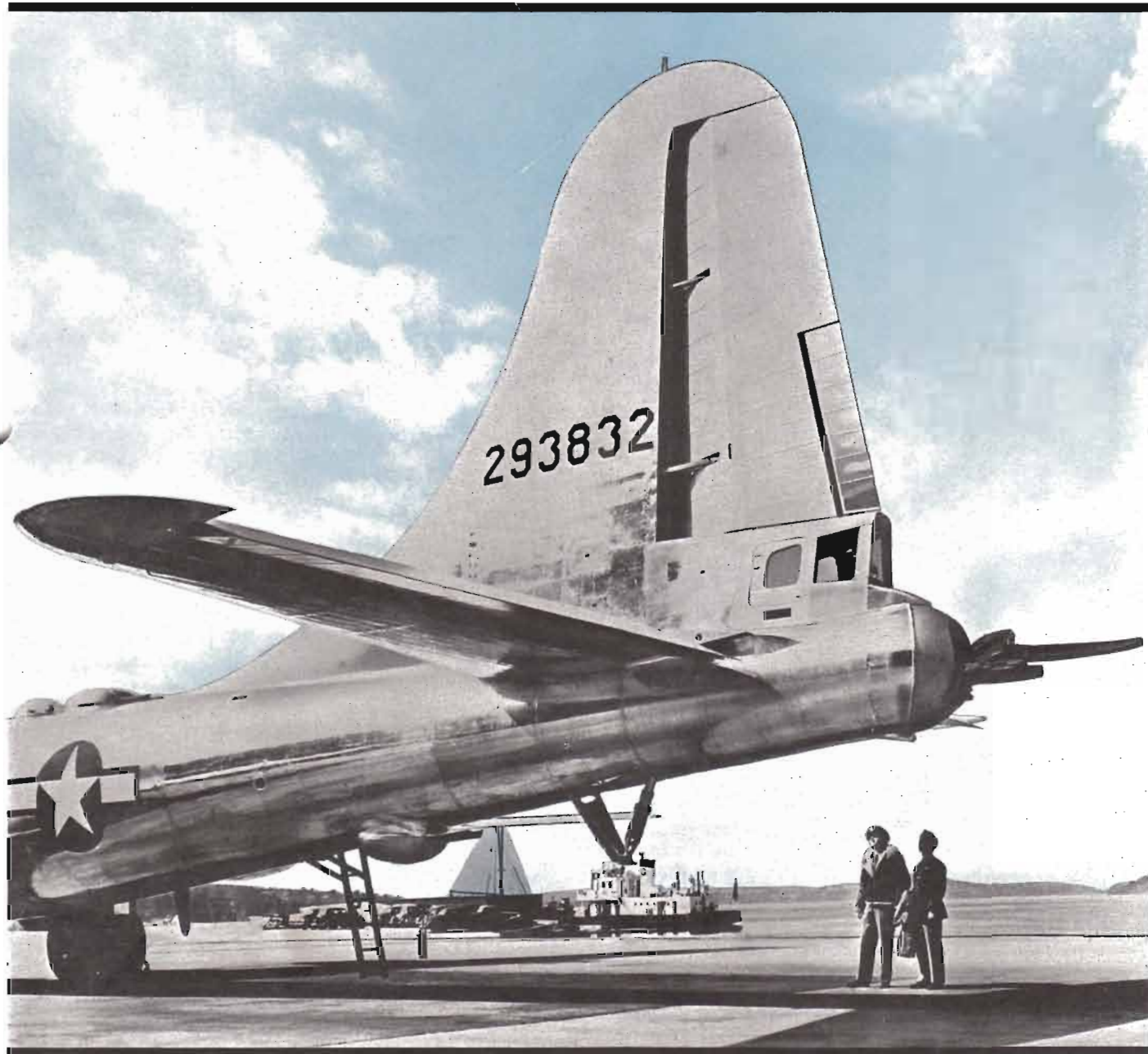


# *THE* **HARMONIZER**

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONY



*Picture - Courtesy Boeing Aircraft Co.*

PUBLISHED BY

The SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT  
OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.

MAY 1945

35c per Copy  
VOL. IV, No. 4



## *Peace terms every man should make NOW!*

The war is still on . . . and will be for some time to come.

But right now—before the war ends—every man in America has an unprecedented opportunity to make terms with himself for his own peace . . . his peace of mind.

For now, as never before, a man should look at his wife and family and say, "What can I offer them for the future?"

Now, as never before, a man should look at his house and worldly goods and say, "How can I improve these so my family may better enjoy life?"

Now, as never before, a man should look at tomorrow and say, "How can I best prepare for some unforeseen emergency which might affect my family?"

And now, as never before, every man in America has a

chance to answer all these questions—an opportunity to provide for the future.

That opportunity is War Bonds. No doubt you are buying War Bonds through the Payroll Saving Plan. Arrange to buy more War Bonds. All you can afford. More than you thought you could afford.

What's even more important—don't cash in those War Bonds before they mature. Stick them away in a safe place—and forget about them till you can reap the full harvest on them.

Now is the time to make your plans for peace of mind. It's something you owe yourself . . . owe your family. Buy War Bonds and hold onto them!

# EMBURY MANUFACTURING COMPANY

*Everything in Lanterns from "Lighthouses" to "Surreys"*

WARSAW, NEW YORK

## SOCIETY HAS CHANCE TO CHRISTEN TWO B-29's

# Let's Go!!

NO! Our front cover illustration does not have anything to do with barbershop quartet harmony. No! Your editor has not gone crazy, at least no more than usual. No! The picture is not of an airplane. It is the *tail assembly only*, get that, of a Boeing B-29 superfortress. These are the planes that are blasting the important cities and industrial centers of Japan quite off the map.

We have used this picture on our cover for two reasons, first, to let you get some conception of the size of these planes. Seeing one of these planes aloft means nothing, but close to, on the ground, as we show it, the magnitude is impressive. Our second reason is that the U. S. Treasury Dept. War Bond Campaign Committee has promised to christen two of these planes "The Spirit of Harmony" and "Close Harmony" provided the members of our Society and the firms whose purchases they control subscribe for \$1,200,000.00 of War Bonds, (cost of two B-29's), of the 7th War Loan Issue.

If every member will subscribe for at least \$100 in bonds, we know that the average will run well above the figure needed to attain the total sum. Many Chapters have already unanimously voiced their hearty approval of the idea as is evidenced by the ads they've placed in this issue of the Harmonizer.

Several Chapters have written us that they plan a War Bond night at a regular Chapter meeting in May or June at which time every member will be asked to bring his bond or bonds along to wave at the photographer, or photographers, who we hope will somehow or other be on hand . . . not that we're doing this for publicity or anything like that . . . "Perish forbid," as Duffy would say . . . but the Treasury Dept. War Loan Committee is extremely anxious to capitalize on publicity from such fine examples of patriotic cooperation and, as always, we're glad to help.

As in other War Loan Campaigns our quartets and Chapter Choruses are ready and willing to cooperate. Get in touch with your local War Bond Drive Chairman, if you haven't already and let him know what your Chapter can do to help.

### WHAT THE B-29 IS AND DOES

To George L. Findlay, of the Boeing Airplane Company, Wichita, Kansas, we are indebted for the following details of the B-29 . . .

"Half again as large as the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, the Boeing B-29 is the first airplane combining giant size, extreme range, and load-carrying capacity with the speed of a fast pursuit. The Superfortress carries a heavier bomb load farther, faster and higher than any airplane the world has ever known.

The B-29 has a wingspread of 141 feet 2 inches, length of 99 feet, and the top of its tail stands 28 feet off the ground.

Unlike other bombers, the Superfortress has two enormous bomb bays; its armament of 50-caliber machine guns and 20-millimeter cannon is electrically operated by remote control.

Pressurized cabin sections, heavily insulated and soundproofed, enable crew members to function without fatigue or discomfort at extremely high altitudes.

The Boeing Superfortress is powered by four Wright Cyclone 18-cylinder engines of 2,200 horsepower each; the engines turn Hamilton Standard four-bladed propellers which have a diameter of 16 feet 7 inches; each airplane contains approximately one million rivets of various sizes, each driven individually. The B-29 has more than 160 electric motors and generators. It is the first all-electric warplane ever designed and built, the landing gear wheel brakes being the only hydraulic operated equipment. About 10 miles of electrical wiring and nearly two miles of tubing go into each Superfortress.

Bruce Bliven, writing in the January 1 "New Republic," has some interesting things to say about the B-29. In part, he comments:—

"The B-29 has an unparalleled accuracy in its aerial guns, and this is no accident. In the Pacific area fourteen bombing missions were completed before the first B-29 was shot down by an enemy fighter plane. On one occasion, a single Superfortress fought off 79 fighters in a four-hour running battle, shot down seven, and returned safely home. . . .

"Even an amateur strategist . . . can see there is substantial importance in the B-29 . . . we now have a situation where the B-29's can do a lot of damage. Experience over Japan has shown that they are nearly invulnerable to fighter attack. They can operate with precision at heights where enemy ack-ack is relatively ineffective. They carry heavy bomb loads. And we are building them in very large quantities."

Those very large quantities of B-29's require very large quantities of that green stuff. Let's pitch in and get "The Spirit of Harmony" and "Close Harmony" aloft.

### NOTICE

## ELASTIC FOUR RECORDS

are now available at

**LYON & HEALY, Inc.**

243 S. WABASH AVE.

CHICAGO 4, ILL. — Attn: RECORD DEPT

**FIVE RECORD SET \$8.25 F. O. B. CHICAGO**  
Includes All of the Following Numbers

The Lord's Prayer  
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Mill Stream . . . Mood Indigo  
Maple Leaves . . . Peggy O'Neill  
Cider Mill

Just a Dream of You  
Dear . . . Indiana

Lazy River . . . White Christmas  
Tell Me You'll Forgive Me



Published quarterly by the International Officers and the other members of the International 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 IV MAY, 1945 NO. 4  
35c per Copy

Carroll P. Adams—Editor and Business Manager  
19311 Grand River Avenue, Detroit 23, Michigan  
Phone: GARfield 7250

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MAY, 1945



THE GARDENAIRE  
Michigan State Champs, as seen by Beaudin

#### "INTERNATIONAL"

On April 24th there arrived at the International Office a Petition for Charter signed by ten members of the Armed Forces stationed in Upper Assam, India. The organizer of the chapter is C. M. Fesler, Field Director of the American Red Cross in the China, Burma, and India Command. The president is Pfc. Fred D. J. Gallagher, and the secretary is Pfc. Joseph J. Catalano.

It seems to be no military secret that up to the time of the chartering of this chapter this group had called itself "The Upper Assam Literary Society and Latrine Singers." Their Petition for Charter states that they have been promised the use of a bamboo basha a short distance from the special service center of the base in which they may hold their chapter meetings.

This makes our eighth chapter in the Armed Forces. We have two in the States, two in the Pacific, two in India, one in the British Isles, and one in Germany.

#### And from the Marianas—

The day before the HARMONIZER went to press, a Petition for Charter was received from twenty-three members of a detachment of Marines stationed on the Marianas.

We had been in correspondence with them for several weeks and those mail contacts culminated in the application for Charter. The President is Sergeant Theodore G. Hamway of Paterson, New Jersey, and he wrote under date of April 16th in part as follows:

"Enclosed you will find our Petition to organize a chapter of the SPEBSQSA on this island in the Marianas. Attached hereto are two money orders. The one in the amount of \$46.00 is to cover the per capita tax on our 23 Charter Members. The other for \$15.90 will cover the cost of the Charter and necessary supplies of Certificates, Membership Cards, and stationery.

"After our organization meeting, the chapter officers visited with Sergeant Phil Edwards of the Public Relations Office to acquaint him with the aims of our organization. He promised to get behind us through the means of the local radio station which is a member of the Pacific Ocean network."

## 1945 Finals Contest in Detroit, June 16

Through approval by the War Committee on Conventions the Finals of this year's SPEBSQSA quartet contest will be held in the main auditorium of Masonic Temple, Detroit, at 8 P. M., Saturday, June 16th before a local audience. Wartime restrictions prohibit the traveling to Detroit for this outstanding event of anyone but the members of the twelve Finalist quartets as chosen by the judges, from the four regional Preliminaries held in New York City, Cleveland, Chicago, and Kansas City on May 17, 18, 19, and 20. Those twelve quartets will have been picked and the list released by the time you receive this issue of the HARMONIZER.

Although announcement was made, in each city, of the five top-ranking quartets in that particular Preliminary, the twelve Finalists were picked on an all-Society basis rather than through the naming of the top three in each Sectional Contest. In other words, the 1944 plan was followed exactly, in that no announcement of Finalists was made until all Preliminaries had been run off and until the scores of all quartets were available for the final computation and ranking. The plan was made possible by the fact that four of the Society's most competent and experienced judges were willing to give the time and make the necessary personal sacrifices to judge all four Preliminaries on successive nights. Maurice E. Reagan of Pittsburgh acted as Chairman of the Judges. He was ably assisted by Joseph E. Stern of Kansas City, Frank Thorne of Chicago, and Carroll Pallerin of Cleveland. By restricting the competing quartets to twelve, instead of fifteen as last year, we were able to stay under the maximum of fifty people allowed by the War Committee on Conventions, a joint agency of the Army, Navy, ODT, and WMC. The Government felt that it must do its full part in encouraging the continuance of our collaboration with the Armed Forces, U. S. O. Centers, Treasury Department Bond Sales, Red Cross and Government Hospitals, and in stimulating the formation of additional entertainment units within our membership. They agreed with us that nothing stimulates like competition and that our Annual Quartet Contest should by no means be postponed.

We're sorry that only 4400 people, drawn from Greater Detroit and the immediate surrounding area, can hear and see this year's Finals but we know that every SPEBSQSA Member is sympathetic with the aims of the War Committee on Conventions in its desire to curtail unnecessary travel and use of hotel rooms and will gladly co-operate to the fullest extent in accomplishing those aims.

### THREE INDIANA CHAPTERS TOP 100 MARK

A merry race has been going on in the State of Indiana between South Bend, Fort Wayne, and Evansville, and as we go to press we are happy to report that South Bend has reached 111 in membership, and the relatively new chapters in Evansville and Fort Wayne have reached 139 and 160, respectively. There are three marks for other Indiana chapters to shoot at. Congratulations to all 3 chapters and their officers.

MAY, 1945

### O. C. CLAIMS HE'S SWAMPED

Dear Brother Barbershoppers:

You have literally and figuratively overwhelmed me with hundreds of scrolls that have reached Tulsa in the last few weeks. I treasure them above all other Society mementos I possess. Thank you sincerely for remembering me so appropriately on the occasion of our seventh anniversary. Although I would like to acknowledge personally each Chapter's participation in this affectionate gesture, I am proud, as each of you must be, that our Society has now grown to the point where it is almost impossible for me to do that. So please accept this as my grateful appreciation of your thoughtfulness.

O. C. CASH.

### MORE ELASTIC RECORDS AVAILABLE

A new run of Elastic Four records has been made and they are now obtainable through Lyon & Healy of Chicago. See ad on Page 3 for details.

## Want To Have Some Fun?

If your present Accident and Health policy is "Cancellable" you can have a lot of fun by asking your agent to sign this statement;

"Recognizing that certainty of continued income during any accident or sickness is vitally essential to you, and

Further recognizing that I have been instrumental in causing you to acquire a policy of protection that lacks this element of certainty,

*I Hereby Agree, as Follows:*

If, at the time of a claim, the policy I sold you is not in force by reason of Company cancellation, or refusal to renew, I agree to personally pay you the amount of your claim.

If an accident claim is denied by the Company because the injury was not sustained through accidental means, I agree to personally pay you the amount that you would otherwise have received.

If an accident claim is denied by the Company because the loss of time did not begin within the time limit specified in the policy, I agree to personally pay you the amount you would have received under a policy that had no such time limit.

If a health claim is denied or reduced by the Company because you are not confined within doors, I agree to personally pay you the amount you would have received under a non-confinement policy.

If at any time the premium on your policy is raised by the Company to an amount greater than that stipulated in the policy, I agree to personally pay the extra charge so that your cost will remain as quoted.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_"

**MORAL:** BUY NON-CANCELLABLE INSURANCE  
OR THE JOKE MAY BE ON YOU.

**THE WELSH PIERCE AGENCY**

10 So. La Salle St.

CHICAGO 3, ILL.





BOB HOLBROOK

## Two Champs Hail

### SPEBSQSA

CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK TO  
SING WITH US



TOM MASSENGALE

*Your editors had a thrill recently when two letters arrived from the Pacific Front in the same mail. One was from R. P. (Bob) Holbrook, lead of the 1941 Champions, the Chord Busters of Tulsa; the other was from Tom Massengale, their bass. Neither has seen the other since they were last on leave in Tulsa. Both hope to meet but don't count on it because, as most of us now know, the Pacific is a mighty puddle. If they ever should meet out there, we hope a tenor and baritone are available for the "makin's."*

C. P. A.

**Writes Bob,** "I just finished reading the November issue of the Harmonizer from cover to cover, (We get them 'kinda' late out here). You no doubt have received many letters with just such an opening sentence, and you can bet your pitch pipe they are not just making conversation. In my opinion, of all the many steps which have been taken toward the development of our organization, this publication is without a doubt the outstanding one. If you were out here on the receiving end, where news from home is the paramount thing, you would know what I mean.

"Can't get over the tremendous growth of the Society, particularly in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. Makes me homesick for the time when Oklahoma had state contests, a number of fine quartets and plenty of enthusiasm.

"As a member of the Marine 5th Division 'Serenaders,' and, incidentally, we were using that name some time before we learned that the former Kansas City Barber Polecats had also assumed that name. I have now acquired the title of 'member of the most traveled barber-shop quartet in the world.' I believe you will agree when you hear my story.

"Shortly after the quartet organized, and before we even had 'Roll Dem Bones' (Shine), 'Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail,' 'Coney Island Baby,' and 'Tell Me You'll Forgive Me' under our belts, we were fortunate enough to be included in an All-Marine Show, headed by Lieutenant Bob Crosby. We were not the best quartet in the world, but with Tim Weber (formerly Secretary of the Detroit Chapter, and spark plug of the 5th Marine Division Chapter, Ed.), John Ward (4 Mugs of Pitts.), John Brevner and myself, all with experience, we were far from being in the class of the 'Slap Happy Chappies.'

"We started out on what was supposed to be a three-day engagement on another island, which extended itself to two weeks. On one of our shows we were joined by Dennis Day, Tommy Riggs (Betty Lou), a big time dance act, a solo accordion player, and a clown, (all Navy talent). What a terrific show it was with the Serenaders rating in applause right along with the rest of them. During our stay it was decided by the boys with the fuzzy-

you-know-whats to send our show out on a tour of the South Pacific area. We were put on two C46 transport planes and for the ensuing twenty-nine days traveled close to 14,000 miles, visited about 25 islands and put on about 50 shows for Marine, Navy and Army outfits.



"I don't have to tell you that it was a marvelous experience and one that money couldn't buy. Our main regret was that our last stop was not the good old U. S. A. for we had seen all of that area that we wished to see. Our stops on Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Pelileu, and Tarawa were probably the outstanding ones as far as territory actually in the combat area. They are peaceful enough now but the results of a rough damn war still remain. An interesting sidelight was a visit to a native village. Yoo! It's a fact . . . de goils trot around mit der bare 'hermans' awavin' in de breeze. Quite a sight!

"That's about all for now . . . as you can see I have to do my own typing since my secretary took a defense job . . . I trust you will overlook any and all mistakes contained herein. My regards to you and all the many fellows who are my friends in the greatest organization in the world. May 1945 be its best year and see all the

(Continued on Next Page)

boys back singing in their old quartets.

"Just one more thing. I'm glad to see those Harmonizer ads plugging War Bonds and to read how the quar-



tets and choruses have been working in the War Loan Drives. If you could be out here and see, even in a small way as I have seen it, the magnitude of our operations, you'd understand why War Bond Drives are necessary and you'd buy all you could AND THEN BUY A FEW MORE.

Bob.

• • •

### And from Tom Massengale . . .

"Here comes that long promised letter. I have just finished digesting (thoroughly) the November issue of the Harmonizer. I should say that this morning's reading is the second reading of the issue, could not wait for daylight, so made the first reading last night with the aid of only one flashlight whose batteries were none too strong.



"Now that I have read the issue from cover to cover, including the ads, I feel both better and worse, better to know that the Society is doing a wonderful job of expanding under difficult

conditions; better to learn that new quartets are forming and that old ones are still together and improving; better to know that our return will be welcomed. I feel worse because I have missed being around to take part in these grand assemblies of harmony.

"But, on second thought I realize that I should not regret that misfortune. The only thing I do not have at the present time is the *opportunity* to sing, I have not and never will lose the *desire* to sing.

"Every new chapter, new quartet, or new member added to the organization tends to increase my pride in being a part of the Society; pride in that, along with

## SPEBSQSA in SOPAC



The 5th Marine Corps Division has its own Chapter of SPEBSQSA. We hear they have started regular meetings again after the Iwo Jima invasion. Pictured are the Serenaders whose saga Bob Holbrook so well describes in the letter on the opposite page. L. to R. the men are—Staff Sgt. Anthony Weber, Pfc. John M. Ward, Pvt. Robert Holbrook, Hosp. App. 1st Class John Brewner.

the other three members of the Chord Busters we have added our small contribution to the growth and success of the Society.

"It is good to know that the Elastics, Halls, Misfits, Kings, etc., etc., are all working harder than ever and each of them getting nearer the goal of perfection. Let us all hope that none of them ever quite achieves their goal . . . to reach perfection is to have no further goal to work for and to stop working is to die.

"The Chord Busters know that when they come together again and resume an active role they shall have

(Continued on Page 9)



#### CLUB HARMONY FOUR

L. to R.—William Sprague, tenor; Dick Dewhurst, lead; Walter Morris, bari; Bill Ruddy, bass.

### *In Tune With Everyone Are These Great Mills Folios of Barber Shop Harmony*

#### BARBER SHOP HARMONY (TTBB)

Contents: S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.; How Dry I Am; My Evaline; Way Down Yonder In The Cornfield; Workin' On The Railroad; Aura Lee; Bring The Wagon Home; John; Shine; Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn; Bright Was The Night; Way Down Home; I Had A Dream, Dear; By The Watermelon Vine; Lindy Lou; The Lost Chord; I Love You Best of All; Hearts Win Tonight; You Lose; Girl Of My Dreams; Dogwood Dell; Shall I Wasting in Depair; Down Mobile; Dinah; I Want To Harmonize; Margie; I Can't Give You Anything But Love.

Price 60c

#### MORE BARBER SHOP HARMONY

(Male Quartet)

Contents: All Through The Night; In The Gloaming; Nelly Was A Lady; Tell Me Why; Shine On Me; Strolling Through The Park; In The Fields of Oklahoma; Bye-Lo; My Mother's Rosary; Nobody's Sweetheart; Coney Island Baby; Moon-glow; Down Among The Sugar Cane; Mister Moon; Daddy, Get Your Baby Out of Jail; That Tumble-Down Shack In Athlone; Mood Indigo; We've Never Been Defeated; Violets Sweet.

Price 60c

### MILLS MUSIC, INC.

1619 Broadway

New York 19, N. Y.

#### LIST OF COMING EVENTS

May 17th Bronx, N. Y.	Regional Quartet Contest
May 18th Cleveland, O.	Regional Quartet Contest
May 19th Chicago, Ill.	Regional Quartet Contest
May 20th Kansas City, Mo.	Regional Quartet Contest
May 23rd Kokomo, Ind.	Charter Night
May 26th Redford Area, Detroit, Mich.	Ladies' Night
May 27th Rock Island, Ill.	Quartet Parade
June 1st Newark, N. J.	Quartets on Parade
June 2nd Jersey City, N. J.	Garden State Quartet Night
June 16th Detroit, Mich.	International Finals
June 23rd Whitelake Chapter, Mich.	All Day Outing
Aug. 22nd Wabash, Ind.	City Park Program
Sept. 1-2-3 Charlevoix, Mich.	Week-End Frolic
Oct. 6th Battle Creek, Mich.	Parade
Oct. 7th Macomb, Ill.	Minstrel Show
Oct. 20th Detroit Area	Jubilee
Oct. 21st Chicago, Ill.	Second Annual Parade of Champions
Nov. 3 or 10 Flint, Mich.	Quartet Parade

#### LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD; JOINS SPEBSQSA

Frank McIntyre, the nationally famed showman, well known on the radio as Captain Henry of the old Maxwell House Show-boat, capped a successful career by recently joining the Ann Arbor, Michigan Chapter of SPEBSQSA.

Frank, a native Ann Arbor boy, loved music from earliest times on. In fact, he loved his songs so well, that while studying voice at Ann Arbor as a young man, he also devoted time to directing the harmonies of the local German Singing Society.

After many years on the stage and in radio, Frank is spending most of his time at home now, in Ann Arbor, where his face and figure grace many of the popular haunts in town, including the Barton Hills Country Club and SPEBSQSA Chapter meetings.

#### FILLS A DEFINITE NEED

Here is a message from King Cole, spark plug of our new Chapters in Manitowoc and Sheboygan, Wis.: "I agree with you when you say that Barber Shop Harmony offers much to one's feeling of well-being. Beset as we are these days with complications in business, one needs an outlet for stored-up emotions and if we can explode in tune-ful harmony, it's lots better for all concerned.

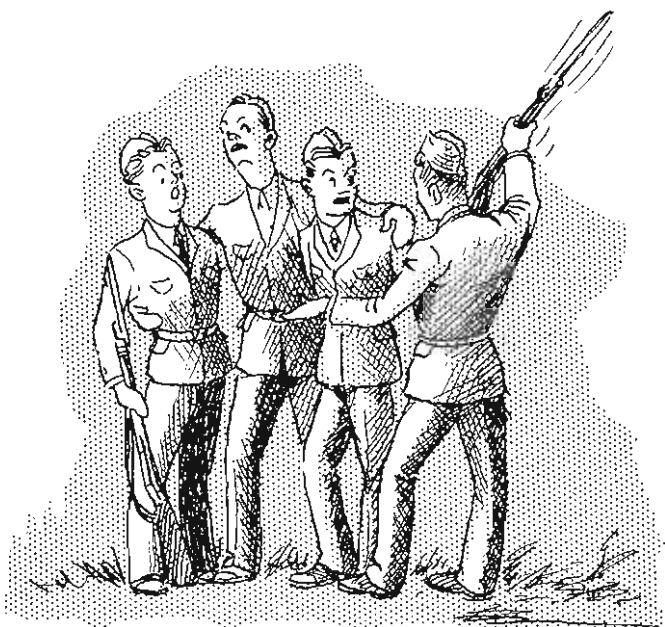
My interest in harmonizing dates from my college days at the Universities of Washington and Montana. We did our arranging right on the spot, and found our 'swipes' by feeling our way, and, we still wound up with plenty sweet harmony.

Our Society fills a definite need in the preservation of one of our earlier styles of singing, and I am sure that there will be a greater appreciation than ever of the old songs and the barber shop interpretations."



## CHAMPS HAIL SOCIETY

(Continued from Page 7)



to start at the bottom once more, but we will know what Frank Thorne meant in his article on 'work' and we are looking forward to the day we can start again. We will be back one of these days, maybe better than in old days, maybe not so good . . . but as good as we can possibly be.

"I still have hopes of organizing a quartet or a chapter in this group. Time has not permitted even the groundwork as yet, but maybe later. Had a quartet just about set up on the boat coming over—then we landed and went our respective ways, each to his own area. After we are fully set up and operating smoothly we may have the opportunity of picking up where we left off. For some reason, the Army feels that its operations are more important than the organization of a quartet.

"Had a long boat ride over. Bob Holbrook is out in this area somewhere . . . surely hope that we may be in the same place at the same time some day. It's a slim chance but it would be good to run into him over here.

"Noticed that a quartet in Delaware is using the name 'Chord Busters.' Tell them not to become too attached to that name, as we shall also be using it . . . or maybe they had it first.

"Doc Enmeier gave me my Past Champion Emblem the last time I was home. Have never had the privilege of wearing it yet, but that too will wait.

"All for now. 'Hello' to everyone. Tell 'em from me to KEEP ON BUYING WAR BONDS AND HELP GET THIS THING OVER."

Tom.

## FELLOW ADVERTISERS:

A few weeks ago, I received a phone call from a purchasing agent of a large steel concern . . . "My name is so-and-so and my company is in the market for two punch presses." He also informed me that he saw our ad in The Harmonizer and that he personally was acquainted with a number of men who are members of SPEBSQSA and who in turn recommended our firm to him.

\* \* \*

In the sales of Punches, Combinations, Rotary and Bar Shears, Plate Rolls, High Speed Friction Saws and Grinders, the market is limited and advertising must of necessity be restricted to certain trade publications and technical journals. And yet, the impossible has happened. There is a reason for results from Harmonizer advertising. Enthusiasm, on the part of the membership, has in seven years made the Society an important civic and community factor. That same enthusiasm is responsible for its Harmonizer results because patronage is endorsed and stressed.

\* \* \*

Mr. Advertiser—If you have ANY product that's marketable, then put the Harmonizer on your next space schedule and place a MUST against it. The cost is low, the results surprising. We are again renewing our contract and we are NOT philanthropists. Yessir! There is a reason.

**KLING BROTHERS**  
ENGINEERING WORKS  
Manufacturers of Peacetime Machinery  
Punches, Combination Shear, Punch & Copers, Rotary, Angle, Bar Shears; Plate Bending Rolls, High Speed Friction Saws and Grinders.

1300 N. Kostner Ave. Chicago 51, Ill.

## GRAND RAPIDS SETS RECORDS AND PRECEDENTS— BROWER NEVER "SETS" FOR 72 HOURS

Packed with innovations and entertaining one of the season's largest crowds which filled the spacious Grand Rapids Civic auditorium, the second annual Great Lakes Invitational, was most successfully staged by the Furniture city chapter on April 6.

The Invitational was by far the most successful SPEBSQSA venture held in Grand Rapids since the 1942 national contest. Gracing the list of performing quartets was the Elastics of Chicago, which won its title in this same auditorium, as well as the 1943 champions, the Harmonizers and the current title holders, the home town Harmony Halls.

The Invitational began Friday night when G. Marvin Brower, president of the Grand Rapids Chapter, presided over an elaborate dinner to which had been invited all presidents of the Michigan chapters and members of the International Board of Directors who were in at-

turned out to be a dire character, requiring extra special judicial treatment by Judge Pruitt).

The program at the auditorium was before a packed house. Some 21 quartets accepted Grand Rapids invitations to take part and after an opening session of community singing under W. Carleton Scott, International Master of Ceremonies, and a rendition by the Grand Rapids chorus with Cecil Fisher leading, the Dutch Treasures of Kalamazoo, stepped into the spotlight and from then on harmony was unending. The Harmony Halls concluded the program with an unusually fine presentation of the "Lord's Prayer."

The entire affair was brought to an enterprising conclusion with a general breakfast for all those who had stayed over. More than 200 sat down to a morning of coffee and harmony. Opening at 10 a. m. it was still in progress at 2 p. m.



**JUDGE PRUITT'S "COURT"**

L. to R.—Lord High Sheriff—Darcy Wilcox; Deputies—Harry Fik and Bill Lang; the Judge; Prosecutor—Fred Sparks; Clerk—"Doc" Campbell.

tendance. This "Presidents Dinner" is expected to be an annual attraction. While the diners were toying with demi-tasse and bubbling vintages visiting women guests were being entertained at a reception over which Mrs. Brower and Mrs. Gordon J. Hall, presided.

One of the high spots of the session was the regular business meeting of the Grand Rapids Chapter. Beginning at 9 o'clock, following an hour of chorus rehearsal, the meeting proceeded smoothly and was climaxed by the induction of a new class of members, "The O. C. Cash Class." 12 candidates proceeded through the usual ritual which Grand Rapids has been using. The Ambassadors of Detroit and the Elastics together with the Harmony Halls and a number of Grand Rapids quartets furnished the entertainment.

After a day long welcoming of guests, a new conception of "glows" was opened. It was "Harmony Hall," patterned after the usual free-lunch places of the barber-shop era and featuring among other things a kangaroo court presided over by Judge L. Aubrey Pruitt. The judge was in rare form dealing out "justice" to quartets and individuals alike as they were hailed before him by fully uniformed cops, also of yesteryear, to hear their indictments read by Prosecutor Fred Sparks. Dr. W. M. Campbell, chairman of Harmony Hall, acted as court clerk. Those who faced "charges" and paid penalties were the Balladares, and the Ambassadors of Detroit, the Elastics, National Secretary Carroll P. Adams (who



Prosecutor Sparks reads the indictment of The Elastic Four after which the Judge sentenced the quartet and also issued a restraining order preventing the Elastics from singing prior to eleven o'clock either A. M. or P. M. at any Michigan function.

President Brower, host deluxe, presiding officer at the Presidents' Dinner, regular business meeting, master of ceremonies at the public program, dispenser of sandwiches, coffee and what not at Grand Rapids headquarters after the Saturday night program, grabbed three hours sleep and carried on Sunday. Then he yawned and went home, a place he had not seen for many a day.

And finally, the third annual Great Lakes Invitational will take place April 6, 1946, in the same old familiar haunts. General Chairman Roscoe D. Bennett hired the hall while the crowd was still coming in.

### DO YOU WEAR THE OFFICIAL LAPEL EMBLEM?

In January, 1944 the Society adopted the design of the present official emblem, and it is available for lapel use through the Secretary of your Chapter. The price is \$1.50. If your Secretary hasn't any emblems on hand, suggest to him that he replenish his stock through the International office. Every Society member should wear an official emblem. It is attractive, you will be proud of it, and the wearing of it helps mightily in publicizing the Society, and particularly the Chapter to which you belong.

# FRANK THORNE---KING OF HARMONY

BY WARREN PIPER

Once upon a time when I was a student at Northwestern I developed a juvenile crush on a fair coed at the University of Illinois. She invited me down for a sorority dance, and I had to hoard my allowance for many long weeks to make the trip. In order to save hotel expenses at Champaign, I reported to the Sigma Nu House, announced myself as a visiting brother, and moved in with the gang for free food.

That was over thirty years ago, and even the name of the girl has long since been forgotten. The thing I remember most about that trip was my first meeting with Frank Thorne, and the beginning of a barbershop friendship that has lasted throughout the years. I call it a "barbershop friendship" because it started with our mutual love of close—and I mean very close—harmony. The fact that it has lasted for more than a third of a century without one sour note proves that harmony singing is a fine basis for making and keeping friends. When men raise their voices in song they automatically raise their hearts, their minds and their spirits as well. But that's another story which deserves a chapter all its own in a text-book on psychology.

So let's get back to the year 1914 when Frank Thorne was a self-sufficient sophomore, dressed like Joe College himself, in peg-top pants, dip-front coat, and high button shoes with bull-dog toes. Good gosh, what shoes! In recent years, college kids have gone conservative with Brooks Brothers help, and most of the lads not in uniform look like Wall Street clerks, but in those days the college boys were rah-rah. And Frank was strictly collichit!

Even today, that first meeting with Frank is etched in my mind like a cameo. I went up the walk to the Sigma Nu house, and there on the front porch were two troubadours at work, right out in the open in broad daylight. One was Frank, with a mandolin . . . of all things . . . slung around his neck on a cord. Beside him stood a slightly smaller and chubbier youth with a guitar, likewise en pendant. Both lads were singing their hearts out in what was then called rag-time, the earliest form of syncopation before the days of jazz, swing, noise and boogie-woogie. They were so absorbed in their song that they failed to even notice my arrival. Besides, I'm the kind of a guy that is always being overlooked, so I sat down to listen to the concert.

The instruments carried the melody, Frank was singing bari, and the other boy was faking a perfect tenor with changes that no one could write. It is all so vivid in my mind that I can still remember the song, a classical ditty of the moment called "I'm Going To Get Myself a Big Black Salome." And what those kids did to that number was like nothing I had ever heard before. They were a bigtime feature act, fit for the Ziegfeld Follies, and they didn't even know it! You might be interested to know that the other lad was none other than "Molly" Reagan, officially baptized Maurice E. Reagan. He was then a freshman in the Sigma Nu House, and is now a prominent electrical engineer with Westinghouse in Pittsburgh. Someday I want to tell you about "Molly" who is himself something higher than a Crown Prince in the Royal Family of Harmony, and national vice-president of The Society for Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Incorporated but Unlimited. A very grand guy is Molly, whose friendship I treasure, and whose musicianship I envy. But this section of the yarn is about Frank Thorne, so I shall save Maurice Reagan for another story in a later issue.

That meeting in 1914 with Frank Thorne and Molly Reagan



FRANK THORNE

created an effect on my own life that I feel even today. In fact, this very evening I shall attend a meeting of the Wheaton, Illinois Chapter of The Society to Preserve Etc., etc., Inc. where for three hours of barbershop with fifty other middle-aged gents I shall be able to forget for awhile that my little boy, Peter Piper, is with Patton's Third Army in France, that a new flood of government reports must be filed by tomorrow, and that the diamond markets are steadily creeping higher and higher. Thanks to that first meeting with Frank and Molly, and my early initiation into harmony, I learned that the waters of Nepenthe were a sticky mess compared with the limpid pools of barber shop singing.

It would be foolish to say that Frank Thorne invented the art of barbershop harmony, because there has been quartet singing since time immemorial. But it is my belief that he has done more than anyone else to lift it out of the bar room and into the drawing room, out of the back-room and onto the concert stage, out of the vacant lot and into the empty heart. In fact, it has been my privilege to watch him do it. I knew he was definitely on his way toward doing "something" even though he, himself, did not actually know what he was doing or where he was going. I simply knew he had something on the ball that no other musician ever seemed to possess.

It has been my pleasure to have known some of the famous and serious musicians of the past quarter-century. One of my happiest recollections is the afternoon I traveled with Paderewski as his guest in his private car from Amsterdam to Brussels. I have served as personal jeweler to many opera stars, while Edna Kellogg and Anni Fittzui of Metropolitan and Chicago Opera fame remain among my very dearest friends. My wife was a pupil of Gabrilowitch, and my home has been a gathering spot for serious musicians since my earliest childhood. Yet it is my belief that no one of them has made a greater contribution to American music than Frank Thorne, because he has raised harmony singing to a fine art. Through concerts, radio, movies and records he has carried it to uncounted millions of people. Not as a profession, not as a job or a business, but simply as a labor of love which we Americans call a "hobby."

Frank started his music career as a small child with five years of classical study at the piano, yet the piano could not satisfy him. He kept seeking for something else, something deeper, fuller, bigger. That led to four years of serious study on the violin as a main track. During his high school days he got off on a side-track and with various orchestras he played at different times cornet, trombone, and trap drums. Then he became infected with the sax and clarinet, scraped a while on a cello, and virtually became a one-man band.

When he got to college at Illinois he found a kindred soul in Molly Reagan at the Sigma Nu House, who, like himself, required music more than food. I mean that literally! I have known those two to sing and play right through their lunch hour at the fraternity house, because their music was more important than their food. With Molly on the guitar, and Tex Pavey on the banjo, Frank got going on the mandolin, and with his fiddle training as a background soon became a shark on that most horrible of all instruments. Before long he was equally at home with banjos and gits. In fact there are thousands of people in Chicago who will testify that Frank Thorne is the world's best guitarist. And he really was, for a time! But still he was seeking for something above and beyond a guitar, something that would give him more effect, more nuances, more harmony, more stuff than six vibrant strings and ten agile fingers could provide.

It must have been about 1930 that he laid the guitar aside and took up the accordion. During the next few years the money he spent on squeeze-boxes would have started a fair sized bank. And as an accordionist he became great, not good, mind you, but great. In those days at The Interfraternity Club of Chicago we used to bring the biggest and best big-

[Continued on next page]

## KING OF HARMONY (Continued)

name bands in the country to play for our dances. Then for sheer amusement, we would bribe their featured accordion player to let Frank Thorne play "just one number." Actually, it was a dirty trick, because after they heard Frank play their own instruments we had to form suicide squads to keep the professional accordionists from jumping out of the windows in sheer disgust at their own inadequacy.

Yes sir, the guy could really play! But anything! And yet he kept groping and reaching, and feeling his way toward something else, something bigger, better, fuller. Something more complete, more soul-filling, more satisfying. And then he found it! Good gosh, how he found it! He found that no musical instrument in the world could give him what he could get from the harmonic blending of men's voices in unison. He found that unspeakably thrilling, gorgeously terrific, salubriously satisfying thing called barbershop harmony. He found he already had in his own heart the very thing he had been seeking through all those years, the ability to make human voices produce sounds so unbelievably celestial that the arrangements could not even be written . . . except by Thorne himself!

The rest is musical history! Other writers on other pages have already told how Frank became the hottest spark-plug in the Chicago Chapter of The Society for The Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., and how he worked to spread its chapters through "every middlesex village and farm." Others have told how he formed his world-famous Elastic Four quartet in 1941, worked them like dogs, drove them like slaves, and carried them to the pinnacle of the National Championship, as the greatest quartet in the world. Newspapers and magazines and radios have blared the fame of that wonderful foursome he created, with Herman Struble on top, Roy Frisby on the lead, Jim Doyle on the baritone, and Frank himself on the bass. Musical critics have swooned from attempting to describe the glory of that male quartet in which any of the three upper voices can hit a high C or better, with ease, mind you, sonny, with ease! Even the great Saturday Evening Post has sung the praise of the Elastic Four, while a thousand good quartets—and I mean good—take off their hats, bend low in respect, and acknowledge that these four guys are the hierarchy, before whose name each knee shall bow.

Others have written all that, and will continue to. But I want to write about the guy himself, the man who has been my friend for more than thirty years, the man who stands for everything that is fine and clean and splendid in American life. A musician? Yes, and a finer and greater musician than most of the people who make their living out of music. An artist? Yes, and a sincere and painstaking artist, a perfectionist and a dreamer, with a conception of beauty that is out of this world. But most of all a he-man, and a successful, resourceful, outstanding business man, friendly, kindly, helpful, alert, intelligent, and plenty smart, which is something else again. And if you think that a great musician has to be a long-haired, temperamental, half-starved, effeminate aesthete, take a look at this fellow's record and change your mind:

Frank Hilton Thorne graduated from the University of Illinois in 1916 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture, Civil and Architectural Engineering. He became an immediate and sensational success in his profession. He built Washington Highlands in Milwaukee, one of the greatest subdivisions in America. He laid out the great George Ball (mason jars) Estate at Muncie, Indiana. Then he designed the world-famous Olympic Fields Golf Club in Chicago with three 18-hole courses, so huge in size that it was necessary to cut down over 1,000 trees to make room for the fairways. Then he entered the army in the first world war, and served as First Sergeant in the Sixth Regiment, Field Artillery.

After the war, he changed professions, and entered the service of National Aluminate Corporation where he is now vice-president. He is president of Visco Products Company and vice-president of Chicago Chemical Company. His wife, Edna, follows him around the country from one barber shop tournament to another, and I am only one of the legion who sing Oh What a Gal is Edna. They have a sandwich family,

consisting of two girls with a boy in between, Marjorie, Frank Junior and Patricia. Frank is now a proud if youthful grandfather, and the devoted slave of a four-month-old grandson. He claims the baby screams strictly on key, even without a pitch-pipe. The family home is at Riverside, Illinois, just outside of Chicago. It's a grand home for a grand family, at the head of which stands a grand guy.

The only thing I don't like about the fella is that every once in a while I call him up, and say "Look, you, how about bringing the Elastic Four out to my house at Wheaton, on account of we have a new case of soup or something?" And he says, "Why sure, Piper, and we will be glad to come, if you promise to keep your big mouth shut and not try to sing with us."

Oh well! What the hell! Maybe he's right!

Warren Piper, the author of this article is President of Warren Piper & Company, Diamond Merchants of Chicago. He is Founder of the Wheaton, Illinois, Chapter of The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. and is the author or composer of over a hundred songs, including three operettas produced by Northwestern University. He is co-author of White Star of Sigma Nu, and has been chairman of three Sigma Nu song contests.

He is a past president of The Interfraternity Club, past president of Sigma Nu Alumni Association, past Editor of The Rotary Club Magazine.

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD WILL HOLD ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit has been designated by vote of the members of the International Board as the location of their annual two-day June meeting. The dates are the 14th and the 15th and the main business of the gathering will be the election of Society officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, and the planning of expansion activities, and an ever closer co-operation with U. S. O., Red Cross, Bond Selling Committees, Armed Forces, and Government Hospitals. The War Committee on Conventions approved the meeting in the following letter:

### WAR COMMITTEE ON CONVENTIONS

Washington 25, D. C.

April 23, 1945

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Mr. Carroll P. Adams

19311 Grand River Avenue

Detroit 23, Michigan

Dear Mr. Adams:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 13 in which you outline your plans for a two-day business meeting of the International Board of Directors to be held at the Book-Cadillac Hotel on June 14th and 15th.

The meeting, as outlined, falls within the local exempt classification and of course a permit is not necessary as long as the fifty-person limitation is not exceeded. In addition to the fifty persons in attendance from beyond the city, you may have any number of persons drawn from Detroit and its immediate suburbs, if you so desire.

You may be sure the Committee appreciates your action in endeavoring to adhere to the policies which have been established in order to keep to a minimum the unnecessary use of travel and hotel facilities.

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) Frank Perrin,  
Secretary.

## HOW THE "HARMONIZERS" REHEARSE

Leo Ives' description of how the '43 National Champion Harmonizers rehearse shows that there is as much difference in rehearsal methods as in the quartets themselves throughout the Society. Some sing soft and sweet, others loud and confidently, others pay much attention to contrast. Some use arrangements that are "typed" as belonging to a particular four. Others sing most any type. So it goes. And that's why the never-ending interest in Society quartet possibilities.

Here goes Leo:

"Frank Thorne's article on the Elastics (how they rehearse) was great, and I would certainly recommend their system to any quartet—like the Elastics. They are a literate group of gentlemen, also musicians. They can actually read that Yiddish script that people call "music."

"But, for the Four Harmonizers to do it that way—we'd have to take in a fifth member who could read the music and play it. The Harmonizers feel that they're lucky that they can even read the words, almost.

"When we have selected a number to learn, I usually sing the lead, if I know it, or I learn it from one of the boys who does know the melody. The rest of the boys extemporize or fake their harmony parts for the first few phrases (probably about 8 bars of that stuff they call "music.") If there's no comment or dissatisfaction, we go a few bars farther. By that time Fred Stein will have asked Huck Sinclair what the My Gracious he's singing up in the baritone range for. And Fred will growl "Oh go find another note—I like this one." So we go back—and Huck finds that other one. Where he finds it? I don't know, but he does, every time.

"Occasionally one of the boys will ask to sing his part alone with the lead. Then, when he gets it, he'll ask the others to build around it. Or Huck will think of an unusual bari (not stolen from Fred), then we build the tenor and bass around that. I've seen Huck get a tear in his eye and a lump in his throat over the beauty of one of his newly discovered bari notes, and he keeps possession of that kind.

"Like the Elastics, we sometimes work an hour or two on three or four lines before we get just what we want. You should see us when we're fishing—round for a satisfactory chord or swipe—and hit it. We all stop and shake hands . . . then see if we can do it again.

"Occasionally I find it necessary to change the lead a bit in order to let somebody else keep possession of a pet note or progression. In some numbers like Melancholy Baby I relinquish it often.

"In our Four I believe that Huck and Fred can be credited with most of the harmony, though Charley Schwab often comes through with a suggestion that clears up a line that's been troubling us. In fact, we've had to shake his hand a number of times. And occasionally I get a brainstorm, and think I hear a chord possibility that is different, and we try it. NOBODY'S IDEAS ARE TURNED DOWN UNTIL THEY'VE BEEN TRIED. And we've had heaps of fun trying things out just to be 'different.'

We have to 'feel' our chords, and often sing them over several times before they feel satisfactory. The one thing that I think an 'ear' quartet has over an 'edu-

cated' four is that 'feel' of a chord or swipe. A note-reading four may be instrumentally perfect, but it's only when they've sung a song a number of times a capella that they will get the best out of the close ones. However, I recommend the use of a piano in the early stages if a quartet is fortunate enough to have a musician among them or associated with them. I'm practically certain that the Elastics could learn three or four new ones by their system while we are learning one by our catch-as-catch-can method.

"Some of our numbers have worked up rapidly, maybe two or three rehearsals to determine the arrangement, then just a few times through to get it in the groove. We generally feel that a number is in our repertoire when we have sung it twice the same way, before an audience.

"Occasionally we need half a dozen rehearsals to satisfy everybody on just one tough phrase.

We have found a few chords by accident, some by experimentation, and some by just plain mutilation. There aren't enough words in my vocabulary to describe the elation and satisfaction that four fellows get from whipping a number strictly by barbershopping by ear."

\* \* \*

And there aren't enough words in the Society's vocabulary to describe the "elation and satisfaction" that the Four Harmonizers have given to SPEBSQSA. Long may they harmonize!

"This Barbershopping is getting me, and I don't mean down, I do it seven days a week and then on top of it I am thinking about many things when I go to bed at night. I get ideas on arranging, on executive matters, etc., and where is it getting me—in a finer state of mind, a finer outlook, and a relaxation I never knew before. In fact, it is making me a better fellow to live with, I believe. I love it."

BILL OESTREICH,  
Pres. Milwaukee Chapter.

## 3rd Annual Quartet Jamboree (INVITATIONAL)

Charlevoix  
Michigan Chapter 19

September 1, 2, 3



## Gardenaires Take Michigan Title

Co-sponsored by the Flint Chapter and the Old Newsboys' Association, the Michigan State Contest, February 24, awakened Flint to consciousness of a new-old type of music that still has the town talking. Only this sort of entertainment could cause a local citizen to comment in April "I didn't go, but I've heard so much about the contest that I feel I was present."

Prelims, held both morning and afternoon at the Hotel were run-off as quartets arrived. Forty-one were registered. Thirty-one sang. The Valley City 4, Saginaw had the most logical excuse for non-appearance. They wired "Due to bass stork party unable to appear." Judges Reagan, Doyle, Struble, Martin, Perkins, and Campau filled in the prelim gaps by impromptu quartering entirely on request of the audience (so the judges said).

The Finals in the Auditorium played to a full house. Income went to the Old Newsboys' fund for charitable

plates, everyone found a comfortable spot, relaxed, and for a couple of hours had opportunity to hear another Grade-A show, as the champion Gardenaires led off with several numbers from the indoor balcony of the Adams Room, followed by most of those who had sung in the Contest.



### THE CHAMPS — THE GARDENAIRE'S Of Rosedale Gardens Chapter

Left to right—George Danic, tenor; Earl Rubert, lead; Lu Burke, baritone; Howard Tubbs, bass.

(This picture was taken in Red Master's Rumpus Room, with his cabinet full of autographed shaving mugs and roller towels in the background.)



### 2ND PLACE — THE AMBASSADORS Of the Oakland County and Detroit Chapters

Left to right—Monty Marsden, lead; W. Carletoo Scott, tenor; Joe Jones, baritone; Joe Wolf, bass.

Ushers in '90s costumes were practically glamorous, particularly John McNicol whose mustache (stuck on by a chewed chiclet) alternated from northeast to southwest, violently. Pictures of the winners appear on this page.

The Midnight Howl at the hotel demonstrated again how much better these affairs are when coffee and lunch greet the returning guests. After the first clatter of



### 3RD PLACE THE PROGRESSIVE INDUSTRIES FOUR Of Detroit Chapter

Left to right—Glenn Bennett, tenor; Lyle McKerrell, baritone; Carl Restivo, lead; Mike Arnone, bass.



### 4TH PLACE — THE CONTINENTALS Of Muskegon Chapter

Left to right—John Bishop, lead; Bob Freye, tenor; Rex Weaver, baritone; Chuck Peterson, bass.



### 5TH PLACE — THE TRAVELERS Of Grand Rapids Chapter

Upper, left to right—Frank Haight, lead; Cecil Fischer, bass; Lower, left to right—Bob Walker, tenor; Bob Carpenter, baritone.

*"Oh, she's OLD!  
Almost thirty!"*



**At twenty,** thirty seems ancient.

At thirty, forty is distant middle age.

At forty, well, it'll be a long time before you're fifty.

The point is that ten years *ahead* always seems like a long time. Yet, actually it passes "before you know it" . . . and you find yourself face to face with problems, opportunities, needs, that once seemed very far in the future.

**This is a good thing** to remember today, when you buy War Bonds to speed the winning of the war.

In ten years—*only* ten years—those bonds will bring you back \$4 for every \$3 you put into them today.

Think of what that money may mean to you in 1955. An education for your children . . . a home . . . maybe even retirement to the place and the life of your heart's desire.

All this your War Bonds can mean to you . . . if you buy all you can today and hold them to maturity.

**It won't be long** till 1955. Not half as long as you think.

## GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER

(MICHIGAN NO. 4)

HOME OF THE HARMONY HALLS

AND OF

THE ANNUAL GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL

# DIRECTORY

## CALIFORNIA

### SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA, CHAPTER

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday Nights  
Veterans Service League  
1447 Sixteenth Street  
Thomas Rawlings, Pres.  
Robert V. Reilly, Sec'y

"Come out and visit us some time"

## CONNECTICUT

### NEW HAVEN CHAPTER CONNECTICUT No. 3

We Meet Every Thursday at 8 P. M.  
Moose Club — Crown Street  
Visiting members from other chapters  
are welcome at any meeting. Drop  
in and sample New Haven  
harmony and hospitality

## GEORGIA

### R. H. (Dick) STURGES

Portraits - Landscapes - Designs  
Box 1228 Atlanta, Ga.

### ATLANTA CHAPTER

Meets Every Other Friday, 8:30  
ROBERT FULTON HOTEL  
Joe Wrenn, President  
Henry Brock, Secretary

## ILLINOIS

### CHICAGO CHAPTER

(ILLINOIS No. 1)  
Meets on Alternate Fridays  
Chorus on in-between Fridays  
Something doing at the Morrison  
Every Friday Night

### WES GUNTZ

"Society's Greatest Listener"

SHIP'S CAFE — CHICAGO

### ROCK ISLAND

AL GREGG'S "GREYHOUND"  
NITE 221 20th Street CLUB  
Where Good Fellows and  
Song Fellows Meet

ROCK ISLAND CHAPTER  
Meetings Each Tuesday — 8:30 P. M.  
Hotel Fort Armstrong  
Home of "The Chordoliers"  
Illinois State Champions  
W. E. Chambers, Secy.  
201 Robinson Building

OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST CHAPTER  
Meets Alternate Wednesdays  
Carleton Hotel  
R. E. Hill, Pres.  
C. Roberts, Vice Pres.  
R. G. Adams, Treas.  
R. L. Irvine, Secy.

## INDIANA

### ELKHART

On the St. Joe River  
— Drop In —

We Meet in the Bucklen Hotel  
On Nov. 14 and Alternate Tuesdays  
Thereafter  
Come visit us. — We'll both gain.

GARY, INDIANA  
AMERICAN LEGION HUT  
565 Mass. Street

1st and 3rd Mondays  
Home of the "High Tones," "Tumble  
Weeds," "Harmonizers." What. You  
never heard of them? Brother Barber  
Shopper, you have a treat in store.  
You're always welcome.

## MASSACHUSETTS

NORTHAMPTON (88 Members)  
The Society's Largest and Most  
Enthusiastic Chapter in a Small City  
Founder of Three New Chapters  
During the Last Quarter  
"Gives Out" at 8:30 P. M.  
1st and 3rd Mondays of Each Month  
German Club — Northampton

## MICHIGAN

### FLINT CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 3

Meets in Durant Hotel  
2nd Friday of Each Month  
Guy L. Stoppert, President  
Sam Chapman, Vice President  
Clyde Bailey, Secretary  
Milo Cole, Treasurer

### GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 4

Meets at Pantlind Hotel  
2nd and 4th Friday of Each Month  
G. Marvin Brower, President  
Harold Hall, Vice-President  
R. G. Carpenter, Secretary  
Home of The  
HARMONY HALLS

### JACKSON CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 7

Meets Second and Last Friday  
Each Month  
Hotel Hayes — 9:00 P. M.  
Nelson Hodges, Pres.  
Clair Deem, V. Pres.  
Leonard Field, Treas.  
Harold Dean, Secy.

### KALAMAZOO CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 13

Meets in Crystal Room, Columbia Hotel  
Second Friday Each Month  
Pres.—Theodore L. Kornmann  
Vice Pres.—Donald Vaughn  
Sec.—Louis Brakenan  
c/o AAA  
Treas.—George Konkle

### PONTIAC CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 17

Meets Last Friday—Each Month—8:30  
Metropolitan Club  
Corner Pike and Perry

### DEARBORN CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 27

Meets 2nd Friday of Every Month  
4519 Maple Ave.  
(One Block West of Schaefer Ave.)  
(2 Doors South of Michigan Ave.)  
"NEVER A DULL MOMENT"  
"ALWAYS A GOOD TIME"

### OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER (MICHIGAN No. 9)

Meets first Friday of each month  
Ferndale  
I. O. O. F. Hall  
"Come up and see us some time"

### TECUMSEH CHAPTER MICHIGAN No. 18)

Meets 2nd and Last Friday of Each  
Month in Eagles Hall at 8:30  
Biggest Little Chapter  
Biggest Little Town on Earth  
PRES.: Wesley Costigan  
VICE-PRES.: Wiley F. McCann  
SECY.: Garth Hall  
TREAS.: Duncan Oliphant

## MISSOURI

### JOPLIN CHAPTER

Meet With Us the 2nd Wednesday of  
Any Month at the Hotel Connor  
Home of the  
"Rainbow Four"

### ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays  
ROOSEVELT HOTEL  
Virgil Pilliod, Pres.  
Russell J. Fanning, Vice-Pres.  
J. G. McFatrige, Sec.  
Bob Shreves, Mus. Dir.

## NEBRASKA

### OMAHA

### AK-SAR-BEN CHAPTER

Meets 8:00 P. M. 2nd Wednesday of  
Each Month at Castle Hotel  
C. E. Wilson, Pres.  
F. J. Arndt, Secy.

## NEW JERSEY

### NEWARK CHAPTER

(New Jersey No. 2)

### QUARTETS ON PARADE

June 1, 1945 :—: 8:15 P. M.  
State Teachers College, Newark, N. J.  
Support the 7th War Loan

### PATERSON CHAPTER

N. J. CHAPTER No. 3

"Where Good Fellowship Abounds"

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays  
38 Park Ave. :—: 8:30 P. M.  
PATERSON, N. J.

## NEW YORK

### BINGHAMTON

### PARLOR CITY CHAPTER

1st Mon.-3rd Fri. - Hotel Bingham  
Welcome — "We Mean You"  
Call 2-2232 - 4-2203

## OHIO

### CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Meets at Hotel Carter  
May 25th and every  
Second Friday thereafter.  
Charlie Dickinson, Pres.  
George MacPherson, Treas.  
Maynard Graft, Sec.

209 Electric Bldg. Main 9900

Devo Martin . . . Unique Services  
Editorial, Promotional Assignments  
971 Union Commerce Bldg. CH 7236

## WISCONSIN

### RACINE CHAPTER WISCONSIN No. 1

Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday  
Wergeland Hall, 1334 State St.  
Julius A. Krenzke, President  
Edwin J. Hahn, Vice President  
Clarence Bramow, Treasurer  
Arthur C. Bowman, Secretary  
1308 Center St. Pros. 6017-W

## MILLS MUSIC HAS NEW SONG FOLIO...all SPEBSQSA

It's ready! The new Mills folio entitled **MORE BARBERSHOP HARMONY** and edited by Sigmund Spaeth is now available through music stores. It offers Society members one of the finest collections of songs ever published in barbershop style.

Every arrangement is by a Society member. Every song as sung by a Society quartet. The folio constitutes a diversified repertoire for any quartet. Its list includes numbers that will suit any mood or any kind of entertainment. For fast-moving, amusing numbers what could be better than our own Joe Stern's **DADDY GET YOUR BABY OUT OF JAIL**, or that lilting barbershop classic featured by the Mainstreeters, **CONY ISLAND BABY**. Historian Dick Sturges has contributed his **WE'VE NEVER BEEN DEFEATED IN THE U. S. A.**, a fine wartime number; and Immediate Past-President Hal Staab has given us his **VIOLETS SWEET**, popularized by the Four Flats of Cleveland, also in **THE FIELDS OF OKLAHOMA**, a song honoring our Founder's home state and sung by the Northampton Rambling Four. In the reverent vein is Deac Martin's arrangement of **SHINE ON ME**, an old hymn tune with plenty of sweet harmony.

Out of the public domain come such old-timers as **ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT** arranged by Sig Spaeth, illustrious editor of this compilation, and a barbershop interpretation of **NELLIE WAS A LADY** by Charlie Merrill of Reno. Other songs are popular Mills copyrights, including that rhythmic arrangement of **MOOD INDIGO** by Frank Thorne as sung by the Elastics of Chicago; **MOONGLOW** by Don Webster of Cleveland; **BYE-LO** by Dean Palmer of Wichita; that beautiful Irish melody **TUMBLE DOWN SHACK IN ATHLONE**, arranged by Maurice Reagan of Pittsburgh; and another barbershop favorite **MY MOTHER'S ROSARY**, arranged by Cy Perkins of Chicago's Misfits.

Among the arrangements I contributed are that fine old Avery and Hart song **DOWN AMONG THE SUGAR CANE**, sung by the Harmony Halls, and **TELL ME WHY**, a western New York favorite. Simple though its arrangement is, that number always makes a hit with an audience.

See the Mills advertisement on page 8 for complete table of contents.

**MORE BARBERSHOP HARMONY** represents a substantial contribution to the growing bibliography of barbershop songs. It is a fine example of Society cooperation with a music publisher to preserve the old songs and to encourage singing them in barbershop harmony.

Phil Embury.

### SHAME ON YOU, PROFESSORS!

Detroit Radio Station WJR carries a weekly Saturday afternoon quiz program, titled "Scump the Professors." Recently this question was asked of the four University of Michigan faculty members who were being quizzed: "What do the initials S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. stand for?" Not one of the four teachers knew!

This, coming from a state that has over forty Chapters and more than 2500 members, makes us sure that the University faculty has missed some important education.

## DICK ANDERSON APOLOGIZES PUBLICLY TO OUR EVANSVILLE CHAPTER IN HIS "PRESS" COLUMN

"THIS IS going to be something awful," I said to myself Monday night at the Bosse banquet when Jerry Beeler, the master of ceremonies, announced that his Barbershop Harmony boys would entertain to start the program.

I had heard about Beeler's outfit, the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartette Singing in America, Inc., but had not taken it seriously. Knowing Beeler I was at a loss to see how he could add anything musical to such a gathering, if there was a gathering.

So when Mr. Beeler left the speaker's rostrum and walked towards the end of the room I figured it was something of a gag. But then through the door came man after man . . . here and there I identified a few of my friends. They lined across one end of the floor in a solid group. Bruce Hitch, Frank Tuggart, Bill Baker, Curt Hitch and Lee Fleming just to name a few.

Beeler was out in front with a pitch pipe. He gave a couple of toots on it and then this group of merry fellows broke out in song . . . and brother, it was good. It was better than good. It was excellent. I wasn't the only one who thought so. The 350 guests at the banquet went for it solidly. The group sang and sang again. It was my first experience and I was amazed.

I tried to get Beeler yesterday but he wasn't in his office. Probably out singing or practicing. Maybe the group had gone to Indianapolis to sing at the servicemen's hospital . . . they tell me they do a lot of that sort of singing . . . taking their time and the trouble to entertain at camps and hospitals.

That's the kind of a bunch they are . . . have plenty of fun, do a good job, but have time to think of someone else also. I want to apologize to Mr. Beeler for my thoughts when he announced that portion of the program. But if it is any comfort to him, and to his pupils, I can say that they knocked me right out of my seat and others, too. I want to hear them again and I think each and everyone in Evansville should hear them.

They are preserving something . . . a something that is wholly American.

When I saw them trooping in I wondered if any of them could carry a tune in a bushel basket. Have no fears, friends. They can carry them . . . but good. They tell me around the office that I should take time now and then to read The Press. It seems there have been any number of stories about the outfit . . . and pictures, too. Somehow I missed them. But hereafter I'm going to hear those boys whenever the chance comes.

While I was in Deaconess Hospital I used to look forward to hearing the young nurses singing the church hymns in the hospital chapel, mornings and evenings. It sorta set you up for the day . . . and for the night. Their full throated cheerfulness permeated the hospital corridors. It tended to keep you on a steady level . . . it was American . . . purely so . . . and might we add that the nurses make no claim to being good or better than good . . . they sing because they like to sing.

So it is with Beeler's boys. It would be nice if Al Hahn could get them out to his chapel some morning . . . or evening . . . for a couple of numbers.

They will fit in a hospital chapel, a church choir loft . . . or a big town theater . . . as for a barbershop . . . well, I never heard anything like they have to offer in a barbershop rendition of music.

They're big time, mates, big time.

### BUY WAR BONDS and then BUY MORE!!

EVANSVILLE CHAPTER, SPEBSQSA

With thanks to the Evansville Chamber of Commerce who have purchased this space as a Civic and Patriotic Gesture.



## Swipes from the Chapters

(News Items culled from Chapter Secretaries' Quarterly Activities Reports—Our only source of news information.)

### PLEASE BE UNDERSTANDING

We had interesting material for at least six solid pages of "swipes" from the chapters.

It actually hurts us to leave them out, perhaps even more than it hurts you Chapter officers who will be disappointed that nothing concerning your group appears in this issue. But we are doing the best we can under the circumstances. With approximately 175 Chapters to report on, we just can't begin to give you all the interesting news we would like to. Please be understanding.

### MAKING SOCIETY PUBLICITY

When the quartet from our Bronx Chapter appeared with Quentin Reynolds on the Radio Readers Digest Program, Sunday evening, January 14th, they brought the Society a tremendous amount of valuable publicity. Literally millions of listeners learned for the first time about our Society, and heard this veteran quartet give out with some swell harmony and some clever script reading. We asked Walter Morris, the Chapter President, how it came about, and here is his reply: "We were singing in 'The Lombs' canteen for the soldiers one night and, following the show, we sang for 'Senator Ford' of 'Can You Top This?' in the 'Afterglow.' He seemed duly impressed and so, when a talent scout asked him about a barbershop quartet a few weeks later, he sent the gentleman up to our chapter. A week later we received a call to rehearse for a show that was to go on the air three days later!"

### BURLINGTON, IOWA, HELPS IN INFANTILE PARALYSIS CAMPAIGN

From the Quarterly Activities Report of Morris D. Payne, Secretary of our Burlington, Iowa Chapter, we quote the following: "Burlington IOPEA Chapter now has 56 members in good standing. The Blendoliers and The Victory Airs gave considerable help to the community in the Infantile Paralysis Campaign in January. A series of radio programs was utilized most effectively."



In Grand Rapids they start young, as is proved by Danny Haight, five months, who accompanies the "Travelers" everywhere with his dad Frank and paches songs for them.

### GARY IN PROGRAM OF SACRED MUSIC

Society quartets have on various occasions appeared at church services but to our knowledge, the first instance where a Chapter provided a complete musical service under the auspices of a church took place April 8th at the First Evangelical and Reformed Church in Gary. May this be just one of many such instances in months and years to come.

### EVANSVILLE BLAZING TRAIL

Outstanding in a long list of public appearances of the Chorus and quartets of the Evansville Chapter is a recent appearance at Camp Atterbury before wounded veterans. In fact, the Harmonizer editor has heard from several sources that the impression created by the Evansville group at Camp Atterbury was sensational. Jerry Beeler, president of the Chapter and Director of the Chorus, will you please take a bow.



Muskegon Chapter has many quartets among its 260 members but none more popular than the Old Timers. All of them are grandfathers, one a "great." L. to R.—John Kayler, bar, 70; Charles Fahler, bass, 46; Harry Brown, tenor, 58; John Hodgson, lead, 54.

### EAST CHICAGO CHARTER NIGHT

From Secretary Vic Seaviar comes this: "It was a great success! The Charter Presentation of the East Chicago Chapter No. 10 is now history. This affair, sponsored by the Gary Indiana Chapter was held on January 25, 1945 in the Ballroom of the Elks Lodge Building, Chicago and Magoun Avenues, East Chicago, Indiana. It was a night which will long be remembered in East Chicago by those who attended."

We were hoping to have two pictures to use in this issue of the Harmonizer along with this story but they hadn't arrived when we went to press. Sorry.

### FORT WAYNE GROWS TO 160

Under the skilled leadership of President Earle Moss and Secretary Lee Young, our Fort Wayne Chapter, which is less than a year old, has grown to a membership of 160 and boasts a Chapter Chorus of 32 with regular rehearsals every Tuesday. The Fort Wayne Chapter recently sponsored a new group in Wabash. Congratulations, Fort Wayne. We are proud of you.

### SOUTH BEND QUARTETS BUSY

Secretary Eugene O'Brien of our South Bend Chapter reports that the Four Steps of Harmony, the Borbadiers and other Chapter quartets are filling many engagements, among them a recent appearance by the Borbadiers at Healthwin Hospital, a local institution for tubercular patients.

### OFF TO A FLYING START

Secretary Harry H. Harper of the Fox River Volley Chapter in Illinois, which com-

prises the towns of Geneva, St. Charles and Batavia, writes that the Chapter got away to a flying start when the Chicago Chapter officiated in presenting their charter to them on October 14th at a musical festival celebrating the event. The Chicago Chorus, as well as the Elastic Four and Misfits, were highly entertaining as usual and complimented the local chapter on its choral work. In the six months since the chapter's inception, two excellent quartets have been organized and mysterious sounds coming from the side rooms in rehearsal quarters presage the birth of other quartets from the fast growing membership which now stands at 58.

The chapter was shocked recently by the death of Charles P. Rockwood who was the first secretary of the chapter and one of the founders. Born and reared in the South, he had early cultivated a love of singing especially of spirituals and folk songs. He was an intimate friend of Carl Sandberg and found great pleasure with him in the study of American folk songs.

### CHICAGO HAS NOVEL EVENTS

Among the many interesting and thrilling events on the schedule of the Chicago Chapter, none were more outstanding than the appearance of the Chorus and several quartets before the patients of the Hines Hospital and the joint meeting on March 26th with the Chicago Association of Commerce Glee Club. We wish there were space to tell you about both events. Among the prized possessions of the officers of the Chicago Chapter is the letter of appreciation dated March 19th, signed by Hazel V. Wilcox, Recreational Aide at the Hines Hospital. The members of the Chicago Chapter hope that their visit as guests of the Association of Commerce Glee Club will become an annual affair. It's the first time in the history of the Society that barbershoppers and long-haired singers have fraternized so congenially. Let's have more of it throughout the Society.



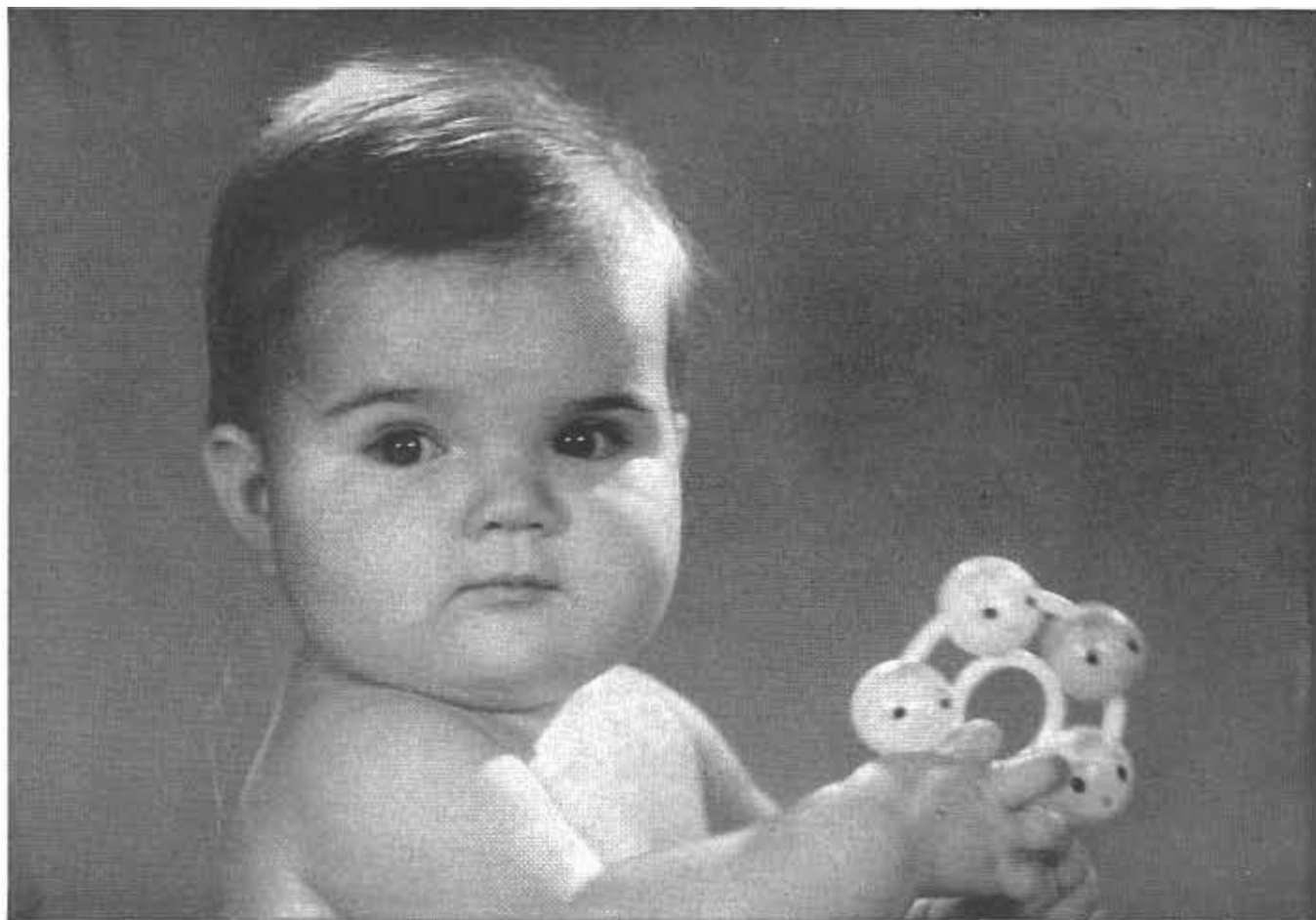
Glenn Rowell, president of the Hartford Chapter, and for many years a member of the well known radio team of "Gene and Glenn," shaves barbershopper Joe Gatte at the Barbershop Ball held recently in the Bond Hotel, Hartford. The assistant "barbers" are, at left, Sec. Stan Smith and Carl Hest. (It was marshmallow, Ed.)

### MEMORIES OF LONG AGO

The Oak Park-River Forest (Illinois) Chapter had a surprise pulled on them by one

[Continued on page 26]





# WAR BOND MAN

## — CLASS OF '63

**Someday you'll want** to see that boy, or girl, of yours off to college . . . and *right now* is not too early to start making plans.

Maybe your youngster, like so many other American boys, will work his way through school . . . but even in that case you'll want to be in a position to give him a little help if he needs it.

**By what you put aside** in War Bonds *today* you can help *make sure* he gets the same chance as other boys, *tomorrow*.

Chances are you're already on the Payroll Savings Plan. Saving as you've never been able to save before. This is fine not only for you, but for your country—*provided you keep on saving*.

But take your dollars out of the fight —and you will be hurting yourself, your boy's future, and your country.

Buy all the bonds you possibly can. Try to get even more than you ever have before. And remember this . . .

**For every three dollars** you invest today, you get *four dollars back* when your Bonds come due. You, and your boy, can use those extra dollars.

*Make sure you get those Bonds! Hold on to them till they come due!*

## CHICAGO CHAPTER

Our members are doing their share in the purchase of 7th War Loan Bonds and our quartets and chorus are at the disposal of the local War Loan Committee for public appearances during the drive.  
"Two B-29s by SPEBSQSA"

## "SWIPES"

(Continued from page 18)

of their quartets, "The Forefathers," on the occasion of their Ladies' Night party which celebrated the 7th Anniversary of the founding of the Society. Along with the eating and the dancing and the choral singing by 50 members, the party was regaled with a "first nighter" performance of a brand new song, "Memories of Long Ago," written by W. W. Sutherland, one of the co-founders of the Oak Park-River Forest Chapter. It seems that this appealing melody has been going around in Bill's head for a long, long while and finally the chapter president, Bob Hill, thought it was time something should be done about giving it to the rest of the brothers. So the quartet, "The Forefathers," polished it up, unbeknown to Bill or any of the other chapter members, and they sang it at the 7th Anniversary Party.

Bill's song will probably go to work at once for Uncle Sam, inasmuch as the Oak Park-River Forest Chapter has been invited to be a feature attraction of the War Bond Rally sponsored by the Wieboldt Department store for the 7th War Loan Drive.



The Mainstreeters, one of the top ranking quartets of the Society, recently sang in a Minstrel put on by the War Dads of Tulsa. Most of you know these men by now but we'll name them for the benefit of newcomers—L. to R.—Geo. McCaslin, tenor; Harry Hall, lead; Bill Palmer, bari; Fred Graves, bass. Among their other honors, the quartet has been made the official department quartet of the Okla. American Legion, of which all four men are active members.

### ROCK ISLAND PARADE, MAY 27TH

Secretary Wolter Chambers of our Rock Island Chapter tells us that May 27th has been chosen for the Chapter's first Quartet Parade, which it is to be hoped will become an Annual affair. Quartets appearing on the program will include the Elastic Four of Chicago, Serenaders of Kansas City, Gips Amberlin Four of Peoria, the Harmony Kings and the Songomo Electric, both of Springfield, Ill., the Corn Belt Chorus directed by John Hanson and the Chordoliers, from Rock Island, current Illinois State Champions. On May 27th all roads will lead to Rock Island.

### WILMINGTON ENTERTAINS WOUNDED

Among other activities reported by Harry Brown, Secretary of the Wilmington Chapter, was on appearance by the Delawarians Quartet on March 10th at the Newcastle Army Air Base where the boys sang for wounded soldiers recently returned from the fighting fronts.

### NEW HAVEN ACTIVE

Secretary Jack Chormon sends word that their Chorus participated in the American Legion Minstrel at West Haven recently, at the Newington, Conn. Veteran's Hospital on March 10th and the two quartets sang for

the Civic Association in Hamden, Conn. on March 21st. Other appearances were at the Winchester Play House on two different occasions.

### PHOENIX MAY MAKE "LIFE"

Secretary Billy Hallett of our Phoenix Chapter writes "The Phoenix Four song at the Famous Gold Diggers Ball a week ago last Saturday eve. at the Camel Back Inn. It is an annual affair here and it gets nation wide publicity. Life Magazine sent a photographer to cover it and we may make the magazine as they took several shots of us."

### SAGINAW VALLEY PARADE

Chapters in Saginaw, Midland, Bay City and Cora, Mich. collaborated on March 17th in a joint Parade of Quartets in Saginaw, featured by Capt. Campbell leading the group singing, the Westinghouse Quartet of Pittsburgh, the Harmony Halls, International Champions; and the Slap Happy Choppies, voted the World's Worst in 1944.

### QUARTET AFOUL OF THE LAW

The Tonsil Benders of Jackson, Mich., according to Harold Dean, Secretary, were stopped for speeding by the police of Ann Arbor when they were on their way to visit a chapter meeting in the latter city. When the quartet established its identity and its purpose for being in Ann Arbor, the police forgot the speeding charge and escorted the quartet to the meeting hall. Who said it paid to be a Barbershopper?

### THE BARONS TRAVEL

Wayne, Mich. Chapter's leading quartet, The Barons, have developed into the state's traveling quartet. In the past three months they have appeared at no less than eleven chapter meetings in neighboring cities.

### MUSKEGON RIDES AGAIN

Our flourishing Chapter in Muskegon, Mich. continues to hold its place as the third largest in the country, with a membership of 260. The average attendance at meetings is 175. Ladies Night drew an attendance of 1200 and was featured by the initial appearance of the Chapter's new chorus and five of the Chapter's organized quartets.

### GREYSOLON NEWS

Our relatively new Duluth Chapter regularly issues on eight-page mimeographed bulletin called Greysolon News which it sends to all men in the service who formerly sang with the group which constitutes the active membership of this Chapter.

## FLINT AIDS OLD NEWS BOYS



Proceeds of the Michigan State Contest, held at Flint, were donated to the Old News Boys. Here, Treas. Milo H. Cole, Flint Chapter, presents a very sizable and very much appreciated check to Gus Himmelhoch, treasurer of the Flint Old News Boys.

### CLAYTON HITS HEADLINES

The April 20th issue of the St. Louis County Leader carried a front page story which started out this way: "The Third Annual Ladies Night of the Clayton Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Singing in America, Inc., held at Rammelkamp's night before last, was a singing success and a revelation of the possibilities of an organization composed of men with a genuine appreciation of the enjoyment of life and who like to sing."

### K. CITY ENTERTAINS FOUNDER

One of our busiest Chapters is Kansas City. Outstanding in its schedule for the last three months was the Annual Ladies Night party in the assembly room at the City Hall on March 5th, with Founder O. C. Cosh of Tulsa as the guest of honor. The Serenaders keep busy with scores of engagements. The Shamrock Four, the Gomboliers and the Meladics complete the list of active organized quartets in the Chapter.

### AK-SAR-BEN CHAPTER

Secretary Frank Arndt of our Omaha (Ak-Sar-Ben) Chapter, keeps us posted on the many activities of the Chapter's quartets and the chorus, under the direction of Hugh Wolloce. The Chapter's November 11th Ladies Party, featuring the Kansas City Serenaders, was overlooked by us in compiling the February issue of the Harmonizer. The reports are that it was an outstanding event and that it made a deep impression on the Omaha citizens who were privileged to attend.

(Continued on next page)



The fact that Curt Harsh, past prexy of both Cleveland and Cincinnati Chapters, is a coal man probably accounts for the preponderance of coal barons in our Cincinnati Chapter, some of whose members are pictured above. Jack Moore, Secretary, and man upper left, gets around and has been busily pelting CPA with leads for new Chapters.

## "SWIPES"

(Continued)

### JERSEY CITY ENTERTAINS SERVICE MEN

Both the One-Two-Three Four and the Garden State Quartet keep busy entertaining men in service. Appearances have been made at Camp Devens, Camp Upton, Fort Monmouth, Staten Island Base Hospital, Camp Dix, England General Hospital, and several others. The Garden State quartet also helped Lindhurst Elks raise \$2,000.00 to be added to the Wounded Soldiers Fund.

### NEWARK SECRETARY REPORTS

Ray Wilsey writes that the Newark Chapter quartets continue to sing for bond rallies, stage door canteens and various comps, and the following hospitals: Holston General, St. Albans, Fort Dix General, Comp Kilmer General and the Air Service Command at Newark.

### PASSAIC COUNTY CHANGES NAME

The busy Passaic County Chapter recently stopped long enough to vote to change its name to Paterson, New Jersey, from which city it draws most of its members. The Chapter leads the State, with 91 members.

### MORE ENCORES THAN SCHEDULED SONGS

Sam Seelye, Rochester Chapter Secretary, recently mentioned to us the appearance of the Gay Nineties Four of that Chapter before an audience which demanded eight encores, after the quartet had sung its group of four songs. That's what we call "clicking."

### SANGAMO ELECTRIC FOUR



Sangamo Electric Four of our Springfield, Illinois Chapter. Left to right—Russell Masterson, tenor; Roy Fox, lead; O. E. Leamon, baritone; Newell Davis, bass.

This outfit organized a year ago has been on the go ever since, singing for bond drive shows, at U. S. O. centers, and at Red Cross rallies. They are already booked for a series of parties for the boys at Camp Ellis this summer, the parties to be held at Lake Springfield.

These parties are sponsored by the Sangamo Electric Company and by Abe Roberts, of Roberts Brothers, clothiers.

### SCHENECTADY GROWING

From our relatively new Schenectady Chapter comes this message: "New members are still the order of the day. 68 enthusiastic barbershoppers constitute the Schenectady

Chapter as of this date, with many more on the way."

### CLEVELAND SCORES IN EXTENSION

With more organized quartets than any other Chapter its size in the Society, Cleveland has scored in another way, namely; sponsoring new Chapters. It all started with a mail campaign directed to outstanding citizens of several Ohio cities that didn't have Chapters. Watch Ohio grow! And remember, Cleveland started it!

### ALLIANCE WILL REMEMBER MARCH 2ND

Ed Ahrens begins his report of their successful Parade of Quartets this way: "On a very rainy and disagreeable night, March 2nd, a throng of 1500 skeptical folks from Alliance, Akron, Massillon, New Philadelphia and Ravenna attended our first Parade in the High School auditorium. The audience first registered surprise, then amazement, enthusiasm, unbounded appreciation and emotion."

### OKLA. CITY HAS NOVEL PROJECT

Hank Wright of Oklahoma City tells us that his Chapter is sponsoring a Junior "Y" Choir of boys aged nine to nineteen, in cooperation with the Boys Department of the Y. M. C. A. Sounds to us like a mighty worthy activity.

### HOW A CHAPTER IS BORN

Bill McColib, Pryor, Okla. Secretary, tells us in this way of the beginnings of his Chapter: "Five fellows got together one Wednesday."

(Continued on page 22)



When a product maintains the character that people respect, they are quick to demand it. Generations ago, the makers of Budweiser set a standard—distinctive in taste, pure, good and distinguished for its uniform quality. That's why people everywhere have agreed that Budweiser is "something more than beer". No wonder it is the most popular beer in history.



# Budweiser

TRADE MARK REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A N H E U S E R - B U S C H . . . S A I N T L O U I S  
MAY, 1945

## "SWIPES"

(Continued)

day night in December, 1944, to do a little harmonizing; the next Wednesday there were nine; eleven of us attended a Chapter meeting in Tulsa on January 15th. The Tulsans, in turn, came to Pryor, January 22nd, bringing the Mainstreeters, the Cosmo-cats and Three Dots and a Dash. That did it! On March 5th L. C. Boston, Immediate Past President of Tulsa, presented a Chapter to our President, Dr. Herb Taylor. We had 47 Charter Members!

### TULSA HONORS FOUNDER

On April 9th the Society's No. 1 Chapter in Tulsa gathered its more than 100 members together to pay tribute to a native son, O. C. Cosh, who seven years ago started this organized harmonizing. It was a big affair and everyone went home happy and proud that Tulsa and O. C. Cosh are responsible for the existence and phenomenal growth of SPEBSQSA.



The London, Ontario Chapter got off to a fine start recently. 103 members had been signed before the Charter was presented. The picture shows, L. to R.—Neil D. McEwen, Treas.; E. H. Bosley, Vice-President; H. J. Hamilton, President; W. Carleton Scott, Int'l MC.; W. L. Davis, Secretary; Carroll P. Adams, Int'l Sec.

### WILL FEATURE WISCONSIN

So much is happening in the State of Wisconsin that we just can't do its Chapters and State Association justice in this issue, for lack of space. We promise you a complete and interesting story in the August issue.

### 1200 ATTEND GREENVILLE PARADE

C. J. Nye, Secretary of the Greenville, Mich. Chapter, reports a sell out of 1200 tickets at the Chapter's first Parade of Quartets on January 27th. The profit was donated to a local project for the purchase of an iron lung for the Greenville community.

### CHARLEVOIX LABOR DAY FROLIC

So successful have been the two Labor Day weekend frolics, sponsored by the Charlevoix, Mich. Chapter in previous years, another one lasting three days is scheduled for this year. Quartets and visiting chapter members will over-run the town and nearby cabins from Friday till Monday.

### IONIA HELPS HOSPITAL

Ionia, Mich. Chapter turned over all proceeds of its March 3rd Parade to Ionia County Memorial Hospital, according to C. Ray Carpenter, Chapter Secretary.

### KALAMAZOO HELPS LEGION

A Night of Harmony, sponsored by the Kalamazoo, Mich. Chapter, made it possible

## DETROIT'S FOUR SHORTIES



L. to R.—Al Johnson, tenor; Larry Christian, lead; Anthony Zelano, bari; Ed Corbin, bass. These four have done such good work entertaining service men that they have received four Merit Awards from the Area Officers of the USO.

for a gift of \$1000.00 to be given to Joseph Westledge Post, American Legion, to help finance a weekly newspaper that is sent by the Legion to all Kalamazoo County men and women in service overseas. According to President Ted Kornmann, the Chapter gave an additional \$100.00 to the Disabled Veterans.

### GETS NEW MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Harold Koch, Musical Director in the public schools of Greenfield Village, Dearborn, has recently taken over the direction of the chorus singing in the Dearborn Chapter. He also is conducting the Detroit Area Barbershop Chorus, with men drawn from the 10 Chapters in Wayne and Oakland Counties and Ontario.

### DETROIT CHAPTER ENTERTAINS WIVES

On January 26th the members of the Detroit Chapter staged a Ladies Night at Turners Hall, under the guidance of Carl M. Weideman, President. It was voted the most successful affair of the Chapter's six years existence. A similar affair was planned for May.

### NORTHAMPTON STAGES FIRST PARADE

As we go to press, the Northampton, Mass. Chapter is staging the first Parade of Barber Shop Quartets in the New England States, according to Harvey F. Toyler, Secretary, with quartets from various other Chapters, highlighted by the Garden State quartet of Jersey City. A detailed story will be carried in the next issue of the Harmonizer. Congratulations to Northampton for again pioneering.

### HOLYOKE OFFICERS

Our Holyoke, Mass. Chapter is operating successfully under John B. Sbrago, a science teacher in the High School, as President; Fred Connors, Vice President; Bill McDonald, Secretary and Homer Normean, Treasurer. The Musical Director is Jack Saglimben, former lead of the Food City Four of Battle Creek, Mich.

### HUTCHINSON, KANSAS CHARTERED

Boosting three quartets, a small chorus of 12 voices and a larger chorus of 40 voices, as well as a membership of over 100, the Hutchinson, Kansas Chapter, according to Paul Z. Goodman, Secretary, is "on its way." In the two and a half months since being chartered, the Chapter has filled 15 requests for musical programs from civic organizations and service clubs.

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### SOCIETY NAME LONGEST OF 500,000 LISTINGS

Detroit phone subscribers recently received their copies of the new Telephone Directory. It lists over a half million subscribers. The Detroit News had this to say about it: "... As usual, the Smiths are most numerous, Johnsons, Browns and Jones follow in that order. A three-line listing of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. remains the longest."

### ST. LOUIS POLICE ENTERTAIN MUSIC LEAGUE

Clarence Marlowe, Secretary of our Clayton, Mo. Chapter writes: "One day last week the St. Louis Police Quartet sang for the Women's Civic Music League, and all reports from the women ore to the effect that it was a program they will not soon forget. The objective they used most commonly in reporting on the affair was 'marvelous!'"

### a la MILTON CROSS

From a recent program in Reno we snatched the following paragraph which was used to introduce, in Milton Cross style, the quartet's rendition of the flat foot four's arrangement of "Shino."

"Commencing *virgoso* largamente, through a *legato* portamento, the tempo is advanced to a sprightly *presto*, *molto vivace*, dealing with the low cost of shoe polish and terminating in a series of *sforza* reiterations on the subject of price, frequently likened (as is the opening of Beethoven's Fifth) to the landlord knocking at the door. Following this interlude we hear the dulcet tones of our baritone, "Butch," the Killer, Colville, and our lead, Maestro Osborne, alternately exhorting the Gods of Chance. From which point the group joins in singing the doubtful promises of that farm of going vulgarly known as 'rolling the bones'."

### "GRANDFATHERS" OF SCHENECTADY



Four tenor singers, two of them actually grandfathers, comprise this quartet—L. to R.—Robert Rogers, tenor; Steve Pinnigan, lead; Fred Callahan, bari; Bill Simpson, bass.

# THAT OLD QUARTET

QUARTET ARRANGEMENT BY  
BILLY HANNON

WORDS AND MUSIC BY  
BILLY HANNON

*slow, with feeling.*

Oh, come my love and lend thine ear — and hear some real close har - mo - ny. As I sit a - lone in

*rit.* *a. tempo*

qui - et med - i - ta - tion — a boy - hood pic - ture — comes back to me, back to me. I can

- ta - a - tion,

*a mel - o - dy;*

hear the old gang sing - ing on the cor - ner — just har - mo - niz - ing — a mel - o - dy a mel - o - dy; I re -

*rit.*

mem - ber how we got our heads to - geth - er — how our voi - ces used to blend, so sweet and low, sweet and

*a. tempo* *of long a - go.*

low, how I wish that I could live those days all o - ver — and sing the old songs — of long a - go of long a - go,

o - o - ver.

*slowly* **CHORUS**

one sang the lead, one bar - i - tone

One sang the lead, one bar - i - tone, one ten - or sweet, one ten - or

one sang the lead, one bar - i - tone,

big bass tone each night we met, I can't for - get,

sweet, one big bass tone, each night we met, I can't for - get, how we

big bass tone each night we met, I can't for - get,

1 sang the old time songs, that old quar - tet, that old quar - tet, one sang the - tet, that old quar - tet

2

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# RESEARCH PROVES CLAIM

BARBERSHOPPING STARTED IN BARBER SHOPS

By W. Welsh Pierce

Gather in close, my hearties. You are about to witness the magical feat of the ages; to wit: an "interview" staged by such remote control that by comparison a protoplasmic pigmy viewed through the large end of a king-sized telescope would look like a "close-up."

The "Cast" is not impressive, except for number one.

## THE CAST

Albert Hanschke — An antediluvial tonsorial artist from Beertown.

C. P. Adams — Machiavelli reincarnate. So round, so meat, so fully cracked.

Wm. Oestreich — Whom the song says not to "Mess around with"—Mr. N. B. Tween.

The Author — Miscast. (English translation: "Thrown for a loss.")

It seems that in the hustle and bustle of expanding, enlarging and otherwise preserving that which we are supposed to preserve (SPEBSQSA) (fourteen words, please, not just one) it never seemed to occur to anyone that we have been taking a lot for granted. That part about how folks used to gather in the barbershops for a hot chord as well as a towel, and how that's where the whole idea began—way back before the Barber Pole Cats ever took a second prize. Which would have been a nice unruffled way to keep things if it hadn't dawned on someone (not me, I can vouch for that; I'm never out 'til dawn) it dawned on someone to ask the simple question if *anybody* ever saw all this in person. That is, anybody such as now goes sachetting around the countryside saying THAT'S what happened. Well, you can believe it or don't (and the Extension Committee can sue somebody about this) not a Director or an International Officer could swear for sure that all this pretty little folk-lore falderal was the truth.

Now, I ask you. Wasn't that a pretty state of affairs? And if you try to tell me that "State Fairs" aren't pretty I'll walk out on you. You'll probably walk out on me 'fore this is over so I might as well beat you to it.

But we digress. Here the Society was; a beautiful story about "tradition," "early days" "Americana" and all that stuff—with no proof of any kind that O. C. didn't make it all up just so Blue Jacket could get a little publicity.

And then, all of a sudden, somebody up in Sudstown-On-The-Lake (which is Milwaukee to you rye addicts) discovered the missing link—and I don't mean what you mean, you Ape! There, in all its pristine glory was an actual Gay 90's barber shop, just as it existed 52 years ago; same hair-stuffed barber chair; floating foot-rest; wooden mug rack on the wall; shaving mugs all beautifully scrolled with the names of prominent patrons; and—the most unbelievable part of it all—the selfsame barber who opened the shop so hopefully a half-century ago, in spite of the warnings from well meaning friends that it



wouldn't last. Here, if ever, one could bridge the span between today and the days we emulate in song; here the proof that all we do and say about the origins of our avocation (except Carroll) are true, so help me, they're TRUE!

Where Carroll heard about this so welcomed find is his secret (like his waist measurement) but hear about it he did and forthwith delegated our good friend Bill Oestreich, President of the Milwaukee Chapter, Wisconsin No. 5 (Adv.) to let his beard grow as an excuse and then visit the home of our Hero, Albert Hanschke. For sticklers of detail the shop is located at 2480 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, and you don't need to say you can't find it because it was there when your Grandmother used to pass by at age 12 on her way to Aunt Emmie's for her zither lesson. So Bill eases himself into the shop one sunny afternoon not long ago, parked his coon-skin cap on the left antler of the nearest moose head, let the gob-boon know he was there with a well placed, left-of-center shot, and then introduced himself to Albert.

"My name is Bill Oestreich and I wanted to meet you for a very special reason. We saw a piece in the paper about you, and . . ."

"Dad blame it" interrupts A. H., "Everybody in Milwaukee saw that 'hocus pocus' in the paper and now every Tom, Dick and Harry thinks he has to trot in here and tell me about it. Why can't you people leave me alone?"

But Bill was equal to the occasion and with the proper amount of sympathy and the proper amount of persistence, he soon has Mr. H. calmed down enough to tell him about us; that is about you and me and SPEBSQSA.

"Well now, young feller, you look like a pretty nice

(Continued on Page 27)

## RESEARCH PROVES CLAIM

(Continued from Page 26)

chap and since you don't insist on me shaving you I guess we can talk some.

"You know," Albert continues, "Your coming in like this and talking about quartet singing takes me back 50 years to when I first opened up this shop. I had another one before this over at 6th and Juneau, only they called it 'Chestnut' in those days, but after about ten years I figured I wanted something modern so I had them build this place here for me. It was a beauty and I said then that I never wanted to have anything any better and up to now no one has ever convinced me any different, so there has been mighty few changes I can tell you. Say, that ought to be some kind of a record, don't you think? A shop 52 years old that has never had but one owner?"

"Sure, the boys used to come in here and sing. Mighty pretty, too, we thought, but there wasn't any such organization like you been telling me about and I guess the boys could have used a little more practice. One bunch, though was very nearly perfect, I thought.

"Why don't you bring one of your quartets around sometime and let me hear them? I'll buy them a couple of drinks and even show them my bird collection. Did I tell you it took me 17 years to get that bunch of feathered warblers together? Yep, 17 years, but then I wasn't in any hurry and I could have done it quicker only I like to fish, too, so I don't begrudge the time. I'm going to give the whole dad-blamed collection to a friend of mine when I'm gone, but I've only been trimmin' people for 62 years and I expect to be at it for a long time to

come. 80 isn't old if you keep your bones and muscles limber.

"Let me know if you find another barber shop as old as mine—I mean one that has been in the same spot with the same equipment and the same barber.

"So long, young feller. Come and see me again, and let me know when you have your next show. I want to be there."

And so, my Children, that's all that Bill tells me the man said. That's what the man said.

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# INDIANA'S FIRST STATE CONTEST

By Ralph Rackham

The first state contest of Hoosier Barbershoppers was the brainstorm of barbershop fanatics a year ago. Traveling around the state to see new chapters organize, hearing so much talent and noting the enthusiasm manifested, gave Gil Carpenter, Marion Fast and yours truly an idea that Indiana had enough quartets to put it over. Well, January 27 came around and barbershoppers took over.

By 7 P. M. (starting time) 1166 people, (over 800 from Elkhart) were waiting to hear "Uncle" John Hanson, announce the first quartet. From the beginning to the last number, "The Lord's Prayer" by the Doctors of

had three; six quartets singing in the lobby at once, and many more.

It all goes to prove one thing: Barbershop quartet singing is in Indiana to stay and if you don't believe it, come around next year.



**DOCTORS OF HARMONY, Elkhart  
FIRST PLACE**

L. to R.—Jumbo Smith, tenor; Max Cripe, lead; Butch Hummel, bari; Lee Kidder, bass.

Harmony, the audience was listening as intently as the judges.

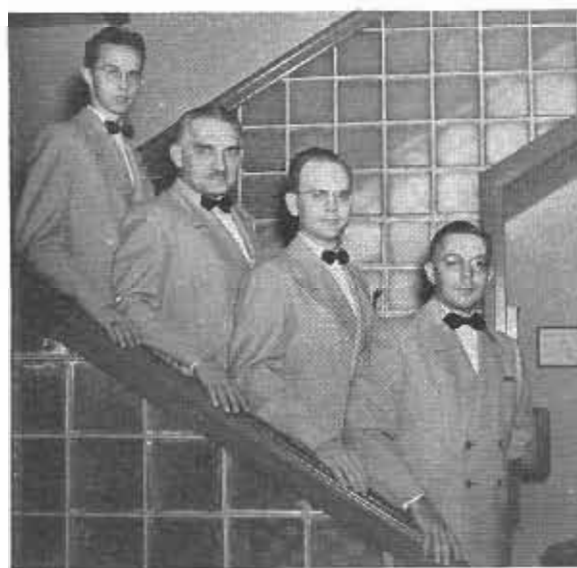
The judges were Frank Thorne, Cy Perkins, Jim Doyle, Jim Knipe and Carleton Scott. Thirteen quartets participated from Gary, South Bend, Elkhart, Anderson, Evansville and Fort Wayne. Finalists were The Four Steps of Harmony of South Bend, The High-Toners and Tumbleweeds of Gary, the Amphion Four of Anderson, the Sunbeam Songfellows of Evansville and the Doctors of Harmony of Elkhart. Of these the Doctors of Harmony were first, High-Toners, second, and the Sunbeam Songfellows, third.

Sidelights were: Scotty trying to teach Jerry Beeler a bari on "When You Were Sweet Sixteen" in my room at, well, darned near daylight; the generosity of the Gippis Amberfin Four with their harmony; our International Secretary singing with several gangs on the seventh floor; the three Carpenters and Scotty in 710; Jerry Beeler trying to get one quartet organized only to find that he



**HIGH-TONERS, Gary  
SECOND PLACE**

L. to R.—Charlie Brasich, tenor; Dewey Kistler, lead; Milt Marquardt, bari; Gil Carpenter, bass.



**EVANSVILLE SUNBEAM SONGFELLOWS  
THIRD PLACE**

L. to R.—Vernon Ashby, lead; Bill Henn, tenor; Jim Leslie, bari; Lee Fleming, bass.



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## PEORIA, ILLINOIS CHAPTER

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

## Send Us Your Quartet's Name for Listing

We are continuing our compilation of the names of organized quartets within the membership of our Society. It will serve two purposes—first, it will be an informal "copyright" record of quartet names to avoid duplication—and second, it will be used as the basis for a contest, now being planned, to find in the Society the 3 cleverest, most appropriate, and unusual quartet names.

Here are the quartets which have registered up to date:

**Appleton, Wis.:**  
The Keynotes  
The Hopeless Four  
The Gruesome Double  
Twosome

**Gary, Indiana:**  
The Harmonairs  
The Tumbleweeds  
The High Tones

**Rock Island, Ill.:**  
The Chordoliers  
The Chord Men

**Canton, Ill.:**  
The Plow City Four  
The Four Harmonians  
The Blenders

**Muskegon, Mich.:**  
Sawdust 4  
Unheard of 4  
Continental  
Musichords  
Harmony Weavers  
Old Timers  
4 Reminders  
Gas House 4  
Tennessee Hillbillies  
Port City 4  
The Marathoners  
The Flexible Four

**Kalamazoo, Mich.:**  
The Vets Four  
The Gay Nineties  
The Curbstone Four  
The Dutch Treaters  
The Adaliners

**Newark, New Jersey:**  
The Steelers  
Essex Big Four  
The Four Chords  
Tri-City Slickers  
The Four Sharps  
Jersey Ramblers

**Oak Park, Ill.:**  
The Uncertain Four  
The Villagers  
The Accidentals  
The Four Fathers  
The Oak River Four  
The Home Towners  
The Four Porters

**Jersey City, N. J.:**  
Bald Headed Four  
1-2-3-Four Quartet  
Catnip Four  
Garden State Quartet

**Northampton, Mass.:**  
Rambling Four  
Peerless Quartet  
Skiptown Four  
Hamptonians  
Williamsburg Warblers  
The Tri-City Four

**Grand Rapids, Mich.:**  
Harmony Halls  
Travelers

Nite Hawks  
Nightingale Four  
Four Friends  
Shrine Quartette  
Round House Four  
San Francisco Bayou's  
Wooden Shoe Four  
Four F's

**Springfield, Mass.:**  
4 Tones  
4 M. P.'s  
4 Parkmen

**Wilmington, Del.:**  
The Wildela Four  
The Chordmen  
The Delawareans

**Jackson, Mich.:**  
Acoustical Persecutin' Four  
Nightie Four  
Tonsil Benders  
Harrigans

**Charlevoix, Mich.:**  
Minor Chords  
Corn Cutters  
Saturday Nighters

**Ionia, Michigan:**  
Aircrafters  
Valley City Four

**Cincinnati, Ohio:**  
Four-get-me-nots  
Kennedy Heights Four  
Queen City Four  
Coal Exchange Four

**O'Fallon, Ill.:**  
Dischord Dodgers

**Racine, Wis.:**  
Belle City Four  
Gay 90's Four  
The What-Four  
The Four Tip-Toppers

**Burlington, Iowa:**  
The Blendoliers  
Victory Airs

**Jacksonville, Ill.:**  
Morgan County 4  
Par 4

**Mexico, Mo.:**  
Mexico Melodians

**Niles, Mich.:**  
The Four Corkers

**Phoenix, Arizona:**  
The Phoenix Four  
The Desert City Four  
The Borsum 4

**Baltimore, Maryland:**

The Harmonizers  
**Ft. Warren, Wyo.:**  
The Ft. Warren 4

**Alliance, Ohio:**  
Note-Wits  
Sunsetters  
Lions  
Opportuners  
Modern-Aires

**Reno, Nevada:**  
The Hard-Rock Harmony 4

**Tulsa, Okla.:**  
Chord Busters  
The Mainstreeters  
Three Dots and A Dash

**Wayne, Mich.:**  
The Barons  
Suburban Aires

**Windsor, Ontario:**  
The Internationals

**Marcellus, Mich.:**  
The Arnotters  
The Hoarse & Buggy Boys  
The Agonizers

**Whitehall, Mich.:**  
Minnow Dippers  
Smoothies  
Franklinairs

**Springfield, Ill.:**  
Harmony Kings  
Sangamo Electric 4

**Elkhart, Ind.:**  
Doctors of Harmony  
Melodians  
Foster Four  
Warsaw Elks

**Terryville, Conn.:**  
The Four Hoarse Men

**Paterson, N. J.:**  
The Withered Four  
Original Gay Nineties  
Riverside Quartet  
The Suburban Four  
The Saturday Nighters

**Midland, Michigan:**  
Awaitin' Four  
Sing Sing Singers

**Oklahoma City, Okla.:**  
The Four Roses  
The Boreome Foursome  
The Outlaws  
The Oklahomans  
The Southern Serenaders

**Hutchinson, Kansas:**  
Salt City Four  
Blue-Noters

**Peoria, Ill.:**  
Gipps Amberlin Four  
Still City Four  
Six Foot Four  
Bartonville Four

**Geneva, Ill.:**  
(Fox River Valley)  
Continental  
Esquires

**Wauwatosa, Wis.:**  
Hi-Lo Four

**Milwaukee, Wis.:**  
Pipe Organ Four

**Pontiac, Mich.:**  
Four Flushers  
Variety Four  
3 Corns and a Bunion  
Midwest Four

**Detroit, Mich.:**  
Gay Blades  
Four Shorties  
Balladaires  
Motor City Four  
Ambassadors  
Progressive Industries Four  
Elbow Benders

### FROM THE A. G. C. OF A.

"Dear Carroll: The Harmonizers from the Baltimore Chapter of SPEBSQSA introduced your organization to an appreciative audience in Baltimore on February 25th. The occasion was one of a series of free public concerts sponsored for many years by the Maryland Casualty Company in its fine auditorium. This particular concert featured 'Music in Industry' and selections were given by representatives of more than a dozen of Baltimore's principal industries.

The quartet itself had representatives from four different companies, and they had the opportunity to hear the tenor soloist of the Baltimore and Ohio Glee Club, for many years fairly said to be one of the outstanding industrial clubs of the country.

The event is related because the B. & O. Glee Club is a charter member of the Associated Glee Clubs of America. This consists of upwards of one hundred clubs, principally in the sections east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio-Potomac Rivers line, which have been banded together for twenty years to promote male chorus singing in America. And now, one of their principal objectives is to interest the employees of more and more industries in the fun and the value of male chorus singing.

The S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. and the A. G. C. of A. can work together admirably to provide an appetizing and satisfying musical dinner for more singers in America.

The A. G. C. of A. envies the great success of the S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. and promises that it is going to do everything it can to match the astounding success of the younger organization.

Cordially,

Robert M. Van Sant, Secretary  
Baltimore and Ohio Glee Club."



*Good Fellows  
Get Together*

IN

**JACKSON**

(MICHIGAN CHAPTER 7)

TWICE MONTHLY

AND . . .



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THE HARRIGANS



THE NINETY FOUR



THE TONSIL BENDERS

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## WHAT THE PRESS HAS TO SAY ABOUT SPEBSQSA

Sunny Matthews of the Toledo Blade: "Approximately a hundred gentlemen nightingales, with much harumphing and numerous false starts, but with determination that ranged from the grim to the hilarious, mushroomed into barbershop quartets last night at the Commodore Perry.

Formal organization procedure, for which the session had been called, waited an hour and a half while happy harmonizers sought musical denominators. The organization of the Toledo Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. was incidental. . . .

Experts, in creating a new barbershop four, sought to find a lead, or second tenor, who carries the melody; a first tenor, who sings above the lead; a baritone, who may go above the lead at times; and the bass, the guy on the end with a rumble that fills all the vacant spots in the harmony.

The bass, as a rule, is as appreciated as the handle on the shaving brush—it isn't noticed until it's gone, and then everything's ruined. . . .

• • •

Charles E. Broughton in the Sheboygan, Wis. Press: "To join the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. is something unique, and to have as your president O. H. King Cole is an inspiration.

Recently this Society was formed and the charter has arrived, a document that has all the earmarks of a happy future in Sheboygan, where we have had singing societies for a hundred years, even before the white man invaded this bailiwick. . . .

Now that Sheboygan has a charter and a good sized membership, you will hear harmony day and night. Day-times the worker will hum those familiar and nearly lost melodies, and in the early evenings quartets will gather in the parks, and eventually a great chorus made up of individual quartets will resound through the rafters of Sheboygan's Auditorium. . . .

President Cole has planted the seed. When he calls his Indians, typical of Sheboygan, together he will set in motion an organization that can go to any height. At the first meeting this was amply demonstrated. Only the mayor and the police can stop its onward march, and eventually they will join."

• • •

Landon Laird in the Kansas City Times: "Kansas City Barbershop Quartet society men count last Sunday night as one of the high lights in the Chapter's six-year history. The singers say they never have had a better time, and they are certain their audience spent a pleasant evening, too. The occasion was an entertainment for soldiers at the Winter General Hospital, in Topeka. . . .

Two quartets went to Topeka early and spent the afternoon singing for wounded men in various hospital wards. Each quartet made twenty-two appearances, and by 5 o'clock one baritone was so throat-weary he barely could whisper. The quartets were the Serenaders, composed of Bert Phelps, Don Stone, Henry (Red) Davenport and Ben Franklin, and the Gamboliers—E. E.

## Barbershop Baffler (No. 4)

*Submitted by Charlie Merrill, President, Reno Chapter*

Even men have figured in song, though not always in a complimentary manner. The following lines from well-known songs have reference to men. Can you name or characterize the man as he is named or characterized in the song?

1. "My head is bending low."
2. "He'd play with a miss like a cat with a mouse. His eyes would undress every girl in the house."
3. "He had no wool on the top of his head in the place where the wool ought to grow."
4. "He was her man but he done her wrong."
5. "A real, live nephew of my Uncle Sam's; born on the fourth of July."
6. "He just plays chords that make you feel grand."
7. "Dressed in his best suit of clothes."
8. "He don't say nothing but must know something."
9. "The bravest by far in the ranks of the shah."
10. "He wears a Tuxedo and gee how it fits. He looks like the headwaiter down at the Ritz."
11. "'(His) 'view-hallo' would waken the dead, or the fox from his lair in the morning."
12. "He's a rootin', tootin', scootin', shootin' son-of-a-gun from Arizona."
13. "But his brain was so loaded it nearly exploded."
14. "You might have gone with the boys every night. You gave them up just to bring me up right."
15. "You can hear the girls declare, 'He must be a millionaire'!"
16. "When he takes me in his arms the world is bright all right."
17. "He sits around all day; feet in front of the fire, passing the time away."
18. "He drinks the best of Rhenish wine."
19. "His hair is red, his eyes are blue, and he is Irish through and through."
20. "My store's on Salem Street. That's where to buy your coats and vests and everything else that's neat."
21. "He ruled his land with an iron hand though his mind was weak and low." (WHUP! How'd that ever get in!)

*(Answers on Page 42)*

## THE PRESS SAYS (Continued)

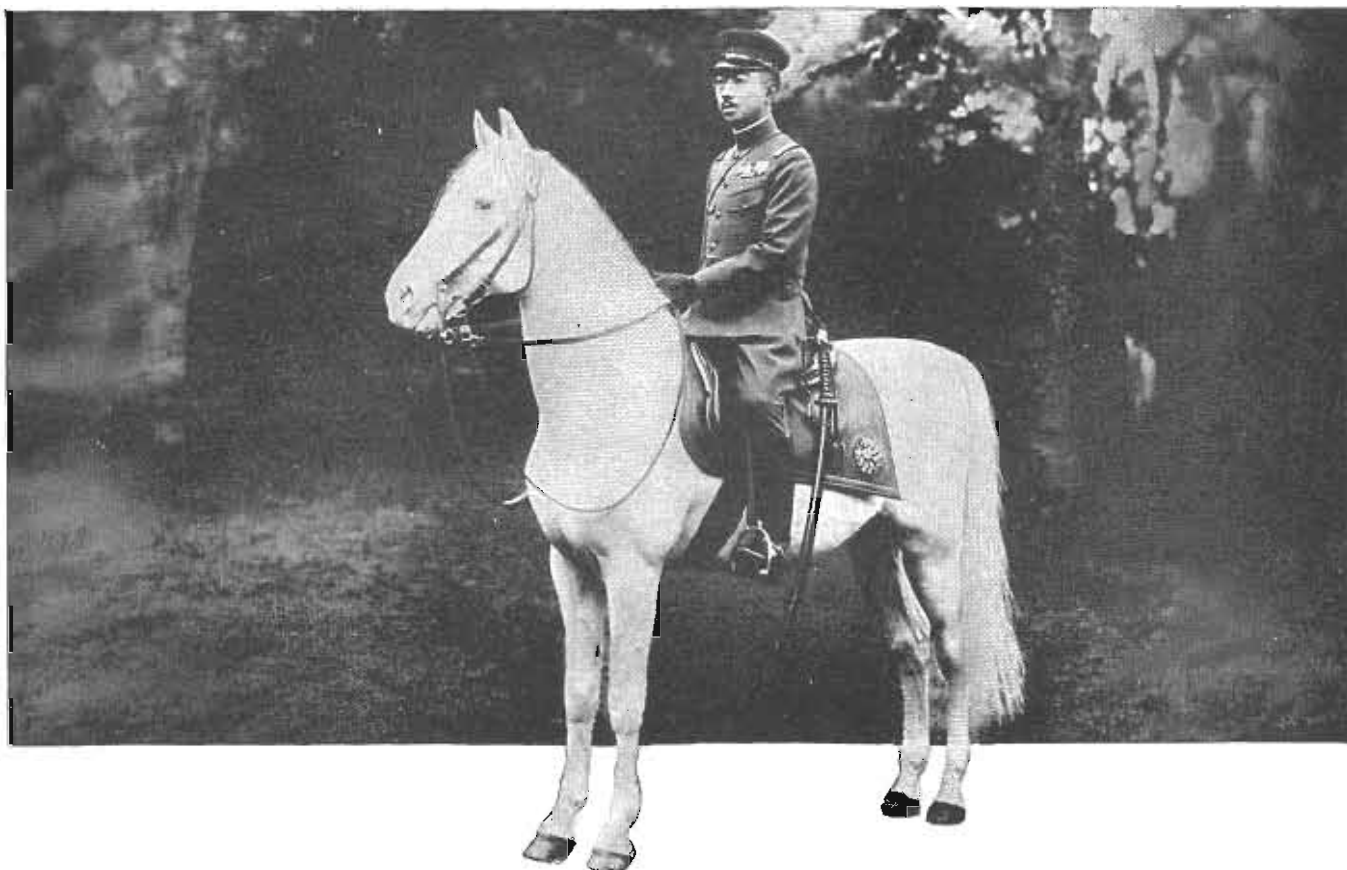
Schliebs, John Green, Jack Sanders and Maurice Beeman . . .

• • •

J. Clare George in the Elyria, Ohio Chronicle-Telegram: "We are glad to hear that an Elyria Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. has been organized, and will receive its charter on next Tuesday.

We like to hear men sing. We expect to drop in at a meeting of the local group some evening. It will revive happy memories for in the community in which we were raised were many Welsh people. They love to sing and they can sing, too. We remember well how faithful they were in their attendance at "Sing" nights.

A lot of Elyria men are going to get a lot of fun out of quartet singing and we are glad that such an opportunity is now available here. They will enjoy self expression through the use of the human voice and this should give them many happy hours together and furnish a lot of entertainment."



## LET'S GET THE ADMIRAL HIS HORSE!



Official  
U.S. Navy Photo

Admiral Halsey has his eye on a fine white horse called Shirayuki.

Some time ago, at a press conference, he expressed the hope that one day soon he could ride it.

The chap now in Shirayuki's saddle is Japan's Emperor—Hirohito.

He is the ruler of as arrogant, treacherous, and vicious a bunch of would-be despots as this earth has ever seen.

The kind of arrogance shown by Tojo—who was going to dictate peace from the White House . . . remember?

Well, it's high time we finished this whole business. High time we got the Emperor off his high horse, and gave Admiral Halsey his ride.

The best way for us at home to have a hand in this clean-up is to support the 7th War Loan.

It's the biggest loan yet. It's two loans in one. Last year, by this time, you had been asked twice to buy extra bonds.

Your personal quota is big—bigger than ever before. So big you may feel you can't afford it.

But we can afford it—if American sons, brothers, husbands can cheerfully afford to die.

### FIND YOUR QUOTA . . . AND MAKE IT!

IF YOUR AVERAGE WAGE PER MONTH IS:	YOUR PERSONAL WAR BOND QUOTA IS: (CASH VALUE)	MATURITY VALUE OF 7TH WAR LOAN BONDS BOUGHT
\$250	\$187.50	\$250
225-250	150.00	200
210-225	131.25	175
200-210	112.50	150
180-200	93.75	125
140-180	75.00	100
100-140	37.50	50
Under \$100	18.75	25

## ALL OUT FOR THE MIGHTY 7<sup>th</sup> WAR LOAN

### GARY, INDIANA CHAPTER

Every man in our chapter is buying at least one bond to help pay for those B-29s. Every B-29 that flies over Japan means fewer of our sons, brothers and friends who'll have to die . . . . .



## OUR NEW CHAPTERS

Since the February issue of the Harmonizer went to press, our Society has been enlarged by the addition of the following new chapters. We welcome them into this great fraternity of harmony and we pass on to our readers an invitation from all of these new groups to visit their meetings when in, or near, the respective cities. The chapters are listed in the order in which they were chartered.

### BELOIT, WISCONSIN

14 Charter Members; George L. Morris, President; Donald C. Knight, 637 Harrison Ave., Secretary.

### ELYRIA, OHIO

33 Charter Members; Roy Held, President; Charles DeBracy, 226 Harvard Ave., Secretary.

### PRYOR, OKLAHOMA

50 Charter Members; Dr. Herb Taylor, President; Bill McCalib, 408 4th St., Secretary.

### AKRON, OHIO

11 Charter Members; Nelson C. Peters, President; Harry A. Matthews, 125 S. Main St., Secretary.

### WOOD-RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

29 Charter Members; Ernest Dommeliers, President; Emil W. Wodenschek, 280 Marlboro Road, Secretary.

### LOGANSPOUT, INDIANA

20 Charter Members; John E. Garty, President; R. Gint Creery, 709 Broadway, Secretary.

### FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

13 Charter Members; Earl Grecian, President; Roland W. Soard, 910 No. 20th St., Secretary.

### SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN

8 Charter Members; King Cole, President; J. A. Sampson, c/o Phoenix Chair Co., Secretary.

### MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS

30 Charter Members; John S. Boland, President; A. D. Prescott, 209 So. 9th St., Secretary.

### LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

17 Charter Members; Bruce Wiswall, President; Lee W. Whitman, 3033 Fernwood, Secretary.

### KOKOMO, INDIANA

15 Charter Members; Henry M. Deis, President; Thomas C. Johnston, 812 W. Jefferson St., Secretary.

### YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

28 Charter Members; D. H. Stuelpnagle, 701 Locust St., (Acting Secretary.)

### MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN

59 Charter Members; King Cole, President; Walter J. Golding, 901 Marshall St., Secretary.

### MATTOON, ILLINOIS

31 Charter Members; Lee C. Lamar, President; R. Wendell Brown, Public Service Bldg., Secretary.

### WABASH, INDIANA

25 Charter Members; Earl E. Dale, President; Gordon Myers, 767 No. Wabash St., Secretary.

### MISHAWAKA, INDIANA

20 Charter Members; William Hillebrand, President; Clare F. Burns, 203 E. 4th St., Secretary.

### LONDON, ONTARIO

103 Charter Members; Hughbert J. Hamilton, President; W. Lester Davis, 210 Huron St., Secretary.

### NEENAH-MENASHA, WISCONSIN

35 Charter Members; John Pinkerton, President; R. Gordon Pope, 400 Caroline St., Neenah, Wis., Secretary.

### BARABOO, WISCONSIN

9 Charter Members; Bryant Dunshee, President; Willard E. McCreary, 415 West St., Secretary.

### KENT, OHIO

17 Charter Members; J. Kirby Bramsby, President; O. S. Simmons, 503 Lake St., Secretary.

### HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN

8 Charter Members; W. P. Stumpf, President; R. J. Simpson, Simpson Co., Litchfield, Mich., Secretary.

### WARSAW, INDIANA

12 Charter Members; Mayor Frank Rarick, President; Herbert A. Dye, Winona Lake, Ind., Secretary.

### VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA

25 Charter Members; T. J. Pare, President; Henry W. S. Tillman, City Hall, Secretary.

### HOWELL, MICHIGAN

8 Charter Members; Wilbert S. White, President; Lawrence Reed, 509 W. Sibley, Secretary.

### TOLEDO, OHIO

30 Charter Members; Judge Harvey Straub, President; W. E. Hettrick, Jr., 329 Kenilworth Ave., Secretary.

### THE MARIANAS ISLANDS

23 Charter Members; Sgt. Theodore G. Hamway, USMC, President; Corp. Ralph M. Watters, USMCR, Hq. Co. 1st Base Hqtrs. Bn., c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif., Secretary.

### NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO

12 Charter Members; Guy Kimmel, President; Terry Moore, c/o Van Lehn Hardware Co., Secretary.

### UPPER ASSAM, INDIA

10 Charter Members; Pfc. Fred D. J. Gallagher, President; Pfc. Joseph D. Catalano, ASN 32214149, 1330 AAF Base Unit, ATC, ICD, APO 466, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y., Secretary.

### PAXTON, ILL.

14 Charter Members; Floyd Hawk, Middlecoff Hotel, Acting Secretary.

### MT. PLEASANT, MICH.

10 Charter Members; William H. Kerin, Jr., President; Edward G. Priest, c/o The National Supply Co., Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Secretary.

### A NEW TECHNIQUE

Major Earl W. Moss, President of our 160-member Fort Wayne, Indiana Chapter, recently sat himself down and wrote one of the most interesting stories about our Society, and barbershop harmony in general, that this editor has ever read. Although the yarn carried the title: 'Just What is Barbershop Harmony,' Earl did not attempt to define it, but rather did he trace the development of it and of our Society in an extremely fascinating way. We wanted to reprint it in toto in this issue of the Harmonizer, but the lack of space prevents. Copies have already been mailed to Chapter Secretaries and Presidents and we have a few extras left, which we will gladly mail to anyone asking for one.

### OLD MILL STREAM

Here is a note taken from the United States Army's "Special Services Topics": "Old Mill Stream: A theatre wide barber shop quartet contest is being staged by MTOUSA, Special Service Division (Mediterranean Theatre of Operation, USA). District winners will compete in zone contests and then in theatre-finals at Rome. Quartets will sing three numbers and be judged by applause. Modern music is prohibited. One of the numbers must be 'Down by the Old Mill Stream.'"



NEVER in the history of America could its people look forward to greater and more complex problems. Solutions must and will be found, and the American Spirit that has accomplished miracles of production and the overthrow of enemies of free men will be maintained.



Mrs. L. P. Meeske, American Red Cross, accepting check, representing net profits of Ladies' Night Concert from President M. J. Kennebeck.

We of Muskegon accept the challenge and pledge ourselves to the morale building and stability of our community, our State, and our Nation.

Twice winners of the National Achievement Award, Muskegon Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., will not only sing "to Victory" but... "to Everlasting Peace".

---

## The Muskegon Chapter

"HOME OF SOME SWELL QUARTETS"

---

# DO YOU REMEMBER?



O'Brien

IS MY FACE RED. Why, oh why did I ever stick my neck out on a job like this? Here was I a peace loving barbershopper who thought he knew a lot of old songs and all of a sudden I'm out on a limb like a magnolia blossom and getting in deeper every minute. I never saw an ostrich blush but I think I know exactly how he feels.

**FIRST OFF I PULL** TWO unpardonable "boners" and do the boys tell me about them. Marv Lee, Russell Cole, "Buzz" Buzzell and at least a dozen others took time to tell me that Irving Berlin didn't write "The Band Played On" and "When You and I Were Young Maggie" wasn't written in 1909.

**THE FIRST WAS AN ERROR** on the part of my secretary (poor thing). She just copied it wrong but I should have caught it before I sent it in . . . and so should Carroll Adams or Jim Knipe, before it went to press . . . Shame on you both.

**THE SECOND WAS JUST** a case of "wrong information" but that's really no excuse as I sang "Maggie" before 1910 and my old Daddie played it on his fiddle back in the days when I was just a dress.

**TO GET THE RECORD STRAIGHT** "The Band Played On" was written in 1895 by John F. Palmer and Charles B. Ward and was published originally by Leo Feist. The copyright was not renewed so it is now in public domain. "When You and I Were Young Maggie" was written in 1873 by Eben F. Rexford and

Hart Pease Danks. It was published in 1873 by Charles W. Harris and in 1878 by Hamilton Gordon. This number is also now in public domain.

**I PROMISE YOU** that in the future I'll try to be more careful but I don't insinuate that I won't make any more mistakes. I'll give you the best information I can get but if I should happen to pull a few more "bloopers" don't sue me, just straighten me out and I'll be happy to make the necessary corrections.

**LITTLE DID I REALIZE** what a hunk of stuff I'd cut out for myself when I started the "You Name 'Em an' We'll Dig 'em Up Department" by offering to try to dig up "oldies" for those who were interested but so far it's been lots of fun and in one or two instances . . . much to our amazement, we've been able to come through.

**OUR CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT** along this line was to find "The Gang That Sang Heart of My Heart" for none other than the former editor of this department, our President, Phil Embury and that boys is really "carrying coals to Newcastle."

**WE'VE HAD OODLES OF** requests for "Will the Light from the Lighthouse Shine on Me" but so far we haven't been able to find a thing on it and we are beginning to wonder whether it was ever published. Can anyone help us with this toughie?

**AND WHILE YOU'RE DIGGING** hack into the archives of your memory what about "After Dark" and "Goodbye My Coney Island Baby." Practically every quarter in the organization sings these two numbers, but where did they come from? Who wrote them? When? And were they ever published! Maybe like Topsy in Uncle Tom's Cabin they just "grew up." What do you think?

**APPARENTLY NOBODY EVER HEARD** of the "Spanish War Baby" that we published in the last issue. Some of the boys said they didn't think it really was a song at all. No rhyme, no rhythm, no meter. Well,

(Continued on Page 37)

TITLE	YEAR	COMPOSER	PUBLISHER
Alexander Don't You Love Your Baby No More	1904	Sterling-Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer
Bye Bye My Eva Bye Bye	1905	Smith-Brown	Helf & Hager Co.
Dearest Memories	1911	Crenier-Vodery	Rogers Bros. Music Co.
Gee But It's Great to Meet a Friend from Your Home Town	1911	Tracy-McGavick	J. Fred Helf Co.
Ida, Sweet as Apple Cider	1903	Eddie Leonard	Edw. B. Marks Music Co.
If I Only Had a Home Sweet Home	1906	J. Johns-R. L. McDermott	Will Rossiter Co.
Ja Da	1918	Bob Carlton	Leo Feist, Inc.
Kentucky Days	1912	Percy Wenrich	The Wenrich Howard Co.
Lord Have Mercy on a Married Man	1911	Leslie-Helf	Theodore Morse Music Co.
Mansion of Aching Hearts	1902	Lamb-Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer
Mother Machree	1910	Young-Olcott-Ball	M. Witmark & Sons
My Castle on the River Nile	1901	Johnson-Cole-Johnson	Edward B. Marks Music Co.
On a Sunday Afternoon	1902	Sterling-Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer
Piccaninny Days	1910	Cole-Europe	Jerome H. Remick Co.
She Is the Sunshine of Virginia	1916	MacDonald-Carroll	Shapiro Bernstein & Co., Inc.
Silver Threads Among the Gold	1873	E. E. Rexford-H. P. Danks	Hamilton S. Gordon
Some of These Days	1912	Shelton Brooks	Will Rossiter Co.
Take Back Your Gold	1897	Pritzkow-Rosenfeld	Edward B. Marks Music Co.
The Gang That Sang Heart of My Heart	1926	Ben Ryan	Robbins Music Corp.
Under the Bamboo Tree	1902	Bob Cole	Edward B. Marks Music Pub. Co.
Wanted a Harp Like the Angels Play	1911	Bessey-Helf	J. Fred Helf Co.
When I Leave the World Behind	1915	Irving Berlin	Waterson, Berlin & Snyder
When the Harvest Days Are Over, Jessie Dear	1900	Graham-Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer
When the Moon Plays Peek A Boo	1907	W. R. Williams	Will Rossiter Co.
You Made Me Love You	1913	McCarthy-Monaco	Broadway Music Corp.

**DO YOU REMEMBER** (Continued)

Brother Buzzell wrote out a lead sheet and it's on file with Carroll Adams at headquarters and it isn't bad either. If you're still curious write Carroll and he'll send you a copy.

THIS MONTH OUR OLD FRIEND A. J. "Deke" Leonard of the Chicago Chapter offers one that really is a "honey." He was with us for a week at our fishing camp on the Au Sable last summer and we harmonized it together many times. "Deke" claims he only met one man who ever heard of this song, the fellow who taught it to him back in 1915 and who claimed it was published under the title "I Miss You Most of All." Does anyone remember it?

The chairs in the parlor all miss you,  
The pictures all frown from the wall,  
The flowers won't grow  
Cause they seem to know  
And the sunshine won't come in at all.  
Our little canary won't sing anymore  
And the folks ask me why you don't call  
The whole world's untrue  
I want you, only you,  
For I miss you most of all.

ORCHIDS THIS MONTH to Marv Lee, R. Harry Brown, Charlie Merrill, Rudy Heinen, Bernie Roche, and many others who've helped with the old songs. And again to Dave Silverman of WJR God bless him, I couldn't get along without Dave.

J. GEORGE O'BRIEN  
400 S. Franklin St.  
Saginaw, Michigan.

**ORCHIDS TO THE COMMITTEE ON CHAPTER METHODS**

Maynard Graft, Cleveland Chapter Secretary, commented in a recent letter: "I must tell you without further delay that the job done by the Committee on Chapter Methods and yourself in compiling and publishing the Manual for Chapter Officers is, in my opinion, one of the very finest advancement steps taken since the formation of our Society.

It is most satisfying to me as an interested member and officer to know that a condensed reference guide is now available. I believe many of us have felt the need of something other than 'rule of thumb' 'word of mouth' 'the brushing of shoulders,' etc. as a means of getting or even giving ideas and suggestions in the past.

This recent crystalization of a large number of important basic chapter management methods, ideas and suggestions, is bound to effect a very noticeable improvement in existing chapters. It can be no less than a real boon to the new ones as they come into the fold, God bless 'em.

My sincere thanks and heartiest congratulations to all concerned.

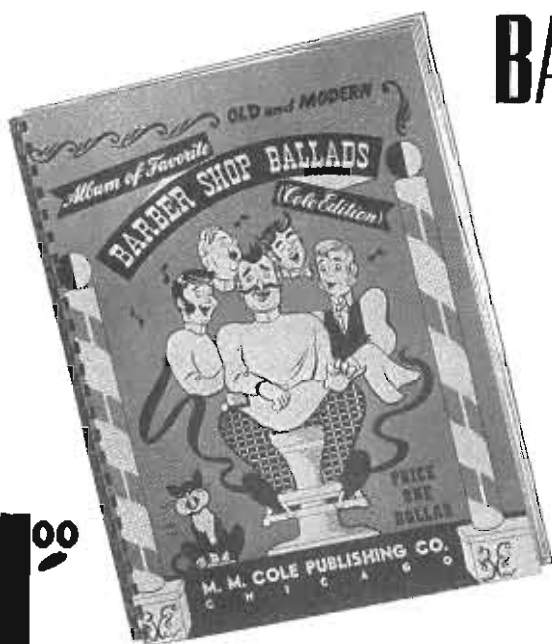
Chord-ial as ever,

Maynard.

P. S.: It would be 'derelict' on my part if I failed to tell you that I find your frequent News Bulletins very helpful in furnishing material for meetings and in timing certain activities. They act as a constant reminder of things to be done."

# Cole's Plastic Bound Album

## BARBER SHOP BALLADS



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PREPAID

175 Selections { Arranged by  
OZZIE WESTLEY  
for Barber Shop  
Singing!

SUCH NUMBERS AS

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## THE WAY I SEE IT

By DEAC MARTIN

"I disagree with what you say,  
but I shall defend to the death  
your right to say it."

*Attributed to Voltaire, 1694-1778*

The way I see it, I'll dedicate the column this time to new chapters. It might save a few from growing pains, and in other cases might help soothe pains into which they've already grown, paregorically speaking.

The International office shares a wealth of information with new chapters. The "Manual for Officers" contains the essence of Society experience in conducting thousands of successful meetings. It's a Bible. But, it doesn't cover what to say to a member who's attended 3-4 meetings, then's ready to quit because he hasn't been asked to be part of a permanent quartet. "You might come for years and never be asked" I told one such recently. "Organize your own." And he did . . . and it's good . . . and is he happy!

Liquor can constitute a barrier to progress of a new chapter. Successful older chapters learned by bitter experience that a snootful constitutes a nuisance and a menace. Too often the snooted who comes to meeting talks out of turn, irrelevantly and illogically, sings off-key in group singing or wants to put a fifth part into a quartet that's doing pretty well with just four parts. He may even wander outside, make crax at dames, and get a crack from somebody who objects. Loud booze hounds have learned that they just don't belong in a thriving Society chapter. The sooner you straighten them out, the better for your enjoyment and the local standing of your organization. Kick 'em out if they're incorrigible. You'll be farther ahead, sooner. By the foregoing I don't mean that I won't take a little bourbon. "Thanks. Just to the brim, Charley." But no more for an hour or so.

The 5-man quartet is a discontent breeder. "Everybody came here to sing, didn't they?" Yea verily—and how! But, either as choruses or fours. You may be the

world's greatest bari (next to O. C. Cash) but your conception of the bari part may be quite different at a certain spot than the one being sung. Don't drown him out. Wait! Organize your own 4, then show him how it ought to be done. We learned that early in the Society.

In groups up to 40-50 don't ever let anyone leave without having had opportunity to sing a part with three others. We have some pretty fine organized 4's in Cleveland district. To a man, they'll hop up to sing a part with some untried new comer. Put new quartets together to find out Who's Who. That's the way many of our best 4's have gravitated together. (Me, I was still looking for a tenor for my Hypothetical Four that I've been going to organize since the Society was in diapers. And last week I sang with him in one of those pick-up quartets. Now the question is, will he sing with me? Oh well! Freddie Stein of the '43 Champion Four Harmonizers is always glad to step aside and let me show him a few better slants; ditto for Tommy O'Heren of those top-flight Harmony Kings; and Gordie Hall, current National Champ bass, and others. And Red Masters will always sing with me.)

Another tip to the newbies: "How did those guys get to be elected officers." Well it was like this. A lot of fellows interested in singing got together for an organization meeting. So they had to elect officers. So somebody suggested names. So officers, who were strangers to most, were elected. And in most cases they've done a perfectly splendid job. Now, here's where you come in. Next election will roll 'round sooner than you realize. Start sizing up your membership now for the caliber of men who have the ability and stability to head up the chapter, next term.

And right here's where I make a suggestion. Disagree if you will. From fairly wide observation of this Society, I suggest that your secretary should be considered for your next president. He's close to the International office. He has his finger on the local pulse. If he has qualities of leadership, consider him because he's been house-broke, saddle-broke or maybe plain-broke for a term. There are exceptions. All I ask is, think about it. That's the way I see it.



The Tailspin Four, Squadron 1, Randolph Field, Texas. (letters thus addressed will reach them—adv.), of which Arthur "Duffy" Farrand, formerly bari of the Jackson, Mich., "Acousticals," is, of all things, the bari. The others are—P. F. Padgett, Menominee, Mich.; F. R. White, Chicago, Ill.; V. Payne, Monroe, La.



## WICHITA WOWS WOMEN FOR "SEXTH" TIME

Wichita has long been famous as the AIR CAPITOL of the World, and (within a few miles, at least), the geographical center of the United States. With the successful completion of the 6th Annual Ladies Night Show, held Saturday night, April 21st, 8:00 p. m., at the Hotel Broadview Roofgarden, the Wichita Chapter now lays claim to being the BARBERSHOP QUARTETTING CENTER of the Mid-West.

Curfew and transportation restrictions (and difficulties) made it necessary to limit the size of the crowd, but did not affect the influx of dignitaries, who, headed by Founder O. C. Cash, included Int'l Vice Presidents Frank Thorne and J. Frank Rice, Int'l Treasurer Joe E. Stern, Int'l Directors Verne M. Laing and E. V. "Cy" Perkins, and officers from Hutchinson & Junction City, Kansas, Kansas City, Mo., Bartlesville, Tulsa, and Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Famous Elastic Four, returned to Wichita for the third consecutive year, accompanied by their Chicago running-mates the MISFITS, to headline a program of the best quartetting ever heard in Wichita, and featuring the Beech "Swing-Shift Four," the "Boeing Boys," the Beech "Men of Note," the Beacon Four, the Cessna-Aires, Wichita's contribution to 'fair-sex-barbershoppin' the charming "Four Naturals," and the Salt City Four, from Hutchinson, Kans. 'Hoim' Struble of the Elastics carried off top solo honors.

General Chairman of the show was W. R. Tucker, President of the Wichita Chapter, assisted by W. C. (Bill) Harper, Wichita's director extraordinary, as Master of Ceremonies. A carnation bouquet was presented each of the four-hundred ladies in attendance in honor of the occasion.

Dean Palmer.

### FRED DURAND — TRUE BARBERSHOPPER

We know that our readers will be grieved to learn of the death on December 24th of Fred Durand, Secretary of our Junction City, Kansas Chapter. Fred was Vice President of the Central National Bank and was the father of Lieut. Bob Durand, United States Army; Capt. Fred Durand, United States Army, and Major F. A. Durand, United States Marine Corps.

Lieut. Bob will be remembered as the baritone of the Phillips 66 Bar Flies of Bartlesville, Okla., National Champions in 1939. He is now stationed at the Flight Service Center, Lambert Field, St. Louis 21.

### PUNNY SENATOR HAS OWN FOUR



Harold "Bud" Tripp, Michigan State Senator, president of Allegan Chapter, has his own quartet The Four Senators. They've sung all over the state. L. to R. they are—Roy Ellis, lead; Walt Pierce, tenor; Tripp, baritone; Tom Stafford, bass. The "punny" part comes in for those lucky enough to get one of "Bud's" letters which he invariably closes with "Bari-truly yours."

## Fred Stein Recalls Days B. S. S. (Before Sound Systems)

Few of the many who have enjoyed Fred Stein, along with the others in the Four Harmonizers, Chicago, realize that Fred is an ex-trouper who was singing barbershop professionally before World War I. In reply to a request for reminiscences of the old profesh days, Fred writes:

"I sang with the Troy Comedy Four back in 1912. The four was made up of Hank Proesel, lead; Morry Williams, baritone; John Scott, the top; and I sang bass. The characters were "Messenger Boy" "Tough Kid" "Brokendown Actor" and I did "Dutch." We played the Sullivan-Constitine time on the West Coast, also the Bert Levy time. About 19 weeks all told. We followed the Primrose 4, who called themselves a Thousand Pounds of Harmony. So we billed ourselves the Little Men with the Big Voices.

The songs we sang in the group were "College Man," "Red Rose Rag," "Roll dem Bones," and "When I First Met Kate Down by the Golden Gate."

The College Man number was written by John Scott's brother. I sang with the Troy Comedy 4 about two seasons.

I next sang with the Express Comedy 4, about 6 seasons. We played nearly all of the different circuits. This was made up of Joe Poali, top; Max Aranson, lead; Frank Gaebel, baritone; and the bass—well you know. This four started out with a musical comedy show, which at that time played 26 weeks, including the Butterfield time, which takes care of the whole State of Michigan."

Maybe Michigan's numerical dominance in number of chapters today is due, in part, to Stein's trail blazing when a lot of our present day quartet members were just getting acquainted with their first long pants.

# WHIZ



## 5¢ EVERYWHERE

PAUL F. BEICH CO.

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# The Old Songsters

By Sigmund Spaeth



BARBER shop quartets, glee clubs and male singers in general lost a valuable and practical friend in the death of Kenneth S. Clark. From his days as an undergraduate at Princeton, this man Clark devoted most of his time to encouraging people to sing, and particularly to harmonize. He composed some of Princeton's best songs, including the immortal *Going Back to Nassau Hall*, and shortly before he died his Alma Mater awarded him the only varsity P ever given to a Princeton musician. Clark was unquestionably one of the greatest of all the college song-leaders, and he appeared in this capacity at football games and rallies even in his advanced years as an alumnus. In fact he lived those later years close to the Princeton campus, so that he could be called in whenever he was needed. He did not have much of a voice himself, but he knew how to make a crowd sing. During the first World War he was one of the most successful of our Army song-leaders. Later he worked for the National Recreation Association, National Music Week and the Associated Glee Clubs, all with great effect.

Ken Clark finally joined the staff of the Paul-Pioneer Music Publishing Co., and it was for them that he edited the booklet called *Everybody Sing*, which has probably been used more widely than any other publication of its kind. He also edited *Bottoms Up*, for those who like their songs consistently convivial, and he was responsible for many other collections and original compositions, including a most practical song-sheet for community singing. One of his important achievements was the research on *Home on the Range*, which he clearly established as originally not a cowboy's but a prospector's song, first known as *Colorado Home*, written in the early eighties by a group of pioneers headed by a certain Bob Schwartz, and now definitely in the "public domain."

Kenneth Clark was too modest a man to parade or commercialize his musical accomplishments. He did not know the trick of plugging his own songs, even when he was intimately associated with Tim Pan Alley. But his influence and character will be remembered for years to come, and no one is likely ever to take his place in the field of vocal music.

INCIDENTALLY, *Home on the Range* was one of the favorite songs of our late, great President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. As a good sailor and officially a Navy man, he also liked *Anchors Aweigh*. The genial FDR was quite a music-lover in his way. He liked nothing better than to relax and listen to some old songs, and

it was part of the job of "Tommy the Cork" Corcoran to supply such entertainment to the accompaniment of his accordion. Programs of American folk-song were frequently heard at the White House, and President Roosevelt generally preferred the homely, honest songs of the soil to the more elaborate forms of musical art. The writer once had the pleasure of performing for him and his guests in the East Room after a State dinner, and he got a real thrill from the enthusiastic reception given by the President to a simple bit of music. With all his cares and worries and responsibilities, he found time to enjoy himself in the ways that appeal to all mankind. Franklin D. Roosevelt was not only a great leader and a genius in world affairs; he was a human being of the most lovable type.

RUSSELL COLE, of Couteau, Oklahoma, has kindly supplied us with a most interesting letter, written to him in pencil by George M. Cohan in 1941, when Cole was living in New York. It contains some enlightening observations on the song hits of his day by one who turned out his own full share of popular successes. Cohan was a typical song-and-dance man, and he knew something about close harmony too. Many of the songs he mentions are naturals for barber shop quartet arrangement and have actually been used in that way. Here is the letter, exactly as Cohan wrote it:

The first popular song I can remember (in the Early Eighties) was "My Nellie's Blue Eyes"—Then came "Little Annie Rooney," then "Down Went McGinty"—I don't recall whether "White Wings" came before or after these but I do know that everybody who could sing or whistle gave it an awful wallop. Of course "After The Ball" came along during the Chicago Fair, 1893 I think—"Two Little Girls in Blue" followed on and of course the Harrigan and Hart song "Maggie Murphy's Home" was a rave about that time too—"The Sidewalks of New York" was a hit song around, I'd say, '95 or '96—Mind you I'm doing a lot of guessing now. "Only One Girl in The World for Me" also came about that time, and I still consider it the best light love song ever written by an American. Dave Marion did the words and music. "Comrades" the English waltz ballad was another big song hit during the middle nineties—"Old Uncle John" also caught on—"My Sweetheart's the Man in the Moon" swept the country about the same time that "The Band Played On" hit the bull's eye. "The Volunteer Organist" was murdered by every ballad singer in the land, and that was published also in the middle nineties. "The Baggage Coach Ahead," another ballad the semi-comics pounded, was an early hit—"The Sunshine of Paradise Alley," a waltz song, was a smash hit at that time too. It was about 1894 or '95, if I remember, that May Irwin sang "The New Bully" and started the coon song craze. Must have been at least a dozen big coon song hits from that time on. I did one myself called "I Guess I'll Have to Telegraph My Baby" in 1898. Well, I should say that about that time the song writers of America started to take it away from the English fellows who had had things pretty much to themselves up to then. Chas. K. Harris—Spaulding and Gray—The Witmarks—Howley and Haviland—and several other publishing firms in-

(Continued on Next Page)

## THE OLD SONGSTERS (Continued)

cluding F. A. Mills, began to go American altogether and the royalty system was introduced so that the average song writer got a little more than the old price of "3 Songs for a Nickle."

Well, I guess you know more about the history of American popular songs from 1900 on than I do so I'll let you do your own filling in from that time down to the present vogue of Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and so on. I wish I could give you a little more interesting dope but I'm on my way to the Country and must scoot. Even what I've given you here is probably no information that you haven't already collected but at least give me credit for trying.

All success to you.

Sincerely,  
George M. Cohan.

THIS man Cole has some ideas of his own about old songs and songsters. In a long letter to Secretary Adams he makes a lot of practical suggestions, using a charter meeting at Pryor, Oklahoma, as a starting-point, with considerable credit to local Secretary Bill McCalib as a "spark-plug." A few of these Cole cuts should be of interest: "Your arrangement is more important than you think" . . . "I believe that there are a lot of very old numbers that need reviving for quartet use." . . . He recommends *I Long to See the Girl I Left Behind* for barber shop treatment . . . quotes W. C. Handy in a good story about *Ta-ra-ra-boom-deay* (or *dere'* as old man Sayers prettied it up) . . . discovers with pleasure in the film, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, such old-timers as *Good-bye, my Lady Love* and *Under the Bamboo Tree*, in addition to the title song. (He overlooked the real folk-tune, *Skip to my Lou*.) Coda: "The Pryor boys say everybody there offers himself as a basso, so tenors are in demand. But basso-ing is more than coming out strong and low on the last note of *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder*."

AT last it seems safe to promise that *More Barber Shop Harmony* can now be secured through local music-stores. The publishers, Mills Music, Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York, have already been swamped with advance orders, besides waiting for another printing of the earlier volume of *Barber Shop Harmony*. Most people seem to agree that the second stanza is better than the first. Certainly it represents SPEBSQSA more completely, with arrangements by our outstanding masters of the art, as sung by our leading quartets. It has taken a long time to get this book through the engraving and printing stage, but it is ready now, eager to prove that all the work and the waiting was worth while.

## QUIZ OF TWO CITIES

On Monday night, February 26th, the Radio Show "Quiz of Two Cities" in Detroit and Cleveland featured the Ambassadors as representing Detroit and the Forest City Four, with Walter Karl of the Lamplighters substituting as bass, representing Cleveland. Both teams made good showings in the Quiz and the Society can be justly proud. Each quartet sang one number and the judges voted the singing a tie. By winning the jackpot, however, the Detroit team nosed out Cleveland.

## OPTIMIST CLUB OF KANSAS CITY ENTERTAINS PRESIDENT PHIL

On the occasion of a business trip through parts of the west in late April and early May, International President Phil Embury was entertained at a special SPEBSQSA meeting of the Kansas City Optimist Club on May 4th. Over 300 Optimists and their wives attended the dinner and the barbershop harmony show which followed. The Kansas City Chapter sent its Chorus and quartets, and International Treasurer Joe Stern had a prominent part in the program. It was arranged by Bert J. Clark, member of the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Optimist Club.

## J. E. CROCKETT

J. E. "Davy" Crockett, bass of the Forest City Four of Cleveland, died suddenly, without having been previously ill, on April 30th. He is survived by his wife and three small children. The hundreds of Society members who knew Ed respected him as a singer and admired him as a man. He will be sorely missed in the Cleveland Chapter and throughout the Society. The Forest City Four will undoubtedly carry on with a new bass, because they are sure that is what Ed would have wanted them to do.

## A Short History of Sig Spaeth

For nine years President of the National Association for American Composers and Conductors. Winner of the Henry Hadley Medal for "outstanding services to American music." Now Chairman of Motion Picture Music for the National Federation of Music Clubs. Long active in the Associated Glee Clubs, regularly reviewing music for the *Keynote*. Has written on music for such magazines as the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Liberty*, *McCall's*, *Esquire*, *Harper's*, *Literary Digest*, *Pictorial Review* and *American Weekly*. Author of more than twenty books on music, including *Music for Fun*, *Barber Shop Ballads*, *Read 'em and Weep: The Songs You Forgot to Remember* (about to be republished in a revised edition), *Music for Everybody*, *Great Symphonies*, *A Guide to Great Orchestral Music*, *Stories behind the World's Great Music*, etc. For the past four years a regular on the Metropolitan Opera Quiz. Has appeared on such programs as *Information Please*, *National Barn Dance*, *Alexander's Mediation Board*, *Inside Story*, *Happy Wonder Bakers*, *Shell Chateau*, *General Motors*, *Hobby Lobby*, *Eno Crime Clues*, *Rudy Vallee*, etc. For two years on NBC as the *Tune Detective*. Also MC of Fun in Print, CBS. Now conducting his own juvenile program, *Fun with Music*, in New York (WQXR). His booklet, *A Priceless Heritage*, now being distributed by the Magnavox Company, soon to be part of a new book. Also writing *A History of Popular Music in America* for Random House. Author of several hit lyrics, including *Down South*, *My Little Nest* and *Chansonette* (now known as *Donkey Serenade*). Wrote words and music of official city anthem, *Our New York*. Has arranged many numbers for glee clubs and male quartets, including the spiritual, *Oh, Yes, Grieg's Sailor's Song*, *What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor?*, *Come Home, Father*, plus an original setting of *Jabberwocky* for male voices.

### NEW FRIENDSHIPS WHOLESALE

A well known Society member received his "baptism of fire" at the mid-winter "doings" in Cleveland on January 12-13-14. He recently wrote us: "In the solitude of office and home, I have been quietly, though ecstatically, reliving my Cleveland experience. Let me slap it on the record that never have I enjoyed myself more; never had a comparable lift; never heard such singing; never met a bunch of men who made me feel so perfectly at home and welcome and far from being a stranger or even a newcomer and whom I could so thoroughly respect, admire and enjoy. The experience of making new honest-to-God friendships wholesale does not come often to a man and when it does, the recipient is hardly likely ever to forget it."

### Answers to Barbershop Bafflers

(See Page 32)

1. Old Black Joe.
2. The Daring Young Man On The Flying Trapeze (O'Keefe version).
3. Uncle Ned.
4. Johnny ("Frankie and Johnny.")
5. Yankee Doodle Dandy (or Yankee Doodle Boy.)
6. Sam, The Old Accordion Man.
7. Maginty.
8. Old Man River.
9. Abdul Abulbul Ameer (or Abdul the Bulbul Emeer; or suit yourself.)
10. Francis ("When Francis Dances With Me.")
11. John Peel.
12. Ragtime Cowboy Joe.
13. Matt Casey ("And The Band Played On.")
14. Daddy ("Daddy, You've Been A Mother To Me.")
15. The Man That Broke The Bank At Monte Carlo.
16. My Man.
17. Father ("Everybody Works But Father.")
18. The Pope.
19. Kelly ("Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly.")
20. Solomon Levi.
21. Shame on you if you're acquainted with His Majesty. This five points is on the house!

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

## Poet's Corner

(Where studied scansion and rhyme sometimes play second fiddle to desire for expression.)

A lady stood before a judge,  
Her face with woe constricted.  
It only took but half an eye  
To see she was afflicted.

"My tale, good judge, is long and sad.  
I don't know how to tell it.  
I hope that you with wisdom rare  
Will know how to dispel it."

"My husband's such a different man.  
He used to be quite grouchy.  
And even in his daily traits  
Was known to be right slouchy."

"He joined a club the other night,  
Just common men, not betters.  
I do not know the name of it  
Except a lot of letters."

"And now he sings the whole night thru.  
He sings while he is shaving,  
And if the razor cuts his lip,  
He sings, instead of raving."

"The songs he sings are all nice tunes,  
If he could only sing 'em.  
I don't know what's come over him,  
Or what of help to bring him."

"It is the great change that I fear,  
Tho I can't help but like it,  
But if it's going to do him harm  
I'd like some plan to spike it."

The judge bent forth with kindly look,  
"Your husband is not loony.  
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.  
Has made him extra-tuney."

—Bob Easton.

(Mukeyon Chapter).

## Four Flats Charm Opera Goers

Promptly at midnight, April 20, 170 Cleveland and West Shore members concluded a highly successful "Ladies Night" at Hotel Carter . . . almost. They had heard all the top flight fours in Cleveland district, including the Debonaires and the visiting Tom Cats from Massillon who sang in style that leads to medals. They had choked down many a gulp at the thought that the missing Forest City Four had been disrupted by the death of Ed Crockett, bass. They had heard several new quartets in maiden appearances. They had had an evening packed with enjoyment to the limit . . . almost.

The Four Flats, last to leave, gave with one "last one" for the thinning crowd in the hotel lobby. As they sang, 75-100 people in opera togs entered the hotel. Included were many of the Met people. Out-of-town visitors in Cleveland for the opera, and the Metropolitan Opera singers applauded and demanded "another." Result: the Flats entertained opera goers and opera people who actually followed them into the outer lobby for "just one more" as the party broke up . . . too late.



## FOUNDER'S COLUMN

by O. C. CASH

Dear Gang:

"Owen, how did you get started on this quartet singing business? Who was the first barbershopper you can remember?" I have been nagged to death with these and similar questions during the last few years. I bet if I have been asked those questions once, I have heard them two or three times at least. Well, they are fair questions—important ones—and my public, if any, will get fair, truthful answers if it reads beyond this paragraph, which is doubtful.

My first school teacher was the person that got me started out on the right track. It just goes to show if you amount to anything in this life you have to be surrounded early in your career by proper influences, associate with the right kind of folks, and have the benefit, in your younger, formative years, of wise counsel, and an exemplary pattern or precept of conduct. Jim Wiley, my first teacher, filled the bill. He was the kindest, most affectionate and, in many ways, the most remarkable man I have ever known. And he knew harmony up and down, backwards and forwards. He exerted a tremendous influence on my life and kindled in me the ambition to become the "World's Greatest Barber Shop Baritone."

In the fall of 1897 my dad hitched up our two ponies, old Tom and Kate, to a covered wagon, put Mother, Sister and me in it with all our belongings, and left our little farm in Chariton County, Missouri, bound for the Land of Promise—the West. On arrival some weeks later at the little frontier postoffice of Catale, Coo-Wee-Scoo-Wee District, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. Dad set us up in a rather comfortable log house on a farm rented from an old Cherokee Indian, who had taken possession of quite a large tract of land in that vicinity. No one then owned any land in the Cherokee Nation. The Cherokees had been forcibly moved to the Indian Territory from their former homes in Georgia and other portions of the South and turned loose in this practically uninhabited country to shift for themselves, to settle upon, claim and defend any land they chose. They were not in a very good humor about it either. Years later the land was divided up and allotted or patented to individual Indians, preference, so far as possible, being given those who had established homes, to retain the land selected and improved by them.

Well, in 1897 my sister and I were 3 and 5 years old, but we were much brighter than the average children of that day or this, and Dad thought it time for us to start to school. He was in favor of education. He believed it was a good thing if not overdone. I stopped mine in time to please him. So as soon as we got settled Dad began to promote a "subscription" school among the squaw men, the few white settlers and the more progressive and friendly Indian families. There were no schools in the

Territory then except in a few of the towns. Dad sold the idea to some of the neighbors and the men of the community soon had a log school bouse built and ready for business. Strangely enough no one had thought about a teacher for the school. The "Territory" in those days was settled by the Cherokees, horse thieves, outlaws, ex-convicts, adventurers and vagabonds of varying degrees of cussedness. It had never occurred to Dad that anyone smart enough to teach school would certainly have sense enough to stay out of this part of the country. So he was up against it in finding a teacher for his pretty, new, log school building.

One day, though, Dad went over to the store and post office at Catale, which was run by an old frontiersman—Fay Beard. "Fay," he said, "What are we going to do about a teacher for our school?" "Never thought of that," Fay replied, "I've been here since the railroad come, but I don't remember of ever seeing or hearing of a teacher of any kind in the Territory."

A Frisco freight train had just passed and two tramps had been kicked off at the water tank. They had drifted into the store and were warming themselves before the big, pot-bellied stove in Fay's place. One of the tramps manifested a noticeable interest in the conversation between Dad and Fay. As Dad started to leave the tramp approached him and said that he was a teacher and would like to spend the winter in the Territory and teach our school. That was Dad's introduction to my hero—Jim Wiley. Well, Dad didn't have much education but he knew a thing or two and did not want to be imposed upon by an uneducated or unqualified teacher. So he interviewed Jim, examined him thoroughly, inquiring carefully into his qualifications. Finally he asked Jim, "Do you believe the world is round or flat? We are liable to have some trouble over that," Dad said, "because some of the folks around here think it is and some think it ain't." "Well, Mr. Cash," Jim said, "I can teach it either way." "That's good enough for me," volunteered my dad. "Get up behind me on my horse and let's go. You are hired."

Dad brought this unexpected guest home with him that night for supper and Mother just raised the very devil because he had not telephoned her in advance, so she could have the cabin spruced up and a salad and dessert prepared. Jim lived with us for nearly two years and became the idol of the kids and the leader, wise counselor and source of education and culture for the community. But he never told us about his family, where he came from or anything of his past life. I remember he used to hold my sister and me on his knee before the fireplace in the evening while Dad was doing the chores and Mother was getting supper, and tell us stories about a new fangled contraption that recently had been invented called the "horseless carriage." He showed us pictures of one that actually ran. On rainy days he would carry my little sister to school on his back. It got so that after every heavy dew Sister would contend that it was too muddy for her to walk and after a prolonged and serious argument, Jim would finally give in and tote her to school. Forty-eight years later I think I learned why Jim was so fond of us kids and so kind and affectionate toward us.

Well, one day at school in the spring of 1900, two United States Marshals, resplendent, as these officers

(Continued on Next Page)



always were, in large white hats, blue serge suits, silver stars denoting the authority of their office, high boots and a brace of pearl handled six-shooters dangling from wide cartridge belts, drove up to the school house in a buckboard, came in and held a brief, whispered conversation with Jim. After a little while Jim came over and patted me on the head, told me to be a good boy and eat my cornbread and milk when Mother told me to, then stooped down and hugged and kissed my sister and went out the door with one of the Marshals. The other officer remained behind for a moment and told us, "Now children, you all go on home and tell your parents there won't be no school this afternoon or tomorrow or the next day. Everything will be all right though, don't be worried, Mr. Wiley is just going away on a little trip." We never heard of Jim again. We never knew what happened, why they took him away or where to. It all created a lot of excitement in the neighborhood and some lousy, low-lifed gossip started the rumor that Jim had escaped from the Illinois Penitentiary and had come direct to the "Territory" to hide out. But nearly fifty years later I proved beyond doubt that this was a malicious lie. Jim didn't escape. He served out his sentence. In fact he served out four terms in the Joliet penal institution before coming down to the "Territory" to live with the Cash family. And he was a model prisoner too, never give nobody no trouble as far as I have been able to de-

termine. He was just a fine guy.

Well, sir, it sure was lucky for the old school house that these officers came for Jim in the nick of time, for me and Wolf Ratlinggourd, my Cherokee playmate (he was a lead singer) had planned on burning the damn thing down and going fishing that very afternoon.

From time to time during the intervening years since 1900, whenever my family got together we always talked about Jim, wondering what crime or crimes, if any, he had committed, where he was and whether he was still alive. Shortly before my father died in August, 1944, he told me many things about Jim I had forgotten and I determined right then to find, if possible, the answers to the questions that had kept alive, for the past forty or fifty years, our curiosity about this mysterious, yet likable person. Remembering the rumored escape from the Illinois Penitentiary, I wrote Mr. Joseph E. Ragen, Warden of that institution. Mr. Ragen spent several days digging into Penitentiary records more than a half century old to get the facts. It appears Jim was first convicted, when a boy in 1882, of forgery, and was convicted of the same offense and served three additional sentences, four altogether, in the same penitentiary, being discharged the last time in the fall of 1897. He was out of the penitentiary only a few months between sentences and within a month or two after his final discharge he was teaching our school.

*(Continued on Next Page)*

VICTORY  
IS NEVER  
CHEAP . . .

THESE MEN  
GIVE **ALL** . . .

*Let's do Our Part*



Paterson, New Jersey, Chapter

FOUNDER'S COLUMN *(Continued)*

Marion H. Allen, Circuit Clerk, Monmouth, Illinois and Mr. W. K. Richardson, an attorney of Galesburg, Illinois, each made quite an investigation for me concerning three or four of Jim's trials and convictions. Records were meager but Mr. Richardson searched the files of local newspapers and found several stories about Jim's troubles. One story dated 1895, telling of his last conviction, mentioned his children. Undoubtedly he thought of them fondly many times as in the azure haze of a Cherokee twilight, he gazed into the glowing embers in the fireplace of the humble Cash cabin. (Now that's literature, that lick.) In one newspaper article it said "The prisoner is personally rather a fine appearing man, with keen eyes and pleasant address." That is an accurate description of Jim as I remember him.



This forgery habit seems to have been chronic with Jim, but I am sure he never meant no harm. Likely that was the only way he could collect his wages. Employers were terribly overbearing and arrogant in them days. And, too, he undoubtedly was convicted on perjured testimony, and his attorney probably was very young and totally inexperienced.

Now at this point in the narrative I can just see rowdy old Cy Perkins rare up on his hind legs in the back of the Lodge Hall and shout, "What the hell has all these borsome details got to do with barber shop harmony? Let's sing a song. Hells bells!"

Well, it has this to do with it.

There was not much entertainment down in Coo-Wee-Scoo-Wee District, Cherokee Nation, back in '97. Folks couldn't run over to the Honky Tonk, after they knocked off work at the war plant, for a short beer and listen to Bing singing "Don't Fence Me In." So the long winter evenings after school with only a coal oil lamp to provide the "bright lights" made Jim a little restless. So he got all the folks in the neighborhood together at the school house one night and proposed to hold night school two nights each week without charge to anyone. Everybody in the neighborhood, full bloods, bandits, grandfathers, grandmothers, and mothers with babes in arms, came and he asked them what they wanted to study. The first choice was "figurin'." Jim didn't give them no second choice. He just simply announced that it would be singing the second night. So we had our big attendance

*(Continued on Next Page)*

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# Match their Fighting Might..

LET'S  
BUY  
THOSE  
BONDS



## OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN CHAPTER

## FOUNDER'S COLUMN (Continued)

and our only community social affair on Friday nights at singing school. Jim put the folks through all the regular singing school tricks, taught them hymns and patriotic numbers and I remember two popular songs, "Two Little Girls in Blue" and "After the Ball." That's where he squeezed in a little harmony—on those popular songs. But his harmonizing really showed up at the end of each session when he started his "Bong, Bong, Bong, Bong" exercises, taking a bass note first and then progressing up the scale in true barber shop style and having each group hold its note on the chord. Of course some smart aleck will say that Bing done that in "Going My Way." Well, maybe he did, but Jim done it first.

After the singing was over and the various families started back to their cabins, it sure sounded mighty pretty in the crisp, frosty air, to hear those "Bong, Bongs" rolling out over the hills. Dad was an old fox hunter back in Missouri and he said it reminded him of old Drum, Speck, Red and Sue his favorite fox hounds. "There goes the Bankheads or that's the Ratlinggourds" he would say as the various groups opened up across the valley, just 'Bonging' away like all git out."

Old Jim would be about 80 or 85 now, if living, and I sure would like to see and talk to him. Can't get any trace of him. If any of the Illinois brothers are related to him, recognize his picture, or know where he is I wish they would let me know. I'd like to bring him to the next Convention and have him lead the singing. He is a much better director than Frank Thorne or John Hanson, and, better looking too. If I find him I would like to ask him why them Marshals took him away. I

know he never done nothing, but I'm curious to know what them bums *thought* he done.

I'll never forget the time Jim let me ride up behind him on our cow pony, "Shorty," going over to Catale for some sugar and coffee one morning. We ran right onto the boys as they was hanging Ike Sellers. But that story will have to wait until later. Bur Ike was hanging there with his eyes all bugged out, kicking and thrashing around something awful. It sure was a badly botched up job and the boys were so ashamed of it they always denied having anything to do with it.

Hoping you are the same, I am

O. C.

### THIS FROM MINNEAPOLIS

The Ford Times of March carried an interesting article about the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The story carried this about the musical traditions of those cities:

"Settled largely by descendants of the Vikings, the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul have the Scandinavian's traditional love of music. Even the concerts of the world-famous Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra do not wholly satisfy the Jorgensons and the Havstaads—they want to sing themselves. Each year more than 200,000 Minneapolis singers join in an eight weeks contest during the summer, while churches, schools and the innumerable social clubs, almost without exception, point with pride to their glee clubs or choral groups.

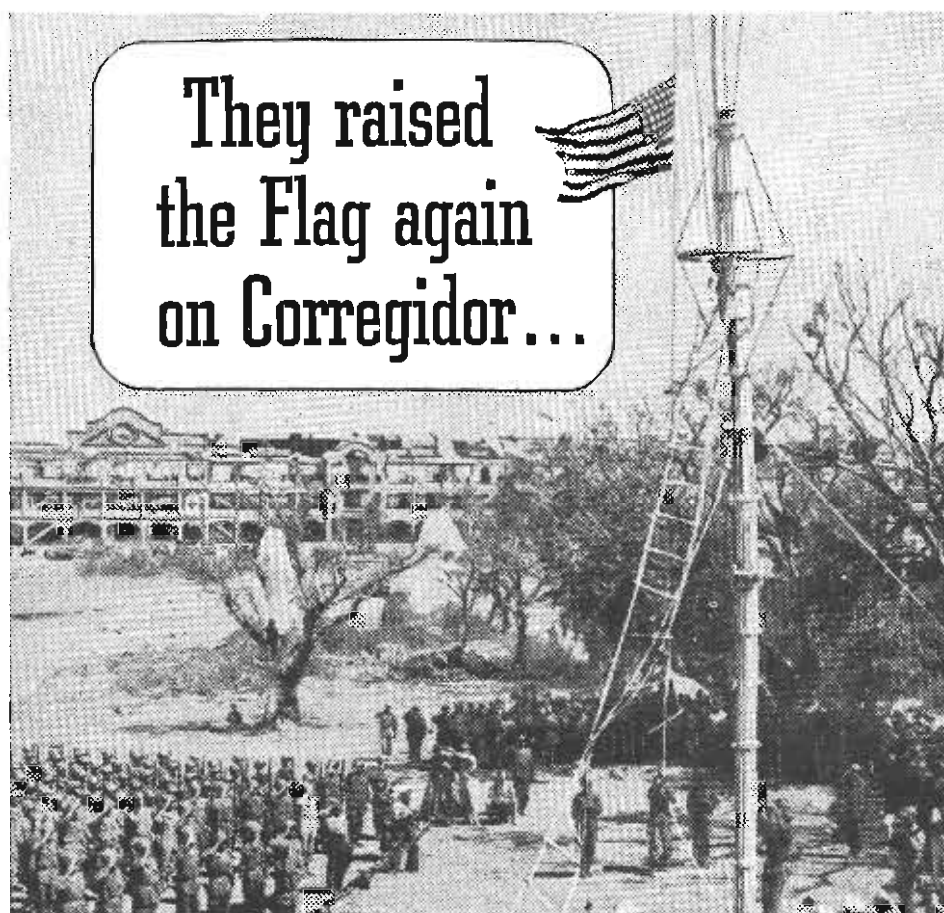
And, incidentally, one of the most important personages in the land can be found managing the lunch room at the Ford Plant: The President of the Minneapolis Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc."

*The  
Job's About  
Half Over*

LET'S  
FINISH  
IT!

BUY  
THOSE  
BONDS!

DETROIT  
CHAPTER  
MICHIGAN NO. 1



# To those who wonder why we need still bigger War Loans

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No matter what happens to Germany—or when—the cost of the war won't decrease this year.

We're building up a whole new air force—with new jet-propelled planes and bigger bombers. We're now building—even with announced reductions—enough new ships to make a fair-sized navy. We're moving a whole war half around the world. We're caring for wounded who are arriving home at the rate of one a minute.

Furthermore, there will be only 2 War Loans this year—instead of the 3 we had in 1944.

Each of us, therefore, must lend as much in two chunks this year as we did last year in three. That's another reason why your quota in the 7th is bigger than before.

The 7th War Loan is a challenge to every American. The goal for individuals is the highest for any war loan to date. The same goes for the E Bond goal. Find your personal quota—and make it!



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