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BARBER SHOP RECORDINGS

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

SEPTEMBER, 1942

VOL. 2

CARROLL P. ADAMS, National Secretary-Treasurer, 50 Fairwood Blvd., Pleasant Ridge, Mich.

NO. 1

A MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESIDENT HAL STAAB

Every member of our Society should be interested in the plans that have been formulated by our National Officers and Board of Directors. These plans in reality form a comprehensive program for the development of our potentialities, which if carried through, cannot help but make our Society a thoroughly national organization and a potent force in the life of our great democracy.

We have suffered from growing pains. An inherent love for barber-shop harmony that seems to be broadspread in the United States, has caused us to grow in spite of the fact that up to now our national set-up has been inadequate to handle the situation. We have reached a point in our history when it is imperative that we create order out of chaos, that we adopt a suitable system and a definite platform of accomplishment if we are ever to capitalize on the tremendous possibilities that are ours.

I hope that every member of our Society will read the program as outlined below. It will show you what we intend to do, and how we intend to do it. We plan to give you action instead of talk.

1—To institute an adequate system of national organization records and reports.

This means the opening and equipping of a national office in charge of a National Executive Secretary, and the institution of quarterly chapter reports on membership and activities. It means prompt response to all communications and

requests, and close co-operation with all chapters. (I am glad to state that the national office has already been established in Detroit with Immediate Past President Carroll Adams as our Executive Secretary. Chapter Secretaries will receive full information on reports this month, and communications and requests are now receiving immediate attention.)

2—To issue a quality quarterly publication that we will all want to read.

The quarterly chapter activities reports will form the basis for much of the publication. It will be replete with interesting photographs, and one feature will be a page on "Barber Shop Harmony". You can judge the paper from this first issue.

3—To distribute to Chapters real barber-shop arrangements of those good old songs that we all love to sing.

Each month our new National Committee on Song Arrangements will send to each chapter one or more real barber-shop arrangements. Distribution of these started in

1942-43 NATIONAL PRESIDENT



HAROLD B. STAAB
Northampton, Massachusetts

August.

4—To make the National Office a clearing house for

all kinds of information and ideas that will be of assistance to each chapter.

A National Committee set-up has been established whereby throughout the year each chapter will receive bulletins from

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AN APPEAL

BROTHER MEMBERS OF S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.:

No honor that ever came to me has meant more in my life than the high privilege of serving as your National President during 1941-42. My plea to you now is that you give to Hal Staab, our new President, the same fine loyalty and constant help that you gave me. Hal is working his head off for you and me and I know you will show him your appreciation and will offer him your faithful support. He deserves every bit of it.

Carroll P. Adams.

RE-CHORDINGS

Published quarterly by the National Officers and the other members of the National Board of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., for free distribution to the members of the Society.

VOLUME II SEPTEMBER, 1942 NO. 1

Carroll P. Adams—Editor and Business Manager
50 Fairwood Blvd., Pleasant Ridge, Michigan.

1942-43

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- Resolutions—Laing (Chairman) Davison, Carr
- 1943 National Convention—Stanley (Chairman)

The Mechanics of Barber Shop Harmony

This is the first in a series of four articles by Maurice E. Reagan, National Vice-President, as told to Deac Martin, in an attempt to create a Society-wide musical "Esperanto" which all can speak and understand.

In our Society there are almost as many opinions as to how a given song should be sung as there are singers. This is a most healthy condition. It signifies that individuals have ideas and convictions. Yet there is no more open-minded group anywhere. All are interested in the other fellow's slants. We respect his ideas, even though, after hearing and due consideration, individuals among us insist on our rights to sing 'em as we LIKE 'em best.

There has been some feeling expressed that barber shop harmony is developed wholly by some intangible thing called "feel" or "ear". There is no doubt but that the "typical" barber shopper has some ability to create a pleasing chord change and, beyond that, ability to remember it and express it. Yet some of the most pleasing quartettes in the Society have members in them who are not strong on the creative side, but can remember and express what they hear. And who in the Society hasn't had the experience of watching the face of one of our true "creative" geniuses light up, as he hears some new combination that never occurred to him. "That's swell, boys. Sing it again. I want to take it back to the gang at home". It's this open-mindedness, the willingness to give without stint, and take, for the benefit of improvement, that makes our Society unique.

The one, and only, thing this Society lacks is some musical "Esperanto" by which the Easterner can converse with the Westerner in terms as clearly understood as the common language of golf, baseball or business. And with this common language, chord combinations ("swipes" to you) can be written down easily and understood readily. This little series will be written toward that end.

In an article on Tones, a name will be assigned to each one. Since there are but 12, they will be easy to assimilate. Most of us are already familiar with them. But a review will be the first step on the way toward acquiring a new, national barbershopping language. An article on Chords will apply names to six types of chords used in barber-shop harmony. A little practice will enable you to recognize them when heard. And with "Tones" back of you, you will also be able to "see" the physical structure of the chord so that you may retain it more easily.

On the Relationship of Chords, a simple comparison with a clock-face will make it relatively easy to retain relationships in mind. Along with those analogies of the kinship of chords will be some general guides. Unless the writer is badly mistaken all this will make you hungry to experiment with changes in some of your old favorites.

GRAND RAPIDS CONVENTION BIG SUCCESS 60 QUARTETS COMPETE —15 IN FINALS

From Thursday noon, June 18th, until Sunday afternoon, June 21st, the lobby of the Pantlind Hotel in Grand Rapids was the center of activity of the registrants at the 4th Annual National Convention and Quartet Contest of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Incorporated. In fact rumor has it that the Peachtree Harmonizers from the Atlanta Chapter arrived Wednesday noon, June 17th, in order to get acclimated to Michigan weather and water. Just the minute that word got around Grand Rapids that these boys from Dick Sturges' bailiwick were in town, they were deluged with invitations to sing here, there, and here again. It's reported that during the ninety-six hours they were in Grand Rapids they never once refused to sing when asked to. Boy, can they take it. They were just as good Sunday as they were Wednesday. And when we say "good" we mean just that. We loved all four of them—personally and musically.

Well, the Convention is now just a memory and nearly every reader of this magazine of ours, if he didn't participate in it, has certainly heard all about it, so we will be brief. Sixty quartets competed (twelve in each of the five elimination sessions) and each member of those sixty quartets received a large wooden Grand Rapids sandwich tray, properly decorated with the S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. emblem, as a souvenir. Fifteen quartets (three from each elimination session) were chosen by the Judges (Brothers Maurice Reagan, Chairman, Hal Staab, Secretary, Phil Embury, Joe Wodicka, and Doc Nelson, with Frank Thorne, Bill Norton and Wes Peterson helping out occasionally) to "sing it out" in the Saturday night Finals before five thousand people in the Civic Auditorium. The last fifteen minutes of the program was broadcast over the Mutual Network.

Each member of the fifteen quartets found a handsome Grand Rapids coffee table, with the Society emblem prominently displayed on it, waiting for him on his return home after the Convention. In addition, each member of the top five quartets was presented with an "O. C. Cash" medallion given by the Detroit Chapter) for permanent possession. First place medallions were gold, second place silver, and third, fourth and fifth, bronze.

Throughout the Convention, three non-competing quartets, the Okies, the Chord-Busters (last year's champions) and those likeable boys from Salt Lake City, the Mormon Quartet, filled in every spot that they were asked to, and

We urge every lover of barber-shop singing to study the Reagan-Martin series of articles on harmony that are to appear quarterly in Re-Chordings. The first and explanatory article appears on page 2 of this issue.

BOYS AND GIRLS—HERE ARE THE WINNERS



These four Chicago business men decided a few months ago to form a quartet. Fortunately they were already members of the Chicago Chapter. Someone suggested the name "Elastic Four" and they started rehearsing to take part in their Chapter's Marathon Quartet Contest. Result—Top place in the 1942 National S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. Contest at Grand Rapids. Their original ending to "Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn" brought the 5000 people to their feet—literally! Herman Struble, Tenor—Roy Frisby—Lead, Jim Doyle—Baritone, Frank Thorne—Bass.

the audience did plenty of "asking". The Chord-Busters were better than ever, and the Okies love to sing as much as we love to hear them.

Folks Here were the winners:

- First—The Elastic Four of Chicago
- Second—The (Barber) Pole Cats of Kansas City, Mo.
- Third—The Phillips 66 Quartet of Bartlesville
(formerly The Barflies)
- Fourth—The Harmony Kings of Springfield, Ill.
- Fifth—The 4 Misfits of Chicago.

The Judges did not reveal the relative ratings of the other ten quartets in the Finals, so it will always be a dark secret, but here, at least, are their names: 4 Harmonizers (Chicago); Peachtree Harmonizers (Atlanta); Beacon 4 (Wichita); Rambling 4 (Northampton); Whiz Candy Makers (Bloomington); Accoustical Persecuting 4 (Jackson); Gay Nineties (Kalamazoo); Turners (Detroit); Port City 4 (Muskegon); Hall Brothers (Grand Rapids.)

Yes, the 1942 Convention was a big success. (The 1943 Convention was awarded to Chicago). The Wheel Horses

SECOND PLACE WINNERS AT GRAND RAPIDS



The Kansas City (Barber) Pole Cats, second place winners at St. Louis last year, copped the same place in the Nationals this year. They're probably the busiest amateur quartet in captivity. The mileage they cover to sing for their friends better not be revealed to the tire rationing board. Ben Franklin—Lead, Don Stone—Bass, Ed Bowlen—Tenor, Bert Phelps—Baritone. Bert is Secretary of the Kansas City Chapter.

of the Grand Rapids Convention Committee were—Brothers Bennett (General Chairman), Schopps, Hale, Grunette, McKay, Stewart, Walker, Ray Hall, Gordon Hall, and many others. Each man did his job—and so did the wives. Irene Borck of the Convention Bureau Office watched every detail of arrangement for twelve long months, God bless her. The members of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Association of Chapters (co-sponsors of the Convention) met their responsibilities as an advisory committee.

We wish we could present to you the complete story of the Convention as told by George W. Stark of the Detroit News in his Town Talk column on Sunday, June 21st. Here are parts of it. Read every word. Its worthy of immortality.

Town Talk can now report, with safety and dignity, that the fourth annual convention of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., has concluded on a high note of harmony. A few meager matters are still to be accounted for, such as the minutes of the last session, the officers for the ensuing year and the place of the next gathering.

But those are mere details of which the SPEBSQSA takes small concern, the delegates being more engrossed by the spiritual values. Skeptics may demand to know why, with the whole world at war, a great body of our citizens from coast to coast takes time out to converge on a given point and dedicate a whole week-end to singing. If you had been here, you would have found the answer.

This is it: This is America. This is what the totalitarian viewpoint would consider a curious manifestation of the American way of life. This is the Rotary Club, the Board of Commerce,

Broadway, Woodward avenue and Main street, singing out of its heart. This is the industrialist, the banker, the baker, the factory worker, the soldier and the sailor running the scale of human emotion for democracy. This is the token of the essence of our country, something that has been hard won and which will not be easily surrendered.

This is something rare and precious that couldn't happen today in Germany or Italy, and there was a time when the little people of those countries could and did sing. They were happy then. But it can and does happen in America and it's a fine thing to put a special emphasis on it right now, because it dramatizes the very thing for which we fight.

Consequently, when the Rev. Don Carey, of the Grace Episcopal Church, was asked to pronounce a blessing on the enterprise, he got right up and said, "Boys, you can do this better than I. Just sing the Doxology."

And the boys did, about 500 of them. Sang it in good old barber shop harmony style and it was one of the most stirring things I've ever heard.

This was the four corners of America worshipping God in its own way. That's another thing we fight for.

People who don't know about barber shop harmony are prone to view it with suspicion. It's a very special technic and I wouldn't attempt to explain it. Phil Embury, of Warsaw, N. Y. (he's first vice-president) tried to explain it to me on paper. This consumed 28 blanks of the Western Union Telegraph Co. and two pencils. The Western Union and I told him we'd had enough and for him just to sing it. The thing's too technical.

Embury has his own quartet. Calls it the Hardware Harmony Four. The other three are old pals and they live in Chicago, which is pretty far from Warsaw. The other three are Ole Bergerson, Dwight Myers and Ken Warner.

Whenever Embury makes a business trip to Chicago, he telegraphs the trio that he's coming. Then their wives kiss them goodby and they go to the train to meet Embury. Not much business is transacted.

O. C. Cash, a tax attorney from Tulsa, Okla., was much in evidence here. He's the founder of the SPEBSQSA and he hadn't the faintest notion he was going to stir up so much commotion. But he's a man with ideas.

Tulsa also sent its famous Chord Busters, last year's national champs. Those boys are good, but they graciously withdrew from competition this year.

I could take columns telling about the convention. I was asked to be master of ceremonies at one of the big song-fests. Like a bolt from the blue, I was scared to death, but very proud. Lots of audience, but all just plain home folks, who like to sing and to listen. Especially when it's so dog-goned American.

It's the songs that get you. They're so thoroughly American. With the passing of the years, they've become the folk songs of our people, the song tradition of our land.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR EVERYBODY

Beginning in December, we contemplate publishing a real Barber-Shop arrangement in each issue of Re-Chordings.

Every member is invited to send suggestions and constructive criticism to the National Secretary. Your letters will receive prompt and full consideration. We are working hard to make our Society what you want it to be.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Continued from page 1

such committees as "Chapter Ways and Means", "Community Service", "Song Arrangements", "Inter-Chapter Relations", "Publicity", "Extension". These bulletins will abound with suggestive material for chapter use. Your Chapter Secretary has already received several such bulletins.

5—To stimulate the right kind of publicity about the Society, both locally and nationally.

6—To promote extension with the view of ultimately establishing chapters in every city of any size in the United States.

7—To cultivate a desire on the part of chapters and members to render altruistic service to their communities.

There is in the heart of every man a desire to do good, to be of service to his fellow man. We can use our gift of barber-shop harmony as a medium to become one of the greatest service organizations in the United States without detracting one iota from the fun and good-fellowship to be derived. Already chapters in many states are utilizing their singing ability to raise funds for altruistic purposes.

8—To urge chapters and members to do everything they can to stimulate among the people of our nation a proper spirit and morale during the tremendous emergency through which we are now passing.

9—To change our national per capita tax so that the above program can be effectively maintained, but to keep the tax below that of other service societies.

Most organizations with which we might be compared charge an initiation fee of from \$10.00 to \$25.00. We have no such fee. These organizations have a per capita tax and magazine fee of from \$3.00 to \$7.00 per year. A careful survey convinces us that we can maintain a program that will be most satisfactory to every member, with a national per capita tax of \$2.00—less than four cents a week. We feel that any organization not worth four cents a week to a member, is worth nothing at all. This tax will be due semi-annually, half on October first, and half on April first.

There, brother members, is the program for the year. Our Board of Directors, men who are giving not only of their time but of their money to forward the interests of our Society, have pledged themselves to bring about the fulfillment of this program. We ask your support and your assistance with the aim of making the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber-Shop Quartet Singing of America a singing service organization that will be a vital force and a real influence in the life of our nation.

HERE'S A PICNIC WHAT AM

by JOSEPH E. STERN of Kansas City Chapter

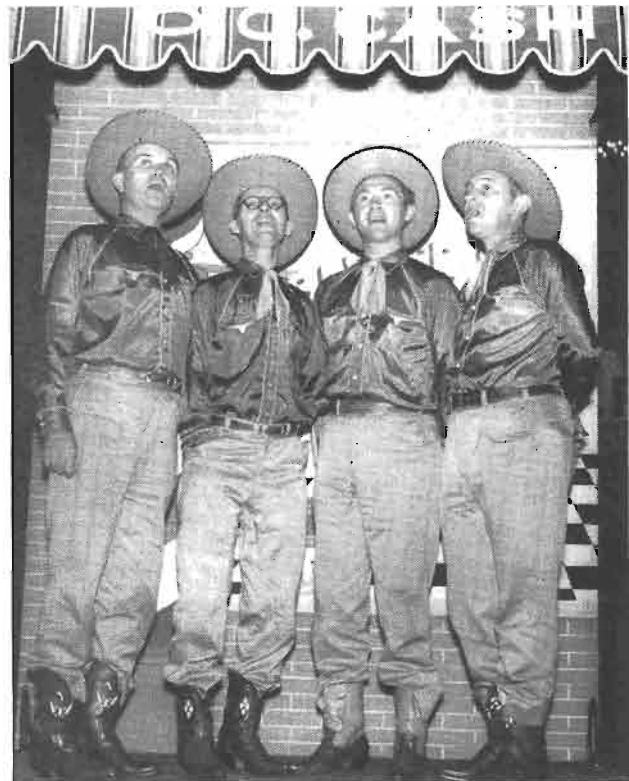
On Saturday evening, August 15, the Kansas City Chapter held a big open air picnic. About three hundred chapter members, wives and guests attended. It was held in Kansas City's famous Swope Park, containing over 1,300 acres, with many shelter houses, barbecue ovens, etc. The city furnished a public address system and Mark Pierce, superintendent of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, furnished 900 buns for the crowd. Ten cases of pop and six halves of beer were provided also, as well as a hundred pounds of weiners.

Among the highlights of the affair were the raffling off of a War Bond and some Victory speeches. There were a great many pick-up fours as well as organized quartets. We took turn about singing in the microphone to the crowd, everyone had plenty to eat and drink and the picnic was thoroughly enjoyed.

Among the out-of-town guests were R. J. Heinen of Halbur, Iowa, of the National Board of Directors, Sheriff Tom Finigan of Cairo, Iowa, Mr. Heinen's son, Herman Kaiser, bass singer of the Bartlesville Barflies, Dean Palmer of Wichita, and several others whose names escape me at the moment.

We're going to have another on September 13th.

NEVER YET FINISHED OUT OF THE MONEY



The Bartlesville Barflies took National first place in 1939, and 2nd in 1940. Then as the "Phillips 66" quartet they took 3rd in 1941 at St. Louis and third again this year at Grand Rapids. Geo. McCaslin, Tenor—Harry Hall, Lead—Bob Durand, Baritone—Herman Kaiser, Bass.

PERENNIAL FOURTH PLACE WINNERS



The Harmony Kings, from Springfield, Illinois—John McNeeley, Fred Sahlender, Frank Dragoo and Tom O'Heren. As George Stark wrote in his Town Talk column in the Detroit News: "Those boys have been together more than 25 years. As a matter of fact, they fought side by side in France in the last war. The 327th Field Artillery, Battery A. When they weren't busy fighting, they'd sing. That's the American way. One of the songs they sing real well is 'Empty Saddles'. Once they sang it at Will Rogers' Memorial in Claremore. Now they have to go back there every year, on the anniversary of Will's death, and sing 'Empty Saddles'. Practically all Oklahoma turns out to hear them. You'd understand why if you ever heard them do it."

BARBER-SHOP SONG ARRANGEMENTS NOW AVAILABLE

The National Committee on special song arrangements (Embury, Reagan, Martin, and Thorne) is furnishing each month to Chapter officers, original arrangements of two old songs together with an explanatory bulletin. The purpose of this service (and, fellows, this represents a helluva lot of work on the part of the Committee Members) is to make available to all Chapter members in good standing, original barber-shop quartet arrangements by members of our own Society. If your officers forget to pass these arrangements around to Chapter members, give 'em the Devil—or still better—notify the National Secretary. He will be glad to give 'em the Devil.

WILMINGTON CHAPTER STRUTS ITS STUFF

by R. HARRY BROWN, National Board Member

The second Annual Minstrel Show of the Wilmington, Delaware, Chapter, S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., was presented on last May 15. The show was sponsored by the Delaware State Guards, and the proceeds divided 50/50. It was presented in the State Armory, in Wilmington, for the free use of which official permission was granted. The hall was filled, and the performance was well received.

We had a company of 45 men on the stage, and the show was directed by F. Ray Phillips, our singing Director, who also was the Interlocutor. Two quartets were featured in the program, "The Diamond State Four" and "The Barber Shop Four". The only outside talent "imported" and featured in the show were this city's foremost tap-dancer, an act of 3 Contortionists, and The Dancing Men of Rhythm, three young variety dancers.

We call our show "Minstrelsy as it Used to Be", and we adhere to the old form of the Circle, six End Men, bones and tambourines. This gives our shows a distinction, as the traditional style is not otherwise seen in this section.

Some of the songs sung by the soloists were: Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland, When the Sunset Turns the Ocean Blue to Gold, Ain't Dat a Shame, Nobody, Darktown Strutters Ball, I Had a Dream Dear, Turn Back the Universe, In the Garden of Tomorrow, When the Bell in the Lighthouse Rings Ding Dong, etc. The opening chorus was a medley of the marching songs of all the branches of the Service, and for the closing chorus we sang "It's a Grand Old Flag".

Dancing followed the show, to the music of Delaware's foremost dance band.

Officers of our Chapter are: Earl Reed, President; R. Harry Brown, Secretary; William F. Young, Treasurer.

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LEONARD HICKS
Managing Director

SECRETARY OF PEORIA CHAPTER REMINISCES

(Extract from recent letter written to National President Hal Staab)

"I sure would have enjoyed attending the Grand Rapids Convention, if for no other reason than to shake hands with a man from my home State of Massachusetts. My home-town was Somerville, and I sang in practically every theater in Boston, as the "Silver Tongued Tenor". Green in Scollay Square and Gorman on Boylston St. booked me then—also Kelley in Scollay Square. That was back in the good old days from 1902 to 1905. I then went to New York and booked out with Gus Edwards School Days and other of Gus Hill's productions.

"I thought I knew singing, but "barber-shop" singing in groups under the leadership of our own John Hanson is really something to brag about. We traveled to Bloomington, August 3rd, and with Bloomington and Canton we put on a 125-man chorus for the U.S.O. and did it go over in a big way! Let me tell you how it was accomplished. John Hanson drove to Canton and to Bloomington regularly for three weeks directing the Chapter choruses there in the songs we were to sing. Those cities are forty miles from Peoria and John put all his effort into the undertaking for the sole purpose of "putting across" real "barber-shop" chorus singing in all three cities. The result sounded like four voices, the blend was so perfect. And Bloomington is still talking about our volume, and they are hollering for us to come back. Some of the songs we used were 'A Little Close Harmony', 'Hello, Everybody, Hello', which is our own theme song, 'Bright Was the Night', 'Oh Joe', 'Down on the Levee', 'Peoria', and of course we closed with 'The Star Spangled Banner'.

Yours for Better Harmony,
Aimee F. Ratelle,
Sec. Peoria Chapter S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
301 Hancock St.
Peoria, Ill."

Founding a new Chapter brings rich dividends to the sponsoring group.

THE CONVENTION DISPLAY FOLDERS

There was such a demand for newspaper clippings about the Grand Rapids Convention that we conceived the idea of mounting a number of them together, photographing them in a reduced size, and reproducing them as a printed display folder. It was an expensive job—but the result justified the cost. Your Chapter Secretary has been asked to carry a supply of these (they can be obtained from the National Office at a nominal cost) so that the folders will be available to all Society members in any quantity.

PETE PUT ON THE WRONG TIE



The Misfits of Chicago, winners of 5th place at Grand Rapids. E. V. (Cy) Perkins—Baritone, Joe Murrin—Tenor, Art Bielan—Lead, and Pete Buckley—Bass. The morning this picture was taken Pete got up in a hurry and forgot to put on his barber-pole tie, but it didn't affect his singing. (Watch these boys at Chicago in 1943. Their slogan now—"First or nothing".) You should hear their arrangement of "The Lost Chord".

"MORRIE" BARRON WRITES FROM HAWAII

Maurice Barron of the Flint Chapter, who joined up with Uncle Sam in March, isn't allowed to tell us much about the doings of his outfit on the Hawaiian Islands but he does write this—

Dear Carroll:

I am now working in the Inspector General's Office which is sort of an auditor's office. My work, when I get broken in, will consist of administrative inspections which means the checking of the records of the various units for irregularities and errors. It is very interesting and at the same time, educational. From the set-up, it looks as tho my chances for promotion are very remote but what the hell, *every* army has to have privates.

As far as my vocal accomplishments are concerned, I ain't doin' any. I started to sing in the choir here but that's kinda petered out and if I start any warbling around the barracks I usually end up under a heap of G I shoes, slung at me from various directions. These darn Indians don't appreciate the good things of life.

I've read and re-read with great interest, the several reports, etc. of the meetings. Believe me, my heart was with you at all the doings, and I *mean* that.

I don't know whether I should congratulate you on your election to Secretary or not. It seems to me that you've just taken on *more* headaches. Lord knows that in the present circumstances it is much better for all to keep busy but I am of the opinion that you keep *too* busy. For gosh sakes, take it *easy*.

So that's all from this sector.

My best regards,
Morrie.

Muskegon Chapter Headed For Membership Of 200

From the shores of Lake Michigan come frequent evidences that the Muskegon Chapter will soon be the largest in the U. S. Secretary Johnny Buitendorp (Bass of the Muskie Musikords) and President Bill Griffith (Baritone of the Sawdust Four) write that each summer meeting of the Chapter attracted over 100 members, in spite of vacations, and that the Chapter goal is 200 paid-up active members by October 1st. Match that, if you can, fellows! Vice-President Frank Morse (member of the National Board) is the busiest man in the outfit. He acts as the unofficial mascot of every organized quartet in the Chapter, and fills in a part when any regular member is absent. And that's some job in Muskegon, which apparently has more barber shop talent per square inch than any other city we know of. Don't forget that it was Muskegon that carried off top honors numerically in Grand Rapids by entering five quartets, more than from any other city. Remember The Old Timers, The Harmony Weavers, and The Port City Four, in addition to the Musikords and the Sawdust 4?

On WKBZ, Muskegon station, the Chapter recently completed a series of six weekly (Tuesday evening) broadcasts, with a different quartet performing each week, and the entire script devoted to publicizing the Society and to expounding what the local Chapter has to offer the men of Muskegon who enjoy vocal harmony and wholesome relaxation. Secretary Buitendorp says "What would 50,000 harmonizing men do for the morale of our people at home, and of our men in the Service? Yes, there's a job for me, and a job for you—it's to harmonize America in nineteen forty-two." Johnny's quite a poet, and a swell *Secretary*. He will gladly send you a sample of one of their radio scripts, if you will write him at 645 Maffett Street, Muskegon Heights, Michigan.

St. Louis County Chapter Steals A Show

On Thursday evening, August 20th, on the Court House lawn at Clayton, Mo. the chorus of the St. Louis County Chapter, augmented by a sizeable delegation of brothers from the St. Louis Chapter (a total of ninety-five men singing) entertained an outdoor audience of more than 2,000 people, who had gathered for their first "listen" of real barber-shop singing in Clayton. The St. Louis County Chapter, under the guidance of Clarence R. Marlowe (now a member of the National Board) was organized only last January, but in that time has stepped right

along and bids fair to be one on the country's outstanding Chapters, both in numbers and enthusiasm, before 1943 breaks upon us. One of the news accounts of the outdoor program reads like this:

"Over 2000 enthusiastic spectators, including many family groups, jammed the county courthouse lawn in Clayton Thursday night to enjoy the two-hour song fest provided them by the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

The program was augmented by the appearance of the U. S. Coast Guard band which played numbers from military marches to original swing pieces. The 95 members of the SPEBSQSA, Inc. making their first public appearance, sang many old favorites in the old time manner, and were met with an enthusiastic response from

HIGH FLIGHT

(John Magee, Jr., was born in China, where his parents were living, had his school course in Connecticut and at Rugby, England, and enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1940, at the age of nineteen. He published a volume of verse while in school. He was killed in active service over England in December, 1941. This poem was conceived by John while in the air. When he landed, he scrawled it on the back of an envelope and sent it to his mother in America. "High Flight" is now the official poem of the R.A.F. and is placed—with the picture of the author—in all R.A.F. centers throughout the world.)

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and
swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wing along and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
Where never lark, or even eagle, flew;
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

J. M., Jr.

the large audience gathered on the lawn.

Mayor Alfred Kerth of Clayton acted as M. C., and both he and Captain S. S. Yeandle of the U. S. Coast Guard emphasized the importance of such gatherings and song fests in the keeping up of civilian morale in war time.

The Society is a chapter of a national organization founded in Tulsa, Oklahoma, for the express purpose of good fellowship and hearty singing."

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Invades Springfield, Mass.

On June sixth, Springfield became the second city in New England to have a Chapter of our illustrious Society. Under the direction of Frederick D. Griggs, well known executive of Springfield, members of service clubs and of the MacDowell and Orpheus male choruses, met for the organization meeting, with National President Hal Staab and three quartets attending from the Northampton Chapter.

Before the evening had come to a close, a group of some 50 men had voted to form a chapter, adopted a local constitution, elected officers and appointed committees for the carrying on of chapter activities. One of the ideas to be followed was the formation of quartets in shops and business establishments with the hope of making Springfield more music-minded, and thus aid by building up morale on the home-front.

Officers for the year are President, Dr. Richard S. Rochford; Vice-President, Thomas F. Londergan, President of the MacDowell Club; Treasurer, Edward M. Whitaker, President of the Orpheus Club; Secretary, Frederick D. Griggs, Executive Director of the Springfield Taxpayers Association; Directors, Albert Marlin, William H. Flood, Walter Groth, Dewey Samson and Clarence E. Chaffin.

EAST ST. LOUIS CHAPTER BROADCASTS

by DR. W. H. NETTLE, St. Louis, Mo.

I am proud to report our Chapter in E. St. Louis broadcasts from 9:30 to 10:00 p.m. on alternate Mondays over WTMV, one of our local stations. All members of the Chapter, and all local quartets and choral units whose members are affiliated with S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. are invited to attend each broadcast and sing—or just look on. We are getting an excellent response from the public—and our “watching” audience, as well as our listening audience, is growing rapidly.

Cleveland Sec. Knows How To Spell “Picnicked”. Did You?

By JIM KNIPE, Secretary Cleveland Chapter

Twenty odd members of the Cleveland group picnicked in royal style Saturday, August fifteenth, on Carroll Pallerin's farm in Hunting Valley, outlying suburb of Cleveland. Pallerin's own quartet, The Forest City Four, who will be remembered for their beautiful rendering of “Out of the Dusk” in the last of the Elimination Contests at Grand Rapids, were on hand and tackled from scratch “When the Maple Leaves Were Falling”. Unanimous opinion was that the song is a “honey” and well worthy of becoming a permanent part of the Cleveland repertoire.

The Willoughby delegation was so strongly represented and the liquid refreshments so refreshing and stimulating that before the evening was very far along the new “Willoughby Chapter” of the Society had been formed. That means little or nothing to anyone outside of Cleveland at this moment but don't tell us we didn't warn you come next June in Chicago.

By judicious scrambling of voices under the guidance of expert Walt Karl, pickup quartets blasted the serene calm of Hunting Valley and vicinity far into the night with more or less harmonious renderings of practically every song in the book and a lot that aren't.

For the benefit of other chapters who may care to imitate, the prescription for guaranteed success in a similar venture is appended herewith:—

Mix—one shack or other spot with open fireplace—any given number of members of SPEBSQSA—4-5 cases of golden throat stimulant—60 steaks 100 ears of corn—coffee—condiments—stand back and keep your ears open.

Form the quartet that you have always dreamed of. Hold a couple of rehearsals, and startle your Chapter on your next meeting night. You'll love it.

THE WILL TO WIN

“Five thousand people assembled in the Civic Auditorium in Grand Rapids attending the final meeting of the Annual Convention of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America on this twentieth day of June 1942, pledge to you as our Commander-in-Chief, our wholehearted and steadfast support in the prosecution of this war for liberty. We assure you of our continued effort to stimulate a proper spirit and morale among the people of this great country that we all love so well. We sang our way through the last war, and we will do so through this one. God bless you.”

That is the telegram sent to the President of the United States by the people attending the final meeting at our Convention in Grand Rapids.

Our Society has a definite place in the war effort. Nothing stimulates patriotism so much as good singing. We urge every Chapter to participate whenever opportunities present themselves to do their part on the home front, by utilizing their singing abilities to instill into the people of our nation an enthusiastic spirit of patriotism and the will to win.

1941 NATIONAL CHAMPS ENTERTAIN CONVENTION CROWDS



The Tulsa Chord-Busters, National Winners at St. Louis in 1941, graciously remained out of competition this year (as did the Oklahoma City Flat Foot Four in 1941)—but they made the trip to Grand Rapids in the face of almost insurmountable personal and business obstacles, and again won their way into the hearts of everyone who heard them. "For our money" no amateur quartet will ever surpass their original, harmonious and tuneful arrangements. And along with that, vocally they're "tops".

PUT A PUNCH INTO YOUR MEETING NOTICES

Chapters that use a printed form for meeting notices are missing a bet. You can boost your attendance and increase the interest of your members by putting some ingenuity and originality into the notice you send out, of each Chapter meeting. Put a punch into the message—catch the eye of each member when the postal or letter is placed on his desk or when he fishes it out of his mailbox. Here's the August notice of the Wichita, Kansas Chapter—short but catchy.

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Regular Meeting For August

Last month's meeting was such a success that it was decided by what is laughingly known as your "officers", to have another outdoor meeting this month. It will be at Heller's Grove on North Arkansas. Don't drive up alone; bring a friend (male).

- When? Next Wednesday, August 26th
- Where? Heller's Grove, 4315 Arkansas
- What? Us; singin', etc.
- Price? Cheap—and worth it, too.

Dean Palmer
Sec.-Treas.

DOINGS IN MICHIGAN

The State of Michigan, with its 14 active chapters, expects soon to be able to announce the addition of 2 cities to that list, Bay City and Albion. Organization of chapters in those two centers is under way.

The Oakland County Chapter, with the aid of excellent weather, staged its first picnic for members and wives on Sunday, August 23rd. Nearly 100 enjoyed the feast and the fun, and when darkness fell, quartets could still be heard, from the shadows, singing their hearts out.

The annual schedule of "Parades" of quartets throughout Michigan is fast shaping up. Jackson picked September, Oakland County November, Detroit January, Saginaw February, with others to be heard from. "Parades" differ from contests in that there is no judging—and no prizes—and every quartet goes home thinking it was the best.

The "Strollers" of the Detroit and Oakland County Chapters (their members Bill Barry, Al Frank, Joe Jones, and Herman Smith, belong to both) stole the show at the recent annual Detroit Old Timers Day and Band Concert on Belle Isle, the City's huge island park. Our good friend, Geo. W. Stark, of the Detroit News, was the Master of Ceremonies (remember George at the Grand Rapids Saturday morning session?). On the night scheduled for the musical program, rain came just as the program was to start and the 14,000 people scampered for shelter under the trees, where the "Strollers" sang, and the rain came—but the people stayed as long as the quartet continued to "give out". The next night the skies were clear, the musical program was carried out, and again the "Strollers" (they're now "The Old Timers") won their way into the hearts of the audience. This same quartet has filled a total of 16 U.S.O. engagements recently.

SENSATIONAL OFFER!

Would like to meet members of the
SPEBSQSA

who fancy themselves connoisseurs of

American Singing, Barber Shop Style

Eligible members must be handsome. Must possess discriminating taste. Should have an eye for the fair sex. And must be discerning in regard to the finer points of tonsorial vocalizing. Qualifying members will discover pleasures galore. Hours of unending delight await you. Apply at Columbia Record Dealers. Ask for the Columbia Album of Barber Shop Melodies, by Flat Foot Four, 1940 national champions of SPEBSQSA. Set C-35. Price only \$2.63. Four records encased in handsome album.

"PHILLIPS 66" BARITONE NOW AT SCOTT FIELD

Genial Bob Durand, baritone of the "Phillips 66" quartet of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, (formerly known as the Bartlesville Barflies), 3rd place winner at Grand Rapids can now be addressed as:

Private Robert R. Durand
371 Tech. Sch. Sqd.,
Barracks 144, Scott Field, Ill.

A recent letter from Bob brought this news:

August 2, 1942.

Dear Carroll:

Your fine letter finally caught up with me and I also received the splendid post-Convention circular which I have sent home for safekeeping. This sheet of publicity is a masterpiece and you are to be highly complimented.

I entered the Army July 2nd, and after short stays at Fort Sill and Sheppard Field, Texas, I now find myself here at Scott Field, where they intend to make an Air Force radio operator out of a second-rate baritone. The school lasts some 110 days so I'll be mighty happy to hear from you whenever you find the opportunity to write.

The Grand Rapids Convention was "tops" in my estimation and I know Harry, George and Herman all agree. Chicago will do well to pattern after your style without any attempt at improvement.

We have only been at Scott Field for three days, but I'm not letting the grass grow under my feet. Already I have found a suitable lead singer and am combing the area for a tenor and bass. Maybe by next summer I'll have a new entry for your Contest, provided, of course, that we get this war business settled and can relax to something infinitely more important like barber shop singing.

The boys at home, together with a carload of Tulsa addicts, gave me a wonderful party by way of a send off to the Army. It was more or less of a surprise affair and had me swallowing hard for a spell. They certainly are a great gang and I hated like hell to leave them.

If you ever come to St. Louis, let me know and I'll try to meet you. We're only twenty miles away.

Meanwhile, best of luck for yourself and the Society.

Yours,
Bob

PEORIA CHAPTER LOSES ITS PRESIDENT TO COAST GUARD

John Hulit, Peoria President, interrupted a highly successful administration of the affairs of the Chapter by enlisting in the Coast Guard. The Chapter is fortunate in finding Jesse L. Pierce, a charter member, willing to take over the Presidency, and the Coast Guard is fortunate in getting John. Our bet is that there will be a Coast Guard Chapter of S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. very soon if they let John stay in one place long enough to gather together a few harmony addicts.

COMMERCIAL RECORDS AND PUBLICATIONS

In response to many requests we give below details about the three albums of commercial records, now on the market, of numbers recorded by quartets belonging to our Society, as well as the folio of special barber shop quartet arrangements (a number of them by our own members) recently put out by the Mills Music Co., in conjunction with Sigmund Spaeth—and the 1940 Spaeth book, "Barber Shop Ballads". All of these items can be obtained through your music dealer. The Society has no financial interest in the sale of these records and books and receives no commission. Here is the story.

DECCA—Album 261, Records 3422, 3448, 3583, 3651, and 3744, by Bartlesville Barflies, N. Y. Police Dept. quartet, Commuters, Beacon 4, and Kansas City Police Quartet, respectively. (Ask for the Spaeth pamphlet with it.)

COLUMBIA—Album C-35, Records 35795 to 35798 inclusive. All by the Flat Foot 4 of Oklahoma City.

VICTOR—Album P 26, Records 26630 to 26632 inclusive. All by the Capitol City 4 of Springfield, Ill.

MILLS MUSIC, INC., New York City—"Barber Shop Harmony" edited by Sigmund Spaeth

PRENTICE-HALL, INC., New York City—"Barber Shop Ballads and How to Sing Them" by Sigmund Spaeth.

A ROSE BETWEEN TWO BARBERS



The founder of our illustrious Society, O. C. Cash of Tulsa, poses with his ever-present cigar, between Roscoe Bennett (left) General Convention Chairman and Ray Hall, President of the Grand Rapids Chapter, all of the members of which wore white barber's coats and barber-pole ties throughout the Convention. The good looking guy is Cash, and the other two dudes were the spark-plugs of the Convention.

JAIL BEGINS AT 40



On June 30th, Phil Embury made a report to the Warsaw (New York) Kiwanis Club, extolling the stupendous success of the Grand Rapids Contest and Convention of the Society. The members of the Club accepted his report with due respect but when his impromptu quartet, introduced as the Warsaw Sharpshooters, appeared, in costumes of the Gay Nineties, the riot began. The climax came with the singing of "Say You'll be mine forever" in that famous old song known as "Heart of My Heart", which was just too much. The Sheriff rushed the quartet off to jail where they continued their barber-shopping behind the bars as you will observe in the above picture. Incidentally, all this happened on Phil's fortieth birthday which led to a new observation on the meaning of that mile post. Bill Humphrey, Lead—Bill Atwill, Tenor—Phil Embury, Baritone—Ray Stambach, Bass.

ECHOES FROM KANSAS CITY CHAPTER'S PICNIC—AUGUST 15th

R. J. Heinen of Halbur, Iowa, (National Board Member) writes:

"Dear Carroll:

I trust you will kindly overlook my tardiness in making reply to your several letters. Part of this delay you will have to charge up to the 'Kansas City Pole Cats', for Tom Finnegan, Dr. Witte, myself and my son drive to Kansas City Saturday, leaving here at 11:00 A.M. and arriving there about 5:00 P.M. to attend the Annual Picnic of the K. C. Chapter. At the Hotel Phillips where we were quartered, we found Brother Kaiser, the bass singer of the Bartlesville Bar Flies, Mr. Kaiser's father, and another brother from the Bartlesville Chapter who had an 11:00 P.M. train to catch for New York City, but who attended the picnic with us. The picnic lasted until about midnight, and after that time we invited the Pole Cats and the Skelly Quartet to our hotel rooms where the harmony session lasted until about 4:00 A.M. Sunday morning. This threw our schedule all out of balance, and caused a delay in all of my plans. I am still behind with my work, but I wouldn't have missed it."

Bert Phelps (Kansas City Chapter Secretary) writes:

"Picnic was a huge success. Sorry you were not here. We had Kaiser from Oklahoma, boys from Wichita, Iowa and all points East, West, North and South. The letter I got today gives us some good points for raising money for the Chapter—thanks. Looks like we are going great guns this year."

FRANK OTTO OF SANTA MONICA LOSES OUT

When Frank Otto, Treasurer of the Santa Monica Chapter, recently became "First Lieutenant Frank Otto, Company 775, M.P.B.N. Boise Barracks, Boise, Idaho" he didn't know that his brother members of the Chapter were soon to be appointed in a body as members of the Night Beach Patrol, a branch of the Civilian Defense program on the West Coast. Had he known that, perhaps Frank would have delayed his enlistment long enough to enjoy a few nights of patrolling and singing with Capt. Figueiredo, Steve Cady, and his other buddies. Steve writes that barber-shop harmony makes the patrolling easy, even to those with "tenderfeet".

NORTHAMPTON CHAPTER HAS ACTIVE SUMMER

A Parade of Quartets for the selection of a quartet to attend the National Convention, the sending of "The Rambling Four" to the National Contest, (they made the Finals), the election of one of the chapter's members as National President, a cabaret and a clambake, have made this a busy season for the Northampton Chapter. The cabaret under direction of Chairman Doc. Gleason was a decided success. Ten members of the newly organized Springfield Chapter attended. Group songs, selections by several quartets, solos by chairman Doc. and Walter Groth of Springfield, and a report on the National Convention and Contest by National President Hal Staab concluded the formal part of the program. Dancing and refreshments completed the evening. The old-fashioned New England Clambake put on by Chairman George Keller and his committee, was one that will long be remembered by the 125 attending.

Why not start a savings club so that your Chapter will have a good delegation at the next convention?

MILLS ★★☆☆ FOLIOS

A Barrage of Musical Top-Notchers
You'll Always Be Singing!

Complete Words and Music of Every Song

★ BARBER SHOP HARMONY

A nostalgic offering edited by Sig Spaeth
32 pages of famous songs specially arranged for
male quartets

★ SONGS OF OUR BUDDIES

48 Pages of America's Best Loved War Songs!

★ MILLS' FAVORITE OLD TIMERS No. 1

63 of America's Greatest Ballads and Comedy Songs

★ MILLS' FAVORITE OLD TIMERS No. 2

An entirely different collection!
63 of the biggest hits of recent years!

Price 50¢ each

MILLS MUSIC, Inc. 1619 Broadway, New York

WHAT NATIONAL COMMITTEES ARE DOING FOR CHAPTERS AND MEMBERS

Song Arrangements

Either one or two barber-shop song arrangements with explanatory bulletin will be mailed to all Chapters each month. The Committee is made up of four "Barber-Shop Experts": National Vice-Presidents Embury and Reagan, Historian Martin, and Director Thorne, who is a member of the 1942 Championship Quartet, "The Elastic Four." Already two sets of songs with accompanying bulletins have been forwarded to Chapter Secretaries, who will be glad to see that the arrangements are made accessible to any member. The Committee recommends that members get the published songs, if available. Comparisons of the barber-shop arrangements with the originals will be interesting, and the verses often present excellent harmony possibilities that quartets may work out for themselves.

Vice-President Reagan and Historian Martin are collaborating in the preparation of a series of articles on Barber-Shop Harmony, the first of which appears in this issue of "Re-Chordings". A thorough study of these articles will give members an excellent knowledge of the Reagan System of Barber-Shop Harmony.

Chapter Ways and Means

The first bulletin to be issued by this Committee was forwarded to Chapter Secretaries on August 15th. Any Chapter needing funds with which to carry on, would do well to study the fourteen suggestions for raising money that were itemized in the very comprehensive bulletin prepared by Directors Marlowe, Rice and Stern. Some of the methods presented are sure fire ways of raising funds. A statement in the explanatory portion of the bulletin is worth the consideration of all Chapters: "A number of Chapters are planning to pay the National per capita tax of their members by using some of the suggestions listed."

Achievement Awards

The Committee consisting of National Master of Ceremonies Eddy, Historian Martin and Director Heinan, has formulated regulations for an achievement contest to be held among Chapters. They feel that it would be a fine thing for Chapters who have done outstanding work, to be publicly recognized and commended. Chapters will be judged solely upon the activities reports rendered by Chapter Secretaries, so it is imperative that complete reports be sent to the National Office. Later this month Chapters will receive full information about the contest.

Inter-Chapter Relations

Committee Chairman and National Director Hanson of Peoria, Illinois, where Inter-Chapter Relations are of a very high order, together with Director Nelson and Vice-President Wolff, have in process of preparation a bulletin that will explain methods whereby the most benefit

may be derived from Inter-Chapter Relations for both Chapters and individual members. Joint meetings among barber-shop Chapters develop a spirit of good-fellowship that can only be appreciated by those who have taken part.

Community Service

A bulletin suggesting how Chapters may take part in service activities, and ways whereby they can help in the war effort, will soon be made ready for distribution by the National Committee comprising Directors Morse, Sturges and Wodicka. Many of our Chapters have found themselves in a position to participate in enterprises that have resulted in inestimable good to their communities. Our Committee urges all Chapters to join in the rendering of community service, in the building of morale and in the stimulation of patriotism.

Extension

Every member of our Society should be interested in spreading the gospel of barber-shop singing so that more men in more cities and towns may receive the inspiration, the fun and the good-fellowship that our Society provides.

Committee Chairman Vice-President Perkins, with his cohorts Directors Cady, Graves, Laws, and Past President Rathert, are busily engaged formulating plans whereby Chapters and individual members may assist in the formation of new Chapters. A preliminary bulletin has already been prepared and will be released soon. Further bulletins will follow as material is prepared.

Publicity

Methods that may be used by Chapters for local publicity is the subject of a bulletin now in process of preparation by the National Committee composed of Directors Kerby, Bennett and Lt. Granger.

Convention

Even at this early date, Convention Chairman and Director Stanley is busy with his Chicago Committee, working out plans for the next Convention. He swears that it will be the best one yet, which will be going some. However, we know the capacity and ability of the Chicago Chapter, and when they say that they will give every person attending the time of his life, we are inclined to agree.

SAVE YOUR COPIES OF RE-CHORDINGS

They are punched for a binder for your convenience. You may have reason to refer to some of the items in the future. The articles to appear on Barber-Shop Harmony are enough to make all issues worth saving.

CHICAGO CHAPTER'S MARATHON QUARTET CONTEST

Frank Thorne's suggestion to the Chicago Chapter that it adopt and carry out a Marathon Quartet Contest during the 1941-42 season resulted in the formation of a number of new combinations of voices in the Chapter and a highly successful and exciting contest within the Chapter. (The Chicago boys meet twice a month). The Marathon idea provides a lot of fun and keeps a Chapter on its toes. Why doesn't your Chapter try it out during the 1942-43 season? It's a natural. Write to W. Welsh Pierce, Secretary of the Chicago Chapter, at 10 So. LaSalle St., Chicago, for full details of the Marathon plan.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER KEEPS BUSY

Following a highly successful Münstrel Show last May—the members of the St. Louis Chapter began laying plans for the summer and the fall—and the result is that there just never is a dull moment in St. Louis. A large delegation traveled to Clayton on August 20th, to collaborate with the chorus of that Chapter in the big out-door program on the City Hall lawn. To reciprocate, the Clayton gang joined up with the St. Louis Chapter in helping to stage a big show, under Doc Rathert's direction, for Army and Navy Emergency Relief, in St. Louis.

HOW TO START A NEW CHAPTER

The growth of our Society will be in proportion to the number of new Chapters that are organized. To anyone interested in being instrumental in forming a new Chapter, here is our formula:

First, find a "spark plug"—someone who enjoys to sing, or listen to, barber-shop harmony. He should then talk to eight or ten of his brother "addicts" and obtain their pledge to be charter members of the proposed Chapter. Next he should write to the National Secretary for an outline of the mechanics of getting the Chapter under way. An immediate reply will be forthcoming. It's all very simple, and the thrill of being a charter member of a new Chapter will compensate each member of the group that "pioneers" the movement. Each member of the National Board stands ready to help in any way that he can—and your National Secretary will lend every needed assistance in "spreading the Gospel" through the forming of new Chapters. Write to him about any fertile field that shows up in your line of vision. This is a job that must be done—and every active member of our Society is urged to keep his eyes peeled for opportunities to start new Chapters. Don't wait for someone else to do it.

MEMBERS OF SAGINAW CHAPTER EAT AND SING

by C. P. A.

Sixty-seven members of the Saginaw (Michigan) Chapter gathered at the country home of Charter Member Ed. Schust (Ed calls it a "farm" but no one else does—because it isn't) on August thirteenth for the third annual summer outing of the Chapter. The bulletin announcing the affair read like this—and every promise was fulfilled—and more. I should know for I was there!

"AND RIGHT NOW we're asking you to get set for the BIGGEST AND BEST meeting of the year when our good friend and enthusiastic Barbershopper "Cracker" Ed. Schust entertains the gang at the

SCHUST FARM—THURSDAY EVENING AUGUST THIRTEENTH

Drive out Bay Road past Old Heidelberg—(don't stop for a drink)—the second road beyond Old Heidelberg is the 'SCHUST ROAD'. Turn left about a half a mile to the lovely grove on the left and—THERE YOU ARE AT SQUIRE SCHUST'S SUNSHINE VILLA. Drive in—park your car—park your carcass—and get set for a large, lovely evening full of fun, food and fine fellowship.

SWIMMING—with or without your bathing suit in Squire Eddie's lovely outdoor pool that makes Hollywood look like a mud puddle.

SOFTBALL—for those who still have the urge and think that they can show the Detroit Tigers something about our National Pastime.

SINGING—Yes Brother—and how! There'll be community harmony 'till Hell wont have it. There'll be quartettes like you've never heard and some like you'll never want to hear again.

AND GROCERIES—Jake and O'bie will preside at the grill and will turn out some more of those sizzling steaks that made a hit at our last session. And there'll be Beer, Coffee, Salad, Etc., Etc.

STEAKS START ROLLING OFF THE CONVEYOR SYSTEM AT 6:30 P.M. The line forms on the right. THE DAMAGES FOR EVERYTHING WILL BE ONE BUCK. COME EARLY. Action will start at four-thirty for early arrivals but you'll be welcome any time till midnight.

Raising funds is not a difficult task for a Chapter of Barber-Shoppers. Our National Committee on Ways and Means has issued a bulletin showing several sure fire methods of making money. If you are interested, ask your secretary to let you see the bulletin.

EDDIE CANTOR NOW A MEMBER OF TULSA CHAPTER



On a recent social occasion in Tulsa, "Banjo Eyes" Eddie Cantor applied to the local Chapter for membership in S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. and the members of the Okies are seen here presenting him with his framed membership certificate as the five join in a chorus of "Hail, Hail the Gang's All Here." J. Frank Rice (millionaire Frank) Lead, Cantor, Fred Graves—Bass, O. C. Cash—Baritone, and Bill Dowling—Tenor. The Okies, although not in competition, entertained throughout the Grand Rapids Convention with some of their old songs and many new ones. No quartet we know of enjoys to sing any more than do these boys and they're really good.

RECOMMENDED MEETING PROCEDURE

It is becoming increasingly the custom of chapters to open each meeting by singing one verse of America and to close with a verse of the Star Spangled Banner, members facing the United States flag which should always be displayed.

DISPLAY YOUR CHARTER

Your chapter charter should be hung in a conspicuous place in the hall where you meet, preferably on the wall back of the table of the presiding officer.

The Music You Want! BARBER-SHOP HARMONY

Dear Old Girl
Down Mobile
Working on the Railroad
By the Watermelon Vine
Just a Dream of You, Dear
Sweet Adeline
Down By the Old Mill Stream

Capital Music by the Capitol City Four
(National Prize-winning Quartet)
in Album P-26

Get it at your Victor Record Dealer—\$2.00*
*suggested list price exclusive of excise tax



VICTOR RECORDS

STERN APPOINTED

President Hal has appointed Jos. E. Stern of the Kansas City Chapter to the office of National Assistant Treasurer, Joe was our efficient National Secretary last year, and when the matter of the new appointment came up, Joe was the only man considered. We are glad to say that he accepted the office and is now on the job.

DON'T FORGET OUR MEMBERS WHO ENTER THE SERVICE

Our Chapters are not overlooking the opportunity to pay tribute to members who leave for the Service. Each Chapter has set up its own plan for this, and that gives it a more personal touch than if the National Office were to undertake the job of keeping track of every induction or enlistment of Society members. Chapter Secretaries are keeping in close touch with their members who leave to serve in the armed forces and other Chapter members help the plan along by writing frequent personal letters. Most Chapters have adopted the rule of suspending all Chapter dues of men serving their Country, at the same time keeping their names "in good standing" on the active member list to receive all bulletins, notices, letters, etc. Several Chapters honor the men when they leave with informal social affairs—and a gift or memento. We can't do too much for these men when they leave—and all the time they're away! Let's show them that we don't forget them for even a minute.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

By Guy Stoppert

President of Flint (Mich.) Chapter

Word your Chapter Constitution so that the Executive Committee will be the governing body, and only the most important matters will be brought up on the floor of a meeting. Chapter members attend meetings to sing and fraternize—not to listen to a lot of reports and a lot of bickering as to whether hot dogs or hamburgers should be served at the next picnic, or social meeting. Let your Executive Committee run your Chapter. Put men on that Committee that you have confidence in. No Chapter business meeting should last over thirty minutes—and even that is too long unless unusually important questions must be acted on by the Chapter. Stream-line your meetings and get to the business of singing before your members begin to squirm in their seats. Our Society was formed to furnish our members "A Haven from Burdensome Daily Stresses and Cares through the Medium of Old-fashioned Vocal Quartet Harmony". (Code of Ethics—Article I).

WHAT EVERY MEMBER SHOULD HAVE

When a man becomes a member of any S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. Chapter, he is provided with a pocket membership card and a membership certificate, suitable for framing. In addition, he should immediately provide himself with a lapel emblem button, and a wind-shield sticker. These can be purchased for a nominal amount from your Chapter Secretary. If he is out of either item, insist that he replenish his stock from the National Office immediately.

Here is a complete list of supplies that Chapter Secretaries can obtain from the National Secretary:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Chapter Charters | \$3.00 each |
| *Reprints of the Grand Rapids Convention Display Spread | .10 each |
| *Membership Certificates (Suitable for framing) | .50 each |
| *Copies of the Code of Ethics | no charge |
| *Membership Pocket Cards | .02 each |
| *Membership Application Forms | no charge |
| *Windshield Emblem Decalcomanias | .10 each |
| *Lapel Emblem Pins (New type-silver) | .75 each |
| Chapter Invoice Forms (Padded) | no charge |
| | (while supply lasts) |
| Official National Letterheads (with space for Chapter or individual imprinting, by your printer) | |
| In lots of 100 to 499 | 1.25 per hundred |
| In lots of 500 or more | 1.00 per hundred |
| Official National Envelopes—Size No. 10 (With space for Chapter or individual imprinting, by your printer) | |
| In lots of 100 to 499 | .75 per hundred |
| In lots of 500 or more | .70 per hundred |

In the case of orders for stationery, please include in the amount of your check, 50 cents for wrapping and mailing expense. Postage and express charges on all other items are included in price. Each Chapter Secretary should carry on hand at least a small supply of each of the seven items marked with an asterisk (*).

NATIONAL SECRETARY ADAMS HONORED

The Oakland County Chapter of Michigan, of which Immediate Past National President and present National Secretary and Treasurer Carroll Adams is a member, honored him at a meeting held early in September by presenting him with a beautiful Parker 51 desk pen and marble stand as a mark of affectionate regard and in appreciation of his work for the Society last year. The honor was well deserved as will be testified to by members of the National Board and by Chapter members all over the United States.

H. B. S.

CODE OF ETHICS SLIGHTLY REVISED

New Articles 10 and 11 Added

Here is the revised Society Code of Ethics, recently adopted by the National Board. Articles 10 and 11 are new, the balance of the Articles as originally drafted by National Vice-President Joe Wolff remaining unchanged.

We, as members of the Society, do hereby subscribe to the principles of our organization as embodied in its illustrious name and title, and do solemnly pledge ourselves to abide by this Code of Ethics in all of its precepts.

1. We recognize the inalienable right of men to seek a haven from burdensome daily stresses and cares through the medium of old-fashioned vocal quartet harmony.
2. We shall always venerate and honor barber-shop harmony as an American institution worthy of perpetuation.
3. We shall deport ourselves and conduct our functions in a manner which will at all times reflect credit upon the Society.
4. Our activities in all respects shall conform to the Constitution of the Society and to the rules established by the National Board of Directors.
5. We shall strive to attend all Chapter meetings and these shall be held at least once each month.
6. We shall resist the application of any constraining methods of procedure in the conduct of the business affairs of the Society, and shall prohibit the introduction of all matters pertaining to politics or to any other extraneous controversial issues.
7. We shall not permit or tolerate the commercialization of the Society in any manner whatsoever.
8. We shall solicit for membership in the Society only congenial men of good character who possess an inherent love of harmony and/or a desire to harmonize.
9. We shall refrain from foisting our songs upon unsympathetic ears and shall always be guided by a rational spirit of good fellowship.
10. We shall do everything in our power to "Harmonize America" by stimulating, through the medium of good singing, a proper spirit and morale among the men in the armed forces and the people of our great Nation.
11. We shall use our gift of barber-shop harmony as a means of rendering altruistic service in and to our communities.
12. We shall help the Society to be worthy of praise and praise it for all it is worth.

Did you ever hear of the little soprano who went out with a big bass singer and came home with a tenor?