

VOL. VII No. 1

AUGUST, 1947

THE HARMONIZER

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONY

By "JUMBO" SMITH
Words & music

MISSISSIPPI MOON
SUNG BY "DOCTORS OF HARMONY"



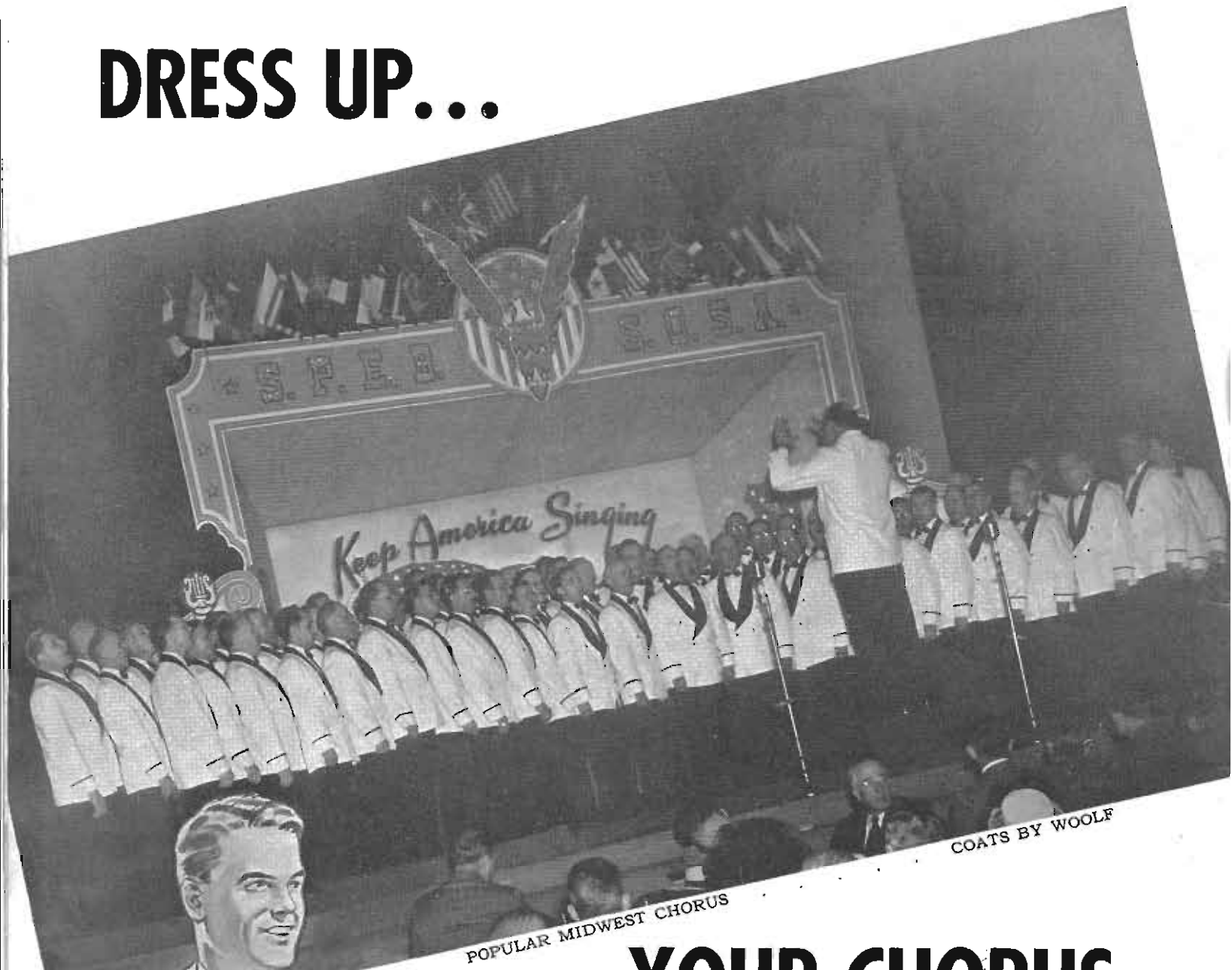
"Jumbo"

"Junior"

"Butch"

"Reverend"

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"DOCTORS" TAKE OWN PRESCRIPTION AND WORK TO WIN CONTEST

HIGHLIGHTS OF INT'L. BOARD MEETING

In three sessions of the old Board and one meeting of the new, group policies, methods, objectives of the past year were thoroughly inspected and applied to 1947-48.

Among highlights: As of May 31 we had 352 chapters with 18,896 members. Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Western Montana now constitute the Pacific Northwest District, making 12 in all. Minnesota and the western half of Michigan's upper peninsula are now part of the (formerly Wisconsin) Land-O-Lakes District.

Extension activities should be directed toward quality, and proper leadership in new chapters rather than mere numerical additions. The need for additional district officers to take responsibility for the welfare of existing chapters is also apparent.

From the report of the Ethics Committee came the resolution that recordings should not be made of any quartet without its permission and those who have cut such records should be advised not to distribute them. The Ethics Committee also took a full swing and follow through at suggestive actions and lyrics in any public singing by SPEBSQSA quartets.

The Int'l. office is now keeping a duplicate set of information on old songs hunted down by the Old Songs Committee. A folio of barbershop arrangements of public domain songs arranged by Society members is contemplated. In judging, the importance of Stage Presence is recognized by the fact that in the future the two judges of Stage Presence will deal with 100 points each, total 200 points instead of 100 as formerly. Each will start with 80 points deducting penalties for poise, presentation, appear-

(Continued on page 4)

Few of the Judges who gave the nod to the Doctors of Harmony at the end of the Int'l. Contest Saturday night, June 14, recognized one number they sang, written by "Jumbo" Smith tenor, which lays at rest any buzz-buzz that "you've got to have numbers that the judges know and like". Nor did many of the judges know how that Elkhart, Ind. quartet had worked for two years right up to the contest time. An occupant of the room next to theirs at Milwaukee reported that the Doctors stayed in their room most of the time after they arrived, had their meals sent in, rehearsed, and rehearsed some more.

THE DOCTORS OF HARMONY Elkhart, Indiana



Milwaukee Journal Photo

1947 CHAMPIONS

Top, down—"Junior" Cripe, lead;
"Butch" Hummel, bari; "Reverend"
Kidder, bass; "Jumbo" Smith, tenor.

Crowd reaction and comment from other quartets, including the second place Lions Club Serenaders, proved that the decision was a popular one and merited by every standard of judging.

It was hard for the Serenaders to take second place (for the fifth time) but they took it standing up acclaiming the Doctors' performance as the best of the five finalists, a statement verified by the third place Mid-States Four, Chicago; the Chordoliers of Rock Island in fourth place for the second consecutive year, and the Westinghouse Quartet, Pittsburgh. In addition to these, the other 10 Semi-Finalists were: (Morning Prelim.—Friday, June 13) Continentals, Muskegon; Hi-Lo Quartet, Milwaukee; Jolly Fellows, Dayton; Four Naturals, New Haven; Gardenaires, Redford-Detroit; Clef Dwellers, Oakland County, Mich. (Afternoon) Big Towners, Chicago; Harmonaires, Gary; Songfellows, Evansville; and the Lamplighters, Cleveland. Rounding out the 29 quartets, winners in the Sectional Preliminaries, who reported at Milwaukee: Tomcats, Massillon; Jolly Whalers, New Bedford; Bonanza Four, Reno; Antlers, Flint; Coca Cola Four, Hutchinson (Kans.); Mello-Men, Chicago; Four Kernels, Omaha; Buzz Saws, Columbus (Ohio); Harmonizers, Baltimore; Food City Four, Battle

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Judges Study Judging in Rules-Methods Seminar

Premising the judges meeting, afternoon of June 14, on necessity for judges to know rules and their interpretations, and on "bending over backward in giving all competing quartets all possible 'breaks'," Chmn. M. E. Reagan conducted a demonstration-discussion session with certified judges that would have gone all afternoon but for the fact that most had dates to attend the afternoon Jamboree.

Starting with fundamentals, he demonstrated the "ladder of tones" (chromatic scales), seven basic chords and their inversions used most frequently in barbershop quartet work, the "circle of 5ths" which is an infallible guide to key changes; and gave the group a quick taste of the "Clock System" by which each chord is identified by its place on a 12-unit "clock" face.

Reagan stressed the fact that rules must "encourage" quartets while "preserving" barbershop type harmony. In that connection most of the judges felt that the melody also should be preserved, though an occasional original note thrown in by the quartet in search of unusual arrangements would not be judged too harshly. It was generally agreed that 6th chords can be used logically for song endings, but that ending on a 7th chord "leaves the harmony out on a limb" since the 7th is a resolving chord.

An indication of interest in the School came from the many who asked that more hours be allotted to the next school.

Several recommendations made by judges are now being studied by the Committee on Judging. Any changes will be announced in plenty of time for quartets to be thoroughly familiar with them before the '48 Int'l. contest at Ohsee.

NEWS FOR SEC'S

The Board has authorized the issuance of special solid gold lapel emblems for Past Chapter Secretaries. Order from the Int'l. Sec., \$6.00 plus postage. Don't send checks in advance. Just send in your order. Emblem and invoice will be sent by the manufacturing jewelers, Weyhing Brothers.

"YOU'RE ON THE AIR"

Thanks to Mutual

Reports and congratulations on the Mutual Network broadcast from Milwaukee continue to filter in. It seems that about 19,000 members who did not attend the Int'l. contest were grouped with family and friends around the country's receiving sets, and they'd notified most of their music-loving friends to do likewise. The program went out from 400 stations, through WGN, Chicago. The audience at the Auditorium, exceeding 6,000, received written instructions about the part it was to play, and it played its part like an old troupier under guidance of Geo. W. Campbell. "Good radio!", the comment of an experienced producer sitting in the audience, covers the planning, and execution which proceeded with split-second precision, no flat spots and no gaps.

Cutting into the stage program as the judges' decisions were in final stages, listeners got a lift from crowd singing of The Old Songs, learned facts about the Int'l. contest, "met" Pres. Thorne, and progressed step by step through the announcements, introductions and song responses of the top five.

Pres. Thorne was spokesman for the entire Society when he expressed "appreciation for the wonderful cooperation given by Mutual network and station WGN, not only on this, but on many other occasions." Mutual's 400th station WMID, Atlantic City, christened that day with barbershop harmony, is off to a propitious start. Holland Engle announced the show which was written and directed by Bruce Dennis of Mutual's Chicago Special Feature Department.

INT'L BOARD MEETS

(Continued from page 3)

ance, etc. and adding earned credits. Quartets not appearing in costume or uniform dress will be disqualified. The Judges committee continues to work toward international uniformity in judging.

It was recommended that the Society look into the possibility of setting convention dates two years ahead in order for the host city to be fully prepared. Chapter secretaries were urged to utilize the plan offered by the Int'l. office for direct mailing of the Harmonizer to members. International Secretary Carroll P. Adams was retained, unanimously, for the 1947-48 fiscal year. The ten-year history of the Society is moving along on schedule with a wealth of material being collected for editing into shape by the time the clans gather at Oklahoma City in '48.

BARBERSHOP HARMONY

APPROVED BY WAR DEPARTMENT

When Imm. P. Pres. Frank H. Thorne heard in May that the War Department had banned barbershop harmony among American and allied personnel in Germany, his immediate protest to Gen. Eisenhower was loaded with facts as to why such a move was questionable. Letters flew, cables clicked, with the result that Thorne was able to read to the Saturday afternoon Jamboree, Milwaukee, a message of assurance that singing was banned only after hours, and that the word "barbershop" had been deleted from the order. Furthermore, the cable stated that the policy of the Civil Affairs office "favors informal and community entertainment on every appropriate occasion."

"Doctors" Win Contest

(Continued from page 3)

Creek; Potomac Clippers, Washington, D. C.; Gamboliars, Kansas City; Atomic Bums, Minneapolis; and the Withered Four, Paterson.

Of the 139 quartets entered in the 8 Sectional Preliminary contests 119 actually competed: Paterson 15; Toledo 25; Indianapolis 12; Jackson (Mich.) 15; Chicago, 11; Manitowoc, 9; Joplin, 17; Long Beach, (Cal.) 15.

Wrote Pres. Thorne to all contestants: "Every quartet in our contest at Milwaukee has fine possibilities, so I hope you will carry on the true barbershop tradition . . . by trying you will be a better quartet, and will have fun and enjoyment out of this, the best, the greatest, most relaxing and beneficial hobby of all time."

The alternates chosen in the eight contests: Paterson—Four Chords, Newark; Toledo—Forest City 4, Cleveland; Indianapolis—Kentucky Troubadours, Louisville; Jackson, Mich.—Barons of Harmony, Saginaw; Chicago—Promenaders, Decatur; Manitowoc—Keynotes, Appleton; Joplin—W. O. W. Announcers, Omaha; Long Beach—Four Staters, San Diego.

THEY CALLED 'EM THE WAY THEY HEARD 'EM



Judges at Toledo Sectional Preliminaries. L. to R.—Herman Struble and Jimmy Doyle, Chicago (Elastics). "Doc" Fendley and Int'l. Bd. Member Art Merrill, Schenectady, Int'l. Bd. Member Dick Common, Dayton. This group might well be termed "typical" of judges who did the first screening for '47 Int'l. Finals. They combine ability with strict judicial analysis of what they hear.

THE OTHER FOUR MILWAUKEE TOPPERS



2nd ↑

Don Stone, bass
Ben Franklin, lead

LION'S CLUB
SERENADERS
Kansas City



Bert Phelps, bari
Jim Hurley, tenor



3rd ←

Bob (Mack)
Rodriguez, t.;
Forrest Haynes, bari;
Marty Mendro, lead;

MID-STATES 4
Chicago

Art Gracey, bass.



4th ↑
CHORDOLIERS, Rock Island, Ill.

Above L to R—Walt Chambers, bass;
Louis P. J. Coopmans, lead.

Below L to R—Harold Gray, tenor;
John Gustafson, bari.

5th ↓

WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET, Pittsburgh
L to R—Carl Chada, tenor; Ed Beers, lead;
“Pete” Elder, bari; Ed Hanson, bass.



HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE ST. LOUIS-'41



More than 6,000 turned out to the Milwaukee Finals. Almost 8,000 heard them in Cleveland in '46. Here are the national semi-finals in Coronado Hotel ballroom, St. Louis in '41. Maybe 250 if you count some noses twice. Hall so big that photographer cut out judges tables right and left. Without searching, your editor recognized Roy Fox, Red Elliott of the old Flat Foot Four; John Whalen, deceased Flat Foot tenor; Joe Wolf, Bob Shreves, Hank Wright, Harry Brown, Joe Murrin, Frank Dragoo, deceased bari of Harmony Kings; Dick McVay, Ben Franklin, Doc Nelson, Dick Sturges, Rudy Heinen, Leo Ives, Maurice Reagan, Phil Embury, Doc Rathert, Hal Staab, Joe Stern, O. C. Cash.

IT'S OKLAHOMA CITY IN '48

Society Returns to Birthplace

Start laying your plans now for headin' to the roundup at Oklahoma City, June 11 and 12, '48. Tulsa hoped to have it in celebration of the Society's Tenth Anniversary. Tulsans were all set to point out the building where the Society was born, April 11, 1938, to O. C. Cash and 36 others who attended the first meeting. But, Tulsa doesn't have the auditorium facilities necessary nowadays, so we go next door to Oklahoma's capital city. R. H. (Rudy) Verderber, Cleveland, transportation authority, is preparing a detailed study of facilities, costs and travel time by train, plane, bus and private car from easterly points, which will appear in the November Harmonizer. But now is none too soon to start planning that 1948 vacation for mid-

June, and for quartets to start a "kitty" that will assure their trip to Oklahoma City. Those Oklahoma boys are experienced in putting on SPEBSQSA affairs in a big way. Their two Parades were "national" in quartets that participated, sellouts audience-wise, and included trips to the Likens and Turner ranches. In inviting the Society to Oklahoma, Gov. Roy J. Turner, a died-in-the-wool member wrote in part; "It is appropriate that our organization's convention be returned to Oklahoma to mark the tenth year of its founding in Oklahoma . . . by convening here all of our members will have an opportunity to honor the men who originated and developed the Society." June comes soon—plan to be there—and make it stick.

"HOW TO GET TO OKLAHOMA"

There are two ways . . . one is to "catch" it at the nearest city the Oklahoma road show happens to be playing . . . the other, to hop a rattler and go there. Most of our members and quartets who plan to "Go to Oklahoma" next year will go by plane, train, bus, or jalop. Since Oklahoma City, scene of our '48 Contest is a mile or three from most places; 1600 from New York, 850 from Chicago, your correspondent felt called upon to issue a warning and propose a solution, (strictly unofficial). You can easily find out what transportation will cost. Multiply that by four and you have the cost of moving the quartet. Be sure to ask for round trip figures. It's important to get home afterward. Strangely, most quartet men we know like to eat, (we've even seen one eat spaghetti at 4:30 A. M.). Some of them use beds, particularly at night. Then are the tips and other incidentals that so frequently chew a tenner into tiny, unrecognizable fragments. For such as bring their wives, (an ever increasing number), there's a double order of jackaloo to cook up.

Here is the proposed solution (still strictly unofficial):—

(1) Each quartet that thinks it's good enough to compete next June, (Adams, what's the total number of quartets?), should take stock now, figure out whether or not it will be possible for all four men to take off the five to seven days needed, (by arranging vacations, etc.), and then set up a "kitty" to pile up mounds of moola in the next ten months.

(2) Any chapter that has, or thinks it has, talent that'll be there or thereabouts in '48 should seriously consider ways and means of growing some lettuce to help out the contesting fours.

(3) Each District should immediately figure out what it can do to help financially, whether out of "profits" from the District Contest, or a usable surplus derived from other things.

A workable formula might well be . . . 1/3rd of expenses to be put up by the quartets; 1/3rd by their own chapters; 1/3rd by the District. Anyhow you can't say, "We wuzn't warned."

J. F. K.

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The Remick Music Corp. gave the Society permission to use "Chinatown" which appeared on the cover of May '47 HARMONIZER. The courtesy line "by permission of the copyright owners, Remick Music Corp." was omitted. The Society recognizes the fact that songs are properly, and regrets the omission.

marks

3

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Charles M. Merrill

MERRILL HEADS SOCIETY

President Charles M. Merrill came into the Society under the splendid auspices of men's choruses in which he was, and still is, very active as Director of Reno Men's Chorus. Whether or not the Board realized the fact, it carried out a tradition of electing a well qualified musician as president. His arrangements are tried out first on the Bonanza Four in which he sings bari, and many are now in frequent use by other quartets.

Merrill threatens to be 40 years old very soon. He was originally from Piedmont, California, where the girl he married lived just around the corner from him and his brother, Arthur A., who is on the Board. The Merrills have a boy and a girl.

In addition to his singing hobby, Charlie enjoys getting into the high Sierras around Lake Tahoe where the skiing is fast and plenty of it. He graduated from the University of California in 1928 where he was a member of Theta Chi Fraternity. Later he graduated in law at Harvard Law School. His law work leans heavily to the practice of mining legalities, a highly specialized subject.

Members who want his autograph should be sure that they are requesting it from the man by the name of Merrill. Recently a bill was received at Int'l. Hdq. for imprinting the new president's signature on characters. The bill read "imprinting name of Charles les Cecerriel."

No doubt Charlie's experience with choruses, both formal and barbershop, is back of the many expressions heard at Milwaukee about the "smooth professional handling" of the show on which he me'd.

Other officers were named by the Board as follows: Sandford Brown, New York, First Vice President; J. D. Beeler, Evansville, Vice President (2nd term); O. H. (King) Cole, Manitowoc, Vice President; Edwin S. Smith, Wayne, Mich., Vice President; Robert L. Irvine, River Forest, Ill., Treasurer; Harold B. Staab, Northampton, Mass., Historian.

Without opposition, O. C. Cash was re-elected for the ninth term as Founder and Permanent Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman.

Climaxed by what was unquestionably the grandest contest and convention yet held, the Society's ninth year has drawn to a most successful close. To pay tribute to the deserving many who have contributed to its success would more than exhaust this column. Certainly, however, the year would not be complete without recognition of the outstanding leadership given by Immediate Past President Frank Thorne. Frank may retire from the presidency; but with talent such as his in all Society fields, we can be assured that he will continue as one of the most active men in our organization.

During the current year we shall reach an important Society milestone. In June, 1948, at Oklahoma City, the Society at its annual contest and convention will celebrate its tenth anniversary.

An anniversary year is a challenge to any organization. As Society members we must recognize the nature of our own challenge and prepare to meet it. Our challenge is not one of continued growth. It is one of carefully controlled growth and consolidation. We must realize that as an international

organization we have come of age and that growth without careful control will not constitute progress.

We must appreciate our Society for what it has become: a unique musical fraternal and service society with a reputation to prize and protect.

We must exercise care and discrimination in securing only the right kind of things for our Society: the right kind of members and chapters and officers: the right kind of public performances and chapter functions: the right kind of publicity.

With such care and discrimination constantly exercised our growth will continue; and it will be the right kind of growth: a growth that constitutes progress — that increases strength rather than magnifies weakness.

So let us not keep our eyes glued on the future to the exclusion of the day-by-day present. If we so guard the present that only these right things come to our Society, we shall victoriously have met our challenge and will next June, with justifiable pride, greet our tenth anniversary.

C. M. M.

"EFER-IFER" DEMANDS "HABUS CAPPUS"

by W. Welsh Pierce

Dear Carroll:

You might think I had settled that Solfaldi Doremi thing once and for all, but it seems no.

Last month I was up in Wisconsin chasing a rumor about flying disks and happened to be in Milwaukee. The hotel was kinda crowded and I noticed there was a lot more lobby-singing than is usual for the average Dog and Cat Fur Association type of convention and I asked around and doggone if it wasn't our own SPEB shindig. I knew it was coming up but hadn't noticed any announcements as to when and where.

I thought I might as well stay since I hadn't seen no disks to speak of so I went up to the room clerk and told him I wanted a nice corner room, with parlor, and mentioned a few decorative items I always insist on and he says "Certainly, Sir. We have a choice for you on the 6th, 9th and 14th floors. Have you any preference?" I said no, so he puts me on the 2nd floor, behind the elevator, over the boiler room . . . in the Hotel Mazurka which is 2 miles east of Madison.

But about Solfaldi. You was there so there is no need to tell you about the counter-convention held on the 4th floor by Chicago. How did they happen to pick the same day as us? Anyway on Friday A. M. over at the Auditorium we heard some gosh-awful swell singing and it would have been

perfect except the Referee, Hal Staab, took up Molly Reagan's side of the battle and discoursed at length (between quartets) on tonic chords. He knows we aren't supposed to mention drinking in our meeting and so I think he ought to be punished. Say, like takin' away his "tonic" for 90 days.

Later on I meets Molly Reagan in the lobby and he says he is going to sue me for malfeasance, malpractice or mal-something. At least that's what I thought until I see him in deep conversation with Staab and then I realize what he had said was he was going to "sue me and Hal for grievance." If he does I'm going to demand a recount, a habbus cappus, a moratorium and a change of venison. It wasn't me that gave him a Staab in the back!

Don't write me until I give you my new address which won't be until court adjourns. I can't decide between Atlanta or Alcatraz.

Sing-cerely,

Efer Ifer (Number to be assigned)

DISC FANS, NOTE

Those superlative top five quartets heard in the contest finals made a set of recordings before the finals in Milwaukee and the records are now on sale. It's a three record set, the price, \$3.60 post paid. Checks should be made to Wurlitzer, Inc., and sent to Int'l. office.

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MULTI-CHAPTER MEETINGS

An Excellent Move

Elsewhere in this issue is a report by Int'l. Vice Pres. Ed Smith about the southern Michigan small town chapters which get together for their meetings.

This is a splendid move because, as Int'l. Sec. Adams says, "It gives to the smaller chapters a chance to become strong by associating more closely with neighbors."

Chapter-wise, it is one of the most constructive moves that has come to our attention in a long time and is well worth copying by others in the small-to-medium category, anywhere.

REPORT OF ETHICS COMMITTEE

Submitted to International Board at Milwaukee on June 11, 1947

This Committee has had assigned to it the question of the propriety of use of record cutters at Society functions. It is unanimously felt that cutting and distributing of records without consent of the quartet is improper, and that the Society should take steps to the end that the practice be stopped.

It is recommended:—

1. That those who have cut records in the past be advised not to distribute without quartet consent.
2. That all host chapters for Society functions be advised not to permit record cutting without quartet consent.
3. That the Harmonizer refuse notices to records cut without consent.

Should the practice continue, further action may then be considered.

Ed. Note: And furthermore there's danger of treading on the toes of music publishers and ASCAP.

RIGHT SPIRIT

Because R. B. Borsen, Tenor, The Four Kernels, Omaha, expressed such a fine attitude toward quartet competition it becomes an editorial without comment. The Four Kernels were chosen to compete at Milwaukee.

"We were privileged to be chosen as one of the five quartets and realize that we are going to have a lot of hard work to do in order to have any hopes in the Milwaukee competition. The other three Kernels, however, feel that they should have some idea as to how much practice we should put in — whether it should be just every night for the next four weeks, or night and day.

If we never get farther up the line than one of the first five at Joplin, I want to express, in behalf of all Four Kernels, our collective gratitude to the Society and its executive members for the best organization yet conceived, bar none."

Clear all dates of Ladies' Nights, Parades, Charter Nights, etc. with the Int'l. Sec.'s office, and (equally important) with the Secretary of your District.

GOOD CONDUCT—AND GETTING CREDIT FOR IT

by Walter Jay Stephens
International Chairman
Public Relations

Offenses against the public interest have taken several forms and many of our chapters and members have been unintentionally guilty of them. Some have been evidenced in the press, but many more are made in our direct personal contacts in public places. For example, our behavior at after glows—hospitality rooms—impromptu quartets in hotel corridors at late hours (some of which have been tinged with offenses), have reacted contrary to the best public interest.

It is just as vitally important to observe care in our personal behavior in public as it is to see that our write-ups are of a high calibre. Whether contacts with the public are in person or by the printed word, the reaction of public opinion is identical. Recently, past International President Phil Embury wrote:

"We can be a great International institution or an awful flop. It's up to our members. It can't be expected that Public Relations can make over mass morals but surely if our members are truly interested in our Society, they should be willing to shape their conduct in line with successful principles as laid down by the committee."

Public opinion plays no favorites; it is quick to react to any force that threatens it. Therefore, let each and every member reflect good conduct and you will realize the most potent force in the world—working for the good of our grand Society—the force of favorable public opinion.

What is more, you will see that a meticulous regard for the public interest actually reflects to your own self-interest.

Therefore, your big job as an individual is to 'sell' yourself, as well as our Society, to the public in general at every opportunity—establishing the fact that our Society is a public service and what is more, an important contribution to the musical and spiritual expression of North America.

Let us also establish the point that there are sound ethics and fine principles behind our Society . . . and never lose sight of the important fact that Public Relations for our Society, both locally and internationally, is 'good conduct—and getting credit for it.'

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS, 1947-1948

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The Officers (except Secretary) and
(Term Expiring in June, 1950)

JEAN M. BOARDMAN, Southern Bldg., Washington, D. C. (Attorney at Law)
WILLIAM B. CODDINGTON, Porterville Road, East Aurora, N. Y. (Dist. Mgr., United Eastern Coal Sales Corp.)
WILLIS A. DIEKEMA, 130 Central Ave., Holland, Mich. (Pres., The De Pree Company)
JAMES H. EMSLEY, 804 Peoples Bank Bldg., Canton 2, Ohio (Attorney at Law)
HOWARD C. MELLOW, P. O. Box 373, Peoria, Ill. (Real Estate Development)
RUSSELL C. STANTON, 222 Pasquel Ave San Gabriel, Cal. (Dist. Mgr., John Morrell & Co.)

EARLY BIRDS GET HARMONIZER FIRST

About 50 secretaries took advantage of the opportunity to mail the last issue of the Harmonizer direct from Cleveland to their members. As a result 4,000 members received the May 15th issue within a few days after publication.

Informal investigation showed that some members had not received their copies through the local chapter secretary up to the time of the Milwaukee Convention, June 15.

All secretaries have been notified that Harmonizers will be mailed direct from Cleveland if they will use the regular Harmonizer envelopes, address them to members, return address them, affix a 3c stamp and send them by Parcel Post or Express to Martin Printing Co., 640 Caxton Bldg., Cleveland 15, Ohio, attention of J. F. Knipe, President.

ALL BENEFIT WHEN SOCIETY GOES "SOCIETY"

An example of SPEBSQSA cooperation is cited on the society page, Chicago Daily News, May 13, in a report of Barrington, Ill. quartets singing for Greek War Relief.

The story, written by a society editor, brought out names of SPEB people co-operating with the local Relief Committee. The combination of names welds our Society directly into an activity outside its regular interests and in consequence is a fine example of splendid local public relations.

It is particularly good in this case because the grapevine telegraph informs us that the Greek War Relief Committee had asked for "publicity" for this benefit and were turned down until the chairman mentioned that SPEBSQSA would be on the program. Whereupon the newspaper representative said "Well that's different". So, good-will all around.

See the new International Directory of Chapters—back pages.

Register your quartet name and personnel with the Int'l. Secretary and save duplication, confusion and embarrassment.

CLARE E. WILSON, 614 Electric Bldg., Omaha, Nebraska
(Dir. Sales Agt., Pittsburgh & Midway Coal Mining Co.)

(Term Expires in June, 1949)

W. LESTER DAVIS, 242 Huron St., London, Ont.
(Treasurer, John Labatt Ltd.)

E. H. DICK, 305 N. W. 27th, Oklahoma City 3, Okla.
(President, General Construction Corp.)

EDWARD G. FAHNESTOCK, 1600 E. Douglas, Wichita 7, Kansas
(President, Fahnestock, Inc.)

TED E. HABERKORN, SR., Medical Arts Bldg., Fort Wayne 2, Ind.
(Underwriter, The Medical Protective Co.)

ROY S. HARVEY, 141 E. Cleveland Ave., Muskegon Heights, Mich.
(General Purchasing Agent, Sealed Power Corp.)



THE MID-STATES FOUR—as seen by Beaudin

DEFINES "SCIOT"

Thanks to W. W. Weber, Capt. U.S.N. (Ret.) for defining "Sciot." In the May issue reference was made to West Coast activities which included the Sciot band, etc., and the question was "what is a Sciot?" Capt. Weber, member of Long Beach Chapter and former member of Chicago and Oak Park Chapters, informs us that Sciots are the West Coast equivalent of the Eastern Grotto, "the playground for Masons who have not gone above the third degree." Now we can get a good night's sleep.

PONTIAC AIDS VETS

The Pontiac, Michigan Chapter has used \$1,000 of its Veterans Hospital Fund to purchase and install special blackout curtains for use in many wards largely occupied by bedridden patients, at Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, so that many can enjoy the benefit of motion pictures during daylight hours. This unusual type of urgent need was determined after many interviews with patients. Installation of the blackout curtains is being consummated through the co-operation of the American Red Cross.

"A BUDGET IS A 'MUST'"

A budget should be a "must" for every chapter. Here's one that may well serve as a model. Based on 13 regular meetings and 13 special events during the fiscal year, the budget takes into account fixed expenses such as Int'l. per capita tax; cost of meeting rooms; stationery, bulletins, etc.; charter of buses for visits to nearby chapters; entertainment of visiting chapters; Ladies' Night, etc. The balance on hand in the Treasury, July 1, 1947, plus anticipated dues collection equal the projected expense. Extraordinary expenses such as financial aid to quartets qualifying for the Int'l. Contest are to be provided for from anticipated surplus from projected Parade of Quartets.

Here's how the breakdown looks:—

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Int'l. per capita dues | \$225.00 |
| 13 regular meetings | 260.00 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Stationery, bulletins, etc. | 300.00 |
| Bus charters (3) | 120.00 |
| Entertainment, visitors | 60.00 |
| 5 possible regular meetings (in event no good "special" is dreamed up) | 100.00 |
| Ladies' Night (partly self-sustaining) | 150.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 10.00 |
| | \$1225.00 |
| Balance on hand 7/1/47 | \$ 500.00 |
| Anticipated dues collection \$ | 825.00 |
| | \$1325.00 |

Expenses and profit from projected Parade are kept in a separate account and do not enter into the regular budget.

No chapter should attempt to operate without a carefully prepared in advance budget.

J. F. K.

ARTHUR A. MERRILL, 1567 Kingston Ave., Schenectady 8, N. Y.
(Commercial Engineer, General Electric Co.)
WALTER JAY STEPHENS, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill.
(Vice-Pres. and Director, Stenmar Co., Inc.)

(Term Expires in June, 1948)

JOHN J. BRIODY, 110 Lincoln St., Jersey City 7, New Jersey

G. MARVIN BROWER, 107 Michigan Ave., N. W., Grand Rapids 2, Mich.
(Proprietor, Brower Memorials)

WALTER E. CHAMBERS, P. O. Box 208, Rock Island, Ill.
(Personnel Director, McCabe Dry Goods Co.)

W. D. COMMON, P. O. Box 1018, Dayton 1, Ohio
(General Manager, Moraine Box Co.)

A. H. FALK, 219 W. Commercial St., Appleton, Wis. (H. C. Prange Company)

MAURICE E. REAGAN, 325 Castlegate Road, Pittsburgh 21, Pa.
(Electrical Engineer, Westinghouse Electric Corp.)

HOMER L. SCOTT, 38 Ver Planck St., Geneva, New York
(Eastern Factory Rep., Rohns Stove Co.)

GUY L. STOPPERT, 1326 W. Dartmouth St., Flint 4, Mich.
(Exec. Sec'y., Associated Male Chorus of America, Inc.)

Copyright, August, 1947

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



TAKE A TRIP THROUGH HARMONYLAND

Newsweek's "Sing a Song of Readers" promotion piece to show purchasing power of its readers is presented in quartet style, "being a recording of close harmony on Newsweek reader facts that make sweet music for advertisers". The four singers might well be taken out of a typical SPEB chapter, BUT whoever heard of a "second tenor" in barbershopdom? We don't even have them in our choruses.

Items which you may have missed in Int'l. Board transactions, Mid-winter, Omaha: Sixteen members needed to qualify for a charter and to maintain a chapter: An emergency can arise during travel of a quartet to appear on a program, therefore the Statement of Policy that all quartets failing to arrive for appearance on a program shall be paid their out-of-pocket expense for the portion of the trip they actually made (if grounded, for example): A member who is acceptable to a second chapter may transfer from one chapter to another during the first nine months of a fiscal year by payment of a \$1 transfer fee to the second chapter and a letter of honorable dismissal from the first one.

"So help me, Hannah!", "cross my heart", "honest to goodness", it's the Gospel truth that two women stood on a streetcorner in Warsaw, N. Y. "waiting for the Parade to go by" before they discovered that our Quartet Parades are not street p-a-r-a-d-e-s but concerts. Perhaps all quartets should parade, like the old minstrels, to the place where they are giving the parade-concert so that in the future the public won't be mis-informed.

Those versatile K.C. Vaudevillians performed in two different towns (200 miles apart) at the same hour when, by mistake, two dates were booked for the same day. Franks and Denni went to Pittsburg, Kansas, and did their piano act — the four handfuls of harmony and rhythm, plus Denni acting as Mc and Franks as "expediter" back stage and stage manager. The other two, Red Davenport and Joe Stern, went to Topeka, where Joe accompanied Red as he entertained. Lady Windemere (Mrs. P. M. Franks) a fifth member of the act was Mc. If it has to be done the Vaudevillians will and can do it!

Then there's the one about a good salesman being able to sell anyone the Brooklyn Bridge. Just because the manager of Indianapolis Symphony

Orchestra couldn't sell a feminine customer five tickets "for Sunday", as requested doesn't prove that he lacks sales ability. The lady wanted tickets for the "Barber Shop Quartet Sunday concert", not the Symphony at \$7.20. Which brings to mind Imm. Past Pres. Thorne's Four B's "Beethoven, Bach, Brahms, and Barber Shop".

Chas. M. Merrill, Int'l. Pres. is not only bass of the Bonanza 4, Reno, Nev., but also Conductor of the Reno Men's Chorus which does serious choral work. The Bonanzas recently appeared on a Men's Chorus Concert featuring a guest piano soloist in Beethoven and Chopin. Which again places Barbershop alongside Beethoven. Bonanzas reported as "the hit of the show".

When the Faculty entertained the students on the 75th Anniversary of Smith College, a faculty quartet dressed as the traditional Smith "Smiffen-poofts" in wigs of yarn, white skirts, and blue sweaters was organized by Richard Ballou, John Duke, Otto Kraushaar, and Ross Finney. The amazed student body encored the quartet several times. Most of the students were unaware that President Davis was an oldtime quarteter, and they enjoyed it doubly when he joined the group, donned a straw hat, twirled a cane, and performed with the ease and voice of any seasoned quartet member.

E. O. (Bill) Shreve, newly elected President of the United States Chamber of Commerce and Vice-President of the General Electric Company is a member of the Schenectady Chapter. And that chapter will have us know that it is not an honorary membership but that he joined voluntarily, and that he is "very proud of our organization".

Although chapters were notified that Duffy's Tavern on July 11th would be built around our Milwaukee Convention, it wasn't. The N. Y. agency wired and wrote that all arrangements had been made to devote the entire half hour to plugging our convention. Apparently they decided at the last minute to substitute a Father's Day theme. They haven't yet told us why.

Important International News Briefs

Zippo lighters with the official SPEBSQSA emblem are now available through the Int'l. Secy. at \$3.00 post-paid. The first shipment, on sale at Milwaukee, disappeared the first day. New shipment allows filling of orders immediately.

Thanks to Fred Fox, Imm. Past Sec. Detroit Chapter, the Society received a fine plug on the Coast to Coast Mutual show "Name that Song" on May 28. In submitting Fred's three selections to the contestant M. C. Dud Williams took occasion to mention Fred's capacity in the Society and also made several complimentary comments about our organization.

It is very possible that D. N. Boyce, 89-year-old tenor, of Tuscola, Ill. is No. 1 "Oldest Member in the Society." With barbershoppers it's "neither too young nor too old."

Charter Presentation Ceremony was highlight of an all-day picnic for Tuscola, Ill. Chapter on July 20. This great event was publicized in a unique way. An airport owner had 10,000 bills scattered from the air all through that territory.

SPEBSQSA, Inc. headed the list of ten outstanding musical organizations which participated in the eighth annual Gary Music Festival on June 3rd. The advance mailing piece for the Festival described SPEB as "a new-comer in our Festival Group."

On June 8, Harold (Hal) B. Staab, 2-term Int'l. Pres., who is currently Society Historian, received the University of Mass. Academic Award in recognition of his musical services to the Class of 1913, and for his contributions as a composer and as a cultivator of that "musical hobby . . . barbershop quartet close harmony" which has aided his Alma Mater "to maintain music as adult recreation."

Board at Milwaukee didn't muffle its duty and pleasant privilege of inscribing sincere resolution of thanks to Frank Thorne, retiring president; the Garden Staters, retiring Int'l. champions; Joe Stern, long-time Treasurer; and Dick Sturges, Historian Extraordinary.

(Follow the little men)



Keep Posted

From Louisville Chapter bulletin, June 2: "Barbershop" Singing causes one to exert physical and mental power for the accomplishment of expertness . . . The study of a life time in which you may exhaust yourself but never your subject. It is a contest, calling for courage, skill and self control. It is a test of temper, a revealer of Character. It is a cure for care, an antidote for worry and offers opportunities for new friends and new localities. It affords the chance to act the gentleman and relieves one of mental cobwebs. It gives one an opportunity to be a champion of courtesy, kindness and generosity. It promotes general good health and fine friends."



"Little Doc" Nelson is let down when a quartet hits a chord that "doesn't belong." But a good one shakes him in his shoes. In the Champions Show after the b. c the Four Harmonizers came through to his liking. As a tear trickled, he turned to Maurice Reagan and said "They sure milked that one dry."

FOUR FLAT TIRES



Why they call themselves "flat" nobody knows because neither their appearance nor singing bears out the title. L. to R.—Alberta Parker, bass; Pauline Hirsh, lead; Marie Murphy, tenor; Lucille Urbans, bar. All are stenographers at the U. S. Rubber Co., Fisk Tire Division, N. Y. City. On invitation they appeared on "Ladies' Night, Manhattan, N. Y. Chapter program." (U. S. Rubber Co. picture).

Each Chapter President and each Chapter Secretary should have a Chapter Reference Manual and should refer to it frequently.

SONGS SUNG AT MILWAUKEE

(As Recorded by Ted Tinsman, Rochester, N. Y.)

Titles may not be exact in some cases, but songs will be recognizable.

PRELIMINARIES

Continental, Meet Me in St. Louis, Heart of My Heart—Medley.

Midstates Four, I Want a Girl, Old Black Joe, Doctors of Harmony, Dreamy Wabash River, I Love you the best of all.

Tom Cats, Old Mill Stream, Carolina in the Morning.

Jolly Whalers, Way Down Home—Medley, Zipadee Doodah—Medley.

Bonanza Four, Over the Hills to Virginia, There Will be Some Changes Made.

Antlers, I Love You the Best of All, Indiana—Medley.

Coca Cola Four, Lindy, My Little Girl—Medley.

Hi-Lo Quartet, Walkin' With My Honey—Medley, Memories.

Mello-Men, Old Cherry Orchard, My Gal Sal.

Jolly Fellows, Where the Morning Glories Grow, Ma, She's Makin' Eyes at Me.

Four Naturals, When the Man in the Moon Says Hello, Dear, When a Peach Way Down in Georgia Weds a Rose from Alabam.

Gardenaires, Roll on, Tennessee Moon, I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles.

Four Kernels, When It's Moonlight, Nellie Darling, I'm Afraid to Love You.

Clef Dwellers, Down in Loo'stana, Mandy Lee.

Buzz Saws, Red, Red Rose—Medley, Somebody Loves Me.

Chordollers, Down on the Levee, Tura Lura and Irish Eyes.

Harmonizers Quartette, Mandy and Me, I'm Going Away Back Home and Have a Wonderful Time.

Food City Four, Southern Medley, Jealous.

Llamaires, Riding Down the Canyon, Apple Blossom Time.

Big Towners, Never Miss the Sunshine, Down the Trail to Home Sweet Home.

Harmonizers, Honey Man, All By Myself.

Westinghouse Quartet, Where the Roses Have Faded Away, Frolics.

Potomac Clippers, Gang That Sang Heart of My Heart, Moon Over Brooklyn.

Songfellows, Love to Live in Loveland—Medley, I'd Like to Bring Back that Old Quartet, Gamblers, Down in Arkansas, If I Had My Way.

Atomic Bums, Gang that Sang Heart of My Heart, Bridget O'Flynn.

Lamplighters, 5 Ft. 2, Memories.

Lions Club Serenaders, Ireland Must Be Heaven, Blue Hawaii.

Withered Four, Moonbeams—Medley, Yona from Arizona.

SEMI-FINALS

Songfellows, Walkin' With My Honey—Medley, They Called It Dixieland.

Hi-Lo, When the Bees Are in the Hive, Kentucky, Good Morning.

Gary Harmonizers, Linda, I'm in Love With You, Violets Sweet.

Lamplighters, Melancholy Baby, My Josephine.

Doctors of Harmony, Mississippi Moon Roll On, No One Knows How Much I Love You.

Clef Dwellers, I've Got the Blues, Building a Sailboat of Dreams.

Chordollers, Alabama Jubilee, Old Shilach.

Four Naturals, Hello, Wisconsin, When Day is Done.

Mid-States, Rock Me to Sleep—Old Tenn. Home, When I Lost You.

Jolly Fellows, Indiana—Medley, On the Boardwalk in Atlantic City.

Big Towners, Mean Mamma, You Left Behind a Broken Doll.

Gardenaires, Mary—Medley, Darkness on the Delta.

Westinghouse Four, Don't Cry Little Girl, Smooth Sailing.

Continental, Wonder What's Become of Sally, I'm Alone Because I Love You.

Serenaders, M-o-t-h-e-r, Garland of Old Fashioned Roses.

The five Finalists sang the same songs in the Finals.

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We Three
Wait For Me Mary
Way Down South
I Get The Blues When It Rains
For Me and My Gal
Maybe

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1946-47 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Based upon achievements (1) for community benefit, (2) for SPEBSQSA, (3) for chapter members, the 1946-47 Chapter Achievement Awards were presented at the Saturday Jamboree, Milwaukee to:

Population Group 100,000 and over, 1st Place, Schenectady, N. Y.; 2nd Place, Tied, Chicago No. 1, Kansas City, Mo.; Honorable Mention, Fort Wayne, Jersey City.

30,000-99,000, 1st Place, Jackson, Mich.; 2nd Place, Racine, Wis.; Honorable Mention, Clayton, Mo., Hutchinson, Kans., London, Ont., Canada, Manitowoc, Wis., Saginaw, Mich., Santa Monica, Calif.

10,000-29,000, 1st Place, Northampton, Mass.; 2nd Place, San Gabriel, Calif.; Honorable Mention, Charleston, Ill., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

Up to 10,000, 1st Place, Warsaw, N. Y.; 2nd Place, Big Rapids, Mich., Honorable Mention, Boyne City, Mich., East Aurora, N. Y., Marcellus, Mich.

CHAPTER OFFICERS MEET AT MILWAUKEE

by R. L. Irvine

The Conference of Chapter Officers held Saturday morning at the International Convention in Milwaukee was well and enthusiastically attended. President-elect Charles M. Merrill presided, assisted by Bob Irvine and Art Merrill, members of the International Chapter-Methods Committee. Numerous chapter activities and methods were discussed. Stress was placed on the importance of appointing good men to committees, proper instructions as to their duties, and periodic follow up to see that committee duties are carried out.

Officers were urged to put the Chapter Reference Manual to the fullest use, making it available to the various standing committees. Merrill pointed out that the answers to many Chapter problems are covered in the Manual, but asked that any problems which are not covered be referred to Carroll Adams or his Associate, Bill Otto.

International Secretary Carroll Adams gave a short talk packed with helpful advice, and explained the procedure and advantages of secretaries sending stamped, addressed, Harmonizer envelopes to the printer for direct mailing of the Harmonizer to each member.

International President Frank Thorne, stressed the power for good to the Chapter and to the Society which a Chapter office carries with it and commented that the large percentage of Chapters represented at the meeting indicated gratifying realization of this responsibility.

PITTSBURGH AWARDED MID-WINTER BOARD MEETING

The International Board considered, by a mail vote, the invitations extended to sponsor the January 16th-17th meetings. Pittsburgh, Pa., was the winner and that chapter is now hard at work completing plans for the entertainment of the 31 members of the Society's governing body.

The climax of the schedule will be a super-colossal Parade in Syria Mosque on Saturday evening, the 17th. As we go to press, invitations have been extended to all five of the 1947 Medallion winning quartets to form the nucleus of the program, and Capt. Campbell has been asked to come to Pittsburgh to lead the community singing. Further details in the November HARMONIZER.

1947-1948 STANDING COMMITTEES

International President Charles Merrill has announced the Society's Committees for 1947-48, and here they are:

Achievement Awards—Edwin S. Smith, Ch.; W. Lester Davis; Willis A. Diekema; A. H. Falk and Guy Stoppert.

Chapter Methods—Dean Palmer, Ch.; R. Harry Brown; Wm. B. Coddington; James H. Ensley; Arthur A. Merrill; Thomas Needham and J. Frank Rice.

Community Service—Arthur A. Merrill, Ch.; W. D. Common; Roy S. Harvey; Russell C. Stanton and Clare E. Wilson.

Contest and Judging—Maurice E. Reagan, Ch.; J. D. Beeler; Jean Boardman; Harold K. (Hack) Sinclair; H. H. (Jumbo) Smith and Frank H. Thorne.

Districts—Maynard L. Graft, Ch.; C. W. Coye; Edward G. Fahnestock; Roy S. Harvey; Homer L. Scott and Russell C. Stanton.

Ethics—Sandford Brown, Ch.; J. D. Beeler; King Cole and Edwin S. Smith.

Executive—Charles M. Merrill, Ch.; Carroll P. Adams; Sandford Brown; Phil Embury; Robert L. Irvine and Frank H. Thorne.

Extension—King Cole, Ch.; Jean Boardman; Wm. B. Coddington; E. H. Diek and Howard Mellow.

Finance—Robert L. Irvine, Ch.; Sandford Brown and W. D. Common.

Harmonizer—Carroll P. Adams, Ch.; James F. Knipe; Deac Martin; J. George O'Brien and Walter Jay Stephens.

Inter-Chapter Relations—J. D. Beeler, Ch.; King Cole; Edward G. Fahnestock; Ted E. Haberkorn and Howard Mellow.

Lessons and Regulations—Harold B. Staab, Ch.; Sandford Brown, James H. Ensley and Wm. W. Holcombe.

Membership—Ted E. Haberkorn, Ch.; Jean Boardman; G. Marvin Brower; John J. Briody; Guy Stoppert and Clare E. Wilson.

Old Songs—J. George O'Brien, Ch.; Russell Cole; Marvin Lee; Ted Livingston; Wm. J. McKenna; Sigmund Spaeth and Jerry Vogel.

Public Relations—Walter Jay Stephens, Ch.; Hatch Graham; Hughbert J. Hamilton; James F. Knipe and Sigmund Spaeth.

Resolutions—W. Lester Davis, Ch.; G. Marvin Brower and Harold B. Staab.

Song Arrangements—Don Webster, Ch.; Hal Boehler; Willis A. Diekema; Dean Palmer; Cecil Rowe, Edwin S. Smith and Paul Zeller; Advisory—Phil Embury; Maurice E. Reagan and Frank H. Thorne.

Ten-Year History—Harold B. Staab, Ch.; O. C. Cash; Deac Martin and Walter Jay Stephens.

IT HELPS TO KNOW ABOUT A SONG

Here are the Song Arrangement Committee's comments upon the two songs that have been most recently issued, and the song in this issue.

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

(June Release)

F. H. Thorne Version

The Committee concludes its assignment for this fiscal year with a rousing number whose lyric is based upon our Society slogan "Keep America Singing."

The music and arrangement are by Imn. Past International President Frank H. Thorne, of Chicago. Of special interest is the fact that he had the Chicago Chorus in mind when he wrote this number and therefore it is especially appropriate for chorus use.

Try this out at your next chapter or chorus rehearsal meeting. It is our guess that you will agree with Chicago's verdict—"they love to sing it." It's a thrilling song arranged in easy-to-sing barbershop style.

"WHEN THE MAN IN THE MOON SAYS HELLO THERE"

(July Release)

Hal Staab, Int'l. Past Pres. and now Historian is making musical history again. This time it's a fast moving, solidly harmonious and typically barbershop type ballad that picks on that old romantic standby, the man in the moon, for its subject. As in the case of Hal's "Colleen My Own," Charlie Merrill, our recently elected International President, provided the arrangement, and a mighty singable one too.

At least 2500 barbershop fans were in on the premier of this song presented by the Four Naturals of New Haven, during Preliminary No. 1 at Milwaukee. It is not too difficult although its arrangement calls for skill, careful attention to accuracy and precise vocal expression.

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

Willis Diekema Version

(In this Issue)

Super salesmen of barber shop harmony put this song over at the Finals, June 14, 1947, the members of that stirring Milwaukee Chapter Chorus under direction of Tom Needham. Thus a splendid new chorus song, expressing the spirit of SPEBSQSA, received its auspicious introduction to the international group.

Bill Diekema, author, composer and arranger of this number, was recently elected a member of the International Board and he is serving his second year on the Song Arrangements Committee. It is a highly interesting commentary that two men, Frank Thorne and Bill Diekema, each responding to his own independent thinking that the Society slogan "Keep America Singing" should be expressed in harmony, simultaneously composed two worthy and entirely different type songs bearing that title. In a Society of our magnitude there is plenty of room for both, and any chorus might well include the two of them in its repertoire.



SPARK PLUGS

by Frank H. Thorne

The success of our Society is dependent on the success of its chapters. The success of the chapter is dependent on the maintenance of interest in Chapter Meetings. This new feature of the Harmonizer will carry the story of interesting angles of our successful chapter operations. Send me an outline of good stunts your chapter has used so that other chapters may benefit by your experience. Let's all help each other to get the most out of SPEBSQSA. Jim Knipe, of Cleveland, starts the ball rolling with this fine resume of ideas. Thanks, Jim!

—F. H. T.



Start meetings on time. See to it that great majority of "business" has been taken care of in advance by Executive Committee so that business session may be short and snappy. Always remember 99-99, 100% of the membership wants to sing and listen.

Here are a few stunts that have been used very successfully by chapters to add a little variety.



Borrow or hire a recording outfit. Install it right in the meeting room and make records of chorus and quartets and play them back immediately. It's good for a lot of laughs and may even deflate some egos as recording conditions are generally not perfect and results are sometimes not too complimentary. The newer type wire and tape recorders are very efficient and in many cities the salespeople will be very happy to put on a demonstration before a group such as one of our chapters.



Novelty stores often have in stock die cut paper mustaches that cling to the nose. One chapter procured them in four colors, lettered them with fantastic quartet names, "Shinplas-

ter," etc., distributed them to the members as they entered the meeting—red for tenors, blue for leads, etc., then the men found their complementary parts with the same quartet name, practiced a song or two and were later called upon to sing as a quartet. Entire chapter "judged" their effort, not only on the basis of their song renditions but also on the way they put across the name of their quartet. A little imagination used on this stunt should produce an hour or so of hilarity.



A medium sized chapter in the East has developed several pretty fair quartets through group singing of printed arrangements. As the conductor leads the group through the song several times until they seem to have the hang of it pretty well, he sizes up the various individuals present, puts together what he is hearing, what he knows of the men personally and then calls upon specific men to come up front and do the song as a quartet. Results are sometimes pretty terrible but sometimes surprisingly good. In any event it does the men good to get up in front of the entire group and tackle a song. The only way to overcome the natural shyness of most individuals is to make them get up and sing as often as possible.



The "robber quartet" has been in use on and off for some years in many of our chapters. It's extremely simple and a lot of fun, particularly for small to medium sized groups. Any quartet may be designated to start the ball rolling, preferably singing a song the entire group knows pretty well. After the quartet is well under way, any tenor, lead, etc., steps behind the quartet, taps his man on the shoulder and steps into the spot without losing a beat of the song.



A similar idea calls for two, three, or more organized or pick up quartets to line up in a semicircle. A leader stands in front of them and one quartet starts a song at his direction. As

they go along the leader suddenly points to another quartet which immediately takes up the song while the first remains silent. The leader can let them sing a line, a few words, or even break them off in the middle of a swipe. It's excellent training for the quartets, keeps them on the qui vive, and gives the auditors a lot of laughs when the going gets hot and the boys begin to stumble a bit.

WAUWATOSA REVIVES OLD TIME "Box Social"—Chapter Benefits

Remembering the fun and informality of the Box-Supper, Wauwatosa, Wis. Chapter re-created one for Ladies' Night. As in bygone days, nothing like a box-supper to break down formality and make acquaintances friends. Each lady brought a lunch, for two, most of them done up in decorated boxes. At 11:00 o'clock boxes were auctioned to hungry bidders who paid a minimum \$3.00 and as high as \$4.00 for the privilege of sitting it out with the lady and her offering. Everybody had fun, and the chapter treasury benefited to the tune of \$125.00. Here's one for any chapter, anywhere, large or small.

ASKING THE MEMBERS

Schenectady Chapter recently sent out two questionnaires to its members. One was devoted to quartet membership—"Do you belong to a quartet? If not, check the reason(s) below?" the other—dealt with questions of Chapter policy, length of meetings, etc. Analysis of returns will go a long way toward showing what members want—what they think is right, what wrong.

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN HOLDS JOINT MEETINGS

At a recent meeting of the officers of the Adrian, Ann Arbor, Milan, Tecumseh and Wayne Chapters, a plan was put into operation that most certainly is proving beneficial to these chapters and to the Society.

Each month a joint meeting will be held in one of the five communities on the meeting night of the resident chapter. The meeting places are to be rotated. This will not interfere in any way with the regular meetings of the other chapters.

The first meeting was held in Milan in June, the second in Ann Arbor in July. Many Harbershoppers from distant chapters are attending, even though they aren't members of the associated chapters. The chapters sponsoring the idea are situated within a radius of about 50 miles. This is not a closed shop idea and as new chapters are formed it is hoped they, too, will join this "voluntary association."



1947-48
OFFICERS
CHICAGO, ILL.
No. 1

L. to R.—Hugo L. Stanger, Sec.; L. Wayne Faulkner, Vice Pres.; Matthew L. Hannon, Pres.; Ray Blake, Delegate District Bd.; Erwin B. Bahnsen, Financial Sec.; Henry G. Slavik, Treas.



OUR NEW CHAPTERS CHARTERED SINCE MAY 1st., 1947

| Date | Location of Chapter | No. of Members. | Sponsored By | Name and Address of Secretary |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 5/5/47 | Medina, Ohio | 35 | Massillon, Ohio | Leslie Ziegler, R. D. No. 6. |
| 5/5/47 | La Salle, Illinois | 68 | Princeton, Ill. | G. R. Arboit, 1224 E. Walnut, Cglesby, Ill. |
| 5/5/47 | Parsons, Kansas | 37 | Pittsburg, Kansas | Roy A. Woods, Box 546. |
| 5/6/47 | Stratford, Ontario | 42 | London, Ontario | Lloyd M. Bettger, 649 Ontario St. |
| 5/12/47 | Van Nuys, Calif. | 18 | Glendale, Calif. | S. C. Wheeler, 5726 Cantaloupe Ave. |
| 5/14/47 | Michigan City, Ind. | 27 | Gary, Indiana | Warren C. Ashton, Long Beach, Michigan City, Ind. |
| 5/14/47 | Syracuse, New York | 35 | Cortland, N. Y. | Carl Grobosky, 117 Woodlawn. |
| | | | Schenectady, N. Y. | |
| 5/14/47 | Mansfield, Ohio | 50 | Massillon, Ohio | M. W. Stretch, 187 Poplar Street. |
| 5/16/47 | Reading, Mass. | 16 | Northampton, Mass. | Arthur Aldrich, 250 Summer Ave. |
| 5/21/47 | Addison, New York | 31 | Bath, New York | Harley Dingman, Addison, N. Y. |
| 5/21/47 | Carlsbad, New Mex. | 36 | Lubbock, Texas | G. R. Hunt, 2101 W. Church St. |
| 5/21/47 | University, Ala. | 21 | Birmingham, Ala. | Joe E. Franzle, Box 1691. |
| 5/23/47 | Kearney, Nebr. | 24 | Scottsbluff, Nebr. | F. W. McCreedy, P. O. Box 444. |
| 5/29/47 | Fort Dodge, Iowa | 22 | Oklahoma City, Okla. | Ken Peterson, Apt. 525, Warden Apts. |
| 5/29/47 | Salina, Kansas | 40 | Hutchinson, Kansas | Glenn H. Miller, 618 West Prescott. |
| 6/4/47 | Inglewood, Calif. | 40 | Hollywood, Calif. | Bob Collins, 6337 W. 84th Place. |
| 6/4/47 | Lafayette, Ind. | 45 | Fort Wayne, Ind. | Ivey C. McCord, 619 So. 24th St. |
| 6/4/47 | Salem, Oregon | 19 | Eugene, Oregon | E. D. Lindburg, 1465 No. 19th St. |
| 6/11/47 | Tuscola, Illinois | 33 | Mattoon, Illinois | Jay R. North, Tuscola, Ill. |
| 6/11/47 | Springfield, Ohio | 34 | Columbus, Ohio | E. L. Fitzgerald, Ohio Edison Company. |
| 6/12/47 | Waterbury, Conn. | 22 | New Haven, Conn. | Carlton G. Prevost, 39 Pritchard Road (63). |
| 6/12/47 | Ithaca, New York | 16 | Endicott, N. Y. | James C. Avery, 119 Thurston Ave. |
| 6/16/47 | Jamaica, L. I., N. Y. | 38 | Jersey City, N. J. | Frank Steinacker, 194-44 114th Rd., St. Albans 12, N. Y. |
| 6/20/47 | Reed City, Michigan | 17 | Grand Rapids and Big Rapids, Mich. | Evart Moffitt, 418 W. Lincoln St. |
| | | | Dayton, Ohio | |
| 6/25/47 | Piqua, Ohio | 23 | Dayton, Ohio | Harold Darst, 618 N. Wayne St. |
| 6/26/47 | Warren, Penna. | 32 | Jamestown, New York | Fred Printz, c/o The Printz Co., Inc. |
| 6/27/47 | El Monte, Calif. | 17 | San Gabriel, Cal. | Dave Ragains, 705 Esmeralda. |
| 6/30/47 | Spencer, Iowa | 33 | Sioux City, Iowa | Thomas Thomas, Glass Block. |
| 7/7/47 | Roanoke, Ill. | 29 | Peoria, Ill. | Raymond W. Pettigrew, Roanoke, Ill. |
| 7/7/47 | Norman, Okla. | 16 | Oklahoma City, Okla. | Earl Maxwell, 1011 1/2 College St. |
| 7/9/47 | Dearborn County, Indiana | 51 | Cincinnati, Ohio | Robert Inglis, 360 Elm Street, Lawrenceburg, Indiana. |
| | | | Dallas, Texas | W. T. Crowder, Jr., Box 1868. |
| 7/11/47 | Longview, Texas | 19 | Glendale, Calif. | Clyde Houdeshell, 1122 Walnut Street. |
| 7/16/47 | Newhall, Calif. | 16 | Paterson, N. J. | William A. Simpson, 107 Erie Street, Dumont, N. J. |
| 7/23/47 | Bergenfield, N. J. | 23 | Tell City, Ind. | Jerry Enlow, Jasper, Ind. |
| 7/23/47 | Jasper, Indiana | 28 | | |

FROM IMM. PAST PRES. THORNE TO MILWAUKEE VISITORS:

Barbershoppers you were swell! I predicted in the little note of greeting I was asked to write for the Milwaukee Convention program, that the residents of that community would say of us—

"True Barbershoppers are pleasant, courteous, friendly, happy, and considerate sort of fellows. We hope they will come back again" . . . I wrote further . . . "thanks for helping us to Keep America Singing. May that slogan always live so that wherever we may be, that place will be better because of our presence."

I am so proud of, and grateful to you that that prediction was exactly correct. The words of enthusiastic praise of our gentlemanly conduct — our wholesome good fellowship and behavior made history in Milwaukee. They want us back. That is the best recommendation we could have. May we always so conduct ourselves that the host city wants us back. We will then be one of the most respected, beloved Societies in this hemisphere.

CRITICS MAULED

Many Milwaukee people were highly indignant about the music critic's report on Int'l. Finals as witness excerpts from one letter to the editor of the JOURNAL:

"Isn't it about time that The Journal got a couple of new music critics who are versed in all types of music in place of the two 'highbrow longhairs' who can see only their own type of music and criticize anything else as not being fit for the American public? 'Several weeks ago one of them criticized the barbershop quartet organization in a national contest as corny and as a 'fill in' in a second class vaudeville show. Either he doesn't know what American folk music is or he is one of those who prefers European opera and their folk songs to ours. When you can fill the Auditorium to the doors at \$2.40 a seat and leave a thousand people standing outside, I know you've got something the American people love, and it should be treated that way.

"Then recently the other critic tore into Lauritz Melchior for pleasing a crowd of 25,000 people. He admits the public loved it, but still stabs him

in the back. If he had taken note on leaving, he would have noticed many of us humming the tunes on our way out . . . At least Melchior has broken away from the old straight laced, age old stuff and is giving the public entertainment, for which he should be complimented, not criticized. I go to these concerts, as do thousands of others, to be entertained, not bored by heavy stuff . . . I say give us more American music and either keep these two fellows from these affairs or send somebody who understands American music and appreciates it."

ELASTIC FOUR PLATTERS

Two new albums that the disc-collectors will be glad to add to their collections are the new recordings of the Elastic Four. There are two books of three records each which include many favorite Elastic renditions, among them "Pass the Biscuits Mirandy," "Darkness on the Delta," "We Three," "For Me and My Gal." These are available through International Headquarters office. Price, \$4.85 for each book of three records, both books, \$9.70.



Due to our interest in everything musical, we present an exclusive new record album as our contribution to the grand old institution of Barber Shop Singing. The best of the barber shop tunes, by the best of the barber shop singers!

Six sides, recorded by five international finalist quartets at the Milwaukee contest of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Singing in America. Needless to say, these albums will go fast. Get yours early!

A prize record album exclusive with Wurlitzer

BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONIES

3 records, 6 sides
recorded by five
champion quartets



\$3.41 or \$3.60

INCLUDING MAILING
AND PACKAGING



DOCTORS OF HARMONY—International Champions
—Max E. Cripe, H. H. Smith, Elton Hummel, Lee E. Kidder.



KANSAS CITY SERENADERS—International Finalists
—Ben H. Franklin, Bert Phelps, Jim Hurley, Donald F. Stone.



CHORDOLIERS—International Finalists—John A. Gustafson, Louis P. J. Coopmans, Walter E. Candler, H. J. Gray.



MID-STATES FOUR—International Finalists—Martin S. Mendis, Arthur Gracey, Forrest E. Haynes, Robert E. Rodriguez.



WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET—International Finalists
—Earle F. Elder, Edwin H. Hanson, Edward R. Beess, Carl F. Chuda.

An album that is a "must" for your collection.
Sold exclusively at our Wurlitzer stores. Or to
assure getting this, mail the coupon below today!

The Rudolph Wurlitzer Company
105 West Adams Street
Chicago 90, Ill.

Please send me your exclusive record album, "Barber Shop Quartet Harmonies." I am enclosing the \$3.60.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____



A large bouquet of June roses to the Housing Committee and Int'l. Office for the best handled hotel accommodations to date.

* * *

Farewell Milwaukee, Hello Charley Merrill, new president, and Hello Oklahoma City in '48 where the convention was invited by the local chapter, the Hotel Association, and none other than his Honor Roy J. Turner, Governor. He being a dyed-in-the-wool barbershopper.

* * *

That invitation from Oklahotels means far more than an attempt to drum up trade. Members of the State Hotel Ass'n. have entertained SPEB events and consider our members the kind of guests they want to have around.

* * *

Which verifies opinion of Mgr. Lime-cooley, Hotel Schroeder, who said that ours was one of the finest conventions the hotel ever handled.

* * *

Imm. Past Pres. F. H. Thorne says: "We can be proud that so many features went off smoothly. We had a total of 15 local radio programs. The quartets appeared in plenty of time and gave out with good performances. We had three personal appearances of quartets at the Boston Store where hundreds of people heard them. We sent three quartets to the Public Museum for color picture shots by the Milwaukee Journal. A photographer shot the 30 participating quartets in a room back-stage Friday, and at the same time the Milwaukee Journal took pictures of all quartets. Following each of the Preliminaries, a group picture of the participating quartets was taken. All of our commitments to radio

FROM MILWAUKEE

stations were fulfilled. We carried out the Wurlitzer schedule without a hitch and this involved the appearance of each of the 5 top quartets at a recording studio 6 or 7 miles from the downtown area at an early hour on Saturday morning. Four of our 5 top quartets performed on the Milwaukee Journal radio station Saturday afternoon, Westinghouse being unable to appear. The appearance of the Doctors of Harmony on the Journal radio station Sunday morning was outstanding. They kept the banquet engagement Sunday evening in Milwaukee and appeared at Pathe News, Monday in Chicago. Reports are that the District and Chapter Officers' meetings were distinctly successful and that the Judges' class was also."

* * *

Resolution of thanks by Int'l. Board "To the Mutual Broadcasting System, Stations WFOJ, WTMJ and WMLO of Milwaukee, and Station WGN of Chicago for advantageous announcements, and much time freely allotted in bringing to the attention of vast audiences the worthy aims and purposes of our Society."

* * *

And a resolution also "Individually to Alex Mayer, Jack Dollenmaier, Frank Buchta, William Frank, Paul Alexandroff, Elmer Prah, Thomas Needham, Vic Wrightson, William Oestreich, and Fred Radke of Milwaukee Chapter, to the officers and members of the chapter, and to the many others whose personal efforts helped to make this meeting a notable and inspiring occasion."

* * *

And let's not overlook thanks of the Board to chapters in Paterson, Indianapolis, Chicago, Joplin, Toledo, Jackson, Manitowoc, and Long Beach for "assuming the conduct of the Regional Preliminary Contests."

* * *

When Harold Gray's company, the

Red Star Yeast and Products Co. inadvertently scheduled Gray for an important meeting on the same date as the contest, Frank Thorne wrote Red Star a letter that would melt a heart of stone. As it turned out, the company is anything but stony hearted. It earned the gratitude of 20,000 SPEB people by cancelling Gray's business engagement so he could help his Chordoliers win fourth for the second time in the Finals.

* * *

Joe Stern, Retiring Int'l. Treas., author of "Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail," and tireless worker since early days of the Society was sung into well earned retirement by the Board, to the tune of the song he wrote:

"Joe, you've kept our baby out of jail;
No one ever had to go our bail.
When we were so small and new
You were there, and so we grew.
The Board appreciates your work;
There was never anything you'd shirk.
We are grateful for your thought;
Service like you've given can't be bought."

(Continued on page 18)

TOPPERS OF 1946

For Your Record Collection

JUST A FEW SETS LEFT!!

Set of 3 double faced records features Garden State.
Kansas City Serenaders, Hi-Los,
Chordoliers, and Doctors of Harmony Numbers include "Way Down in Georgia," "Where the Dreamy Wabosh Flows," "Gorland of Old Fashioned Roses," "Dear Old Girl," "Some-day" and "My Dreams are Getting Better"

SEND IN YOUR ORDER TODAY

CARROLL P. ADAMS, Int. Sec.
18270 Grand River Ave.,
Detroit 23, Michigan

Send me a set @ \$6.00 Postpaid.
Have my check made out to

NEFF RECORDING COMPANY

Name

Address

City State

Chapter



"WHO'S GOING TO BE NEXT?"

Mayor Chas. L. Bohn, Milwaukee draws 30 quartet names from the hat held by Jack Dollenmaier, pres. and co-ch'm'n. of Int'l. Convention, while Int'l. Sec. Carroll P. Adams jots down results.

ANNUAL PARADE OF QUARTETS

IN DETROIT

where the Parade of Quartets Was Born

MASONIC TEMPLE

Saturday, November 1st, 1947

Sponsored by DETROIT and OAKLAND County Chapters



Hear the Topnotchers ! ! !

“HARMONIZERS” 1943 International Champions

“MID-STATES FOUR” 1947 Finalists

“WESTINGHOUSE” 1947 Finalists

“TOM CATS” Ohio Champions

“CONTINENTALS” and the best quartets from Detroit and Michigan

TICKETS \$1.80 and \$2.40

Including Federal Tax

On Sale September 15th at GRINNELL MUSIC HOUSE

Ticket Office: 1515 Woodward Avenue

::

Detroit, Michigan

STUB PENCIL NOTES

(Continued from page 16)

Old timers remember Joe's first report of \$109.60 in the national treasury.

* * *

Warning all Quartets: Better start now saving your dough for trip to Oklahoma City. It's 48 hours from the East Coast "and a hell of a long walk from here," says Cleveland's "Doc" Callinan.

* * *

Milwaukee Audience delighted to see and hear their own Hi Los Saturday night along with new and old champions. Everybody agrees that a local quartet should be a necessary part of future Int'l. Finals.

* * *

And let's find a place next year and future for the competing quartets eliminated from Finals. They, plus the Sectional Alternates, could put on a show worth travelling across the country to hear.

* * *

This department thus far has heard only one serious criticism of this year's Int'l. Contest. Phrased in various ways it boils down to this. "We want to hear the tune of a song, particularly when it is an old timer that we know."

* * *

Henry Schubert's Detroit Chapter Chips describes the new champs as "fine gentlemen, clever barbershoppers, and a distinct credit to the Society." A unanimous rising vote of thanks to Henry for his summation.

* * *

But for that fact that Tom Needham's Milwaukee Chapter Chorus has several times the required number of men in a quartet, the audience as self-appointed judges would have undoubtedly rated the chorus among the top five.

* * *

Comments a Clevelander: "Did you ever ride such cheap taxis? . . . six people all the way to Miller's High Life Brewery for 60c . . . returning by bus and street car—60c . . . Two Garden Staters sought vainly for an hour their necessary complements . . . discovered finally locked in with Reagan of Pittsburgh and Webster of Cleveland trying some new stuff . . . Those beautiful costumes the Elastics wore Saturday night will, we hope, reverse the trend from sport outfits which the Elastics themselves started in '42 at Grand Rapids . . . Of interest to all who believe in showmanship, only five of the 31 Finalists wore costumes in '46 in Cleveland. At Milwaukee, 11 of the 30 took pains to appear in something worthwhile. Happy are we. Thanks, fellows. If we never see another sailor straw—two-tone sport suit—cane combination, we shall not weep . . . Best thing we've seen yet for decorating tables at chapter parties, Ladies' Nights, Afterglows,

BARBERSHOP ARRANGEMENTS

Order from the Publisher or Your Local Music Dealer

| | |
|---|--------|
| Barber Shop Harmony, edited by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Mills Music, Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York City 19 | \$.60 |
| More Barber Shop Harmony, edited by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Mills Music, Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York City 19 | .60 |
| Barber Shop Parade of Quartet Hits No. 1, published by Edwin H. Morris & Co., Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York City 19 | .60 |
| Barber Shop Classics, edited by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Remick Music Corp., 619 West 54th Street, New York City 19 | .75 |
| Two Barber Shop Ballads, by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Mills Music Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York City 19 | .50 |
| Barber Shop Ballads and How to Sing Them, by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Prentice-Hall, 70 5th Avenue, New York City | 1.96 |

etc., Art Burger and his Candle Crafters barber pole candles . . . Local note . . . 'soda' is sweet stuff . . . What you mix with 'Old? ? ?' is 'sparkling water' . . .

* * *

Brisk Tom Briskey, Pres. of our deepest south chapter was in practically perpetual motion, picking up facts, atmosphere, tips to apply in Birmingham until his midnight choo-choo left for Alabam.

* * *

Came the Finals and Ed Beers, Westinghouse lead, was so hoarse he could barely talk. On that same finals show Joe Murrin, Misfits tenor, had been in Milwaukee on Friday and returned to Chicago, worked in Chicago until 5:00 p. m., drove to the town of Pabst and Schlitz and stepped lightly onto the stage on feet and calves that were so terribly swollen that they seemed ready to burst. But you'd never guess it from his smile.

* * *

Which reminds this department of a nifty that broke suspenders in 1907—"Little Miller fell into de anheuser bush and tore schlitz in his pants. A sadder budweiser boy he came out . . . pabst so." We hope that puts no blatz on our escutcheon.

* * *

New (bari) Board member Jean Boardman, Wash., D. C., Dan Cuthbert, Founder of Balto Chapter No. 2, Fritz Miller, booming basso of Baltimore and Clarence Gedrose, tenor, Washington, joined up in a station wagon, rehearsed their way across six states and made a tremendous hit wherever they sang.

"That station wagon four and 'dem Bums' (Atomic) from Minneapolis," commented a gentlemen from Oklahoma, "are what we need right now to put some volume into Society singing."

* * *

High spot of Saturday afternoon Jam-boree apart from singing . . . "Cy" Perkins, hari of Misfits, walking across stage in a little boy's hat, puffing smoke like a Santa Fe engine upgrade, directly in front of new officers and Board. Cracked Pres. Thorne, "Somehow or other we just can't keep these stagehands off."

* * *

Writes Hal Staab: "The outstanding feature of the Contest, the wonderful singing of ALL of the placing fifteen quartets. The quartets are improving each year, and the Finals are becoming more and more difficult to judge. "The remarkable job done by Secretary Carroll Adams and Associate Bill Otto, deserves acclaim. They made the Convention click . . . "The Milwaukee Chapter Chorus under direction of Tom Needham was enjoyed by hundreds on several occasions in the Hotel lobby.

"I talked with at least ten quartets who failed to make medallion status, and without exception they were high in their praise of the Judges, and anxious for another try. The wonderful sportsmanship of the Kansas City Serenaders, who came in second for the fifth time, is an example that might well be emulated by all. They are the outstanding example of determination, good sportsmanship and loyalty to our Society.

"Two of our finest members left the ranks as officers on July 1. Joe Stern for years has served diligently, first as Secretary and then as Treasurer. Dick

(Continued on page 19)

STUB PENCIL NOTES

(Continued from page 18)

Sturges left an indelible mark as Historian, and for his art work on the Harmonizer. The appreciation of all of us should go to these two fine Barbershoppers."

Cleveland's Buckeye 4 were standing in their hotel lobby when a lady rushed up and invited them to be singing guests at a wedding party. They accepted, and had a grand time. Anything can happen at an Int'l. convention.

No one is quite sure whether the music critic's report in the Milwaukee Journal, Sunday after Finals, was caustic or meant as humor. In one respect, the critic was definitely wrong—or it might have been a typo-error—that the Society's name is "pronounced Spebsqsa." From the beginning the Society's been fighting attempts to pronounce its unpronounceable name, and will continue.

Reports Paul Alexandrof, Milwaukee Publicity Ch'm'n., after canvassing hotels and principal restaurants: "I found the highest praise and enthusiasm from bellhops to managers. They termed our crowd the happiest, most orderly, least destructive and demanding groups they've served." Which reminds us of the unknown four, waiting in line at Mader's, and amusing themselves, while drawing enthusiastic applause, by giving with Honey.

Those spotlight operators at the Auditorium must be gifted mind readers. They were Johnny-on-the-spot, instantly, regardless of where the emcees directed audience attention. And F. H. T. thoughtfully wrote a letter of thanks to 'em.

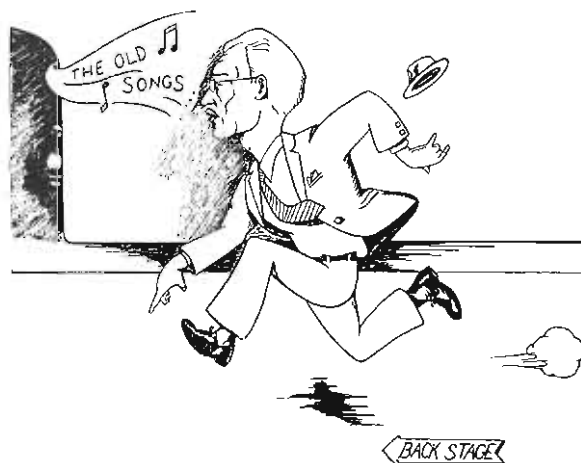
Sixty-six registered for Geo. W. Campbell's class in Song Leadership. More than that number attended. Comments prove the class exceedingly worthwhile, both in discussion and actual practice in leading an audience. Mass training like that, multiplied by mass audiences, equals, "Keep America Singing."

The cashier's staff at Hotel Schroeder is authority for: "There was not one single case of impatience while waiting in line." Ordinarily when conventions are over "people become peeved if obliged to wait to pay their bills." The head cashier had "never seen anything like it." In reply to a note of thanks from Carroll Adams to the hotel people, came a reply with a smiling, hastily pen-drawn manikin and the caption "We like all of you too." That's evidence of doing-right-and-getting-credit-for-it, that Int'l. Bd. Member, Walt Stephens stresses so often.

Says retiring Int'l. Treas., J. E. Stern: "On the way back from Milwaukee, about 18 assorted Barbershoppers from Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma, were on the Santa Fe streamliner, concentrated in the club car. They had the entire car singing all the way from Chicago to Kansas City and the pas-

HEAVY-DUTY OTTO

W. L. (Bill) Otto, Assoc. Int'l. Sec., caught in repose by cartoonist Schneck, Pontiac Chapter, while at Milwaukee. The rest of the time Bill really was in action.



sengers were delighted . . . Somehow or other, I got into a stairway, with a group listening to the Johnson Sisters from Chicago. They are excellent. I was standing next to Harriett, the bass. She has a deep, mellow "Bing Crosby" type of voice . . . just breathes and it rolls out . . ."

Jack Hare of San Francisco (president of the Far Western District), returning to the Schroeder after breakfast on Monday encountered the familiar sounds of harmonizing. This was indeed a surprise and delight as he had thought that all barbershoppers save he alone had left. Tracking the sounds to their lair he found four girl elevator operators softly testing

their newly-acquired sense of barber-shop.

A few registrants at Milwaukee received seats in the parquet, from which the competing quartets could not be seen. The only view of the stage possible was a few feet immediately behind the footlights. Had the Society known that this situation existed tickets for those seats would have been destroyed. The Society had no advance knowledge and the result was that some members had to stand behind other seats in a different part of the hall. In future conventions someone will check all seats and catch any such situations before tickets are issued.

TAKE A



OR A



OR FLYING DISC

—But Don't Miss—

OUR FIRST ANNUAL PARADE

SEPT. 20 . . . 8:15 PM . . . HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

—SUPPER - PARADE - AFTERGLOW—

Garden States

Westinghouse Four

Cowling Brothers

Tri-Ci Synchronizers

Melody Men

Velva-Tones

The Obligos

The Melo-Tones

For Fun Four

Melody Mutilators

The Optimists

The Timekeepers

—Colorful Chorus of 50—

"YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER OLEAN IN SEPTEMBER"

Ticket Chairman

Richard Voslamber, 609½ Main St.
OLEAN, N. Y. — "The Friendly City"

New Members of the International Board of Directors



Jean M. Boardman, Washington, D. C., Lawyer, Founder and first Pres. Washington Chapter, has demonstrated value of careful selectivity in building chapter.



John J. Briody, Jersey City, N. J., Bari of '46 Int'l. Champions, Garden State Quarter, former Vice President, Mid-Atlantic States District, and secretary of Jersey City Chapter.



William B. Coddington, East Aurora, N. Y., District Manager, United Eastern Coal Sales Corp. Twice Chapter Pres., twice Pres. C.W.N.Y. District. Sings with the Optimists.



Willis A. Dickema, Holland, Michigan, Pres. De Prec Co., pharmaceutical chemists, Pres. Holland Chamber of Commerce, member '46-'47 Arrangements Committee.



James H. Emsley, Canton, Ohio, Attorney, has served two terms as chapter secretary. One term Ohio District Ass'n. Sec.



Edward J. Fahnestock, Wichita, Kansas, President Fahnestock, Inc. Served two terms as President Wichita. Also first Vice President Central States District.



Howard Mellow, Peoria, Ill., Real Estate-Home Construction, long time Peoria member, has served chapter and District in many ways. Sings in Corn Belt Chorus.



Homer L. Scott, Geneva, N. Y., Territory Manager, Renown Stove Company. Organizer Geneva Chapter. Society sparkplug in his area, president Central Western New York Ass'n.



Harold B. Staab, (Historian) Int'l. Pres. two terms. Super-active in the Society since 1941. Elected Historian because few, if any, know more about SPEBSQSA than Hal.

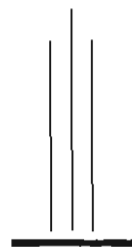
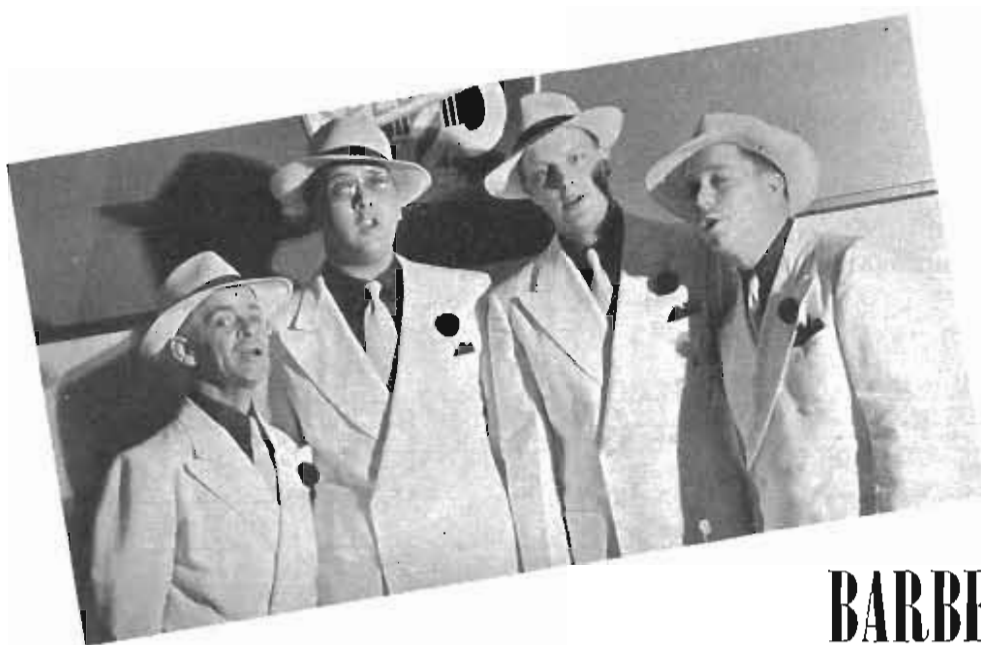


Russell C. Stanton, San Gabriel, Calif., executive John Morell & Co., Meat Packers, organizer San Gabriel Chapter, president two terms, president Far Western District, sings with Key Noters.



Clare E. Wilson, Omaha, Nebraska, sales executive Pittsburgh and Midway Coal Mining Co., two term chapter president, and president Central States District.

HERE THEY ARE!



WITH A
BRAND NEW ALBUM
OF
BARBERSHOP MELODIES

The Doctors of Harmony
1947 International Champions



*The "Doctors" offer a Prescription that's
a sure cure for the "Barbershop Blues"*

A Beautiful 3-Record Album!



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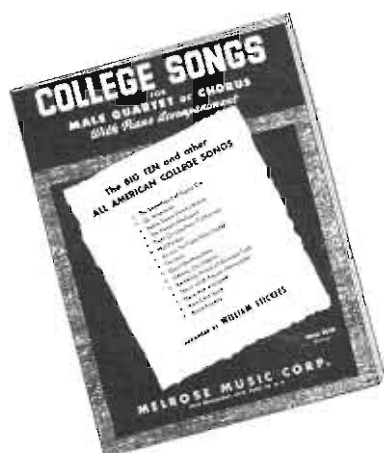
The musical score is written for a men's chorus in 3/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, and the bass line provides harmonic support. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are: (ALL DAY LONG) KEEP A - MER - I - CA SING - ING, ALL DAY LONG, (ALL DAY LONG) WATCH GOOD - WILL COME A' - WING - ING, ON A SONG; (ON A SONG) (WHILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING OH) SMILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING CAR - RY (WHILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING OH) (CAR - RY CAR - RY YOUR PART) CAR - RY YOUR PART KEEP A MEL - O - DY (CAR - RY CAR - RY YOUR PART) (RING - ING AND RING - ING) RING - ING IN YOUR HEART (RING - ING AND RING - ING)

(ALL DAY LONG)
KEEP A - MER - I - CA SING - ING, ALL DAY LONG, (ALL DAY LONG)
WATCH GOOD - WILL COME A' - WING - ING, ON A SONG; (ON A SONG)
(WHILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING OH)
SMILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING CAR - RY
(WHILE THE WHILE YOU ARE SING - ING OH)
(CAR - RY CAR - RY YOUR PART)
CAR - RY YOUR PART KEEP A MEL - O - DY
(CAR - RY CAR - RY YOUR PART)
(RING - ING AND RING - ING)
RING - ING IN YOUR HEART
(RING - ING AND RING - ING)

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SHOW BOAT CRUISE

The second annual "Show Boat" cruise sponsored by the Detroit and Oakland chapters attracted over 2,000 members and their friends to the Put-in-Bay steamer the night of July 28th.

Plying the waters of Detroit River and Lake Saint Clair passengers were entertained by twelve quartets, community singing led by Henry Schubert and dancing to the strains of Kinzel's 8 piece orchestra. Three decks of gay, singing lovers of barbershop harmony spent an enjoyable evening of good natured fun and music.

Quartets appearing on the cruise included the Canadianaires, Gardenaires, Clef-Dwellers, Progressives, Four Counts, Old Timers, Harmony Shavers, Monarch Four, Four Notes, Barons of Wayne, Barbersharps, Family Four, Fakers and the Motor City Four.

Committee members were: Henry Schubert, chairman; Harry Eason, Bert Escott, Joe Wolff and Herman Smith.

WICHITA FALLS KEEPS SINGING

by Bill Underwood

Wichita Falls, rampant young chapter riding a tide of enthusiasm whipped up through presentation of three concerts during May, has decided to "keep singing" with weekly meetings throughout the summer.

Organized last November, and chartered last Dec. 8 with the Oklahoma City, Okla., Chapter as sponsor, the Wichita Falls membership now exceeds 60 including five quartets.

Early in May the chapter presented a 90-minute concert at Electra, Texas, as a National Music Week feature. Two weeks later it provided entertainment for the annual Rotary Club installation meeting, trading a full hour of barbershop harmonies for a sumptuous dinner. On May 28, the chapter held its first annual installation dinner party at the country club. Guests who attended to hear the boys sing boosted the treasury noticeably.

Tom Brown Jr., manager of S. W. Bell Tel., is the new prexy, replacing Lloyd Yarbrough, Rock Island R. R. representative who organized the chapter. Yarbrough and family got a real thrill out of Milwaukee Convention.

"WE'LL ALWAYS BE TRUE TO—"

A folio of 15 college songs, Melrose Music Corp., 1619 Broadway, N. Y. 19, includes 4-part male harmony with the piano score. The geography is coast-to-coast and includes such national favorites as "On Wisconsin," "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," Notre Dame's "Victory March," and "Illinois Loyalty." A complete list is in the publisher's announcement elsewhere in this issue. It will surprise many to find that these ever popular college songs have verses, also harmonized for quartet use.

"I Hear 'em but I Can't SEE 'em"

(Below)

Jack Benny—"Honored sir, these are my boys, the Sportsmen, all members of Glendale (Cal.) Chapter. I plead with you, Mr. Spaeth, enter them in the Int'l. Contest at Milwaukee. Money is no obj... what am I saying... somebody stop me, quick!"



Sigmund Spaeth—"Put by your gold, sir. Not all the wealth of Croesus' mines could put you fine fellows into our SPEB International. They're professionals — aha! — and furthermore those mustaches are phony, and I didn't spell it f-u-n-y."

Benny—"Curse you—foiled agayne!"

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THE OLD SONGSTERS

by Sigmund Spaeth

SOME of the music of the so-called Elegant Eighties might well be called to the attention of barbershop quartets. They had good ideas of harmony in those days, and there is a big advantage in the fact that all this material is today in the Public Domain. You can use it in any way you choose.

For instance, there was a man named Charles A. White, one of the founders of the White, Smith music publishing company of Boston. He wrote a song called *Marguerite*, which was the hit of 1883. It happens to be of the "echo" type,—a natural for barbershop effects.

White was both an instinctive and a trained musician. He is said to have manufactured his first violin from a cigar-box. It was on the violin that he improvised the melody that developed into *Marguerite*. He took the song to Denman Thompson, who was then playing in *The Old Homestead* at the Boston Theatre. Thompson listened to it back stage and agreed to try it as a quartet in the show. This free promotion made it a success, and *Marguerite* continued to charm theatre audiences for years.

WILLIAM J. SCANLAN was a different sort of composer. He specialized in Irish songs, which he both created and interpreted. One of his greatest hits was *My Nellie's Blue Eyes*, also published in 1883. Actually Scanlan took his tune note for note from a Venetian folk-song, *Vieni sul Mar (Come to the Sea)*. Your correspondent can guarantee this, for he made the translation published by E. B. Marks. (It was one of the late Caruso's favorite numbers.) Nevertheless and notwithstanding, *My Nellie's Blue Eyes* is a good harmony song, in a slow waltz time.

Scanlan wrote and produced the shows in which he starred, one of which was called *Macarneen* and contained a song of the same title (not to be confused with the better known old-timer): This included also a *Molly O!* and previously there had been a *Peggy O'Moore*. Scanlan liked girls' names for songs, particularly the Irish kind.

A PICTURESQUE figure of the eighties and nineties was Harry Kennedy, whose brother Will acted as his manager and publisher. This ver-

satile songwriter could produce both sentiment and comedy, as required. Two of his most famous sentimental titles were *A Flower from My Angel* *Mother's Grave* and *Empty Is the Cradle, Baby's Gone*. He balanced these with such comic successes as *I Had Fifteen Dollars in My Inside Pocket* and *I Owe Ten Dollars to O'Grady*.

Harry Kennedy's greatest hits came near the end of his life. That lilting waltz, *Molly and I and the Baby*, appeared in 1892, and was followed a year later by *Say Au Revoir but not Good-Bye*, still a sure-fire barbershop number. (Its melody is built on the old Westminster Chime, like *Sweet Adeline* and *How Dry I Am!*) They sang his farewell song over Harry's grave, when he died suddenly of tuberculosis.

THOSE perennial favorites, *My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean* and *Good-Bye, My Lover, Good-Bye*, both of English origin, reached America in the early '80's and both were "faked" to satisfy the demands of customers. The former, whose real title was *Bring Back my Bonnie to Me*, appeared as "by J. T. Wood and H. J. Fulmer." It is now known that the actual composer was Charles E. Pratt, and he may have been responsible for the words as well. *Good-Bye, my Lover, Good-Bye* seems to have been a folk-song, but was credited here to "T. H. Allen."

Pratt was responsible for two other "fakes," *Wait Till the Clouds Roll By*, which anticipated Jerome Kern in 1881, and a sequel which merely prefixed "I'll" to the first title, thereby becoming a satisfactory "answer."

TOSTI'S *Good-Bye* appeared in America as a Schirmer publication in 1881, and its quartet possibilities have long been recognized. (The writer has made a barbershop arrangement for Mills Music, Inc. and also used part of it as an introduction for Bert Lown's *Bye, Bye Blues*, published by Bourne, Inc.)

Joseph K. Emmet, generally known as "Fritz," from the character that he consistently played in German dialect, is remembered today chiefly by his yodeling *Lullaby*. Unfortunately his best sentimental song, *Sweet Violets*, survives mostly in filthy parodies. It might be worth trying straight some time.

Frank Egerton's *We Never Speak as We Pass By* (1882) is another fine example of the "echo" school of close harmony, with a wonderful set of old-fashioned words. (It appears complete in this author's *Barber Shop Ballads*.)

There is a Tavern in the Town, republished in 1934 as "by Rudy Vallee" (!), was actually copyrighted in 1883 by William H. Hills, who probably got it from a folk-song. It is closely related to the *Butcher Boy* cycle, and the closing stanza ("Oh, dig my grave both wide and deep," etc.) appears also in *Careless Love* and elsewhere.

AS a final suggestion, how about Banks Winter's *White Wings*? Here is a song of real distinction, dated 1884, with unlimited possibilities for individual harmonizing. Its composer was a member of Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels and later the Thatcher, Primrose & West company, and he had a hard time selling his song to the managers as well as the public.

It finally caught on when he himself sang it in a high tenor key, first at the old Boston Theatre and later at Niblo's Garden in New York. *White Wings* was Banks Winter's only real hit, although he wrote plenty of other songs. Incidentally, its title refers not to street-cleaners but to the sails of a boat, suggesting a really pretty picture, just like some of our own barbershop quartets.

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News about District Contests and District Meetings

DISTRICT OFFICERS' MEETING AT MILWAUKEE

Outstanding in the Districts Officers' meeting, Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee on June 14, called by Maynard L. Graft, Cleveland, Chairman of District Organization and Activities Committee, was the necessity for districts to assume a large share of the burden now carried by the Int'l. Secretary's office, the Int'l. officers, and Directors. Immediate Past President Frank Thorne described it as "staggering" based upon his personal experience and observation. Among problems, objectives and methods now under scrutiny by the committee:

1. Importance of district associations due to the fast growth and spread of the Society.
2. Responsibility of district officers in strengthening existing local chap-

ters through frequent visits and suggestions.

3. Supervision by district of extension work to meet the present day objective of high caliber new chapters.
4. Need for ample district financing to cover expenses of district officers in extension and chapter supervision, plus the major expense of sending district president, secretary and quartets representing the district to the Int'l. conventions and contests.

All twelve districts were represented among the 50 individuals present, including 3 from the Pacific Northwest District, which had not yet elected its officers.

WISCONSIN ASS'N. MEETS

At the Wisconsin Association Business Meeting, Appleton, May 3, plans for the second annual chorus contest to be held July 20 in Oshkosh were put underway, along with preliminary plans for the third annual quartet contest to be staged in Green Bay, November 1. Officers for the 1947-48 term are: Ed Warrington, Madison, Pres.; Ed Walthers, Manitowoc, Vice Pres.; Rod MacPhail, Green Bay, Treas. (re-elected); and A. H. "Al" Falk, Appleton, Sec. (re-elected).

MICHIGAN CLEARS DATES

Per Int'l. Rules, the Michigan District has added the following clause to its Constitution, recommended to the serious consideration of all other Districts. "The dates of chapter functions to which the public is invited, Parades, Minstrels, Charter Nights, Ladies' Nights, etc. must be submitted for approval to the District Executive Committee which Committee must act on all such requests within fifteen days after submission."

FAR WESTERN CONTESTS

The Far Western Contest staged in Long Beach Municipal Auditorium, May 10, had two objectives: To select District champions and to pick one Sectional quartet to compete at Milwaukee. When the judges declared the Bonanza Four, Reno, Nevada, District winner, the Bonanzas automatically represented the Golden West at the June Convention. Second place in District, the Four Staters, San Diego; third, the Westernaires, Phoenix, Ariz.; fourth, the Gabriellairs, San Gabriel, Cal.; and fifth, the Roundelers, Tri City Chapter.

According to first hand report "The good work of Hal Peary (The Great Gildersleeve) as Mc couldn't be over-emphasized. We do not believe we could have a better man from Movieland to do the job". Peary is a member of Long Beach Chapter. Rus Stanton, P. Pres. of the Far Western District was secretary of the judging panel, made up of the Harmony Halls, Grand Rapids, 1944 Int'l. Champions.

The audience of 3,600 heard a wonderful show which included: The Aces, Dixie Comedy Four, and The Norsemen, Long Beach; High Sierranaders, and The Hollywoodmen, Hollywood; The Four Roses, Pasadena; The Southern Cals, San Diego; Jewel City Four, Glendale; Maywood Four and Way Back Four, Tri City; Westcoasters, Santa Monica; and the Harmony Halls, stepping out of the judges role into the musical side of the program.

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BONANZA 4 FIRST IN FAR WEST



At Long Beach District Contest Hal Peary (left) (the Great Gildersleeve) Mc'd. The first place Bonanza Four: B. Abbott, tenor; W. Adams, lead; Chas. Merrill, bass; D. Colville, bari. Extreme right, Rus Stanton. Past Pres., Far Western District.

FOUR STATERS TAKE SECOND— FAR WEST

L. to R. — Chester Hadapp, tenor; Len Pluris, lead; Bud Boyle, bari; Bill Manthei, bass.



C. W. N. Y. ANNUAL MEETING

The Central Western New York District annual meeting was held in Rochester on May 17th. Out of district dignitaries in attendance were—Carroll P. Adams, Edwin S. Smith, Captain George Campbell and Sigmund Spaeth. Our growth most impressive. As of July, 1946, we had 13 chapters. By May, 1947, we had 25 chapters, and as of July, 1947, we have 30 chapters. Our growing pains just won't stop until we run out of space to grow in. Many important subjects were discussed, including extension (particularly proper investigation of possibilities and caliber of key man before going ahead with organization plans), in district quartet expense—recordings—availability of district shell—general district policies. Importance of holding our second district contest was discussed and October 25th was the date set for it. Host city undecided yet. Following are the officers elected to take over immediately: President, Homer L. Scott, Geneva; V. President, Jack D. Harby, Rochester; V. President, Robert Arnold, Warsaw; Treasurer, William Hotchkiss, Endicott; Secretary, Charles E. Glover, Jamestown. President Elect Scott keynoted "cooperation" in his acceptance speech. The fine character of our district members and chapters is a tribute to our past district officers and to their ability. We have been blessed with unusually able leadership which has reflected in our rapid progress and development.

"Chuck" Glover, Sec.

OHIO ASSOCIATION MEETS

Fourteen of Ohio's then 23 Chapters were represented at the Ohio District Association of Chapters Annual Meeting in the Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo, May 10th. Officers for the coming fiscal year were elected. Maynard L. Graft, Cleveland is President. Harold Chapin, Toledo; Phil Singer, Alliance, and Jack Moore, Cincinnati, are Vice Presidents. Carl Murphy, Toledo is Treasurer and Charles Krick, Dayton, was chosen Secretary. November 29th is the date, Dayton the spot for the next Ohio District Quartet Contest. Winning quartet in the contest at Dayton will receive four traveling bags.

Retiring Pres. and Sec. Nelson White, Columbus and Jim Emsley, Canton received a vote of thanks from the delegates for the fine job they did in the year just ended.

ILLINOIS ASS'N. OFFICERS

In the report, May Harmonizer, on Illinois state ass'n. meeting, the names of the '47-'48 officers were not included. They are: President—Robert S. McKinney, 437 W. Murray St., Macomb, Ill.; Secretary—T. Larry Favoright, Route No. 1, Batavia Ave., Batavia, Ill.; Vice-Pres.—Vince LaBelle, 4951 Waveland Ave., Chicago, Ill.; Treasurer—Harold D. Kamm, RFD No. 1, Franklin, Ill.

See your new International Directory of Chapters—back pages.

MID-ATLANTIC ANNUAL

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic States Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA was held at the Essex Hotel, Newark, N. J., on Friday, May 23, James E. Matthews, President, presiding. Roll Call showed 13 chapters represented and the presence of a quorum.

Announcement was made by Bill Holcombe (Paterson) of his intention to present at the next meeting a proposed amendment to the District Constitution establishing a new quorum. District Officers for the year 1947-1948, President: James E. Matthews (Paterson); Vice-President: Dr. Joseph Eckes (Jersey City); Secretary: R. Harry Brown (Diamond State, Wilmington); Treasurer: W. P. (Tiny) Ferris, (York).

The Secretary was authorized to compile and publish a new Directory of District Chapters, their officers and quartets.

R. Harry Brown, Sec.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

At the Annual Business Meeting, Long Beach, May 10, the following officers were elected for the current year: President—James C. (Jack) Hare, San Francisco; Sec.-Treas.—James O. Blethen, San Diego; Vice-Pres.—W. C. (Bill) Balsley, Phoenix, Ariz. The members unanimously approved the petition from chapters in Washington and Oregon to form their own district, which now includes Idaho and western Montana.

INDIANA-KENTUCKY ASS'N.

The Indiana-Kentucky Ass'n. of Chapters held their Annual Business Meeting at the Severin Hotel in Indianapolis, Sun., May 11th. The following officers were elected:—Fred Gregory of Brazil, President; Jack Byrne of Louisville, 1st V. P.; Carl Jones of Terre Haute, 2nd V. P.; Frank Vogt of Elkhart re-elected Secretary; Clyde Marsh of Indianapolis, Treasurer. 66 2/3% of the chapter were represented. The offer of Muncie to hold the 1948 State Contest was accepted, they are building a new shell. The Ind.-Ky. Ass'n. has sponsored 2 new chapters since May 11th, Michigan City and Lafayette.

Frank D. Vogt.

N. E. DISTRICT GOVERNORS PLAN

The N. E. District has arbitrarily divided its district into four divisions and elected a district governor and four lieutenant governors in order to keep a closer touch with chapters throughout the district.

The plan is a local experiment which is being watched with much interest by other sections. Hal Staab, as District Governor, will coordinate all activities with assistance of District Sec. "Stub" Taylor. The lieutenant governors will make periodic visitations to chapters in their respective jurisdiction and will report upon all phases of chapter conditions and activities.

(See Page 30)

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FOUNDER'S COLUMN

by O. C. Cash

My dear Brethren:

Probably the greatest thrills I have experienced in our Society affairs occurred during the first year or two of our organization. The first meeting of our group (about 37 men) of course, was the high spot. Then the ensuing good fellowship and enthusiasm among the 150 to 200 men who soon became identified with the Society here in Tulsa, was a source of gratification to all of us. Within three months after our first meeting these fellows—doctors, plumbers, bankers, lawyers, merchants, et cetera—were meeting on the streets, shaking hands and addressing each other as “Brother” and whereas they had previously walked two and two up and down the street, they soon began to walk four abreast.

We used to gang up and sing with a traffic policeman during heaviest traffic (until the Police Chief put a stop to it) at the intersection of two of Tulsa's busiest streets. And at Oklahoma City we had even more fun doing this because the Flat Foot Four were all traffic officers and we had four different corners to sing on. Britt, Johnny and Red never wasted any time getting started, but old Sam would always argue with us, act contrary, and threaten to call the hoodlum wagon and throw us in the hoosegow before finally chiming in with us.

Those were the good old days in the beginning of our Society.

But now the big boost all of us get in our association with the brothers from all over the U. S. and Canada, is the Annual Convention. The last one is always the best. Renewal of acquaintanceship with all the faithful brothers is an event I always look forward to.

The most delightful of my experiences at the last Convention was meeting and visiting with so many Canadian brothers. Establishing our organization among our neighbors to the North has been one of our finest accomplishments. I wonder if we can't set up one or more chapters in Mexico during this year. Many of our civic clubs have chapters South of the border and we ought to make our Society truly international by getting a foothold in Mexico and other Latin countries to the South. I am sure Brother Sunny Blevins of San Antonio and his Texas comrades, will help us if someone starts the ball rolling. We

might as well make this thing encompass the Western Hemisphere.

* * *

I had a letter two or three months ago from Ben Edwards of Anchorage, Alaska, asking about forming a chapter there. I hope Carroll and Bill won't let Ben rest until we have an Alaskan chapter organized. Ben was one of the first Secretaries of the Tulsa Chapter, and a good one—a much better Secretary than bass singer—although he probably will dispute this. With nights six months long in Alaska, what an ideal place this is for a barbershop singing group.

* * *

At each National Convention some quartet always comes along to capture my fancy. Usually it is one that is not in competition and naturally that quartet throws all caution to the wind and just simply hauls off and “busts” them. Such a quartet at Milwaukee was the pickup gang that Jean Boardman brought from Baltimore and Washington. I had listened with chills running up and down my spine to this outfit singing “You Remind Me So Much of My Mother” and was impatient for Frank Rice to hear them. Frank got in late Saturday afternoon.

I watched the expression on Frank's face when they tied into this number and although I did not open my mouth, Frank turned to me and said, “Now, Cash, dammit, don't argue with me, I know a barbershop quartet when I hear it, and them is it.” Frank and I agree that a quartet ought to pitch 'em high and sing 'em loud. As good as this quartet was, I thought I detected a slight weakness in the most important part. Maybe this is because I am so good at it. Jean seemed to be just a little too refined, and restrained on the baritone. I could have improved the quartet considerably by taking over the most difficult part. Undoubtedly Jean was a gallant and thoughtful lover; is a dutiful husband; a good provider; as well as a kind and indulgent father; but, commendable as these virtues are, this just simply won't get the job done insofar as this baritone business is concerned. One must slap his kids around once in a while, whip his wife occasionally and be aggressive generally to build up that self-respect and confidence so necessary to a good baritone.

There is a certain rowdy, though lovable, individual, member of a renowned quartet in a large Midwest city, that I have always thought, with one exception, was the ideal baritone.

He is a lusty, robust, rambunctious, unrefined sort of singer; knows where the chords are and how to put them together; sleeps in his underwear, and

otherwise has all the qualifications of a good baritone, except for one thing—the poor devil just don't have any voice. Jean has the voice all right, is handsome and dignified and all that, but if he keeps up with the other members of his quartet, he will have to go into training, learn to chew terbacker, and toughen up a bit. I prophesy that if this Washington-Baltimore quartet competes at Oklahoma City next year, they will give the Serenaders a tough battle for second place. The competition is getting to the point now where no one cares much about winning first place; his ambition is to dislodge the Serenaders from the runner-up position. This is very much like it used to be down here in Oklahoma in the election of Governor. We followed the practice years ago of impeaching our Governor just as soon as he was elected. It got so everybody ran for the “long term”; that is, Lt. Governor.

* * *

Did any of you fellows hear the High School Quartet from Waukesha? My Betty Anne dug up this outfit and led them around for me to hear. She said, “If you must listen to a quartet you might as well find one that is good looking, has a trim waistline and wears a pompadour.” These kids were really on the beam and should have been on some of our programs. This would have reminded many chapters that organization of quartets in high school should be one of the principal projects of our Society. These boys were planning to attend college together and told me they would undoubtedly slay the co-eds when they sang late at night under the windows of the girls' dormitory. All this reminded me of my own great success with the wimmen during my school days when singing with my kid quartet, “The Super-Colossal Symphonic Four.” By the way, that would be an appropriate name for Jean's outfit.

* * *

Do you brothers realize that at the Milwaukee Convention, we had four choruses in attendance? At our first Convention in Tulsa in 1939, we had only ten or twelve quartets. At the Oklahoma City Convention next year, I hope we have that many choruses. If the Oklahoma City boys and the Int'l. Board agree I suggest we arrange to have these various choruses each put on a 15 to 30 minute recital in a hall where there will be quiet and everybody can listen under better conditions than existed in Milwaukee. We may have to allot an extra day to get this all on the pro-

(To top of next page)

FOUNDER'S COLUMN

(Continued)

gram. It will not be many years, with both choruses and quartets attending these Conventions, until we will have to set aside an entire week, making it a "Barber Shop Harmony Festival," as well as a National Convention and Contest. Why not have a Chorus Contest at Oklahoma City in June, 1948, in addition to the regular Quartet Contest? If you agree that we should do this, write your Congressman, who happens to be Charlie Merrill of Reno, Nevada.

* * *

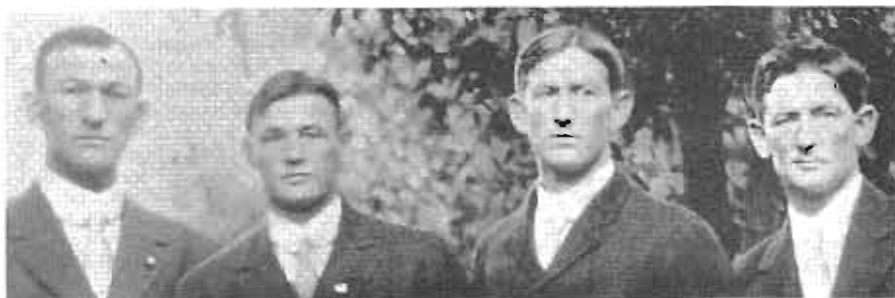
There is a comparatively new book out by a fellow by the name of Henry F. Woods, Jr., entitled "How to Become Well Known." He mentions me, Lincoln, Andrew Carnegie, and a few other great men, and gives our Society a nice play. But he refers to me as "a little, unknown, obscure lawyer in Oklahoma, who had an idea that accidentally developed into a source of pleasure and happiness for millions . . ." If we had any lawyers in our Society who could stop singing long enough to attend to business, I would sue this guy for libel, slander, assault and battery and maybe something else, because this bird has certainly made me feel very insignificant. Hoping you are the same, I am

Owen.

HERE'S ONE FOR RIPLEY

An all brother quartet is very unusual, but an all brother quartet that has sung together for half a century is without precedent in the Society. San Gabriel, Cal. Chapter has just that. In 1896 when "Annie Rooney," "After the Ball," "Maggie Murphy's Home" and "Two Little Girls in Blue" were national favorites the Clapp brothers were singing them in four part harmony. Nowadays the same four still give out with sweet music, and at a reunion in March this year at San Gabriel Chapter they sang on exactly the same spot where they sang over 50 years before. They had been pretty well broken up as a quartet since the Spanish War (1898 to you young fellows—the war that made "Break the News to Mother" popular). In the upper picture L. to R.: Ralph, lead; Albert, tenor; Arch, bari; Randall, bass. In the lower picture, L. to R., they stand: Ralph, Randall, Albert, Arch.

Ralph, Randall and Arch are members of the San Gabriel Chapter. Al is president of Santa Rosa Chapter.

BROOKLYN QUARTET WINS
NEW YORK CONTEST

The annual New York City championship for barbershop quartets was won this year by a pick-up combination from our own Manhattan Chapter, entered as The Brooklyn Dodgers Knot-hole Four. George Monroe, who had previously sung bass in three Brooklyn winners, got his men together for the preliminaries with last minute desperation. Lacking a lead and a baritone, he found Tom Jones and Harry Koch in the audience and persuaded them to pinch-hit for his regulars. Al Abrams was his steadfast tenor.

The four rehearsed for fifteen minutes behind a tree in Prospect Park and then went on to win the Brooklyn title, finishing with Coney Island Baby, in which a few alterations had been made for local effect.

For the Finals in Central Park, with Commissioner Robert Moses presiding, the impromptu four tuned up in outlandish costumes, complete with baseball paraphernalia. Their appearance was actually better than their singing, for they got off to a bad start, with one man beginning the wrong number.

Luckily the competition was not too severe, and Monroe's quartet at least stuck to legitimate barbershop material. (An excellent quartet from our Bronx Chapter practically disqualified itself by singing concert numbers.) The voting was close, but the Brooklyn Dodgers Knot-hole Four just managed to squeeze through.

The judges included Sig Spaeth, Harry Armstrong and Dick Gerard, of Sweet Adeline fame, W. C. Handy, composer of the Saint Louis Blues, "Oats" Harvey of New York University and others. The outdoor audience numbered about 15,000.

A feature of the program was the appearance of two professional quartets and last year's world champions, the Garden State Quartet. Sig Spaeth led general singing at the start and finish.



MISSISSIPPI MOON

The Story Behind the Song
on the Cover

The Doctors of Harmony set a precedent when they won the Int'l. championship with use of a number composed by one of their own members, "Jumbo" Smith. Wrote Jumbo: "I had quite a time trying to make a short quartet score of 'Mississippi Moon' because I do not write bass clef . . . I usually compose the songs and write the words and music, but I write only the melody or lead sheet. We then go to work on the number, with the boys usually putting in the harmony (bari-bass) to match the tenor I sing . . . We have 7 good numbers which I have written" . . . and another one coming up soon.

The chorus follows:

"Roll on, Oh won't you roll on
Roll on Mississippi Moon
The stars are shining, my heart is
pining
For this little lady love I call "My
Baby"
Roll on, Oh won't you roll on
Hide your face behind the clouds
I've been a waitin'—no hesitatin'
So roll on Mississippi Moon—you
know I'm waitin'
Roll on lazy Mississippi Moon"

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QUARTETS

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— No. 100 —

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CENTRAL STATES ASS'N. HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

by H. T. White

Combining serious business with the pleasure of a Summer weekend outing the Central States Ass'n. of Chapters held its first annual meeting July 12-13 at Holiday House on the Lake of the Ozarks in Central Missouri. The meeting planned at their January 18 meeting had Berney Simmer as chairman of arrangements. Members and wives began arriving early the day before the meeting; the total attendance finally reached 97 from every corner of the District; some traveled 850 miles and the average distance was 250 miles. Of the 50 chapters located in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Missouri, 38 were represented by official delegate or proxy. Business sessions began at 10 A. M. and continued throughout the first day; newly elected officers to serve until May, 1948, are: President, J. B. Scanland of Hutchinson, Kans., 1st V.P., E. L. Vennard, Sioux City, Ia., 2nd V.P., W. H. Anderson of Houston, Texas, Treasurer (Re-elected), Jos. E. Wodicka of St. Louis and Berney Simmer, Secretary from Clayton Chapter. The new officers held a session Sunday morning working on plans for the new year and laying stress on the first District Contest to be held at Topeka, Kansas, November 8. Additional committees were appointed and plans for sound chapter extension laid.

The weekend was filled with close harmony climaxed with sweet barbershop chords echoing from every hilltop surrounding the 1200 mile shoreline as the entire convention made a two hour moonlight cruise aboard the steamship Gov. McClurg.

MICHIGAN ASS'N. MEETS

By Dr. M. J. Kennebeck

The annual meeting of the Michigan Association of Chapters was held on May 24th, 1947 at the Pantlind Hotel in Grand Rapids, Mich. The majority of the Chapters of Michigan were represented by one or more delegates.

Among the items of business was chiefly the adoption of a new constitution for the Michigan District Association of Chapters, patterned after the one set up by the International Board of Directors.

President Walker paid tribute to many outstanding individuals and chapters for their fine work during the past year. Reports were received and acted upon from all active committees during the year 1946.

Battle Creek Chapter was highly commended on the splendid way it carried out the state contest in February.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: President, Robert Walker of Grand Rapids, Mich., Vice Pres., Harry Eason of Detroit, Mich., Secretary, M. J. Kennebeck of Muskegon, Mich., Treasurer, Horace Conklin of Battle Creek, Mich.

CENTRAL STATES IN OZARKS



Part of group attending annual meeting of Central States Ass'n. Holiday House, Lake of the Ozarks, Eldon, Mo.

ONTARIO DISTRICT MEETING

by Hughbert J. Hamilton

At the annual meeting of the District organization held at Hotel London, in London, Ontario, on Saturday, May 17, six of the then nine chapters were represented. Plans were laid for the first District Contest to be held in the Delta Collegiate Auditorium in Hamilton on Saturday evening, October 11.

A feature of the meeting was a round-table discussion of Society affairs as they affect Canadian chapters and helpful enlightenment in this regard was furnished by W. Lester Davis, International Board member, who was present.

The District officers were re-elected for a full term. These are: President, Hughbert J. Hamilton, London; Vice President, George Stiven, Windsor; Secretary, Charles E. B. Payne, Sarnia; Treasurer, Alf W. Neale, Toronto. The barbershop influence has spread to Ontario in somewhat of a goodwill pincers movement from Michigan and from the Buffalo-Northern New York areas. Well past is the early pioneering period when three or four newly-hatched chapters worked diligently to grow up themselves and to spread the gospel of close harmony to other communities. The present state of maturity was reached with the formation of The Ontario Association of Chapters last Fall.

6000 ATTEND FT. WAYNE

For two hours on the night of July 17th, 6000 Ft. Wayne residents sprawled all over the west bank of Reservoir Park to listen to harmonies from the throats of Ft. Wayne's Colonial Four, Six Foot Four and Sentimental Four; Butler's Hobby Harmonizers, (who almost missed because lead Verl Oberlin was so imminently a papa), the Ft. Wayne Chorus and the Int'l. Champion Doctors of Harmony of Elkhart.



"CALL TO ORDER"

Grosse Pointe Chapter's A. J. Finkenhofer designed and made this beautiful cast bronze call-to-order bell for chapter meetings. It stands about 10" high. A double headed hammer, one end wood, the other felt, permits an ear splitter or a milder signal. The emblem is in standard colors, blue, red, and gold. Without the bell the circular bronze emblem makes a beautiful desk decoration. A limited number are available through the Int'l. office.

WHAT EVERY MEMBER SHOULD HAVE

| | |
|---|--------|
| Lapel Button | \$1.50 |
| Windshield Sticker | .25 |
| SPEBSQSA Auto Plate | .50 |
| Song Binder | .15 |
| Celluloid Identification Badge—3" Diameter | .70 |
| SPEBSQSA Zippo Lighter | 3.00 |

The above items can be obtained from your Chapter Secretary. If he is out of stock—suggest to him that he order immediately from the International Secretary's office.

EVOLUTION OF THE HARMONIZER

The first copy of this publication was mimeographed on four pages under the title "SPEBSQSA Barbershop Re-Chordings" by Nat. Treas. Joseph E. Stern, K.C., in November, '41. The first page contained, in the following order: an announcement by Stern in which he said "We can't tell you a definite schedule of future publication dates," followed by Highlights from National Historian, Deac Martin, in which he asked members to "collect as many good harmony songs that grew without authorship as possible". Then came an announcement of a Code of Ethics and constitution for local chapters, an advertisement for a barbershop decalcomania, and an announcement by National President Carroll P. Adams of six important committees.

Page Two reported Oklahoma City's Memorial Show, benefits of which went to the family of Johnny Whalen, deceased tenor of the Flat Foot Four. Kansas City staged a show whose benefits were donated to the Children's Mercy Hospital (our Society had "social consciousness" even then). News from Northampton, Mass. and St. Louis, Mo., local chapter items and a report of the Will Rogers Memorial broadcast, Aug. 15, rounded out page two.

On Page Three were two messages. O. C. Cash, Founder, highlighted his message with the statement, "There are two things I particularly like—good music and good fellowship. I take the first for granted when I am around barbershop singers, but . . . only at our Society Conventions do I find the genuine old time small town, neighborly affection and fellowship so manifest when our bunch gets together." President Adams' message included a prophetic statement, "We have something that the country needs and wants, an outlet for pent up emotions and repressed musical desires". History since '41 bears him out.

The back cover carried the first SPEBSQSA arrangement ever published, "Sweet Roses of Morn," arranged by Phil Embury, who says "I'll never forget the thrill of hearing it for the first time from the old Mound City Four (Bob Shreves' St. Louis quartet). Scot Gemmer sang the melody and his own bass part for me as I wrote the spots on the back of an envelope. It was 2:00 a.m. and Scott was so tired that he lay on the floor and moaned the parts at me".



"KEEP AMERICA SINGING"—AGAIN

Eighteen year old Margaret Chaney, Onekama, Mich. chose the same title as Geo. Campbell's column for her high school oration, which she memorized and delivered without notes: Highlights follow: "Do you ever wish the good old days were back when a visit to the barbershop meant not only a haircut but a little harmonizing with your friends as well? You may think that those days are gone forever but the phenomenal growth of the SPEBSQSA has proven beyond a doubt that those days are here to stay . . .

There is something exciting about Barber Shop harmony that everyone enjoys. There is no musical science about barbershopping. It is just pure tone adjustment by acute ear sense, the physics of which is lost in vibration harmonics, overtones, and timbres that defy ordinary analysis. Undoubtedly it is this departure from the commonplace which has accounted for the surprised attention and enthusiastic reception of such large patronage. Good close harmony is emphasized sometimes at the expense of words, melody, and rhythm . . .

Fifty years ago people worked ten to twelve hours a day. When their work was over, they did not have to worry about how they were going to spend their leisure time because they had very little. When they had a few spare hours, whole families would gather together for entertainment. Clergymen often organized Singing Societies among their church mem-

bers and friends. Today most people work eight hours a day. This leaves them with many leisure hours. The Barber Shop Quartet Society has proven beyond a doubt that this is a very excellent form of recreation.

When members get together they form friendships, reflect good conduct, create good will, and they are good citizens. N. R. Howard, editor of the Cleveland News said, "Our prisons are filled largely with men and women who never sing". The Michigan State Department of Public Instruction has accepted the Society as an important factor of adult education . . . Society quartets have made many thousands of appearances for worthy causes.

Mr. and Mrs. America the SPEBSQSA is you. Your support can mean the making or breaking of this force, this force which is a factor of democracy that will be one of the pillars of tomorrow's world. Call it barbershop if you wish, but — Let's keep America Singing."

E. AURORA LOSES DIRECTOR TO DARTMOUTH

Paul R. Zeller, Director of E. Aurora (N. Y.) Chorus and High School Music Director, has accepted a position as Director of the Dartmouth College Glee Club. He will take up his new duties at the beginning of the fall term . . . Zeller has been a double asset to the East Aurora Chapter, directing and singing bari with the Optimists. If he takes his barbershop enthusiasm along to Dartmouth—a college chapter can bloom soon.



CHARLESTON, ILL. QUARTET WINDOW

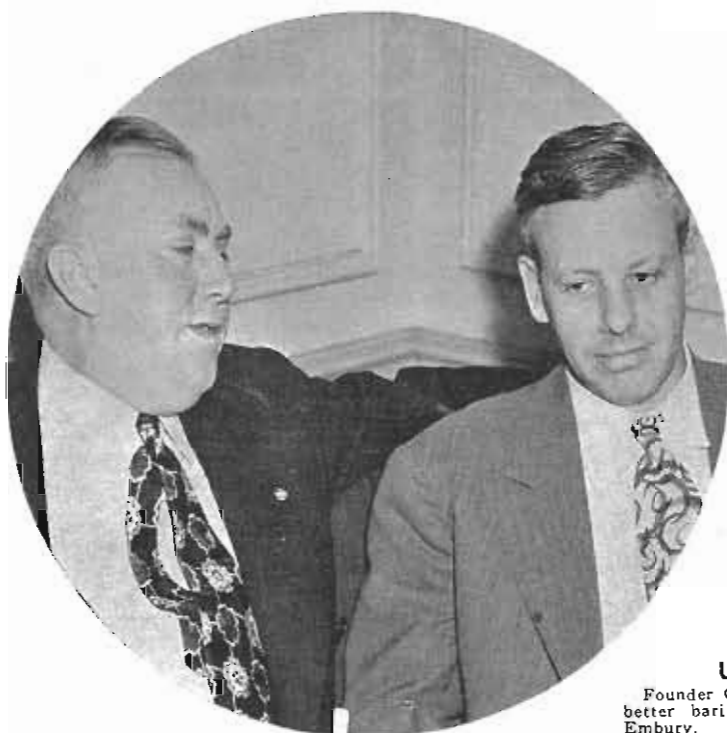
Charlestoners looked at the downtown window display of the local chapter's April 28 event and were so curious to find what it was all about that they filled the house for the first Parade.



MILWAUKEE PICTURES

Seated left to right: Mid-States Four of Chicago; Doctors of Harmony, Elkhart; Clef Dwellers, Oakland County Chapter, Michigan; Four Naturals, New Haven, Conn. Standing left to right: Jolly Whalers, New Bedford; Four Kernels, Omaha;

Antlers of Hutchins-
aires of
Fellows



UNCONVINCED!

Founder O. C. Cash argues that he is a better bari than Past Int'l. Pres. Phil Embury.



Seated left to
Serenaders of B
moners of Balm
Washington, D.
of Gary; With



1947-48 INT'L. BOARD

L. to R. standing: Falk, Stoppert, Wilson, Common, Chambers, Harvey, Brower, Davis, Boardman, Emsley, Dick, Stephens, Diekema, Haberkorn, Assoc. Int'l. Sec. Otto, Mellow. Seated: Irvine, Staab, Smith, Thorne, Pres. Charles M. Merrill, Cash, Brown, Beeler, Cole, Reagan. Missing—Art Merrill who took the picture, Briody, Coddington, Scott, Fahnestock, Stanton.



STATION

Two from Washington, E
rehearsed on their drive to
Gedrose, tenor; Dan Cutbush
Washington, bari; Fritz M



Tom Cats of Massillon; Coca-Cola Four of Kansas; Bonanza Four, Reno. Back row: Gardeners of Detroit; Hi-Los of Milwaukee; Jolly Jymies of Chicago and Pioneer.

"CY" (THE HAT) PERKINS (Bari of the Misfits)

Crowds gaped. Traffic snarled. Perkins puffed.



Big Towners of Chicago; Lions Club of Chicago; Continentals of Muskegon; Harbors of Chicago. Standing on floor: Potomac Clippers of Washington, D.C.; Harmonaires of Kansas City; Westinghouse Quartet

of Pittsburgh; Lamplighters of Cleveland. Back row: The Buzz Saws of Columbus, Ohio; Lionaires of Wichita; Food City Four of Battle Creek; Songfellows of Evansville; Atomic Bums of Minneapolis.

TO INT'L. BOARD MEMBER ARTHUR A. MERRILL

Thanks—from more than 20,000 SPEBSQSA members for many of the pictures in this issue that recreate the Milwaukee meeting.



SON FOUR

Two from Baltimore. They sang "The Ballad of the Hi-Los." L. to R.—Clarence Balto, lead; Jean Boardman, bass.



A GOOD STORY, OR A SONG? ?

The pride of Milwaukee, the Hi-Los, earned the acclaim given by the audience at the Sat. night Finals-Champion Show.



COAST TO COAST FOUR

L. to R.—Jack Hare, Frisco; Charlie Ricketts, New Bedford, Mass.; Holman Weeks, Indianapolis; Don Grenfell, Frisco. Parts sung unknown.

Over the Editor's Shoulder

Excerpts follow, from widespread comment since the Harmonizer was put on a 25c per copy basis:

"There was no 'barking' at our last meeting about the added subscription fee. They are happy to pay it — and, in my opinion, lucky to get the chance. We will await the invoice" . . . Larry Tucker, Sec., Iron Mountain, Mich. —

"You doubtless will be glad to know that our Chapter seemed to accept the 'New Deal' with regard to the Harmonizer subscription costs in good spirits — realizing the factors which made this action necessary" . . . G. H. Wright, Decatur, Ill. — "I know this arrangement is going to take a lot of headaches away from you and as a proponent of the idea for many years I am happy that our guiding fathers have finally seen fit to 'forget to be afraid'." . . . Sing-cerely, Welch Pierce, Chicago. — "When I brought the matter to the attention of my organization, they were so sympathetic with it, they even suggested sending additional money as a free contribution to help defray the expenses of our International Office" . . . Chas. Ricketts, Pres., New Bedford, Mass.

Wrote Past Pres. Hal Staab, in part, to one chapter which had objected to paying for the Harmonizer (charge for the magazine is standard practice among all topflight service organizations such as Rotary and Kiwanis): "I was very much surprised . . . that the fellows don't realize how our Society is operated . . . We are a non-profit organization . . . The only paid workers are those employed in the headquarters office. Even our Thirty-one Directors pay all of their own expenses, and they run into hundreds of dollars a year for each one. You'd be astonished if you knew the amount of money it costs me each year to do the work for the Society that I am doing, and it sort of goes against the grain to have anybody kick on an increase of from four cents a week to six cents. If the Society isn't worth six cents a week to any man, it isn't worth anything".

Comments Nelson T. Howe, Chorus Director, Elyria, Ohio Chapter: "I have been in public school music as a choral director for twenty-one years and in that time have had some wonderful moments and some fine associations. But the spirit of the Society is something that thrills me to the marrow of my bones. As I attend the various Parades and note the universal spirit of good fellowship among the members, I am convinced that ours is a unique institution among men. Where else can you find competing groups pulling hard for the success of each other? Where else can you find a better or higher quality of cooperation between the various chapters of any prominent Society?"

In the written opinion of Bob Ries, Pres. "Q" (Ill.) Suburban Chapter: "Music as the 'universal language' is epitomized by barbershop harmony. Of all the forms, it alone is truly of, by and for the man in the crowd who is unconcerned with favorable reviews in tomorrow's newspaper and who lets go and strives for a perfect chord. It is for this reason that I believe our chapter will bring to its membership something more than all the lodges and other groups combined: it will bring—and is bringing—music on their own terms".

Writes W. G. (Stub) Taylor, Sec., Schenectady Chapter, to Int'l. Sec. Adams and Assoc. Sec. Bill Otto: "It is much to my regret that my interesting and wholly satisfactory correspondence with both of you in my capacity as Chapter Secretary is soon to end. Your promptness in replying to letters has been a marvel to me, especially in consideration of the vast amount of mail which must reach you, and I have enjoyed the absence of formality in your letters and admired their conciseness. The Detroit office of SPEBSQSA is certainly in excellent hands".

H. T. ("Hec") White of Kansas City, writes as follows about the Convention—"This was my first Convention, and I was particularly impressed with the general high caliber of our entire membership which, alone, is reason enough for our over accelerating rate of growth; add to that the thrill of hearing the sweetest harmony on earth and solid good fellowship and it is a combination that can't be equalled anywhere. The new champions sang their way into the hearts of all barbershoppers and they are truly CHAMPS."

To Carroll P. Adams:

"The job you and your staff did in Milwaukee is one long to be remembered by the Society members . . . No one in our crowd ever had such a grand time, and none of us heard anything but the most favorable reports . . . We were all very happy when we learned that the 'Doctors of Harmony' were the new Champs. Those boys gave a demonstration of barbershop harmony singing like no one has ever heard before. I'm sure everyone will agree that no other quartet on the show was more deserving of the high honor which was bestowed upon them . . . We intend to carry on, and perhaps some day we might get good enough to bring the championship back to a district whose many members and fans have been so patient and tolerant."

Hal Bauer,
for The Clef Dwellers.



From Imm. P. Pres. F. H. Thorne to W. C. Maas, Mgr., Milwaukee Auditorium: "Will you please thank all of those employees for me because I am tremendously appreciative of all the little things they did and the promptness with which they always acted to help carry on our various programs in an alert and pleasing manner. How those boys on the spotlights figured out just precisely when I wanted them to switch the lights from one place to another is more than I know now, but if I had switched them myself they could not have been better handled to suit my particular desire at the moment. We enjoyed your fine organization and hope that you enjoyed us."

"Almost every day letters come asking for copies of 'God Made a Won-
(Continued on page 35)"

First National Convention

of

SWEET ADELINES, INC.

will be sponsored by the

TULSA CHAPTER
of SWEET ADELINES

Headquarters --- Tulsa Hotel

OCTOBER 3-4-5
1947

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

We welcome inquiries and hope
to have many new Sweet
Adeline Chapters before
Convention Time.

Mrs. C. S. (Mildred) BUXTON
Secretary and Convention Chairman
2252 East 8th St. :: Tulsa 4, Oklahoma

Over the Ed's Shoulder

(Continued)

derful Mother' and telling me they think it is a mighty nice song. If you could give me a few lines in a future issue of the Harmonizer, telling Barbershoppers I appreciate their letters I would deeply appreciate it."

Pat O'Reilly,

(Composer)—Battle Creek.

From Bruce Dennis—Special Features Dir.—WGN to F. H. Thorne: "It has been most encouraging to me that we have received a number of letters practically demanding a regular nightly or weekly barbershop quartet program. I have just written . . . requesting that . . . the Board of Directors consider the same arrangements with WGN—Mutual for 1948's Finals at Oklahoma City. Not that I needed any prompting but the Mutual office in New York wired me that they were most anxious to carry the Finals next year . . ."

To Carroll P. Adams: "The barbershop organization certainly stirred up this community and the attendance you had at your Saturday night program is sufficient evidence to show the great interest manifested in this type of singing."

W. C. Maas, Mgr.

Milwaukee Auditorium.

To Carroll P. Adams: "You have a grand crowd and in my contacts with other convention bureaus around the country, I shall emphasize what a splendid convention yours is. I don't know when I was so favorably impressed by a group of people. I am not entirely selfish when I express the hope that the SPEBSQSA will return to Milwaukee again and again."

Alvin J. Monroe,

Manager Convention Bureau.

The May Harmonizer is Tops . . . The cut of the Buckeyes is dandy art . . . G. H. (Curly) Crossett's fine write-up on the Criterion Quartet is of great interest to me as I played their recordings on the Edison disc in 1913 . . . Am a proud possessor of two of their recordings, "When the Corn is Waving" and "O'er the Billowy Sea" . . . Like the cover and the story behind the song on the cover . . . Got a thrill when I read that Fred Waring has joined the Society . . .

George Scarbo, Cleveland.

"I have just heard WGN's broadcast of the quartet Finals at Milwaukee and have voted it one of the finest half-hours radio has given us. I am proud to have my husband listed as a member. In a world torn by hate, prejudice, and suspicion there is a ray of hope when men from all walks of life, of various nationalities and interests can become as one through the love of fine singing. SPEBSQSA is a true instrument of democracy."

Mrs. Jack Coombes, Belvidere, Ill.

ALAMO FOUR, San Antonio



The Alamo Four competed in Sectional Prelims at Joplin. Here they are at San Antonio airport en route. L. to R.—Doc Chrisman, tenor; Ray Anthony, lead; Professor Frank Buebendorf, director of San Antonio Chorus; Harry Morgan, bari; Sunny Blevins, bass and pres. of this farthest west Lone Star Chapter.

"BETTER TO 'BUST' A CHORD THAN SPLIT AN ATOM"

Down in Mother Tulsa the chapter has elected Dr. E. H. Eckel, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, as president. The rector is a long-time Tulsa resident, widely known, respected and liked. An insight into what may be expected when a man of public speaking power heads a chapter comes from his "inaugural." Said the Doctor: "It is better to bust a chord than to split an atom." Then he developed the Keep America Singing theme. Tulsa Chapter is likely to turn out just to hear such phrase making as that . . . and perhaps sing one or two. The Society will be watching a chapter steered by "a doctor of divinity who resides in (that) vicinity."

O'BRIEN SAYS . . .

The following songs are in Public Domain and you may use them anywhere, anytime, anyway.

BAND PLAYED ON, The
DAISY BELL (BICYCLE
BUILT FOR TWO)
GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK
HOLY CITY, The
I'VE BEEN WORKING ON
THE RAILROAD
LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY
LOCH LOMOND
OLD MacDONALD HAD
A FARM
WHITE WINGS
WHO THREW THE OVER-
ALLS IN MRS. MURPHY'S
CHOWDER

Ten Public Domain Song Titles
will be listed in each future
issue of the HARMONIZER.

.. Keep These Lists For Reference ..

TWO
NEW
SONGS

"Waiting"

"Mist on the Moon"

"Tailor-made" for harmony.

Quartet arrangements of
both, only 25c

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request.

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VANSVILLE'S

3rd

PARADE of CHAMPIONS

●

MEMORIAL COLISEUM

Saturday, December 13, 1947

8:15 P. M.

●

EVANSVILLE CHAPTER CHORUS

KENTUCKY TROUBADORS

SONGELLOWS

MID-STATES FOUR

CHORDETTEs

McPHEE THREE

DOCTORS OF HARMONY

ELASTIC FOUR

HARMONY HALLS

MISFITS

★

EVANSVILLE WELCOMES
ALL BARBERSHOPPERS



DO YOU REMEMBER?

by J. George O'Brien, 400 S. Franklin St., Saginaw, Mich.

We're writing the August column from our shanty at Killarney Beach on Saginaw Bay where, each summer from the first of July 'till Labor Day, our kids swim and get freckles. Today is the Fourth of July. The yellow sands along the shore are dotted with American flags. The blue sky and bluer waters of the bay, the fleecy white clouds, red boats and bathing suits contribute an added note of patriotism.

This is America's birthday. This is the day when every red-blooded American should take time out to thank those rugged old forefathers of ours who had the foresight to set up this greatest of all democracies and the courage to see it through. This is the day that we should all get down on our knees and thank God that we were lucky enough to be born under these grand old stars and stripes.

Barbershopically speaking . . . This is the birthday of that greatest of all American troubadours, George M. Cohan. As typically American as barbershop harmony was this "nephew of his Uncle Sammy" who only told the simple truth when he said he was a "Yankee Doodle Dandy . . . born on the Fourth of July," but what a contribution this great man made to the music of America.

The charm of his immortal songs lies in their simple melodies and even more simple lyrics. Songs that are easy to learn and hard to forget. "You're A Grand Old Flag," "Give My Regards To Broadway," "Harrigan," "Oh, You Wonderful Girl," "So Long, Mary," "Yankee Doodle Boy," and "Mary's A Grand Old Name" to mention but a few of his many musical gems that will go on forever as living monuments to this grand American composer.

America's spines tingle to the tune of the "Star Spangled Banner." American eyes sparkle at the sight of Old Glory, and American hearts will forever thrill to the songs of George M. Cohan. Today is the Fourth of July. Happy birthday, George Cohan! Happy birthday . . . America! !

You guessed it. Before the last issue was off the press we had the words to the verse of "In the Evening By the Moonlight." First from "Deac" Martin who saw the copy before it went to press; then Harry Snyder of Saginaw who used to be in minstrel shows with Ye Olde Ed back around 1915,

then Charles Semonsen of Oakland, Calif. (who also included a lead sheet) and still later from Walter Griffith of Grand Rapids who didn't get his Harmonizer until he got to Milwaukee. As we go to press comes still another from W. V. Baldof of Urbana, Illinois who says he found the verse in Cole's Album of Favorite Barber Shop Ballads."

All agreed that the verse went substantially like this. "In the evening by the moonlight when the darkies work is over, we would gather 'round the fire 'til the hoe-cake it was done. Then we all would eat our supper, after that we'd clear the kitchen, that's the only time we had to spend, to have a little fun. Uncle Gabe would take the fiddle down that hung upon the wall, while the silvery moon was shining clear and bright. How the old folks would enjoy it . . . etc." Yes, thanks to those who suggested it, we are aware of the fact that these words appear in the "Album of Outstanding Songs of James A. Bland" (E. B. Marks \$1.50) but we wanted to know how many of you folks knew them.

What is a public domain number? Marv Lee suggests that we explain, so here goes. In this country the copyright law protects the owner for twenty-eight years. It CAN BE RENEWED for another twenty-eight. If renewed, the song is private property for fifty-six years. If not, it becomes public property after twenty-eight years. Any other questions? *Not a single answer* to Lee Osmon's "One By One the Rose Leaves Fall, Dear." Can it be that no one but Lee ever heard of this song? Come on, old timers, HELP! ! !

From time to time we get interesting letters from Charles A. Conrad 3rd of Racine, Wisconsin, particularly so in view of the fact that, in terms of old songs he's just a kid. He's twenty-four years old and in our humble opinion most of the songs that will live forever were "oldies" when Charlie was born. He writes, "Have found that there is generally more musical thought put into the old songs than there is in the current popular numbers." How right you are, Charlie. Right now he has some old records by the "Criterion Four" that he'd like to exchange with some other collector. Geo. Scarbo, et al, write him at 825 Main Street. He also mentions a record by Henry Burr entitled "That Is the Time For Sweethearts" and says it's good barbershop. Starts out "A sunny day in merry May when meadows are in bloom" . . . and that sort of intrigues Ye Olde Ed. Them's quartet lyrics with a quartet lift or we're a Chinaman's aunt. Some of the SPEBtets looking for new songs better check up on this one.

Guy Stoppert of Flint is looking for a number that was recorded by the Delta Rythm Boys called "Little Lize I Love You, I Love You Best Of All." Now please don't write us about "Little Liza Jane." That one is in every luncheon club song book but that's not the Liza that Guy is looking for. Does anyone know her?

C. N. Griswold of Barryton, Illinois sent in one that tickles us. He thinks it goes back at least to the nineties. "It was old when we sang it in the army in 1916," he writes. Here is the chorus: "Silence was her answer, low she bowed her head, when her boyish looking counselor arose and softly said, it's not for gold I'm pleading, but value far above, for the prisoner is the mother of the girl I love." "It's corny," says C. N., "but there's harmony in every note." And we can believe that. Did anyone else ever hear of it?

George K. Dunn, Past President of the Santa Monica Chapter and the editor of their Chords & Swipes writes about his experiences as a trouper with the old time Medicine Shows. It seems that George did a magic set and doubled as top tenor in the show's quartet. Their feature number was "That's How I Need You" and the bass used to "wow 'em" with "Can't You Hear Me Callin' Caroline." George mentions another number by the writer of "Caroline" which wasn't quite as popular "but was nevertheless one of the swellest numbers for minor swipes etc. so dear to the hearts of barbershop harmonizers" called "Don't You Mind It, Honey." It was written by Cara Roma in 1906 and certainly should be worth looking over if you're searching for songs.

Who remembers the old time vaudeville four with the "pretty boy" complete with cupid bow lips and a blonde curly wig singing top tenor, the lead a "straight" man, the bari a Joe Webberish big-panted pillow-stomached Dutchman, and the bass an old time tragedian, and . . . "why don't we have them in the Society," asks Rus Cole who's always asking good questions that we can't answer.

And by the way who remembers when you could take your girl to the movies, treat her to a chocolate soda on the way home, and still have twenty cents left out of a fifty-cent piece?

Your Grandpappy yodeled . . . "Walk, Jaw Bone" by S. S. Steele with verses by the dozens to fit every occasion, and a chorus that went like this: "Walk, jaw bone, Jenny come along, In come Sally wid de booties on. Walk, jaw bone, Jenny come along, In come Sally wid de booties on." Do you remember?

"FANCY FRILLS ARE FINE BUT DON'T TWIST THE TUNE TOO TERRIBLY"

Not long ago I complimented a quartet on its rendition of "Moonlight and Roses," but it turned out that they'd been singing a medley of "Hello Central Give Me Heaven" and "Margie." This was most embarrassing, particularly to the guy in the corner who had just said gratefully "I always did like that 'Goldmine in the Sky.' You boys did it swell," and to the lady who asked them to "sing the Dipsy Doodle again."

I'm just an old fashioned such-and-such who likes chords, unusual chords, oodles of 'em, but who also likes to know the tune on which the other three parts are built. I have a sneaking idea that the man who wrote the song might feel the same way about it. There's a trend, particularly noticeable at Milwaukee, toward substituting an Arranger's idea of what he thinks the composer should have written. A bit egotistic perhaps? And then again, to change the melody too often or violently can mean weakness on the part of the arranger. Sometimes he can't handle the composer's fast one so he substitutes a slider. Let's be realistic.

I was so alarmed at the Milwaukee manifestations that I suggested to several "The melody of songs sung in international competition must conform to the traditionally accepted or the written melody. One note may be changed occasionally, but a departure of two (2) consecutive notes from the accepted melody will draw a penalty." Well, as happens so often,

the Wisemen of the Society (and are we lucky to have 'em) straightened me out with a hook and then mowed me down with straight rights and lefts. If Leo Ives, Freddy Stein, Charley Schwab and Huck Sinclair had known what I suggested they'd have hired someone to take me for a ride. But, they can twist the tune so it doesn't hurt.

It's facts like that, and what is a "traditional" melody?, that would make it dangerous to write such a rule as suggested. Furthermore a 4some might sing a number that the judge had never heard, twisting the melody until it shrieked, but the judge wouldn't know it. But anyhow most of the time most of us want tunes with harmony rather than a succession of chords minus a melody thread.

Here's a different, though related, thought, important enough to make me willing to lay my fair young head on the chopping block once again. I think I was born with an affection for sixth chords, just as I have a weakness for strawberry shortcake that gets keener and keener. But, I wouldn't care for strawberries as an appetizer, then as the main meal, and finally for dessert, three times a day. And that's what some of our arrangers are doing musically with sixth chords. A sixth is appetizing but to pile sixth harmony on sixth harmony takes away my appetite for sixths.

How about you?

Deac . . .

**The Chapter Reference Manual should
be the Bible of all Chapter officers.**

SCHENECTADY GOES MASSILLON ONE BETTER

In the May Harmonizer, Massillon, Ohio, challenged the world to beat its record of having a quartet composed entirely of SPEB wives. Schenectady accepts the challenge and goes Massillon one better.

"Melodames" L.to R.; R. Alda Youmans,



tenor, wife of Jack Youmans; Jean Coward, lead, wife of Bob Coward; Betty Vernon, bass, wife of Lee Vernon; Nita Pettingill, wife of Nels Pettingill.

Then for good measure, the "Babes in the Woods." L. to R.: Barbara Wil-



liamson, tenor, daughter of member Stan Williamson; Anne Merrill, lead, daughter of Int'l. Bd. Member Art Merrill; Barbara White, bari, daughter of member Frank White; Evelyn Sadona, bass, daughter of member Paul Sadona one of Schenectady Chapter's founders. Put the first letters of their first names together, l. to r., and you have "Babe." Hence the name.

INFORMATION YOU WANT

Each issue carries information on 25 songs. To lighten the load of the Old Songs Committee, members are urged to refer to back numbers of the *Harmonizer* before asking the Committee for aid.

| TITLE | YEAR | COMPOSER | PUBLISHER |
|---|------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| All Aboard For Dreamland | 1904 | Sterling-Von Tilzer | Harry Von Tilzer |
| At Sundown | 1927 | Walter Donaldson | Leo Feist, Inc. |
| Buckwheat Cakes | 1911 | Taylor-Sloop | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Dream Daddy | 1923 | Herscher-Keefer | Edwin H. Marks Music Co. |
| Everybody Gives Me Good Advice | 1906 | Bryan-Kendis-Paley | Remick Music Corp. |
| Flower From the Fields of Alabama | 1901 | Dan J. Sullivan | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Gold Mine In the Sky | 1937 | Charles-Nick Kenny | Bourne, Inc. |
| Holding Haods | 1905 | Smith-Hoschna | M. Witmark & Sons |
| I'd Still Believe You True | 1900 | Paul Dresser | Paul Pioneer, Inc. |
| If You Were the Only Girl In the World | 1916 | Gray-Ayer | Mutual Music Society |
| In the Baggage Coach Ahead | 1896 | Gussie L. Davis | E. B. Marks Music Co. |
| I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now | 1909 | Hough-Adams-Howard | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Just Across the Bridge of Gold | 1905 | Sterling-Von Tilzer | Harry B. Von Tilzer |
| Let Me Kiss Your Tears Away | 1895 | Zimmerman-Couchois | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Macnamara's Band | 1914 | Stamford-O'Connor | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| My Own Iona | 1916 | Gilbert-Friedland | E. B. Marks Music Co. |
| On A Beautiful Night With A Beautiful Girl | 1912 | Cobb-Edwards | Remick Music Corp. |
| Pray For the Sunshine But Always Be Prepared | | | Kalmar, Puck and |
| For the Rain | 1917 | Lewis-Young-Abrahams | Abrahams Music Co. |
| Same Old Moon | 1905 | Hough-Adams-Howard | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Somebody's Waiting For Me | 1902 | Sterling-Von Tilzer | Harry Von Tilzer |
| Sweetest Girl In Dixie | 1903 | O'Dea-Adams | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |
| Sympathy (All I Get Is) | 1905 | Kendis-Paley | Remick Music Corp. |
| When My Golden Hair Has Turned To Silver Grey | 1904 | Edward Stanley | Larry Spier |
| When Old Bill Bailey Plays the Ukelele | 1915 | McCarron-Vincent | Broadway Music Corp. |
| Where the Silvery Colorado Wends It's Way | 1901 | Scoggins-Avril | Jerry Vogel Music Co. |

WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS

"Once a Champion Always a Champion"

The Bartlesville Barflies, '39
Bartlesville, Okla.

The Elastic Four, '42
Chicago, Ill.

The Misfits, '45
Chicago, Ill.

The Flatfoot Four, '40
Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Four Harmonizers, '48
Chicago, Ill.

The Garden State Quartet '46
Jersey City, N. J.

The Chordbusters, '41
Tulsa, Okla.

The Harmony Halls, '44
Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Doctors of Harmony, '47
Elkhart, Indiana

THOSE DOCTORS OF HARMONY

Four names already well known in SPEB circles will become almost household words during the coming fiscal year: H. H. "Jumbo" Smith, tenor; Max "Junior" E. Cripe, lead; Elton "Butch" Hummel, bari; and Lee "Rev" Kidder, bass. These boys have already proved that they are a popular choice for International Champions.

Back of the championship is an almost incredible amount of perseverance. When the Elkhart Chapter was organized in March, '44, Kidder, Hummel, (songsters together since age 9) and Cripe were looking not only for a tenor but somebody they could push around. And they found Jumbo Smith who stands 5 feet in his socks and weighs 125 pounds soaking wet. They forgot the pushing part when they found that Jumbo was featherweight champion wrestler of 1914-16 and no push-over. Then they devoted all their time to learning new chords, progressions, phrasing, all that enters into improving a quartet. They entered the June '44 competition—they entered and that was all. Next year, '45, they again entered and won fifth place, after having earlier won the Indiana State Contest. This spurred them to enter the Internationals at Cleveland in June, '46, where they stepped up the ladder to third place. Since Cleveland they have worked as very few quartets have worked. They went to Milwaukee with the idea that they

could win and they trained like athletes to do so.

Kidder, the bass, is an industrial engineer and has seven youngsters. Hummel, the bari, heads Hummel Food Services which services factory canteens. Cripe is an insurance broker. Smith is a masseur and composer of the Song on the Cover, and others.

An insight into the character of this quartet comes from a note to Carroll Adams from Kidder after winning the championship: "In the lives of everyone at sometime or other there is an experience which has no equal, the memory of which he would not trade for all the tea in China. I have just had that experience. All of my life I have striven to live and enjoy every minute which I have spent on this old sphere, and I know full well that the experience of being a member of a Barbershop Quartet that has just been named 1947 International Champion is my Supreme experience.

I am still unable to fathom how it happened, because, as always, I am in sort of a daze. However, our one hope is this, that, as champions, we may be a credit to our International Organization, our home chapter, and to ourselves, as have all the glorious champions before us."

While Cripe wrote to Frank Thorne as follows:

"You don't remember half as well as I the first time we appeared with the

Elastics, Harmonizers, Ambassadors and others. We thought since we were the hosts that evening in Hotel Elkhart that we should let every other quartet sing first and the more you sang the more nervous we got and pretty soon all you fellows had sung all the songs that we had rehearsed and thought we knew. When it came time for us to go on we were a bunch of sad sacks . . . I hope we can prove ourselves worthy of the ranking given us and hope we will be a credit to the Society, Former Champs and to ourselves."

HERE'S GOOD NEWS FROM OKLA.

From N. T. (Doc) Enmeier of Chord Busters:

After several years of semi-activity, the news of lead Holbrook's possible return to Tulsa has again revived that old Chord Buster spirit, and our program for the balance of the year calls for a period of intensive work, thereby hoping to add to our repertoire a group of new and novel arrangements.

The possibility that bari Greer may eventually be free from his work on week-ends has also enlivened our hopes to be able to have a part in more Parades of Quartets throughout the country. (St. Louis and Omaha invitations now in hand . . . hope we can make 'em.)

A bit of news which may be of interest to all our many friends: . . . Cupid is at last delivering the final punch in a long and hard struggle with bass Tom Masengale. Tom will wave the white flag in final surrender on July 19th in Tulsa, Okla., to Miss Katherine Laffoon of this city. When you meet her you will agree that, although Tom lost the match, he is still the lucky winner. Best of everything Tom and Kay!"

THE LOST CHORD — FOUND

by Hugo L. Stanger

The MISFITS found it! At 2:31 A. M., Sept. 29, '46, in Room 301, LaMoine Hotel, Macomb, Ill., they found it: They were in Hank Stanley's room, singing to an informal group of notables and guests. And they were singing magnificently. They almost had us convinced that they were better than the You-Know-Whostics! They answered one request after another, and then Pete Buckley said "Folks, I want you to hear our version of 'Dear Old Girl,' it's really a honey!"

They sang three notes—"Dear old girl,"—and they hit it,—the LOST

(Continued on page 39)



"IN THE BAG-S"

Highlighting the reception arranged for the new Int'l. Champion Doctors of Harmony at Elkhart, was the presentation of complete luggage equipment, by Fred Gregory, Brazil, Ind., president of the Ind.-Ky. Ass'n. for the Association.

Elkhart Truth photo.

Lost Chord—Found

(Continued from page 38)

CHORD,—and confidentially it must have been lost in hell, and with good reason, because the stench was almost unbearable! This was no ordinary sour swipe like you hear from a pick-up quartet in the Elbow Room. Only four fine, powerful, highly trained voices singing in complete discord could make such a wild cacophony. It shattered eardrums,—it cracked the plaster,—and it nearly broke up the Misfits!

They came to a screeching stop, with Pete Buckley glaring like an enraged lion. They tried it again and it sounded worse. They changed the baritone,—they changed the lead, they changed the tenor,—they changed the bass, (and some day you try changing the Rock of Gibraltar!).

Nothing helped. The guests clamored for something else,—anything else! But Joe Murrin roared "NO! We'll find it if it takes all night!" They tried it with Joe standing on his head, Picklepuss Perkins sitting on Art Bielan's lap and Pete singing tenor,—but it seemed utterly hopeless.

By this time they were practically at each other's throats, and we have yet to see four guys hate each other so hard without committing murder . . . And then somebody (we don't dare tell who!) raised his part a half note and they were on the beam again! Their faces lit up in happy smiles! a great cheer arose from the audience! The Misfits were saved, thank God, and it was a honey of an arrangement!

To a rank amateur, groping around in the twilight between bass and baritone, it was downright encouraging to find that even the best of them have their bad moments.

My Year as a "Champeen"

by Jack Briody

When we Garden Staters arrived home after the Milwaukee Convention we were four very tired but extremely happy guys. Yes, we were about all in, for that trip brought our mileage very close to 50,000 for the year. Happy, that's putting it mildly, for we all feel it was a grand year in which we were privileged as '46-'47 Int'l. champs to meet some of the nicest people in the land; and travel to places where most of us had never been, and perhaps never would have been, if we were not fortunate in winning the championship.

Some week-ends we would be rather exhausted upon arriving in some town for a show, but after a few amusing incidents we would get right back into the swing of things.

For instance, there was the time we arrived at the Hotel in Endicott, New York, after almost knocking ourselves out singing enroute. We had just settled down for a few hours of shut-eye when there came a terrific pounding at the door—and I do mean terrific. Thinking it might be an earthquake, I dressed and opened the door.

Lo and behold, standing in the doorway was none other than Cy Perkins. Well, if you know Cy (and who doesn't) there was no shut-eye at that time.

Another time while at the hotel in Binghamton, N. Y., I was walking through the lobby when a very demure miss upon seeing my blue blazer and gray flannels approached and inquired the whereabouts of the powder room. I directed her, having just passed such a room. Who am I to tell a lady that I'm not a bell-hop?"

Yessir, brother barbershoppers, this year was filled with everything any human could desire and when June arrived we felt we could sit back and listen to those grand new champs the "Doctors of Harmony." Then a glance at our little black book, which lists 20 Parade dates so far for next season made it clear there would be no sitting back for the Garden Staters.

Who said we're tired! We're just getting warmed up!!

The Chapter Reference Manual is full of Chapter aids and represents the greatest forward step taken by the Chapter Methods Committee.

Elastic's Adventures

Jimmy Doyle, bari (or bass, lead or tenor in emergency), Elastic Four, stretches the curtain to give us a peep behind the scenes: While in Pittsburgh on a date we sang several in the air terminal before taking off. The hostess heard us and when we got on the plane she said "Little Tommy Tucker sang for his supper" and refused to feed us until we sang one for her. Frisby thoughtfully asked her to have the pilot shut off the motors so we wouldn't have competition. At that time we were only a few feet above the top of the Alleghenies.

* * *

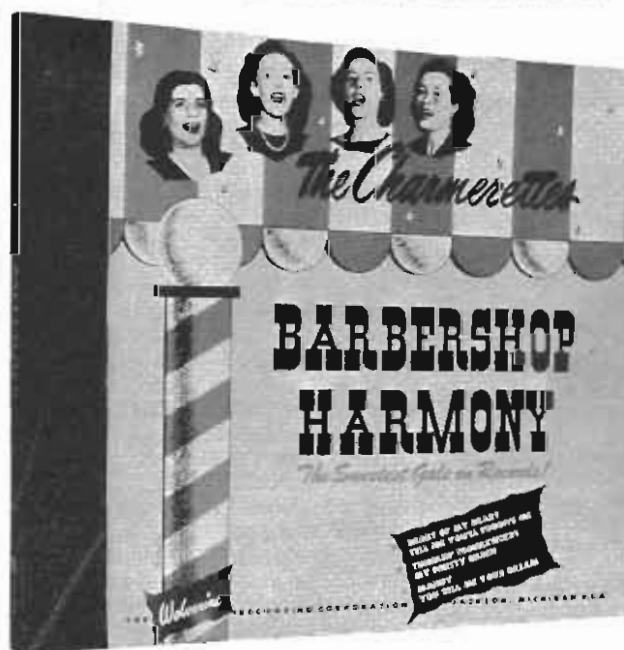
On a trip to Wichita we had double bedrooms on the Santa Fe, but found they had sold duplicate space to a woman. After we failed to get anywhere with the Pullman conductor Frisby said "I'll take care of this in my own way." He went into the bedroom and when the woman refused to leave he started to undress. Believe me we got our space.

* * *

On a trip back from Evansville I drew a lower berth (of course, I am used to drawing rooms exclusively) and decided to entertain some of the sleeping guests. After we were all in our berths I shouted across to Frank Thorne until he replied "What do you want?" I replied dolefully "I can't get into this damn hammock."

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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

Proceeds of the April 26 Parade, New Bedford, Mass., almost \$1,000, were used to start a scholarship fund for "local, talented, young musicians who, lacking necessary funds to continue their musical education, may warrant the assistance of our Society in the final phase of their musical training." This is splendid public service in line with the purposes and aims of the Society. Granted that we aim to "preserve and encourage" a particular type of harmony, developments of the last 9 years prove that trained musicians increasingly lend a favorable ear and laudatory comment to our specialized efforts. Among the musical cognoscenti the Society in early stages was a huge joke. Nowadays even the stern music critic is more and more inclined to give the Society a pat on the back for its work in "encouraging and preserving" a phase of American music that was slipping into the discard. Some critics are practically lyrical in their reports after attending a bang-up SPEB concert.

"As the twig is bent . . ." Those young people profiting from New Bedford's investment in their musical futures are very likely to be favorably inclined to future preservation and encouragement when today's crop of barbershop enthusiasts has passed out of the musical and terrestrial picture.

One wonders about the administration of this fund, which will probably grow, and comparable "Foundations." Two thoughts occur: Might New Bedford's action, and Schenectady's previous steps in that direction, be the first moves toward an International Scholarship Fund into which pool our chapters might divert a part of net proceeds from public entertainment?

Second: Based on personal experience and observation, may I suggest that such funds be loaned rather than given to promising students, whether by local chapter or internationally.

There's something about borrowing money to finish college, and paying it back later, that puts iron in the blood and a ramrod up one's spine, in future life, as compared to being recipient of a gift. Of course, that's just the way I see it.

* * *

I like the report of this year's Nominating Committee: "The task has been to discover and weigh recommenda-

tions of members . . . for preparing a slate that will best promote the success of the Society." The report considered "the necessity of carefully weighing qualifications of many, due consideration being given to geographical representation." It said: "The slate is as notable for some of its omissions as for its selections, which points up the fact that the Society is blessed with an abundant candidacy, as it should be in a healthy expanding organization." Then followed the names and reasons for their selections. For example, Past Pres. Staab is now working on the ten-year history of the Society, therefore, who else could logically be our Historian.

I have been in the Society since early '39. During that time I have been used as a broadcasting shell by 15,863 members who have gone out of their way to tell me what's good about the organization. During that time about 15 or 20 have utilized me as a wailing wall to tell me what is wrong. Complaints usually took one of two trends, although neither is heard as frequently as it used to be. (1) "What's wrong with judging!" (2) "The Society is run by a self-perpetuating clique."

The first wail practically ended at Milwaukee this year. Nevertheless the Judging Committee will continue to study means of even greater improvement.

The second complaint can't hold water as well as a sieve that's been used as a shotgun target. I have seen a continuous turn-over on the Board and it has reached the point where Frank Thorne (Ex Officio), Hal Staah, O. C. Cash (Ex Officio) and Maurice Reagan are the only men with whom I served my last term on the Int'l. Board. O. C. Cash is the only one left from my first term. Even Carroll Adams didn't come into the picture till '41 (and were we lucky to get him!). Some of the current Board hadn't heard of the Society half a dozen years ago. Why are they on now? Because they've demonstrated their willingness and ability to serve the Society, wisely and selflessly, and could afford to. It costs dollars as well as time to be a Board member.

My hat is off to the Nominating Committee for its choices. Our Board has everything from administrators to quartet members, to promoters and good sound business heads through-out. And next year—out with some

of the old—and hail to the vitalizing new blood, ad infinitum the way I see it.

* * *

A gentleman who shall be nameless, J. F. (Jim) Knipe, Pres. of Martin Printing Co., printers of the Harmonizer, has become a thorn in the flesh. If you study the name of Jim's company very closely you might find some similarity between the 6-letter word beginning with M (don't ask for any more hints) and the byline at the top of this col. As a result folks too often write to Jim c/o me, and to me c/o Jim. There's no connection, loose, business, family, or office location, between the two. We both used to wear hair. One does now, so that breaks that up. Knipe has been capitalizing upon this department too long. In fact he says: "If this keeps on I shall scrap the name of my 50-year-old company."

BARBERSHOP BAFFLERS No. 14

by Chas. M. Merrill, Int'l. Pres.

A quick glance at the following familiar excerpts may give the impression that all hell has broken loose for fair. If you can, however, overcome that feeling of utter confusion and give the song from which each excerpt is taken.

1. The blinding tears are falling
2. My lonely heart is sinking
3. The drowsy hours are creeping
4. The pale moon was rising
5. The temple bells are calling
6. The mill wheel was turning
7. Dawn bells are pealing
8. The same old moon is shining
9. The nightingales are singing
10. Those same old bees am hummin'
11. The candle lights are gleaming
12. Silv'ry moon am shinin'
13. The old church bells are ringing
14. The wolf wind is wailing
15. His sleepy mate is calling
16. The roses am a-noddin'
17. Her brave is sleeping
18. The light house bells are ringing
19. The gray dawn is breaking
20. Red leaves are falling

(For Answers See Page 41)

WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET

Address Correspondence to
HARRY W. SMITH

306 FOURTH AVE.
PITTSBURGH 30, PA.

SWAT THAT PEST!

Good clean fun was back of the origin of the Society, and is still a cardinal principle. It is regrettable that actions of a few have necessitated an Ethics Committee bulletin highlights of which follow:

"When we are in public we are almost always conspicuous because of our unquenchable desire to sing . . . It behooves us to conduct ourselves in such manner as will reflect only credit upon our institution. Inasmuch as our Society members have a superabundance of ability to supply good, clean entertainment, there is no necessity for questionable lyrics, stories or acts which bring discredit to the Society . . .

"It has been brought to the attention of our committee . . . that quartets in mistaken attempts to appeal to or satisfy their audiences are resorting to suggestive numbers or are presenting what otherwise are entirely proper numbers in an offensively suggestive manner through use of gestures and actions.

"It will be observed that this practice is a clear violation of the Code, and one which simply cannot be tolerated . . .

"First: The Code recognizes no exceptions. Use of suggestive numbers is technically as much a violation at



"WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"

Chicago Big Towners aided George Jessel (L.) and June Haver at world premier of "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

a stag smoker as at a Society Parade. "Second: Requests from the audience, no matter how clamorous, are no justification. Experience has proven that the same audience will contain many who subsequently complain of the lowering of program standards. Such complaints are incalculably harmful. "Third: The only proper method is immediately and finally to strike all questionable numbers from your repertoire.

If you are in any doubt as to a number, strike it!"

The Committee also called attention of all chapter and district officers to the necessity of instructing MCs and specialty acts appearing at SPEB functions that Vulgarly Just Doesn't Belong.

The Chapter Reference Manual should be the Bible of all Chapter officers.

Answers to Barbershop Bafflers (See Page 40)

1. Dear Old Girl
2. When Day Is Done
3. All Through the Night
4. The Rose of Tralee
5. The Road to Mandalay
6. By the Mill (Sweet Cider Time)
7. Neapolitan Nights
8. Where the Morning Glories Twine About the Door
9. The Long, Long Trail
10. Oh, Mah Lindy (Ain't Yo' Comin' Home)
11. On the Banks of the Wabash
12. Kentucky Babe
13. Where the Sunset Turns the Ocean's Blue to Gold
14. Winter Song
15. The World Is Waiting For the Sunrise
16. Oh, Miss Hannah
17. Red Wing
18. When the Harbor Lights Are Burning
19. Kathleen Mavourneen
20. The Bells of St. Mary's

NOW YOU CAN LEARN BARBERSHOP HARMONY!

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☐ — BARI PART
☐ — BASS PART
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#152 — HEART OF MY HEART

- ☐ — TENOR PART
☐ — LEAD PART
☐ — BARI PART
☐ — BASS PART
☐ — FULL QUARTET RECORDING

#153 — SLEEP KENTUCKY BABE

- ☐ — TENOR PART
☐ — LEAD PART
☐ — BARI PART
☐ — BASS PART
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AS REPORTED TO THE INT'L OFFICE THROUGH AUG. 1st

August 22—Holland, Mich., Ladies' Night.
30-31—Charlevoix, Mich., Labor Day Week-
end Party.
31—Carlsbad, New Mexico, Charter Night.
Kearney, Nebr., Charter Night.

September 6—Waterbury, Conn., Charter
Night; Corry, Pa., Charter Night.
8—Springfield, Ohio, Charter Night.
13—Kitchener, Ont., Charter Night; Bingham-
ton-Johnson City, N. Y., Quartet Parade;
Holyoke, Mass., Quartet Parade.
19—Ludington, Mich., Quartet Parade.
20—Beaver Dam, Wis., Quartet Parade;
Olean, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Elkhart, Ind.,
Quartet Parade; Tri City, Calif., Quartet Pa-
rade.
21—Spencer, Iowa, Charter Night.
27—Hornell, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Jackson,
Mich., Quartet Parade; Lafayette, Ind.,
Charter Night.

October 1—Hamtramck, Mich., Ladies' Night.
3—Allegan, Mich., Quartet Parade.
3-4—San Gabriel, Calif., Quartet Parade.
4—Syracuse, N. Y., Charter Night.
Chatham, Ont., Quartet Parade.
Northampton, Mass., Quartet Parade.
5—Lincoln, Ill., Quartet Parade.
10-11—Oak Park, Ill., Minstrel.
11—Hamilton, Ont., District Contest; Adrian,
Mich., Quartet Parade; Warren, Pa., Charter
Night; Mishawaka, Ind., Quartet Parade.
18—Berea, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Mt. Pleas-
ant, Mich., Quartet Parade; Middletown,
Ohio, Quartet Parade; Joliet, Ill., Quartet Pa-
rade; Cortland, N. Y., Quartet Parade; New
Haven, Conn., District Contest; Kenosha,
Wis., Quartet Parade.
19—Monmouth, Ill., Quartet Parade.
24—Washington, D. C., Harvest of Harmony.
25—Lansing, Mich., Cavalcade of Quartets;
Rochester, N. Y., C-W N. Y. District Contest;
Fort Wayne, Ind., Quartet Parade; Lorain,
Ohio, Quartet Parade; Jamaica, New York,
Quartet Parade; London, Ontario, Quartet
Parade; Manitowoc, Wis., Quartet Parade.
26—Beardstown, Ill., Quartet Parade.
27-28—Marlboro, Mass., Minstrel.

November 1—Flint, Mich., Festival of Har-
mony; Ithaca, N. Y., Charter Night; Green
Bay, Wis., District Contest; Detroit, Mich.,
Quartet Parade; Philadelphia, Pa., Charter
Night; Muncie, Ind., Quartet Parade; Hamil-
ton, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Barrington, Ill.,
Quartet Parade.
2—Dixon, Ill., Concert; Mattoon, Ill., Quar-
tet Parade.
7—Teaneck, N. J., Parade and Minstrel;
Chicago, Ill., Quartet Parade.
8—Topeka, Kansas, District Contest; Midland,
Mich., Quartet Parade; Bloomsburg, Pa.,
Quartet Parade; La Crosse, Wis., Quartet
Parade.
9—Logansport, Ind., Quartet Parade; La Salle,
Ill., Quartet Parade.
14—Schenectady, N. Y., Quartet Parade.
Paterson, N. J., Quartet Parade.
15—Buffalo, N. Y., Quartet Parade.
Omaha, Nebr., Quartet Parade.
16—Aurora, Ill., Quartet Parade.
22—Louisville, Ky., Quartet Parade; Hartford,
Conn., Quartet Parade; Baltimore No. 1, Md.,
Quartet Parade.
29—Dayton, Ohio, District Contest.
30—Decatur, Ill., Quartet Parade.

December 4—Bay City, Mich., Quartet Pa-
rade; Pontiac, Mich., Quartet Parade.
13—Evansville, Ind., Quartet Parade.

January 16-17—Pittsburgh, Pa., Midwinter
Int'l Board Meeting.

17—Redford Area (Detroit) Mich., Quartet
Parade.

24—Canton, Ohio, Quartet Parade; York, Pa.,
Quartet Parade; Boyne City, Mich., Bush
League Contest.

31—Cleveland, Ohio, Quartet Parade.

February 7—Dearborn, Mich., Quartet Pa-
rade; Jersey City, N. J., Quartet Parade.
21—(tentative) Mich., District Contest; War-
ren, Ohio, Quartet Parade.

March 6—Toronto, Ontario, Quartet Parade.

April 4-5—Kansas City, Mo., Quartet Parade.
19—Grand Rapids, Mich., Great Lakes In-
vitational; Columbus, Ohio, Quartet Parade;
Wichita, Ladies' Night.

24—Defiance, Ohio, Quartet Parade.
25—Rock Island, Ill., Quartet Parade.

May 1-2—Regional Preliminaries.

8—Appleton, Wis., Quartet Parade.
13—Warsaw, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Iron
Mountain, Mich., Quartet Parade.

June 11-12—Oklahoma City, Okla., Conven-
tion.

July 18—Oshkosh, Wis., District Chorus Con-
test.

November 6—Detroit-Oakland County, Mich.,
Quartet Parade.

SOFT-BALL A LA BARBERSHOP

Pioneer (Chicago) Chapter's new
President, Vic Listug, was given a
rousing welcome at his first official
meeting as gavel-swinger and was so
overcome that he made the mistake
of challenging his own Pioneer Chap-
ter to a softball game against his own
"Vic Listugs," a team which he man-
ages and sponsors. Pioneer had no
team but they accepted anyway and
Thursday, July 10th, was set as the
date. No need to go into full details
but suffice to say that the foul-line
markers were big barber poles and
that the game was interrupted at the
3rd and 6th innings for quartet sing-
ing at home plate and that before
the game was over the umpire lead
the entire crowd, players and specta-
tors, in community singing a la b.s.
... The score? Pioneer 23, Listugs 8.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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★ Chorus ★

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WRITE FOR RESERVATIONS NOW



BY GEORGE W. CAMPBELL

"Milwaukee, June, 1947" for years to come will mean more than the name of a city, more than just a date on a calendar to the near three thousand members, friends and fans of our Society from all over this America and from many parts of Canada who came for the convention and contest. It was more than a convention, more than a contest, more than just a good time and more than just barbershop quartet singing. It was—well, just what was it? I can't describe it. I can't put my finger on it. I am sure it was something more than all the labels you could think of that might be tagged on to it. It was too deep, too fine and splendid for mere words. If you think I am up in the clouds flying around on one of those recently discovered saucers, try to tell a friend what Milwaukee, June, 1947 was like. Have you ever tried to describe to another your impressions of some great personality you have known? Can you describe a thing of beauty—like a sunset? The best most of us can say: "It was wonderful!"

One of the impressions that made it wonderful, to me, was the high sportsmanship of the 30 competing quartets. Their spirit was so contagious that the people attending the semi-finals caught it, and it carried into the vast audience of 6000 for the finals.

Another impression: I know some of the mechanics involved in the planning and preparation for a great convention and contest like ours. Work, tedious details, give and take among the countless activities of the committees; special arrangements—but why go on? Somebody had to do it because it had to be done. My impression adds up to this—something more beautiful than orchids is due the Milwaukee Chapter for creating a setting which made it possible for us to have an experience that defies description. I am at a loss to express my own appreciation, much less to describe it. If the Greeks had a word for it, so has SPEBSQSA—it's Music. No—more than that, it's the Spirit of Music! Where does it come from? Brother, it's inside of you. Everybody has it. Our Society is dedicated to the proposition of helping folks to enjoy it through singing together. In the Spirit of Music, everything is possible. Hence, "Milwaukee, 1947."

* * *

More than 66 barbershoppers enrolled for the song leaders class in Milwaukee. Twelve states, the D. C. and Canada were represented. Missouri, Texas and Nebraska south and west;

Mass., Conn., and New York eastward; Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and our host state, Wisconsin filled in the middle. Three hours spent in singing together under leadership of class members, the helpful suggestions and criticisms from the class on the performance of the student leaders, warmed the cockles of the heart of this old bald-headed song leader.

The eagerness for techniques and the desire to do something is a splendid indication that in the coming year more chapters will appoint song leaders to serve the community. Following Cleveland, 1946, in this column I reminded our Society that through the great chapter parades, the thousands of appearances made by the quartets and the chapter choruses, our motto "Keep America Singing" is actually becoming a reality.

Help Your Community

We must go one step farther. Most progressive communities during the course of a year sponsor several outstanding civic programs where large groups of people are gathered together. Many of these programs would be enriched if the people were given the opportunity to sing. The most recent gathering of this kind in which I participated was held in Buffalo last week, July 4th. It was the seventh annual Independence Day celebration. Under the sponsorship of the civic-minded Buffalo Evening News and the News' WBEN a truly great program was provided the people of Buffalo. Thirty thousand people came. Music from the classics and the popular; fun, fireworks, and three circus acts. But best of all, however, (you guessed it) the people sang. They WANTED to sing (It's the fault of the Buffalo Chapter that I have appeared on this wonderful program for the last two years.)

On great civic events like the Buffalo program our chapter song leaders can "Keep America Singing." The chapter parade committee that provides only for the formality of singing the national anthem or the national hymn on the annual quartet parade is letting the people down. Let the people sing!

Strictly personal: There are several places where "my year" ends within the twelve months: by the calendar, of course is one and by the convention and contest date is another. Since Cleveland, chapters from all over the country have complimented me with invitations to participate in their parades. Much to my regret I was unable to accept all of them. There are not enough Saturdays in the year for one reason, but the principal reason was the invitation arrived too late. We will hope for better connections during the coming year. Best wishes for a Happy New Year to all!



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I SEE BY THE PAPERS



Christian Science Monitor, May 10, reprinted a Denver Post editorial in part as follows: "Junior, in his hepcat ignorance, may ask us 'What is barbershop?' What shall we tell him? Son, we shall say, barbershop harmonies are the peppermint drops of American song. They last and last. You roll them on your tongue and they are sweet but not sticky-sweet. Their flavor has a pungent power that brings mist to the eyes . . . You boogie-woogie bumpkins are song savages, Junior. You gulp your melodies whole, never pausing to savor them . . . We don't care if Richard never opens the door. Does he plead for five minutes more with Sioux City Sue? We can't hear him, for Caroline is calling down by the old mill stream. Dear old gal, she's got peppermint drops. Some day you'll understand".

Walter Whitworth, Music Critic, Indianapolis News, reported the Section-

al Prelim Contest and commented in part as follows: "Barbershop quartet singing is a highly specialized field. It follows a definite formula, and this formula is strange to a reporter accustomed to symphonic music, instrumental music and the art song. The Barbershoppers, naturally, adore a tempo rubato (for which they would be promptly killed, were they singing serious music.) Their phrasing is startling and unconventional. Their choice of breathing places has nothing to do with music or words. It is a bit disturbing.

But these technical aspects of the singing are proper, it seems, and they don't really matter, since the idea is not art. Anyway, all 12 quartets possessed good balance, good blending of voices, good ensemble. The tone quality, too, was pleasant. What one missed — because it was seldom in evidence — was a rhythmic sense. One had to wait for the Misfits to provide the spine-tickling elements of forward flow with definite accents.

The audience, which was fairly large, had a good time (the reviewer had a good time, too, as a matter of fact, once he had adjusted himself to the formula) . . . "Looks as if we might convert Mr. Whitworth if we can get him to 'adjust himself' to our formula often enough. — ED.

Bowling Green, Ohio, Sentinel-Tribune carried an editorial commenting upon the Sectional Prelims at Toledo. "How nostalgic is the announcement! It brings to mind the days when men were not so rushed with their affairs but that they could take time out for group singing. Customers, waiting for 10c shaves and 20c haircuts, were satisfied to sit and listen a few minutes to the melodious voices. Many, perhaps most, of the singers knew nothing about counterpoint or musical dynamics but how they intuitively hit the right notes and sent thrills through their hearers!

"Can such singing be revived? It is doubtful. The radio has supplanted it largely; and only those with a desire for public acclaim and money are likely to sing often and carefree. Then the singers did it for pure joy. Now the younger generation seems to like best those jazz and jive eccentricities that have so little in common with 'Sweet Adeline', 'She Was Born In Old Kentucky', or 'Carry Me Back to Old Virginia'." *The Sentinel-Tribune* editor has already received a copy of *May Harmonizer* and an invitation to be the nucleus of a chapter in Bowling Green, so that he can sing "for pure joy". — ED.

Wrote Howard Fitzpatrick in the Boston Sunday Post: "If we can't have something new in radio, why can't we revive what was good in network broadcasting 20 years ago — mainly good singing and preferably male quartets, trios and manly soloists?"

Quartets of the calibre of the Old Revelers of Eveready Hour fame, the Eton Boys and King's Men spotted regularly on a network program singing the best of modern songs and gems of bygone days that lend themselves so readily to quartet arrangements would be such a novelty as to be classified as new.

Nearly everybody likes to sing. Some can, a great number think they can, and others want to sing but do not possess the ability to carry a tune. The urge to sing predominates at social gatherings where the life of the party seats himself at the piano and is immediately surrounded by a timid quartet, or eventually a chorus that bursts forth with such perennial favorites as "Dear Old Gal", "By the Light of the Silvery Moon", "Till We Meet Again", and a number of other deathless melodies. It serves to illustrate that people still enjoy close harmony . . . *Past Int'l Pres. Hal Staab immediately sent Fitzpatrick a copy of the Harmonizer and facts about the Society, with the comment "Those good old days of good quartet singing are fast returning in those cities that have SPEBSQSA chapters."* — ED.

"Close Harmony back in Groove" "Jerseymen Help to Preserve Barber Shop Quartet Singing" titled the double spread story with pictures of the Four Chords, The Essex Four, The Jersey Ramblers and The Legionaires, in the April 27 Newark Sunday News magazine section. Said Alan Branigan "Barber Shop quartet singing, the inevitable accompaniment of almost anybody's jovial evening at home, is riding a new wave of popularity. A national society is devoting a full-fledged exploitation to the furtherance of old-fashioned jive with local chapters springing up like weeds and thousands of members on the rolls . . . The members admit that they are not out to change the general party manners of the nation. Their principal aim is to improve their own singing and to attain something approaching a professional finish. Judging by the sounds that crept softly out over Lincoln Park, the society is well on its way".

All Detroiters and SPEBSQSAers in immediate vicinity were mighty proud of the cover of Pictorial Magazine of The Detroit News, April 27, which carried a beautiful color photograph made by M. D. Stroecker, of "Detroit's paragons of close harmony, the Clef Dwellers".

Robert A. Johns of the Daily Post-Tribune, LaSalle, Ill. describing the Charter Night Program of the LaSalle Chapter wrote: "There is something about barbershop singing. Said one visitor — who indicated he'd be at the next rehearsal May 12 — 'This stuff

(Continued on page 45)

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I SEE BY THE PAPERS

(Continued from page 44)

lifts you up. It puts your head in the clouds where you see everything in technicolor, you smell nothing but sweet perfumes and hear nothing but harmonies that float you on a magic carpet. It gets you to thinking everyone in the world is a nice guy."

In The Christian Science Monitor, Chicago: "Frank Thorne, (Imm. Past) International President of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., is boasting that his organization finally has broken down the last barrier to full musical recognition. The National Federation of Music Clubs invited the barbershoppers to appear on the program at its recent convention in Detroit. Three of the Society's best gave a one hour musical program at the Past President's Recital at the biennial. 'Now it's the Four B's — Beethoven, Bach, Brahms, and Barber Shop', commented Mr. Thorne in a glow of pride."

The Farmall-Inner View, an employees' publication, Rock Island, Ill., devoted a page to pictures of the Rock Island Chorus and Tunnel Tunesters, employees of Farmall Tractor who practice at noon in the tunnel between the office and the plant.

Dorothy Sangster, Liberty (Canadian Edition) May 24, did an interesting story about SPEB in Toronto. Quoting J. Gordon Knox of Toronto, she wrote "The true barbershop enthusiast is filled with a zeal for research, he experiments with novel arrangements, he practices harmony."

The roving reporter of an Evansville, Ind. paper reported, June 1, that a local quartet was going over with a bang. The members had never sung to such an enthusiastic, hilarious, group. Mrs. Jerry Beeler, at a closeby table, finally got her husband's attention "Thanks, dear," he beamed and turned his back on the audience for a moment. Then said he in an aside to the bari, "I never did put too much faith in zippers."

An Indianapolis paper addressed a "plea to Indianapolis tenors who have had experience in close harmony" prior to the May 11 Sectional Preliminaries. The paper said "There are quartets here that can sing if only they could recruit suitable tenors . . . the need is urgent and the emergency grave. Indianapolis tenors are asked to drop whatever they are doing, reach for a high note and run—not walk—to the nearest quartet."

John Bunker, Boston, in the Christian Science Monitor wrote that Ed Place, former Boston newspaper man "brought 4 Washington, D. C. barbershoppers here just to sing a few songs and launch a chapter in the Hub. Instead of just singing a few songs they sang for two days at the Algonquin, Harvard and Brown University Club, and in local restaurants, lobbies and station platforms."

Colliers, June 7, "Oh How They Harmonize" told the story of the formation of the Bronx Chapter. Describing the evolution from Club Harmony to SPEBSQSA, accomplished largely by Walter Morris, the writer closed with this comment on Morris. "He takes barbershop quartet singing with the utmost gravity. Just how he figures it is not plain but Walter somehow mixes it up with our national security. He thinks if anything happened to barbershop singers it would be almost as bad as giving away the atomic bomb secret. You can't kid around with Walter on a subject as serious as that."

This will inform the many who read about the barbershop quartet which performed at the Firestone-Ford wedding in Akron, Newsweek, June 30, that it was 50% SPEBSQSA, since the bass and bari were Charles Dickinson and Don Webster of Cleveland Chapter.

Henry W. Clune wrote in the Rochester (N. Y.) Democrat & Chronicle, in part, after attending a meeting of the local chapter: "It was unique, it was interesting, it was good fellowship, and excellent entertainment. And democratic to the core. I left the room trying a harmonizing chord myself, a 'swipe' as the barber shop boys call it."

Wrote Tracy Silvester in The Daily Oklahoman: "Nothing can stir up a good fight in music circles like the arguments over the contribution the SPEBSQSA (Barbershoppers to you uninitiated) is making to music in general . . . Well, what is it that will induce 20,000 men from all walks of life to leave jobs, cities and happy homes to make an overland trip to sing 'Coney Island Baby' with 19,999 other fellows? We don't presume to know, but we are sure these boys really enjoy every minute of their association with the music they like . . . We believe barbershop singing is making a definite contribution to our musical life, and anything that can draw that many people together just for the fun of it is a good thing."

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| O'Hara's 3 Min. Harmonies | 1.00 |
| Favorite Barber Shop Ballads | 1.00 |
| Barber Shop Ballads and How to Sing Them | \$1.96 |
| Mid States Four record album | 3.50 |
| 1946 Cleveland recordings | 6.00 |
| Chord Buster record album | 6.75 |
| Kratt (round) Pitch Pipe | 2.50 |
| Mustaches, assorted colors | .35 |

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PIONEER RECORDING QUARTETS—THE AVON COMEDY FOUR

By G. H. (Curly) Crossett, Flint Chapter

The Avon Comedy Four will go down in history as one of the truly great quartets of all time, and they fully deserve that distinction, for their work was both outstanding and unique.



The above photograph of the famous four was taken about 1916 when the quartet was going great-guns in vaudeville. In August, that same year, the quartet waxed its first recording for Victor.

Seated in front is Joe Smith, first tenor; and wearing a broad grin, middle row, right, we have Irving Kaufman, lead; back row, Charles Dale, baritone; and the almost serious gent, middle row left, is Harry Goodwin, bass.

Joe Smith and Charlie Dale are still wowing 'em in night clubs and movie shorts. Irving Kaufman is also active, though in rather poor health—Irvy will be remembered as the radio

character known as "Lazy Dan" of some years ago. Mr. Kaufman, aside from his fine work with the quartet, was also a solo artist with a most pleasing voice that recorded much better than that of the average singer, every word being clear and distinct.

Quoting the Billboard, January 24th, 1914, when the boys were doing their stuff at Keith's Theatre, Philadelphia: "The Avon Comedy Four, in their singing farce, which has provoked more laughter in this theatre than any act since its erection, cleaned up again today. Their New Teacher was new here in 1902 and has been a regular riot about every three months since." Whenever they appeared, they rolled 'em in the aisles. They were past masters of many dialects, and "close harmony" was their middle name. This, together with their rib tickling comedy, was the key to their outstanding success.

Victor Records by The Avon Comedy Four—1916-1920

Record No.

| | |
|-------|--|
| 18125 | Gila, Galah, Galoo |
| 35750 | New School Teacher |
| 35602 | Cohen's Wedding |
| 18129 | On A Summer Night |
| 35602 | Hungarian Restaurant Scene |
| 18088 | I'm Going Way Back Home (And Have a Wonderful Time) |
| 18081 | My Mother's Rosary |
| 18088 | You're A Dangerous Girl |
| 18081 | Yaaka Hula Hickey Dula |
| 35606 | Ginsberg's Stump Speech |
| 18126 | Songs of Yesterday |
| 35606 | The Professor's Birthday |
| 18126 | When the Black Sheep Returns to the Fold |
| 18138 | Way Out Yonder in the Golden West |
| 35750 | Clancy's Minstrels |

CHARTER MEMBERS — SPRINGFIELD, O.



Greetings to newly chartered Springfield, Ohio, from Springfield, Ill., Springfield, Mass. and members between and beyond. Above is how they looked and here is who they were on charter night.

Front row (left to right): Clarence P. Hunter, F. L. Fitzgerald, secretary; A. Dean Wolfe, treasurer; David W. Welday, president; E. E. Tumbelson, George L. Wood, first vice-president; Ralph Johnson. Second row: Carl Everingham, M. David Morris, W. A. Nicely, George G. Sutermeister, Hal Stroh, Victor R. Kile, Ray Ashenfelter, Dr. H. M. Krapp, second vice-president; Millard H. Tuttle, Walter F. Bowers, Ward Owen, Robert G. Clark, Harry D. Watts, Robert S. Olinger. Third row: Fred Duval, Harold L. Lansing, L. O. Banahan, Harold R. Schmidt, James L. Rogers, Wilmer E. Gibler, Leon M. Ervin, William L. Gaskins, Ross W. Burleigh, musical director and organizer.

Swipes from the Chapters

(News Items culled in part from Chapter Secretaries' Quarterly Activities Reports—)

Many of these Chapter reports are full of good stuff—

Don't just read about your own Chapter

Illinois Inklings

by W. Welsh Pierce

Illinois, officially known as Area "E" did alright at the recent International Contest. From quartets sent to the Milwaukee preliminaries, three made the semi-finals and two of these wound up in the money. Must be the air out here . . . Charleston danced a merry pace this past quarter resulting in visits to Casey and Effingham with new-chapter intentions, radio programs, chicken and hot-dog picnics, a Memorial Day program and a delegation to Milwaukee by air. That last prompts the brilliant remark, "you can't keep a good chapter down" . . . Fox River Valley voted to continue weekly meetings throughout the summer and continues to spread its quartets and chorus around profusely. Big event was June 25th with a combination Ladies Nite, installation of Officers and intra-chapter quartet contest, won by the Northwesterners. The prize was unique but ye editor can't "tin cup" anything to say about it . . . Bloomington had a lot of singing but also seems to have dined well. Sec. Lebkuecher reports splendid affairs such as Ladies Nite, April 14th, Charter presentation to Champaign in April, show on May



CORNHUSKER "SONG-HUSKERS"

The Song-Huskers of Lincoln, Neb. are: L. to R.—Paul Persche, tenor; Zane Fairchild, lead; Harold Close, bari; Jess Livingston, bass, as they tuned up in a Lincoln barbershop for the Joplin Sectional Prelims.

25th for the F.O.E. and a grand, gala annual picnic June 30th. All events summarized with "lots of good eats and entertainment." . . . Oak Park kept up its annual pace with 40 dates at which one or more of their 8 quartets made appearances, four chorus shows, a charter presentation to the new Q-Suburban Chapter sponsored by Oak Park, climaxed with a delegation of 44 members and quartets to the Milwaukee Convention. Whew-w-w! . . . Mattoon maintains momentum with a nicely balanced record of meetings every 2 weeks, inter-chapter meetings with Charleston, bus-load of cheer and harmony to Army Air Forces Base at Rantoul, charter night at Champaign, sponsorship of new Tuscola chapter, a picnic and weekly radio programs . . . Peoria had one of its justly famous parades on May 3rd and 4th. Two performances with a sell-out both times. A delegation of over 40 Peorians visited Beardstown recently in the interest of inter-chapter relations and a regular periodical schedule of visits to the local T. B. Sanitarium has been set up. . . . Rushville's second annual parade on May 25th was a huge success. The highlight was the Doctors of Harmony who, at that time, were not yet Champions. Somebody must read tea leaves in Rushville . . . Pioneer (Chicago) is off to a big year with Hank Stanley re-drafted as secretary and Vic Listug as president. Exchange meetings with six neighboring chapters have been set up for the Fall . . . Wheaton's new slate of officers have scheduled a very active program for the chapter . . . LaSalle is rather new as chapters go but still they have made chorus appearances at

eight civic functions plus a big political rally at Starved Rock Park . . . Elgin's movement is above reproach. Quartets and chorus have entertained veterans at Elgin State Hospital and at Great Lakes as well as numerous civic functions. The four top officers of Elgin are a quartet, refuting the adage about work and play not mixing. Another fine innovation by Elgin is the scrapbook of their charter night sent to International Headquarters. This record is complete with pictures, program, press clippings and other interesting data about a memorable evening . . . O'Fallon has a new meeting place that makes it more convenient for members in outlying districts to attend . . . Cissna Park held to its twice-a-month meeting schedule throughout the Summer with satisfactory results . . . Joliet has engaged the fine services of Bob Haeger as Chorus Director. Bob sings tenor with the Tune Twisters of Oak Park Chapter, is one of the founders of the new Q-Suburban Chapter and now directs choruses for Aurora and Joliet. He has some spare time open next February we understand . . . Decatur is doing a fine job. Their Commodores and Promenaders have been mighty busy and the chapter as a whole has been active in extension and veterans entertainment work. The Promenaders were alternates from Area "E" to the contest of Milwaukee . . . Chicago No. 1 was host to the Sectional Preliminary for Area "E," from which contest came the 1947 third place winners, the Mid States Four of Chicago and the 1947 fourth place winners, the Chordoliers of Rock Island. Chicago's chorus had the pleasure of singing for 2000 diners at the 49th Annual Chicago Real Estate Board banquet. Big event for the chapter was the spacious headquarters in the Hotel Schroeder at Milwaukee. Vas you dere, Sharlie?

Southtown (Chicago) paid a fine tribute to their Chorus Director and Chapter Founder "Andy" Anderson. A gala "A.A.-Nite" was arranged including smorgasbord, dancing, a quartet parade with a capacity crowd in attendance. A new wallet with \$200 of crisp new money proved to Andy that "AA" did not stand for Appreciation Absent.

Liquid Sunshine

By Dick Schenck

International Sectional Contest for the Far West reported to be a great success by Long Beach, Calif. Chapter chorus and quartets very active in civic affairs . . . Had booth at L. B. Jr. Chamber of Commerce "Port O' Trade" exhibition and publicized the Society . . . Four organized quartets—The Buzzing Bees, Capitol City Four, Harmonaires and The Sharp Four of the Sacramento Chapter making numerous appearances. Publicity committee very active . . . San Francisco still active in organizing new

MT. PLEASANT MICHIGAN

SECOND ANNUAL

FESTIVAL of HARMONY

SATURDAY

October 18, 1947

8:15 P. M.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN
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chapters, Bakersfield, Berkeley and Santa Rosa being the newest . . . The Golden Gate City also assisted the Eugene, Oregon Chapter in the formation of Orinda, Calif. Chapter . . . Orinda, Calif. has already one organized quartet the Crossroaders making many appearances before civic clubs and showing the city what the Society stands for . . . Music week was observed in San Diego with the entire chapter taking part in a music festival held in the Organ Pavilion at Balboa Park. Six quartets from San Diego and So. Calif. chapters staged a Parade for an audience of 3,000, the chapter chorus also assisted in this show . . . Hollywood is really going to town. Had a Parade of Quartets on Mother's Day, May 11 . . . High Sierranaders made 14 appearances. Vice President Wayne Allen has inaugurated a program for the interchange of quartets from the L. A. County chapters with scheduled appearances at all chapter meetings which promises to be a stimulus to chapter attendance and will serve as swell training for the visiting quartets . . . Sec. Hatch Graham presented the bid of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce to the International Board for the Society to hold its annual convention and Contest in Los Angeles in 1948. Now planning for 1949 or 1950 . . . Tri-City (Maywood) making plans for Parade of Quartets on the evening of Sept. 20th . . . Enthusiasm still high in the San Gabriel Chapter. Staged a minstrel show on the nights of May 16 and 17, sponsored by the San Gabriel Lions Club all proceeds to be used for welfare work in the community. Quartets give freely of their time for all civic and community affairs. Forming a chorus using the Chicago chorus as a model . . . The San Gabriel Chapter radio broadcast from KXLA, Pasadena is still a high spot for San Gabriel and is doing a great job of publicizing the Society in the Far-West. Have added El Monte, Calif., to its growing list of newly organized chapters. All members very busy making plans for the San Gabriel Parade of Quartets to be held in the Mission Playhouse on the nights of Oct. 3rd and 4th. All members proud to have their President Russ Stanton elected to Int'l Board . . . All chapters of the Far-Western Dist. report excellent attendance and steady growth. If your chapter is not mentioned here get after your secretary to get his reports in on time . . . Western spirit comes to the front once more. The Far-Western Dist. Board recommended that all chapters be asked to make a voluntary donation to a fund to help defray the expenses of The

Bonanza Four to Milwaukee, feeling that it is pretty hard for a quartet to raise the money for an 1800 mile trip. All chapters responded nobly and are to be congratulated for their splendid cooperation.

Indiana-Kentucky

by Frank D. Vogt

Elkhart—Ladies night Box Social was held in the Empire Room, Elkhart Hotel, May 17th, with about 250 present. Door Prizes to all women. Lots of good fellowship and good harmony with many quartets from all over . . . On July 12th a Recognition Program for the 1947 International Champions

LANSING

(MICHIGAN CHAPTER NO. 2)

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was held in the Athenian Room of the Hotel Elkhart with about 275 present, Big Joe Westendorf as M.C. being a natural. Present were such notables as Bill Otto, Jerry Beeler, Fred Gregory, Joe Juday, Clyde Marsh. Doctors broadcast direct from the Athenian Room from 10:15 to 10:30 P. M. over WTRC with Fred Gregory as announcer. Grand party and a huge success. Gary—Chorus and Quartets at Bethany Reformed Church before 200, May 5th. Night of Harmony and Rhythm in Marquette Park before 250 followed by dancing. On June 3rd Musical Festival and Chorus before 4000 in a miniature stage setting (presented by Carnegie-III. Steel). Chorus went over big thanks to Dewey Kistler, Director. April 20th special programs for nurses and x-ray technicians. Indianapolis—April 11-13 members, Rippleaires and Medley 4 gave a 1 hour program for Military order of Cooties, Veterans Hospital. May 11—sponsored the Ind.-Ky. annual Board Meeting and Sectional Preliminaries Area C, at which the Doctors, Harmonaires and Songfellows went on to Milwaukee. June 26th—New chapter officers held a Banquet and Jamboree at Canary Cottage, having as guests the Minor Chords of Terre Haute. Ft. Wayne—The chapter chorus sang at 3 places, Sentimental 4 at 17 and the Colonial 4 at 8. Sponsored a new chapter at W. Lafayette. Meeting place changed to Anthony Hotel. Old fashioned picnic supper August 14th. Doing a good job of Inter-Chapter relations thanks to Little Joe Juday. Mishawaka—Had privilege of having first Elkhart, Mishawaka, So. Bend Chorus rehearsal with 67 present. Watch this Northern Indiana Chorus grow. Attended Michigan City Charter night in a group. On June 12—Close Shavers sang at Father and Sons Boy Scout Banquet and on June 18 sang at St. Joe. Wabash—The show given by Wabash Chapter at Manchester College turned out to be such a huge success that they repeated two performances at the Eagle Theatre, Mar. 24. Tell City—Chorus sang at Good Friday Services, Ohio Theatre, April 14, at William Tell Hotel, Ex-Governor Henry Shricker being present, April 24, on April 21 and 28th at P.T.A. meetings followed by Farmers Night program. June 3, went to Jasper, Ind. Received charter on April 27 presented by Jerry Beeler. The Songfellows, Elks Club and Corydon quartets gave out with some fine Harmony. Swiss City 4 and Tell Tuners sang at the Foreman's Club, June 2. The Tell Tuners gave out at the graduation of Dale Carnegie Class June 18th.

AUGUST, 1947



GREEN BAY FOUNDER'S WEEK

Tied in with an April 14 radio broadcast by Green Bay Chapter, this Founder's Week window added to local interest in the Society.

Lafayette—Still in process of organization, charter night set for Sept. 27. Already has 6 quartets filling civic engagements and have started a 16-week, 15-minute broadcast over WASK with different quartets each week. A nice chorus is under way under the capable leadership of Buzz Haeger. Auburn—The chorus and quartets have appeared at a variety of Sunday School Classes, Sororities, Women's Clubs and Saturday Night Town Meetings. Have also signed up several new members with good talent. Corydon—The new President Robt. Sample is really interested and active. Entire chapter sang at Good Friday Services of all churches combined. Quartets sang at District Legion Convention and District Pythian Sisters Convention and attended charter night

in Tell City. The Delinquent 4 composed of High School students attended the Ladies' Night in Louisville and nearly took the house down with applause. Ft. Wayne—Ye Editor attended the open air Jamboree before an audience of 12,000 and heard such quartets as Colonial 4, Six Foot 4, Hobby Harmonizers, Sentimental 4, and the 1947 Int'l. Champions, The Doctors of Harmony besides the chorus and that dynamic song leader Geo. Seebald. After listening for 2½ hours the audience still wanted more.

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GEM CITY FOUR
Dayton, Ohio

This handsome aggregation reads, L. to R.—Dick Driscoll, lead; Marion McKay, tenor; Charles Smith, bari; Earl Mahaffie, bass. They say they get their greatest satisfaction from singing at the Veteran's Hospital where music means so much to the men confined there.

Mid-Atlantic States

By J. J. (Jack) Briody

The Harmonizers of Baltimore, No. 1 are busy appearing at charitable affairs for the Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, etc. Publicized the Society on the Tuneful Traveler Radio program sponsored by the Baltimore Transit Co. Also sang for disabled soldiers at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The Four Steps entertained at benefit for Gold Star Mothers given by the American Legion. Chapter proud to have own meeting hall. Invites any Society member to visit. Bloomsburg, Pa. Chapter organized with 42 members. Held Charter Night, April 19th, at High School with 350 present. York sponsored the new chapter and sent 44 members to participate. The Granddads Four and Parlor City Four busy at all civic and charitable affairs. Plans underway for first Parade, November 8th. The Hook and Ladder Four and the What Four, Bronx, N. Y. Chapter is hoping, will get it back into quartet competition. The latter, making first public appearance, took third in the N. Y. City Ballad Contest. The Four Sharps sang at dinner for retired firemen, May 15th. The Diplomats of Washington, D. C. Chapter, guests of the Algonquin Club of Boston, presented a performance of barbershop singing for members of the club. The quartet visited Brown and Harvard Clubs and made two Radio appearances. Neale Miller, Treasurer, presented check for \$650.07 to George Washington University Hospital Fund. Money derived from benefit show at Lisher Hall, March 1st. Nine chapter quartets put on shows at Walter Reed and Fort Belvoir Army Hospitals. Potomac Clippers with 5 other members made trip to Milwaukee. On April 16th, Harrisburg, Pa. Chapter held Annual Ladies Night. Highlights were turkey with all the trimmings. Chapter chorus now in formative stage. Jersey City Chapter held its 9th Dance and Quartet Round-Up on June 7th. Quartets from the area helped to make the affair a success. 18 members made trip to Milwaukee. The 1-2-3 Four, The Blasting Four and The Garden State Quartet filling engagements. President Frank Ferguson Emceed at Parade of Wilmington

THE JOLIET CHAPTER

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A-TONIC FOUR, TOLEDO



L. to R.—Howard F. Kutz, tenor; John T. Ford, lead and immo. Past Sec.; Carl J. Murphy, baritone and immo. Past Pres.; William R. Bates, bass. This aggregation represents one of the pillars of Toledo Chapter, both musically and in an organizational way.

June 28th, Installation Night, at Passaic, N. J. Chapter. Members from nearby chapters helped to round out a very nice evening. James Matthews, President of Mid-Atlantic States District, was guest speaker. Quartets included: The Garfield Four, The Withered Four and The Woolen City Four.

The hospitalized veterans at the Naval Hospital were given a treat by Philadelphia, Pa. Chapter on June 21st. Quartet singing was supplied by The Midshipmen, The Chordblenders and two guest quartets, The Wildela Four and The Camden City Four. Walter Groff led group singing. Red Cross Representative at Hospital planning to schedule group for later date at Valley Forge Hos-

"If you do not see your chapter mentioned in Swipes please check with your chapter secretary and ask him why he didn't send in the Quarterly Activities Report so that it would reach Detroit on the stipulated date?"

pital and Coatesville Veterans Hospital.

First Parade by Wilmington, Del. No. 1 Chapter held at the Playhouse of Du Pont Hotel, May 17th. Fifteen quartets from Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and District of Columbia rounded out a real good program. Frank Ferguson, President of the Jersey City Chapter, acted as Master of Ceremonies. The show was highlighted by the appearance of Harry Armstrong, composer of Sweet Adeline.

May 27th was first Anniversary night for Diamond State, Wilmington, Del. No. 2. Many guests present, including quartets from Penns-Grove and Camden. The Wildela Four sang in Parade sponsored by Wilmington No. 1 on May 17th.

York, Pa. Chapter had the pleasure of sponsoring Bloomsburg and on April 19th, two busloads of Yorkmen helped the baby chapter on Charter Night. The Penn Four and The Chord Makers doing swell job with altruistic assignments. The former appearing at Dedication Ceremonies of Athletic Stadium and competing in Eastern Preliminaries at Paterson. The latter taking part in Parade of Quartets at

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BLOOMSBURG BLOOMS



Bloomsburg, Penn. bloomed out with a new chapter April 19 under sponsorship of York. The York Chorus in background (Harry Steinhauser, dir., left, in sports coat) and in the foreground the Bloomsburg Chorus of 33.

WAUPACA CHORUS



Waupaca, Wis. Chorus of 35 has 5 organized quartets. Chorus and quartets are unusually active in public service work wherever good music will help. John Schroeder is director.

Wilmington. 20 members made trip to Milwaukee. York High School was packed to capacity, May 7th, when chapter put on barbershop show on invitation of National Music Week Committee.

Ontario Harmonie

By Hughbert J. Hamilton

Activity—that, in a word, describes the state of things in all the chapters comprising the new Ontario Association of Chapters. New quartets are blossoming, other-than-meeting-night functions have been held or are planned for the Fall and Winter and the work of "Preserving and Encouraging" continues at a rate calculated to extend the international organization from coast to coast, with repre-

LUMBER LADS LET LOOSE



The Lumber Lads, Eugene, Oregon Chapter, look like real timber toppers. L. to R., they are: Rudy Ness, Dewey Roberts, Ed Lockleer and Ernest Murphy, chapter president.

sentative chapters in every province by 1948 Convention time.

Wallaceburg's Parade, held at Primrose Hall on May 31, was highly successful. The hometown chapter chorus, ably schooled and led by E. V. Ayres, was a distinct highlight and the Michigan and Ontario quartets participating gave the capacity audience full value for their admission money which was earmarked for a worthy civic project . . . A first Parade has every member at Chatham on his toes with expectancy and a share in the work. The date, October 4. The city where the composer of the theme song spent his boyhood will go all out to honor The Old Songs and their illustrious townsman Geoff O'Hara . . . London is keeping up with its record of providing not a dull moment for its members and others. The annual combined Ladies' Night, Birthday Party and Founder's Observance was held on April 25, in the Crystal Ballroom of Hotel London with 300 in attendance. All of the chapter's organized quartets—The Londonaires, The Odds 'n' Ends, The Four Blends, The Four Aces and The Rusty Hinges, honored the wives and the Founder by demonstrating that meeting nights and frequent rehearsals are worthwhile after all. The Medway Four, lately organized, shows promise of being one of the chapter's best . . . The new chapter at Brantford will hold its Charter Night on November 1. By that time its sponsors at Hamilton will have had the experience and the satisfaction of staging Canada's first Quartet Contest scheduled for Saturday, October 11, in the Delta Collegiate Auditorium. Hamilton's Ambitious City Four, along with quartets from other chapters helped to put over an

enjoyable Charter Night at Stratford on Friday, June 20. A good portion of the program was broadcast with the happy result that applications for membership are being received at a rate necessitating a waiting list . . . Kitchener's unique plan for organization took the form of a Ladies' Night at the Grand River Country Club on May 16. About 300 attended by invitation and, from what the hand-picked audience learned and heard, the chapter officers feel that their upcoming Charter Night, September 13, will see a gratifying paid up membership of keen and talented barbershop fans.

Central States

by H. T. ("Hee") White

This District, known for its expansiveness, records its events proportionately. In these wide open spaces our new chapter Salina, Kans., in the heart of the wheat belt, is noteworthy. Its charter was presented before an audience of 2500 persons. The sponsoring chapter, Hutchinson, Kans., rounded-up quartets from Wichita, Abilene, Manhattan and Kingman Chapters and brought its chorus of 50 and four quartets. The show moved with zest under the capable direction of Ed. Fahnestock of the Wichita, Kans. Chapter, the MC. The Pittsburg, Kans. Chapter devoted the entire proceeds of their charter presentation for the benefits of the crippled children's hospital there. They assembled 14

THE PITTSBURGHERS



L. to R.—Tony Palamone, lead; Harry (Chummy) Conte, tenor; Bill Conway, bass; John (Jiggs) Ward, bari. Jiggs sang bari in the quartet organized in the 5th Division Marine Corps in the Pacific, one of the eight armed service chapters. Jiggs is very active in the Pittsburgh Chapter, of which he is now Secretary.

quartets from Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri for their project . . . "Come unto me all ye little children . . ." *exempli gratia*. Clayton, Mo. put on a show before 1200 persons to raise funds for a children's shelter. Their chorus of 70 in full dress participated in the feature "Memories of Vodvil": results; more than \$2200, for the kiddies and swell publicity for the Society. Joining the St. Louis Chorus the Clayton singers united to make the Granite City youth fund successful. The Kansas City Chorus, 60 strong, were applauded by an audience of veteran patients at the V-A Hospital at Excelsior Springs, Mo. Kansas City's

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MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

Gamboliers and Four Leaf Clovers quartets carried on extra-curricular activities in the hospital by singing to bed-ridden patients in wards; the chorus sent harmony to the shut-ins floor by floor . . . In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Missouri Republican Club 500 prominent persons were entertained by the entire chorus and the chapter's quartets . . . The Srenaders quartet sang its 15th program for the 15th time to disabled veterans of the V-A Wadsworth Hospital, Leavenworth, Kans. . . . the Gamboliers won popularity by their original renditions for the Veterans of Foreign Wars program. Under the leadership of Russ Gentzler, prominent civic leader, the chapter has extensive plans. Staging its first parade of Quartets the Scottsbluff, Nebr. Chapter was given a rousing reception, May 2, and the event was so successful that it has been calendared as an annual event. The all-western show featured their own chorus and quartets, two girl quartets and chorus all of the local city. Denver provided three additional quartets for the event all arriving by chartered plane . . . The Bluffairs traveled to Omaha to be featured on the Festival of Music, there. Sioux City, Ia. rounded-up 50 of its members and friends and two of its quartets to help stage a program at Bearesford, So. Dak. and with the assistance of local quartets and one from Vermillion, So. Dak. put on a show to a packed house. Parsons, Kans. has big plans for their Charter Program, early this Fall. Civic clubs of Lincoln, Nebr. were so inspired with the non-partisan membership of the Society that they called upon the chapter to furnish judges for an all-sports event which included five Barbershop quartets. Junction City, Kans. promises a large chorus and membership drive. Near-by Abilene, Kansas, promises a program of chapter alliance. Oklahoma City, Okla. is already making extensive plans as host for the 1948 International Convention. The Sooner State's capital can be depended upon for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Society. Judging from the numerous appearances of the Hutchinson, Kans. quartets they are mighty popular with civic clubs and state conventions and the chorus did a proud program in the Flag Raising Ceremony, June 14. The chapter promises that Great Bend, Kans. will be their next new neighbor and don't be at all surprised if this western Kansas Chapter adds 5 or 6 new neighbor chapters before snow flies. . . . The smallest chapter of the greatest District Centralia, Mo. attracts quartets and members from Clayton, Kansas City, Mexico, Herman and St. Louis Chapters to bind inter-chapter talent for an audience of 400; the chapter's two quartets recently did the honors for the A. B. Chance Co. (firm of the secretary) and a benefit for the Kindergarten.

Northeastern District

By Stub Taylor

Middleburg, N. Y. gave concert April 24 at Schoharie, N. Y., benefit of American Legion Auxiliary, assisted

THE CAVALIERS, Bridgeport



Four members of Bridgeport, Conn. Chorus who banded together in early '47 and have appeared at many Parades and radio shows since. L. to R.—Frank Armstrong, bass; Richard Lawless, Bari; Herb Appleby, tenor; Joe Appleby, lead. Dick Lawless is the son of Jack Lawless, Inm. Past Pres. Bridgeport.

by three Schenectady quartets. Summer activities limited to monthly outings. Past-Pres. Shubel Cooke, Chapter organizer, made permanent honorary Pres. Terryville, Conn. introduced barbershop singing to full house of enthusiastic Bristol, Conn. residents on June 7 by putting on a Parade, sponsored by the Rotary Club, for benefit of the Bristol Boys Club. Frank

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FREMONT, O. CHARTERED

Pres. Carl J. Murphy, Toledo Chapter, hands framed charter to La Mar Christy, Pres. of Fremont Chapter, while Int'l. Bd. Member Ed Smith, who mod'd, looks at his notes.

Daly of Hartford made a hit as MC. Hartford Chromatics were wildly acclaimed. Meriden, Conn. Silver City Chapter charter night held June 2, MCed by Vice-Pres. Harry Heflin, sponsored by Hartford which furnished chorus and quartets. Only 12 days later Meriden Chorus appeared in Festival of Music with 4 local glee clubs, highlighted by High School students in barbershop medley. Festival for benefit of H. S. Band. Waterbury, Conn. organized June 5 with 20 charter members and two more later. Visit made to New Haven Chapter, June 26. Marlborough, Mass. Charter Night held May 24 with Hal Staab as MC. Meetings held weekly. Northampton, Mass. won 1st place achievement award, making 5th award won.

Hal Staab elected District Governor to promote official chapter visitations, and Harvey Taylor Lt.-Gov. 2nd Div. Don Tiffany will conduct barbershop and sight reading clinic in fall. Schenectady, N. Y. won 1st place achievement award for 2nd time. Two of 3 chorus appearances were in Troy and Schenectady in Masonic show depicting life of Stephen Foster, benefit of crippled children. Quartets gave 48 performances, assisted Middleburg in Scholastic concert, sang at sanitarium at Tupper Lake, and at Southbury, Conn. Training School, appeared in 4 Parades, sang at Syracuse organization meeting. Ladies' Night May 20 had 14 acts including debut of Four Babes,

BARBERSHOP RECORDINGS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
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ALLIANCE CHAPTER CHORUS ON PARADE

Mighty nice compliments are abroad about the work of Alliance, Ohio's Chapter Chorus, which sings under the direction of chapter president, Phil Singer, also v. p. of the Ohio Ass'n.

teen-age girls' quartet whose fathers joined them in an octet. Lee Mohler elected Lt.-Gov. Hudson River Div. Springfield, Mass. Street Walkers, unique quartet of mail carriers, filled 8 engagements, including Terryville Parade. Four Guys sang at Shrine Hospital June 8. Quartets appeared in 21 events, chorus in 2. Attended Chicopee Charter Night June 14 (their baby). New Haven, Conn. netted 7500 dimes from their 1st Parade April 12, for benefit of county infantile paralysis fund. Parade publicized by quartets over local radio. Chorus and quartet appearances at 10 Parades and Charter Nights. Chorus received only encores in joint church-benefit concert with Mendelssohn and Men's Club choral groups at Torrington April 25. Sponsored Waterbury Chapter. Four Naturals only eastern quartet to make Milwaukee Semi-Finals. Fredericton, N. B., Canada, held Charter Night and 1st Birthday Party April 11. Chapter has given 4 concerts in local area. Harmony Hunters and Maritimes filled 10 engagements. Joan Marshall, leading radio commentator, devoted 30% of one broadcast to describing Hobby Show performance of the Harmony Hunters.

Hal Staab reports: "The Hartford Chapter held its Parade last winter for the benefit of the Springfield, Mass. Shrine Hospital, and presented \$3,250.00 to that institution. In reciprocity the Hartford and Springfield Shrines arranged an affair, June 8 at the Hospital and the Springfield Shrine Club Hall. Quartets from Springfield, Hartford and Holyoke and the Hartford Barbershop Chorus sang in several wards. Part of the half hour program went over Station WACE. The barbershoppers were entertained royally at the Shrine Club Hall by the Shriners afterwards, and each quartet that had sung in the winter Parade received a Shrine appreciation Certificate.

Central-Western

New York Song Chats

By Chuck Glover

Great activity in Binghamton-Johnson City—three quartets, Velvetones, Tri-Cy-Synchronizers, and Four Sharps, all active in community affairs and Parades. An outing coming up real

soon. All thoughts now are concentrated on Parade next month . . . Never a dull moment at Buffalo's monthly meetings — April's annual election of officers—Discards and Melo Tones on the beam—large delegation went to Milwaukee—two other quartets appeared in June. The Newcomers, and the Town Criers. July meeting was Ladies' Night—enjoyed by all. Alex Grabhorn's Discards put on an hour show at Batavia Veteran's Hospital . . . Cortland planning for second Parade in October. They have sponsored new Ithaca Chapter and co-sponsor of Syracuse . . . All efforts at Corry, Pennsylvania being concentrated on successful Charter Night next month—chapter chorus and quartets getting better, and will hit their peak

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then . . . Endicott all set for big year with new slate of officers.—Parade planned for next April . . . When you're near Gowanda, you'll feel the barbershop influence—what with four active quartets, namely, the Four Crows, Ina Lather Four, The Valley Four, The Razor's Edges. In May, they sang at Smokes for Soldiers' Benefit. Highlight of chapter was Charter Night, May 23—guest quartets from many C W N Y Chapters in attendance was a huge success—Ladies' Night held in June was most popular . . . A barbershop minstrel and Gay Nineties Review was featured at Hornell in April—chorus made trips to Canisteo and Bath, both for charitable causes—Parade in September . . . East Aurora activities are many and varied—members always in attendance at District functions—sponsored Gowanda and co-sponsored Springville. Annual stag picnic was a huge success. Chapter bulletin inaugurated and most interesting . . . Jamestown most active—has sponsored chapters in both Corry and Warren—reports two other new chapters about set—successful Parade in April, featuring our present champs—annual stag picnic held in June—boat ride in mid-August—our three quartets—Four Notes, Songsters, For Fun Four, all kept busy participating in community events—planning second Parade in early spring—return of chorus director, Pres. Hoskins a welcome happening . . . Niagara Falls really on the beam. Exec. committee functions smooth as a solid minor chord—Buffalo night at the Falls a huge success—over 90 members of both chapters in attendance. Chorus and quartets, participated in Beaux Art Ball sponsored by local art organization and stole the show. Lost Chords and Experimental Four along with chorus featured several times on local radio station—July stag picnic was tops. Ladies' Night and Old Timers' Night coming up soon—wonderful newspaper recognition lately . . . Summer picnic at Penn Yan a huge success. Ladies were invited and Homer Scott and wife were special guests. Meetings during summer are being held at various homes, and have been most enjoyable. Chapter chorus assisted Kiwanis in their annual minstrel . . . Small town does things in a big way—Warsaw's activities for past three months include a special C W N Y meeting attended by Frank Thorne and Carroll Adams. Successful Parade featuring Elastics, among others—many chorus appearances at community and charity functions. Annual picnic and Ladies' Night very enjoyable event late in July. Plans already set for second Parade in May, 1948 . . . Charter Night at Addison, June 28th had many area quartets in attendance and program very interesting . . . Chapters in Syracuse, Warren, and Ithaca all to be chartered soon.

Ohio Hi-Notes

By James H. Emsley

Akron's ladies night on June 9 at Weathervane Playhouse drew the Buckeye 4 of Cleveland, the Medinamites of Medina and the Nonchalants

of Canton, who with the Rubber City 4, The Akronaires and The Atomic 4 gave a preview of the first parade of quartets scheduled for Oct. 4. Berea's first parade set for Oct. 18 has the Magpies, the Lost Chords and Clippers faithfully rehearsing during the summer. Canton is making the rounds of small towns and Middlebranch and Magnolia have already contracted for fall shows—The Crusader's class of the Congregational Church sponsored a 2½ hour show, and the Nat'l. Convention of Sachsenheimers held in Canton preferred the singing of The Nonchalants to their well trained chorus. The Good-Nighters are active, as are 4 more fellows who hope to have a name by Jan. 24 when the Doctors of Harmony are to appear

on a 2-auditorium show. Cincinnati's quartets, The Antlers, the Queen City Songfellows and The Brimstone 4 co-operated with Hamilton, Middletown and Dayton to promote the Festival of Harmony at the Miami Valley Chautauqua near Franklin, Ohio. Cleveland climaxed a busy spring with a "moonless" moonlight boat ride that attracted harmony hounds from Elyria, Lakewood, Lorain, Warren, Massillon, and Canton, and also fostered a quartet named Sem-A-Four which initiated itself at Mansfield's charter party. Columbus chartered a de luxe coach which took 35 from Columbus and the Tom Cats of Massillon to Milwaukee. Dayton is planning a parade for members and their wives only, and will play the good

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host to the Ohio State District Contest Nov. 29 and have 6 quartets to enter. Their Jolly Fellows competed in Milwaukee, and sang with the Gem City 4, the 4 Men of Dayton and the 4 Sleepless Knights at the Festival of Harmony. Defiance has made a reputation in northwestern Ohio for their minstrel shows, and closed up their year by entertaining Sec. Adams when their new officers were inducted, and proved themselves a worthy civic organization when they donated a record library and a wire recording machine to the music department of the public schools. Fremont showed careful planning on their charter night which was broadcast over WFRO. Quartets from Toledo and Findlay and the Barons of Wayne, Mich., were on hand with Carroll Adams, Intl. Bd. member Edwin S. Smith as M.C. and Carl Murphy of Toledo keeping things moving along. Jack Moore of Cincinnati, vice-pres. of the Ohio District Ass'n., installed the officers. Lorain is looking forward to its annual parade Oct. 25 now that 4 of its old faithful are safe after their expedition to Milwaukee. Mansfield held its breath when the chartered bus from Canton and Massillon arrived with the Nonchalants and the Harmonaires and 17 singing crows (if there are such things) who treated them to "The Old Songs." Jim Knipe of Cleveland presented the charter, and Ralph Hughes accepted it on behalf of the club. Massillon's concerted efforts towards chapter extension brought forth results in Mansfield and Medina. On April 26th Massillon's chartered bus set out for Medina, where the Medinamites who had been singing together since high-school days (except during World War II) exploded their arrangements in songs. Several from Medina also attended the Mansfield affair. Middletown's Razor Edge lists 16 groups who have heard the Middletones, the Close-aires, the Footwarmers, the Sour Doss, The Kiwanis Four and The Burning Shingles, as well as the chorus. Their landlord, the gas and electric company even provided food and sundry beverages for a party, which was attended by a quartet from Franklin, Ohio, and one from the local high school. Oct. 18th is the date of its first parade with Carroll Adams as M.C. and the Doctors of Harmony setting the pace for 4 other top-notch quartets. Springfield, chartered June 14, has 34 members with Ross Burleigh as its chorus director, D. W. Welday as President and E. L. Fitzgerald as Secretary. They meet the 1st and 3d Monday at the Shawnee Hotel where they will welcome all members of the Society with a glad hand. Toledo finished the season in a whirl after successfully promoting the District B contest, and sponsoring the Fremont chapter. The A-Tonic 4, Toledoaires, 4 Naturals, Glass City 4, and the Doehlers have alternated in broadcasting over WSPD, WTOL and WTOD and giving service to the community at appropriate functions. Tiffin and Bowling Green are on our prospect list of new chapters and things should develop there before long.

Pittsburgh's second "Night of Harmony" was staged May 31 with 5 local quartets and the Progressive 4 of Detroit, the Forest City 4 of Cleveland, the Misfits of Chicago and the Tom Cats of Massillon co-operating to furnish the harmony to an attentive and receptive audience at the Syria Mosque. The nightly radio series sponsored by the chapter has been discontinued, as the chapter felt it has accomplished its purpose, but the broadcaster has received innumerable requests to renew the series. The Westinghouse Quartet honored Pittsburgh by placing 5th in the International Contest. Our executive board will petition the Ohio District Assn., to admit us to membership, there not being sufficient chapters in the locality to form an association of our own, so, soon we hope to be located in the Ohio-Western Penn., Ass'n., (or some such name) if our company is agreeable to our Buckeye neighbors.

Pacific-Northwest Reports

By E. C. Murphy

Portland charter presentation was held April 26th with President Paul Spangler and Secretary G. T. McDermott in charge and Sig Spaeth representing the East.

Port Angeles, located at Northwest corner of U. S., on May 14th, under direction of Herb Molchior, conducted the first parade held in Pacific Northwest. "King" Cole emceed. Parade and afterglow highly successful with guest quartet from Bellingham and others from Eugene, Portland and Tacoma singing.

Klamath Falls making vigorous start, under leadership of Pres. John Houston and Secretary L. H. "Hub" Stone, with four well-received public appearances thus far. Charter presentation held July 19th with "Lumberlads" present from Eugene and Int. President Charlie Merrill doing the honors both as emcee and utility baritone or lead. He also played the outfield as a youth.

Eugene chapter furnished three quartets and choruses, under direction of Chas. "Sarg" Sargent, at Eugene's "Trail to Rail" quadrennial pioneer days pageant July 23-26. Eugene's "Four Plungers" sang at Lakeview Oregon roundup of Order of Antelope, July 18 and 19, by invitation of Governor Snell through Frank Graham. This organization of outdoor life boosters whose membership contains many brass hats of national stature meets annually at Hart Mountain antelope preserve. Meetings are at "Blue Sky Hotel." Participants sleep under the stars. No dogs, no guns, no children, no femmes, plenty of singing and jollity. Plungers accomplished some splendid advertising for SPEBSQSA.

Organization meeting for new Pacific Northwest District 12 held too late to announce results but plenty of indications that the district will be heard from continuously and favorably.

Florida and New Mexico

W. E. Ryder, Secretary of our Albuquerque, New Mexico Chapter reports that the group has moved into its new meeting place, the El Fidel Hotel—and meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month. He adds, "We would welcome any visitors to Albuquerque to sit in on one of our meetings if they happen through our city on or near a meeting night." Any excuse for a banquet seems to be the order of the day in our Florida Chapters. Tampa threw one in honor of the outgoing Pres. J. Frank Davies, June 27 at Columbia Restaurant. Eighty barbershoppers and wives attended. Dick Sturges, of Atlanta, past Intl. officer was there as a guest and gave a demonstration of four part harmony on the piano. St. Petersburg Chapter banqueted its incoming slate of officers on June 23rd. Pres. Davies and Sec. Bob Aldrich, of Tampa, attended and installed the new officers—W. H. Zumwinkel, Pres., Merton Barrett, V. P., R. Carey Jacobus, Sec., Burl McCarty, Treas. Mayor Blackburn was there and cut the big anniversary cake. George R. Hunt, Sec. of the new Carlsbad, N. M. Chapter, writes that one quartet is already in action and others are forming assisted by the coaching of Dick Harding.

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Land O' Lakes

By Tom Needham

North Woods Chapter at Iron Mountain, Michigan, has 100 members . . . 60 sing in chorus. First parade, May 17, was presented before a capacity audience, featuring the Harmony Halls and Four Harmonizers. Annual chapter picnic held May 26 on Menominee River . . . Large delegation, headed by President Lewis, attended Int'l. Convention . . . presented charter to Marquette Chapter, in a special program May 26. At close of fiscal year chapter presented Chorus Director T. Ray Uhlinger with \$250 check.

Kawbawgam Chapter, Marquette, Michigan, held its charter night and installation of officers May 26 . . . Donald MacDonald, President . . . Earl H. Closser, Vice President . . . Dr. Luther West, Secretary . . . and Frank L. Denny, Treasurer. New quartets included the Educated Four and the Lions Four, in addition to the Northern Lights, Mustachio Four, Kawbawgam Kids.

Virginia, Minn., "Queen City of the Range" toured Lake Vermilion on second annual Goodwill Boat Trip July 13 . . . Entire chapter made trip . . . sang at 12 resorts . . . Plans being made for annual Minstrel Show again next December . . . Sent quartet to big Minneapolis Aquatennial July 24 . . . Ladies night held in spring. Austin, Minn., has 27 hardworking members promoting chapter activities . . . meeting once a week to step up pace. On May 3, Appleton, Wis., Chapter staged its third annual Parade of Quartets in the Appleton Senior High School Auditorium, filling it to capacity . . . Program featured the chorus, Maurice Lewis directing . . . Quartets highlighting show included the Misfits and Mid-states of Chicago and Four Keynotes of Appleton . . . Green Bay . . . Founders' Week observed April 9-16 with a beautiful window display by prominent concern . . . Chorus sang on WTAQ during week . . . on special Mother's Day program . . . and also sang on WDUZ on June 21 . . . Appeared at Orpheum Theatre on Decoration Day . . . Wisconsin's new Governor, Oscar Rennebohm, is chapter member . . . On May 19 played host to Waupaca Chapter (ladies included) . . . Harmony Limited quartet has sung at half dozen local affairs including radio appearances over WDUZ . . . New quartet is Packer City Four . . . Paul Selissen, tenor . . . Karl Mohr, lead . . . Frank Slama, baritone . . . Lawrence Selissen, bass . . . the boys made sweet music at Wisconsin Rapids charter night and Waupaca Parade . . . Big summer event for Beloit Chapter was annual boat ride during July . . . everybody enjoyed smooth sailing and smoother harmony . . . Loyal Four made a big hit at State Picnic in Oshkosh . . . New officers, including Ray Ramquist, Secretary, and George Cravcraft, Vice President, are planning fall activities. President King Cole represented Manitowoc at the first parade of the LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Chapter . . . Milton Detjen,

TRI-CI-SYNCHRONIZERS A Laugh to Every Note



Specializing in comedy stuff these boys from New York State's Binghamton-Johnson City Chapter are shown here in action. L. to R.—Jim Foy, tenor; Ed Vincent, Lead; Bill Beddoe, bari; Norm Lanyon, bass. Lanyon is pres. and Vincent is sec.

chorus director, not only writes special arrangements for this chorus but he himself performs as a concert artist on the piano . . . Milt and King Cole represented Manitowoc at the first parade of the Iron Mountain, Michigan, Chapter . . . Manitowoc's first ladies night was held June 16 and was attended by 80 members and their wives . . . special entertainment was furnished by the chorus . . . Detjen also directed a special chorus of the members' wives . . . the Songsters and the Dandee Lions rounded out the program. Big event of the Baraboo Chapter was the Minstrel Show April 16 and 17 at the Al Ringling Theatre with two evening performance and a matinee . . . all sell-outs . . . Chorus and quartet entertained Lions Club at Prairie du Sac . . . Baraboo quartet sang for the State Lumberman's Convention at Lake Delton and . . . In May held ladies night at Lake Delton, with entertainment by chorus, quartets . . . and big steak dinner. On June 25 Waupaca's Harmony Jubilee filled the Palace Theatre to capacity . . . in addition to the chorus, under the baton of John Schroeder, and four local quartets, there were four guest quartets, all of Wisconsin, highlighted by the Four Keynotes of Appleton . . . Chapter is proud of new quartet, the Sons of Harmony. The Madison chorus and quartets have been very active entertaining at clubs, civic affairs and hospitals, including Veterans Hospital and the State Hospital at Mendota. Beaver Dam Three O'Clock Four joined with the chorus in singing at Waupun, and on the Watertown Legion Program June 28 . . . The Monarch Range quartet appeared on the Appleton Parade . . . The B-Flat Beavers sang at banquet on charter night for Wisconsin Rapids, and at local hospitals. The Four Teeners performed on Racine Parade, on Municipal Civic Concert at Ripon, and the FHA Convention . . . Harvey Vorpahl, Chorus Director, was chairman of Music Committee of State Chorus Contest. Algoma chapter members are getting their heads together to plan membership drive, quartet promotion and choral devel-

opment. Special arrangements of such old favorites as Just Before the Battle Mother, Tenting Tonight, and Battle Hymn of the Republic were sung by the Kewaunee Chapter Chorus for Memorial Day exercises . . . Folks old enough to remember loved the old songs and the youngsters seemed to approve these "old" numbers . . . Summer schedule includes special appearances at picnics and civic programs . . . Chorus has appeared numerous Farm Bureau meetings. Wisconsin Rapids membership increasing as they make more public appearances . . . inspire enthusiasm amongst both members and people who listen . . . Bernard Ziegler, Chorus Director, also directs the city band and gave a joint concert with his barbershop chorus and band . . . Charter night was June 28 . . . Chapter is now busy planning Parade of Champions to take place this fall. Marinette has two new quartets which have sung for a Chamber of Commerce meeting, Fourth of July Civic celebration, and Lions Club. LaCrosse had to turn people away from a packed house for their first parade and charter night April 26 . . . have 3 hardworking quartets . . . and a lively chorus . . . The Old Style Quartet has set the pace by appearing at one dozen different banquets and meetings in last two months. For the 9th Annual International Convention and Contest, the Milwaukee Chapter was host to barbershoppers from everywhere. Each man in the chapter labored long and eagerly to help "put the contest over."

LAND O' LAKES CHORUSES COMPETE

The third annual Land O' Lakes picnic and Chorus Contest took place on Sunday, July 20, at the American Legion Clubhouse on the western shore of beautiful Lake Winnebago at Oshkosh. Morning rains bowed to afternoon sunshine as barbershoppers and their families arrived. District President Ed Warrington of Madison introduced the contest judges: Andy Anderson, Chairman, Jimmy Doyle and Huck Sinclair, all from Chicago. Ray Kessenich M.C.'d as the contest got underway at 2:30 p. m. Top honors went to the Sheboygan Chapter Chorus, Henry Beyer directing. Second place went to Green Bay, Horton Roe directing. Milwaukee took third place with Tom Needham directing. Joe Ripp conducted the Madison chorus into fourth place.

Every chapter in the district was represented as all barbershoppers joined in the mass chorus singing. Each director for the four top choruses directed one mass choral number. The listeners were amazed at the beauty of close harmony and blending of voices by such a large group. They just couldn't get enough of it. Dinner was served by the gracious host, the Oshkosh Chapter.

An informal parade, including impromptu quartets, rounded out the evening's entertainment. The memories of an inspiring, harmonious day linger on to—another year of fellowship—and music.

Michigan's Pitch Pipe

by Roscoe D. Bennett

The chorus movement has definitely taken over all Michigan and this commonwealth is singing energetically in harmony . . . There are more than 15 choruses now going full blast in this state. The latest to take form is that in Detroit. There are choruses functioning in Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Adrian, Ludington, Holland, Hamtramck, Marcellus, Jackson, Royal Oak, Ionia and the Great Northern composed of Gaylord, Charlevoix, Boyne, and others in that region. This is only a partial list . . . Maybe a chorus contest and championship is not too far in the future.

The principal event coming up in the immediate future is the fifth annual Charlevoix Quartet Jamboree over the Labor day week-end. Cabin and hotel space in this popular summer place is at a premium. Grosse Pointe is upping its membership list from 75 to 100 . . . 17 were at the Milwaukee convention entertaining at an open house at the Schroeder . . . Four chapters, Boyne City, Charlevoix, Gaylord and Petoskey are ganging up for a huge chorus to feature the Charlevoix Jamboree . . . Gaylord received its charter June 11 from the hands of Dr. Douglas Nettleton of Charlevoix . . . Walter Noa is directing the chorus . . . Dignitaries such as Gov. Kim Sigler and International Secretary Carroll P. Adams have boosted the SPEBSQSA movement in Adrian . . . Gov. Sigler posed with the Five Men of Note in April and Secretary Adams pepped up the chapter with a July visit . . . Midland is having quartet trouble in gobs . . . One of the Sing Sing Singers has gone over to help organize the Metrognomes (nifty name) . . . One of the Kitchen Blenders has been ill . . . Mt. Pleasant is turning its attention to Oct. 18 when the annual Festival of Harmony will be staged . . . In the meanwhile the two quartets of the chapter have been going about busily . . . The state champs, Barons of Harmony, featured the spring party, a ladies night affair . . . Another name nifty quartet, the Crownmatics of the Ludington chapter, have reorganized with a new lead and top . . . The Beachcombers have disbanded and the Ludingtones are busier than ever . . . Ludington is planning a parade for late September . . . A chorus committee is at work . . . The new Hart Chapter held a public Ladies Night affair June 21 . . . The Cosmopolitans of Grand Rapids were a high spot as were the Rusty Four of the home chapter . . . The name of the Wayne chapter has been kept before the public through the work of the lone quartet of that group—the Barons . . . They went to Fremont, Ohio, to assist in chartering a chapter and have shown before veteran hospital groups besides doing a whale of a job over station WKMH . . . Although a youngster the Holland chapter is growing lustily . . . It has a chorus, a music director, quartets, member of the international board—Willis A. Diekema—a composer, a song arranger and 76 active members . . . Holland entertained

the Antlers at a recent meeting . . . It also participated in the Allegan reorganization and preliminary organization meeting in Hastings . . . A demon for figures, Louis A. Harrington, secretary of the Hamtramck chapter, reports a membership growth of 375 per cent in one year . . . It grew from 8 to 38 . . . Hamtramck has organized a chorus and is planning a public show on Oct. 1 . . . Chapter officers have visited many neighboring chapters and took in the national at Milwaukee . . . The Dearborn chapter has reached the 50 mark in enrolled members . . . But it boasts an average meeting attendance of 63, something of an unique rating . . . Dearborn turned out in force for the Barbershop Moonlight cruise of the Detroit chapter.

Something new has been added to the Detroit chapter . . . Joe Wolff, one of the original of all original barber-shoppers, is back in the presidential seat . . . He is surrounded by a strong group of aides, Bill Favinger, vice president, Henry D. Schubert, secretary and Alfred Karkowski, treasurer . . . Allegan is considering holding a parade some time this fall . . . Marcellus is organizing a new chorus and it's nearly ready for unveiling . . . Ann Arbor is going to go on a twice a month basis pretty soon . . . That's because interest is high . . . Jackson has been receiving praise for its work in conducting the regional preliminary contest . . . A family picnic was the big event of the summer, July 13 . . . Oakland County chapter put on a whole show for the Grant School PTA last May . . . All of the talent came from the chapter . . . The glories and fame of the Oakland chapter have been spread far and wide by the activities of the Clef Dwellers, international finalists twice and runners up in the state contest . . . Flint was prominent at the Milwaukee conclave with Gny Stoppert buzzing about and the Antlers singing exceedingly well . . . A special chapter program at which tickets were sold helped the Antlers make the trip . . . Belding's June meeting was featured by the appearance of the Ionia chorus . . . Howard Heath, bass, Barons of Harmony, and ex-secretary of the Michigan State Association of Chapters, is now president of the Saginaw chapter . . . Cordin L. Grant installed him at the June meeting and made it stick . . . Ray Campau is back at his old post as treasurer while Ed Bluem is vice president and Harold Reid is secretary . . . Ionia has been concentrating upon singing . . . With a chorus ready for the public and three quartets, everything is hunky dory . . . Don Goodemoot was host to the July meeting . . . For the sake of the record Don is the father of three members of the Farmonizers and the father-in-law of the fourth . . . He really rules . . . Traverse City's chorus and quartets were much in prominence during the Centennial there this summer . . . The local chapter even had a float in the gala parade . . . The Northmen and the Three- and Three Quarter quartets made a total of 12 appearances this summer. G. Marvin Brower has laid down the

gavel in Grand Rapids and resumed his old place in the lead section of the chorus . . . Cecil H. Fischer, bass of the Travelers, is the new chapter president . . . Dr. W. H. Campbell has taken over as chairman of the Great Lakes Invitational replacing Roscoe D. Bennett . . . Brower completed his fourth term as president and Bennett his fourth as GLI boss . . . Grand Rapids held its annual picnic entertaining a number of prominent quartets including the Harmony Halls and the Continentals of Muskegon . . . It also was host to the Michigan State Association summer meeting . . . Meetings have been held regularly throughout the summer . . . The 1948 Great Lakes has been set for April 10 . . . Particularly active among the quartets have been the Cosmopolitans with a new lead Pete Van Den Bosch, Peter Pell, a contractor, Cecil Watson, tool designer and Ed Bloem, a draftsman, complete the group.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

The Tulsa, Okla., chapter is happy that the 1941 Int'l. champs, the Chordbusters are reunited by the return of Bobby Greer; members of Tulsa and Oklahoma City were featured on the Quiz of Two Cities radio program. Members of the Pryor, Okla. chapter attended the June meeting of Tulsa and in May the chapter entertained the wives and featured the visiting "Chordettes" of Sheboygan, Wis., who presented O.C. with a huge Wisconsin cheese made to resemble a barber pole.

One hundred and eighty members and wives united to install 1947-48 officers of Wichita Falls, Texas Chapter at the Country Club where chorus and five quartets delighted crowd. The chorus contributed generously to the packed house of the auditorium on the occasion of National Music Week where the chapter's quartets also took top honors.

Secretary Clarence M. Stowell of the Santa Monica Chapter reports that chapter meetings are now being held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month on the 4th floor of the Ambassador Hotel.

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