

# PITSBURGH

# Host to MID-WINTER MEETING of the INTERNATIONAL BOARD

----- JANUARY 15, 16, 17, 18, 1948 -----

Cordially invites all barbershoppers
to take part in the second most important event of the "HARMONY YEAR"
Board Meetings and Sunday Morning "GLOW" at Hotel Keystone

There'll be a . . .

# PARADE of QUARTETS

SATURDAY NIGHT, JANUARY 17, 1948 at SYRIA MOSQUE

You'll Hear - DOCTORS OF HARMONY, 1947 Champions
ELASTIC FOUR, 1942 Champions
MID-STATES FOUR - CHORDOLIERS - WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET
all 1947 Finalists

PITTSBURGHERS and PITTSBURGH CHORUS

#### PARADE TICKET RESERVATIONS

Write NORMAN NEDDE c/o Hotel Keystone PITTSBURGH, PA.

\$2.40 and \$1.80

Enclose check or Money Order Payable to "HARMONY"

#### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Write THOMAS C. DEVEAU
General Manager
HOTEL KEYSTONE
Pittsburgh, Pa.

For General Information Write HARRY W. SMITH 306 Fourth Avenue :: :: Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

"SAVE THAT OLD MUSIC" NUMBER

VOLUME VII NO. 2



NOVEMBER, 1947

#### SPEBSQSA Will Have Old Song Library

#### Got Any Old Music Gathering Dust? Let Somebody Else Enjoy It

If present plans mature and the members co-operate, your Society will someday have the largest and most complete collection of old songs in the world.

The idea of starting a library of manuscripts and original piano copies at Int'l Hq. was first suggested by the Old Songs Committee and it caught on like wildfire.

Vice President Jerry Beeler, under whose immediate supervision the Old Songs Committee functions, enthusiastically added his official blessing and Secretary Carroll P. Adams was just as prompt to agree that Headquarters was ready, willing, and anxious to undertake the work involved in collecting, cataloging, and filing the songs where they will be available for reference to all Society members and properly reserved for posterity.

President Charlie Merrill took one look at the plan and shouted "Amen". That did it, and the child was born. Now all we need is thousands of copies of old songs and that's where you come in.

It was pointed out that there are many members who are not actually collectors who have accumulated quite a number of oldies and who would welcome the opportunity to place them in a permanent SPEBSQSA library where everyone could get some good out of them.

In addition there are many of the collectors who would probably be willing to bequeath their collections to the Society rather than have them pass on to someone who is not interested in their hobby who would probably dispose of them for waste paper. During the recent paper drives tons of old songs found their way in to the scrap piles and like "Clementine"

(Continued on page 6)

## INT'L. BOARD MEETS AT PITTSBURGH— "LITTLE WORLD SERIES OF HARMONY"

Plans are now perfected to make the January 16-17 Mid-Winter meeting of the Int'l. Board in Pittsburgh an affair which will compensate Board members, musically at least, for the long trek which many will take, while offering the membership in the East a "little World Series" in harmony close-by.

Of course The Doctors will be there when the Parade opens at Syria Mosque, Saturday evening, the 17th. Naturally the Pittsburghers and Westinghouse (5th place '47-'48) boys are on the program, and from the Mid-West for Mid-Winter festivities will come the Mid-States of Chicago and the Chordoliers of Rock Island, third and fourth place winners in the June '47 International. The Elastic Four, 1942 Champions also will pitch. The Pittsburgh Chorus will do its melodious stuff, and Int'i. Chairman of Judges Maurice E. Reagan will present a Pittsburgh high school quartet, coached by the Reagan point-a-minute system.

Keystone Hotel will be headquarters. Tom Deveau, General Manager and active member of Pittsburgh

Chapter will handle room reservations for out-of-towners.

Schedules follow:

Friday—16th—9:30 a. m. Committee meetings in chairmen's rooms to be continued at 2 p. m.

Friday—16th—8 p. m.—Int'l. Bd. Meeting.

Saturday—17th—9:30 a.m. Int'l. Bd. Meeting.

Saturday—12:30 p. m. Int'l. Bd. luncheon—Exec. Comm. of Pittsburgh Chapter as hosts.

Saturday—2 p. m. Int'l. Bd. Meeting.

Saturday—5:30 p. m. Int'l. Bd. and wives—guests of Pittsburgh Exec. Comm.—Dinner.

Saturday—8:30 p. m. Parade at Syria Mosque—Frank H. Thorne, Imm. Past Pres., as M. C.

Out-of-town members desiring to attend the Parade should send reservations (enclose check made out to "Harmony") for seats desired at \$2.40 each to Norman Nedde, c/o Hotel Keystone, Pittsburgh, Pa.

#### BOARD WILL CHOOSE 1949 CONTEST CITY AT PITTSBURGH MEETING

In line with a decision reached this year the Int'l. Board will decide upon convention cities two years in advance in order to assure the most complete preparation to handle contests and crowds that grow and grow.

Everybody knows it's Oklahoma City in '48. At the January Int'l. Board meeting, Pittsburgh, a city will be chosen for the 1949 International. At the June meeting in Oklahoma City, the Int'l. Board will choose the place that will be the harmony center of the world in 1950.

The location of the January '49 midwinter meeting will also be decided by the Board at Oklahoma City when it meets in June.

By giving notice of these events thus far in advance cities that would like to play host have ample time to check with their local Chamber of Commerce, Convention Bureau, Hotel Associations, Auditorium, on the basic facilities that are the foundation for one of these big Int'l. affairs.

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F	

#### **EFER IFER FINDS FOUNDER**

Dear Carroll:

It's a small world. I was just thinkin' maybe I would sorth scribble off a few adverbs to you when Bingo in pops the postman with a letter askin' don't I love you anymore and why don't I write? So you could saved 3c and bought yourself a stick of bubble gum, although if anybody saw you with any more bulges comin' out you than you got already they would certainly figure it was time somebody did somethin' about inflation.

What I wanted to write you about was what happened the other night at the meetin'. There we was all spread out for chorus practice and a'yellin' our lungs out 'cause the deerecter waves a stick and we get a thumpin whack I tell you when we don't do right. Well, sir, this feller comes in, a stranger he was and he sets down in the tenor section, but he don't stay there very long. I could see him aworkin' his jaws and his eyes apoppin'-like, when pretty soon he sorta leans over o'ards the leads as if to see how they was doin' and it musta pleased him cause pretty soon he slid over with them. I didn't think much of that, as we lose more tenors that way than anything else, but this feller he don't like the leads neither, 'cause before you could say SPEBSQSA he is nestled in with the haritones and aworkin' his jaws somethin' awful. If I was a mind to say anything to him I would sure have said "Havin' trouble with that there tricky harmony, Bub?" But I woulda had to work fast as doggone if that jumpin' jack wasn't over into the basses by that time.

Now, Carroll, you'd have thought that a feller who couldn't hit it off in any one of the four sections of a chorus would have stayed home or just stood back in the corner-like and listened. And sure enough that's just what he was doing in a couple of minutes.

What I want to know, Carroll, is what kind of singin' are we singin' in our chorus? I find out later this stranger is a feller named Cash who says he invented barbershop.

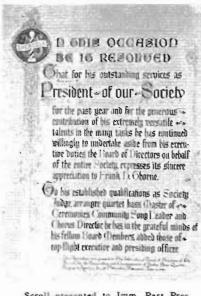
Sing-cerely yours, Efer Ifer (Welsh Pierce)

## "KEEP ON THE BEAM"— AND "FOLLOW THE CHARTS"

Time and time again, when officers or older members visit a new chapter, questions pop up that show need for guidance . . and such questions don't necessarily come always from the newer chapters. The Int'l. office also reports that much correspondence goes into answering questions or straightening out kinks that could have been avoided without local embarrassment if only the chapter had kept itself informed.

Three booklets available from the Int'l. office are "markers" designed to keep the chapter in the channel and off the rocks. The Code of Ethics booklet, The Organization of New Chapters booklet and the Guide for Chapter Officers are as necessary as a compass in following the true course. Not only are they invaluable to chapter officers, but the true enthusiast in the rank and file will find them fascinating reading.

#### THORNE HONORED



Scroll presented to Imm. Past Pres. Frank H. Thorne by the Int'l. Board at Milwaukee in June, 1947, in recognition of his numerous activities in behalf of SPEBSOSA.

#### REGARDING ARRANGEMENTS

"In the past month, we have received many suggestions from members throughout the Society that we use this or that song for distribution. May we inform you that we are free to reproduce only those songs of which we own the copyright, or the copyrighted arrangement, plus a few we have been given special permission by the copyright owner. This limits us to original and public domain songs. The committee regrets it is unable to fulfill the wishes of these members but is grateful for the suggestions."

Don D. Webster, Chairman, Song Arrangements Com.

#### **OKLAHOMA CITY PLANS FOR '48**

In mid-October, Int'l. Sec. Adams went to Oklahoma City to counsel with the local committees building the structure for next year's convention, culminating in the Int'l. Contest on the evening of June 12, '48. He found that the local boys had broken ground almost as soon as they returned from Milwaukee this year, and much foundation was laid.

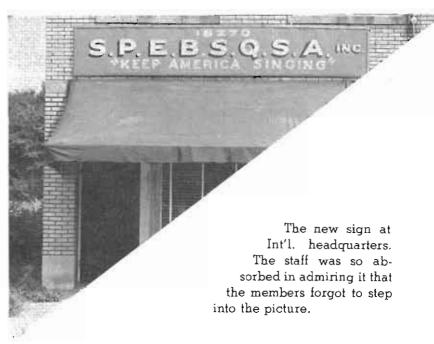
Granville Scanland and I. S. (Hank) Wright are co-chairmen of the big doings. Scanland also heads housing of visitors. Speucer Miller will be convention treasurer. Neal Barrett is chairman of publicity, Local committees will be headed by Int'l. Bd. Member Ernie Dick, Lester Dacus, Oklacity V. P., Grady Musgrave, Bill Morris, and Harold Bosworth, chapter secretary.

Oklahoma Biltmore hotel will be headquarters. It can accommodate about 25% of the anticipated registrants. All other hotels are making rooms available to the Housing Committee. Adams believes the Biltmore "ideal" for our purposes.

Distribution of tickets and housing will follow the same general pattern as set by this year's Milwaukee International. Coupon books will go on sale about February 1. No reservations will be accepted direct by a local hotel. Reservations will be through the Housing Committee on request accompanied by a coupon from the Coupon Book

As usual, the Int'l. Board will be on hand in advance, grinding away at the year's grist. Its first session will be on Wednesday morning, June 9. Plans for a chapter officers Round Table, the School for Song Leaders, Judges School, District Officers Meeting are under way. A new feature will be a class for Chorus Directors.

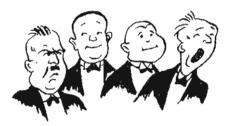
#### SIGN OF INT'L. HARMONY



#### THE ANATOMY OF QUARTETING

The cover of Earle W. Moss-es "Just What Is Barbershop Harmony?" includes two little sketches by Joyce Warner that of themselves express much of the anatomy and mental attitude of quartets and quarteting.

The first might well be labelled "I



love you as I never loved before."

We guess that the lead is standing on the right, for reasons known to the quartet or the artist. No doubt about the bass on the other. "Listen to that thrush" he's saying. "What're we waiting for" Next to him is the always bland bari; and the little tenor is politely intent (the judges are watching for stage presence) waiting for the aria to end so that they can



give with "never loved befo-o-ore." And how they repeat it! NOW the bass is in. Boy, oh Boy! "Guess that'll send tremors through their toes.'

Somehow we get the feeling that the bass would be just as happy if singing "Asleep in the Deep" as a solo rather than being a mere one-fourth of a chord. No doubt that the lead loves his excursion into the solo part too. Yet there's something about the two men in the middle that says "We are quartet men at heart. WE'd rather barbershop in harmony than solo." What do you think?

#### TRAVERSE CITY SINGS HYMNS WITH SPEB

On the evening of August 24 Traverse City turned out to Sunset Park and a community Hymn Singing service sponsored by the local chapter and led by the chapter's 40-voice chorus.

The program opened with an invocation by the president of the Ministerial Association followed by chorus, quar-Association followed by chorus, quartet, and audience participation in such numbers as "America the Beautiful," "Day is Dying in the West," "Rock of Ages," and "Lead Kindly Light." Ned Kehoe, Pres., Bob Atkins, Program Chairman, Floyd Heydenberg, Chorus Director, Harry Phelps, in heaves of new autonomous and the charge of park arrangements, and the ever busy Secretary Len Scratch express the intentions of the chapter to make this an annual affair.

### FACTS ABOUT TRAVEL TO OKLAHOMA CITY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - ROUND TRIPS

**JUNE 1948** 

By R. F. Verderber, Cleveland Chapter

Via Dailmand

via Raiiroad									
		C	cost,		via Plan	e v	ia Bu	ıs via	a Auto
	Trav	7. in Pi	ullmans	Coach	Travel		Γrave		miles
	Tim	ie Rail	Lower	r Rail	Time		Time	•	(one
	(hrs	s.) Fare	Berth	Fare	(hrs.)	Fare	(hrs.	) Fare	way)
Chicago, Ill.	20	\$44.15	\$14,40	\$31.80	4 to 5	\$73.20	31	\$21.70	840
Cleveland, Ohio	26	64.00	19.60	41.95	7	100.10	40	28.30	1098
Detroit, Mich.	26	60.75	18.90	40.05	6	98.40	37	26.55	1064
New York City	38	88.00	27.30	56.40	9	138.50	52	39.55	1516
St. Louis, Mo.	14	29.85	10.70	21.50	3	47.50	21	15.75	545
Omaha, Nebr.	16	29.45	10.00	21.25	4	55.00	18	15.60	483
Denver, Colo.	18	39.30	14.40	28.35	4 1/2	59.30	18	21.10	711
Los Angeles, Cal	. 43	90.35	27.90	60.50	6 to 9	124.90	40	48.00	1380
San Fran., Cal.	55	95.70	30.50	63.80	9 to $13$	158.30	58	49.70	1694
Portland, Ore.	57	109.10	40.10	75.10	20	165.70	71	61.40	2083

The fares shown are round trip in each case, and do NOT include Federal tax, which at this time is 15% on all rail, Pullman, air and bus fares.

In connection with the Pullman fares quoted from Cleveland, Detroit, some savings can be effected by using coach service to either Chicago or St. Louis thence Pullman to Oklahoma City.

The travel time represents number of elapsed hours for travel in one direction via direct routes. In most cases the elapsed time was figured in connection with fastest schedules via given route, with convenient departure and arrival times at origin and destination.

#### GIVE A SET FOR CHRISTMAS

## **ELASTIC FOUR RECORDS**

Original No. 1 Set Now Available



(Each With Attractive Folio)

Book I - \$6,25 (5 records)

Lazy River - White Christmas Mood Indigo - Lord's Prayer Mill Stream - Silent Night Maple Leaves - Indiana Peggy O'Neill - Now the Day is Over

Sweet Cider Time Tell Me You'll Forgive Me Just a Dream of you Pear

Book II -- \$4.85 & Book III -- \$4.85 (3 records)

Pass the Biscuits Mirandy Irish Lullaby Hope to Die Darkness on Delta Sidewalks of N. Y. Rosie O'Grady Coney Island Bahy

(3 records)

We Three Wait for me Mary Down South I Get the Blues When it Rains For Me and My Gal Maybe

(Shipped Express Charges Collect)

Distributed by and Mail Checks to

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc., 18270 Grand River Ave. DETROIT 23, MICHIGAN





## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Charles M. Merrill

Some of my old friends in the Society have, since my ascendency, given me the benefit of some constructive criticism. "Singing is too much regimented," they say. "Let's have more woodshedding. Parades, choruses and rehearsals may be all right, but they can't touch a good woodshedding bee for real pleasure."

When I joined up with the Society I had my own ideas of what "barbershop" was. Four men in a corner working out harmony hy ear and instinct; working it out as they went along. No audience; no distractions; no written arrangements. They sang it and worked it out the way it was fun to sing it—not the way it was "supposed to be sung."

Four years ago I wrote long and argumentative letters to Carroll and Phil Embury to the effect that as far as I could see the Society was doing nothing to preserve and encourage that "true" barbershopping. It was encouraging and preserving perfected quartetting for the audience. Freeharmonizing or "woodshedding" was being ignored because, comparatively, it had little audience appeal. Yet barbershop had become popular originally because it was fun to sing that way. The source of its popularity—the reason for its revival by O. C. Cash—was its appeal as par-

ticipation music, not as audience music.

I was pretty prejudiced then, and pretty well isolated, too. Four years with contests and parades have given me an appreciation of the other side of the picture. And a mighty impressive side it has become!

The course of Society development has been through its establishing the fact that barbershop is not only fun to sing. It's also fun to listen to when it's well done. It is top notch audience music as well as participation music. And with the tremendous development in quartet ability and technique which our contests have achieved, the barbershopper of today has certainly become an enthusiastic and discriminating listener.

The Society's course has been guided, too, by the fact that to thousands of its members barbershop is something new. Faced with the need for a course of education adaptable to large numbers of eager neophytes, the Society has resorted to methods theretofore unknown to barbershop: mass instruction through the barbershop chorus and written arrangement. These methods have met with surprising popularity and unquestionably are in large degree responsible for the amazingly rapid growth and spread of the Society.

But the critics do have a point. Freeharmonizing by ear is great fun. And it is art in itself. It takes knowledge, appreciation, experience and a very special ability, a fine, sensitive cooperation to achieve it. Where the ordinary part singer regards himself as adequate when he knows his own part as it has been written out for him, the able ear singer knows why his part moves as it does and to know this he must know all other parts as well as his own. Certainly his is an experience well worth preserving and encouraging.

Of course, the Society is doing this by providing a medium through which the ardent woodshedder can make contact with his fellow addicts. This, however, may be rather passive encouragement.

Should more active measures be taken? Could something constructive be added to the Society program that will more directly encourage and preserve the ancient art of barbershop singing as practiced by the ear singer? Should a "woodshedders' haven" (no pre-rehearsed singing permitted) be set up at all meets? Should some manner of recognition of ear singing ability be established? That, my woodshedding friends, is up to you.

Don't ask us in the slightest degree to minimize any element in a program whose worth has been conclusively established. But if you feel we can add to it, a sympathetic ear is assured you. So if you have ideas, pass them along to your chapter or district for try-out. If they meet with success on the chapter and district levels, report your successes to international. You have, believe meardent woodshedders in the chair and about the board.

#### OLD SONGS LIBRARY

(Consinued from page 3)

are "lost and gone forever." With the increasing demand for lead sheets and words to oldies from quartets all over the country it is helieved that the establishment of a permanent library is a real service that will save many of these old gems for the next generation of barbershoppers that might otherwise go the way of the carrier pigeon and the buffalo. This then is the official announcement of one of our newest and most important services and the collection starts at once. If you have any old sheet music that is gathering dust around your house bundle it up today and send it to SPEBSQSA Headquarters at 18270 Grand River Ave., Detroit 23, Mich.

There it will become a part of what we hope will someday be the largest and most complete collection of old songs in the world. There it will remain forever, the property of all barbershoppers the world over to sing and enjoy long after we have been forgotten.

#### ONE SWALLOW MAKES A QUARTET

The famous Charlevoix, Mich. stage setting designed by Al Young for the Aug. 30 Parade. Mr. Big's head and arms were fluorescent. The MC stood behind bis right hand. Lighting with shadow box effects eliminated entrances and exits, showing the quartet only when singing.



# CHARTERED SINCE AUGUST 1st., 1947

	- *************************************	No. of		, which was control to recognize that been anothers
Date	Location	Members	Sponsored by	Name and Address of Secretary
8/8/47	Effingham, Ill.	19	Mattoon, Ill.	LeGrand A. Flack, Parker Bldg.
8/15/47	Lockport, New York	50	Buffalo, N. Y.	Wallace M. Jones, 18 Rochester St.
8/18/47	El Paso, Texas	17	Carlsbad, New Mex.	Thomas C. Patterson, 4101 Pershing Drive.
8/20/47	New Britain, Conn.	16	Hartford, Conn.	William Marsh, 32 Norden St.
9/2/47	Enid, Okla.	26	Cherokee, Okla.	Gregory G. Schuette, 225 W. State St.
9/8/47	Wellington, Ohio	28	Lorain, Ohio	Robert Baker, 126 Erie Street
9/15/47	Honolulu, Hawaii	17	Reno, Nevada	Carl I. Flath, The Queen's Hospital
9/15/47	Great Bend, Kansas	46	Hutchinson, Kansas	E. R. Marchand, 3307 17th Street
9/18/47	Bartlesville, Okla.	26	Tulsa, Okla.	Wayne Moberly, 7231/2 Cherokee
9/22/47	Jackson, Miss.	44	Tulsa, Okla.	Lewis N. Herring, 1503 St. Ann
9/26/47	Amherstourg, Ont.	23	Windsor, Ontario	Jules P. Pozsar, P. O. Box 315
10/8/47	Streator, Ill.	18	La Salle, III.	Ralph Baker, 102 No. 3rd St.
10/21/47	Barre, Vermont	26	Northampton, Mass.	Frederick A. Mayo, 53 Liberty Street
10/21/47	McAlester, Okla.	36	Tulsa, Okla.	Laurence E. Cannon
10/22/47	Boston, Mass.	34	New Bedford, Mass.	Robert W. Norris, Yankee Network, 21 Brookline Ave.
10/22/47	Mt. Rainier, Wash.	25	Tacoma, Wash.	Dr. J. Silknitter, 1505 Pioneer St., Enumclaw, Wash.
10/23/47	Harvey Station, N.B.	. 22	Fredericton, N.B.	W. A. Revell

#### PITTSBURGH REPORTS

Chapter members mighty proud of being awarded the Mid-Winter Meeting
of the International Board, January
15-16-17-18. A bigger than ever Quartet Parade in Syria Mosque, Saturday
evening, will highlight the week end.
Chapter has two new quartets, the
Washingtones and the University of
Pittsburgh Quartet. New Chapters
planned in Washington and Greensburg.

#### LARAMIE DIRECTOR RESIGNS

Charles W. Street, Acting Secretary, writes that Bob Becker, head of Music Department at University of Wyoming, is now directing the Chapter Chorus, replacing former Director Barnes, who has left Laramie to assume directorship of the band at Colorado A & M College at Fort Collins. The Four Boomerangs sang at American Legion State Convention at Casper and at Governor Hunt's One-Shot Antelope Hunt Party at Lander, September 6th. The Chorus plans a big public Concert just before Christmas.

#### SHUT-INS ARE GRATEFUL

"To ereate harmony for the thousands," one of the purposes of SPEB, is cited in a letter to the editor of Ft. Wayne (Ind.) News-Sentinel as one reason why the writers "pray that the SPEBSQSA will live long and prosper." Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Myers were so grateful when "a delegation of melodiers, entertaining at Cedarville Park made a friendly invasion of our bome" (they were shutins) that they obeyed the urge to express their appreciation publicly.

## Clayton Mo. Raises \$2,000 For Child Benefit

Clayton, Mo. chapter raised \$2000 from a well planned show, "Memories of Vodvil" for benefit of a children's park shelter. Because of lack of theatres available at regular show hours "Memories" had a 12:30 A. M. curtain but kept an audience of 1200 asking for more at 2:30 A. M.

The program carried 146 paid ads and contributed largely to the fund. The advertising was sold entirely by chapter members. To publicize the show. 4 Movie Trailers were prepared and used in 4 show houses four times daily for 14 days; 250 window display cards featured the show; 21 days prior to the show Radio Stations KWK and KMOX gave daily spot announcements and the chapter's quartets made appearances at buncheon chuls. The day of the show a sound truck was used for four hours and an announcement was made at the end of a champion-ship wrestling match to an audience of 1500. Many would be customers were turned away.



L. 110 R.—Whit Ayers, Berney Simner, Past Pres., Clayton; Art Nolan, current Pres.; Ray S. Campbell, J. E. Holman, Jr., Clayton Park Bd.; Dr Norman Rathert. (St. Louis Globe Democrat Photo).



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#### VOLUME VII

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Frank H. Thorne

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#### TUNE IN THE "DOCTORS"

One of the greatest radio shows of all time will feature the Int'l. Champions, "Doctors of Harmony" in a top spot when the Elgin National Watch Company sponsors its sixth annual "Two Hours of Stars" over the Columbia Broadcasting System on Thanksgiving Day. The show is aired from 3:00 to 5:00 p. m., CST.

The Elkhart, Ind., quartet will share honors with such stars as Jack Benny, Jimmy Durante, Don Ameche, Red Skelton, Vera Vague, Yebudi Menu-hin, Sir Lancelot, Doris Day, Ken Carpenter, Allan Jones, Sweeney and March, Mary Jane Smith and Larry Storch. The roster of stars indicates that this year's "Two Hours of Stars" will top all previous shows.

#### "STARVED SOULS"

Int'l. Sec. Carroll P. Adams commented recently: "Whenever I go to another city I am shocked at the number of places I pass through, whether by train, plane or auto, that have no SPEBSQSA chapter. Of course we want quality rather than just quantity, but I have a deep-seated feeling that our chapters, now 385, could be doing much more missionary work in their neighboring towns, work that would pay dividends in added enjoyment. The more chapters in an area, the more possibilities for inter-chapter gatherings . . . and they are real fun."

To which, an experienced member will add-and often the sponsoring chapter gets a new revitalization by assuming the duties of a parent to-ward the new chapter. Great as the Society's growth has been, there are still plenty of starved souls, starved for good old harmony, even in com-munities where we are organized. And chapterless cities are crying, like St. Paul's vision, "come over and help

Is your chapter extension committee functioning?

#### INTL. HQ. FRAMES CHAMPIONS

Int'l. Hg. now has two framed picture records of all Int'l. champions to date. Dick Sturges, early and long time Bd. member grouped the first five in one setting and the next four in another, with a blank panel in the second one labelled "1948?". Names and dates of their reigns as champions are included.

#### YOUR REGIONAL PRELIMINARY -- WHERE?

Twelve Regional Preliminary Contests are scheduled for May 1 and May 2, 1948, one in each District, at the beginning of 1948 National Music Week.

If your chapter wants to play host to the "little world's series" of your District, get your invita-tion in to the Int'l. office at once, together with details of where and how you would handle the contest. The Executive Committee will decide, in Pittsburgh in January, as to the location of the regional preliminaries.

#### PLAN THE RIGHT KIND OF PUBLICITY FOR YOUR CHAPTER . . .

By Walter Jay Stephens International Chairman, Public Relations

Good publicity can plant a healthy seed in acquainting the public in your community with SPEBSQSA activ-

But that healthy seed must be properly cultivated to reflect the right kind of publicity so that our Society may reap a harvest of favorable public

Each chapter Publicity Committee should diligently search for the proper news items to use effectively to cultivate properly the public interest. Each member should find it his duty to reflect a high standard of moral conduct . . . good conduct at all times . . at every performance . . . at every Society event.

SPEBSQSA has set a high standard in its fine code of ethics and our Public Relations Committee platform has recognized these fine principles and high ideals as a pattern for chapter committee procedure. Every member should properly interpret and reflect these qualities to make their behavior conform to the public interest. Public opinion, as we know, is all important and we must have the public with us in a favorable way.

#### Good Publicity is: Living Right and Getting Credit for It

This procedure should be carefully followed by every chapter in securing the right kind of publicity for our Society at all times. Keep this in mind when interviewing or releasing items to the press.

Remember that it is up to our membership to reflect a high standard of conduct in public performances. A persistent, intelligent and enthusiastic effort should be made by the Publicity Committee to cultivate the right kind of publicity and reap the harvest. For the seeds we sow of good will can and will bring in a harvest of public respect for our homely virtues of honor, decency and sobriety that contributes to the rich pattern of what is accepted as the common interest.

Let us all strive to do an outstanding job and our Society will reap a harvest of good will.

#### INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS, 1947-1948

(Attorney)

Immediate Past President. FRANK H. THORNE, 6216 West 66th Place, Chicago 38, Ill.

(Vice-President, National Aluminate Corporation) First Vice-President SANDFORD BROWN, 30 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.

Secretary. CARROLL P. ADAMS, 18270 Grand River Ave., Detroit 23, Mich.

ROBERT L. IRVINE, 914 Jackson Ave., River Forest, Ill.

(Asst. Credit Mgr., Sears, Roehuck and Co.)

Vice-President J. D. BEELER, 1830 West Ohio St., Evansville 2, Ind.

(Vice-President Corp.)

Vice-President N. (KING) COLE, 901 Marshall St., Manitowoc, Wis.

(Vice-President, KIngsbury Brewerles)

Vice-President EDWIN S. SMITH, 34660 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Mich.

(Real Estate & Insurance)

Historian Harold B. STAAR, 40 Roe Ave., Northampton, Mass. 

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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RUSSELL C. STANTON, 222 Pasqual Ave. San Gabriel, Cal. (Dist. Mgr., John Morrell & Co.)

#### HOW TO USE RADIO

L. D. Tucker, Sec. of the Iron Mountain Chapter asked Walter Jay Stephens, Int'l. Ch'm'n. Public Relations, for suggestions about suitable facts concerning the Society to be used on a local radio program. The following are some of the suggestions sent promptly to Tucker:

1. Open and close with chorus "The Old Songs" humming part of it in harmony back of the announcer.

2. Vary local news with International news. You can select a lot of important material from each issue of the Harmonizer. Under this you might give highlights on Society events or contests; data on the Society aims and purposes; growth of membership and chapters; word pictures of men who compose the membership, from all walks of life; how to become a member; a review of the Int'l. championship quartet contests from '39 to '47; how quartets are judged at contests.

Stephens also suggested that local news about the chapter's activities and members is always interesting locally. He suggested guest quartets or choruses occasionally and ended "Play up 1948 as the tenth anniversary year, giving highlights of convention plans in Oklahoma City."

There are enough ideas in this condensed outline to carry any chapter for half a year at least on a one program per week basis.

## "CHILD CARE" IS A DUTY OF NEW CHAPTER SPONSORS

Sponsoring a new chapter entails many of the responsibilities of parenthood. The baby chapter is practically certain to go through a series of well recognized "child's diseases" without which it seems no chapter attains maturity.

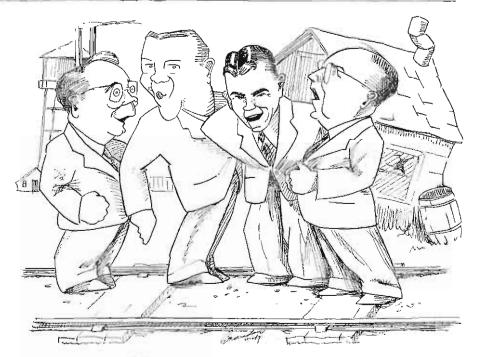
So many of the youngsters are so anxious to make an immediate good showing that they get overly enthusiastic and over reach their abilities. One of the commonest examples is the practically immediate demand of members "Let's put on a Parade and invite the public" usually long before the chapter is well enough organized or has enough talent to create the impression that it wants to create.

This is an example of many well recognized "symptoms" that occur in new chapters. Therefore, its loving parent, the sponsor, will continue supervision of a new group for at least a year, if it is a wise parent.

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

#### (Term expiring 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 Purchasio, Agent, Sealed Power Corp.)



The Four Harmonizers, 1943 Champs, as seen by Beaudin in their inimitable "Shanty in Old Shanty Town"

## CHRISTMAS NEXT MONTH HOW'S YOUR HYMN SUPPLY?

All chapters except those chartered since November '46 have received copies of the official arrangements of "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Silent Night," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" and "O Holy Night" (Cantique de Noel). Better check the music library immediately and request these Christmas hymns from the Int'l. Office if you need additional eopies. Since the Society has become so widespread and popular, unexpected invitations and opportunities to join in Christmas music come more and more frequently. Be prepared!

#### WHERE'S YOUR CHARTER?

Look around you, at your next Chapter meeting. Is your Charter displayed there? If not—why not? Your Charter is your Chapter's

Your Charter is your Chapter's badge of membership in SPEBSQSA. Where is it? Has it been attractively framed and otherwise prepared for prominent display at every meeting of your Chapter, or is it rolled up and hidden away, gathering dust in the files?

If your Chapter is not in line, in showing its charter, write, 'phone or remind your Secretary at the next meeting.

ARTHUR A. MERRILL, 1567 Kingston Ave., Schenectary 8, N. Y. (Commercial Engineer, General Electric Co.)

WALTER JAY STEPHENS, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill. (Vice-Press and Director, Stemar Co., Inc.)

#### (Term Expiring 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, 111. (Personnel Director, Mc Cabe Dry Goods Co.)
- W. D. COMMON, P. O. Box 1018, Dayton 1, Ohio (General Manager, Moraine Box Co.)

#### LOCAL "PRESIDENT'S AWARD"

Former Int'l. Treas. J. E. Stern has hatched an idea that will never be quite as popular as his "Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail" but is going to be picked up by a lot of chapters nevertheless.

Joe proposes two chapter awards, the first one for most regular attendance at chapter meetings by all four members of a quartet, the secretary to keep a record of that attendance. Second, an award for the greatest number of outside performances given (gratis) by a quartet. The record will be kept by a certification sheet which the quartet will turn in after each gratis performance.

## PUTTING SWIPES INTO INTER-CHAPTER RELATIONS

Congratulations to the 1946-47 Int'l. Committee, Ted Haberkorn, Sr., Ch'm'n. for the snappy 8-page brochure showing advantages and ways and means of promoting more frequent and more wide-spread interchapter relations. Not only is it invaluable to the local committee chairman, but is so good that any live-wire member will enjoy reading it.

- 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., Renown Stove Co.)
- GUY L. STOPPERT, 1326 W. Dartmouth St., Flint 4, Mich. (Exec. Sec'y., Associated Male Choruses of America, Inc.)

#### 1 1 1

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



#### TAKE A TRIP THROUGH HARMONYLAND

The Doctors of Harmony appeared in Pathe News in mid-August and early September. Unfortunately the film, which this department saw and heard locally, gave very little insight into the capabilities of our International Champions.

It just "shows to go" that the Post Office in Detroit consider us the outstanding singing society in Detroit. A letter, written in Germany, addressed "Singing Society Liederkranz, Detroit, Michigan, U. S. A." arrived safely.

P

Ernest Murphy, Eugene, Oregon, reports: "Klamath Falls may have the world's champion barber shop singing enthusiast. When this new young husband was called about 4:30 P. M. to take his wife to the maternity hospital, he exclaimed, 'Gosh, I can't go now. Can't that wait till morning? I'm due at singing practice!' He was a little tardy for practice and found out later that he was the papa of a fine baby boy." Murphy recommends singing as a good subsitute for corridor pacing while awaiting the outcome of these blessed events.

6

"More chapters nowadays than there were bona-fide members when I joined," so saith J. F. Knipe, Cleveland.

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Bill Conway, bass of the Pittsburghers, informs that they sang to audiences of 100,000 each on two successive nights at the Allegheny County Fair. Yes, that's one hundred thousand . . . a grand record and pretty hard to beat.

Jack Wells, Lakewood Chapter, visiting Port Jervis, N. Y., wrote on a picture postcard "In Alexandria a garage man saw my SPEB auto tags and cut my bill". A word to the wise should be sufficient.

(JP

The long arm of the law reached out and thrust an accusing finger at the Schenectady Harmoneers and they found themselves in the Police Station with a little red ticket. With shaking knees but solid vocal chords, the four rendered an unrehearsed version of "Daddy, Get Your Baby Out of Jail" and it wasn't long before they had "Schenectady's Finest" eating out of their hands. Neatest way to "fix" a parking ticket we've ever heard of. Orchids to Joe Stern, composer, from the Harmoneers.

A communication from Joe Smith of the Avon Comedy Four says that Curly Crossett hadn't received the straight facts in identifying the quartet's members, August issue, p. 46. Smith is at left, Charles Dale above, Irving Kaufman right, and Harry Goodwin bottom center.

C.

Ed Place, publicity chairman of Washington, D. C. Chapter, turned a nice trick when he got Sen. Capehart of Indiana into a chair in the Senate barbershop, with Rep. Grant (Ind.) looking on while the Washington Diplomats serenaded the Senator. Grant is from Elkhart, and knows each Doctor of Harmony, current Int'l. Champions, personally. The Diplomat picture has popped up in many newspapers throughout the country.

P

The Playbill, Program and news sheet of Coronet Theatre, New York, gives a biographical sketch of James Gregory, inveterate barbershopper and member of Jersey City Chapter, playing the part of George Deever in All My Sons. Gregory's last Broadway appearance was interrupted by 3½ violent years which included Guan, Saipan and Okinawa campaigns. Previously he had appeared with Paul Muni and Sylvia Sydney. He is a native New Yorker, but, says the Playbill, considers New Rochelle his home town.

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Imm. Past Pres. Thorne reports that Walter Jenkins is doing a marvelous job of directing the Houston Chorus, and has attracted many outstanding singers into membership. Jenkins is full-time director of a church choir. Other reports describe him as a "second Geo. Campbell".

3

In 1938 when O. C. Cash invited 14 friends to get together for harmonizing, Chas. Pendleton was one who turned out. Later he moved to Kansas City where with aid of O. C. and "Puny" Blevens (Tulsa) he helped form the second SPEBSQSA chapter. Hearing that Pendelton had been ill, R. W. Gentzler, K. C. pres., recently organized a musical evening for him in which the Gamboliers and impromptu fours gave Pendelton such a shot in the arm that he joined in, though flat on his back.

Since the above was written, Pendleton died in mid-October.—Ed.

The analysis in this issue of costs and travel time to Oklahoma City's International next June is the work of "Rudy" Verderber, faithful and hard working Cleveland Chapter member who served two terms in that key position, chapter secretary. Professionally, Rudy is Chief Clerk of the Union Pacific office in Cleveland, and invaluable advisor to local boys with the urge to "Go West", several of whom report his Streamliners and Limiteds super-comfortable. His analysis includes plane and bus so that every condition can be served for the benefit of those planning to make the '48 pilgrimage.

#### HE OTTO KNOWN BETTER

When Associate Sec. Bill Otto went to Mio, Mich. to vacation with Harold Stark, past-pres. of Oakland Co. chapter, and the 3 others who constitute Three Corns and a Bunyan of the Pontiac Chapter, Otto admitted that he knew nothing about paddling a canoe. Proof that Bill's an honest man, and no canoeist, shows what happened when he paddled bow while Stark in the stern neglected steering to land a fish. A partly submerged stump landed them in the Au Sable river—blup! Bill is saving a few loose clothes that were in the canoe.



FOUNDER'S COLUMN

by O. C. Cash

In my column I have mentioned once or twice Ben "Butch" Edwards, formerly of Anchorage, Alaska. Ben has recently located in Tulsa as Vice President and General Manager of Tulairco, Inc., distributor of Ercoupe airplanes. Butch was the first Secretary of the first chapter of SPEBSQSA, and as such was first Secretary, you might say, of the national organization. At least he was de facto National Secretary and he and I, prior to setting up the national organization, sort of loosely handled all Society business. In addition to these distinctions, Butch is a very photogenic bass singer.

Butch put in several years flying for the Navy during the war. After his discharge from the Navy he went to Alaska and spent a couple of years in an igloo eating blubber and hobnobbing with the Eskimos. The Eskimo, he says, is about as musical as the walrus and he was glad to get back to Oklahoma among his old barber shop singing friends.

Butch heard about the San Gabriel Parade and suggested that he and I fly out to see the Brothers on the West Coast. In a moment of weakness I accepted the invitation, although it was rather embarassing for the World's Greatest Barber Shop Baritone to make a tour of the chapters with such a mediocre bass.

We left on September 30 and flew into Lubbock, Texas for lunch that

day. The Brothers at Lubbock threw a feed for us and held their regular meeting at noon of that day. Needless to say we enjoyed the hospitality of the Brothers immensely. The Lubbock Chapter is a live one and as everyone knows, the first one established in Texas.

The next day we made Phoenix, Arizona and spent the night there and the Brothers of that charming city pulled off a nice dinner and meeting that night, which we enjoyed very much. This chapter has two very fine quartets and they were both on hand and entertained us with some lively, unique and pleasant harmony.

The Parade at San Gabriel was a well planned and extremely entertaining event. Of particular interest to me was the splendid performance of the chorus. I have not heard very many of the choruses throughout the country, and I must not indicate any preference, but the singing of this group thrilled me to my toes. I won't say it is the best chorus of its size in our organization, but if other choruses are as good, or reach the degree of smoothness that this group exhibited, they are, or will be, almost perfect.

I don't suppose many of the Brothers have seen a First Secretary. They are an unusual, though amiable, breed and I observed on this flying trip that Butch was the center of interest. He and I have decided that when we get the time, we are going to fix up one of these sleek looking Ercoupes with pictures of quartets and the insignia of the Society plastered all over it, and spend three or four months flying from one chapter to another. The hospitality, good fellow-

ship, and cordiality that greeted us on all our stops was heartwarming and we are looking forward to another air trip at our first opportunity. Tulsa was honored the other day by a visit from our jovial Secretary, Carroll Adams. He was on his way back home from Oklahoma City, where he conferred with the Oklahoma City brethren concerning the national con-vention in June 1948. Carroll had only an hour or two in Tulsa between planes, but he did find time to bust a few with some of the Tulsa Brothers. Carroll assures me that the boys in Oklahoma City are going to put on a splendid Convention. At this event we expect a large delegation from the West Coast and the South-west. If you boys back North and East are curious about the brand and style of harmony the Brothers in the West have developed, you ought to attend this Convention. You will find that barbershoppers are all alike, whether in Kankakee or Kalamazoo. You won't be disappointed in the quality of harmony developed by these fellows out West.

I have been so busy putting up my second crop of hay and getting my hogs in shape for butchering and marketing that I came very near missing this issue of the Harmonizer. I am now ready for hog killing, after the first cold snap and frost. I have my hickory wood all prepared for the smoking process and any of you Brothers who happen along through Oklahoma after December I, just drop in and I will fix you up with some good old farm style smoked meat.

Hoping you are the same, I am OWEN.

#### WASHINGTON, D. C.'s "HARVEST OF HARMONY HUGE SUCCESS

Washington D. C.'s 1347 Harvest of Harmony, Constitution Hall, Oct. 24, played to a packed house and sent the audience away asking for more. Seldom have fine quartets been backed up by such complete planning and execution that started the show exactly on time and ended it within a half minute of the scheduled 10:45.

Seven local quartets, five guest quartets, the Washington chorus under Dr. Robert Howe Harmon and community

singing led by Thomas Needham of Milwaukee were programmed. Not on the program but assuring success was a perfect P. A. system, lighting effects which required 37 items of instructions and cues to electricians and spot operators, 18 items of scheduling ranging from 3 minute spots to 15 minute appearances of the chorus. At no time was the show more than 3 minutes off schedule after the welcome by Pres. Louis Metcalf.

Int'l. Sec. Carroll P. Adams introduced: The Capitolians, Harmony Hill Four, Metropolitan Police Quartet, Diplomats, Singing Squires, Profundo Four (4 basses), Potomac Clippers, all of Washington, the Station Wagon Four of Washington and Baltimore, the Withered Four, Paterson; Four Chords, Newark; Harmoneers, Baltimore; and the Int'l champion Garden State and Doctors of Harmony quartets.

The combination of drawing heavily upon fine local talent, "gilding the lily" with outside quartets, and welding all into a smooth running excelently staged affair affords a splendid pattern for other chapters to consider.



## "TIPPECANOE AND HARMONY TOO"

Here's how they looked in the opening number of Tippecanoe Chapter charter night, Sept. 27. Lafayette, Ind.

## Coast to Coast, - by Districts

News about District Contests and District Meetings

## OHIO DISTRICT INCLUDES SOUTHWESTERN PENNA.

At the request of the Ohio District Association of Chapters and the Pennsylvania Chapters involved the Int'l. Board's Executive Committee has changed the boundaries of the Ohio District to include Pittsburgh and East Liberty, plus such other S. W. Pa. Chapters as come along until such time as Pennsylvania has enough Chapters to form its own District. The District will be known as Ohio-Southwestern Pennsylvania.

#### HOT TEMPO SET BY CENTRALIA, MO. By H. T. White

A new record was certainly set by Centralia, Mo. in having their charter presented with the thermometer pushing 107 degrees, and Brothers, that's hot

The torrid heat of August 9th served only as a challenge to the 125 visiting members from Clayton, Kansas City, St. Louis, Hermann and Mexico, Mo. chapters who came as far as 165 miles to participate in the program. The event attracted 500 local residents and men from Moberly, Columbia and Fulton, Mo. who are interested in forming chapters.

The two-hour program of quartets and chapter choruses included a 125-member inter-chapter chorus directed by Dr. Norman H. Rathert of Clayton Chapter. The chorus received such an ovation that Rathert invited the audience "to feel the thrill of being part of a giant Barbershop chorus?" Spontaneously the entire audience stood and joined in several old favorites. Said one visitor, "I can't believe that your inter-chapter chorus never sang together before, it sounded too grand".

President H. E. Stone, Jr. and Secretary Ken R. Way, of the local chapter, should be commended on their excellent program arrangements and hospitality of their members in providing house-guest accommodations for visiting members. The example of this town of 2200 should encourage the formation of other small town chapters and be of signal interest to organized chapters in small communities planning a public attraction.

#### VELVATONES, BINGHAMTON CAPTURE CENTRAL-WESTERN N. Y. CONTEST

After singing their way through 21 quartets in the morning and afternoon preliminaries, the Velvatones, Binghamton-Johnson City Chapter, came through before 3300 interested listeners in U. of Rochester's Eastman Theatre Saturday night, October 25th, to take first place in the 2nd Annual Contest sponsored by the Central-Western New York District.

The other four quartets, which survived the preliminaries finished: 2nd—Frequently Flat Four, Warsaw; 3rd—Melo-Tones, Buffalo; 4th—Wal-Tones, Walton; 5th—Melody Mutilators, Genesee-Rochester.

Judges were Maurice Reagan, Pittsburgh; Don Webster and Carroll Pallerin, Cleveland, and Art Merrill, Schenectady. Past Int'l. Pres. Phil Embury, of Warsaw, served as clerk for the morning elimination, substituting for Int'l. Sec. Adams who flew in at noon from Washington, D. C., where he had attended the Parade the night before.

Preliminaries were held in the Powers Hotel as was the Afterglow.

Present to please the crowd at Eastman Theatre were the '47 Int'l. 4th Place Rock Island, Ill., Chordoliers, the Elastic 4, '42 Society champs, Garden State Quartet, '46 toppers and the '44 champion Harmony Halls. Furnishing a contrast in harmonies were the Melody Men, a Buffalo radio quartet.

District President, and Int'l. Board Member, Homer Scott, Geneva, gave full credit to the Rochester Chapter members for the very successful handling of the various events. Jack Harby of Rochester was general chairman.

Chuck Glover, of Jamestown, District Secretary, assisted.

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

## ONTARIO'S FIRST DISTRICT

On October 11 Delta Collegiate Auditorium, Hamilton, Ontario had a baptism of harmony, quartet style that is still echoing through Ontario. When the Int'l. champion Misfits of Chicago, totaled up the score sheets they found the Canadianaires, Windsor, in first place, The Cowling Brothers, Toronto, second, The Londonaires, third, The Cantabilaires, Sarnia, fourth, and the Regents, Toronto, in fifth place. Twelve quartets faced the judges. In addition to the above they were: The

addition to the above they were: The Four Blends, London; Ambitious City Four, Hamilton; Four Flats, Toronto; Bing Bang Boys, Hamilton; Campbell Brothers, Hamilton; The Deltones, Hamilton; and the Four Smoothies. Hamilton. The judges alternated between their duties and appearances as the featured quartet. (See their comment — "With the Int'l. Champions" page.)

Officers of the Ontario Ass'n. which sponsored the contest are: Hughbert J. Hamilton, Pres., George Stiven, Vice Pres., Charles E. B. Payne, Sec., and Alfred W. Neale, Treasurer.

#### N. E. DISTRICT CONTEST

by Stub Taylor, Schenectady
Singing "I'm Sorry, Dear" and "Sleepy
Hills of Tennessee", the Schenectady
Harmoneers captured the Northeastern District chanpionship from 13
competing quartets at Fair Haven
High School, New Haven, Conn., on
Oct. 18 before an audience of over 2,
000 fans. Second and third places were
taken by the Jolly Whalers and the
Neptuners, both of New Bedford,
Mass. The program, MCed by Int'l.
Historian Hal Staab, was rounded out
by the New Haven chorus. Judges
were Chairman Bill Holcombe, Paterson, N. J.; Joe Jones, New York City;
Ed. Spinnler, also of Paterson, and
Vic Ledeky of Newark. Henry Mereness, Oak Park, Ill., acted as secretary.

The Schenectady Harmoneers, a semifinalist in the 1946 Int'l. contest at Cleveland, have since reorganized with a new bari and a new bass, and now consist of Jim E. Cronin, tenor; Ed. G. Bauer, lead; Fred Callen, bari; and Ernie L. Deeker, bass. This quartet has been a popular favorite at many Eastern Parades.

At the afterglow at the Hotel Garde, following the contest, a half-hour program was recorded for Sunday P. M. broadcast on station WNHC.

#### MISSOURI INTER-CHAPTER CHORUS COLOSSAL



If you know your Missouri quartets you needn't strain an eye to pick out a lot of the top-notchers welded into this great state-wide chorus by Dr. Norman F. Rathert, Conductor. The picture shows some of the singers from Centralia, Mexico, Hermann, Clayton, St. Louis, and Kansas City.

#### DISTRICT CONTEST WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP



Ist—Central Western N. Y.—Velvetones, Binghamton-Johnson City. L. to R.—Bob Barnes, tenor; Gene Farrell, lead; Albert Tinney, bari; Francis McDonald, bass.

Below 2nd—Contral Western N. Y.—Frequently Flat Fonr, Warsaw. L. to R.—Bob Arnold, tenor; Bill Arnold, lead; Bud Litteer, bari; Bud Atwell, bass.



Below 2nd—Northeastern—Jolly Whalers, New Bedford. L. to R.—(front)—Ed Izmirian, bass; Bill Atwood, bari; (back) Ed Stetson, tenor; Bill Clarke, lead.



Ist — Northeastern — Harmooeers, Schenectady.
Back to front—Jim Cronin, tenor; Ed Bauer, lead;
Fred Callen, bari; Ernie Decker, bass.



1st-Ontario-Canadianaires, Windsor. L. to R.-Harold Podvin, lead; Harold Deadman, tenor; Syd Straw, bass; Earl Wood, bari.



2nd—Ontario—Cowling Brothers, Toronto. L. to R.—Alf, tenor; Bill, lead; Fred, barl; Byron, bass.



#### AS REPORTED TO THE INT'L. OFFICE THROUGH NOV. 1st

November 15—Buffalo, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Omaha, Nebr., Quartet Parade; Van Nuys, Calif., Charter Night; Sheboygan, Wis., Quar-

Calif., Charter Night; Sheboygan, Wis., Quartet Parade.
16—Aurora, Ill., Quartet Parade.
18—Longview, Texas, Charter Night.
19—Fort Wayne, Ind., Anniversary Banquet.
21—Belvidere, Ill., Fall Concert; Kitchener, Ontario, Ladies Night.
22—Louisville, Ky., Quartet Parade; Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Quartet Parade; Hartford. Conn., Quartet Parade; Parade; Lockport, N. Y., (tentative), Chartet Parade; Lockport, N. Y., (tentative), Chartet Parade; Seneca Falls, N. Y., Charter Night; Centralia, Mo., Quartet Parade.
27-28-29—Hollywood, Calif. (tentative), Quartet Parade.

Missouri, Variety Show.

27-28-29—Hollywood, Caur. teemassy.

tet Parade.

3-Hermann, Missouri. Variety Show.

29—La Grange, Illinois, Harvest of Harmony.

29—Dayton, Ohio, District Contest & Beard
Meeting; Madison, Wis., Quartet Parade.

30—Decatur, Ill., Quartet Parade.

State (Wilmington), Dela., Quartet Parade.

December 1-Marinette, Wis., Charter Night, 5-Massillon, Ohlo, Quartet Parade; Sturgis, 5—Massillon, Ohio, Quartet Parade, Mich., Quartet Parade.
6—Bay City, Mich., Quartet Parade; Walton, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Appleton, Wis., Minstrel Show; Pontiac, Mich., Quartet Parade; Cincinnati, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Gowanda, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Parade; Parade; Champaign-Urbana, Ill., Quartet Parade; Champaign-Urbana, Ill., Quartet Parade.

—Kendaliville, Ind., Charter Night, 10—Detroit Area Association—Bush League Contest. Contest.

13—Evansville, Ind., Quartet Parade; Gratiot
Co., Mich., Charter Night; Battle Creek, Mich.,
Quartet Parade. 17—Penns Grove, N. J., Quartet Parade. 29-30—Houston, Texas, Minstrel Show.

January 15-Three Rivers, Mich., Minstrel Show.

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

17—Redford Area (Detroit) Mich., Quartet Parade, 24—Canton, Ohio, Quartet Parade; York, Pa., Quartet Parade; Boyne City, Mich., Bush League Contest, 25—Park Ridge (Northwest Suburban), Ill., Quartet Parade, II—Cleveland, Ohio, Quartet Parade.

February 7—Indiana-Kentucky District (Munie, Ind.), District Contest; Dearborn, Mich.
Quartet Parade; Eugene, Oregon, District
Contest; Jersey City, N. J., Quartet Parade;
Tulsa, Okla, Quartet Parade,
13—Hamburg, N. Y., Quartet Parade,
14—Philadelphia, Pa. (tentative) District Conlest; Green Bay, Wis., Harmony Jubilee;
Findlay, Ohio, Quartet Parade,
21—Michigan District Contest, Kalamazoo;
Warren, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Milwaukee,
Wis., Quartet Parade,
12—Bloomington, Ill. (tentative), Quartet Parade, 78—Blooming. Callf., Quartet Parade: 78—Santa Monica, Callf., Quartet Parade. 29—Des Moines, Iowa (tentative), Quartet 29—Des Moines, Iowa (tentative), Quartet

March 6—Toronto, Ontario, Quartet Parade.
6—Elyria, Ohio, Quartet Parade.
13—Toledo, Ohio, Quartet Parade.
14—Jacksonville, Ill., Quartet Parade.
19—Holland, Mich., Quartet Parade.
20—Wanwatosa, Wis., Quartet Parade; Sarnia, Ontario, Quartet Parade Redford Area (Defroit), Mich., Ladies Night.
17—Muskegon, Mich., Quartet Parade.

April 3—Jamestown, N. Y., Quartet Parade.
3—Rockville, Conn., Quartet Parade.
3—4—Kansas City, Mo., Quartet Parade.
18—Grand Rapids, Mich., Great Lakes Invitational; Columbus, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Wichita, Kansas, Ladies Night.
16—Passaic, N. J., Quartet Parade.
17—Endicott, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Grosse Pointe, Mich. Itentative), Quartet Parade; Mariboro, Mass., Quartet Parade; Defance, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Defance, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Dayton, Ohio, Itentative), Quartet Parade.
25—Rock Island, Ill., Quartet Parade.
May I-2—Regional Preliminaries.
3—Appleton, Wis., Quartet Parade; Iron Mountain, Mich., Quartet Parade.
22—Rochester, N. Y., Quartet Parade.
22—Rochester, N. Y., Genesee) Quartet Parade.
22—Rochester, N. Y., Genesee) rade. 22-23—Terre Haute, Ind., Quartet Parade.

June 5-6—Peoria, Ill., Quartet Parade, 11-12—Oklahoma City, Okla., Convention.

#### "HELLO HAWAII"



Here are the officers of the recently chartered Honolula Chapter. L. to R.—Raymond L. Wright, V. P.; William D. Merrill, Pres.; Carl I. Flath, Sec. Treas. This is the first chapter organized outside continental U. S. and Canada, Merrill is a brother of Int'l. Pres. Charles M. Merrill.

#### BILL McKENNA SAYS . . .

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BABIES ON OUR BLOCK, The CONVICT AND THE BIRD, The DOWN ON THE FARM (Dubois) EILEEN ALANNA

MAGGIE MURPHY'S HOME OLD RUSTIC BRIDGE BY THE MILL, The

THROW HIM DOWN McCLOSKEY

WAIT 'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL

WE WERE SWEETHEARTS NELL AND I

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. . Keep Those Lists For Reference . .



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CHORDETTES
McPHEE THREE
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## "Packing a Year's Pleasure into Half A Day"

Writes Jack Briody bari of the Garden Staters: "On a Sunday afternoon in the merry month of October", yep, it was Sunday, October 5, 1947. Everything was calm and peaceful when the Chordettes, the Garden State Quartet, the Cavaliers of Bridgeport and Hal Staab boarded the 2:52 train from Northampton, but just as soon as everyone managed to grab a seat, someone hit a chord. That started the ball rolling.

First it would be Chordettes, then the Garden Staters, then the Cavaliers and then the entire gang. Hal Staab, who only came aboard to wish us farewell, became so engrossed that he had to stay put until he reached Holyoke, the first stop, 9 miles away. He left us with the strains of "He's a Jolly Good Fellow" ringing in his ears, and from where I sat it seemed as if that thing they call the lump might have been rising in the Maestro's throat.

The Cavaliers left us at Bridgeport reducing our group in number but not in spirit. The eight of us let the people in our coach have barbershopping till we arrived in New York. The only person on the train we could not convince our stuff was the best entertainment in the land was a ticket collector (who probably used pancake make-up and was afraid to smile for fear it might crack). He wasn't what you would call disagreeable, just a reasonable facsimile. Do you think that guy stopped us? He did not. He, Mr. New York, Mr. New Haven or Mr. Hartford could not stop that octet.

When we reached New York, Ted and Joe decided they would trek home-

#### CONDUCTS GREEN BAY



Russell Widoe, Program Dir., Station WJPG, and Director of Christ Episcopal Church Choir, is now new conductor of Green Bay, Wisc. Chorus. He formerly supervised choral and instrument music of Wayne (Neb.) public schools and was in charge of the Vocal Musical Dept., State Teachers College, Minot. N. D.

ward, but not Bob and me. We were not going to leave those four lovelies at the mercy of the wolves in that big town, so after the girls were in their hotel and everyone had freshened up a bit we visited Chandler's Restaurant and partook of some groceries, then, at my suggestion, we took a bus to Union City, N. J. The bus traveled via the Lincoln Tunnel and the gals who had not seen the tunnel before, received quite a kick (and I do mean kick, we all had to stand the entire way and received many a kick trying to get off). Arriving in Union City we visited two clubs and although there were not many people in either, the Chordettes really put on a program for those lucky enough to he present.

really put on a program for those lucky enough to he present. At Journal Square, Jersey City, Bob gave us the heave-ho and took a train home. Well, the girls (I thought) were getting a little tired by this time and I suggested we go back to New York. On the way back to the big city we went through the "Honald Tullen", at least that's what one of the Chordettes (I forget which one) called the "Holland Tunnel". Back in New York we stopped at a restaurant for coffee. The place was situated directly beneath a bowling academy. Well, that was all those gals had to hear for at 2:30 A. M. the four were bowling, and who do you think kept score. You guessed it. At 3:00 A. M., those dynamic kids gave a private concert on the corner of 44th and Lexington, for a guy named Jack. When I say "packing a year's pleasure in a half day," I'm putting it mildly.

#### WISCONSIN ASS'N. SHELL

Wisconsin Association is fortunate to have a specially built quartet shell done in the plant of the Phoenix Chair Co., Sheboygan, at less than cost, through the efforts of J. A. Sampson, Sec. and co-founder of Sheboygan Chapter. The Ass'n makes the shell available for use by member chapters and it can be borrowed by neighboring chapters across the state border when not in use in Wisconsin. Two hinged boxes house the shell. Write Sampson, c/o Phoenix Chair Co.

NOTE: The Int'l. Office can furnish

NOTE: The Int'l. Office can furnish specifications of either the Wisconsin or the Chicago Chapter shell to any District Association or chapter wanting to own its own.

#### SCARBO ILLUSTRATES

George Scarbo who did the tricky little illustrations for "Boardman Bellows" in this issue, draws the Comic Zoo, Sunday feature for NEA Service, Cleveland. He is also a caricaturist of people in the news. He animates news maps, illustrates magazine pages and turns out special features.

Most important, however, Scarbo sings tenor with three other NEA men, whose quartet is the "Sema-four", an aggregation that is coming along very fast in the Cleveland chapter.

#### SPEBSQSA SWELLS MARCH OF DIMES



#### QUARTETS JAILED AFTER PARADE AT HORNELL!

The mystery of—where did the Garden State Quartet disappear to about 1:30 A. M. on September 28th — was finally solved when a night policeman strolled into the Sherwood Hotel, complaining that too few people were enjoying the wonderful "noise" coming from cell 13 at the jail. It seems that Jack, Bob, Ted and Joe were asked to stop at the Moose Club after the parade to sing a few—and, as usual, once they got warmed up, they wouldn't stop, and much to their dismay, they found out too late that noise—good or bad—must cease at 1 o'clock, so they were taken to the hooscgow by two of Hornell's finest . . When the news about their predicament reached us, all being ardent and loyal brothers, we went to their rescue and "woe was us"—they locked us all up, including the Westinghouse Four, the Melotones, Silver Dollars, and Melody Mutilators. The protests were numerous and beautiful — the blended harmony and blended "ahem" was perfect, and finally about 4 A. M., the night captain decided to let us all go so as he could get some sleep. Ho Hum.

P. S. Needless to say, we all thank

P. S. Needless to say, we all thank the Hornell Police Dept. for being such grand hosts.

#### TUNE TWISTERS TWIST TUNE



These Oak Park, Ill, boys do a lot of missionary work among new chapters and inject plenty of good harmony into inter-chapter relations. L. to R.—Bob Haeger, tenor, Dir. of Chorus in "Q" and Jollet; Dick Svanoe, bari, Chorus Dir., Oak Park; Ward Solberg, bass; George Adams, lead.

A New Haven (Conn.) newspaper used this picture with this caption: "Harmony Pays Off as officers of the local chapter of the SPEBSQSA... present 7,000 dimes to Ed Streile, chairman of the March of Dimes drive. L-R: Charles Bristol, Sec.; Nick Cirie, v.p.; Streile; Jack Emerson, pres., and Art Johnson, treasurer."

The presentation was a part of Ladies Night, held as a reward for the "barbershop widows" who've waited for their harmonizing mates. The 7,000 dimes was "the largest contribution made by any organization, business or individual in the city" according to Chairman Streile. The money was raised by a Parade held last spring in a local high school.

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#### "A PLEA TO A SPONSORING CHAPTER"

т<del>от под применения в применени</del>

Dear Mom:

A couple of years ago, a number of your kids wandered off into the prairies and started the Podunk Chapter. We weren't mad at you, Mom. We had no bones to pick with the other kids. But your roost was becoming more crowded. There were in addition, a lot of other kids in the neighborhood—swell kids, Mom, who were peeking through the fence, who just couldn't get in. Knowing of your loyalty to the Society, we thought we could help you. Perhaps at times Mom, we didn't do exactly as you might have wanted us to do, but we kept trying.

You will agree that no good mother will complerely forsake her flock. She'll step out into the yard occasionally to see if one of us hasn't stubbed his toe, or fell into the creek, or got into a fight with another kid. We don't want to complain Mom, but we are a bit burt. Some of the kids like Jack, Jimmy, Joe and Ed do drop in from time to time. On Sunday January 3rd, we are going to put on a little show. It won't be as grand as some of your extravaganzas, but Mom, it's our show. Won't you plan to come and visit with us—and bring along Frank and Roy and Huck and the other 250 kids? We'll be forever grateful.

Your kids of Podunk,

H. M. "Hank" Stanley Secretary

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## THE OLD SONGSTERS

#### by Sigmund Spaeth

AT the suggestion of the editors and the executives of the Society, I am devoting my space this time to the discussion of an organization that is of great importance to all of us, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, generally known as ASCAP. (Luckily they have

a pronounceable set of initials, which

we do not, and don't kid yourself into thinking any different.)

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is exactly what its name indicates, a co-operative, non-profit-making organization of the copyrighted music of the United States of America, affiliated with similar organizations in other countries. In general these organizations are called "performing right societies", and among them they control the public performance (for profit) of most of the copyrighted music in the world today.

The word "authors" refers to those who write the words of songs, etc., while "composers" obviously means those who write the music. (Sometimes hoth functions are fulfilled by the same person.) The Society (ASCAP) is made up of recognized professionals in the field of published music and may properly be compared with such organizations as the American Medical Association and the Bar Association. It is not intended as a training-ground for amateurs, nor is it interested in any music that does not represent either a commercial value or a clear and unmistakable prestige.

The members of ASCAP are classified according to these values, as represented in their work, with "standard" or serious compositions receiving more credit than popular numbers, and due regard also for seniority of membership, quality as well as volume of product and consistent "activity" in the sense of frequent public performances. Every member receives a quarterly check representing royalties for such performances. The amount varies according to the current receipts of the Society, but is based upon a guaranteed minimum, fixed by the member's classification. (The top classification, which includes the authors and composers whose work presumably earns most of the money paid to

the Society, produces an income of \$16,000 per year, with possible bonuses up to \$4,000 more.)

This income is derived from blanket licenses issued to those who make use of copyrighted music for their own profit. This applies to radio, theatres, restaurants, night clubs, hotels, concert halls, etc. The cost of a license is determined by the amount of music required by the licensee in the course of a year and is always made as reasonable as possible. It is important to realize that an ASCAP licensee is given legal permission to make unlimited use of all the copyrighted music controlled by the Society, both here and abroad, representing the work of nearly 50,000 composers. The flat sum paid annually for such a license, if broken down to possible individual performances, represents a cost of only a fraction of a cent every time a copyrighted number is played.

Attacks have been made on ASCAP ever since its inception, chiefly by people or business and political organizations that either misunderstood its objectives or deliberately tried to break the copyright law which is the foundation of the Society. This law. which was passed in 1897, declares absolutely and unequivocally that no one shall use for his own profit the copyrighted musical or literary work of any creator without the owner's permission. The law does not state what the rate of payment for such commercial use should be, leaving this to a mutual agreement between the owner and the user, but it exacts heavy penalties for the deliberate or even accidental theft of such property.

In spite of the clear intentions of the copyright law, it was practically ig-nored by the users of copyrighted music until the formation of ASCAP in 1914, seventeen years after the law had been passed. The leading spirit in the creation of the Society was the late Victor Herbert, who found that the music of his operettas was being played without permission at a restaurant just around the corner from the theatre where he was conducting and where customers were charged admission to hear the same music. The restaurant argued that Herbert's music did not represent a direct profit, to which the obvious answer (finally supplied by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the Supreme Court) was that if it were not profitable, they would not play it. The fact that so simple a matter of law and ethics had to be fought out in all the courts up to the Sureme Court itself amounted to a frank admission on the part of all the users of copyrighted music that they intended to break the law forever if they could get away with it.

This disregard of the law continued even after ASCAP had heen solidly established, and the Society is still plagued by totally unjustified litigation, all based on the apparent belief that if someone writes a song or a play or a book, anyone at all should have the right to make a profit from this copyrighted work in whatever way is convenient. Radio's famous boycott of ASCAP, which brought the broadcasting of music to an all-time low, was caused by the refusal of the broadcasters to negotiate a new contract which would have been mutually satisfactory. The mere convenience of using ASCAP as a clearing-house. saving an enormous amount of detail and book-keeping, would in most cases have made the routine license worth while. To claim that ASCAP is a monopoly is absurd, for the greatest music in the world is in the "public do-main," unrestricted by copyright and free to every user. When a radio sponsor or a public place of entertainment insists on using copyrighted music, it is obviously because that is the kind of music that brings in a profit.

ASCAP has shown a particularly courteous and co-operative spirit toward SPEBSQSA. The late John G. Paine assured our Society that ASCAP music could always be performed by our quartets in public, since we are considered an altruistic and non-commercial organization. This does not mean that copyrighted music can be copied and distributed without the permission of the individual publishers. The President of ASCAP is Deems Taylor, who serves without pay. The Society's address is 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

#### YE COLONIAL FOUR

Fort Wayne's Colonial Four giving with sweet songs at July 17 sing fest. L. to R.—Herman Martin, tenor; Dave Irwin, lead; Int'l. Bd. Member Ted Haberkorn, bari; Walter Rosselot, bass.



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



# Thanks!



"REVEREND"

<b>ЈМВО</b> "	1





"BUTCH"	"B	U1	CI	H"
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TAKK	TO EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY	DANK
	TO EACH INTERNATIONAL OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER Thanks!	
EN	TO THE MEMBERS OF ELKHART CHAPTER AND TO THE OFFI- CERS, PAST AND PRESENT, OF INDIANA-K'Y. DISTRICT ASS'N. Thanks!	
SCHOEN	TO THE MEMBERS OF MILWAUKEE CHAPTER	
DONKER	TO THE MEMBERS OF COMPETING QUARTETS	CIAS
DO	TO OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS WHO BORE WITH US THROUGH THE YEARS, THO' DOUBTLESS OFTEN BORED	GRACIAS
<u></u>	TO THE MANY MEMBERS WHO'VE AIDED MATERIALLY IN SO VERY MANY WAYS SINCE JUNE	
BEAUCOUP	TO THE STAFF OF THE INT'L. OFFICE WHOSE PATIENT ASSISTANCE HAS PROVED INDISPENSABLE	
MERCI BE/	TO THOSE MANY CHAPTERS WHO'VE SHOWN THEIR KEEN INTEREST AND PRIDE IN THE SPEBSQSA "Champs" BY INVITING US FOR THEIR PARADES AND OTHER EVENTS	SPASIBO!
	TO ONE AND ALL WHO ARE HELPING TO MAKE OUR YEAR AS "CHAMPS" THE FINEST YEAR OF OUR LIVES	-,

DZIEKI!

GRAZIE!

## DOCTORS OF HARMONY

"Jumbo" Smith, tenor "Junior" Cripe, lead

"Butch" Hummel, bari "Reverend" Kidder, bass



#### SHOW YOUR COLORS

The automobile plate, which is a money saver according to Jack Wells, ("Keep Posted" this issue), costs 50c. In the middle is the Zippo lighter. The Zippo lighter will set you back \$3.00 while saving matches and time lost looking for them. The automobile window decal is yours for two bits, and the celluloid identification badge (lower left) is 70c. All of these items have been described in detail in the HARMONIZER. Lighters can be ordered direct from the Int'l. office, one or more lighters. The other 3 items should be ordered through the chapter secretary, not less than 3 items to an order. Better still, bear down on your chapter secretary to put in a small stock of the 3 inexpensive items to take care of new members and replace-

#### SECRETARY WRITES LETTER

M. J. Anderson, Founder and Sec. of Ludington, Mich. Chapter, leaving that city for Lansing, writes:

"This letter is to me a milestone marking two very important events . . . Both are concerned with SPEBSQSA. First in importance . . . is this partial report of the first quartet parade staged by Ludington Chapter. It was a grand success. Second, is the fact that this will be perhaps the last letter I shall be privileged to direct to you, in the capacity of Secretary of the Ludington Chapter . . . I am deeply grateful for the encouragement and understanding assistance you have so promptly extended to me at the slightest indication of need. Thanx."

#### SPRINGFIELD, O.-CHARTERED



Nelson T. White, past Pres. of Columbus, O. Chapter and Ohio District Ass'n., presents the Clark County Chapter charter to Pres. D. W. Welday (left). Columbus sponsored the new chapter.

#### ORPHAN JOINS DISTRICT FAMILY

The Central States Ass'n. District now includes New Mexico and its four chapters at Albuquerque, Carlsbad, Las Vegas and Santa Fe.

#### Pacific-Northwest

Absence of Swipes from this area is the result of Herb Molchior's illness.



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#### SAN GABRIEL EXECS.

#### Far-Western Sunshine

by Dick Schenck

The Far West is taking to barbershop like finding a long lost friend Santa Rosa, Calif., sponsored a Quartet Contest at Sonoma County Fair, ten quartets participated and contest was won by Golden Statesmen of San Francisco a wide awake chapter which reports increased interest being built by aiding other organizations in staging programs. The Golden Statesmen also came out on top in a contest (not SPEB) at the Calif. State Fair at Sacramento, Calif. . . Sharp Four of Sacramento busy making appearances at hospitals and civic clubs pearances at nospitals and civic cities... Several new chapters being organized in the Bay Region. Long Beach, Calif., busy on a membership drive and steadily growing. Their chorus kept on the go filling engagements for picnics and Veterans Hospitals. Had a beach party for all members and their families and finished the evening with an impromptu contest. After entertaining at the All States picnic the chorus and four quartets went to the U.S. Naval Hospital and spent the rest of the day singing in all parts of the hospital . . . El Monte, Calif. slowly gaining speed . . Tri City (Maywood) had its first parade on Sept. 20. Int'l President Chas. Merrill MCed a program of sixteen quarrill MCed a program of sixteen quartets... On the coast we find Santa Monica keeping Three Old Men and a Boy on the go filling demands. West-coasters also going to town. Hollywood, Calif. high light of the quarter was the appearance of the Terre Haute, Ind. Chapter Chorus accompanied by the McPhee Three, a swell show and we hope for more. Hollywoodsmen and High Sierranaders giving all the time they can spare to ing all the time they can spare to Veterans and civic groups. Presented charter to newest bahy, Inglewood. Busy making plans for Hollywood Parade to be held Nov. 26, featuring the Int'l Champs, the Doctors of Harmony . . . Inglewood, Calif., Hollywood's baby is outgrowing its papa. Foxy Four and 24 Feet of Harmony are spreading the word around those parts and we look for an outstanding parts and we look for an outstanding chapter there soon. Vau Nuys is having its charter presentation on Nov. 15... Glendule, Calif. is the sponsor of this new group... San Gabriel, Calif. had a Family night, July 21, with 325 present. Chorus from Terre Haute, Ind. Chapter under leadership of Carl Jones, McPhee Three from Joliet, Ill. and The Minor Chords from Terre Haute gave us a grand show and it was a treat as well as an education for all those who attended. cation for all those who attended. Celebrated a full year of broadcasting for the Society in Sept. Entire chapter spent most of its time preparing for our Second Annual Parade of Quartets, Oct. 3 and 4, at which San Gabriel made Far Western history. The Mission Playhouse seating 1500 was mission Playhouse seating 1900 was sold out both nights. Seventeen quartets from Far Western District participated with San Gabriel. The show was MCed by Hal Peary (Great Gildersleeve) of radio fame. Chas. Merrill led the grand finale. The gala waskend was started off by a party weekend was started off by a party for the visiting wives and members on Friday nite, while parade was in progress. Saturday an open House was held concurrent with a Far-Western



Here is the executive committee taken on the night of the Parade. L. to R., they are Ted Hughes, George Matsen, Paul Oberg, Ralph Clapp, Hal Peary (Great Gildersleeve), Bill Williams, Dick Schenck, Russ Stanton, L. Dwight Weld.

District board meeting. The San Gabriel Chapter and Far-Western District were honored to have as their guests for the week end, Int'l Pres. Chas. M. Merrill, Founder O. C. Cash who flew out from God's country (Oklahoma) he ealls it, Int'l Board member Russ Stanton, and Far-Western Dist. Pres. Jack Hare of San Francisco . . Late flash reports from Phoenix, Ariz.

Holding a parade on Feb. 21, also visited Chandler, Ariz. to get a chapter started there. Reno, Nevada—Bonanza Four appeared at San Gabriel Parade and kept up an increasing schedule of engagements. Hopes to have an auditorium soon for parade. . . . Pasadena, Calif. just getting under way again after vacations but has great plans for the future.

#### BARBERSHOP RECORDINGS

DIII(DEI(DIIOI I(II)OI(DII	100
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Four record set, Flying L Ranch Quartet Check should be made out and mailed to Harry L. Hall, 915 Dewey Avenue, Bartlesville, Okla.	\$7.50 F.O.B. Bartlesville
Three record set, Four Harmonizers  Check should be made out to S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc., and mailed to International Secretary's Office, 18270 Grand River Avenue, Detroit 23, Mich.	Delivered \$5.68
Three record set, Harmony Halls Check should be made out and mailed to Harmony Halls, 214 Houseman Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Mich.	Delivered \$6.75
Three record set, Mid-States Four Check should be made out and mailed to Forrest E. Haynes, 2174 Giddings, Chicago, Ill.	Delivered \$3.50

## HOW CAN I LEAVE THEE



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## "WHAT MAKES" WITH AMERICAN MUSIC

As president of the Composers-Authors Guild, Geoffrey O'Hara ("The Old Songs") is qualified to know "what makes" in native American music. This charter member and first president of Manhattan (N. Y.) Chapter says, "Mark my words, our serious music is in a mess" meaning that the music business is so well organized today that the public buys just about what music management plans for the public to buy.

This verifies the statements in a recent Saturday Review of Literature article in which authors Moore and Lang say: "You buy something planned to sell in fifty thousand lots over a few months... Do you want to huy a serious composition by an American composer? ... Even those which struggled into being and sold out, but not in three months, are abandoned in the scramble for big money. How can there be a demand for music which is never given a chance to beat a path to familiarity?"

Musicians are highly pleased at comment from high places such as President Truman's: "I believe that we all have a patriotic obligation to advance the music of our own country. But Americans cannot be in a position to judge of the merit of American works unless they have opportunity to hear them and judge for them-



Geoffrey O'Hara

selves." But favorable activity in that direction is possible, says the Moore-Lang article, "only when the pressure is high" from the citizenry itself. At any rate SPEBSQSA continues to "preserve and encourage."

See the International Directory of Chapters—back pages.

#### HARMONY AT "THE HUB"

Boston, the last large city in the United States to succumb to the barbershop bug, finally yielded on September 23, when an enthusiastic group of over 200 attended an organization meeting and voted to apply for a Charter.

The list of officers reads like a Who's Who in New England: President, Robert Friend of "Friend's Beans"; Vice President, Wesley Enman, Past Governor of Kiwanis in New England; Secretary, Robert Norris of the Yankee Network; Treasurer, Ken Gieringer of the radio team of "Ken and Ca olyn". With that line-up Boston will make up in action what it lost in delay.

Preliminary contacts in Boston were made by Ed Place of Washington, and Vice President Charles Ricketts of the Northeastern District. New Bedford, the sponsoring chapter, had charge of the meeting and three of their quartets, the Neptuners, Jolly Whalers and the Smoothies, demonstrated in a most efficient manner how it is done. Not since the synthetic Indians howled at the Boston tea party has Boston heard such volume as when the whole group of 250 bean eaters blasted out "I Had a Dream, Dear" and "The Old Songs". Past Int'l. President Hal Staab in describing the singing, said that the chandeliers of the Kenmore Hotel, and his rheumatic old knees, quivered and shook in sheer delight.



## SINGLE RECORDS \$2.00 each Prepaid We have a limited number of Single Records, available only as follows:

"Mandy and Me"

"You Don't Seem Like the Girl I Used to Know"

"The Lord's Prayer"

"I Love You the Best of All"

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MADE BY R. C. A.

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Every Barbershopper will appreciate. 3-12" Non-breakable Plastic Records

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## 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.

#### MISFITS CHARMED BY CANADA

E. V. (Cy) Perkins, reporting for the Misfits, became practically ecstatic in describing the courtesies and gracious hospitality extended to the '45 champions when the four judged the Ontario District Contest at Hamilton, Oct. 11. "It was a new experience", he says, "to go into another country and be treated as if they'd known us always". In fact it didn't seem like "another country" to them. "'Twas just like a home-coming".

From the time they were met at the train they were among friends. Their only regret: That rehearsal made it impossible for them to attend the afternoon District business meeting.

Cy mentions the courtesies of district Pres. "Siz" Hamilton and secretary Chas. E. B. Payne as typical of the pleasant atmosphere throughout "including a beautifully conducted Afterglow".

He adds, "Those Canadian boys seem to be born with good judgment (look at their wives) and they're gentlemen, all".

#### STRUBLE REPORTS FOR ELASTICS

"I don't remember the exact place we were headed for, but we were in the parlor car on the train and had ordered refreshments. All of us were at the rear of the car, all except Roy Frisby. He was at the front talking to the steward.

"He asked the steward what Jim Doyle our bari had ordered and the steward said, "Presbyterian", so Roy told the steward (after slipping him a buck) to give Jim a glass of milk, that Jim couldn't control himself when under the effects of a Presbyterian, and would become violent, noisy and insulting. He also told the steward that Jim would insist on his drink, might even threaten him, hut not to give Jim anything to drink but milk. "Well, the steward had accepted Roy's bribe so he brought Jim a glass of milk. Jim of course insisted on a Presbyterian but the steward said he had been warned to serve only milk to the man with the heavy head of hair, so-on the entire trip-while others were enjoying highballs, Jim was drinking milk, which is rather tough for that Irishman to swallow.'

The Flatfoot Four, '40 Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Four Harmonizers, '43 Chicago, Ill.

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

#### HALL HAS HARMONY HALL

Ray Hall of the Harmony Halls informed this column that there was no "news worth mentioning" about the quartets activities. Not to be stumped, the Harmonizer operatives, scores of them, poured into Grand Rapids area and in not less than four minutes or over six discovered that Ray had been too busy building a new home, with aid of brothers Harold and Gordon and an uncle, to think about news from the champs.

Bob Hazenberg and Ed Gaikema attest that the new home is fitted out with a rehearsal-rumpus room that's a honey, and big enough for an audience and the private concert which this department hopes to wangle out of Ray when the utilities are turned

#### "BUSY DOCTORS"

Max E. ("Junior") Cripe says that the Doctors of Harmony have found the life of a champion to be a very busy one. Within a very short time after winning the Int'l. championship at Milwaukee this year the Doctors had 52 bookings that take them through to June '48. As of October, many of these had been filled, but additional dates still kept the score at 52 to be completed during the Society's fiscal year.

The Chordbusters, '41 Tulsa, Okla.

The Harmony Halls, '44 Grand Rapids, Mich.

> The Doctors of Harmony, '47 Elkhart, Indiana

#### BARFLIES RE-UNITED

Herman E. Kaiser, bass of Bartlesville Barflies, believes the true barbershopper needs no notice of a barbershop singing session. "He can smell it a great distance", says Herman who hastens to add that it's not the quality of the singing but the presence of his kind that the barbershopper detects in the air. (An inveterate will even tunnel under or through concrete walls—Ed.).

This is apropos of the get-together of the original Barflies who have been scattered. Three of the originals were active in the revitalization of the Bartlesville Chapter in September. Geo. McCaslin, now living in McAlester, had no knowledge of the meeting but "something" told him to be in Bartlesville on that evening, and he went to that meeting like a homing pigeon. The presence of the first Int'l. Champions, Founder O. C. Cash, the local Harmoniacs, the Arkansas City Firemen and plenty of impromptu fours made a grand evening for Pres. Colopy and the 125 who met at Civic Center.

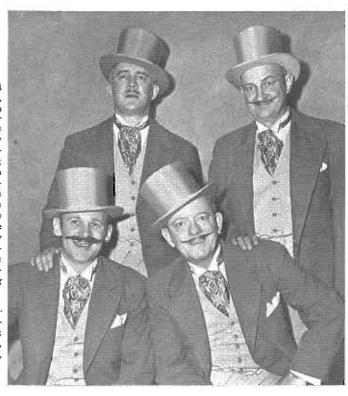
#### "ASYLUMS RUN BY MISFITS"

Huck Sinclair, bari of the 4 Harmon izers lovingly clipped a newspaper head "State Asylums Run by Misfits" and sent it to them.

#### ELASTIC'S NEW OUTFITS

A vision of sartorial splendor, (circa 1887). are the Elastics in their pearl gray toppers, periwinkle blue frock coats, yellow weskits, paisley ascots, and high slung trou, In 1942 when they won the top honors, the Elastics started a trend in quartet wear when they appeared in the then revolutionary two tone sport costumes, so don't be surprised if they succeed in reversing things again.

L. to R. (front)— Herman Struble, tenor; Jim Doyle, bari; (rear) Roy Frisby, lead; Frank Thorne, bass.





# The Corn Belt Chorus Salutes John Hanson

For more than five years a man who lives and breathes barbershop harmony has travelled the highways and by-ways of the Corn Belt of Illinois, bringing with him untold enjoyment to hundreds of SPEBSQSA memhers and to thousands and thousands of delighted listeners at Barbershop concerts.

That man is John Hanson, director of the Corn Belt Chorus, whose genius as a Barhershop director and composer is known wherever Barbershoppers congregate.

Members of the ten chapters composing the Corn Belt Chorus take this means of publicly expressing appreciation to their director—whom they stoutly maintain is the world's best—for the pleasure and enjoyment he has given to them and to the residents of their several communities.

So to you, John, we say: "Many thanks, our friend. May your days be many, and may they all be filled with 'close harmony' and with never a discordant note".

### Member Chapters of the Corn Belt Chorus

Bloomington — Canton ,— Champaign-Urbana — Charleston

Decatur — Galesburg — Jacksonville — Mattoon — Monmouth — Princeton



#### FOUR TIMES AS MUCH FUN . . .

Said the Christian Science Monitor in reporting Milwaukee convention: "What happened in Milwaukee should happen to everybody, because it just goes to prove that people have more fun than anybody, and that, mathematically, quartets have four times as much fun as people."

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#### COSTUMES GET COMMENT . . .

The Milwaukee Journal Roto Section, July 20, carried pictures of the Antlers from Flint, Mich. and the Four Naturals, New Haven. A girls quartet, the Chordettes from Sheboygan, were also pictured in Gay 90's attire. Appropriate backgrounds of "the good old days" were Milwaukee Public Museum exhibits.

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#### TOUGH COMPETITION . . .

From Chicago Journal of Commerce, June 17: "Before an audience of 6,250 . who, themselves, had just let loose a flood of extemporaneous harmonies on a marvelous mammoth-scale version of "Let The Rest of The World Go By," the four straw-skimmered champs from Elkhart, Ind. bore down . . . It was anything but an easy decision. It took twelve judges to tally all the points for such things as musical arrangement, harmony accuracy, voice expression, stage presence, costumes, etc., and the job was doubly difficult considering that the five finalists already had survived eight sectional contests with 139 quartets competing, a preliminary tilt with 30 contestants; and the semifinals with 15 groups still in the running.

"You have to be pretty good at those swipes to stand up against that kind of competition. You also have to get a lot of fun out of singing. The SPEBSQSA does, and that's its reason for being. Off-hand, can you think of a better one? C. P."

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#### SWEEPING MOVEMENT ROLLS . . .

We read in the Jasper, Ind. Daily Herald—"For years the public sighed for a revival of the good old songs of yesteryear rendered in the style of "ye olde barber shoppe," with improvised harmony . . Well, somebody finally decided to do something about it, and one of the mightiest movements of the Twentieth Century, the crusade to revive and preserve the art of barbershop quartet singing, has started to roll over the country, sweeping along everything in its path . . ."

#### PLATTERS FLATTERED . . .

The July 26 Billboard carried a story outlining Wurlitzer's plans for manufacturing records-in part as follows: "Further supporting the theory is the material and talent selected for the first album. Bob McCloud went out to Milwaukee June 13 and 14 to attend the annual convention of SPEBSQSA and recorded the quartet which won the international championship, as well as the four other foursomes who were finalists in the championship warble meet held at the confab. Champ quartet takes both sides of one disk. with the other groups each taking one side of the remaining two platters. Album is three records (six sides) and will retail for \$3.60 including tax and postage. Tunes include standard harmony items such as Old Black Joe, Mississippi Moon, Freckles, No One Knows and Mother. Interesting aspect of the package is that all tunes are done entirely a capella (without instrumental backing of any kind, since this is standard barbershop practice) . Wurlitzer is looking for a terrific initial sales impact from its tie-up with the SPEBSQSA. It is running a full-page ad in the org's monthly mag-azine, The Harmonizer and expects to write considerable business from the outfit's 350 chapters and 19,000 mem-(Sixty-five hundred turned up in Milwaukee for the recent confab and championship singfest)"...

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#### DANGEROUS AVOCATION . .

The Schenectady Union-Star, July 17 reported that in Olean, N. Y. "A barbershop harmony chorus literally brought down the house here. The members sang so hard that chunks of plaster fell from the ceiling during rebearsal at the community meeting room. Nobody was hurt."

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#### "SHARP" REPORTING . . .

Commenting on Semi-finals, Milwaukee Sentinel reported: "Finals Bring Barber Sharps to Close Harmony Tonight." An intelligently factually handled report of the affair followed.

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#### PUNS WITH YOUR HAMBURG . . .

A foursome is getting mighty popular. The cover of the August issue of "Meat Merchandising" used a quartet of butchers singing, "Meat Me In St. Louie" as a come-on for the Meat Dealers' Convention.

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#### GET 2 MORE . . .

From the Detroit Free Press "SPEBSQSA Boasts 807½ Quartets in State." Nearly 10 years ago a Tulsa attorney, O. C. Cash, came up with a gag. . . It turned out to be a wonderful gag. Today there are 22,000 members—enough to whip together 5,500 quartets—and America has fallen in love again with all the old songs. What's more Michigan is the bulwark of four-man harmony . . . Everybody belongs from President Truman . . .

#### "GOT NO GALS" . . .

Several days after the above appeared in the Detroit Free Press Mark Beltaire of the same paper wrote "SPEBSQSA Pines but Not for Adelines... Since the Free Press piece on the boom in barbershop quartets, the headquarters of the SPEBSQSA has been bombarded with phone calls from women who want to join and organize quartets. The boys return a politely firm "No". The ladies may have taken over the barber shop, Associate Sec. W. L. Otto concedes, but they shall not invade the barbershop quartet."

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#### ARE YOU WITHDRAWN? . . .

Wrote Harry McCrea of the Canton Repository. "It's a handsome, slick-paper magazine that's put out by the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., which has taken the long-title record away from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The society seems to be especially strong throughout the Midwest, Stark County having ample representation. Barbershop quartet singing is healthy, wholesome recreation and comes under the heading of homemade music. Barbershop quartets are developers of lung-power and camaraderie. They provide remedial recreation for introverts and for people who are becoming "withdrawn" as psychiatrists say."

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#### THE AYES OF TEXAS . . .

The Houston Post devoted a page to pictures and a story about the Houston chapter. It said in part "To the tender strains of "My Wild Irish Rose," "A Bicycle Built for Two" and other ditties of the Gay Nineties, 200 Houstonians gather twice monthly to revive a lost art. The art is the close-harmony singing of the barbershop quartet... The Houston Chapter was organized last year by Walter R. Jenkins, director of music at the First Methodist church, and W. H. Anderson."

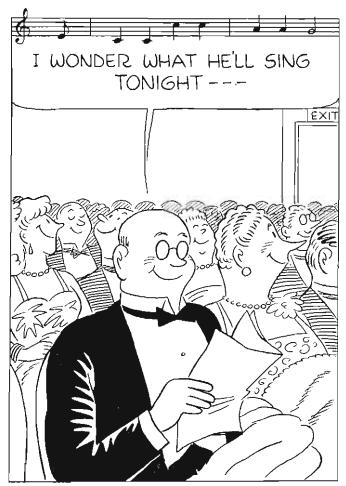
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#### WHAT IS A "BAD" QUARTET . , .

"Getting Lift as Part of a Chord" by Charles W. Duke in Everybody's Weekly, The Philadelphia Inquirer, reads in part "That humming in the ears you are experiencing these days may be reverberations of barber shop quartets. It may come from the re-cently-established Philadelphia Chap-ter of SPEBSQSA... Until recently the mention of barbershop harmony made thoughts skip backward . But in 1938 those memories and melodies were shaken from their long Sleep . . Then it was that Owen C. Cash, a Tulsa, Okla., tax attorney . . . formed the SPEBSQSA . . . Today the Society has 359 chapters in the United States and Canada, with more than 20,000 members, including Pres. Truman . . . As in other fields of musical endeavor, there are good, mediocre and bad barbershop singers. But be they good, mediocre or bad, the men of the SPEB have fun . . ."









#### BARBERSHOP BAFFLERS No. 15

Compiled by Charles M. Merrill, Int'l Pres.

The name of this game is: "Nail that neuter pronoun." What's the "it" the song writers are talking about? If you can spot the song title, you're in.

- 1. "Mine was the best, for it was of you."
- "I found it the source of an exquisite pleasure, the purest and sweetest that nature can yield."
- 3. "It stood ninety years on the
- 4. It goes down, down, down but nobody knows where it goes."
- 5. "She wore it fur her lover who was fur, fur away."
- 6. "Softly it wove itself into our dream."
- "It flooded the crimson twilight like the close of an Angel's Psalm."
- 8. Through life it shall be a loved treasure to me."
- 9. 'It will not hold us all."
- 10. "Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam; in full glory reflected now shines on the stream."

(See page 33 for answers)

# MALE QUARTET

IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW

IDA, SWEET AS APPLE CIDER

MY GAL SAL

DOWN SOUTH

LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING

WHERE THE SUNSET TURNS THE OCEAN'S BLUE TO GOLD

Price 20c each

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## BATTLE OF THE GIANTS

Founder's Column Starts Riot

When Founder O. C. Cash wrote in his August column that Director Jean Boardman was "just a little too refined and restrained on the baritone" in singing with the Station Wagon Four at Milwaukee, he laid himself open to retaliation in Sharp Notes, the news sheet of Washington, D. C Chapter. Boardman, took exception to Cash's statement that a good bari "must slap his kids around, whip his wife, and be aggressive generally".

Wrote Boardman: "If any new member accidentally should read the Founder's Column in the current issue of the Harmonizer he will be horrified at the way that old chordthief, Owen Cash, has attempted to undermine public confidence in the baritone singing of your secretary. For years Owen glued himself onto the title of World's Best Baritone by virtue



of a royal decree issued from the throne of the Permanent Third Assistant Temporary Vice-Chairman and no peasant dared challenge him until I came along and overnight acquired the title through pure and irrepressible merit. Since then Owen has been spewing sharps and flats



from both sides of his mouth which is natural for him, but can you feature the guy trying to egg me into chewing tobacco and ruining my bubble gum tones, sleeping in my underwear and itching myself off key, and slapping my wife and getting my teeth knocked out of tune. I want it understood that I sing baritone plenty tough enough. I learned how from a tomeat with his tail caught in the



fence, and hoping Owen is the same".

This argument between two principals couldn't help but come to the attention of Pres. Charles M. Merrill, who poured oil on the troubled waters by informing them by letter they were both wrong, because he, Merrill, was really the "outstanding exponent of baritonality". Then, having mussed things up worse than they were, Merrill proceeded to issue a presidential manifesto on the general subject of baritones and why they are that way.

He wrote: "Any bari worth his salt is naturally going to want to let off steam after having been pushed around by tenors, leads and basses for a spell. The bari with no self control at all will try to turn the rest of the quartet into accompaniment for a baritone solo—The bari with a



modicum of self-control will simply go home, slap his wife around, sleep in his underwear, chew tobacco and act tough generally . . . The superior bari, on the other hand, switches parts.

You can always tell a good bari by the way he sings bass or tenor. Does he (as bass) keep his new bari on his toes by constantly crowding him into sevenths? Does he (as tenor) accomplish the same by pulling the newcomer up under a high bari and then slapping him down into a squeeze play with the bass? How long will he take to make the new bari say uncle? I point with pride to my own record in this respect. I dare say that my path is strewn as thickly



as any with wornout baritones. Trusting you are both the same . . ."

As matters stand now it looks as if Oklahoma will secede from the Union and Nevada will send an official protest to U. N., while Washington, D. C. is attempting to circumvent both of them by having a new law passed declaring the Boardman Tomcat System official for the nation as applied to baritones.

## ALL KEYS LOOK ALIKE TO ME

By Ed Haverstock, Toledo Chapter

Has it occurred to you how much more fortnnate we barbershoppers are than other musicians, especially those who have to blow or finger some instrument? Those poor fellows have to nemorize all the keys they have to push and then acquire considerable manual dexterity.

We lucky barbershoppers do not have to use our hands to make music, nor lug around a bulky instrument, yet we have the most perfect music maker in the world, the human voice.

The voice is more flexible in tone quality and expression than an instrument. We can sing chords that the pianist cannot span with his hand.

We can sing in any key with equal ease, while instrumental players find some keys much easier than others.

Even the problem of reading music is much easier for voice than it is for instrument. When reading music for voice it is not necessary to remember how many flats or sharps are in the key signature nor the names of the notes to which they apply!

All that is needed is to find out on which line or space the keynote falls and use this as a guidepost. To find the keynote look at the END of the song. The melody and also the bass part normally end on the keynote. From this line or space you can always count up or down to find the other notes of the scale.

The melodic scale always follows the same pattern, no matter in what key it is written. It consists of eight ascending pitches on adjacent staff degrees (lines or spaces) from a given tone to its octave. All of these pitches are an equal distance apart (a whole step) except that notes 3 and 4 are closer together, and 7 and 8 are closer together (½ step). See illustration.

8 7 x half-step

6 ) step 5 ) step

4 x halí-step

2 ) step 1 ) step

#### Scale Pattern

No. 8 is the same note as No. 1 except that it is an octave higher. No. 8 is therefore a keynote and can be used as the starting point for the scale in the next higher octave. If you are counting down instead of up, you must count backwards. Call your keynote No. 8, the next note below, No. 7, etc.

Many people know these notes from 1 through 8 as: do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do, and it is a good way to remember them. However, each tone of the scale has its own proper name, as follows: 1. tonic, or keynote; 2. sup-

ertonic; 3. mediant; 4. subdominant; 5. dominant; 6. submediant; 7. leading tone.

Of course counting your notes up or down would not enable you to find your pitch if you did not have a good ear to be able to sing the scale correctly. But that is the least of our worries for Barbershoppers are famous for their "good ear."

But how about those sharps and flats that are sprinkled so liberally through our arrangements? Or as one baritone put it, "It isn't the flats that bother me, it's those sharps!"

Here again we are on easy street. Referring to our scale pattern we see that most of the notes are a full step apart leaving room for a half-tone midway between them. There are five possible half-tones in the octave (count-'em). There isn't room for a half-tone between notes 3-4 and 7-8 since they are only a half-step apart to begin with.

Accidentals (signs indicating sharp, natural, or flat) are placed immediately before a note to show a half-tone should be sung. These signs apply only to the measure in which they appear and after the next vertical bar line the note returns to its normal place.

Here is the rule. If the note has a sbarp sign, sing it a half-tone higher than normal. If it has a flat sign, sing it a half-tone lower than normal. A natural sign has the effect of canceling either a previous sharp or flat which appeared either in the same measure or in the key signature.

Thus if a natural cancels a flat, you would sing a half-tone higher. If it cancels a sharp, you would sing a half-tone lower.

Here is a simple and sure way of finding the pitch of any note you see written. First find the line or space on which the keynote is located, as explained. If the note you are seeking is higher than the keynote, sing the ascending scale UP to the note you are looking for, allowing one scale note for each intervening line or space that you come to. If the note you want is lower than the keynote, sing the descending scale DOWN from the keynote to the one you are seeking. If the note you are reading should be a half-tone and not a regular scale note, first find where the note would sound in the regular scale and then raise or lower your pitch a half-step as indicated by the sign.

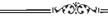
Try this on your favorite barbershop arrangement. Go through your part marking each note with a number to show its position in the scale. Then sing through the part and watch how the numbers help you to locate your pitch.

If you will do this you will lose all uncertainty over reading vocal music.

You will also find that the notes of the scale fall on certain lines or spaces according to the key in which written. For example, in one key the No. 5 note will appear on a certain line or space and in another key it will fall on a different line or space. But you are looking for the fifth note of the scale in both cases, and you will sing it to sound like the fifth note of the scale. This is the trick that confuses most music readers, hut it won't bother you if you remember where your KEYNQTE is located.

The reason all keys look alike to me is because they really are alike and all based on the same identical pattern. The only difference is the pitch on which you start.

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



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Featuring

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1947 International Champions

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PITTSBURGH
The TOM-CATS, 1947 Ohio Champions

and Eight more quality quartets

CARROLL P. ADAMS, M. C. at Timken High School

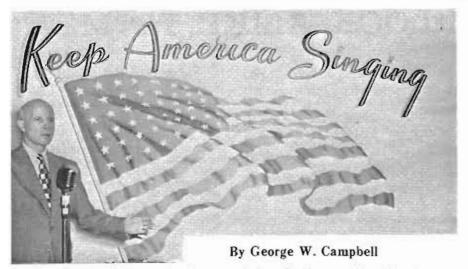
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For After-Glow tickets write
JAMES H. EMSLEY
804 Peoples Bank Bldg., Canton 2, O.
- \$1.00 -

For Hotel Reservations write HOTEL BELDEN, Canton 2, Ohio

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To Margaret Chaney, Onekama, Michigan who chose as the topic for her high school oration "Keep America Singing" — Congratulations!

It was a splendid oration. Margaret and I was happy to see it, page 31, in the August Harmonizer. I was deeply touched by your reference to "whole families gathering together for entertainment after 'supper'." There were eleven of us in our family and when we got together after supper for entertainment, it was a real community sing. I was the youngest and the loudest. My brother the eldest played the "mouth-organ" and what with seven sisters between us, plus mother and father—we really had ourselves a time.

Margaret, hold fast to your philosophy on self-entertainment. The best good time a person can have is the good time he makes for himself. We have well night lost the art of self-entertainment in America. We just buy our good times; push the money through the wicket and let somebody entertain us. There is fun and a good, good-time in singing together—or even alone. We need more people who will practice the art of helping other people to entertain themselves. Barbershop quarteters are doing just that. We are glad you like us and we wish you were one of us. Good luck to you!

I spent a week on the campus of West Virginia University at Morgantown. They want to put on an all-campus barbershop quartet contest and I think they will if they get some guidance from a near-by chapter. Pittsburgh, I think, is the nearest, or is it? IEII Henderson the student "Y" secretary is no mean tenor. The student council is interested too. What about our college groups? They represent a fertile field for cultivation. Barbershop quartet activities would bring a fresh breeze to any campus. The average college campus needs a refreshing breeze to blow over their activities. Would they go for it? And how!

Had a wonderful time the early part of August at the University of Tennessee in an all-Eastern Tennessee sing. Fight thousand people sang together "under the stars". It was a balmy Sunday evening, the air was still and the people were in the mood. I never thought I'd ever be so close to heaven on this earth as I was that evening. Darkness fell after the first half hour, so we sang from memory out of our hearts and not out of the hook. The old hymns, and spirituals and the home songs. A mixed chorus of 350 voices. The antiphonal effects with the audience was something out of this world, for sure. Of course, they had good leadership.

Thanks for the letters of commendation on the article prepared for the Chapter Reference Manual on song leading. Chapter members who are interested, ask your secretary to loan the material to you.

"CRITICS MAULED" A good letter! (see August Harmonizer, page four-teen). Try as they may, the goat of this Society will never be got by long-haired critics. I feel like shouting "Eureka" but that means "I have found it". What I want to shout is something that means: "They have found us!" What they say, let them say it. It is good for us. We need it and we can take it. We still have growing pains. While we prefer to be criticized and reviewed by those who know us and have an appreciation of what we are trying to do, it is after all, quite a compliment to be "noticed".

A music critic hears only the music as the person or group of persons perform it. He is following the science and the art of criticism. He seldom takes into account what is happening to the audience of listeners.

Many of them are biased, prejudiced, self-centered, full of inferiority feelings, lop-sided, and suffer dreadfully with sour stomack; even as you and I. They would be very unhappy, very unhappy if they should suddenly discover themselves enjoying any sort or kind of a musical performance—anywhere from grand opera to barbershop quartet harmony singing. You see, it isn't their business to enjoy music. They don't hate it, but they are paid to write what they don't like about it, and after reading what they have written, they are convinced that what they wrote is infallible. Oh, they

are not all like that. I have a very dear friend on one of the greatest newspapers in America who at one time alternated as music critic and sports writer. His main job was sports, but the music critic on that paper coveted his appreciation and sensitivity in the field of music. His level of appreciation permitted him to hear music just as he would look at Life. It is not all bad. Be sure and see "I see by the papers column August Harmonizer, page 44. On that page you will find top music critics who know our Society: its aims, purposes and its function. They are intelligent; they have reasoned us out. One of them arrived at that point of discernment after sitting through only one prelim contest.

He is Walter Whitworth, Music Critic, Indianapolis News. I want to meet that fellow. More power to the music critics. God bless them and us too. After all, our job is to "Keep America

Singing".

#### IT'S GOOD - AND IT'S FREE

Elsewhere in this issue is a condensation of "Just What Is Barbershop Harmony?" by Earle W. Moss, member of Ft. Wayne, Ind. Chapter. It is something that should be in every chapter, and every real ardent barbershopper will want a copy for himself. The pamphlet is available to any chapter on request to the Int'l. Office. Chapter secretaries should take a local census and order from Sec. Adams.

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## Over the Editor's Shoulder

Larry Tucker, Iron Mountain, Mich. Chapter, says about the August Harmonizer:

"But what a heautiful issue! The steady march forward, with each successive issue, is so clearly marked that I am progressively prouder to be associated in the work."

$$0 - 0 - 0$$

From Frank W. Jackson, Imm. Past Pres., Chicago No. 1:

"I have just read the August Harmonizer from cover to cover (and may I say parenthetically that it is the best Harmonizer yet issued) then I went back and read it from cover to cover a second time, (I usually do this anyway). I noted due credit given to everyone connected with the Milwaukee Convention, the best convention we ever had. I failed to notice anymention that Chicago Chapter had donated its shell for the use of the convention or that Herb Armbruster had worked like a Trojam in erecting the shell, moving it back for the semifinals and finals, and taking it down for crating and shipping back to Chicago."

To Herb Armbruster, that quiet member with a world of talent, the thanks of the Society for designing, building and maintaining the Chicago shell. And to Chicago Chapter thanks for lending the shell to Milwaukee and other chapters. To Frank Jackson, thanks for correcting the oversight... Eds.

From Roy S. Harvey, Int'l. Bd. Memher, Muskegon, Mich.:

"We had a very nice meeting (with other Western Mich. chapters) with about 225 present... As an extra feature we chartered a 36-passenger boat which took the barbershoppers for rides in Spring Lake prior to the formal opening of our meeting.

Grand Rapids sent a very fine contingent . . . what bothers me about barbershop is that every time I get all set on what is a championship quartet prospect, along comes one like the Cosmopolitans of Grand Rapids. They really are smooth, and I am wondering if Grand Rapids is going to have two Int'l. Champions on their hands."

From Imm. Past Pres. F. H. Thorne: "I read about three-quarters of the way through the August Harmonizer last night and it just seemed to me as I read along that it is better than any heretofore."

"Praise from Caesar is praise indeed"
—The Editors.

From Frank (Mike) Michel, Rochester, N. Y. to Sec. Adams:

"I have wanted to thank you for "selling" me on the worthwhileness of attending a national SPEBSQSA Convention. My pleasure and profit in being at Milwaukee was all that you promised and more and I regretted not being able to tell you so in person . . . My brother, Fred, Westport, Conn. recently said to Bridgeport. Conn. Chapter: 'Some of us who sit in downtown offices fearing that the country is going to the dogs needn't worry as long as men get together in song and spirit as we have tonight.' They liked his words a lot and I think, myself, that he spoke a mouthful."

L. Earl Bach of Bloomington Chapter writes:

"We sang at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Dwight last month and they want us to come back in October. I felt that that was one of the most worthwhile jobs we ever did and, though the thought of a lot of those boys who are still awaiting their armistice day ran through my mind, I slept just a little hit better that night than I had in a long while."

From Gilman A. Gist, San Diego Chapter:

"Back in San Diego after a delightful three months' trip, highlighted by visits to barbershop chapters, quartet parades and the never-to-be-forgotten Milwaukee gathering. I found barbershoppers everywhere the most cordial and sincerely friendly groups I have ever known. I never would wear emblems in my lapel, but now I am proud of our emblem and wear it regularly. Please put me down for front row seats for Oklahoma City next year, and I wish it were next month."



## WRITES ED PLACE, WASHINGTON, D. C. ABOUT A WAYNE KING CONCERT:

"The thing that impressed me most of all was the injection of patriotic and religious numbers in just the right way to give character to the entire performance.

Ken Stevens, the soloist who was a tank commander under Patton, was chosen for "The Flag" recitation with musical background. The recitation was not only well given but the underlying thought was to the point: the flag (symholic of our country) is what you . . . every man, woman and child in the audience and elsewhere . . . want it to be and mean . . It all seemed so natural and sincere. Then, too, the second section of the program featured Stevens singing The Lord's Prayer . . .

It occurred to me that the Society could consider taking a cue from Wayne King . . . not overdoing it, but putting it over at Parades, etc., in just the right way to touch the audiences. The newspapers today are filled with so much bad news that the sort of thing that Wayne King did on his show really had a powerful effect.

I don't know of a better group of Americans in America than SPEBSQSA, so can't see where it would not be appropriate and beneficial in every way to flavor all important programs the coming year with a dash of Americanism and prayer . . .

I dare say that there are those who would banish the good old songs and try to force us all to sing only the "Internationale," "Solidarity Forever," and all that rot. The Commies are trying to get control of music in this country, as you know, and Walter Steele, Publisher of National Republic Magazine, exposed the entire plot before the House Committee on Un-American Activities a few weeks ago."



Just for fun—your fun—did you read Spark Plugs in August issue—and have you read Spark Plugs in this one.

#### MUSKEGON'S HARMONY AFLOAT

Note sound waves smoothing rufiled waters as barbershoppers traverse Spring Lake.



#### THE PEERLESS QUARTET

By G. H. (Curly) Crossett Flint Chapter

Away back in 1907 a bass singer named Stanley Grinstead, but who was better known to most everyone as Frank C. Stanley, organized the famous Peerless Quartet.



The original members were: Albert C. Campbell, tenor; Henry Burr, lead; Arthur Collins, baritone; and Frank C. Stanley, bass. Three years after the quartet made its initial bow in December 1910, Stanley passed away.

This was a terrible blow to the remaining members, and for some months thereafter the quartet was inactive, then Henry Burr became the new manager and obtained John H. Meyer as bass, Meyer having sung with Burr in a large New York Church. However Stanley was sadly missed. His genial personality and guiding hand were gone, and though Burr, who was really Harry McClaskey, did a fine job as manager, there was something missing, a vital spark, the rare genius of the great bass, Stanley.

Arthur Collins, severed connections with the quartet in 1918 and was replaced by Frank Croxton who took over as bass, Meyer shifting to baritone. Then in 1925 Burr headed a new quartet, having obtained Carl Mathieu as first tenor, Stanley Baughman, baritone; and James Stanley, bass.

Burr being the only original member left in the quartet, after about three years the Peerless was disbanded, and thus ended one of the most famous quartets of all time. Burr, who passed away in 1941, was a favorite for years as a tenor soloist on the National Barn Dance over WLS, his sweet mel-low tenor voice being well adapted to broadcasting. He was also known to many Edison Phonograph owners as Irving Gillette, a name used when recording for Edison, and he used his true name, Harry McClaskey in some of his Victor and Columbia records, but he was best known as Henry Burr, a name he adopted because of his admiration of Miss Ellen Burr, one of his early vocal teachers.

(To be continued in the next issue)

#### Answers to Barbershop Bafflers (See Page 28)

- "I Had A Dream, Dear"
- "The Old Oaken Bucket" "My Grandfather's Clock".
- "Down Where The Wurzburger Flows
- "Round Her Neck She Wore A Yeller Ribbon"
- "Love's Old Sweet Song".
- "The Lost Chord"
- "The Little Old Red Shawl My Mother Wore"
- Bring The Wagon Home, John".
  "The Star Spangled Banner".

#### WHAT DO YOU READ IN THE HARMONIZER?

The Harmonizer is your magazine. The editors are in close touch with what goes on in the Society and from time to time augment their information by direct questionnaires as to what the members want in the magazine. No doubt about some of the features having a big reading

The latest study on the subject reveals two main schools of thought (1) A group that wants to see the Harmonizer a truly national publication devoted to broad subjects such as one member analyzed in the May '47 issue: Radio is Different, Society Growth, Founder's Column, With Int'l. Champions, Old Songsters, Why is a Bari, So You Want Your Picture in the Papers, etc. (2) Others express greatest interest in seeing their names and names of local quartets and local events mentioned.

Analysis of the Harmonizer will prove that it maintains a fair balance be-tween both extremes. Opinions and constructive criticisms from any member, anywhere, are always studied carefully. What do you read most in the Harmonizer? The Int'l. Office address is on the Editorial Pages.

#### CANADIANS NOTICE

Edwin H. Morris & Co. Inc., publishers of Barbershop Parade of Quartet Hits, have run into an international copyright stumbling block in offering the book to Canadians. One of the numbers in the book, which has enjoyed a large sale in the States, had been copyrighted in Canada before publication of the book. Morris plans to have this number replaced in future editions by another number not restricted for Canadian use.

#### MEET JOHN BEAUDIN

John Beaudin whose cartoons of famous quartets have enlivened the Harmonizer for several years is a member of Pontiac (Mich.) Chapter. Asked for some facts about himself he reported in part: Five years with Pontiac Motor publications, with a background of free-lance art work, advertising management, advertising copy, printing, engraving, allied arts and crafts. Under "human interest"



BEAUDIN AS SEEN BY SKINNER STUDIOS

he includes "Widower and sincere admirer of all fourettes-like to baritone with nasal on-the-beam lead and any tinny (but accurate) tenor, with slightly faltering bass for alibi-photo (above) must be flattering or misleading since my enemics state that I must be known to be appreciated". Says Assoc. Sec. Bill Otto: "I admire his arrangements and admire even more his constant work with newly organized quartets.

#### A FEW OF THE AVAILABLE FOLIOS OF BARBERSHOP ARRANGEMENTS Order from the Publisher or Your Local Music Dealer Barber Shop Harmony, published by Mills Music, Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York City 19 More Barber Shop Harmony, 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 ..... Barber Shop Classics, published by Remick Music Corp., 619 West 54th Street, New York City 19 ..... Two Barber Shop Ballads, by Sigmund Spaetb, published by Mills Music Inc., 1619 Broadway. New York City 19 Barber Shop Ballads and How to Sing Them, by Sigmund Spaeth, published by Prentice-Hall, 70 5th Avenue, New York City. Eighteen individual octavo size arrangements, published by Forster Music

J..........

Puhlisher, 216 S. Wabash, Chicago

#### THE STORY BEHIND THE SONG ON THE COVER

Tell Taylor, writer of "When the Maple Leaves Were Falling", was born October 28, 1876 at Van Lue (near Findlay) Ohio. Between 1882 and 1892 his parents moved frequently to various farms. In 1893 and 1894 he worked after school hours to pay his board and room in Van Lue. Until late in 1895 he filled positions as shoe salesman, clerk of courts, glass blower and hardware salesman. In 1896 and 1897, he attended Findlay College and sang in the choir at the Presbyterian Church — in quartets, glee clubs and home talent shows. From 1897 to 1898, he trught at the Frog Station School and in 1900 worked in the oil field as a tool dresser. He groped for a goal that was uncertain, as his singing, without effort or consciousness, became more and more the essential expression of his being. He sang the songs familiar to all, but also original melodies that came through his mind in a steady flow. Words came to him in poetic sequence with which he could breathe and smile

When Tell was in his early twenties he went to New York to study. To a youth who had lived always in the sleepy countryside, the theatrical world was like fairy land. His voice and his simple songs soon attracted the attention of producers who made attractive offers.

He won favor in "In Panama" and "New York Town". One of his first songs "In Evening Time" was writ-

ten on the train from New York to Findlay, where he always went during "closed" show season. He worked in Quincy Adams Sawyer's Show "The Girl Question", "Fiddle Dee Dee", "The Kissing Girl" and many others. Then he appeared from coast to coast as vaudeville headliner with Sophie Tucker, Joe Howard, Weber and Fields and Ethel Dovey. He teamed with Al Jolson and Ward and Voks. His songs, too, were heard overywhere. He opened his own music publication company, backed by T. B. Harms and the late James J. Walker. Also associated with Tell Taylor was the late Ernest R. Ball. The death of Harms forced the closing of the publishing office.

He played for two years around Chicago in "The Girl Question", "Girl at the Gate" and "The Kissing Girl". There he decided to open his own publishing house again as the Tell Taylor Music Lublishing Company.

But it seems that quiet, country life was what Taylor at heart enjoyed the most. It was his love of nature which inspired "When The Maple Leaves Were Falling" and the world famous "Down By The Old Mill Stream", inspired by the Blanchard River flowing through his farm at Findlay.

"There's nothing to it", Tell would say. "It is no more difficult to write music than to do a problem in arithmetic. It's just a matter of getting the quarters, eighths, sixteenths and thirty-seconds in the right place and remember", he would say in a more

## WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET

Address Correspondence to HARRY W. SMITH

306 FOURTH AVE. PITTSBURGH 30, PA.

serious tone, "songs cannot be forced upon the public". "There must be something in them that pleases, something that touches the heart". That is why his songs are loved by young and old and are "living" through the years.

His modest grave is just a half mile from the Blanchard River. His last song "On the Banks of the Old Mill Stream" completes the monument in terms of joy that Tell Taylor built for himself.

Lovers, entertainers, students, barbers and drunkards, all sing the songs of a man who lived like a child of nature and who left a valuable contribution to American popular music.

The Song on the Cover is one of 18 octavo numbers published by Forster recently as arranged by Society members. It is also in the Elastic Four's Album No. 1.

### CHICAGOLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

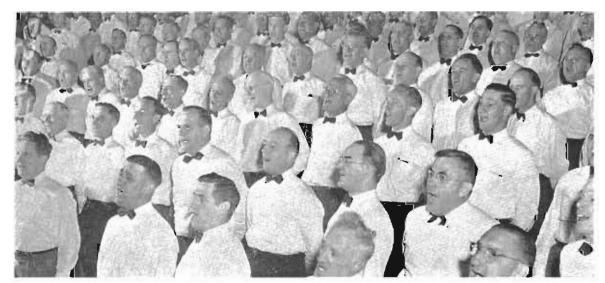
Ninety-five thousand spectators gathered on Saturday night, August 16th, in the great outdoor Soldiers Field, Chicago, Illinois, to witness a stupendous four-hour Chicagoland Music Festival—the 18th annual Festival sponsored by the Chicago Tribune Charities.

Approximately 300 Barbershoppers under the direction of Frank Thorne,

Immediate Past-President of the Society, sang "You'll Never Know the Good Fellow I've Been" and were one of the highlights of the program for the Festival. Out of a four-hour show one hour was broadcast over WGN Mutual Network from coast to coast, and SPEBSQSA Chicagoland Chorus was selected to sing on that radio broad-

cast. The chorus did an outstanding job of close harmony.

The Chicagoland SPEBSQSA Festival Chorus was made up of members from Chicago No. 1, Pioneer (Chicago), Southtown (Chicago), Oak Park-River Forest, Northwest Suburban (Park Ridge), Wheaton, Fox River Valley (Geneva, Batavia and St. Charles) and Elgin Chapter choruses.

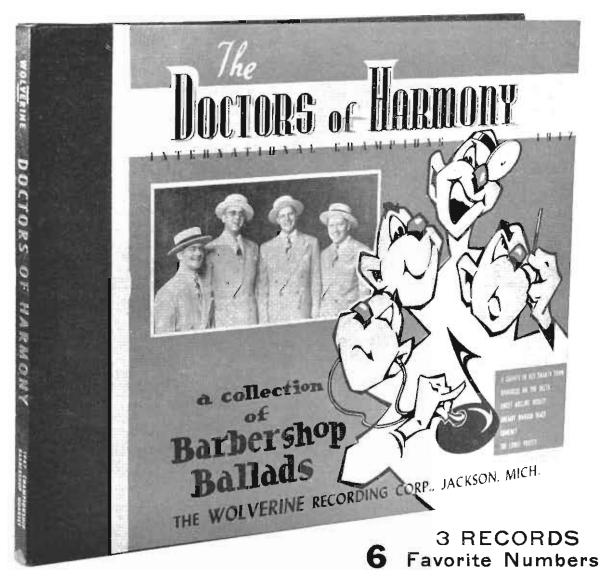


Row on row-300 sang in Chicagoland Music Festival at Soldiers Field.

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## "Just What Is Barbershop Harmony?"

By Earle W. Moss Ft. Wayne, Ind. Chapter

Illustrations by Walt Karl, Cleveland Chapter.

Condensed from booklet of same title, available from Int'l, office.

"Close harmony quartets rebel against the straight jacket of any conventional school. They ignore and scorn anything stereotyped or formal and toss chords around with all the insolent abandon of clown jugglers in a circus. There isn't any musical science about 'harbershop'. It is just pure tone adjustment by acute ear-sense the physics of which is lost in vibration harmonies, overtures and timbres that defy ordinary analysis...

"Close harmony or 'barbershop' chords can, of course, be roughly indicated on the couventional music staff—but only so very roughly that heaven help the singer (to say nothing of the listener) if he allows the written notes to keep him from making the ever-so-slight modulations in pitch which can



only be measured and placed by a 'good ear'—
in fact, by an acute and exceptionally tone-sensitive ear.

"A popular demonstration was held in one of the large Chicago studios to test the blending qualities of a considerable number of choral singers and professional musicians. A byproduct of the test revealed that just



as some people cannot 'carry a tune' some can not follow rapid chord changes or distinguish their tone elements. It was also observed

that some of the out-and-out professionals, while proficient in musical techniques of one kind or another had no capacity whatever to arrange or blend 'close harmony' chords as 'barbershoppers' distinguish them from the conventional arrangements

"What makes a good close harmony song. Well! Those who enjoy quartet singing, as well as those who like to listen, find more enjoyment in harmonious chords than they do in words, melodies or rhythins of songs, and therefore, they emphasize the harmony element—perhaps at the expense of words, melody and rhythm. Then another controlling factor has to do with the formation of vocal sounds. You can't play S's and R's on your vocal chords any better than you can on a violin or piano. So generally speaking a good harmony is one where, by accident or design, good



solid vowel sounds or other musical tones fall on the accented or prolonged notes of the melody . . .

"The close contact of the singers as well as the capacity of the human voice for infinite modulation allows each singer to 'blend his tone into the prevailing harmony' no matter how imperceptibly pitch and timbre may vary or depart from the key. And perhaps this also explains why people who are extremely sensitive to harmonious chords enjoy fine quartet singing and are irritated by the discords (imperceptible to most of us) that are actually 'tuned' into or otherwise produced by most mechanical instruments. When a good quartet sings with a piano, whose strings



must be slightly out of harmony to permit modulation from key to key, the inharmonious qualities (of the instrument) are readily perceptible...

"The only way quartets were born was through the chance meeting of individuals who had to blend their personalities as well as their voices. Moreover since the only available printed scores were standard or conventional arrangements the unfortunate barbershopper was restricted to continual improvisation. The achievements of one practice were usually lost by the time of the next meeting. It was difficult for the four members to memorize and retain the chord sequence, previously improvised. And it was next to impossible to improve the arrangements by a sequence of progressive steps.

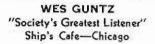
"The Society overcame this handicap by a program of song distribution. These selected songs are specially arranged to produce 'barbershop' effects as nearly as they can be expressed on the music staff by the tempered\* scale. Thus new quartets are able to begin practice with written chords which serve as general guides to the perfected harmony. Moreover on these printed foundations quartets can indicate their own variations and improvements as they are invented. . . .

"There has been no theatrical or sensational advertising; no appeal to conventional, academic or technical support, or to a spectacular display... the success (of SPEBSQSA) has been huilt on just one thing; cleverly arranged and beautifully blended vocal quartet harmony. Call it 'barbershop' if you will but don't try to discount it; it is great entertainment."

\*The scale used on keyboard or valve instruments.

### DECATURETTES— SWEET ADY CHAMPS

The Decaturettes, Decatur, Ill., were declared national champions when the Sweet Adelines, women's quartet organization, held their first convention and contest at Tulsa in October. In order of their ranking other women's quartets were: The Johnson Sisters, Chicago; Keystone Barberettes, Peoria; Voca-Lizas, Bartlesville; and the Floradoras, Tulsa. Additional quartets entered were the Sooner Crooners, Magic Mel-O-Tones. HarmoDonnas, Four Pastels and French Harps, all of Tulsa, and the Impromptus from nearby Bartlesville. Bobby Greer, member of the SPEB champion Chordbusters, conducted a chorus of 60 Sweet Adeliners. Helen Seevers, St. Louis newspaper woman, was elected national president. Other officers are all from Tulsa or Bartlesville.





The Sweet Ady champs are L. to R. — Mary Vinton, lead; Viola Stern, tenor; Myrtle Vest, hari; Eva Adams, bass.

### BALANCED BUDGET

Muskegon Chapter's financial statement is an example of forethought in budgeting, wise planning and living up to the plan and budget as counselled in a recent Harmonizer editorial. Muskegon members should be proud of the officers and finance group back of this detailed statement:

As of June 30, 1947

RECEIPTS As of June 30, 1947	
Ducs and Contributions to Kitty at Monthly Meetings         5           Sale of Song Binders         5           Sale of Lapel Ruthons         16           Sale of Anto Plates         14           Sale of Decals         2           Tickets—Ladies' Night Party         372           Tickets—Show No. 1         1,168           Tickets—Show No. 2         1,327	75 50 .00 53
Total Receipts	\$4,617.26
Emblems and Buttons         18           Cards and Song Folders         16           Auto Plates         15           Records and Record Equipment         556           Special Gift—Brief Case         14           Annual Shows         General Expenses           Federal Admission Taxes         242	50 27 50 86 50 32 00 80 00 11 76 38 76 83
Total Disbursements	4,269,14
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 248.22 904.38
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK-JUNE 30, 1947	\$1,152.60

On deposit-Muskegon Savings Bank

On hand—Change Fund .....

Total (As Above)



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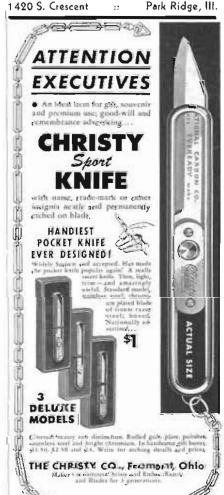
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# HE WAY I SEE

# by Deac Martin

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

Attributed to Voltaire, 1694-1778

The way I see it, a lot of us have been passing up a splendid opportunity in failing to utilize the back-pages directory for soliciting husiness from other members. Don't let O. C. Cash tell you different-the real reason he organized the Society was to build up a mailing list that would make it possible eventually for every member to make a living selling stuff to other members. With the new directory we become practically self sustaining and can thumb our noses at the rest of the world.

I send a form letter to Brother H. Q. Smilch, secretary of Midville chapter offering him opportunity to purchase from my fresh shipment of pylon hose . . . "Startling low price, only \$7.98 a pair . . . Read this at your next chapter meeting."

Right back comes a form letter from Brother Smilch inviting me to send him a five dollar bill by return mail for a full, two-pound package of Spoodled Bran Kryspees full of fresh juicy persimmons ("They Send You") postpaid.

I foresee a glorious future if we'll only follow the lead already set by a few daring members who have taken advantage of the directory to start direct solicitation upon our brethren. That way lies success through true fraternal helpfulness. And it's directly in line with the Int'l. Code of Ethics which says:

"We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain".

ACTUALLY — the Directory, which was set up for the benefit of travelling members, will have to be discontinued if misused.

The announcement elsewhere in this issue, that the Society launches a drive to Get That Old Music Out of the Attic before the mice or rubbish man make-away with it, and that we'll make Int'l. Hdq. a depository for these old numbers brings this thought to mind: Our popular songs are an authentic record of the modes, manners, thought, habits, even foods, transportation and in general daily life of various periods. And there is hardly a major event in American life that is not commemorated by a popular song. So, the Society is collecting a highly valuable record of

Thinking along those lines, I exhuned an old piece that I wrote for some Sunday newspaper syndicate 'way back in 1934, and here's what I find in small part:

"Something more than words and music go into the songs we remember, for songs, like laws, must be in key with prevailing sentiment to be successful . . . Something more than words and music was in "Brother Can You Spare a Dime?". The song was a mirror that reflected the hopeless attitude of a world bogged down in a seemingly bottomless depres-sion. Yet only a few months later with just a glimmer of hope ahead the Nation skipped up the trail singing, whistling, humming off key, "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" as if the song were our national anthem . . .

"I Didn't Raise My Boy To Be a Soldier" brought cheers from coast to coast in 1915, because it expressed the early attitude of the average American detached from a war several thousand miles away. (I see that I slipped up in that 1934 story by not saying that as soon as war became necessary everybody started singing "Over There").

Turning to how people lived as chronicled by the popular songs: "Maggie Murphy's Home" may have had some bad rhyming in it, but it showed the "parlor" a step up from the work-aday sitting room or kitchen and the "organ" in the parlor symbolized new culture and prosperity.

Continuing from the old 1934 piece "But you'll look sweet upon the seat of a bicycle built for two" is more than a song. It is a mirror that reflects the maples of Elm Street, those garishly new telephone poles, mansard roofs, the Jones' surrey rolling dustily toward a picnic up by the stand-pipe, a flutter of window blinds as neighbors slyly snoop at a "bloomgirl mincing toward the horse block where Lem waits with his tandem, kerosene head lamp and all . . .

The saucy little bird on Nellie's hat epitomizes the period when green doves, pink parrots, drooping ostrich plumes, pert tiny birds with yellow glass eyes were standard equipment on women's headgear . . . "Waltz Me Around Again, Willie" brings whiffs of Turkish Trophy or Sweet Caporal that waft across the floor as a "hot sport lights a tailor made". He didn't smoke while with a lady, however. "She would not degrade her womanhood by being seen with a man smoking a cigarette. Cigars? Yes, but only when buggy riding.'

"He'd have to get out and get under and crank up his automobile" recalls brass and red paint. Canvas buckets for dipping water from culvert or horse trough. Tires that were nightmares of patching . . . Automobile caps, goggles, dusters, horns that burp-burped baritone when the bulb was squeezed "She don't have to wear rats in her hair nor a straight-front X. Y.
Z." from "Any little Girl That's a
Nice Little Girl Is The Right Little
Girl For Me" doesn't refer to a poor little girl who slept in a cold attic while the rats nestled in her hair.

For the benefit of the younger generation the X. Y. Z. referred to a garment that ladies nowadays call a foundation garment. "Why was it called straight front"? Because the ladies wore them straight up and down in front with a curve behind. The X. Y. Z. was a joke that everybody recognized because the most popular corset in those days was the "A. B. C."

Just a few popular songs whose names alone record events are "Alexander's Rag Time Band," "Hello, 'Frisco", "Oh How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning", "Keep Away From the Fellow That Owns an Automobile", "Everybody Two Step", "Take Me Out To The Ball Game". This last one is the perfect example of this here now thesis. Rag time, the trans-American telephone to 'Frisco, the first World War, the early automobile are not news but baseball retains its popularity and so does the old song. "Had our tastes turned to lacrosse or badminton as national sports we would have a song record today of that public preference".

It would be very simple to record events, public sentiment, American life in general, by taking it out of the songs which have been written between 1934 and November, 1947.

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# FORTY-NINE\* in FORTY-SEVEN

# WHAT WILL IT BE IN FORTY-EIGHT?



Eight years ago, in Chicago, a little group of men started the first Chapter of SPEBSQSA in the state of Illinois. At that time the Society numbered hardly 50 active chapters with a very small number of members. What a far cry to today when the Illinois District Association alone has 49 Chapters and better than 2500 members.

Teamwork did it and the unstinting efforts of a number of fine pioneer barbershoppers. Good health to them and may they prosper.

With the continued support of the membership there's no reason why Illinois, in the next few years should not equal the present membership of the entire International group.



ILLINOIS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

of

CHAPTERS OF S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.



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Jacksonville Chapter

# Swipes from the Chapters { (News Items culled in part from Chapter }

Many of these Chapter reports are full of good stuff-Don't just read about your own Chapter

# Illinois Inklings

by W. Welsh Pierce

Whenever we hear that old chestnut "Who has more fun than Barbershop-pers" the answer is "Nobody. If they live in Illinois"! To give you a quick f'rinstance let's take a swirl around the circuit ... Bloomington made the Vets at Dwight Hospital happy for a couple of hours, practiced on a county fair first, then took on the Illinois State Fair along with the Corn Belt Chorus. The big event of the semester was a colossal Music Festival, sponsored, promoted and lavishly presented sored, promoted and lavishy presented by the Bloomington Chapter. An edi-torial in the Bloomington "Panta-graph" said, in part, "the festival could and should grow into a great annual event in the community". To which we add Amen . . . The Logan County Chapter, in Lincoln, has two quartets, the Chord Splitters and the L. C. Four, which are kept busier than an arrangements judge listening to the Harmonizers. They and the chorus flitted around to various chapters like mad and still found time to run a big shindig, laughingly called a P. of Q's, on October 5 . . . South Town (Chicago) has been making rapid strides. With five quartets and a chorus they make the usual veterans, civic and inter-chapter visits — but in profusion. Found time to stage a softball game with Pioneer, and wish they hadn't. However, S. T. claims a moral victory at the aftermath in a local television parlor. Biggest event of the season was a full evening's show under the stars at Wilmette Bowl for the Recreation Board of Wilmette. Sec. Galagher submits a latter from the Wil lagher submits a letter from the Wilmette people that is so full of praise that one suspects collaboration in its genesis. Congrats to South Town for living up to Walt Stephens definition of "Publicity" for the Society — Doing a good job and getting credit for it... Wheaton ran the gamut of activities, visitations to Winfield Sanitarium, Elgin State Hospital, Ladies Night, visit to Aurora, three outdoors civic concerts and a delegation to Chicagoland Music Festival. Among Wheaton's quartets are the Lost Chords of Glen Ellyn, the Four Specs and the Illinoisy Four. That last one causes us to shudder lest we now have a run on State names, as: the Ohio-Silvers, Idahome-On the Rangers, Indi-ananother Four, Wisconsinners, etc. Oh well . . . Down Jacksonville way they call it a bad week when the local chapter is not called for some club, picnic, homecoming, business luncheon and whatnot. The Morgan County and Kings Fours are kept busy along with the chorus and among visitations were those to Arenzville, Ill. for a first parade, to Chapin for a show and to Springfield for that State Fair affair .. When one attempts to capsul-ize the activities of Oak Park it's like trying to describe an accordion without moving your hands. Pretty hard to do. However, let's just say that Oak

### SINGING-IN TUSCOLA



Here are the Four Polka Dots harmonizing at Charter Day program of the Tuscola (Ill.) Chapter. L. to R.—O. B. Moorehead, bass, chapter 1st vice president; Earl Parker, bari; Sec.-Treas. Jay R. North, lead and 2nd V. P. Clark Igo, tenor.

Park made six chorus appearances the past three months, thirty-three quartet appearances, gave a full evening's entertainment at Hines Veterans Hos-pital, put on a Ladies Night for a neighboring chapter (the Q-Suburban of La Grange) appeared at Chicagoland Music Festival, pepped up a civic baseball game, ran a harbershop golf tournament and bought nice, new gabardine coats, with matching ties and kerchiefs, for their chorus. All this and heaven too, which consisted of a two-night minstrel extravaganza held on October 10th and 11th to S. R. O. Now that Kokomo is in a song our old friend Mattoon ought to be a natural. Rhymes with moon, June, etc., so all you song writers take it from here. A swell chapter there that does a lot of barbershop boosting. Recently they sponsored and presented a char-ter at Tuscola, Illinois, helped out the Corn Belt Chorus at the Illinois State

Fair, moved in on Effingham with intent to commit charterization, re-instituted regular dual meetings with neighboring Charleston, made young folks out of the residents at Odd Fellows Old Folks Home and for all this they had to move their meeting place. Outgrew the old homestead at Byers Hotel and now have the pains that come with progress. "See you soon, in Mattoon, you goon". (Lyrics by Anon.)... Aurora is a new chapter that acts like a veteran, with a healthy but generous mixture between civic affairs erous mixture between civic affairs, inter-chapter visitations and interesting meeting arrangements. Once a month is "Fun Nite" with visitors from outside chapters, wives and prospective members invited. A very successful venture . . . Joliet chapter is on a weekly radio program that brings them plenty of recognition. This lively chapter is doing good deeds galore; aided Tuscola, Ill., on their Charter Nite, same for La Salle, Ill. on their first parade, aided local high school stage a gala Fall Music Festival and held their own 2nd Annual Parade October 18th Leibt these beautiful the content of the second stage and second stage a gala Fall Music Festival and held their own 2nd Annual Parade October 18th Leibt these second tober 18th. Jolly Joliet they are known as 'round these parts... Pioneer (Chicago) points with pride to the already successful sponsorship of a special Tune Train to take Chicagoland barbershoppers to Oklahoma City in '48. Interested chapters see Hank Stanley for reservations. A monthly exchange of Chapter programs has heen set up with near-by chapters. Tremendously successful venture . . . Peoria has a new quartet called the Sing-Chronizers. A fine name and a fine quartet doing good work. They and others from Peoria have made consistent calls at the local T. B. Sanitarinm . . . Elgin chartered a special bus to take

### MORRISON, ILL. GETS CHARTER



R. S. McKinney, Macomb, presents charter to Hal Larson, Pres., while the chorus gets ready to give. Front Row, L. to R.—Lasher, Cox, Boland, Wooves, Austin, R. Syhema, I. Syhema, Mylin, P. Brondyke. Second Row, L. to R.—Slocum, Eissens, A. Brondyke, Greer, Gotzray, Vogel, Parker, Van Osdol.

More than 100 barbershoppers invaded Morrison, Ill., June 6, to help celebrate the Charter presentation. Members of the Monmouth, Rock Island, Cambridge and Dixon Chapters saw to it that Morrison realized that barber-shopping is a lively thing.

The Charter was presented by Illinois President R. S. McKinney of Macomb. Hal Larsen, President of the local chapter, accepted the Charter. Royce Parker, Peoria, Past President of the

III. Ass'n. made an appropriate, pointed talk, eagerly received.

ed talk, eagerly received.
In addition to chorus singing, the group was entertained by The Watt Four, Dixon; Wingfoot Four, Monmouth; The Harvesters, Monmouth; Henry County Four, Cambridge; The Harmony Four, Morrison; and The Chordoliers, Rock Island.

A tape recording of the evening's prograni has been a source of enjoyment for the local boys ever since.

chorus members, wives and guests to Chicagoland Music Festival where they joined the Mammoth Chorus heard on that program. Elgin is running like a (guess what) with weekly meetings, civic appearances and high school football games, of course knocking the spectators for a goal. . . Chicago No. 1 has a newly refurbished masthead for its bulletin, the Pitchpipe. Editor Stanger is so proud of it he heartily dislikes mailing out some 400 every month to the membership.

400 every month to the membership. The high spot for the Summer season was the sponsorship of a Chicagoland Barbershop Chorus on the Tribune's Annual Music Festival under direction of Im. Past Int. Pres. Frank Thorne. Their one song was beard from coast to coast over 400 stations on the Mutual hook-up. Less spectacular, but no less important, was the establishment thru the Red Cross of regular weekly quartet visitations to local V. A. hosquartet visitations to local V. A. hospitals . . . In Dixon the rule is—keep busy. This they do and as a result everybody gains. They eat well, too, with a chicken-fry and a picnic on the Summer schedule . . The new Tuscola Chapter was born at a picnic on July 20th in front of 3500 people. Mighty public propagation but a swell way to start a chapter. Pres. R. S. McKinney of the Illinois State Association presented the Charter . . Rock Island held a picnic that lasted throughout the afternoon and evening of August 3rd. Families and friends as well as members from Morrison, Galesburg, Monmouth and Cambridge came for the fun and harmony. September found them bungry again so a fish-fry was them bungry again so a fish-fry was staged along the Rock River for Sep-tember 9th. Another full day—in more ways than one. Rock Island and Cambridge choruses combined twice for important events, one the Mississippi Valley Fair at Davenport and the other the State convention of the Moose Lodge at Rock Island... The Greater Alton Area is only a year old but has been mighty busy. Twenty appear-ances by their Four Sharps, numerous chorus dates, a minstrel show and a chorus dates, a minstrel show and a parade of quartets indicate fine chapter direction. From Decatur comes a fine outline of chapter activity but Secretary Geo. Wright sums it all up thusly: "Well, and so what? We're busy, we're spreading harmony and good fellowship, and we're having lots of good clean fun"? George, you took the words right out of . . . Belvidere is only a year old but grew from 20 members to 56 in that short time. Most of the year, anyway, was taken up tryof the year, anyway, was taken up trying to learn how to say Kishwaukee Harmonizers, one of their quartets. This foursome bad a full week's run in a Gay Ninety's Review at a local Summer stock theatre. Otherwise the Chapter is healthy and has been publicly viewed at numerous Chambers of Commerce and American Legion meetings . . . Barrington held a star-studded parade on October 10th highlighted by the 1947 Int. Champions. They sold standing room 'til they ran out of that and someone thought to chloroform the ticket chairman who woke up shouting "I have a few more in the Kindergarten Room". The only thing wrong with that is the show was in the back High School. Under able the local High School . . . Under able direction of Pres. Al Benjamin the North Shore (Winnetka) Chapter is enjoying record achievements. Mem-



B NATURAL FOUR
Genesee Chapter, Rochester, N. Y.
Ten of the Ladder Dr. Frederick H.

Top of the Ladder Dr. Frederick H. Timerran, bari, Chapter V. P.; Earl Everson, lead; Dr. Hareld J. Quigley, tenor; Rerm Babcock, bass, chapter Treas.

bership reached a new high in September... In La Salle the emphasis seems to he on civic activity. This lively chapter enters into just about every kind of local program that comes up in a bustling city, plus extension work being done in Ottawa and Streator... Quartet parades have been many. The newest thing is to have a barbershop float in a real street parade. This idea sprang from Macomb, a hot bed of barbershop activity and they won lots of recognition for their novel July 4th contribution.

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Certainly to have successful chapter meetings it is most desirable to have good membership attendance. Thus chapter notices should be sent out to announce every meeting night. Hugo Stanger, Secretary of Chicago, Illinois No. 1 Chapter, sends an abbreviated post-card "Pitch Pipe" (copyright of name still in litigation) for one meeting night, and for the alternate meeting his large-sized edition of the "Pitch Pipe" which contains inter-

Probably it seems impossible to some of us that a member could forget a meeting night, but let us not take a chance that he might miss. Even a post-card will be a welcome reminder and can be made very interesting. Let Hugo tell us his slant on how to add sparks to chapter meetings. His story follows:

asting chapter and international news.

# Stanger Harmonizing

Consider the sad plight of a certain Secretary who worked and slaved over a hot piano, painfully learning the bass part to an arrangement of "That Tumble-Down Shack in Athlone" marked "As sung by the Four Harmonizers", in the forlorn hope that he might be able to astound them by singing it with them in an unguarded moment. He finally cornered them in a cozy washroom, persuaded them to let him try it, and was himself astounded to find that they sang an entirely different arrangement! "Let entirely different arrangement! that be a lesson to you, Hugo!" said Leo Ives with a twinkle in his eye. "Don't ever learn a printed arrangement that's attributed to the Harmonizers, because we sing a song like a quartet that doesn't know the arrangement"!

And it is not streching the truth too far to say that much of the illusive charm of our Chapter Meetings lies in the fact that Chicago No. 1 conducts its meetings like a chapter that doesn't know how a Chapter Meeting should be conducted! But boy, can we fake 'em! And sometimes the effect is almost as thrilling as a swipe by the Harmonizers.

This doesn't mean that we don't plan our meetings. Heaven forhid! In this age of planned economies, planned cities, planned diets . . . even planned families . . . we would be lax indeed to conduct a Chapter Meeting without a Plan! But the fortunate thing is that, just as everything is

# SPARK PLUGS

by Frank H. Thorne

proceeding according to the Plan (and getting very dull!) somebody always manages to fall on his face and make a huge success of the affair!

Of course, we do the fundamentally right things . . . send out proper notices of meetings; hold our meetings every two weeks on Friday nights, which saves wear and tear on our regular jobs as compared with a mid-week meeting; start our meetings on time (more or less) at 9:15 P. M. by singing Frank Thorne's barbershop arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner"; keep the business meeting short (the executive meeting handles 99% of it anyway) and avoid discussing controversial matters or get our ears pinned back, and then get going with our free-for-all singing and our quartet show.

### What's the Secret?

Not a thing there that you can't find in your Guide for Chapter Officers, so what makes visitors go away saying, "Gee, if we could only have meetings like this in our Chapter!" The fact that we are so richly endowed with championship quartets? It helps... but we have had outstanding meetings when not a single organized, to say nothing of championship, quartet showed up. The fact that we have been fortunate in obtaining capable Program Chairmen who, no kidding, have planned out impromptu shows with considerable care, and have either officiated as MC's or have given someone else a chance to shine by appointing an MC of the evening from the audience? That has helped too . . but we have had lots of fun on the rare occasions when even this system broke down!

No, I honestly believe that the secret of our successful meetings lies in the audience, composed mostly of our own members. They come to the meetings, apparently with the determination not to see a show or to hear a show, but to be a part of the show . . . and they do everything but get up on the rostrum in a body to accomplish this end! They have, in fact, actually walked out in a body on one or two quartets, with nothing but hilarity and good feeling on either side. No quartet is too overwhelmingly a champion, no personage is too important, to escape the good natured razzberry of this melodious mob.

It helps conduct the business meeting, it helps read the minutes, it helps collect the Kitty . . . and it gets its money's worth. It is especially considerate of the little fellow who, in fear and trembling, brings his single talent before it, whether it be singing, playing, acting, story-telling or whatever he has to present. Its motto is "Give me ad-liberty or give me death!" and it probably gets that way due to the fact that its nucleus is always the Chicago Chorus, which rehearses before each meeting . . . and after an hour under the ruthless dictatorship of the Editor of this column, they just have to let off steam, or bust! Nevertheless, the camaraderie which has been built up in Frank's chorus is a big factor in the success of our meetings, and of our Chapter.

No discussion of Chicago No. 1 meetings would be complete without mentioning our Initiation Ceremony, held only on the first meeting of each month. Written by Past President Frank Jackson, it has been in use for over a year and it wears remarkably well. Its lighter side is characterized in the punch-line, "If any man knows of any just reason why any

(Continued on Next Page)

# HERE'S HOW SCHENECTADY PRESENTS ITS PROGRAM



Stan Williamson, Pres. Schenectady presents Chapter Objectives for '47.'48. Giant presentation prepared by Bob Fegley. Objectives now in hands of all chapters.

# SPARK PLUGS (Continued)

one of these candidates should not be initiated into our Chapter . . . let him keep it to himself! The membership committee has approved the application of each of these candidates, and there is nothing that anyone can do about it now." This Gilbert and Sullivan atmosphere is enhanced by a rare set of props: The Bell, the Barberpole, the flowing red Robe with white-striped sleeves by Mrs. Jackson, and the superb Crown, beautifully wrought out of bright pieces of tin and shiny buttons by Brother Becker (now of the Lakewood Chapter) for the adornment of the President, as well as a large economy size Medal for the Secretary. It is a calloused initiate indeed who is not impressed by these luxurious trappings. There was a swell picture of them at the foot of this column in the August Harmonizer. In a more serious vein, the Code of Ethics is read to the candidates.

Of course, if you should happen to drop in on one of those nights when we hit the Jack-pot; when the Elastic Four AND the Harmonizers AND the Misfits are singing each other off the stage, to say nothing of the Mid-States, the Big Towners, the Knights of Harmony, and the Vets . .. well, even the Audience has to take a back seat!

# A Typical Stanger Post-Curd Notice

### The Pitchpipe

Now that the GREAT CHICAGO-LAND CHORUS has made a success of the Chicago Tribune's Annual Music Festival, we are resting upon Frank Thorne's laurels ... much too tired for literary composition at 98 degrees Fahrenheit.

Let us not forget our next Regular Meeting and INITIATION NIGHT, Friday, Aug. 22, 9 P. M.; Chorus Rehearsal at 8.

Soft-ball fanciers will want to scout the game between South Town and Pioneer Chapters on Thursday, Sept. 4, 6:30 P. M. . . . place unannounced by Pioneer's self-styled first-bass-man Hank Stanley. Louis March will soon announce our own unbeaten\* team's first practice.

Hugo 8-18-47

\*(The fact that our vaunted team had never met an epponent did not make it a bit less "unbeaten"!)—F. H. T.

# HELP! HELP! HELP!

Send Spark Plug ideas for better chapter meetings to Frank Thorne, 6216 W. 66th Place, Chicago (38), Ill.

# Spark Plugs Reader Writes

"After seeing you at Milwaukee this past June, and reading the Harmonizer, I feel as though I have known you a long time . . . the thing that prompts me to write you now is to ask you to have you enter an idea into your column called 'Spark Plugs'.

"Back about the Fall of 1940, I had an opportunity to attend a few meetings of the SPEBSQSA Chicago Chapter and the thing that impressed me was the way the members mixed, they would come around before meeting time and there was always some one trying to get a 4th so it afforded a wonderful chance to break the ice, and made a new man feel right at home.

"I believe that idea should be passed along."

FRANK J. RIEDEL, Leucadia, Calif.

# BOARDMAN BELLOWS— THOUSANDS CHEER

Bd. member Jean Boardman is also secretary of Washington, D. C. Chapter. In his column in Sharp Notes, the chapter bulletin he wrote:

"Back in the days before I was promoted to secretary and was just plain president, one of the things I never got around to yapping about was quartet etiquette. The first rule is: When four other guys are making like a quartet, let 'em sing. Don't join in unless you are invited, which you won't be. When you feel creeping over you that urge to demonstrate how much better you could sing that tenor or that baritone, just remember that there is a lot of owencash in the best of us—and fight it, brother, fight it.

"Did you ever notice how many polite old quartet men there are going around with some teeth missing? Could be we got 'em knocked out by mouthing in once too often!

"If you must be one more than four, join a basketball team—or maybe they will let you be a Dionne quintuplet or something; but don't forget that this is the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing, and that you wouldn't give a plugged nickel to join a society for the preservation, etc., of quintet singing."

It is unlikely that anyone cares to argue the point with Jean. First—everybody agrees in principle. Second—he's a lawyer.

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



"Sure I'll be at"

# **GRAND RAPIDS**

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===FIFTH ANNUAL=

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# Ontario Harmonie

By Hughbert J. Hamilton

Each quarter brings the welcome tidings of one or more new chapters being chartered. On Friday, Oct. 17.
Amherstburg was officially brought into the Society and the Ontario District with an unusually brilliant gaththe border attending the charter presentation. Windsor, the sponsoring chapter, sent The Canadianaires to make their first appearance since being crowned district champions on Oct. 11. The popular "champs" received a surprise welcome home from their 400-mile contest trip when a large party of their fellow chapter members and wives met at the railnembers and wives met at the rail-road station and a victory party in their honor followed. The quartet shared honors on Oct. 25 with the international champions, The Doctors, at London's third annual Parade which also featured the chapter chorus of forty, making its first public appearance. Once again a portion of the London show was broadcast across Canada through a national hook-up of the Canadian Broadcasting Corpor-ation. Full advantage was taken of this extensive air coverage to advance the cause of barbershopping, and valuable organization contacts are looked for as a result. Charter Night at Brantford, on Nov. 8, was largely attended and the chapter's healthy growth is now assured. Almost 100% of the membership had attended a similar function at Kitchener on Sept. 13 when International Board Member Les Davis officiated at the 



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### WALLACEBURG, ONT. CHORUS



Generally acclaimed as one of the best choruses in the Society. Wallaceburgers came by bus to Detroit Chapter meeting and took the crowd by storm. Canada can be very proud and so are all the boys in the States, who have beard the Wallaceburgers

charter presentation. Fortified by a dinner of "Kitchener's special dish"—sauer-kraut and pigtails—the gathering heard The Thames Valley Four, London; The Ambitious City Four, Hamilton, and The Queen City Four, Toronto. The revival of the largest annual exhibition in the world (the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto) saw barber shop quartet singing recognized in a big way when a special parade arranged by Toronto Chapter was heard by 6000 visitors and a substantial donation to underprivileged children resulted. While their main parade will not be held until March, the amazing total of 1200 advance ticket sales is reported. Two of Toronto's quartets, the Cowling Brothers and the Regents, were in the first five at the District Contest, held at Hamilton on Oct. 11. Hamilton's "preserving and encouraging" efforts were demonstrated by the fact that the home chapter had five entries in the Contest. The "Night of Harmony", Oct. 4. was Chatham's first parade attempt and the auditorium's 836 seats were completely sold out two weeks prior to the show. Then quartets and the choruses of Chatham and Wallaceburg provided ample justification for the name of the event. The stimulus to quartetting by such a gathering of talent has resulted in the formation of two new quartets in the chapter. The Wallaceburg Chorus has gained wide populariy thanks to 58 good voices and the direction of E. Von Ayres. Seventy members of the chapter, which naturally included the complete chorus, journeyed to Detroit on Sept. 19 for "Wallaceburg" Night".

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### MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Tennessee's only Chapter meets at Peabody Hotel. Chorus under Charley Cromwell, M. H. (Master of Harmony) rehearses one-and-a-half hours before each meeting. Secretary Elford A. Lumpkin, in his last bulletin, evaluates Chapter membership in this novel way:

Per Capita Tax, \$3.00; 4 Harmonizers, worth \$2.00 or more; 12 Song Arrangements per year worth \$3.00 or more; 24 Chapter Bulletins, \$2.40 or more; 24 Meetings full of fun worth \$24.00 or more; 36 Hours of barmony instruction worth \$72.00 or more; 72 Hours of good fellowship worth \$72.00 or more; Total \$178.40 — and it costs Chapter members only \$5.00 a year (42 cents a month).

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# DO YOU REMEMBER?

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

Who Done It? Two years ago come November we did a piece for the Harmonizer about Coney Island Baby in which we reproduced part of a letter from Les Applegate claiming that he wrote it in Muncie, Indiana in 1924.

Then followed letters from all over the country from fellows who sang or heard it sung (in slightly different form) as far back as 1914. Two years ago come November Sig Spaeth, probably the best authority in the country on song lore, did a piece for the Rotarian on Home On the Range in which he credits this old classic to Bob Swartz and offers mighty convincing facts to prove it. Now from Rus Cole comes a copy of the August "Cattleman" with about five pages of the gol-ding-inest collection of details that just as convincingly trace this number to a Dr. Brewster Higlev who didn't even know Bob Swartz.

Now don't get the idea that we're trying to start an argument. Point is that we're just trying to show how difficult it is to trace an old song when you haven't anything to go on except memories. Personally we're going to string along with Sig who knew about the Higley claim but thinks the facts favor Bob Swartz.

That's good enough for us. As for Coney Island Baby, the Library of Congress has no record of it, and until someone can offer us something concrete to prove otherwise we're still going to have to string along with Les Applegate.

Euroka! Hoopla!! and a couple of Whoopers!!! Thanks to Tom Jones of Canton. Ohio, the correct title of the song Lee Osmon has been after for lo these many moons is Leaf By Leaf the Roses Fall and he now has a copy.

Life in the You Name 'Em We'll Dig 'em up Department has been made much easier since we met (by mail, through the help of Rus Cole) W. H. N. Harding of Chicago. We won't tell you his address or you too will probably bother him to death about old songs. Friend Harding, a professional piànist hack in the good old days, accompanied most all of the headliners and a list of his personal acquaintances reads like the Who's Who of show business. Included are such greats as Harry Fox, Belle Baker, Sophie Tucker, Tascott, George Whiting, and Gene Greene, along with song writers Percy Wenrich, Fred Fischer, Leo Friedman, Will Rossiter.

Ernie Ball, Irving Berlin, and the Von Tilzers. Since retiring he's made a hobby of collecting old songs and he now has one of the largest collections in this part of the country.

We gratefully acknowledge his fine co-operation which has helped us materially in running down some of the "toughies".

We bow our head in humility and our chubby cheeks flame scarlet as we hasten to apologize to the Edwin H. Morris Co., the publishers of Dream Daddy for a slip of our typewriter which gave credit in error to someone else for this number in the August song list. So sorry, please.

"Shame on you Griswold when you say Silence Was Her Answer is corny", writes seventy-one year old Al Gamler of Ferndale, Mich. "I sang it hundreds of times as a solo, in quartets and as a gang song and it's beautiful. I've sung it in ye olde time side-room and had them crying in their heer. Sang it over the Atlantic, the Pacific, Cuba, the Philippines, and through the Suez Canal during the twenty-five years that I was in the army. Corny nothing, it's beautiful and one of the real old sentimental songs of years ago that should be revived." To prove it he sends along the words to two verses and the chorus. The correct title is the Mother Of the Girl I Love. It was written in 1897 by Wm. B. Gray who also composed She's More To Be Pitied Than Censored. The Church Across the Way, Old Jim's Christmas Hymn, Where the Chicken Got the Axe and many others.

Does anyone know where we can find a copy of Irving Berlin's Opera Burlesque from Hanky Panky for a quartet we know who could really kick this one around? And by the way did anyone ever see a piano copy of Sweet Roses Of Morn?

Probably the best human interest story connected with old songs comes to us from Kansas. It concerns a song that was published in Kansas City along about 1898 by a Mrs. Gear. The title as near as our correspondent can recall it is Put Your Head Against Your Black Mammy-O. On the cover page is an actual photograph of an old colored mammy sitting in an old chair and holding a white baby on her lap. The baby is B. E. Watt of Augusta, Kansas, a charter member of our Wichita Chapter. Watt has the original photo and is very anxious to get a copy of the song. If anyone knows where this number can be found we certainly think that Brother Watt should have it.

Belatedly we acknowledge receipt of an old copy of Delaney's Song Book from Frank Thorne which has given Ye Olde Ed many pleasant hours.

In it are such gems as Where Is My Wandering Boy Tonight, Just As the Sun Went Down, The Fatal Rose Of Red, Hello Central Give Mc Heaven and many others reminiscent of those days when a song just wasn't any good unless it made you cry.

Arthur Sweency of Baltimore who is an ardent old song enthusiast and who has been very helpful to this department in digging up data on some of the tougher inquiries tells us that Billy Mayhew is a memher of the Baltimore Chapter. Billy is the author of It's A Sin To Tell A Lie.

Art tells us that he has a couple of dandies that were never published called Dear Old Girl Of Mine and I Stumbled Right Into Heaven When I Fell In Love With You and that he lets the boys around Baltimore use them so if you hear a quartet singing one of these numbers don't write and ask where you can get a copy. You can't.

There's a number that was recorded about ten years ago by the Deer Rhythm Boys called South Bound Train that's got us stopped completely. It goes "I'm gonna ride, gonna ride that train, that south bound passenger train. I'm gonna buy me a ticket as long as my arm . . . etc.", but so far we haven't even been able to get close enough to hear the whistle. Can anyone help with this one?

And still another that has us cutting out paper dolls was recorded on a Conqueror record No. 8555 in 1939 hy the Hoosier Hot Shots and we think the title is Down In the Valley Where Roses Are Growing. Now please don't confuse this with that old one that goes "Down in the valley, the valley so low . . ." we know all about that one but this one isn't even in the same range of hills. Sears and Roebuck who owned Conqueror records, tell us that Meet Me At the Ice House Lizzie was on the back of the same record, but further they saith not and we're stopped cold. What we want is the name of the song, the composers. copyright date and the name of the publisher. Who knows?

Your grandpappy yodeled Good Sweet Ham written by Henry Hart and James E. Stewart in 1873 and it went like this: "Old ham it is the meat, for it is always good to eat, you may bake it, broil it, fry it or boil, but still it's always sweet." Do you remember?

# It Helps to Know About a Song

Here are the comments by the Song Arrangements Committee, Don D. Webster, Chairman, upon the two songs most recently issued in loose leaf form and the song in this issue.

"Daisy" and "Annie Rooney" (September Release)

The committee has reached in the bag and pulled out a couple of grand old songs with a distinct "Gay Nineties" flavor

The composer of "Daisy", Harry Dacre, was an English song writer. On a trip to America be brought his bicycle along and discovered he had to pay duty on it. One of the first persons he met upon arrival was Wm. Jerome, dean of American song writers, who pointed out that if the bicycle had been built for two it would have cost him double duty. This prompted Dacre to write a song and, "Daisy Bell" furnished the romancing. He couldn't promise her "a carriage" but a bicycle built for two.

"Annie Rooney" was composed and first sung by Michael Nolan from the stages of English Music Halls in the late '80's. When first introduced in America, it became popular immediately and soon became a best seller. Like "Rosy O'Grady" and "Daisy" it became a great favorite when good fellows got together.

These songs were arranged by Phil Embury for the Warsaw, New York Chorus and are especially good for chorus work.

"Honey Gal"
(October Release)

Appropriately the Arrangements Committee proudly salutes the new International Champions—The Doctors of

Harmony with one of their own songs, "Honey Gal".

The composer of this song is the popular tenor of the champs, H. H. "Jumbo" Smith. Incidentally, "Jumbo" has written several songs for the quartet and they have become famous among barbershoppers.

"Jumbo" tells us that he writes the lyrics and melody of the song and gets the boys together to work out the harmonies. No one will question the fact that the finished job is Grade A.

"Honey Gai" features that good old syncopated rhythm and some very interesting progressions. It's the kind of song that requires extra effort to learn, but once you master it, you'll get a new thrill.

"How Can I Leave Thee?"

(In This Issue)

This is one of those old sweet numbers which used to be classified in collections under the head of "Heart Songs". There is no doubt about the ability of its sweet harmony and lyrics to tug at the heart strings. That is why so many schools and colleges have adopted the tune.

The song is a very old German folk song which has been translated into English and published for the last 75 years or more with a considerable number of variants in the text, depending upon what the translator got from the German, or how he wanted to twist the lyrics to make them rhyme in English.

Any quartet that wants a real sweet one can't go wrong with this number.

(Arranged by Deac Martin)

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### BALLADAIRES



These Jersey City girls saug for 15,000 on the Mall in Central Park, N. Y. City. Jim Mathews (Withered Four) heard 'em and invited them to appear on the Paterson Parade this month. L. to R.—Anne Lynch, lead; Edna Eckes, bari; Muriel Lynch, tenor; Hilda Maechler, bass.

# 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
Coal Black Mammy	1921	St. Helier & Cliff	Francis, Day & Hunter
Come After Breakfast, Bring Your Lunch An'			, -
Leave 'Fore Supper Time	1909	Brymn, Smith & Burris	Remick Music Corp.
Down At the Huskin' Bee	1909	Rosenfeld & Henry	E. B. Marks
Dress My Mother Wore, The	1914	Sunshine & Marshall	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
Game Of Love, The	1904	Smith & Levi	Charles K. Harris
Honey Man (My Little Lovin' Honey Man)	1911	McCarthy & Piantadosi	Leo Feist, Inc.
Honeymoon	1906	Hough, Adams & Howard	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
I'd Like To Be In Peachland With A Peach Like You	1912	Spencer & Brown	M. Witmark & Sons
In the Harbor of Home Sweet Home	1910	Denison & Holmes	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
I'd Rather Be A Lobster Than A Wise Guy	1907	Madden & Morse	F. B. Haviland
In the Land Of Love With the Songbirds	1915	F. Wallace Rega	Root & McKinley
It's A Small World After All	1919	Sterling & Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer
Keep Your Eye On the Girlie You Love	1916	Gerber, Johnson & Schuster	Leo Feist, Inc.
Leaf By Leaf the Roses Fall	1911	Whitson & Williams	Will Rossiter
Lindy Lady	1923	Percy Weinrich	Leo Feist, Inc.
Lonesome and Blue	1923	Edwin Tillman	M. M. Cole
Molly Come Drive the Cows Home	1899	J. A. Wallace	Charles K. Harris
Mother Of the Girl I Love, The	1897	Wm. B. Gray	E. B. Marks
Oh, Brother What A Feelin'	1921	Phil Cook	Robbins Music Co.
Playmates	1889	Наггу Dacre	Published in England
Sylvie	1904	Billings & O'Connor	G. W. Syechell
That Is the Time For Sweethearts	1911	Hawcroft & Nye	Ora Nye
When I Was Twenty One And You Were Sweet Sixteen	1911	Williams & Van Alystyne	Jeroine H. Remick
When the Harvest Moon Is Shining On the River	1904	Lamb & Henry	E. B. Marks
When the Old Gang's Back On the Corner	1945	Hoffman Grupp, Mills & Lampl	Arrow Music Co.

# Ohio 741- Notes

By James H. Emsley

Alliance reports hopes of establishing a chapter in Lisbon . . . Akron played host to the entire Cleveland chapter (and some strays from Canton) on Cleveland's scheduled visitation . . . Berea's first parade, with all-Ohio talent showed there was no need to import a "name" quartet to fill an auditorium. The Magpies and Suburban Knights have cooperated with the Kiwanis Cluh is staging one of their Community shows. Canton has already started its tour of small towns and staged a show at New Cumberland, with Mineral City and Dellroy to follow . . . Cleveland has adopted a policy of visiting some other chapter once a month — Medina and Akron have already taken the cure. Columbus held 2 outdoor meetings, promoted a "Tenor Night" and traveled by chartered bus to Springfield to attend the charter presentation there. Dayton sponsored Piqua's charter and now has turned its attention to Lebanon. Its Gem City 4 won the Cincinnati Post award at Concy Island and the Four Men while conventioning in Los Angeles entertained Boh Hope et al. Findlay's Old Mill Stream Chapter has set Feb. 14 as the date of its first parade—and its WFIN Harmonizers won st place in the Ohio Elk's Contest, and the chapter promoted a public song-fest at Riverside Park which at-

### "THAT COMMON MAN"



Int'l. Bd. member Dick Common gets around. Here he has just turned some neat phrases and is about to hand the new Plqua, Ohio charter to Elwood Wallace, Pres.

tracted 8000 people. The 4 Naturals of Toledo and the Fremont 4 participated . . . Hamilton held a joint meeting with Middletown and is training a chorus for its forthcoming parade. Lakewood's busy chorus and/or one or more of its perapetetic quartets, the Yachtsmen, 4 Steps of Harmony, the Chordial 4 and the Arsenic 4 were at Berea's Festival of Harmony, a Parma

Day Celebration, a Holy Grail Commandery K. T. Garden Party, or a Cleveland Indian Ball Game. Mansfield's chorus is shaping up and a minstrel show is planned to introduce them to the public together with their Shelby 4 and Century Quartet. Massilon now has a new director, Clarence Dretke, and he is pointing the chorus towards the parade on Dec. 5 . . Medina's ehorus rooted itself in the public mind by giving a concert in the parks in the heart of town, and warmly welcomes Cleveland visitors with their Lamps and Ramblers . . Middletown hit "High C" with Carroll Adams as MC and on their very first parade presented a pattern it would do well to copy. An after-glow, served ala carte followed the parade. Write L. A. Pomeroy, 1220 Lind St., Middletown for details . . . a chartered bus handled 30 men to Piqua's charter party and in August, with the Cincinnati, Dayton and Hamilton chapters, they boated on the beautiful Ohio River—and in Sept. they converged on Springfield with the Middletones and 26 crows to croak the gospel of the Society, yet found time to interest Eaton, Ohio and Richmond, Ind., in our aims. Piqua since being chartered July 26 has visited Dayton, Cincinnati and Springfield, entertained its ladies and furnished entertainment on 6 occasions to various groups . . . they meet at the Legion and have 3 quar-



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TELL ME YOU'LL FORGIVE ME Frank H. Thorne TIE ME TO YOUR APRON STRINGS AGAIN......Bill Diekema WHEN THE MAPLE LEAVES WERE FALLING Frank H. Thorne

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### DOFASCOLITES, Hamilton, Ontario



The Dofascolites sing L. to R. as—Frank Bingham, hass; Bert Hendershot, Lead; Jim Ackles. Tenor: Herb Hodgson, bari, Why is it that most baris look so bland and calmly self assured?

tets, the Clod Hoppers, the Piqua Ramblers and the Favorite City 4. Springfield's Shawnee Hotel on Sept. 6, was the scene of a charter party where Nelson White, Ohio State Assn. past-prexy presented the charter. Toledo let its 4 Naturals carry the ball this summer reporting a trip to Temperance, Mich., in the interests of chapter extension, a radio program and a chapter affair at the NYC Gun Club where all the crows were hunted down. Warren's Song Vendors and chorus under the direction of Carl F. Schieg are planning a minstrel this fall and a parade on Feb. 21, and also eyeing Youngstown as a chapter site. Last but not least is Wellington, who organized on Aug. 19th.

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WRITES GOOD LETTER

Skeet Bohls, Pres., Lafayette (Ind.) writes in part as follows about Charter Night: "You no doubt have had, some time or another, a depressed or empty feeling; you know—the feeling you get upon departing from a visit with close relatives, visits that are few and far between. That's just the way I have been today . . . I have a few old friends who have been 'barbershopping' for a long time; I have attended a couple of District Contests; but not until our Charter Night did I begin to fully appreciate the fraternal value of our Society . . Those who have said that 'men are happy when they sing' and that 'singing is a pleas-

ant means of relief from the pressure of modern life' never spoke truer words.

"Because of my love for the teaching profession, my wife and I have long ago, accepted . . . a very modest economic existence, for whatever length of span our lives may be. But in SPEBSQSA, one never thinks of whether he has something more or less than his fellow members; he sings with laborers, plumbers, firemen, policemen, students, ministers, teachers, presidents, etc. etc., because we are all there for the same reason—we love to sing and harmonize just for fun. I don't see how there can possibly be a better foundation upon which any organization can stand."

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# Indiana-Kentucky

By Frank D. Vogt

Michigan City held picnic in Washing-Michigan City held picnic in Washington Park on the shores of Lake Michigan, group singing led by Rudy Hart followed by Tunesmiths of Mishawaka. Afterglow at the Yacht Club, at tended by Barbershoppers and wives, excellent, with audience having as much fun as the nicked in ing as much fun as the picked-up quartets. Lafayette held charter night Sat, Sept. 27, before a packed house in the Armory. 3 local quartets, the Downtowners, Canoe Tippers and the Varsity 4 of Purdue U.; the Rippleaires of Indianapolis, Sentimental 4 and Colonial 4—It. Wayne; Carpenter Bros.—Gary, Tune Twisters, Oak Park and Midstates 4—Chicago all did a bang up job. Carl Jones of Terre Haute led community singing. Carroll Adams as M.C. introduced Fred Gregory, District President of Brazil, Frank Vogt, District Secretary, of Elkhart, and International Board Member Ted Haberkorn, who officially presented Charter. This chapter has a fine start with 3 quartets and excellent Chorus. Watch it grow. Louis-ville—The So. Indiana-Kentucky Music Festival held in Hutton's Park in Scottsburg, Ind., with audience of 2,000 heard everything from long hair to hill-billy in barhershop style. Kentucky Troubadors and Firesiders, to-gether with radio stars from WLW Cincinnati and WHAS Louisville. M.C. Fritz Drybrough had the Chordinals, 3 girls and Boh Ising sandwiched between numbers. An 80 voice Chorus went to Corydon, August 18th, entering the Harrison County Fair grounds on a hay wagon drawn by a span of horses. On the program also was the Corydon 20 voice shorts. Sort was the Corydon 30 voice chorus. Sept. 22 the Louisville chorus entertained the Vets at Nicholas Hospital, assisted the Vets at Nicholas Hospital, assisted by the Mixed-up 4, Chordinals, Firesiders and Kentucky Troubadors. Troubadors highly honored when asked to sing at the Charlevoix, Mich. Parade, Aug. 30, some 700 miles away. Corydon. During July the chapter went to English, Ind., where they put on a Community night program and also entertained various towns along the Southern R. R. on the way home with some good old fashioned Barbershop Harmony. So. Bend's new Barbershop Harmony. So. Bend's new officers have been keeping things humming. July meeting was held at Magician Lake as guests of Dr. O'Dell. Annual picnic at Isaac Walton Club Harna Avg. with 45 out of Club House, Aug. 8 with 45 out of town guests present, with Clem De-Rose as M.C., introducing Doctors of Harmony, Tone Poets, Carpenter Bros., Harmonaires, Tunesmiths and others. Chapter has 2 new quartets in the making, 4 Reco Sportsmen and Pick-Up 4. Muncie is another chapter going after Barbershop Harmony in a big way under its new officers, as witness the new shell, costing nearly \$3,000, with Muncie Eve. Press and the Muncie Star agreeing to match dollar for dollar with the Chapter. The shell is 50 ft. long, 25 ft. wide and 16 ft. deep. Nov. 1st parade was a sure fire success from the start, with the Doctors of Harmony, Harmony Halls, Misfits, Songfellows, Harris Triplets and the Muncie Chorus. Evansville. Our 1947 District Cham-

### "ON THE 5:15"



Here is the Louisville delegation just before they boarded the two special cars for Milwaukee Convention. Fritz Drybrought, Pres. in checkered sport shirt, left center. Bob Ising, Chorus Director leading singing. Can you spot Fred Gregory, Ind.-Ky. District president in the second row? The Troubadors are out front. (Courier-Journal photo).

pions, the Songfellows, entertained at the Shrine Banquet, Jr. C.C., Brazil Picnic, Jasper, Hardware Men's Ass'n, French Lick Springs, Evans-ville C.C. and the Indiana Fire Chief State Convention. Jerry Beeler's Elks Club quartet almost equally busy. Wabash. On Sat., Sept. 27, the Wabash Tunesmiths took an active part in the Peru Male Chorus Anniversary Program. Ft. Wayne has 142 active members, 4 active quartets and 40 voice chorus, all sponsoring inter-chapter relation conscientiously; Chorus appeared at Grabill Public Parade, North Side Civic Ass'n., Cedarville Park to help raise funds for a new bldg and Ft. Wayne Sport Show. Chorus has raised \$550 for new uniforms. The Sentimental 4, Hobby Harmonizers and 6 ft. 4 made a total of 65 public appearances in the last 3 month period. Jasper—The charter presentation night was planned for an audience of 600.—750 attended. Such fine talent as the Jasper Chorus, Desk City 4, Hardway 8, Minor Chords, McPhee 3, Sycamores, Lords of Chords, Elks Club quartet, Ken-tucky Troubadors and the Songfellows helped make this night a success. President Carl Stuehrk says 75% of the work was done by J. 75% of the work was done by J. Beeler, but we believe he must have done a bang up job himself to make this charter night such a success, and giving the net proceeds to the Hospital Benefit Fund. Brazil—annual picnic exceptional. Chapter was host to nic exceptional. Chapter was host to 250 guests at chicken supper, later audience of 1,000 heard Kentucky Troubadors, Elks Club quartet, Jordanaires, Minor Chords, McPhee 3 and combined Brazil and Terre Haute chorus, and the Carpenter Bros., Gil Carpenter being M.C. The afterglow was M.C.d by District President Fred Carpenty. The highlight of the evening Gregory. The highlight of the evening was the Lords of the Chords arriving in horse drawn "surrey with fringe on the first their wives. Tell City— This newly formed chapter really likes barbershop harmony as 2 carloads drove 50 miles to attend an Evansville meeting, Aug. 3-125 members enjoyed themselves at the annual Ladies Day Picnic in Hoosier Heights. The 30 voice chorus sang at the Evanston, Ind., R.E.A.; Swiss City 4 sang at the Perry County 4H Club Fair and the Tell City Furniture Co. picnic.

Interchapter relations furthered when 20 members went to Jasper Charter night presentation. Hammond has set a goal of 100 members. Watch this chapter and see their goal come true. Mishawaka — The Tunesmiths appeared at Reeds Casino, a Birthday Party, Spanish Terrace, Benefit Show at Buchanan H.S., Michigan picnic, Playland Park; Niles, Mich. Chapter, Woolen Co. Hobby Show, Gary Chapter, Veterans picnic, Niles; Purdue Club at LaSalle Hotel and Decauter, Mich. Celery Show. Elkhart was fortunate in holding their meetings during the summer months at Spanish Terrace, Christiana Lake with the cooperation of Mishawaka Chapter. On Sept. 20 the Elkhart Chapter had one of the best parades ever held before a capacity audience of 1700. Program included Doctors of Harmony, 4 Harmonizers and 7 other quartets. A new quartet, The Chromatics, rated one of Big Joe Westendorf's war whoops and that is something in itself. The Melodians are together again. Terre Haute-Editorials from local papers were generous with publicity on recent Inter-Chapter relations picnic, Sat., Sept. 20th, held at Hulman's Forest Park. 612 present, 38 from Evansville, 32 from Indianapolis, 6 from Jasper, and 94 from Brazil. From Illinois-43 from Mattoon, 38 from Charleston, 8 from Tuscola, 6 from Peoria, 2 from Champaign and 6 from Danville, John Hanson and his 92 voice Corn Belt Chorus were superb as were the 1945 International Champs, the Misfits; the 1947 Ind.-Ky. District Champs and all the rest of the 17 quartets. Let's hope they make this an annual affair. Indianapolis 20 strong attended the Brazil Inter-chapter picnic, and with them the Rippleaires who were making their first appearance before a barbershop group. On September 20members and wives attended Terre Haute picnic. The Rippleaires also appeared at the Lafayette charter presentation. We are going strong on chapter expansion, and have secured David L. Mann as Chorus Director.

# Mid-Atlantic States

by J. J. (Jack) Briody

Neither the heat nor the humidity of the past quarter could dampen the spirit of the gang from Washington, D. C., Chapter. Meetings were held regularly each week and the Chorus under the direction of Dr. Robert Harmon went to town rehearsing for the Chapter's Harvest of Harmony held October 24th, in Constitution Hall. Headed by Jean Boardman, the chorus and quartets staged a complete two hour show for the benefit of Second Baptist Church Choir Fund. On July 22nd, Ed Place, Publicity Man, got a burst of National publicity for the Society, by having the Diplomats photographed singing to Senator Capehart of Indiana in a barber chair with Representative Grant of the home District of the Doctors of Harmony looking on. The picture seems to have been reproduced in about every important paper in the United States. Jersey City's Garden State Quartet did their bit on the stage of Dickinson High School for the opening of the Community Fund Drive. The 1-2-3 Four made their monthly visits to Halloran Hospital on Staten Island to entertain the shut-in veterans quartered there. The Wildela Four of Diamond State, Wilmington, Del. No. 2 Chapter sang all summer at many civic affairs. The quartet journeyed to Marlton, N. J. on September 20th for appearance in Parade sponsored by the Camden, N. J. Chapter . . . Meetings in the form of outdoor picnics were the warm weather menu of the Bloomsburg, Pa., Chapter. These get togethers were held each month with the ladies invited. The Parlor City Four resumed activities with appearances at District Boy Scout Camp and the Methodist Church . . . On September 3rd, the Harmony Four of Bridgeton, N. J., Chapter sang at a Public Band Concert. The same foursome entertained at picnic of Penns-Grove Chapter on September 7th. Under the capable direction of Lawrence Anderson the chorus, showing marked improvement, staged a concert on September 30th . . . Bronx, N. Y. Chapter's Hook and Ladder Four was the feature attraction in Madison Square Garden at the convention of Fire Chiefs . . . Baltimore No. 2 Chapter did not engage in any special out-door activities. Highlight of the quarter was a dinner meeting on August 5th, at the Rolling Road Golf Club... On August 14th, the Chordblenders with President Jim Selby and Chorus Leader, Walter Groff of the Philadelphia, Pa., Chapter appeared on Television Broadcast over station WPTZ (Phileo), for a 15 minute program, introducing to the television populace of Philadelphia our Society and giving them a few quartet numbers . . . Secretary Nick Saccomanno, reports the Garfield, N. J., Chapter busy planning a ladies night in the near future. Also getting prepared to stage third Parade of Quartets sometime in February . . . Teaneck, N. J., Chapter's four quartets have been busy singing at various

PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

5th Annual

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# Northeastern District

by Stub Taylor

Holyoke, Mass., first Parade Sept. 13 was MCed by John Sbrega, Im. Past Pres. Quincy, Mass., entertained a blind group at Women's City Club and assisted at Reading Charter Night and Boston organization meeting, all before its own charter night Oct. 25. Middleburg, N. Y., visited Schenectady Chapter in Aug., entertained District and Schenectady officers in September; chorus provided highly appreciated programs at county firemen's ass'n meeting and Schoharie Eastern Star meeting. Bridgeport, Conn., chorus and quartets in past year have rendered outstanding public service by entertainments for Veterans Hospital, State Hospital, Amer. Legion party, Salvation Army broadcast, Boys Club, V.F.W., United Italian Charities and free public concert, and sent quartets to 6 Parades. Northampton, Mass., school of harmony and sight reading started in Oct., following Parade featuring Garden Staters and Chordettes, benefit infantile paralysis fund. Chapter is District leader in inter-chapter relations and extension work. New Bedford, Mass., wiped out deficit on YWCA swimming pool, used for polio therapeutics, by putting on 2-hr. show at the H. S. on Sept. 27. In July, entertained Methodist Camp Meeting, and the chorus broadcast on national hook-up for Centennial Week. Sponsored organization of large Boston chapter Sept. 23. Jolly Whalers placed 2nd in Dist. contest Oct. 18. Neptuners, who won 3rd place, captured in August the R. I. State Championship

(not SPEBSQSA event). Entire chapter assisted Quincy's charter night Oct. 25, and has given generous cash donations to several local funds. Waterbury, Conn., had a most unique charter night Sept. 6, featuring six Connecticut c h o r u s e s, interspersed with quartets. Supplied judges in August for municipal juvenile quartet contest. Terryville, Conn., entertained at Masonic Ladies' Night in Oct. and put on evening show in Nov. for a church at Thomaston, Conn. Activities of Marlboro, Mass., chapter include service to Chamber of Commerce, Amer. Legion, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, teachers' and firemeu's conventions. A quartet on Sept. 6 assisted in benefit performance for local polio victim. Rockville, Conn., had a steak roast outing in August, and the chorus participated in a State-wide German Singing Society picnic, receiving wide publicity. Meriden (Conn.) Silver City Chapter chorus and Silvertone Quartet in September assisted in Wallingford, Conn., sell-out minstrel show, benefit Community Nurse Ass'n, also participated in YMCA broadcasts over WMMW. Reading, Mass., charter nite Sept. 27, sponsored by Northampton, (40 members attended), provided excellent entertainment by Reading, Marlboro and Northampton choruses and quartets. Engraved barberpole gavel was presented to Hal Staab, who MCed. Chapter has already provided entertainment for 3 civic and community organizations. Schenectady, N. Y., embarked on ambitious program of 15 objectives for improvement, including woodshedding (quartet development) and College of Barbershop Knowledge (monthly music

# OTH Michigan District Contest

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instruction by experts). Originated and bestowed title "Ambassador of Barbershop Harmony" on 3 key members who moved West. Established "Oscar" awards for outstanding work in stipulated activities. Dorp Chordsmen received Shrine certificate for Hartford benefit Parade performance. Harmoneers won District Championship Oct. 18. Chorus presented program at Lake Ceorge Park after boatride July 27, and at church field day Sept. 6. Art Merrill's back yard set

the scene for chorus on Sept. 9 Ladies' Night. Visits exchanged with Middleburg. Continued H. S. vocal scholarship awards as feature of Nov. 14 Parade. Springfield, Mass. picnicked July 28 at Clarence Taylor's home in Agawam, having whale of a good time. Street Walkers included Leeds (Mass.) Veterans Hospital in its summer engagements. Troy, N. Y., rehearsing for two shows in Nov. and Dec. Has participated in several Veterans' eyents. Has a popular double quartet.

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### WISCONSIN'S CHAMP FOUR-TY



"It's the song ye sing and the smile ye wear that's amaking the sun shine everywhere"... Riley.

Not content with just a lot of good quartets, Wisconsin also has a District chotus contest. Here are the boys from Sheboygan who are 1947-48 champs. Charlie Paulhaber whipped them into sbape originally and now Henry Beyer carries on as conductor.

# Land O' Lakes

By Tom Needham

LaCrosse chorus spread cheer by singing at the Infirmary and the Home for the Aged; also sang for the Vets Hospital at Tomah. The Old Style Quartet sang at sixteen various gathings; Casey's Four Wheelers at four. Marinette announced election of M. E. Maxwell to fill unexpired term of vice president, vacated by F. B. Hoffman, who resigned due to out-of-town business duties. Quartets are kept busy singing for local affairs. Racine aims to be the No. 1 chapter in Wisconsin, is adding ten members a month and wants total to reach 150. All and wants total to reach 150. All quartets and 40 chorus members appeared in 13th annual Kiwanis minstrel show. Gay 90's Four made two repeat performances at Great Lakes Naval Hospital. Plans have heen laid for annual Harmony Jubilee. Beaver Dam's second annual quartet parade featured the Harmony Halls, Midstates and Hilles Guest chorus from Madiand Hi-Los. Guest chorus from Madison almost stole the show. Local fours included the Three O'clock Four, B Flat Beavers and Monarch Range Four. Beaver Dam chorus with Harvey Vorpahl directing, the Four-teeners and community singing led by Tom Needham rounded out one of Wisconsin's best shows. Result . . . local citizens are completely sold on Barbershop entertainment. Wisconsin Rapids has exchanged visits with Waupaca, held three pienics, entertained the ladies and has laid plans for a parade, as well as a special Christmas Concert. The Four Clippers Quartet of Sheboygan with Joe Hertel, tenor, Roland Burkard, lead, Ed. Heidenreiter, bass and Joe Francis. bari had more engagements than they could fill, but sang for thirteen organizations. Wanted . . . choral director for Austin Chapter chorus. Contact K. L. Meyer, Sec. Eagles Club

has donated meeting rooms. Eagles Quartet helped entertain ladies on Sept. 20. New Quartets are The After-Glow Worms and the Cedar Valley Four. Virginia Chapter did such a good job representing their city in other communities that the city council gave them \$300 for expenses. Basic plans have been laid for the third annual minstrel show. The Frequently Flat Four of Oshkosh were favorites at the Waupaca parade and the Waupun summer picnic. Residents of Waukesha have been pleasantly sur-prised so many times with impromptu quartet singing in hotels, clubs, parks and on street corners that the whole town is clamoring for a parade, arrangements for which are being made. Chorus and quartets, including the Harmony Busters. Spring City Four and the Four Blue Notes, sang for no less than 25 engagements. These included Vets Hospitals and organizations, American Legion, Sanitariums and the Carroll College Music Festival. Wisconsin vacationers were serenaded when the Waupaca Chapter chorus and families took a "Chain-O-Lakes" cruise. Picnic lunch served when the launch docked. Trichapter get-together has been arranged with Wisconsin Rapids and Wausau. The Four Keynotes, District champs, are on the go constantly for Appleton. A newly organized quartet, the Chord Cutters, are doing so well that their singing is already in demand. Big plans for a minstrel show are well under way. Green Bay's new choral director is Russell Widoe, program director of station WDU. WJPG and WJPG-FM. He obtained Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from Northwestern University. Bright is the future of the Green Bay Chapter chorus. Active reorganized quartets include the Harmony Limited Quartet and the Packer City Four. Entire chapter will participate in charter night for Marinette. Green Bay was host at Land O' Lakes District Quartet contest. It was a smoothly run affair and results will be reported later. Milwaukee Chapter has detailed inter-chapter relations with half a dozen nearby groups, including Raeine, Kenosha, Waukesha, Wauwatosa and Chicago. Chorus will sing a half-hour concert over WTMJ-WTMJ/FM on Dec. 28. Winter Carnival of Harmony is set for Feb. 21. Hi-Los and Cream City Four are particularly active.

# 4 COUNTS - OAKLAND COUNTY



Relatively new—generous contributors of their harmonies to civic affairs —"One of Michigan's comers" say those who have heard them. L. to R.— Ed Cannon, lead; Bob McGrath, bari; Bob Swanson, tenor; Bud Bacon, bass.

## ZURAH TEMPLE FOUR



These Minneapolis boys won the local Acquatennial quartet contest. Their reward was a trip to sing at Chicago Musicland Festival, Soldiers Field. L. to R.—Orin Dahl, tenor; George Van Wagenen, lead; Joe Williams, bari; Harold Ellsworth, bass.



BEAVER DAM, WISC. CHORUS As they sang in the Second Annual Parade, Sept. 20.



### IOWA - SOUTH DAKOTA OCTET

When the boys from Sioux City join the Beresford, S. D. harmonists it's likely to be Shine on Mc. L. to R.—Wm. Hogen, tenor; Al Hansen, tenor; Mike Bak, lead; Froud Lewis, lead; Mel Holm, bari; Ernie Vennard, bari; Al Henderson, bass; Chas. Combs, bass.

# Central States

by Hec White

Space prevents mention of many of the fine picnics, park concerts, open air community sings; district-wide, the chapters generously contributed their choruses and quartets for county fairs, club functions and community chest drives; a few of the more unusual are recorded. In the largest of districts, chapters in some of the smallest cities never-the-less do things in a big way. The 34 members of Kearney, Nebr. took advantage of their splendid park "sonatorium" for their charter presentation program. Their chorus and quartets, augmented by quartets from Scottsbluff and Sioux Oity, Ia., thrilled an audience of over 3000 and enhanced their treasury thru the sale of advertising in a fine 10 page printed program. The open air program was followed by an afterglow for members and visitors at the Hotel Ft. Kearney where this young chapter entertained their guests and drew upon them for plans for other events. The Des Moines, Ia. chorus and Hawkeye Four were definitely smash attractions at the Junior League show, September 26, before an audience of 3800 "paid customers" all audience of Their parties. Their proceeds going to local charities. Their part in the show proved that the public want "Barbershop" and a Parade of Champions for February 29 has been calendered. Meeting twice a month throughout the summer the young Longview, Texas chapter plans to double membership during fall and has as definite projects the formation of a high school boys burbershop choras and the starting of chapters in nearby Kilgore and Tyler in the Lone Star state. Sioux City, 1a., organized a year ago made a three-state affair of its charter presentation with quar-tets from Omaha, and Kearney, Nebr., Bersford, S. D., and Spencer, In. tak-ing part in a two hour show which included their own three quartets; the program was followed with a supper at the Moose Lodge where 500 were served. The well organized program carried 14 pages of advertising placing the chapter in sound financial position to underwrite other planned events. At the natural amphitheatre near Denver, Colo. the renditions of the chapter chorus were well received by an audience of more than 1500 . . .

Waterloo, Ia., one of the newer chapters in the state where the "tail corn grows" is busy with engagements giving good close harmony via radio station KAYX, a P.T.A. meeting and the Junior Chamber of Commerce. The chapter is in the heat of a membership campaign and is fervently working on a great chorus. Pittsburg in the sun-flower state of Kansas is seriously going after the May 1948 Regional Pre-liminary contest demonstrating that they have "what it takes". Their chorus and quartets made front page news with close harmony to a packed park audience on the hot evening of July 31 . . . It was "a natural" for the sponsors of the Santa-Cali-Gon, Inde-pendence, Mo. celebration of the anniversary of the starting of the Santa Fe Trail to call upon the Kansas City. Mo. chapter to present a two hour show depicting early American barbershop harmony. The packed auditorium, many with cultivated whiskers of the '90's, applauded the quartets and vaudeville arts as well as the 70 voice chorus which opened and closed the fast moving show; the chapter did its charity fund proud by staging the performance. At the final Community Chest Dinner the chorus furnished the entertainment and presented the chapter's check for \$500 . . . chorus and



### THE SKELODIANS, K. C., MO.

They are well innown throughout Central States district as a quarter that is always willing to get in there and pitch. L. to R.—Charlie Dukes. lead; Bob Bremer, tenor; Flob Barbour, bari; Al Johnson, bass. Does he remind any of you old timers of another famous bass—Herman Kaiser of the original Bartlesville Barflies?

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quartets are now busy on a Christmas Day thow for the disabled veterans at Excelsior Springs, Mo. The neighboring community chapters of Mexico and Centralia, Mo. now enjoy large chapter activities; they meet together regularly twice a month at alternate cities and are building a potentially great "Show-Me" chorus.

# Central-Western New York Song Chats

By Chuck Glover

Highlighting the activities of our district is a project headed by Alex Grab-horn, Buffalo Chapter in which nearly all chapters in the western 8 county area of New York state are joined together to head a drive for the es-tablishment of the Sister Kenny Treatment Fund to cope with epidemics of polio that are becoming a yearly plague in this area. We are proud that our chapters are behind such a worthy cause, and are recognizing more and more their part in doing good for the welfare of their communities . . . Binghamton, idle during summer months, came back with a bang by presenting a successful parade in September, from which \$350 was donated to Shrine Charities. Annual Golf Outing meeting held in Buffalo in August. Their first fall meeting honoring all immediate area chapter presidents was huge success with over 125 members attending. During this affair, plans were formulated to follow through on the Sister Kenny Fund Drive, They sponsored a parade at the Batavia Veteran's Hospital, which featured 8 quartets from theirs and other nearby chapters, as well as a comedy skit . . . Charter night at Corry, Pa. really had community humming with barbershop enthusiasm before an overflow crowd of over 600 in the high school auditorium, highlighted by the appearance of the West-inghouse Quartet. Their quartet, the inghouse Quartet. Their quartet, the Keystones, very active, appearing at Rotary meetings, church events, and participating in a play at the Odd Fellows. Many chapter members have made frequent visits to nearby chapter meeting nights . . . Parade at Cortland in October most successful, featuring many top flight foursomes. Seven Valley Four appeared at Palmyra Fair. Most members attend Syracuse charter night, being their Syracuse charter night, being their co-sponsors . . . Farewell dinner for Paul Zeller, now director of Dart-mouth Glee Club, started East Aurora's fall activities, followed by a most successful Ladies Night Picnic. most successful Ladies Night Fight. Aurora Four-a sang at American Banker's Association Dinner in September, also sang at Batavia Veteran's Program. Entire district happy to heard that Bill Coddington, International Board Member has completely recovered from his recent serious illness... Elmira held very inious illness . . . Elmira held very interesting meeting in October, to which several nearby chapters sent quartets . . Geneva's growth during past year very healthy. Quartets have appeared at Red Cross Campaign Kick Off Dinner, Kiwanis sponsored min-strel, Women's Choral Club. They are already sponsors of three new chapters, and their Noteworthies are seen

### \$4.00's WORTH



Here are the Silver Dollars of Rochester, N. Y. L. to R.—Lee Finkell, bari: Jack Harby, lead, and general chairman of District Contest; Al Merz, bass: Nick Kornet, tenor and former V. P. of the C.W N. Y. District Ass'n

Which one do you want out of their repertoire?

at all district activities. They are most proud of the recognition given Homer L. Scott, who, as well as being president of the C W N Y District, is also a member of the International Board a member of the International Board . . . Kenmore well organized and among numerous events have been a picnic on Grand Island, a Ladies Night at which nine quartets from nearby chapters participated, their own chorus being featured. The Fumblin' Four entertained patients at Rosewell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, and also at the Cancer Center, and have been most active in all other and have been most active in all other district activities. A novel idea was district activities. A novel idea was initiated at their recent meeting which was "Bring a Baritone Night", designed to interest members and non-members and develop baritones. Such a meeting night will be set aside for each of the other three parts. Membership of 100 is the goal at Niagara Falls. Among their activities was a Ladies Night Picnic held across the river in Canada. Harmony Chiefs, a new quartet, are getting a fine start a new quartet, are getting a fine start and along with the Lost Chords have been appearing at many affairs including the Batavia Hospital Show. Four chapter members recently appeared on a quiz show on which they copped the jackpot, a sizeable portion of which was added to the treasury New idea of attendance cards used in Jamestown meetings gives them accurate attendance records and the names of any guests. Practically the entire chapter's members and their wives attended both the Warren, Pa. and Corry, Pa. charter nights, being the sponsor for both chapters. The For Fun Four and the Four Notes are always busy and have been featured at numerous activities within the community. Chorus and quartets have been on numerous shows and church gatherings, and Service Club functions... Hornell's parade of quartets was enthusiastically received by the crowd of 1200 packing the State Armory. Their chorus was pre-

sented at a meeting of the Eric Rail-road Veteran's Association and the Erie Acounting Department Annual Picnic held recently. Their "Afterglow" held at the police station was truly a memorable occasion . . . Olean has gone Barbershop conscious in a big way since their first parade of quartets, presented to an overflow capacity of 1200 in their high school auditorium. Cards were presented to all in attendance so that they would have a preferred mailing list to contact. Chorus and quartets are plan-ning programs at institutions in the vicinity throughout the winter . . . Penn Yan all set for the winter with new meeting headquarters, chorus and two quartets featured at Booster Night for Penn Yan Grange . . . Rochester No. I conducts very interesting and pleasant meetings. Are most critical of their quartet, the Silver Dollars, which makes them have to be good. Planning many inter-chapter be good. Planning many inter-chapter meetings for the winter season. A new quartet, yet unnamed, is being developed and will be heard from soon... Charter Night at Syracuse a big event with 200 district members in attendance. Quartets from 7 chapters there, including Schenectady and Cortland, their co-sponsors. Comedy quartet, the Syra-Chords really brought the house down with their out-of-this-world act. The orchid of the week, presented by radio station WAGE was presented to Syracuse president, Mike Germain, for his efforts in establishing a chapter there. forts in establishing a chapter there, and marvelous radio publicity was gained from this . . . The Waltones, of Walton-Downsville chapter are becoming familiar in district activities. participating at both Binghamton and Syracuse, as well as singing at the annual meeting of the local G. L. F. . . . As usual, things are happening all the time at Warsaw. The Frequently Flat Four singing on many parades as well as at the Warsaw Firemen's Clam Bake, the Young Men's Club Dinner, and the Palmyra Fair. They encourage inter-chapter relations by inviting a nearby chapter as their guest to many of their regular meetings . . . Warren, Pa. Charter Night hit a new high in musical entertainment in that city. Their high school auditorium was bulging at the seams and several new members were signed on the spot. The Westinghouse Four was featured. The Every-Knighters is a quartet that certainly will be heard from plenty in the future, and another quartet, the Chord Cadets can be tops once they get the savvy of Barbershop . . . Special recognition is deserved by Warsaw, Buffalo, Geneva, and East Aurora for the marvelous monthly bulletins they are getting out to their members.

## CORRY, PENNA. CHORUS



As they sang on charter night, Sept. 6. Leftend Bill Leuby, Director.

# Michigan's Pitch Pipe by Roscoe D. Bennett

In Michigan the harmony season nevor ends . . . Neither does it begin . . Like a wheel it goes on all around and there's never a halt . . . The summer is past and it was a full season of harmony ... From the wooded shores of Lake Charlevoix to the confines of Metropolitan Detroit, the boys sang and frolicked . . . The season of parades is on now . . . Then the season of contests and then other seasons . . Jackson already has had its summer and its fall parade . . The parade was an event of Sept. 26 . . . The Doctors of Harmony, the new national champs, were the top guests . . . Ludington staged its first parade on Sept. 19 . . . The Harmony Halls, 1944 kings and the Hi-Los of Milwaukee were honor guests . . . The Lyric theater was sold out . . . So much so that next time, two shows are being planned—like the movies do—one at 7 and one at 9 . . . The affair bucked a county fair, football games and a few other things and won in a walk . . . Grosse Pointe boys went a-singing down the Detroit river for their August meeting . . . No ladies, no mosquitoes. Just singing ... The boys are planning their parade for April 17 ... Hamtramck held its first Ladies night, Oct. 1 ... More than 400 turned out ... Carroll P. Adams, international secretary and Lou Harrington divided the MC spot ... Seven quartets "worked the evening" including Hamtramck's own, the Auto City Four ... Adrian staged its annual parade on Oct. 11 ... It wasn't so much what it did but how it did it .. The boys persuaded 12 merchants to turn over their show windows for a week dies, no mosquitoes. Just singing . . . over their show windows for a week . . Then they put a sign painter to work, covering each window with announcements of the event . . sign painter was good and used colorful paint, including pictures of men singing . . . It sold out the house . . . Again Adams showed up as announcer

### COSMOPOLITANS OF G. R.



The Cosmopolitans of Grand Rapids, an up and coming quartet, preparing for the fall and winter season. From top to bottom—Cecil Watson, baritone; Peter Pell, tenor; Edward Bloem, bas and Pete VandenBosch, lead. The Cosmopolitans have been organized a little over one year and are one of the hardest working groups in the Grand Rapids area.

### BARONS OF WAYNE, MICH.



The Barons of Wayne, Mich. greet you. L. to R.—Art Truesdell, bari; "Hoop" Arthur, tenor; "Dutch" Le Baron, lead; Ed Smith, Int'l. V. P., bass. Very frequently they are confused with the Barons of Harmony, current Michigan District champions which is "also a good quartet" according to the Barons (of Wayne).

deluxe... It takes two full pages, single spaced typewriting, to record the deeds of the Boyne City chapter during the summer . . That's Sam Arbuckle's chapter . . The Boyne boys meet every week and the Snow Belt chorus rehearses the same . . . The Boyne Aires made some 100 singing appearances during the summer and early fall . . . Allegan hit the parade circuit on Oct. 2 . . . The Harmony Halls, Food City Four, Continentals and Town Criers, were among those present and chording . . The boys did not plan to make money, but they did in spite of themselves ... Mary Brower was the master of ceremonies . . . Saginaw went through its summer Saginaw went through its summer successfully... It staged its usual All-Valley picnic and its annual Harmony Howl... There were quartets galore at both as well as J. George O'Brien as master of it all... Incidentally Saginaw has 146 paid up members and five active quartets . . Grand Rapids entertained the summer session of the Michigan District Association of Chapters . . . The chapter met in business session every other week all summer and every off week at Warren Smith's shack . . . Now all are turning to for the Great Lakes Invitational . . . The Harmony Halls have returned to active work . . . The Great Lakes chorus has reorganized and is rehearsing weekly under Frank B. Goodwin . . . This chorus is looking to the day of choral competition . . . It required a bound volume for Johnny Buitendorp to tell of the Musterson shutters are more activities. kegon chapter's summer activities . . Starting from the Milwaukee convenpinchhitter, told it all . . Shad Coye, ex-Int'l. board member is moving to Grand Rapids . . . Muskegon entertained seven chapters during the summer...In turn it visited six... There were 75 Muskeronites at the Charlevoix Jamboree . . . President Len voix Jamboree . . . President Len Horton has worked out an ambitious program for the year . . . it took six typewritten pages. single spaced, to tell it all . . . Holland will stage its second annual parade on March 19 ... M. J. Anderson, secretary of the Ludington chapter is moving to Lansing ... Sturgis is staging its annual parade on Dec. 6 . . . Ann Arbor is meeting twice a month and in between times the boys are reading a new chapter bul-letin which is making regular appear-ances . . . Oakland County chapter is trying the door prize idea at its meetings . . . Mt. Pleasant staged its Festival of Harmony on Oct. 18 . . . It packed the house and there were barber-shoppers from all over the state . . . Willis Diekema, new Int'l. Board mem-

ber, was among those in the front rows . Wayne's parade was held on Nov. 7th . . . The members met with the Dearborn chapter in August for a joint picnic . . Redford is building itself a shall to be unveiled at the parade on Jan. 17 . . . Traverse City chapter drew an editorial in the Record-Eagle there because of its announced plan of a full week of Christmas music for the community . . . "The idea of the Christmas music program is an excellent one and should get full community support", says the piece
... Ionia has appointed a new parade
committee with the idea of drumming
up a show in the near future
... Charlevoix—The fifth annual four-day jamboree and harbershop singing festival was spectacular in its success, Aug. 29, 30, 31 and Sept. 1. Outstanding of course was the spectacular stage setting the product of Al Young's wizardy and creative artistic genius. But from the time the first guests began to arrive on Friday until the last far well was waved on Monday, the woods and parks of this summer resort resounded with harmony.

On Saturday night the big show was unveiled at the High school auditorium followed by the afterglow at the Wayside. Sunday the entire program was presented again in the public park on the shores of Lake Charlevoix and on Sunday night the annual dancing party for the visitors was held at the swanky Belvedere hotel. All day Monday was given over to fraternizing and saying farewells.

Honor guest quartet was the Kentucky Troubadors of Louisville. The Cosmopolitans of Grand Rapids, Gardenaires of Detroit, Chordmasters of Muskegon, Barons of Harmony of Saginaw and Metro-Gnomes of Midland were among the other visiting fours. Jack M. Dollenmaier past president of the Milwaukee chapter presided to introduce G. Marvin Brower of Grand Rapids as master of ceremonies.

Jerry Scudder, secretary, reported after the week-end has closed; "We made no money. We spent it all. But that's how we wanted it."

### "IN DUTCH"



The Tulip City four, Holland, Mich. as they sang in Dutch costume, which is also the trademark of the cutire Holland charge.

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