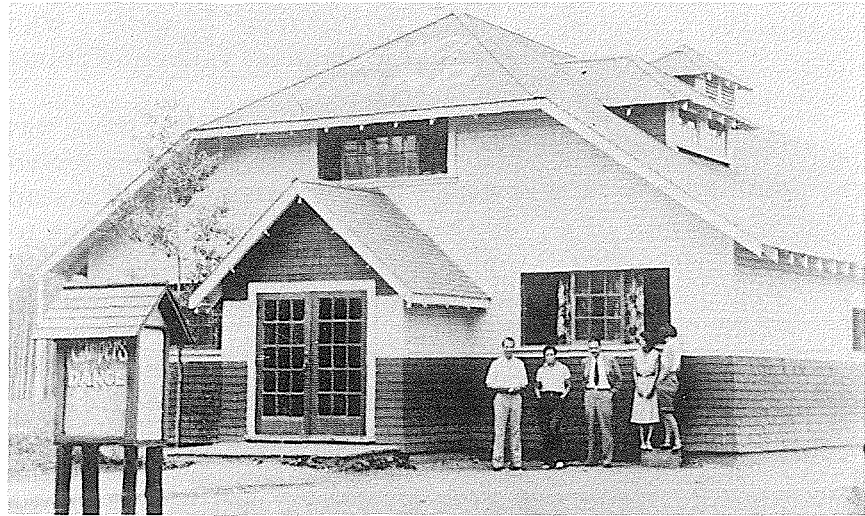


Percy sing the lyrics. . . .” Many of the dancers never returned to Danceland.

“I played my last engagement in Danceland on September 1, 1946. I was followed by one of my well-known trumpeters—Johnny Bering—who provided big-band music until the late 1950s. During the fifties, of course, many of the world’s finest dance bands played one-night stands in Danceland.

“Who could ever forget the beautiful sounds of Tommy Dorsey’s theme song—*I’m Getting Sentimental Over You*—the sound of his brother Jimmy’s sax (the world’s greatest) playing five solos or the sweet music of Mart Kenny filtering through the huge pines surrounding the grand old pavilion? But like most good things, the big bands at Clear Lake became too costly and smaller groups took over.

“It wasn’t until June, 1979, that the big-band sound would be heard again and that was when I was invited to join the Golden Brass of Jimmy King to make a series of TV shorts for CKND. When I gave the down beat to play my old theme song, the thrill I had experienced when I first played there in 1932 came back to me. . . . and what a thrill it was.” (These excerpts were taken, with the author’s permission, from the *Roy Brown Story*.)



—Western Canada Pictorial Index

The first dance hall, called Danceland, was built in 1931 by Bruce Pedlar of Neepawa, a member of Riding Mountain’s first dance band. This hall on Wasagaming Drive was used only a year. A larger one, capable of holding up to 1,000 dancers, was later built across the street.