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# BARBER SHOP RE-CHORDINGS

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

DECEMBER, 1942

VOL. 2

CARROLL P. ADAMS, National Secretary-Treasurer, 19220 Gainsborough Road, Detroit, Michigan

NO. 2

## Mid-Winter Meeting

As we go to press plans are well under way for the Winter Meeting of the National Board of Directors, which by vote of the thirty-one members of that Board was awarded to Peoria, Illinois. The date set is Saturday, January 16th. Most of the members of the Board will arrive in Peoria Friday evening, the fifteenth, or early Saturday morning. The business sessions will be held from 9:00 to 12:30, and from 2:00 to 5:30. The members of the Peoria Chapter have big plans for the entertainment of the visiting Board members, but we can't tell you about them yet because they are a deep, dark secret, and even the members of the National Board are not being let in on that secret. It can be safely said that a large number of visiting members from many chapters in the Middle West will swell the attendance at the Frolic which is planned for Saturday evening.

Early indications are that nearly every one of the thirty-one members of the National Board will be on hand. Invitations for the meeting were received from Cleveland and Detroit, and both of them were extremely attractive, so it became necessary for the National Officers to poll the Board members by mail to determine their choice of a meeting place.

President Hal Staab will preside at the business sessions, and an order of business which will fill the full seven hours, has been prepared for the two sessions.

## Seven New Chapters

Since the last issue of Re-Chordings was published, Missouri has produced three brand new chapters, namely, Hermann, Washington and Joplin, the Presidents being Walter Junge, R. H. Olson and John W. Garrett respectively. Michigan has come through with two, namely,

the Albion Chapter, with Burnett J. Abbott as President, and the Belding-Greenville Chapter with Clayton Knapp as President. Dr. G. R. Hansen is the President of the newly organized Chapter at Bristow, Okla., and L. C. Wilsey holds that office in the Newark, N. J. Chapter, which boasts 3 organized quartets in its charter membership. Lucky devils! As this item is being written, a number of other chapters are in the process of formation and it is expected that by the time of the Winter Meeting of the National Board in Peoria on January 16th, an imposing list of newly chartered chapters will be ready for announcement.

### THE MORMON QUARTET



These are the 4 boys who can sing anything in the realm of good music all the way from their own soul-stirring "The Lord's Prayer" to "Mood Indigo". They were special non-competing guests of the Society throughout the Grand Rapids Convention and sang at every Harmony Session and dozens of times in-between.

Left to Right—Melvin C. Maughan, G. Conway Grant, Robert A. Carpenter, Wayne C. Booth.

A friendly message from the Mormon Quartet appears on page 2.

"You know how it thrills our blood sometimes to think how all the nations of the earth wait to see what America is going to do with her power, her physical power, her enormous resources, her enormous wealth. The nations hold their breath to see what this young country is going to do with her young unspoiled strength; we cannot help but be proud that we are strong."

—Woodrow Wilson  
(The New Freedom)

### 1943 CONVENTION ASSURED

We have been assured by authorities in Washington that unless it is found necessary to issue drastic new rules to regulate the holding of conventions, we will be permitted to proceed with our plans for the June, 1943 get-together in Chicago. It is our feeling that everyone who wants to, will find a way to get to Chicago although it may involve a good deal of careful planning.

## RE-CHORDINGS

Published quarterly by the National Officers and the other members of the National Board of Directors 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 DECEMBER, 1942 NO. 2

Carroll P. Adams—Editor and Business Manager  
19220 Gainsborough Road, Detroit, Michigan

1942-43

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1943 National Convention—Stanley (Chairman)

## A Friendly Message from the MORMON MALE QUARTET of Salt Lake City

We members of the Mormon Male Quartet will never forget the good time we had visiting with the SPEBSQSA in Grand Rapids. Nowhere have we been treated more royally; nowhere have we made more genuine friendships; and nowhere have we enjoyed ourselves more in our work of promoting good will for the Mormon church and promulgating the spirit of Christianity among all men. We found there men who sing in fellowship and group spirit as only American singers can, enjoying the freedom which only Americans have; we found men who, through their musical association, are automatically boosted along the road to better Christian living.

Since visiting the Convention, we have travelled a great deal in Iowa, Illinois and Michigan, carrying out our regular singing and lecturing activities, averaging from two to three engagements a day. We are now in Ohio for our final few months as a quartet.

Soon after the first of the year our baritone, Melvin Maughan, returns home to enter the armed services, his two year missionary term over. So our days as a quartet are nearly ended. We regret the necessity which interrupts such pleasurable activity, but we know that even after being dissolved we will be able to continue our activities in working for a better, more Christian world. And we will have our quartet memories to cheer us through what may be more difficult days ahead.

The good times with our Barber Shop Quartet friends will be outstanding among those memories. Perhaps some day we may meet with you again, individually or in the old quartet, and enjoy the incomparable fellowship of men who sing because they enjoy singing.

In the meantime, let's all sing on to victory and to the establishment of a genuinely better world.

Elder Robert A. Carpenter—Tenor  
Manti, Utah

Elder G. Conway Grant—Lead  
Bountiful, Utah

Elder Melvin C. Maughan—Baritone  
Lava Hot Springs, Idaho

Elder Wayne Booth—Bass  
Provo, Utah

### HARMONIZE AMERICA

## NATIONAL SECRETARY CHANGES HIS MAIL ADDRESS

Carroll P. Adams, National Secretary-Treasurer, recently moved from 50 Fairwood Boulevard, Pleasant Ridge, Michigan to 19220 Gainsborough Road, Detroit, Michigan. Please make a note of that change on your SPEBSQSA mailing list.

WICHITA'S GIFT TO THE BARBER SHOP  
QUARTET WORLD  
THE BEACON FOUR



They reached the finals at Grand Rapids on June 19 and 20 and also were prominent contenders in 1940 at the N. Y. World's Fair Contest. Incidentally, Decca has a record made by these 4 handsome gentlemen. From left to right—Vern M. Laing, Lead (Attorney); Frank Goodwin, Baritone (Cesena Aircraft Co.); Harry Mathcrly, Tenor (U. S. Railway Mail Clerk); Frank Dodson, Bass (Model Clothing Co.).

NORTHAMPTON CHAPTER MAKES RECORDS  
FOR MEN IN SERVICE

At a recent meeting of the members of the Northampton, Massachusetts, Chapter, special recordings were made for the two Chapter members now in service. One of the records consisted of a series of greetings from Chapter members, and the other records were made up of barber shop group numbers and songs by the "Rambling Four" and the "Williamsburg Warblers". The record of greetings carried the following message from National President Hal Staab:

"Greetings Ray McDonald. This is Hal Staab, National President of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, speaking in behalf of the Northampton Chapter. The boys are all assembled here in good old Harmony Hall for the purpose of sending to you our sincere best wishes. While we all can't join actively in this battle to preserve our way of life, we want you to know that we are with you 100%, and look forward to the time when peace is restored and when you will again join us in adding your superlative baritone to some of those good old songs that we all love to sing. We miss you Ray."

Would you fight for your city like the citizens of Stalingrad fought for theirs?

MICHIGAN CHAPTERS START SEASON  
OF PARADES

Early in September, the Jackson, Michigan Chapter sponsored its annual Parade of Quartets with a program of entertainment that included the appearance of twelve "fours" from various Michigan cities. The ballroom of the Hayes Hotel was filled with nearly five hundred listeners and none of them wanted to go home when the lights were turned out at 1:00 a.m.

On Saturday, November 7th, the Oakland County Chapter staged its second annual Parade in the Elks Temple in Royal Oak. Fourteen quartets took part, including the Gay Nineties from Kalamazoo, and the Oldtimers from Muskegon. The audience numbered five hundred and twenty-two, and at least one hundred and twenty-five people were turned away.

The Detroit Chapter plans a Parade in January, and the Saginaw Chapter is to act as host to the annual State Contest in place of its own local Parade. The month is February. Traverse City has its eyes on the month of May, and it is expected that March and April will be soon spoken for by Flint and Albion.

TWO WAR HORSES BACK ON THE JOB

National President, Hal Staab, who for nearly two months carried on the duties of his office while lying flat on his back in bed from the results of an old football injury, has fully recovered and is working seven days a week, trying to catch up on his duties as the Eastern Sales Manager of the William & Harvey Rowland Co. He spends his evenings on S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. correspondence. Aside from that, his time is his own. We all rejoice that his days of pain have passed.

Frank Thorne, National Board Member, returned to his office on November 2nd, after more than three months of illness, and we have it on good authority that he is not only as good as new, but feeling better than ever.

All of which proves that you can't keep good Barber Shop Quartet singers down very long.

MUSKEGON CHAPTER GETS MARATHON  
UNDER WAY

The following extract is from a letter received recently from a member of the Muskegon, Michigan, Chapter:

"The Muskegon Chapter had a wonderful meeting last Thursday night. Over one hundred were present, including the newly elected Governor, Harry Kelly. However, politics had no part in the meeting. The Marathon Contest was started, and I was pleased at the beginning. Nine quartets participated, and a very lively evening followed. We hope to have twenty quartets at the next meeting. Our judges were guests from Detroit, Chicago, and Grand Rapids. 'Unheard of Four' won the first round, defeating the Port City gang by over 50 points. 'Sawdust Four' was third, 'Gas House' fourth, and the 'Oldtimers' fifth.

# THE MECHANICS OF BARBER SHOP HARMONY

This is the second 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 may speak and understand.

In presenting a universal harmony language equally intelligible in Texas, Maine or Dakar, the only safe start is to assume that no member knows anything about the fundamentals of music. Actually, every member knows his DO-RE-MI and has considerable ability to harmonize, while a few are accomplished musicians who read music as easily as a newspaper.

In that connection, everybody remembers, in a greater or less degree, his experiences in learning to read. An adult's ability to barely glance at a newspaper and absorb the headlines with considerable of the front page in a flash did not come overnight. As a child, it took considerable time to learn the names of the letters in their several forms and, even more difficult, to learn the sounds of letters and combinations of letters in their variations. It took practice which is just another word for repetition in many cases. Similarly, workable knowledge of a musical system does not come like a flash of lightning. It takes practice, and repetition.

Any member with a reasonably good ear will find that, by a little study of this new language in the early stages, he can learn, speak and SING this universal language of Barbershopdom . . . to his unlimited joy as long as he shall live.

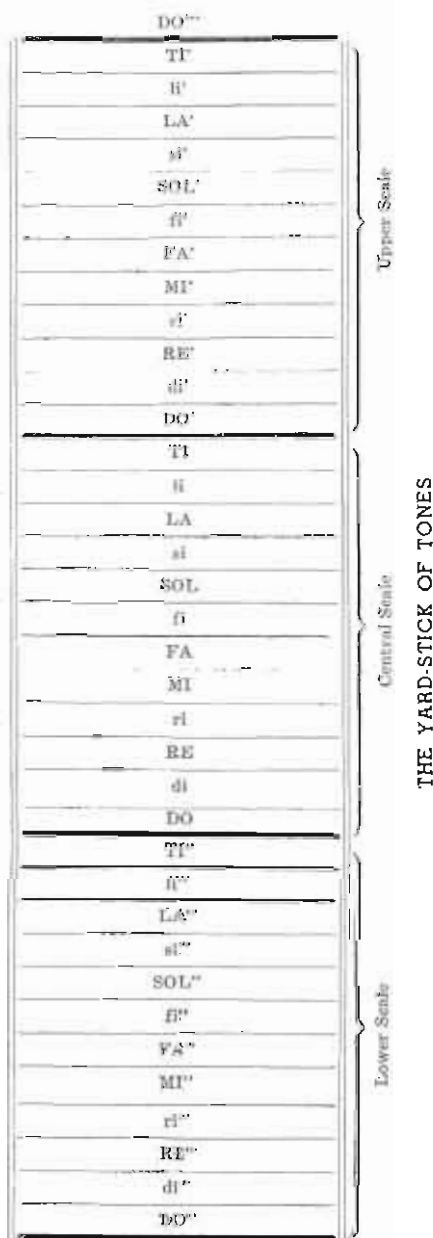
Regardless of how much or how little musical training he has, every Barbershopper knows the main part of the musical "alphabet" which is the foundation of this universal system. DO-RE-MI-FA-SOL-LA-TI-DO. Everybody knows, and many THINK in, these terms. This series, from bottom to top or vice-versa, is called an octave or the eight-tone scale. Musicians call it the DIATONIC scale. Beyond that, forget it.

When we fill in the half-tones at five spots in this scale (MI-FA and TI-DO are already only a half-tone apart), we have the twelve-tone or CHROMATIC scale. This is the important one for Barbershoppers. It covers every possible note from DO at the bottom to DO at the top. The five added half-tones also have names, just as the original eight which everybody knows. These five names are easy to recognize because they are children of the parents you have known for a long time. The parents are in CAPITALS, their children in small letters. DO - di - RE - ri - MI - FA - fi - SOL - si - LA - li - TI - DO.

Putting it another way, just as there are twelve inches in a foot, there are twelve tones in the chromatic scale. There is little probability that anyone would mispronounce them, but, just to be sure, here's the pronunciation of each note (inch) in the "foot-rule," or chromatic scale:

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1—DO as dough        | 7—fi as fee               |
| 2—di as the letter D | 8—SO <sub>L</sub> as soul |
| 3—RE as ray          | 9—si as sec               |
| 4—ri as in REmember  | 10—LA as rhyming with FA  |
| 5—MI as me           | 11—li as lee              |
| 6—FA as in FAther    | 12—TI as tea              |

Since our singing is not limited to one 12-tone scale, but goes above and below it, let's stand three foot-rules on end and make a yard-stick. In that way, we have enough tones to take care of the BASS, the TENOR, and both of the IN-BETWEENS. The bottom "foot" is for the exclusive use of the BASS. The TENOR never leaves the limits of the upper "foot". The LEAD, who carries the MELODY, and the BARITONE, uses both the central



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MAURICE E. REAGAN

and upper sections. In arrangements where the TENOR sings the baritone part one octave high and the BARI-TONE carries the regular tenor part, it is necessary that the TENOR enter the "FOOT" above the upper section for brief durations. (Note the chord on *ries* in the arrangement of "Mem-o-ries" recently sent to the various Chapters by the Arrangement Committee.) But it is only on rare occasions that Barbershop arrangements carry the voices outside of the YARD-STICK of TONES.

Let's call the middle scale the CENTRAL one, designate the UPPER SCALE with a prime (') and identify the lower scale by a double prime (''). The "foot" above the UPPER SCALE is used very infrequently but let's indicate it with a triple prime ('').

After you have spent a few evenings in familiarizing yourself with the twelve tones of the Chromatic Scale, so that you begin to THINK in terms of—"DO-di-RE-ri-MI, etc.," apply the process, known as Sol-mi-sation, to one of our most popular barbershop songs:

I had a dream, Dear. You had one too  
SOL fi LA SOL MI RE di RE LA  
Mine was the best, Dear, be-cause it was of you  
TI li TI MI RE SOL DO DO TI LA SOL  
Come, Sweet-heart, tell me, now is the time  
SOL fi LA SOL MI RE di RE LA  
You tell me your dream and I'll tell you mine.  
DO ti DO SOL MI MI RE LA TI DO

One of the sure ways to remember the NAMES of the twelve tones of the chromatic scale is to WRITE THEM DOWN. Familiarize yourself with the original YARD-STICK of TONES, then draw it from memory, once, twice, a dozen times. That's the way you learned to read and write sounds that make words, so you know how it works. Having gotten the relative positions fixed in your mind, the same principle of repetition applies to remembering the relative SOUND of each. Practice while riding, walking, listening to the radio, any time you hear music, or singing in the bath-tub.

Having arrived at the point where you THINK in Sol-mi-sation terms, you can send your own per arrangement of any barbershop number to anyone else who speaks your language, whether either reads music or not. Better than any other group, barbershoppers are qualified to pass SOUNDS from one to the other, because barbershoppers think in terms of harmonious combination of sounds first, last and always. Let's try the quartet arrangement of "I had a dream, Dear."

#### Here's how

	I	had	a	dream,	Dear,	you	had	one	too	
Tenor	MI	ri	ri	MI	SOL	fi	SOL	FA	fi	
Lead	SOL	fi	LA	SOL	MI	RE	di	RE	LA	
Baritone	DO	TI	TI	DO	di	DO	TI	TI	DO	
Bass	DO	LA	fi	DO	LA	LA	MI	si	RE	
	Mine	was	the	best	Dear,	be-cause	it	was	of	you
Tenor	FA	fi	SOL	fi	FA	FA	MI	MI	ri	FA
Lead	TI	li	TI	MI	RE	SOL	DO	DO	TI	LA
Baritone	RE	DO	di	DO	TI	TI	SOL	fi	LA	TI
Bass	SOL	ri	MI	LA	SOL	RE	DO	SOL	fi	RE

(and so on)

Do not expect to learn this in one sitting. You didn't learn to read or speak that way. You didn't learn to sell real estate, or handle figures, or become an engineer, a

doctor, an oil expert or any other vocation by looking once at a formula, grasping it in entirety, and applying it instantly. The human mind can receive, absorb and assimilate new ideas in an amazingly short time when the mind is open, receptive and willing to practice repetition. That process will bring much joy to the most vocal barber-shopper.

So that those of you who read a little music can compare the sol-mi-sation on this page with the written score, the same arrangement in regular quartet form appears below.

I HAD A DREAM, DEAR

ARRANGED BY M. E. REAGAN

#### ALBION, MICHIGAN CHAPTER HITS THE BALL

When the official charter was issued to Burnett J. Abbott, President of the Albion, Michigan, Chapter, at the fall meeting of the Michigan State Association Board of Directors in Lansing, in early October, President Abbott predicted his new Chapter would have fifty members within thirty days. Abbott, who is President of the Gale Manufacturing Company, hurried home to Albion and started to work. It took the Chapter just three weeks to reach the total of fifty paid-up members, and when we say paid up, we mean that the Chapter has remitted the full 1942-43 per capital tax of \$2.00 per man, has purchased fifty membership certificates and fifty membership cards for presentation to the Chapter members, has purchased and had imprinted a supply of official stationery, and has met all of its other obligations to the National Society. The roster of members includes officials of every industrial company in Albion, a number of doctors, lawyers and dentists, and all of the officials of the City. Albion has less than 10,000 inhabitants but it has more Barber Shop addicts per square inch than any city we know of. Our hats are off to President Abbott.



## PEACHTREE HARMONIZERS AND THEIR MASCOT



President Dick Sturges of the Atlanta Chapter suggested to these four men that they drive to the Grand Rapids Convention and enter the competition. They drove, they competed, and they conquered the hearts of everyone who heard them. Left to right—Frank Norton, Bass; John Clotworthy, Tenor; Gleason Goree, Baritone; Dick Sturges, The Mascot; Paul Crutchfield, Lead.

## ATLANTA CHAPTER CELEBRATES LADIES NIGHT

On October 7th, in the Robert Fulton Hotel in Atlanta, the local Chapter, under President M. E. (Slim) Harkins, entertained the wives and sweethearts of the members of the Chapter. After Harkins had described the birth and the purpose of the Society and the platform of the Atlanta Chapter for the coming year, the "Peachtree Harmonizers" who made such a big hit at the Grand Rapids Convention, entertained the crowd, and there was an interesting program of other entertainment which kept everyone happy until the clock struck twelve, and even after that. Here is a paragraph from the bulletin announcing the event:

"Barber Shop Harmony by the CAPITOL CITY FOUR. We do not state what capitol city, nor what four. Owing to rapidly changing conditions we reserve the right to substitute two leads for one tenor, or three baritones for one bass. To be frank, we reserve the right to substitute a grind organ for the whole damn quartet (it might be better anyway)."

## HARMONIZE AMERICA

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 that are appearing on Barber-Shop Harmony are sufficiently valuable to make all issues worth saving.

## FROM DON A. HAASE TO CLARENCE MARLOWE:

There is a vast amount of "meat" in the following letter recently received by Clarence Marlowe of Clayton, Missouri, President of the St. Louis County Chapter:

Co. 1-3rd Ba. 176th Inf.  
South Post,  
Fort Myer, Virginia.  
Sept. 27th, 1942.

Dear Friend Clarence:

Thanks so much for your nice letter and above all, the magazine "Barber Shop Re-Chordings". What a name, and how very appropriate! In glancing through, I am glad to note the program which the National Officers have outlined. Doubtlessly a great deal of confusion prevails, for while there are many who are willing to come out to sing, only a scant few like yourself are willing to probe deep into the organizational functions. We should all, awoken to the need for strengthening the Society through uniform practices, for in this lies our salvation as a nationwide Order. If this is not done and done soon, the day will come when even the meetings will sag. There is much more to the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc., besides singing and drinking beer. One of the things which impressed me most was the high regard for the life of the brotherhood which prevails among the more sincere. I only wish I could be with you in engineering these pioneer moves. I feel that in the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. I have found one of the finest things which ever came into my experience.

We had a good "sing" here in our tent last night, several outsiders hearing us and coming over to join in. Several who remained in their own bunks (it was a very rainy night) complimented us on the good chords which issued forth. Surprising how much good a few songs will do.

Please pass along my well wishes if you will, Clarence, and tell the boys to keep 'em singing; above all, deepen the group's interest in the Board program, for if you don't, I feel that by the time I come back the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. will be a fond memory in the minds of a few fellows who will still get together over their steins to sing the good old songs. This would be a great misfortune, and now is the time to avoid such a mishap.

Your future activities are of much interest to me. I shall be with you all in spirit, rest assured.

With all good wishes and blessings to you and the boys at Clayton

Fraternally yours,

Don A. Haase

What is more fun than people do?

Rabbits.

Do you know why?

Because there are more rabbits than people.

Do you know why?

Because rabbits have more fun than people do.

## THE OLD SONGS

In response to the appropriate suggestion from one of our members the Song Arrangements Committee of the Society is compiling for *Re-Chordings* lists of songs that have been popular among barber shop quartets in years gone by. In addition to the song titles the year, names of authors, composers and publishers are given to help you when you order copies from your music store. Songs are picked at random and the list which will grow with future issues of *Re-Chordings* will constitute a storehouse of harmonious melodies for interesting and diversified singing by our Society quartets. The Committee will welcome your suggestions for songs to be added later on.

TITLE	YEAR	AUTHOR-COMPOSER	PUBLISHER
By the Light of the Silvery Moon	1909	Madden-Edwards	Remick Music Corp.
By the Watermelon Vine (Lindy Lou)	1904	Thos. S. Allen	Mills Music, Inc.
Castle on the Nile	1901	Johnson-Cole	Edw. B. Marks Music Corp.
Curse of an Aching Heart	1913	Fink-Piamacosi	Leo Feist, Inc.
Down in the Old Cherry Orchard	1907	Bryan-Henry	Edw. B. Marks Music Corp.
Down Where the Cotton Blossoms Grow	1901	Sterling-VonTilzer	VonTilzer Music Pub. Co.
Far Away In the South	1911	Adams	Lorenz Pub. Co.
When the Harbor Lights are Burning	1907	Bryan-Solman	Jos. W. Stern & Co.
Honey Dat I Love So Well	1898	Freeman	M. Witmark & Sons
Just Break the News to Mother	1897	C. K. Harris	*See note at bottom
Let Me Call You Sweetheart	1910	Whitson-Friedman	Paul-Pioneer Music Corp.
Little Close Harmony (The Old Songs)	1921	O'Hara	Boston Music Company
Love Me and the World is Mine	1906	Reed-Ball	M. Witmark & Sons
Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland	1909	Whitson-Friedman	Will Rossiter
Moonlight Bay	1912	Madden-Wenrick	Remick Music Corp.
My Mother's Rosary	1915	Lewis-Meyer	Mills Music, Inc.
On the Banks of the Wabash	1897	Dresser	Paul-Pioneer Music Corp.
The Band Played On	1895	Ward	Leo Feist, Inc.
Shine On Harvest Moon	1908	Norworth-Bayes	Remick Music Corp.
Tell Me You'll Forgive Me	1923	Hibbeler-Anderson	Forster Music Pub. Co.
Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nelly	1905	Sterling-VonTilzer	VonTilzer Music Pub. Co.
When Irish Eyes are Smiling	1912	Graft-Ball	M. Witmark & Sons
When the Bees are in the Hive	1904	Bryan-Mills	Paul-Pioneer Music Corp.
When the Organ Played at Twilight	1929	Wallace-Campbell-Connelly	Santly-Joy-Select, Inc.
Where the Southern Roses Grow	1904	Buck-Morse	F. B. Haviland Pub. Co.
When You Wore a Tulip	1914	Mahoney-Wenrick	Leo Feist, Inc.

\*It is not known whether there is a published edition of this old song, but you will find a copy of the melody, verse and chorus complete in Sigmund Spaeth's book entitled "Read 'Em and Weep".

### SECRETARY JOHNNY BUITENDORP OF THE MUSKEGON CHAPTER WRITES:

"Carroll, I want to relate a little story about our magazine—which shows that we often do good deeds but news of these deeds sometimes never gets back to our ears. Little did you know when you were making up *Re-Chordings* that way over here in Muskegon, it would be used as it was.

"A very well known young man, and a very good friend of mine, was killed in action while flying for the Marines in the battle of the Solomons. The news of his death swept Muskegon like wild fire, as it seemed every person here knew and loved him. A city-wide memorial service was planned. I sent the pastor in charge a copy of our magazine, and circled the poem, 'High Flight'. I went to this service. Instead of a text from the Bible, to my surprise he read 'High Flight' from our magazine. And then, in his memorial tribute, he stood with the magazine in hand and compared Dick's life with the various lines of the poem. The inspiration was beyond compare. I frankly say I was proud of that magazine right then, and proud of the little part I had played in this service, and proud too, to know you, its editor."

We urge every lover of barber-shop singing to study the Reagan-Martin series of articles on harmony that are appearing quarterly in *Re-Chordings*. Number 2 is in this issue.

In War Department Offices, charged with training, hang challenging signs reading:—"Be damn sure that no American soldier is killed or injured because you fail to do your part to provide adequate training." Every American citizen might well apply that same grim yardstick to the fulfillment of his own war-time duty, whatever it may be! As American combat operations the world over grow in extent and intensity, the home front is called upon to match in unstinted performance the courage of our fighting men facing the cold steel of the enemy!

—United States Chamber of Commerce Bulletin

**Stop**  
at  
**AMERICA'S TALLEST HOTEL**  
*The*  
**MORRISON**  
**HOTEL**  
**CHICAGO**

LEONARD HICKS  
Managing Director

### JOPLIN, MO. CHAPTER ENTERTAINS SOLDIERS

At a recent meeting of the Joplin Chapter, a large group of soldiers from Camp Crowder were special guests at the Chapter's headquarters in the Connor Hotel. The evening was a grand success and the soldiers went back to their barracks with the firm determination to soon start a chapter of their own.

By the way, the Joplin Chapter gets out a very interesting monthly bulletin, called the "Harmonizer". President John W. Garrett, Post Office Box No. 204, Joplin, Mo., will be glad to put you on his mailing list if you will only write him.

### DEVOTION

President Clarence R. Marlowe, of the St. Louis County Chapter, recently wrote a letter to the National Secretary, and the last paragraph of it deserves immortality insofar as it refers to Brother Clarence's devotion to our illustrious Society:

"Carroll, if I did not have some real democratic activity like the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. and had only my office duties and the O.C.D. work to think about. I believe I would simply go nuts. However I get such a real thrill out of the first mentioned, that I am able to joyfully carry on with the other duties. So I am extremely happy that the above endeavor came into my way of life, and I know by the tremendous effort that you have and are putting into the Society, that you feel the same way about it, and I predict that some day you will have a lot of stars in your crown."

Would that every chapter of our Society might have such a devoted leader as President Marlowe.

### HARMONIZE AMERICA

#### *"this Christmas..it's music"*

And what could be more appropriate for a member in good standing of the renowned SPEBSQSA than the Columbia Records of "Barber Shop Melodies," Set C-35, by the 1940 national champion "Flat Foot Four?"

Mark the Yuletide . . . toast the New Year . . . accompanying the "Flat Foot Four" on Columbia Records. Your holiday will be complete with "Barber Shop Melodies."

And what a gift! Give Set C-35 and your friends will hail you as a person of consummate understanding and exquisite taste. Only \$2.63. Four records in beautifully illustrated album.

**COLUMBIA  
RECORDS**



### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Clarence Eddy, Flint, Michigan, Chairman, R. J. Heinzen, Halbur, Iowa, and Deac Martin, Cleveland, Ohio, make up the National Committee on Achievement Awards. A recent bulletin issued by that Committee carries the following announcement:

1—Awards will be made to Chapters whose accomplishments have been the most outstanding. They will be made on a basis of the successful conduct of a Chapter, the efficiency of its officers, its social accomplishments, its service to the community, and its assistance in stimulating morale through singing.

2—In order that a Chapter in a small town will not have to compete with a Chapter in a large city, there will be three classifications:

A. Chapters in cities of less than 25,000 population.

B. Chapters in cities of from 25,000 to 100,000 population.

C. Chapters in cities of more than 100,000 population.

There shall be an award for each classification.

3—Selection of the winners shall be made solely from the study of the Activities Reports that are to be sent to the National Secretary by each Chapter Secretary on October first, January first, and April first. (Each Secretary has received a supply of the Activities Report forms.)

4—Only Chapters in good standing will be allowed to compete.

### PEORIA ENTERTAINS STATE EDITORS

At a recent conclave of newspaper editors from all over the State of Illinois, which gathering was held in the City of Peoria, the members of the local Chapter S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. furnished the vocal entertainment. Could anyone think of a grander opportunity for publicizing our Society?

No matter how poor we get, we won't be as poor as our grandfolks—and they didn't know they were poor.

Grandpaw and Grandmaw didn't miss their automobile, radio, electric lights, washing machine, vacuum cleaner, airplane—they never had any.

The dear grandfolks never even had a milking machine or a cream separator. The sewing machine was their pride, their luxury—and their only installment purchase.

Grandpaw drank from a tin cup—an unpatriotic luxury now.

Remember when Grandmaw wouldn't let you leave the table until you had eaten every crumb of the heel of the crust of your pie?

But you had pie!

Harvey Campbell.



## DETROIT ROTARIANS ENTERTAINED

We are indebted to the *Detroit Times* for the following story:

**PEOPLE YOU KNOW.** Time Out for City Official's Mighty Basso.

Funny, the things you learn about well known people around town. For instance, Joe Wolff, commissioner of buildings and safety engineering for the city, sings a mighty basso.

As a matter of fact, Joe is past president of the Detroit Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America and a vice president of the national body . . . and he sings at the drop of a hat or less.

The hat dropped this week and Joe appeared as the deep foundation for an impromptu quartet at the Rotary Club's weekly luncheon meeting yesterday. Walter Elliott, a past president of Rotary and now executive secretary of the Detroit bunch, asked for the quartet to illustrate a short talk by Carroll P. Adams of the B. of C., so Joe and three others got together Tuesday night and formed the "Never-sang-together-be-four".

Carrying the tenor was W. Carleton Scott, production manager for the LeMaire Tool Company of Dearborn. Ellis "Cy" Perkins of Chicago, western manager of the magazine *The Petroleum Engineer*, sang the lead, with Detroit's Joe Jones, sales manager for the neon division of Walker Signs, holding up the baritone spot.

They did a job that knocked the lunchers off their feet, but it seems you never can get just one quartet to sing—something about it being contagious—so up popped the pride of Jackson, Michigan, "The Acoustical Persecuting Four," to do a few numbers. They were close to the top in the last competition put on by the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. and if you ever hear them you'll understand why.

Anyway, the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. gained a few points in Detroit . . . and such notable fans as Dr. Dave Henry, executive vice president of Wayne University . . . Frank Cody, former school head and now councilman . . . Chet O'Hara, who just finished a job of prosecuting you may recall . . . Judge Earl C. Pugsley, Chet's guest and the able jurist who put the cap on Chet's work . . . Prof. Joe Selden, dean of men at Wayne . . . A. Douglas Jamieson of Army Ordnance . . . and Dr. John J. Caton of the Chrysler Institute of Engineering.

Walter Elliott says it just proves that, while it may help, it isn't necessary to get oiled up to make a quartet.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**—National Secretary, Carroll P. Adams, has mimeographed copies of the five minute talk he gave about the National Society, which he will be glad to send to anyone who is planning a program of this type.

What Henry Ford said was "I can't make a speech but I'll do what I can."

BY BUS FROM THE BERKSHIRES



The Rambling Four, of Northampton, Mass. (home town of National President Hal Staab) with their wives, traveled by bus all the way to Grand Rapids and back to compete in the National Contest in June. They made the Finals, and share with the Peachtree Harmonizers of Atlanta the distinction of having traveled the greatest mileage to attend the convention. Left to right, back row—Joseph Lewandowski, Bass; Jack Lobale, Tenor. Front row—George Carpenter, Baritone; Arthur Laprade, Lead.

## NO MORE HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

The National Board revised the Constitution at Grand Rapids, on June 20th, to incorporate Article XIII, which reads as follows:

**"MEMBERSHIP.**—There shall be but one membership classification, that of active membership. No honorary memberships shall be allowed."

In conjunction with the above suggested addition, the following resolution was offered, that "All present honorary memberships shall be terminated as of December 31, 1943."

The above resolution was adopted along with the Constitutional revision.

## HARMONIZE AMERICA

## BARBER-SHOP ARRANGEMENT INCLUDED

We are glad to include with this issue of Re-Chordings a copy of Joe Stern's "Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail". The bulletin from the National Song Arrangements Committee on the back of the song is worthy of your attention. It is the expectation of the Committee to include at least one good barber shop arrangement in each future issue.

## National Secretary Adams Honored

(Written and inserted by National President Hal Staab without Secretary Adams' knowledge.)

A testimonial party honoring Carroll P. Adams, Past National President and present National Secretary, was held in Detroit on November 12th. The party was a wow. Over two hundred members and guests of the Detroit and Oakland County Chapters attended. Eighteen quartets from those two chapters, and the Acoustical Persecuting Four of Jackson joined in the entertainment, along with four single acts. George Stark of the Detroit News was Master of Ceremonies, and Walter Fuller, Fraternal Editor of the same paper joined in the celebration. The guests sat in cabaret style at tables, and a supper plate was served with plenty of refreshments.

Secretary Carroll was presented an enormous specially designed and built wooden smoking stand, ornamented with two barber poles supporting a panel upon which was the inscription, "Carroll P. Adams S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. National President, 1941-1942." A cigar humidor, pipe holder, cigarette container, and a wooden gavel, the head of which is a replica of a shaving mug and brush, concluded the gifts presented. All of which proves the popularity of our genial secretary and testifies to the wonderful job that he is doing.

An added and well deserved feature of the evening was the presentation to National Vice-President Joe Wolff of a fine embossed scroll, carrying a resolution extolling his work as organizer and first President of the Detroit Chapter.

### DIFFERENCE OF OPINION ABOUT O. C. CASH

A prominent attorney in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, who is a loyal member of the Chapter in that city, but who asked that his name be withheld, for obvious reasons, says this about the illustrious founder of our noble Society. O. C. Cash—

"Among tax attorneys throughout the United States, O. C. Cash is known as a damned good baritone. Among Barber Shop Quarteters throughout the United States, O. C. Cash is known as a damned good tax attorney."

## Committee for Chicago Convention Under Way

Anyone who thinks the Chicago Chapter is going to lose any time in getting 1943 Convention plans started, should have the privilege of reading the Minutes of the Convention Committee meetings being held frequently in that City. Officially, of course, it has not yet been decided what details of the Chicago Convention will be assigned to the Chicago Chapter and what ones to the National Board. However, this will all be decided in Peoria on January 16th, and in the meantime the Chicago Chapter is being optimistic and is assuming that they are going to be given the job of handling most of the Convention details. General Chairman Hank Stanley, has appointed the following members as Committee heads and as members of

the Advisory Board, subject of course to the approval of the National Board at its Peoria meeting in January:

W. Welsh Pierce, James Jackson, Art Bielan, Al Kuhlman, Ray Kasper, Fred Stolle, Leo Ives, "Cy" Perkins, Frank Thorne, Frank Jackson, Bob Phillips, A. C. Cherisini, J. Doyle, V. LaBelle, and G. S. Mattenson.

Committees already at work are the following:

Ways and Means, Finance, Publicity, Program, Transportation, Entertainment, Women's Affairs, and Registration and Prizes.

On to Chicago in 1943!

We are promised the biggest and best National Convention we have ever had. Those Chicago boys don't fool.

### A REMINDER OF A FORGOTTEN RESOLUTION

At the January 17, 1942 meeting of the National Board of Directors in Chicago, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Be it resolved that the members of this Society refrain from the use of the term 'Spebsqua' or 'Spebsqua' and if we find it difficult or impractical to say 'Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America' or 'S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A.', that we call ourselves 'The Society' or 'The National Barber Shop Quartet Society', but under no circumstances 'Spebsqua' or 'Spebsqua' as the Columbia announcer did in July 1941 on the Hollywood program."

## National Director Frank Morse Has a "Beef"

In the September issue of *Re-Chordings* we spoke of National Director Frank Morse as being an all-American utility man. A recent letter from him praises the first issue of *Re-Chordings* and continues in this vein:

"Being an old hand at the game myself, in going over the 'Barber Shop Re-Chordings' with a fine tooth comb I can find nothing to criticize, but do find many, many things to praise. And so, Carroll Adams, my friend, I want to compliment you and tell you that you have done a grand job and you deserve a lot of credit.

"Wait a minute, here! I do have something about which I can criticize and raise Hell. If you will turn

over to page 8, in that little squib about me where you state that I 'fill in a part when any regular member is absent'—you have certainly been misinformed. You know, no member of the S.P.E.B. in the whole United States wants to sing more than I do—tries to sing more—and does such a damn poor job of it as I do. I know it and I admit it. So when there is a shortage in a quartet in our Chapter, little Frankie is right there at the front offering his services—but they are never accepted. If I had started early and made an album of all the excuses as to why they didn't want me to fill in, it sure would be a work of humor which would make even old Mark Train rise up in his grave with envy.

"And what a kick I get out of it all. Next to listening to the other fellows sing I get the greatest kick out of this dodging and hedging and excusing and hemming and hawing put up by the other fellows when I offer my services as a singer."

### ST. LOUIS COUNTY CHAPTER PLANS MINSTREL SHOW

The members of the St. Louis County Chapter in Clayton, Mo., at this writing are hard at work preparing the first minstrel show to be sponsored by this group. Valiant help is being given them by the members of the St. Louis Chapter, as well as some of the members of the East St. Louis group.

## Peoria Has Second Annual Ladies Night Banquet

The following is gleaned from the columns of one of the Peoria daily papers:

"The music that 'hath charms to soothe' exerted its witchery over several hundred Peorians of both sexes who overflowed the Hotel Jefferson ballroom Saturday night as the Peoria Chapter, SPEBSQSA held its second annual ladies' night banquet.

"Even the pungent toastmastering of Victor P. Michel and Shelton McGrath assumed a melodious timbre, and Tom Endsley, reportedly 'planted' in the audience to heckle Messrs. McGrath and Michel, did most of his heckling in C sharp minor.

"Popularity of the singers trained and encouraged

by the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is definitely demonstrated to be on the upswing. Officials of the society were unable to accommodate the 6:30 p.m. diners, and many were sent below stairs for their meal which precluded a full evening of varied entertainment.

Secretary Ratelle states that over four hundred men and women attended the dinner and nearly fifty were forced to eat in the coffee shop of the Jefferson Hotel, joining the banquet crowd later.

### "AS IF THE ENEMY HAD REACHED WINDSOR, ONTARIO"

There are two fundamental rules that ought to govern all our decisions these days. First: Settle each question through the eyes of our soldier-sons at the front—on land and sea and in the air—where the dedication to war sacrifice is total and complete. Second: Behave in every action as you would if the enemy had reached Windsor—without waiting for the enemy to reach Windsor. Nothing else matters. Under these primal rules, most of our internal troubles would disappear; and all of our selfishness—all of our "pressure groups"—would melt away in an all-out devotion to our self-preservation: And make no mistake; self-preservation is calling us tonight for such an effort.—Senator Vandenburg, in his speech October 29th, 1942, at Detroit.

### NO RATIONING OF BARBER SHOP HARMONY

Among other resolutions adopted by the National Board of Directors at its June 20th meeting in Grand Rapids, was the following:

"Be it resolved that the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. as a National Organization hereby pledges that there will be no "rationing" of Barbershop Harmony, that there will be no "ceiling" on, or cessation of, barbershop quartet singing for the duration, and that a top "Priority Rating" will be given to all singing which may, or even might, assist in keeping up the morale of the fighting forces, war workers and citizens of this good free Nation of ours. Our Society intends to co-operate whole-heartedly and take its part in the War Effort."

## RAY GRANGER WRITES FROM MARE ISLAND

October 6, 1942

Dear Friend Carroll:

This is to be one of those famous delayed plunges. Time and time again I have tried to find the time to sit down and write a real letter telling you what a grand job I think you are doing for the GRAND OLD S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc. But each time something comes along and I get side-tracked.

No kidding Carroll, I am doing more work now than I ever did do in four times the allotted time before. I start "My Day" (to quote one of our TRAVELERS) at Eight A.M. and end it at anywhere from Five P.M. to midnight, mostly at midnight.

However, it is by far the most interesting work that I have been permitted to enter into. As Officer in Charge of the Fire Damage Control School for the Pacific Fleet I am responsible for the training of the men of our forces afloat in the most modern methods of fire fighting and damage control. Damage Control covers all phases of damage to ships including shell fire, collision, explosions, mines, etc. We also teach diving both shallow and deep, these include the use of cutting torches under water and the uses of many other types of repair tools.

And Carroll what makes this work so very interesting is the fact that we are actually teaching the men who are on the very front lines daily. Last week we had a large group from the U. S. S. Yorktown and the U. S. S. Lexington. These men have sure been through the toughest going; but all are anxious to get back and punch it out with the damned Japs. To me it is a great honor to work with these men.

Part of my time is spent at sea. I am a member of the Naval Board of Inquiry. That requires that I sail with various ships and make investigations while they are underway. As you know I am not allowed to tell any of the ship movements, therefore can't tell just where I have been or am going. But I can tell one thing I have heard some Durned Good Quartets on some of these ships. DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YOU DIFFERENT : : : THE MEN OF THE GOOD OLD NAVY STILL LIKE BARBER SHOP QUARTETS : : : AND HOW? And another thing many of these young fellows can sing it in the very best fashion; SWIPES that would make O. O. Cash's few remaining hairs stand on end.

One of our very good brothers, Ralph L. Carr of Denver, Colorado, a barbershopper, and Governor on the side, came out to the Navy Yard a few weeks back to speak at the launching of a new battle ship. When the launching was over, he was to attend a dinner given in his honor. I went up to him and gave the GRAND HAILING SIGN OF THE ORDER, Quote: "Sound Your A Brother" and he responded in fine fashion. No Kidding, he wanted to know if I had a quarter handy. I of course ignored that silly question, he should have known I had at least three. He then wanted to go off some where and

LIEUT. RAY W. GRANGER, U.S.N.R.



sing. Boy Oh Boy, did he put me on a spot. There was the Admiral standing in the sun waiting for him, and he wanting to sing. Truly Governor Carr is a dyed-in-the-wool Barbershopper.

Well Carroll there is not much that I can write about. The honest truth is I wish that I could find time to really look up some of the brothers out this way and have a real TULSA STYLE meeting.

More Power to you and the fine work you are doing. The magazine was a WOW. The work of Deac Martin deserves the thanks of us all; Hal Staab, the President, is just what the doctor ordered for us during these times. In fact I can think of absolutely nothing to suggest for the improvement of the organization, except that I should, once in a while, hear from some of the brothers, by personal letters, wires or a phone call. I should be ever so grateful to get at least a card once in awhile. Even though I am doing very little to help, I am constantly spreading the fame of the Society everywhere I go.

My very best regards and wishes for the continued success of every (yes even the BIG RANCHER RICE) member of the Board and the Society as a whole.

Yours for VICTORY; and HARMONY AFTER PEACE,

Lt. Ray W. Granger

P.S. To give you an idea of how bad I want to hear from some of the brothers; I would even LIKE to hear the OKIES try to sing once more.

RAY

NOTE:—Just as we go to press, word comes to us that a serious accident has befallen Lieut. Granger. Details are lacking. We can only say that the whole Society will be pulling for him. Letters or cards sent to 209 Gleason Ave., Vallejo, California, will reach him.



### SUGGESTED CHAPTER CONSTITUTION

A number of Chapters are not satisfied with their present local Constitution. For their benefit we submit the following for consideration. It is the Constitution of the Oakland County Chapter in Michigan, and has already been adopted by a number of other chapters:

- I. **NAME:** The name of this organization shall be the Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Incorporated.
- II. **MEMBERSHIP:** Any white adult male resident of \_\_\_\_\_ or the immediate vicinity, who is interested in the aims and purposes of the Society, is eligible to be considered for membership.
- III. **DUES, FEES, AND FISCAL YEAR:** The initiation fee shall be \$1.00, in return for which the member shall receive from the Chapter a membership certificate and a membership pocket-card. The annual dues shall be set by the Chapter's Executive Committee and shall be payable in advance. The fiscal year shall start the day after the annual business meeting.
- IV. **OFFICERS:** The officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected from the active membership of the Chapter for a one year term at the annual business meeting, which shall be held in the month of May of each year, and they shall perform the usual duties of their offices and shall act also as the Chapter's representatives on the Board of Directors of the \_\_\_\_\_ Association of Local Chapters.
- V. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The Executive Committee shall consist of the four officers and three other active members of the Chapter appointed by the President immediately after the annual meeting. This Committee shall function as the governing body of the Chapter. Matters of special importance shall be submitted to the membership of the Chapter for action.
- VI. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The President shall each year on April 15th appoint a Nominating Committee for the annual meeting, of three active members, which committee, through its chairman, shall present to the membership, at the annual meeting, a slate of eligible and qualified candidates for the four offices (one for each office). Additional nominations may be made from the floor.
- VII. **AMENDMENTS:** Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any regular meeting of the Chapter, providing notice of the proposed amendment has been given to the membership at least seven days in advance.
- VIII. **BUSINESS MATTERS:** Matters of business other than those already provided for may be acted upon at any regular or special meeting of the Chapter. Proper notice of all meetings shall be given by the Secretary.
- IX. **VOTING POWER:** Each active member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on all matters acted upon when he is present.
- X. **SUPERVISION BY NATIONAL SOCIETY AND BY STATE ASSOCIATION:** This constitution, and any subsequent amendments thereto, as well as all rules and regulations of the Chapter, shall be subject to the approval of the National Board of Directors of the Society and of the Board of Directors of the \_\_\_\_\_ Association of Local Chapters.

—whoever has eyes to see and a heart to feel knows that we are still progressing and that the American people are determined to continue to do so. It is not any specific law or campaign that matters at this time, but rather the democratic spirit itself. It is that above all that has been attacked, criticized and perverted. Yet it has survived. Proof? The people of America have dignity and they are ready to fight for their rights, their liberties, and their needs. A nation of which that can be said is a nation in which the democratic spirit is alive.

—Bernard Smith.

### FORMER PEORIA CHAPTER PRESIDENT NOW IN COAST GUARD

Portions of a letter received recently from John Hulit, up until a short time ago, President of the Peoria Chapter, are quoted herewith:

"Received the Barber Shop arrangements okay, and boy, was I happy! I had a quartet started and we learned 'Heart of My Heart' in one day when they told me that I was to be transferred the next morning, but I will have another quartet started again soon. In this game you never can tell what is next for you, but I think I will stay where I am for a while. As soon as I get my Kodak prints of the cub bear we recently captured I will send one to you. He is a dandy and we have named him after Aimée Ratelle, the Secretary of my old Chapter back in Peoria. We had to climb a tree to get the cub and we let him down from his perch in a blanket. Then the battle was on. We had the mother bear up in another tree—for how long we did not know—but fortunately she stayed there and cursed us all the time.

"In the camp where I am now we have had two deer to eat, and boy was that meat good! We still have enough to last quite a while.

"The only thing I get homesick for is singing with a quartet. I had a few hours off last Saturday and went in town to a music store. There I found the records of the Capitol City Four and the Flat Foot Four. I played them steadily for an hour. If I am successful in getting a furlough at the time of the Chicago Convention I will be there. Just give me three days in Peoria to rehearse with the old gang and my quartet will be in there singing again in the competition.

"Wish I could hear some of the boys over my radio but it is the wrong kind."

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

National Board of Directors

Greetings

and

Welcome

To

City of Peoria

From

E. N. WOODRUFF

—Mayor—



## THEY CAME "CLEAN" FROM A CANDY FACTORY



Dwight Drago, Tenor, Pawnee, Ill.; Glenn Howard, Lead, Clisco, Ill.; Floyd Mier, Baritone, Decatur, Ill.; and George Wendt, Bass, Springfield, Ill. competed at the 1942 Convention as the WHIZ CANDY MAKERS of Bloomington, Ill. and finished "well up" in the Finals. We can't guarantee we have listed them correctly "from left to right" because the moustaches disguise the features of even such handsome barber-shoppers as these, and we can't be sure who is which, or rather which is who. We're sure of one thing, however—they could certainly harmonize.

## CHAPTER WAYS AND MEANS

Our readers will recall the bulletin issued on August 15th, by the National Committee on Chapter Ways and Means, which Committee consists of—Clarence R. Marlowe, Chairman, Clayton, Mo.; J. Frank Rice, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Jos. E. Stern, Kansas City, Mo.

In that bulletin there were listed thirteen tried and true methods of raising money by chapters. If you have mislaid your copy of this bulletin, the National Secretary will be glad to send you another. The thirteen methods were as follows:

- 1—Cabaret
- 2—Minstrel
- 3—Parade of Quartets
- 4—Quartet Contest
- 5—Gay Nineties Show or Revue
- 6—Barbecue or Clambake
- 7—Bazaar or Carnival
- 8—Raffle
- 9—Collection and Drawing
- 10—Special Show at a Movie Theatre
- 11—Community Party, Program and Public Auction
- 12—Kitty Collection
- 13—Nationally Advertised Artists

## PHIL EMBURY CIRCLES THE GLOBE

Our official Ambassador of Good Will from Warsaw, New York, National Vice-President Phil Embury, recently had occasion to attend a three day convention of hardware men out west, where Barber Shopping is taken a little more seriously than in some other parts of the United States. Confidentially, we feel that Phil made the trip just to see how many S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. chapters he could visit before he received a frantic telegram from the Board of Directors of the Embury Manufacturing Company to return home at once and get on the job. Aside from spending an evening in East St. Louis, another in St. Louis, at least two in Kansas City, two in Tulsa, and shorter stops at way-stations where he thought he might find some harmonizing, Brother Phil tended strictly to the affairs of his company back home.

## 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.

"To be alive in such an age!  
To live in it!  
To give in it!  
Fling forth thy sorrow to the wind.  
And link thy hope with humankind:  
Breathe the world thought, do the world deed,  
Think highly of thy brother's need.  
Give thanks with all thy flaming heart.  
Grave but to have in it a part—  
Give thanks and clasp thy heritage—  
To be alive in such an age!"

## Jefferson Hotel

Peoria, Ill.

Home of Peoria Chapter

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

Visit Our

Coffee Shop

Tropic Room

Jug Bar

DANCING AND ENTERTAINMENT

## THE CAPITOL CITY FOUR OF SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

As Told By ROY L. FOX

(This is the first of a series of "biographies" of well-known S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. quartets. The publishing of such a series was suggested by National Vice-President E. V. "Cy" Perkins).

The Capitol City Four was organized in 1927 at Springfield, Ill. Fox and Raney were members of the Mobile Quartet prior to that. It was composed of four dyed in the wool Barber Shop Quartet addicts putting in many long pleasant hours practicing and doping out new slides and swipes. Each one knew all four parts and needless to say the "fur" would fly at rehearsals when you came up with an idea that you couldn't sell. In spite of all that the boys stuck together and no new face appeared in our outfit until the death of Mr. Raney in 1940.

The Capitol City Four was always very active, having sung at almost every type of entertainment in and out of Springfield. We worked on the Schultz Baking Co. radio program for eighteen months in one stretch, and toured the State in 1936 for Gov. Horner, singing in 96 of the 103 counties. We worked on the National Barn Dance, WLS Alka-Seltzer program in 1939, and in 1941 made an album of six recordings for Victor R.C.A.

In 1939 we heard of O. C. Cash of Tulsa and the movement to bring together and organize Barber Shop Singers under one banner. We contacted our good friend Dr. Nelson of Canton, who by the way, has been and still remains one of the real boosters for our organization. He lost no time in contacting Cash and we were soon on our way to Tulsa. Drove 1500 miles to sing and to hear some quartets. We won second in the contest, met some of the greatest guys in the world, and came home feeling that we had contributed something to the starting of a great organization.

Dwight Dragoo, tenor of the Capitol City Four, is from Pawnee, Ill., and comes from a family of musicians. At one time there was a quartet right in the Dragoo family. O. C. Cash claims that Dwight is tops among Barber-Shop

## RIDE 'EM COWBOY! THE RICE BROTHERS QUARTET



From left to right—Joe Rice, Henryetta, Okla.; De Rice, Los Angeles, Calif.; Frank Rice, Bartlesville, Okla.; Harry Rice, Los Angeles, Calif.

The only blood-brother quartet ever to compete in a National SPEBSQSA Contest. They attained 6th place at St. Louis in 1941 with only 2 days of practice, after being separated for several years. There are 2 other Rice boys (Bill and Bob) who can be used as spares at a moment's notice. Frank is a member of the National Board, and "doubles" with the Okie Four. He claims to be the "Sweetest Lead This Side of Heaven" but we know of 841 other leads who disagree.

tenors. Naturally we agree. That is a compliment worth getting.

Fred Raney, basso, was born in Dexter, Missouri and learned his harmony early in life. His father played tuba in the local band, and when Fred was old enough, he took over the job of pumping the organ at the family church.

Glenn Howard, baritone, also comes from a family of singers. He started harmonizing with his brothers at home, takes his singing seriously, and is responsible for some fine arrangements used by the C. C. Four.

Roy Fox of Springfield, Ill., comes from a family who loved music but never attempted anything but listening. Roy's meager talent probably dates back a few generations. The biggest thrill of his life came when he was allowed to sing lead in a couple of songs with a then popular local quartet. He always followed the caliope in circus parades, never missed any minstrels, and heard all the vaudeville quartets two or three times every time there was one on the bill.

The Capitol City Four are proud to be members of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., and will always be in there boosting for a bigger and better organization.

"I tell you that every stoppage, every slowdown, every delay, can be traced through the intricate ramifications of the production and transportation processes to the battle front, and there chalked up in *lost blood and lost lives*; American blood and American lives!"—Rear Admiral Ben Moreell, in *United States News*.

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## CHAPTER NOTES

The Canton, Illinois Chapter is fortunate to have its own hall with stage. The Chapter has placed framed pictures on the walls of the room of all quartets winning places in the Annual National Contests and of all fifteen quartets in the finals at the Grand Rapids Convention. Other pictures displayed are of quartets from Canton and nearby chapters. The first appearance of the season of the chorus of the Canton Chapter was on Labor Day in Big Creek Park, as part of the program for the Strip Coal Miners' Picnic. The Chapter has four organized quartets, two trios and other units.

Secretary Glenn B. Moore of the Moline Chapter, and Secretary Al Gregg of the Rock Island Chapter, both report a grand time at Viking Hall in Moline, on Sunday, October 11th, when members of both of these Chapters were joined by visitors from Peoria, Canton and Bloomington. Brother Moore reports as follows on the affair:

"Rock Island and Moline being like one city, arranged this party and invited surrounding chapters to take part in a singing way. The only cost to them was their National Membership ticket, and in order that the public might enjoy the same, we charged \$1.00 a person, which included two hours of good singing, Dutch lunch and all the beer they wanted to drink.

"It was not our intention to make any money, but planned that the \$1.00 per person would finance the party, which it did, with a small balance. It also let the public know what S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. meant to our community."

Brother Gregg calls the affair "A real day of Harmony."

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## THE BUCKAROOS



Members of the Greybull, Wyoming Chapter. All are employees of the Standard Oil Co. Refinery at Greybull and will sing at the drop of any 10-gallon hat. Left to right—C. C. Dobbins, Tenor; W. H. Jones, Lead; L. M. Lou Smith, Baritone; D. E. Yandell, Bass.

The Chicago Chapter is probably the fastest growing one in the country, having passed the one hundred and fifteen mark in October. Secretary W. Welsh Pierce reports a picnic at the home of Fred Stolle in Lillymoor, Ill. on Sunday, August 15th, which was attended by fifty members and their wives. A concert to 3,000 gobs at Navy Pier was another event of the Chapter's program. Over seventy members participated and the show was so well received that the authorities let the sailors stay up a half hour later than usual so that the scheduled program could be finished. These are only a few of the many activities of the Chicago Chapter which holds the added distinction of having placed two of its quartets among the first five at the Grand Rapids Convention. We even suspect the Four Harmonizers came very close to being up there in the top bracket along with the Misfits and the Elastic Four.

It is more blessed to give than to lend, and it costs just the same.

Fred Sahlender of the Springfield, Ill. Chapter stole the show nationally, by instituting in September, a Chapter Bulletin consisting of four pages of interesting items and information, which is called "Harmony Club Notes". Never have we seen the first issue of a local bulletin that was so full of "meat" as this one was, and our hats are off to Fred for his valiant start in the field of Barber Shop journalism. It is our hope that every chapter in the country will adopt this plan and get out a chapter bulletin, either printed or mimeographed, at least once a month. It is an effective way of keeping your members interested.

"We should be thankful for the things we never had, which we don't have to go without now on account of the war."

## CHAPTER NOTES

The Wilmington, Delaware Chapter reports that their choruses and individual quartets frequently entertain at Military Camps, Veterans Hospitals, U.S.O. Headquarters, for Civilian Defense organizations, and for Civic and Service Clubs, and quartets frequently appear at Church Men's Clubs, banquets, lodge meetings, as well as the Old Men's Home near Wilmington. The Chapter is sponsoring community sings which are held weekly in the auditorium of the High School. The attendance at the first one of these affairs reached eight hundred. In return for the free use of the facilities of the American Legion Home for the meetings the Chapter gladly fills every request they get from the Legion Post for entertainment.

Steve Cady of the Santa Monica Chapter writes as follows:

"We had a good meeting last Monday night. We had some wonderful entertainment, with a lot of visitors, and the meeting certainly was the start of a good season for us and the means of interesting a number of new members. The Long Beach Chapter sent over two quartets for our meeting. Lt. Frank Otto, our former Secretary, who is now in the Service, brought over twenty-six colored soldiers to sing Spirituals, and they certainly sang them well. One of the Santa Monica City officials brought to the meeting a group of Mexican singers and their music also was very interesting and tuneful. In addition to that, Ferde Grofe, who is a member of our Chapter, did some numbers, and we had other stunts that kept the crowd entertained far into the night. We are very proud that Mr. Grofe is a member of our Chapter because the feeling is very general out here, and probably throughout the country, that he is one of this country's outstanding contemporary composers. Mrs. Cady and I plan to be in Peoria for the January 16th meeting."

The Oakland County, Michigan Chapter has passed the seventy mark in paid up members, and boasts five regularly organized quartets, including the Variety Four, The Strollers, The Family Four, and the Northern Four. The fifth quartet, consisting of Messrs. Scott, Rawlings, Ward and McKinney, can't decide on an appropriate name. Their friends have dubbed them the Four Mugs, which seems to fit in with the barber shop idea. Probably no two quartets in Michigan are more active and appear more frequently than the Variety Four and The Strollers. Both have been organized for many years and are in great demand for public functions. You will hear both of them at Chicago next June.

Members of the St. Louis, Missouri Chapter, especially their Treasurer, Otto Balser, and Norm Rathert, have been instrumental in recently forming Chapters of the Society in both Hermann, Missouri, and Washington, Missouri. Present plans of the Chapter call for the participation of one hundred members in the "United Neighbor Day" program on December 8th, in the Municipal Auditorium. Mayor Wm. D. Becker and the mayors of fifteen other nearby municipalities have issued proclamations concerning the "United Neighbor Day". Its purpose is to gather people from all religions, races and creeds under one roof. The hope is that it will bring about a closer understanding between them.

R. J. Heinen, National Board Member of Halbur, Iowa, writes as follows:

"I just received the article 'Famous Old Quartets Recalled' by Damon Runyon, which is very interesting and for which kindly accept my sincere thanks.

"Damon Runyon is my favorite columnist, and I am wondering if you have read the small pocket edition which you can buy on any news stand for 25 cents, entitled 'The Best of Damon Runyon'. It is very good and worth the price a great many times over. If you will turn to the story in this book entitled 'The Lily of St. Pierre', you will find that in 'Good Time Charley's Quartet' a character named Jack O'Hearts shot the tenor singing in that quartet, so that he could sing tenor himself. Over here in Carroll County, we can't even find a tenor to shoot. I take it you have read this book, but if not, be sure and get it, as you will get a big laugh out of it."

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## CHAPTER NOTES

Warsaw, New York reports a close relationship with the nearby Rochester, N. Y. Chapter. Members took part in a recent special meeting of the Warsaw Kiwanis Club. One of the Chapter quartets sang at the annual celebration in the Village Park at Warsaw, later in the day visiting the Wyoming County Poor Farm at Varysburg, where they entertained the old people who make their home there. More recently the same quartet appeared at a meeting of the Warsaw Civil Protection Organization.

On Labor Day at Carroll, Iowa, the Pole Cats of Kansas City appeared at the annual Horse Show and took the town by storm. Let us quote from a letter received from an eye witness:

"However, with the singing they did both Sunday afternoon and night and around town, and at the Horse Show on Monday, the Pole Cats Quartet is firmly established here and made a lot of friends. I find that this community has plenty of barber shop addicts, and they all like it, but nobody here can sing it. In fact the majority did not know what barber shop harmony was until the Pole Cats came up here. I was very much surprised to hear Joe Phipps, the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, make this remark. He is an ex-Missourian, and I thought all Missourians knew barber shop harmony."

Cleveland reports starting bi-monthly meetings in October, namely on the second Tuesday and fourth Friday. This already has stimulated new interest among the members. Any chapter would be very fortunate to have three spark plugs in it like Jim Knipe, Don Webster and Deane Martin. Watch the Cleveland Chapter grow.

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## 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.

## CHAPTER NOTES

One of the most active Chapters of our Society is that in Springfield, Ill. It meets every Monday night at the St. Nicholas Hotel, and the other activities include attendance by various members of the Chapter at the social functions of a number of nearby chapters, such as Chicago, Canton, Bloomington, Moline, and Rock Island. Elsewhere in this issue you will find mention of the Springfield Chapter's monthly bulletin, edited by Fred Sahlander. Our readers will recall that both the Capitol City Four and the Harmony Kings belong to the Springfield Chapter.

The Chicago Chapter has this year appointed Chapter Committees to correspond to the National Committees and to work with them. We feel this is an idea that could well be taken up by other large Chapters and we give it to you for your serious consideration. The Committees so appointed by President Cy Perkins are as follows:

- Rules and Regulations
- Community Service
- Extension
- Inter-Chapter Relations
- Ways and Means
- Song Arrangements

The destruction in this war is terrific; many parts of the world will be left impoverished; but we have the technical capacities to repair those losses and to go ahead with the rebuilding of a world which could be far better than any we have ever seen. All the young people of today need to do, to construct that better world, is to behave more intelligently than did their ancestors; and I am confident that most of them would tell you that they could easily do that.

—Elmer Davis.

## 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 presiding officer.



## SMILIN' ED BECOMES MEMBER IN MICHIGAN

A Thousand Pounds of Harmony in This Picture

Joseph P. Wolff, Detroit (National Vice-President) Ed Schwoppe, Lansing (former National Vice-President) Smilin' Ed McConnell, and Carroll P. Adams (National Secretary-Treasurer).



Smilin' Ed McConnell, whose daily radio audience is numbered in the millions, maintains a home in Elk Rapids, Michigan and last March acted as M. C. at the annual Parade of Quartets held in Traverse City under the sponsorship of the Chapter in that city. Recently Ed's travels brought him to Oakland County and he took advantage of the opportunity to join the Chapter there, with Brothers Wolff, Schwoppe and Adams present to assist in the ceremony.

## CHAPTER NOTES

The Muskegon, Michigan Chapter has its 1942-1943 quartet marathon well under way, and Secretary Johnny Buitendorp, 645 Maffett Street, Muskegon Heights, Mich., will gladly furnish all details, copies of bulletins, etc., to any other chapter that is interested in conducting a similar affair this winter.

To quote from a recent bulletin sent out to its members by the Kansas City Chapter:

"The little woman no doubt has often said, 'Why don't that bunch of Tonsorial Artists have something that we women can enjoy instead of your getting together with those guys just to hit the dominants and sub-dominants of 'Honey' and 'Dear Old Girl', while we sit and wonder if the 'Honey' and 'Dear Old Girl' you are singing about is the same sweet lassie you promised to love honor and—those many years ago.'"

The result was that a highly successful Ladies Night was enjoyed on November 24, in the Crystal Room of the Hotel Phillips. A card party was held from 8:00 to 10:30 p.m., and from then until well after mid-night a program of entertainment consisting mostly of quartet singing by different groups, sent everyone home happy and convinced the officers of the Kansas City Chapter that there is a world of truth in the words of the popular song, "Why Don't We Do This More Often".

Time stays long enough for those who use it.

—Leonardo da Vinci

## THE UNCONQUERED PEOPLE

"Only the ignoble, the shameful, and the base can be suppressed—never the heroic truth. Men everywhere, of whatever race, despise themselves when they are ignoble and they do not talk about it. Men everywhere are proud of the heroism of their fellow men and will tell of it, even though they die in the telling.

"And so on the winds of freedom, those winds which never cease to blow, are borne today the stories of heroism in the conquered countries. Conquered? The stories which the winds of freedom bear prove once again that free men cannot be conquered. The treachery and the armed might of tyranny may crush them for a time, but those who live will speak out and speak out again until freedom is restored. Thus come the voices from the countries which the Axis has sought to enslave:

They reach the United Nations, which must fight to free them, through smuggled letters. Men and women who have escaped tell of the fight which does not cease. Short-wave broadcasts from secret stations, operated under the penalty of torture and death, pierce the mysterious ether until they are heard by alert listeners. Underground newspapers pass from hand to hand until they reach a free border. Agents of the governments-in-exile obtain confidential reports which they release to an anxiously waiting world.

"And so we learn that Norway does not falter, that Holland is not crushed, that men still walk erect in Belgium, in Occupied France, in Czechoslovakia, Greece, and Poland, among the brave Yugoslavs—that everywhere the 'New Order' is scorned and being undermined."

Anne Campbell, who wrote "Litany of Detroit", which appears on the back cover of this issue, is the nationally known poetess of The Detroit News, and the wife of Geo. W. Stark, editor of the column "Town Talk" in the same paper. It was he who wrote so vividly of our Grand Rapids Convention in the last issue of Re-Chordings.

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# Litany Of Detroit

(or of any other large American industrial city)

LEADER: Because we have come of a people who have eaten bitter bread, who have made friends with calamity, who have anchored their ship to a Rock, we can walk with poverty again, we can endure, and with a rock-like faith, we can conquer.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, in our time of travail, to remember the Pioneers.

LEADER: Because, as a far-flung outpost of a new world civilization, we have lived through desperate times, because we have subdued our savage enemy, the Red Man, and made him our friend, because we have passed through the war of 1812, and the descendants of the survivors still live among us, we can outlast the misery of this war.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, to remember and honor our Warriors.

LEADER: Because we have been tempered in the furnaces of other wars, because we have been nourished upon such fundamental truths as "This Nation, under God, shall not perish from the earth," "all men are created equal," "of the people, for the people, and by the people"; because we have had noble leaders who gave us their vision, we can see beyond this valley of sorrow to the peaceful mountains.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, to lift our eyes to the hills of peace.

LEADER: Because we have come from long suffering and strong peoples, we dedicate our sons, our fortunes, our lives to the burning out of evil ideologies, to the premise that Right stands above Might, to the establishment of permanent peace upon this earth.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, to give freely of our money and sparingly of our complaints.

LEADER: Because we can work with our hands, and buckle our hearts to the task before us, we dedicate our industries, our men, our women, and even our children, to the stamping out of despotism upon this earth.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, to find our place in the pattern of our times, and to do willingly the small deeds and the great acts that are required of us by the exigencies of righteous War.

LEADER: Because we would black out wickedness, and restore to the earth the blessed dignity of free men, we send the smoke of our furnaces into the sky, we make our city an arsenal of Democracy, we salute all gods of war, because we believe now in the cleansing by fire.

PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, to draw our swords against an enemy which would give the lie to beauty, and paralyze the good man's will.

LEADER: Because WE BELIEVE IN DEMOCRACY, we dedicate our city: our sons to the ships and planes, our women to the factories and farms, our nurses and doctors to far-off battlefields, our children to the better world which we will fashion through "blood, sweat and tears."

LEADER AND PEOPLE: Help us, oh Lord, because we have come triumphantly through wars, pestilence, famine and fire, to re-dedicate ourselves to the truth contained in the seal of our city, which was conceived in agony of spirit: "It will rise from its ashes, and we hope for better things."

—Anne Campbell