

THE HARMONIZER

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1948 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AND CONTEST
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma . . June 11th and 12th



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NOTE: No Single Rooms will be available . . . Oklahoma City Hotels WILL NOT accept reservation requests direct . . . all must clear thru Housing Committee and be accompanied by one coupon for each person. Upon receipt of Hotel Accommodations Coupon, Mr. Scanland will make and confirm your Hotel Reservation.

Carroll P. Adams, Int'l. Sec.
SPEBSQSA, Inc.
18270 Grand River Ave.
Detroit 23, Mich.

Date 1948

I am enclosing herewith my check for \$_____ for which please send me, at \$5.00 each, including tax, _____ Combination Books of Tickets, for myself and my party for the 10th Annual Convention and International Quartet Contest to be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on June 11th and 12th, 1948.

I understand that this registration fee covers admission to the two International Semi-Finals on Friday forenoon and afternoon: the Finals on Friday Night: the Jamboree on Saturday afternoon: a reserved seat for the Medalist Contest on Saturday Night: a Badge: a souvenir program: and a coupon which is exchangeable for Hotel accommodations.

Name _____ City _____ Zone _____ State _____
(PRINT DISTINCTLY)

Address _____ Member of _____ Chapter.



THESE AND 63 OTHERS Decisions of the Int'l. Exec. Committee Meeting at Pittsburgh

A business trip prevented Embury from being present. The other five members, Merrill, Irvine, Thorne, Brown, and Adams were on hand.

In the future, Parade dates will not be "cleared" beyond a period of 15 months in advance.

Definite boundary lines between the Mid-Atlantic States District and the Northeastern District; between the N. E. District and the C. W. N. Y. District, and between the C. W. N. Y. District and the Ohio-Southwestern Pa. District were adopted.

The deal with Mutual for broadcasting 30 minutes of the Saturday night Show at Oklahoma City was closed.

Deac Martin was engaged to act as editor of the 10 Year History.

Bob Ising of Louisville, Carl Jones of Terre Haute and Walter Karl of Cleveland were added to the Judges' Panel.

NOTICE — CONTESTING QUARTETS Changes and Rulings in Judging Contests

The Int'l. Board, in the mid-winter meeting at Pittsburgh, authorized the following changes in contest and judging rules. They will be of vital interest to every competing quartet in preparing for the District Preliminary contests as well as the Int'l. contest at Oklahoma City. Effective April 23, 1948.

1. "Modern" harmony singing is forbidden. "Modern" harmony consists of the use of enough consecutive sixth, seventh, ninth or

(Continued on page 5)

Int'l. Board Meets at Pittsburgh Sets Okla. Meet. 'Buffalo in '49'

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: April 11th, 1948, marks the tenth anniversary of that memorable occasion in Tulsa, Oklahoma, when, on call from one O. C. Cash, some two-score patrons of the art of barbershop quartet singing, in harmonious assemblage did conceive the organization of our Society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the month of April, 1948, is hereby designated TENTH ANNIVERSARY MONTH; that all chapters are hereby directed at their first April meeting to make appropriate observance thereof to the honor of the Society and of our Founder and to the advancement of our objective to

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

MUTUAL WILL COVER COUNTRY FROM OKLA. CITY

As in Milwaukee in '47, Mutual Broadcasting Company (with approximately 485 stations) will broadcast the International Medalists from the stage at Oklahoma City, Saturday night, June 12. As soon as judges place the five medalists in their order the decisions will be handed to Pres. Merrill to announce to the world. Chairman of the Int'l. Public Relations Committee, Walter Jay Stephens, made arrangements last year and this, and he is working on a similar hook-up with Canadian Broadcasting Co.

Last year some chapters slipped up in not notifying their local Mutual station about the keen interest in this affair and in consequence the station didn't carry the broadcast. In almost every case where a local chapter got in touch with the station, stay-at-homes were treated to a visit to the Int'l. Finals via radio. "A word to the wise . . ."

Twenty-six of the 31 members of the Board were on hand. Absent—Cash, Brower, Stanton, Davis and Briody.

The Board voted unanimously to accept recommendations of the Achievement Awards Committee and abolish the awards on an international basis, but to set up a new system whereby District Associations will take over achievement awards to the chapters in their areas.

The Board voted that the Secretary of Judges for all District Contests shall be picked from outside the Districts and shall preferably be a member of the Int'l. Board. The Secretary of Judges, at all Int'l. Contests, must be an Int'l. Board Member.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Community Service Committee that the machinery be set up immediately to conduct Barbershop Quartet Contests among the patients of all Veterans' Hospitals throughout the U. S., the quartets' numbers to be recorded and sent to our Committee on Judging to be adjudicated by them.

The recommended Constitution for District Associations is being revised so that, in the future, District Officers can be chosen from any member chapter, rather than only from the membership of the District Board, as in the past. This will give Districts greater leeway in looking for suitable District Officers.

Proposals to sponsor the 1949 International Convention were presented by representatives from: Buffalo, Cincinnati, Omaha, San Francisco and Toledo. The Board voted for Buffalo, and the dates will be June 10th and 11th, 1949. The Semi-Finals will be held in the Kleinhans Music Hall, and

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Int'l. Board at Pittsburgh

(Continued from page 3)

the Saturday night Show in the Municipal Auditorium.

Three invitations for the 1950 Int'l. Convention have already been received, namely Toledo, Omaha and Kansas City. The voting on that event will take place at Oklahoma City in June of 1948.

The Board voted that 40 quartets will be chosen for Okla. City from the 12 Regional Preliminaries, instead of the former 30.

The Board recorded special thanks to Don Webster for the wonderful job he is doing this year, as Chairman of the Song Arrangements Committee.

It was decided to have a Jamboree in Oklahoma City on Saturday afternoon. Hence quartets eliminated in the Semi-Finals will have an opportunity to reappear on the Jamboree Program.

The Board voted to make a deal with Wurlitzer to again record the top quartets at the '48 Convention and issue an album of records, similar to the album made at Milwaukee.

OKLA. CITY SCHEDULE

Wed., June 9—

a. m. Exec. Comm. Meeting.

p. m. Exec. Comm. Meeting.

Eve. Bd. Meeting.

Thurs., June 10—

a. m. Bd. Meeting.

p. m. Bd. Meeting.

Eve. New Board Meets.

Fri., June 11—

a. m. Preliminary No. 1 (20 quartets).

p. m. Preliminary No. 2 (20 quartets).

Eve. Finals (15 quartets).

Sat., June 12—

a. m. Concert in rotunda of State Capitol.

8:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.—Series of Conferences.

(a) Capt. Campbell's Class for Song Leaders.

(b) Class for Chorus Directors.

(c) Chapter Officers' Round Table.

(d) District Officers' Round Table.

(e) School for members of Judges' Panel.

p. m. Jamboree (25 quartets eliminated in semi-finals).

Eve. 5 Medalist Quartets compete—Oklahoma City Chorus—Mutual B. C.—Nine previous Champions of the Society.

Sun., June 13—

a. m. Mammoth Morning Glow—10:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m.

Distribution of tickets and housing will follow the same general pattern as set by last year's Milwaukee Int'l. Coupon books went on sale at Int'l. Secretary's Office, February 1. No room reservations will be accepted direct by local hotels. Reservations will be only through the Housing Committee on request accompanied by the hotel coupon from the Coupon Book.

WE'RE OFF THE MAP

by BILL OTTO

The International Office map of chapter locations has proven entirely inadequate to cope with the far-flung geographical extension of SPEBSQSA. First to set the office staff in a quandary was Honolulu, Hawaii, and now Anchorage, Alaska has been added as another outpost of barbershop harmony.

Ben Edwards, first Secretary of Tulsa, Oklahoma Chapter, recently hinted to Founder O. C. Cash, that he knew of a gang in Alaska who were ready and able to harmonize at the drop of a snow shoe—and the result—the new Chapter at Anchorage.

Jess Bovee, Chapter President, welcomes any of the brothers who happen to be passing through Anchorage on a Sunday afternoon drive, to stop a spell and do a little harmonizing with the boys. He gives assurance that all will be warmly received and there is no need for anyone wearing ear muffs.

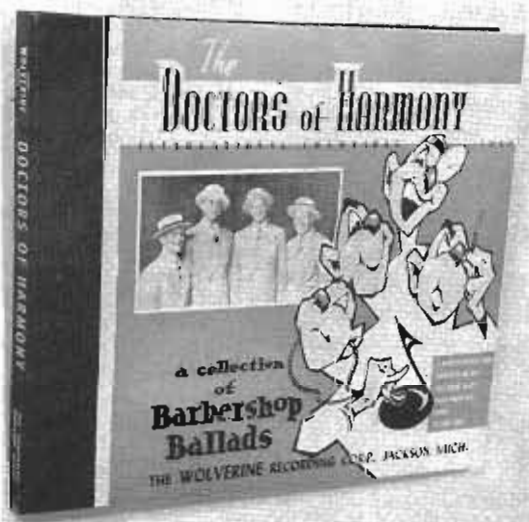
Where next?

The International staff would appreciate the loan of a Spanish-English dictionary

Miscellaneous

Joe Dittman of the Four Shaving Mugs, Hartford, Conn., reports that the Mugs had an engagement to sing for the Men's Club of the First Congregational Church, E. Hartford. A big blizzard had the baritone snowbound so Rev. Truman H. Woodward, pastor, filled in "and we did a good job", says Joe.

HERE'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT THIS NEW ALBUM BY THE DOCTORS of HARMONY



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WOLVERINE RECORDING CORPORATION 207 Otsego Ave.
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"Exclusive Barbershop Quartet Recordings"

Contest Rules Changed

(Continued from page 3)

- diminished-seventh chords to make it characteristically "modern". We are pledged to preserve barbershop harmony which is characterized by a definite voice arrangement to make the chords. A quartet may lose 300 out of a possible 1000 points if they use this type of non-barbershop harmony.
- Each song must end on a major or Tonic chord consisting of Do-Mi-Sol tone combinations. No sixth, seventh, ninth or diminished seventh chords can be used on the final chord. This is for contest purposes only and is as fair to one quartet as any other, while clearing up confusion.
 - To clear up another point which would seem obvious, but which has been brought up from time to time—The entrance and exit from the stage counts in the presentation scoring. Stage presence is important during all time that quartet can be seen by the audience.
 - The original melody of a song may be altered without penalty but only to obtain a desirable chord sequence. It should seldom be necessary to alter more than one or two tones to get the

"TRANSFERS?"

The following ruling on transfer from one chapter to another is now in effect:

"A member may transfer from one chapter to another during the first nine months of the fiscal year provided that he pass the membership requirements of the second chapter; that he obtain a letter of honorable dismissal from the secretary of the first chapter; and that he pay to the second chapter a \$1 transfer charge, plus the difference in the first year's dues between those of the first chapter and those of the second chapter, if the first year's dues of the first chapter are less than those of the second".

benefit of the change. Penalties will surely result if the original melody of the song cannot be recognized.

- Small differences in dress uniformity can draw penalties. Have one of the quartet appointed as an inspector to check such matters as having the same buttons of coat buttoned or the pocket handkerchief extending the same amount.
- A quartet does not gain points by writing its own songs or hav-

ing one of its members write the arrangement. Each song is judged on the presentation in the contest.

- A chord structure with the so-called seventh tone in the bass part is permissible at times on a passing chord, but will draw a penalty if used in a prominent chord such as at the end of a phrase.
- An occasional chord may be used with the tenor below the melody, but will draw a penalty if done often enough to become characteristic of the quartet's presentation of the song.
- The presentation when the melody is carried by the lead while the accompanying harmony is hummed by the other three parts is permissible. In songs which have the melody in the lower part of the scale, the bass may carry the melody.
- Period costumes do not win points over uniform dress. Either is permissible and one or the other is necessary to prevent disqualification.
- The relative ratings *per song* will be made available after the contest by requesting them from Secretary Adams.

M. E. REAGAN, Ch'm'n
Int'l. Judging Committee.

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Male Quartet
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DOWN BY THE OLD MILL STREAM.....	Frank H. Thorne
DREAM DAYS.....	Don Webster
DREAM TRAIN.....	A. E. Stull
HIGHWAYS ARE HAPPY WAYS.....	Phil Embury
I GET THE BLUES WHEN IT RAINS.....	Frank H. Thorne
I LOVE YOU BEST OF ALL.....	Maurice E. Reagan
I'M GOING OVER THE HILLS TO VIRGINIA.....	Charles B. Merrill
IN THE HILLS OF OLD KENTUCKY.....	Phil Embury
MY BEST TO YOU.....	Charles B. Merrill
MY CAROLINA ROSE.....	Don Webster
NAUGHTY WALTZ.....	Maurice E. Reagan
OLD VIRGINIA MOON.....	Ed Smith
ONLY A BROKEN STRING OF PEARLS.....	Maurice E. Reagan
ROCK ME TO SLEEP IN AN OLD ROCKING CHAIR.....	Ed Smith
SING NEIGHBOR SING.....	Lem Childers
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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FORSTER MUSIC PUBLISHER, Inc. 216 SOUTH WABASH AVENUE
CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS



SPEBSQSA WRITTEN INTO CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Yes—the Society is growing up. It has been written up in the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the United States. The *Congressional Record*, January 27, carried the remarks of Rep. Henderson H. Carson, member of Canton (O.) Chapter, as follows:

"Mr. CARSON—Mr. Speaker, harmony is what the world needs today. The problem is how to get it. We hope the United Nations can achieve it. There is one group that I know and to which I belong in which complete harmony prevails. This is an international organization known as the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

"Currently this organization fosters fellowship and harmony through nearly 400 chapters with some 22,000 members in the United States and Canada. Founded 10 years ago in Tulsa, Okla., the Society will hold its 1948 tenth annual international convention and quartet contest, June 10, 11, and 12, at Oklahoma City. If only harmony such as this could prevail in other international assemblies what a fine world this would be.

"A love of harmony, musical and otherwise, is an attribute of many Members of this body. Some of us who belong to the SPEBSQSA are arranging to give this harmony an outlet in the form of a congressional quartet night, to be held at the Hotel Statler next Friday evening, January 30, at 8 p. m. How fine it would be if we could gather that evening and lift our voices in a blending of song together and set an example of harmony to the Nation. Keeping America singing is a noble aim. A nation that can do this will retain its balance and sanity and not go wrong. It will do us good to swell our voices in song together and seek that harmony that characterizes a close barbershop chord. All Members of Congress are invited as well as their staffs."

As we go to press — Representative Carson's invitation drew more than 100 members of Congress, their families and staff members. A committee was appointed to plan a permanent quartet committee for Capitol Hill.

"YOU'LL NEVER KNOW" . . . TILL YOU GET A COPY

That famous number "You'll Never Know The Good Fellow I've Been" as popularized by the Gipps-Amberlin quartet and the Corn Belt Chorus is now available from Jerry Vogel at 15c a copy, including postage.

The arrangement is by John Hanson, bass of the Gipps-Amberlin quartet and "daddy" of the Corn Belt Chorus. The Hanson arrangement is something that quartets and choruses all around the country have been waiting for. Jerry Vogel's address is in the regular advertisement in this issue.

OKLAHOMA CITY TUNES UP FOR CONVENTION

Ticket books went on sale February 2nd at \$5.00 for the big bargain buy at Oklahoma City International Convention and Contest, June 10-11-12 (held over 'til the 13th by special request). Make your checks payable to SPEBSQSA, Inc. and mail to the Int'l. office for a book that will include *everything*. After you receive your coupon book, tear out the hotel reservation coupon and rush it (or them) to the Oklahoma City Housing Committee.

Forty quartets (count them) chosen by Regional Preliminaries. Half of them Friday morning; the other half Friday afternoon. The fifteen that get the nod from the judges will compete in the Friday Night Finals. Then comes the nerve shattering selection on Saturday night to decide which of the five Medalists is top, and the succeeding order.

Saturday afternoon the 25 quartets eliminated on Friday (40 less 15) will sing in an all-afternoon Jamboree.

Other things you won't want to miss will be the Class For Judges, The Class for Chorus Directors, George Campbell's Class for Community Song Leaders, Conference of Chapter Officers, and Conference of District Officers. The Co-General-Chairmen are Hank Wright, Granville Scanland. The Advisory Committee consists of Gov. Roy Turner, Supreme Court Justice Denver Davison, Int'l. Bd. Member Ernie Dick, and O. C. Cash, Founder and Permanent Third Assistant Temporary Vice-President.

PARLOR ROCKS —BRIDGEPORT

Smooch and lusty singers. Reclining. John Farrell, lead. L. to R.: Joe Damato, bar; Jack Lawless, bass; Manny Pavonne, tenor.



WASHINGTON, D. C. FOUNDRY CHURCH CONCERT

On December 23, 1947 the Singing Capital Chorus of the District of Columbia Chapter assisted by quartets and soloists from the chapter presented a concert of Christmas music in historic Foundry Methodist Church in Washington, D. C.

Costumed in scarlet jackets and black trousers, the chorus entered the sanctuary in a singing processional and made an impressive and seasonable

appearance as it sang in candlelight under the direction of Dr. Robert Howe Harmon and assistant directors Edward A. Carey and Francis H. Townsend. Justin Lawrie, the Minister of Music of Foundry Church states that the choral tone quality of the Chorus is comparable to that of the famous Don Cossacks. Dr. Harris and Mr. Lawrie hope that a similar concert will be an annual event.



SINGING CAPITAL CHORUS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Front, l. to r.: Dr. Robert Howe Harmon, director, and Francis H. Townsend and Edward A. Carey, assistant directors.

REGIONAL PRELIMINARIES

There will be 11 Regional Preliminaries, May 1-2 and one on April 24, one in each district. Judges and clerks will be chosen by Pres. Merrill from the approved panel of judges, and announced on or about April 15th. The MC's will also be named by Merrill.

With the exception of the Pacific Northwest, April 24, all tie in with the beginning of National Music Week, which gives opportunity to cooperate with local music organizations.

Forty quartets are to be qualified to compete at the Int'l. at Oklahoma City in June. The number of quartets from any district will be decided on the basis of March 31 membership of the district.

Example: If the Society membership on March 31st is 24,000 and ABC

District has 2,400 members on that date, four quartets will be qualified to Oklahoma City from that Regional Preliminary.

Orphan states will be joined to established districts as follows. Hawaii to Far Western District; Alaska to Pacific Northwest; Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida to Ohio-Southwestern Pennsylvania District; Virginia to Mid-Atlantic States. The membership in these states will be added to the district membership for purposes of computing the quota from the district.

All quartets will receive entry blanks from their chapter secretaries and will file their entries with Int'l. Headquarters before April 15.

The following gives place, date and the contact man for information.

PLACE	DATE	CONTACT MAN
Northeastern District Bridgeport, Conn.	May 1	Jack Lawless 2 Spencer St. Milford, Conn.
Mid-Atlantic States New York City	May 2	Fred Davies c/o Gibbs & Hill, Inc. Pennsylvania Station
C. W. N. Y. Geneva, N. Y.	May 1	A. M. Learned c/o Geneva Daily Times
Michigan Flint	May 2	Guy Stoppert 1326 W. Dartmouth St.
Illinois Joliet	May 1	Herbert Kellogg 1501 N. May St.
Ind.-Ky. Fort Wayne	May 2	Joe Juday P. O. Box 844 Fort Wayne, Ind.
Ohio-S.W. Penna. Middletown, Ohio	May 1	L. A. Pomeroy 1220 Lind St.
Central States Lincoln, Neb.	May 1	Wm. D. Roberts c/o Gold & Co.
Far Western San Francisco	May 1	Barney Gould 262 O'Farrell St. United National Theatre Bldg.
Land O' Lakes La Crosse, Wisc.	May 2	Paul Youngdale 114 No. 14th St.
Ontario Toronto	May 1	A. C. Chapman 331 Bay St.
Pacific Northwest Tacoma, Wash.	April 24	Paul Newman Pierce County Court House



MEMBER WARING AND QUARTETS ENTERTAIN

SPEB and Fred Waring split an hour's entertainment for the In and About Detroit Music Educators' Club in Nov. The Clef Dwellers, Oakland County; Westinghouse Quartet, Pittsburgh; and Four Harmonizers, Chicago, the latter two in Detroit for engagements, represented the Society musically. Sec. Adams and Past Pres. Phil Embury spoke briefly. Looking down the luncheon table, L. to R.: Embury, Mrs. Embury's forearm, (standing) Harold Tallman, Wayne Univ. Choral Head; Adams, Mrs. Adams (sitting); Jane Wilson, singer; Waring and dimly, Fowler Smith, head of music in Detroit Public Schools.

THREE RIVERS

—MICHIGAN—

+

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Manistee Chapter

SPEBSQSA

533 FAIRVIEW AVE. MANISTEE, MICH.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Charles M. Merrill

This business of writing for the magazines certainly keeps one's eyes turned to the future. Here I am still full of the holiday spirit, writing for a February publication date on a subject which will require attention in March and bear fruit in April.

What I'd like to be writing about, of course, is Christmas: the Christmas mail—that daily deluge of greetings from Society friends all over the continent; the gratification of belonging to a singing organization at a time when song more than ever is appropriate and welcome; the joy of sharing one's love for music with the sick, the indigent and the under-privileged; the New Year's resolutions for community service which our Christmas experiences have inspired us all to make.

And these subjects are not old stuff for a February issue. They are well worth remembering throughout the year. But this time my job is not to express appreciation or gratification but to shake a warning finger. For the time is not far distant when all members are called upon to exercise the extreme in judgment for themselves, their chapters and the international Society.

The occasion — election of chapter officers and District Delegates.

(Note: may I at this time express my thanks for those of you who have not already passed on to the next column with a "What! Not already!"

or its profane equivalent. Believe me, this is important and timely.)

Here is the schedule: March the chapter president appoints a nominating committee. Not (if you please, brother chapter president) a trio of broken-down hacks who are entitled to some harmless recognition. Rather, gents with judgment that you yourself respect and that will be respected by the membership.

March-April; the nominating committee after careful consideration prepares a slate of nominees for office. Not (if you please, brothers of the committee) a group of good guys whose quips are likely to spice up a meeting. Rather, a bunch of conscientious, hard-working men in whose able hands you can confidently entrust the affairs of your chapter. You know the qualifications of each officer. If you didn't you'd never have been appointed to the nominating committee.

April: at the chapter's annual meeting the nominating committee presents to the members its slate of nominees and nominations are received from the floor. Not (if you please, brother members) for the purpose of developing a good political fight or to show good old Joe what you think of him. Rather because, after due consideration, you feel your nominee is better qualified for office than the selection of the committee. If you don't honestly feel that way, keep your mouth shut and let the report of the committee ride.

Having proceeded thus far it really doesn't make much difference how you vote. You're going to get a good man anyway. But if you do have a choice, please remember: you're voting for the good of the chapter and of the

Society and not for friendship's sake. That's a lot of words over something that should be so self-evident as to make this column seem a reflection on your intelligence. But if it's helped one single chapter better to prepare itself for its most important piece of business of the year, I'm content and to heck with any apparent reflections.

The better the officers, the more fun for every one in the chapter. That should be equally obvious.

And now, if you'll pardon me, I'll return to my Christmas reflections; and in February, when the Harmonizer hits your mail box, you'll know that back on December 31, 1947, I was wishing you all a most happy and harmonious New Year.

CENTRAL STATES ASS'N. HAILS FIRST CHAMPS

by Hec White

Judged by the spirited applause of the more than 3500 who filled the Topeka, Kans. auditorium, Nov. 8, for the finals of the Central States first district contest, all ten quartets were champions. When announcement came that the A. O. U. W. Keynoters of Newton Kans. (Wichita Chapter) had placed first, the audience signaled approval with ear-splitting cheers.

In the afternoon preliminary judges Huck Sinclair, Andy Anderson, Leo Ives and Al Strahle, all of Chicago, selected the top ten from the twenty-four entries.

Swiping the prescription of the Int'l. Champion Doctors of Harmony, the Four Kernels, Omaha, Nebr. sang themselves into second place with their own composition "The Barber-shop Boogie". The Hawkeye Four, Des Moines, Ia. placed third; the Rhythm-Aires, Kansas City, fourth; The Sunshine Four, Beresford, S. D. (Sioux City, Ia. Chapter) placed fifth; The Gamboliers, K. C.; Harmoniacs, Bartlesville, Okla.; Four Nubbins, Spencer, Ia.; Beacon Four, Wichita, Kans.; and the Harmony Mixers, Arkansas City, Kans. "tied for sixth place" and added immeasurably to the contest-show that had no outside talent.

Under the direction of Floyd Strong the 70 voice Topeka chorus lent the right atmosphere in opening and closing the program, using colorful stage effects.

The annual district business meeting was scheduled for Lincoln Nebraska. May 1. Int'l. Board member Clare Wilson, Omaha, was named chairman of the 1948-49 Nominating Committee and Ken Way, Centralia, Mo., chairman of the Extension Committee. Kansas City was awarded the 1948 district contest for November 13.



KANSAS CITY HONORS INT'L. PRES. MERRILL

When President Charlie Merrill visited Kansas City, Jan. 12, the Mayor, City Manager, and other notables joined the chapter's board in doing honor. Seated L. to R.: Ray Koenig, Past Pres.; John Miller, Bd. Member; Bert Phelps, Sec.; Lamar Dye, Bd. Member; Fred Nelson, Membership Chmn.; Joe Stern, Bd. Member and Past Int'l. Treas.; W. O. Billy Norman, Bd. Member; Landon Laird, Columnist. K. C. Star; Charlie Merrill, Int'l. Pres.; Russ Gutzler, Pres., K. C. Chapter; Wm. E. Kemp, Mayor; Parry Cookingham, City Mgr.; Hec White, Bd. Member; Harry Denni, V. P. K. C.; Percy Francis, Bd. Member; Ray Carver, Bd. Member; Carl Neve, K. C. Treas. (afraid to show his face); Ken Hegarty, Editor K. C. Harmony Bulletin; Rhythm-Aires Quartet in background, 4th place Central States District winners.

Efer Ifer Arranges Eferything by W. Welsh Pierce Chicago Chapter

Dear Carroll:

Somethin' terrible like to have happened. It sure looked like a catastrophe at first but with our usual alacrity we put our problem-solvers to work and now everything is corpus christi again.

The whole thing started when someone dug into train schedules for the Pottawottamie Indian Chapter that planned on going to Oklahoma City in June. They heard this town was in Indian Territory and naturally wanted to see if there was any more camp sights available. Well, Sir, when our man got to diggin' into train schedules he found out that there ain't no trains that run through Chicago.

Everything stops here and people are dumped out willy-nilly, no matter where they think they want to go. So you see the trouble you and all the other folks North and East of here is goin' to be up against. You just can't get to Oklahoma City from where you is at. You'll get thru in Union Station, which being pretty big some of you will think is the World's Fair and are likely to be run over whilst tourin' the sights.

But, Carroll, as I said up top, things is all fixed up. Don't let anyone back out of headin' for Oklahoma. We have spring to the test. We are ready for the deluge. We have took over the Station for the duration. When the time comes all regular passengers (non Barbershoppers, that is) will be handled in the freight yards while you fellows will come right on to Union Station like nothing was different.

When you get there you will get off right into the gol-dingdest singin' fest you ever heard. We'll have seven song-shells set up all around different places: over on one side will be dormitory avenue with tents enough for everybody to sleep right in the station. The hotels will be mad at us, of course, but we been mad at them for a long time so we'll be even. The mess tent will be off on the Canal street side with Mr. Byron Harvey, Jr., (Fred's grandson), hisself in charge, and another feature will be section fixed up like a carnival (this'll probable be in the drug store) so the kiddies will be off your hands. Plenty of baby-tenders will be on hand too for a change. So don't say nothin' about this train trouble to anybody and when you all get here we'll have us a convention what is a convention. No meetings—no worries—no election O just singin'. Not bad, eh?

If any of those unfortunates who get through to Oklahoma City find things pretty dull-like on account of all the good talent being you know where, why they're sure welcome to skee-daddle on to our whoop-de-doo.

Sing-cerely yours,

Efer Ifer

Chicago.

FACTS ABOUT TRAVEL TO OKLAHOMA CITY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION — ROUND TRIPS

JUNE 1948

By R. F. Verderber, Cleveland Chapter

	Via Railroad				via Plane Travel Time (hrs.)	via Bus Travel Time (hrs.)	via Auto miles (one way)		
	Cost,		Coach Rail Fare	Fare					
	Trav. Time (hrs.)	in Pullmans Rail Lower Berth Fare							
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	4½	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	158.80	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.

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Tell Me You'll Forgive Me
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Book II — \$4.85
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Mirandy
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Hope to Die
Darkness on Delta
Sidewalks of N. Y.
Rosie O'Grady
Coney Island Baby

Book III — \$4.85
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Maybe

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Pittsburgh Chapter proved to the "cock-eyed" World that a successful Parade can be staged with no more than six quartets and a chorus, providing the out-of-town quartets are programmed twice and providing a community song leader is on hand for the audience participation. So many chapters think it necessary to have twelve to fifteen quartets. 'Taint so!

oOo

Frank Thorne and Bill Diekema seen in conversation—maybe plotting a collaboration on still a third "Keep America Singing", both having written excellent songs of that title.

oOo

Bill Coddington and the charming Missus explaining absence of Phil Embury (first mid-winter or summer meeting he's missed in seven years) by the fact that the Embury nose is tightly at the grindstone these days. Coddington well recovered from the illness that worried everybody who knows him.

oOo

Okla. City's Hank Wright and Ernie Dick telling everybody to be on hand in June. Those boys do things in a big way out where the west has already begun, and there's many a treat in store.

oOo

Clare E. (E for Energetic) Wilson still selling the idea of a future International in Omaha. It used to be that a thousand mile axis would include practically the whole Society. Nowadays conventions have to be shifted east-west to give everybody a fair break. Omaha's a good town too, and getting closer to Society's center as West adds chapters.

oOo

Walt Chambers looked good, but lost without the Coopman, Gustafson, Gray bodyguard that in total constitute the Chordoliers of Rock Island. The other three had to cancel.

oOo

Carroll Adams had a birthday that started just as the Afterglow got well under way. Mrs. (King) Cole who knew it was coming furnished a surprise in form of a pink-white Birthday Cake—Good to the last crumb.

oOo

That Station Wagon Four from Washington-Baltimore caused a traffic jam in the lobby of Syria Mosque when they let loose with "You Remind Me So Much Of My Mother"

oOo

Your reporter had three comments from mid-and-southwesterners about the possibilities of chartering a ship in Chicago for the 1949 Int'l. at Buffalo. Said one "It would take care of the whole crowd from Indiana west

From the Not-So-Smoky City

and we would have no problem about hotel reservations. Take it from one who has made the trip. That thousand miles on the Great Lakes would be almost as memorable as the International itself.

oOo

According to Past Int'l. Pres. Frank Thorne who emceed at the Parade "Independent and unbiased surveys show that SPEB members love their wives 35% more than non-members do".

oOo

Big thrill to all out-of-towners at Friday informal get-together was the Four Maldehydes of the Pittsburgh Chapter, consisting of Kaye Cupples, Jack Husac, Dutch Wineland, and Dutch Miller. It's a new aggregation for which great things are prophesied by everybody who heard them.

oOo

One word description of the Mid-winter Parade—"Hilarious". Seldom have we heard and seen so much four part musical comedy in one show. Principal comedians Tri-Cy Synchronizers, Binghamton and Johnson City, N. Y.; Westinghouse, Mid-States Four, and the Elastics.

oOo

Sometimes when a quartet goes athletic and does a lot of stage business it forgets to hit the swipes squarely on the nose. That rarely happened during the riotous hilarity at the Pittsburgh show.

oOo

Those Pittsburghers, heard first at Cleveland in '46, are rapidly singing their way into the hearts of an international audience. You like 'em personally too, just as you like their singing.

oOo

Baltimore No. 1 sent 20 members.

oOo

The mother of Pres. Merrill and brother (Director) Art attended the Pittsburgh meeting. Later she wrote to Sec. Adams: "I wonder if it would be possible for me to subscribe to the Harmonizer? I should be so happy and grateful if I could. I know that only members are allowed to subscribe, but I am especially interested in SPEBSQSA, with three sons all having started chapters. I enjoyed the Parade of Quartets in Pittsburgh so much".

oOo

Pres. Ted. Dilday, Wheeling, W. Va. Chapter, attended with V. P. and Mrs. Bob Riedel, together with members Ed Simms, Jessie Wheat, John Smith and their wives. "Enjoyed the show to the nth degree and came away proud of our association with SPEBSQSA", reports Ted.

oOo

Carefully laid plans for banquet in ballroom Saturday night upset by overflow of 38. They were all accommodated, however, thanks to Bill McDowell, doubling as Maitre, although he was also stage manager for the Parade.

Thanks to the elevator operator who worked overtime and said she didn't mind "if she could only stop long enough to hear the quartets sing". Soon as this was known 3 quartets piled on the elevator and sang songs to her for half an hour.

oOo

GOOD NEWS. Manager of Keystone Hotel said it was the first time in his experience with a crowd this size when over-all conduct was "especially excellent". He added that 21 permanent residents in hotel all mentioned that they heard singing most of the night, enjoyed it and would be glad to have the same group back". This is splendid public relations as defined again and again by Walter Jay Stephens.

oOo

Norman Nedde and Charles Free set a precedent well worth copying elsewhere in handling last minute orders for Parade tickets. They set up a "runner system" between Keystone Hotel and ticket agency.

oOo

Pres. Harry W. Smith gives all flowers and success of affair to everybody else. This department hereby presents Smith with orchids.

oOo

The Executive Committee was in session constantly from 9:30 a. m. Friday until 6:30 p. m. and not a member left the room during that time. Lunch was brought in, just sandwiches and coffee.

oOo

The fun that some of the daughters seemed to be getting! Ed Smith's daughter Holly; Bob Irvine's daughter, Mary; and Art Merrill's daughter, Anne, for example.

oOo

At the Int'l. Bd. meetings in Pittsburgh, a Distr. Sec. sat in as a proxy for a Board member. At the close of the last meeting he said: "This is the most interesting and beneficial meeting I have ever attended. My knowledge of International procedure will be invaluable and helpful in doing a better job in my District".

HARMONY WRANGLERS WRANGLING



Bartlesville (Okla.), famous as the home of the old Barflies, likes the harmonics of—L. to R.—Jack Smith, tenor; Russ Smith, lead; Harry Colopy, bar; and Wayne Moberly, bass.



TAKE A TRIP THROUGH HARMONYLAND

Members of the Sarnia, Ontario Chapter who put on a concert for the old folks at the Lambton County House of Refuge can't quite decide whether the following is evidence of appreciation. Said a little old lady (rushing up with outstretched hand to E. G. Ahern, Chapter Sec.) "Oh, I enjoyed the programme so much". Ahern: "I'm glad you did". Pointing to her ears, the little old lady replied "There's no use talking to me, I'm stone deaf".

"Sold American". The girls in the King House of Smith College were the highest bidders for a half hour show by the Northampton, Mass. Tri-City Four. The Smith College gals had an auction for their Charity Fund and the Tri-City Four graciously offered their entertainment that night, not only for the girls but also went to an American Legion Roll Call Dinner, an anniversary celebration, and a wedding. Four singing jobs in one evening.

The former Lt. Phillip Mountbatten took his final fling as a bachelor by swapping naval yarns and singing "barbershop style" according to an I.N.S. dispatch from London, just ahead of the royal wedding.

In a recent issue of "Sharp Notes"; the bulletin of the Washington, D. C. Chapter, Sec. Jean Boardman wrote: "Except for a few rhythm numbers nearly all good barbershop songs are for men to sing to women just like all chickenhouse songs are for roosters to sing to hens, and neither hens nor women can sing these songs and make them stick. I don't know what sensations are experienced by a she-quartet standing up in front of people and singing Susie don't you keep me waiting or you were Sweet Sixteen My Village Queen, but I know what kind of damful I would feel giving out with stuff like oh Johnny how you can love or when first you kissed me Henry dear".

In another of his columns Boardman says, regarding the Washington Harvest of Harmony, "If we have the good sense to keep on singing our simple songs, through which we can express the normal emotions of ourselves and of those who listen, we will never have to worry about empty seats

at our performances . . . 'Away down home, that's where I long to be' . . . never from the heart came a purer prayer. Corn? Sure it's corn, just like your mother's tears when you leave home and your old dad's handclasp when you return".

Those Golden Staters just can't resist the opportunity to plug their scenic attractions. Can you see the Sequoia influence in the following California newspaper calendar announcement of a SPEB meeting. "SFPAEOBSQSIA. 7:30 p. m., Long Branch Blvd"?

The last musical barrier ahead of the Society was surmounted in Detroit when the Bohemians, strictly an organization of professional musicians mostly in Detroit Symphony, invited Int'l. V. P. Ed Smith and Int'l. Sec. Carroll P. Adams into the Bohemian Club. Both accepted.

Another example of how "formal" musicians and barbershoppers are getting closer and closer together comes from Reno where SPEB Int'l. Pres. Charles M. Merrill, is conductor of the Reno Men's Chorus, which did a splendid job in the Christmas concert. But the big hit of the show was Merrill's Bonanza Four, all of whom are members of the Reno Men's Chorus as well as the Society.

Proof that barbershoppers are good solid citizens comes from the Louisville Chapter—They read the comics, and apparently favor "Dick Tracy". They objected to Tracy's "Mumbles Quartet" and let his creator, Chester Gould, know by a wire from Chapter Pres. F. W. Drybrough: "Mumbles and his pals are an obnoxious reflection on the institution of barber shop quartet singing . . . He is a villain who runs his words together. His quartet includes singing criminals who entertain at swank parties and make off with carloads of money and jewelry".

Drybrough invited Gould and "Richard Tracy" to be his guests at the SPEB second annual parade . . . "if you are fair-minded enough to want to know what bona fide barbershop quartets are like . . . after hearing the program you would appreciate how unfairly you have misrepresented the true American barbershopper and move quickly, with Mr. Tracy, to liquidate the libelous Mumbles Quartet".

The American Barber Shop College Los Angeles, just a little envious of the nation's honorary degree-showing schools, which are forever presenting same to generals and statesmen, did a little conferring of its own on Nov. 25. Longhair history was made when the College presented diplomas granting the right to sing in any barber-shop in America or Canada from which they are not forcibly excluded by the management, to the Int'l. Champion Doctors of Harmony.

Two songs have recently appeared, of potential interest to barber shop quartets, with Sigmund Spaeth named as collaborator on the sheet music. The first is called Shrimp Boy, created by Laurraine Goreau from a Louisiana street cry and published by G. Ricordi & Co. It is to be featured as a solo by James Melton, but also has harmony possibilities and may prove a logical successor to such folk material as Water Boy and Short-nin' Bread. Sig Spaeth made the piano arrangement after Miss Goreau, editor of the Lafayette, La., Daily Advertiser, hummed her song to him backstage, following a college lecture on music.

Soft and Low is a new publication of Mills Music, Inc., in which Sig shares credit with the composer, J. F. Hewitt, the lyricist being Mitchell Parish, of Stardust fame. Joe Hewitt, incidentally, is the man who composed the immortal Princeton Cannon Song in 1907, and has recently written a football song for Duke University, Fight Blue Devils. Perry Como and other singers have shown an interest in Soft and Low, which has definite hit possibilities. It is a smooth, slow melody, to nostalgic words, admirably adapted to a close harmony arrangement for male or mixed quartet.

Ed Place, in charge of publicity for Washington, D. C. Chapter, signs his letters: "Yours for the Four Freedoms—tenor, lead, bari, and bass".

On New Year's Day at the Little Church Around the Corner, New York, the head of the ASCAP copyright department, Miss Carol Bridgman, was married to Mills Music's copyright chief, Ted Livingston, secretary of Manhattan Chapter.

At one time both were employed in ASCAP's copyright department until Livingston moved over to Mills Music in 1944.

The marriage license has been duly filed with the Copyright Office in Washington—for life!

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EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION

CARROLL P. ADAMS
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DEAC (C. T.) MARTIN.

J. F. KNIPE

BUSINESS MANAGER

W. L. OTTO

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Roscoe Bennett J. George O'Brien
George W. Campbell W. Welsh Pierce
O. C. Cash Sigmund Spaeth
Charles M. Merrill Walter Jay Stephens
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WHAT'S YOUR OBJECTIVE?

by Carroll P. Adams

"Mac" McKinney, President of the Illinois District Ass'n., has been in the Society long enough to have learned much from experience and from wide observation. He says that no chapter is going to succeed as it should until it has an objective, and as soon as one objective is reached the chapter should immediately set a new one.

Too many chapters flounder because they have no objectives. It doesn't matter whether the objective is a Minstrel Show, a Parade, a program of community service, a Christmas Party for under-privileged children or what have you, just so long as there is a constant objective for the chapter to shoot at.

They should be set up like ducks in a shooting gallery—to be replaced as soon as needed for the next effort.

Every Barbershopper a Self Appointed SPEBSQSA Public Relations Member

by Walter Jay Stephens
International Chairman Public Relations

The esteem in which SPEBSQSA is held by the public in your community is an important factor in the Society's Public Relations program and all members should do their part in reflecting a high standard of moral conduct. In fact, each and every individual is a self appointed member of the Public Relations Committee and should never fail in untiring efforts to live up to and reflect "good conduct".

Having thus established good behavior in performing publicly the next step is to see that proper credit is given in the columns of the press and radio. To accomplish this important phase of our Public Relations program requires an alert publicity committee to properly report to the press all active chapter and quartet participation in community affairs.

Credit should be given a public relations minded membership that properly conducts itself to conform to the high standards of the public interest. Without it, your publicity committee cannot function efficiently.

Having established the fact that every member is a definite part of our Society's Public Relation staff, we should all observe a few pertinent facts as a guide in our relations with the general public.

1. To raise continually higher our standards of good conduct to enhance public acceptance and good will for SPEBSQSA.
2. To respect at all times the homely virtues of honor and decency and sobriety—each of which contributes its share of what is accepted as the public interest.
3. To help make our public relations efforts a factor in Society contacts and performances in public by conforming to accepted standards of public good taste.
4. To create a better understanding of SPEBSQSA's functions and to disseminate better knowledge of the high principles of our Society.
5. To encourage men from all walks of life to enjoy a hobby that is an inspiration to all and to reflect harmony both musically and in our relations with all mankind.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Chas. R. Daugherty who identifies himself as "one of the newer members of the Washington, D. C. Chapter" offers thoughtful comment after he says that the November issue of *The Harmonizer* was the first he'd seen.

"Please accept my heartiest congratulations on the quality and high tone of the magazine. To an amazing degree, the *Harmonizer* seems to mirror the spirit of the organization—the spirit of wholesome enjoyment of fine entertainment in an atmosphere of friendliness and fellowship.

"With this publication acting as a guiding and driving force, barbershop harmony is bound to reach heights unsuspected even now, in quality and quantity of membership. Respectfully, I would offer a word of

caution. Avoid too rapid expansion. Too many young and promising organizations waste their strength and vigor in over expansion. Primary emphasis should be laid on the steady growth of existing chapters, and on the fact that the Society is first and foremost a quartet organization and not a choral group, although there is plenty of room for both types of singing, within the Society".

While Chapter Extension must be a vital part of the Society's national program, Mr. Daugherty's advice is particularly valuable to chapters everywhere. To be strong at home, to become an important part of your community by contributing something worthwhile to it, is a chapter's primary privilege, and duty to its members. Eds.

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REGIONAL PRELIMINARIES INAUGURATE NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

The Regional Preliminaries to be held on May 1-2 very appropriately inaugurate National Music Week. All of the 12 District Associations will hold their annual business meetings at the same time, which should make that week-end unusually harmonious.

In many cities SPEB participation has already been planned as a part of the local week's observance. This is natural because the Society has outgrown the stage where professional musicians and music critics were inclined to consider it a humorous manifestation. Few, if any, organizations have contributed as many benefit performances as has this Society. If your local chapter has not been in touch with those in charge of National Music Week locally, make it a point to look into the local events and programs for the first week in May, and tie in with them.

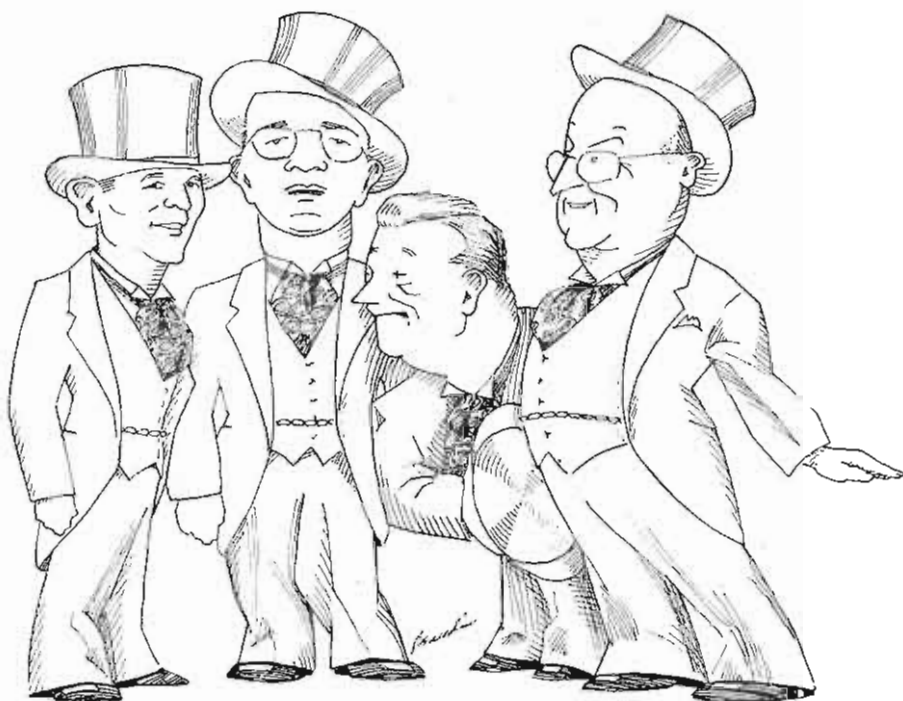
ANONYMOUS

Past Int'l Pres. Phil Embury has passed along a letter which came to him unsigned other than "An enthusiastic quarteter". Mr. Anonymous raised some interesting points, but Embury can do nothing directly, nor can the Harmonizer for the benefit of the membership as a whole, until this "Enthusiastic quarteter" discloses his name to Embury.

This anonymous letter differed from most such, in that the writer was really searching for information. Nearly all anonymous letters are just the opposite, criticism and sometimes so vicious that the writer doesn't care to be known. Newspapers receive many such almost daily. As far as the editors know this is the first within the Society.

The Harmonizer will follow the same rules as other publications—no reply to anonymous letters. It will, however, print something constructive and withhold the name of the writer if he so desires.

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



THE ELASTIC FOUR, 1942 CHAMPS, as seen by Beaudin

CALLING ALL CHAPTERS CHARTERED IN '47?

Most chapters have had enough initial enthusiasm to carry them through the shakedown cruise of the first year. The big test usually comes in the second year. Here's a thoughtful invitation to the membership of Medina, (Ohio) chapter from President Art Swartz to rally 'round:

"Nineteen forty seven saw the beginning of us as an SPEB group and although we didn't scale any mountains, swim any oceans or win any laurels for musical accomplishments or chapter attendance, nevertheless it was a start.

"Some old quotation says something about Rome not being built in a day, nor were the top five quartets in the Int'l. Finals established shortly before the Milwaukee convention. Rome rose and fell time and time again before becoming the great city; the quartets were rearranged many times to get the correct balance and blend . . . likewise, we as a chapter are having our ups and downs and rear-

rangements, growing pains, so to speak.

"With 37 members in the chapter it's almost an impossibility to get a meeting night which will suit everyone, but it is my honest opinion that if we really get things going in the chapter, the pleasure derived from barbershop singing and the interest received in having a progressively active chapter will automatically make our meeting nights primary in importance, with other interests second. —This year will undoubtedly be the most important year in the life of our chapter . . . If we all could put forth a little extra effort for the benefit of the Society the results would truly be surprising. This "little extra effort" is nothing really, all that it means is regular attendance with a willing voice and everything else will take care of itself."

This message from the president of a chapter in a small town might well apply to conditions in almost any spot when an SPEB chapter is still in the "growing pains" period. Eds.

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(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.)



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



NEW CHAPTERS CHARTERED SINCE NOVEMBER 1st., 1947

Date	Location	No. of Members	Sponsored by	Name and Address of Secretary
10/27/47	Kendallville, Ind.	44	Fort Wayne & Elkhart	William Parker, 204 N. Park Ave.
11/4/47	Anthony, Kansas	32	Wichita, Kansas	Jack Staples, Jr., 211 N. Franklin
11/7/47	Osborne Co., Kansas	22	Salina, Kansas	J. E. Kissell, Board of Education, Portis, Kansas
11/17/47	Pauls Valley, Okla.	29	McAlester, Okla.	Norman W. Ross, 215 South Ash
11/20/47	Ypsilanti, Mich.	24	Wayne, Mich.	Robert Liggett, 103 N. Huron St.
11/20/47	San Jose, Calif.	34	Sacramento, Calif.	Neiland H. Hines, 1302 Lincoln Ave.
11/24/47	Conneaut, Ohio	29	Warren, Ohio	Robert R. Baldwin, West Main Rd., R. D. 1, West Springfield, Pa.
11/25/47	Mystic, Conn.	19	New Haven, Conn.	Lt. Comdr. Wm. J. Ruhe, 6 Pearl St., Noank, Conn.
12/1/47	Springer, N. Mex.	26	Las Vegas, N. M.	R. Cecil Montgomery, c/o Springer Public Schools
12/1/47	Bowling Green, Mo.	22	Mexico, Mo.	Tully Reeds
12/15/47	New London, Conn. (Univ. of Conn.)	30	New Haven, Conn.	William W. McDonald, Tradewind 120, Univ. of Conn., Fort Trumbull Branch
12/15/47	Sharon, Pa.	38	Warren, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pa.	Karl J. Haggard, P. O. Box 142
12/17/47	Steubenville, Ohio	36	Canton, Ohio	William Taylor, 1616 Roosevelt Ave.
12/18/47	New Orleans, La.	18	Atlanta, Ga. and Jackson, Miss.	Milton Van Mannen, New Orleans Public Service, 317 Barronne St.
12/18/47	Burlington, Vt.	42	Northampton, Mass.	A. B. Edwards, P. O. Box 484
12/19/47	Tucson, Ariz.	16	Phoenix, Ariz.	Dr. P. A. Davison, 535 E. 3rd St.
12/19/47	Windsor, Mo.	16	Kansas City, Mo.	Kenny Anderson
12/29/47	Edwardsport, Ind.	21	Evansville, Ind.	David S. Wright
12/29/47	Asbury Park, N. J.	16	Paterson, N. J.	Robert Sjostrom, 1107 Hick St.
1/5/48	Vincennes, Ind.	28	Evansville, Ind.	Randall Ellis, c/o E.P.O.E.
1/5/48	Lapeer, Mich.	23	Flint, Mich.	George A. Skene, 210 Nepepping
1/8/48	Miami, Fla.	50	Tulsa, Okla.	Robert Holbrook, P. O. Box 242
1/8/48	Grand Haven, Mich.	40	Muskegon, Mich.	Nelson Van Dongen, 510 Elliott St.
1/12/48	Goshen, Ind.	17	Elkhart and Fort Wayne, Ind.	Kenneth Worthman, Millersburg, Ind.
1/13/48	Lebanon, Ohio	23	Dayton, Ohio	Hugh Smith, Golden Lamb Hotel
1/13/48	Wheeling, West Va.	20	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Theodore A. Dilday, 1010 Indiana, Martins Ferry, Ohio
1/16/48	Dunkirk-Fredonia, N. Y.	30	Jamestown and Gowanda, N. Y.	Charles O. Weber, 71 Risley St., Fredonia, N. Y.
1/21/48	Anchorage, Alaska	19	Tulsa, Okla.	Jerry Holsa, Box 975
1/23/48	De Kalb, Ill.	26	Belvidere, Ill.	Giles L. Findley, Rt. 1
1/26/48	Washington Co. Pa.	42	Pittsburgh, Pa.	H. P. Johnston, 608 West College St., Cannonsburg, Pa.
1/27/48	Cleveland Hts., Ohio	17	Lakewood, Ohio	E. J. Mertl, 13801 Alvin Ave., Garfield Heights 5, Ohio.



Goodspeeds Book Shop, Boston, set a pattern of things to come in advance of the Society's invasion of the Hub, when the famous shop issued a catalog of Americana items headed by the above illustration. If the Boston Chapter hasn't signed up Mr. Dahl the cartoonist, it should.

"HISTORY IN THE MAKING"

Hal Staab, past Int'l. Pres. and Chairman of the Ten Year History Committee, reports that the history will soon go into the writing phases and that the book will be produced early enough in Fall or early Winter to make it ideal for a 1948 Christmas gift.

Staab has a mountain of material which, boiled down to book-size, will be the most prized possession of most SPEB members.

DETROIT AREA ASS'N. STAGES NOVICE NIGHT

On December 10 the Detroit Area Ass'n. of Chapters took over the ballroom at Dearborn Inn for a contest by novice quartets judged by novice judges. Six novice quartets competed and were judged by nine judges, three in each category. Stage Presence was not judged.

The Dearbornaires came out first, followed by the Harmony Chaps of Grosse Pointe, and the Auto City Four of Hamtramck, the Tune Smiths of Redford Chapter, the What Four of Hamtramck, and the Four Hoarsemen of Grosse Pointe completing the harmony card.

Following the competition, the Fakers of Detroit and Oakland County chapters, and the Barons of Wayne entertained. Co-chairmen were Ass'n. Pres. Mark Roberts and Ass'n. Past Pres. Monty Marsden. The affair was so successful that it is planned to have several similar programs each year, with the thought of developing judges and quartets, and above all, giving

THE AUTO CITY FOUR



These are the boys who came out third in the Detroit Area Novice Night Contest. From Hamtramck (L. to R.): Fred Swiderski, tenor; Leon Helminiak, lead; Al Walen, bari; and Leo Mondziel, bass.

quartets more of an opportunity to find what a serious business this judging is and how conscientiously it is conducted.



FOUNDER'S COLUMN

By O. C. Cash

Some of the Brothers have spoken to me from time to time concerning the lack of appreciation which the great universities of the country have manifested towards our Society. Others have complained that we have not had general acknowledgment of our efforts to preserve the one distinctive type of folk song and music peculiar to America. Recently I corresponded with Brother Bob Hamilton, Dean of the Law School, University of Wyoming at Laramie, about this. I called his attention, however, to the fact that Harvard or Yale had conferred an honorary Doctor's degree on one of our Brothers—a member of the Kansas City Chapter. The name of this Brother escapes me at the moment, but he used to run a men's apparel shop at Independence, Missouri, and at one time was County Commissioner of Jackson County, Missouri. I think he got work in Washington, D. C., and if I remember right, is living there now. He seems to be doing all right. He plays the piano by ear and I am told sings a sort of squeaky baritone. I understand he used to get the boys together in the back end of his shop (the Alteration Dept.) and rip off a tune now and then, but that it wasn't very good.

I suggested to Brother Bob that some of the Alma Maters should confer honorary degrees on former officers of our organization. The University of Illinois, I thought, should compliment Frank Thorne; Harvard should do something for its distinguished graduate, Charlie Merrill; and Smith College in Northampton, might get the girls together and confer something or other on their fellow citizen Hal. Hamilton College did something for Elihu Root and Alexander Woollcott, and I contended that Phil Embury, a fellow graduate, ought to be equally honored.

I am sure this correspondence had nothing to do with the invitation which the University of Wyoming extended to me, shortly thereafter, to attend the program and public recital which the Laramie (University Chapter) of the SPEBSQSA put on December 17, 1947, and accept an hon-

orary Doctor's degree from that great university.

It goes without saying that I accepted the invitation with alacrity and presented myself for acceptance of the degree "Doctor of Barber Shop Harmony". Brother Bob read the citation and Dr. Ottis Rechard, for the President of the University, conferred the degree. I responded, of course, with an appropriate, profound address to my fellow Doctors and graduates of the University. I was advised that the degree was created, conferred and immediately abolished so I would have the distinction of being the only person ever to be granted that honor.

I was further assured that any vacancy in the various departments of the University would be held open until I was offered the professorship.

It is not unlikely that I will follow in the footsteps of General Eisenhower, and on retirement, accept the presidency of my Alma Mater, the University of Wyoming, if and when a vacancy occurs.

This Doctor's degree came to me at a particularly appropriate time. My company has been hiring Doctors, scientists and things, in the last few years, in such quantities that those of us who never went to school much were terribly embarrassed in having to address everybody as Doctor So-and-So. Now I can hold up my head with pride and without temerity associate with these guys.

So, gentlemen, at long last the great seats of learning of this country are beginning to accept, appreciate and honor our Society and through me and Brother Truman (just recalled his name) have rewarded the efforts of you boys in keeping alive the spirit of song and democracy in this great country of ours.

A large delegation of the Laramie Brothers will be in attendance at the Oklahoma City Convention in June and to compliment them, don't fail to greet me there as "Dr. Cash", in a loud and vociferous voice.

Getting this degree has done a lot for my morale and I feel very cultured and educated. Hoping you are the same, I am

Sincerely yours,

DR. CASH.

TEXT OF CASH'S DEGREE

BE IT KNOWN to all who have nothing better to do than to read this document that OWEN C. CASH having taken no courses and fulfilled no requirements, possessing no qualifications and no recommendations, except that HE FOUNDED SPEBSQSA is nevertheless granted the degree of DOCTOR OF BARBER SHOP HARMONY by the University of Wyoming, acting on the threat of the Laramie Chapter of SPEBSQSA.

He is hereby granted all the rights and privileges, if any, appertaining to this hitherto never before granted and hereby abolished degree. Furthermore, all members of SPEBSQSA everywhere are directed to pay him due respect and on all occasions to give him what is coming to him.

By no authority whatsoever (December 17, 1947).

Signed: G. D. HUMPHREY

President, University of Wyoming.

FLOYD B. FOREMAN

President, Laramie Chapter of SPEBSQSA.

COLLEGE RECEIVES CASH— CASH RECEIVES DEGREE

The Laramie, Wyoming Republican-Boomerang of Dec. 13 reports that Owen C. Cash, Founder of SPEBSQSA, received an honorary degree in "Barbershop Harmony" from Dr. G. D. Humphrey, President of Wyoming State University. The occa-



sion was a concert given by the local chapter of SPEB in the University Auditorium.

Christmas music predominated although old secular favorites were in evidence. The paper said that the local chapter "which has won public and private fame for its singing" is under the direction of Robert Becker, Acting Head of the University's Music Division.

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Coast to Coast,—by Districts

News about District Contests and District Meetings

BUZZ SAWS TAKE OHIO—S. W. PA.

In the first Ohio-S. W. Pennsylvania District Contest (fourth for Ohio) Memorial Hall, Dayton, O., November 29, the Buzz Saws of Columbus rolled up the largest number of points as recorded by Int'l Board Member James Emsley, secretary to Judges Jimmy Doyle and Leo Ives, Chicago, Jerry Beeler, Evansville and Lou Walley, Detroit. The Jolly Fellows of Dayton were second; the Pittsburghers third; The Tiger Town Four, Massillon, fourth; and the Steel Blenders, Lorain, fifth.

Nineteen quartets faced the judges in the afternoon Preliminaries. In addition to the above winners, the five quartets in the Finals were Four Men of Dayton; Memory Laners, Canton; Parma City (O.) Four; Sleepless Knights, Dayton, and the Toledo Troubadors.

Association Pres. Maynard L. Graft, Cleveland, started the ball rolling at the evening performance and Robert C. Knee, Dayton, carried on as MC; George W. Campbell, led the community singing. Guest quartets were the Tom Cats, Massillon, the then District Champions; and the Ramblers, Cleveland, 1945-46 Champions, the latter in their black-light minstrel numbers. Much confusion was avoided at the AfterGlow in Hotel Biltmore by serving food in one room and presenting the Quartets in a separate ballroom.

INDIANA-KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION MEETS

Meeting at Logansport, Ind., November 9—The Semi-annual District Board Meeting of the Indiana-Kentucky Ass'n. appointed Carl C. Jones, Terre Haute, as Chairman of Ind.-Ky. Chorus Contest Committee to prepare plans for a chorus contest to be conducted along the same lines as a quartet contest.

The Board selected Muncie, Ind. as the site for the Annual District Contest, Feb. 7 and voted to hold future district contests in the Fall.

It recommended Ft. Wayne as the site for one of the Regional Preliminaries to be held May 1-2. Revision and condensation of the District constitution completed the most important highlights of the meeting, according to Frank D. Vogt, District Secretary.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT ASS'N. BUSINESS MEETING

Twelve of the twenty-two Nevada, California and Arizona chapters were represented at San Gabriel, Cal. business meeting preliminary to the Chapter Parade October 4. It was decided to combine the Far Western District Contest and the Regional Preliminary into one event in May if approved by the Int'l Executive Committee. It was

voted that "a reasonable length of time be observed between Parades". One joint chapter Parade a year will be held for the financial benefit of the District Treasury. The latter will be in the form of an experiment. It has never been tried by any other District.

ANNUAL MEETING ILLINOIS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Principle items of business covered at the Quincy, Ill. Annual Meeting of the Illinois District Ass'n. were as follows, according to the Chicago Pitch Pipe, from which we quote editor Stanger direct. (1) The adoption of a new District Constitution as suggested by the Int'l. Board. (2) The retention of the 50c per capita tax until June 30, 1948. (3) The appointment, by Pres. R. S. McKinney, of a group of Lieutenants, strategically located throughout the District, each to take care of the job of visiting chapters in his particular area, aiding the faltering, if any, and learning from the progressive ones, thus eliminating long and expensive trips for the District Officers. (4) The establishment of a monthly District Bulletin to be issued by the District Secretary. (5) The voting of approval of the bid for the Regional Preliminary Contest in May, 1948, submitted by the Joliet Chapter.

The report in the Pitch Pipe included a map showing the central location of chapters such as Peoria and Bloomington for holding district business meetings as compared to Chicago or the far southern cities of Illinois.

C. W. N. Y. DISTRICT

Chuck Glover, Sec. of Central Western New York District reports that the annual winter meeting at Hotel Statler, Buffalo, Nov. 15, handled four main problems on the agenda as follows:

"It was decided to continue holding District Contests in the Fall as well as Regional Preliminaries in the Spring . . . District Champs selected in the Fall will remain champs throughout the entire year, regardless of who wins the Regional Preliminary in the Spring . . . A definite Eastern Boundary was decided upon and it was also decided to temporarily include several N. W. Pennsylvania counties in the C W N Y District until they have grown to the point of requiring a district of their own . . . It was agreed that the District Contest in the Fall should raise sufficient money for the District to operate properly throughout the year".

It was decided that no quartets would receive expenses for attending a charter night and all in—district quartets would receive \$20.00 per quartet, plus 10c per quartet mile, plus hotel and meal allowances to appear on Parades in the District.

DISTRICT CONTEST WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP



1st—Ohio-S.W. Pa.—Buzz Saws, Columbus, O. L. to R.—George Chamblin, bass; Staff Taylor, tenor; Bruce Lynn, lead; Snook Neal, bari.



Right above—2nd—Central States—Four Kernels, Omaha. Below—Russ Borsen, tenor. L. to R.—Wells Holben, bass; Jack Dufford, bari; Joe Morocco, lead.

Below—2nd—Land o' Lakes—Packer City Four, Green Bay, Wis. L. to R.—Larry Schlissen, bass; Paul Schlissen, tenor; Karl Mohr, lead; Joe DeBevec, bari.



1st—Central States—A.O.U.W. Keynoters, Newton, Kansas. Below—Jean Coleman, bari. L. to R.—Bill Getz, lead; Robert W. Myers, M.D., tenor; Paul Kliewer, bass.

1st—Land o' Lakes—The Cardinals Quartet, Madison, Wis. Front to Rear—Phil Davies, bass; Skid Davies, bari; Jerry Ripp, lead; Joe Ripp, tenor.



2nd—Ohio-S.W. Pa.—Jolly Fellows, Dayton. Front to Rear—Claude Lang, bari; LeRoy Lang, lead; Carl Lang, tenor; Clarence Nurrenbrock, bass.

MARINETTE CHAPTER**No. 26**

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

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under direction of
ALFRED LESLIE BROADPROCEEDS TO FAR WESTERN
DISTRICT TREASURY**M. C.'s.**
Art Baker and Jim Burke**MID-ATLANTIC STATES ASS'N.**

R. Harry Brown, District secretary, reporting on the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic States Ass'n., Essex Hotel, Newark, N. J., Nov. 13, gives these highlights. Philadelphia was selected for the District Quartet Contest, Feb. 20. It will be sponsored by the Philadelphia Inquirer and radio station WFIL. Action on payment of expenses to Oklahoma City of qualified quartets was held over until the Feb. 20 meeting.

LAND O' LAKES ASS'N. MEETS

Al Falk, Sec. Land O' Lakes Ass'n. reports the highlights of the annual meeting at Northland Hotel, Green Bay, Wis., Nov. 2. In a discussion about participation in chapter parades it was the majority opinion that chapters presenting a parade should use more quartets from within the district as an incentive for quartet improvement. The District Ass'n. decided to pay \$150.00 toward expenses of quartets that qualify for Int'l. competition at Oklahoma City—not more than three quartets.

Oshkosh, Wisconsin was selected as the site for the 1948 picnic and 3rd annual chorus contest, July 18. It was decided to award certificates of merit to the four place winners in this contest. This will be made retroactive.

LAND O' LAKES DISTRICT CONTEST

Fourteen quartets competed in the Land O' Lakes District Contest, Green Bay, Wis., Nov. 1. The first five places went to the Cardinals, Madison; Packer City Four, Green Bay; Harmony Limited, Green Bay; Monarch Range Quartet, Beaver Dam; and Casey's Four Wheelers, La Crosse, in that order. Judges were Arvid Anderson, James Doyle, of Chicago, Al Strahle, Geneva, Ill., and Loton Willson, Boyne City, Mich. District President Ed Warrington made the awards. Clair Stone emceed and the Green Bay Chorus, under the direction of Rus Widoe, was "darn good" according to every report.

Guest quartets were the past district champion Milwaukee Hi Los and Appleton Keynotes.

NOSTALGIC

Ed Place of Washington, D. C. Chapter writes that in 1938 O. C. Cash discovered the Fountain of Youth now rejuvenating thousands of Americans. "Singing the good old barbershop songs is the most satisfactory medium known of turning back the calendar to the days of our youth. Certain songs owe their heart appeal to the memories that they incite. Such a song can send a chill up the spine, give goose pimples, or cause the eyes to become slightly moist". For example "When Mother played the Organ and Daddy Sang a Hymn" gets to Ed because his own mother played the organ "in the little white Vermont Church when daddy sang a hymn before preaching the Sunday sermon." Place points out that New Hampshire is one of the few states not blessed with a SPEB chapter. Yet he remembers vividly the barbershop quartet at Colby College. Those days they sang "Castle on the River Nile", "When Uncle Joe Played a Rag", "Good Morning, Mr. Zip Zip", "Pack Up Your Troubles", "Driving Home the Cows from Pasture At the Setting of the Sun", and others better known in SPEB circles. Ed sang with the quartet which introduced "Quaker Town", "Shy Little Buttercup", "Til We Meet Again", and others.

He mentions a quartet at the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house at Brown University whose "top tenor was Tommy Brown, today the top tenor of the famous Cleveland Lamplighters". Place points out that barbershoppers those days got together by accident mostly.

Today's barbershoppers have a field day by comparison because they can spot each other so easily by insignia, and in most any city can call the chapter secretary and get a four-some started in short order.

OHIO GOVERNOR NEW MEMBER

In December Thomas J. Herbert, Governor of Ohio, joined Columbus Chapter. W. H. Margraf, Pres., reports "It seems that joining our chapter was one of the last acts on the Governor's agenda before his marriage to a beautiful Indiana girl. He sings bari, and good".

BARBERSHOP TOPS PHILHARMONIC

Eagle eye Board Member Arthur A. Merrill didn't miss this opportunity to record the fact that his favorite organization got top billing at Eastman Theater prior to Rochester's Parade. Even the Ballet Theater was in second billing.



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

February 12—Grand Haven, Mich., Charter Night.

14—Findlay, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Green Bay, Wis., Harmony Jubilee; Holly, Mich., Quartet Parade; Brantford, Ont., Ladies Night.

15—Bowling Green, Mo., Charter Night.

16—Ypsilanti, Mich., Charter Night.

20—Philadelphia, Pa., District Contest; Hamburg, N. Y., Quartet Parade.

21—Kalamazoo, Mich., Mich. District Contest; Goshen, Ind., Charter Night; Warren, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Milwaukee, Wis., Quartet Parade; Phoenix, Ariz., Quartet Parade.

22—Bloomington, Ill., Quartet Parade.

24-25—Tampa, Fla., Harvest of Harmony.

27—Newhall, Cal., Charter Night.

28—Wichita, Kansas, Quartet Parade; Boston, Mass., Charter Night; Sharon, Pa., Charter Night.

29—Des Moines, Iowa, Quartet Parade; Ottawa, Ill., Charter Day.

March 5—Union, Mo., Quartet Parade; Eaton Rapids, Mich., Annual Parade; Springer, N. Mex., Charter Night.

5-6—East Aurora, New York, Variety Show.

6—Elyria, Ohio, Quartet Parade.

6—Toronto, Ontario, Quartet Parade.

6-7—Jacksonville, Ill., Quartet Parade.

12—Southtown (Chicago), Quartet Parade.

13—Toledo, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Newark, N. J., Quartet Parade; Pasadena, Cal., Harmony Parade; Saginaw, Mich., Quartet Parade; Steubenville, Ohio, Charter Night; Mystic, Conn., Charter Night.

14—Windsor, Mo., Charter Night.

Osborne Co., Kansas, Charter Night.

19—Holland, Mich., Quartet Parade; Edwardsport, Ind., Charter Night; Bedford, Mich., Ladies Night.

20—Wauwatosa, Wis., Quartet Parade; Sarnia, Ont., Quartet Parade; Terryville, Conn., Quartet Parade; South Bend, Ind., Quartet Parade.

21—Canton, Ill., Quartet Parade.

25—Westfield, N. J., Charter Night.

27—Muskegon, Mich., Quartet Parade.

April 3—Rockville, Conn., Quartet Parade; Jamestown, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Racine, Wis., Harmony Jubilee; Dearborn County, Ind., Quartet Parade.

3-4—Kansas City, Mo., Quartet Parade.

9—Three Rivers, Mich., Quartet Parade.

10—Grand Rapids, Mich., Great Lakes Invitational; Columbus, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Minneapolis, Minn., Quartet Parade; Passaic, N. J., Quartet Parade; Addison, N. Y., Quartet Parade; University of Connecticut, Charter Night.

10-11—LaCrosse, Wis., Quartet Parade.

14—Vermillion, S. Dak., Charter Night.

17—Endicott, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Waukesha, Wis., Charter Night; Grosse Pointe, Mich., Quartet Parade; Bartlesville, Okla., Quartet Parade; Burlington, Vt., Charter Night.

18—Charleston, Ill., Quartet Parade; Elgin, Ill., Quartet Parade.

24—Tecumseh, Mich., Quartet Parade; New Bedford, Mass., Quartet Parade; Defiance, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Dayton, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Marinette, Wis., Quartet Parade.

Mexico, Mo., Quartet Parade; Frankfort, Ky., Charter Night; Penn Yan, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Neenah-Menasha, Wis., Minstrel.

30—Wheaton, Ill., Quartet Parade; Middleburgh, N. Y., Quartet Parade.

May 1-2—Regional Preliminaries

8—Waterbury, Conn., Quartet Parade; Appleton, Wis., Quartet Parade; Ithaca, New York, Quartet Parade; Manistee, Mich., Quartet Parade.

14—Marquette, Mich., Quartet Parade; Kitchen, Ont., Ladies Night.

15—Iron Mountain, Mich., Quartet Parade; Warsaw, New York, Quartet Concert; Wilmington, Del., Quartet Parade.

22—Rochester, N. Y. (Genesee), Quartet Parade; Oak Park, Ill., Quartet Parade.

22-23—Terre Haute, Ind., Quartet Parade.

29—Holyoke, Mass., Quartet Parade; Wallaceburg, Ont., Quartet Parade; Dunkirk-Fredonia, N. Y., Charter Night.

June 5—Jersey City, N. J., Quartet Parade.

June 5-6—Peoria, Ill., Quartet Parade.

11-12—Oklahoma City, Okla., Conventinn.

July 18—Oshkosh, Wis., District Chorus Contest.

September 3-4-5-6—Charlevoix, Mich., Jamboree.

11—Gowanda, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Mishawaka, Ind., Quartet Parade.

18—Olean, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Sheboygan, Wis., Quartet Parade.

19—Elkhart, Ind., Quartet Parade.

25—Binghamton-Johnson City, N. Y., Quartet Parade.

October 1-2—San Gabriel, Cal., Quartet Parade.

2—Walton-Downsville, N. Y., Quartet Parade; Beaver Dam, Wis., Quartet Parade; Northampton, Mass., Quartet Parade.

16—Middletown, Ohio, Quartet Parade; Manitowoc, Wis., Quartet Parade; CWNV District Contest.

22—Washington, D. C., Quartet Parade.

23—Syraeuse, N. Y., Quartet Parade.

30—Flint, Mich., Festival of Harmony.

November 6—Detroit-Oakland Co., Mich., Quartet Parade; Buffalo, N. Y., Quartet Parade.

6-7—LaSalle, Ill., Quartet Parade.

12—Paterson, N. J., Quartet Parade.

13—Bloomsburg, Pa., Quartet Parade; Kansas City, Mo., District Contest; Milwaukee, Wis., Winter Carnival of Harmony.

14—Fox River Valley (Geneva), Ill., Quartet Parade.

20—Louisville, Ky., Quartet Parade.

27—Baltimore No. 1, Md., Quartet Parade.

BUFFALO CHAPTER CHORUS



Buffalo gives out under the direction of Ken Gill, Chorus Director.

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY

of

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Annual Parade SARNIA

—ONTARIO CHAPTER—



COLLEGIATE
AUDITORIUM



Saturday
March 20, 1948



E. G. AHERN
c/o City Hall

I SEE BY THE PAPERS



"QUARTET HITS SOUR CHORD" . . .

Washington, D. C. Post. The Antlers of Flint, Mich., took over Washington, D. C. in late November singing to enthusiastic auditors at the local chapter, in the House Office Building, Coffee Shop, offices, subway to the Capitol, and House Barbershop, but were stopped in a corridor of the Capitol. Said the Post "A barber shop quartet from Flint, Mich., hit a wrong note at the Capitol yesterday by singing in a corridor at the House end of the Capitol. They were promptly asked to stop by Sergeant-at-Arms William F. Russell. He said the music was very good, explained it would take formal permission from Speaker Joseph W. Martin, Jr., to sing in the hall."

"MINSTRELSY REVIVED" . . .

Louisville, Ky. Times. "What more pleasant task could fall to the lot of a

road show manager than to stand before almost a capacity audience and say: 'Please pass out the side exits. Two thousand people are waiting in front to occupy your seats for the next performance. This was said to the first audience at Memorial Auditorium Saturday night. That's how popular quartet singing is . . .'"

"NOT BAD" . . .

Monthly Record, Connecticut State Prison. "The first parade of quartets ever presented in any (penal) institution in America by SPEBSQSA was broadcast from the C. S. P. auditorium on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 16th. Sponsored by their Hartford Chapter and under the competent guidance of J. Frank Daly, Director of Music, the fifteen-minute broadcast featured a 75-man Chorus of the Hartford Chapter, The Chromatics, also of Hartford, The Cavaliers, of the Bridgeport chapter, and was aired over radio station WHTT . . ." The Record gave a full account of the affair, including emcee J. F. Daly's comment when some 500 inspired voices threatened to raise the heavy slate roof off the place, "Unmin, not had. 'Not Bad at all.' This may have been the first full 'Parade' in a penal institution, but many SPEB quartets have entertained inmates elsewhere.—Eds."

"THE OLD SONGS" . . .

Schenectady Gazette. "It might appear at first glance that the Barber-shopper is an odd species. He is indefatigable. He will sing at 8 in the morning as readily as at midnight. When three barbershoppers meet casually on the street they are likely to forget everything else and look for a fourth with the idea of harmonizing for a few minutes. They sing anywhere, any time, and for any length of time, so long as their breath holds out. Since theirs is a non-profit venture, this habit of letting go with a song at the drop of a hat is derived purely from the heart."

"BARBER SHOPPERS IN MARBLE HALLS" . . .

Elkhart, Indiana, Truth. The Truth printed a letter from Vernon J. Dwyer, former Hoosier now living in D. C., about Washington's Harvest of Harmony. After describing the occasion well and fully Dwyer said, "They may not have had the well-known names of Melchior, Tibbet, or a Caruso of yester-year, but when the 'Doctors of Harmony' took the spotlight in the Harvest of Harmony, they, and all the other quartets, completely stole the hearts of those in staid, stolid, sophisticated Constitution Hall."

"MALE VOICE . . .

BEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT" . . .

United Press. "Orchestra leader Fred Waring, after 30 years in the entertainment business, said today the most effective musical instrument of them all is the human male voice. Violins, cellos, saxophones, pianos—it has them all licked. 'It is even better than a woman's voice', Waring added, relaxing after his morning chores for the

National Broadcasting Co. in Radio City. 'Our ears aren't properly tuned to the higher wave lengths of a good girl singer. But when a male choral group sounds off, we listen and like it.'"

"PARADE LIVELIER THAN EVER" . . .

Schenectady Daily Union Star. "Increasing experience has taught the Schenectady chapter of SPEBSQSA how to improve its already thoroughly enjoyable annual Parade of Quartets. This third presentation at the Plaza theater exhibited a developing flair for humor. Amusing patter provided continuity and smooth, natural transition from one quartet to another during the first part of the program. A few minutes of nonsense enlivened the audience waiting for the show to begin. More and more those quartets which do not go all out for zany antics are grooming one of their members to act as a comic."

Mayor Mills Ten Eyck bought his tickets well in advance this year saying, "I was unable to get tickets the last time." Eds.

"APPLAUDING SPEBSQSA" . . .

Chicago Heard and Seen. William H. Stuart whose reports and comments about Chicago has wide readership, wrote: "SPEBSQSA is an institution of broadening, inspiring influence. I wish it well, particularly Chicago No. 1 Chapter, Henry George Slavik, treasurer. Its fourth annual presentation at Medinah Temple was a treat and an inspiration. Of course the greatest number was the community singing led by Capt. George W. Campbell. There will be no argument about this conclusion as the whole audience of 4,000 participated. They applauded their own efforts wildly."

"IN THE INTERESTS OF MORE HARMONY" . . .

Grand Haven Tribune, Mich. "Establishment of a local chapter of SPEBSQSA should have a 'harmonizing' effect in the community . . . There are a lot of serious issues in this old world and many people like to discuss them. But there also is a deep yearning for a hobby that excludes controversy. Barbershop singing, if we can judge by the rapid strides it is making all over the country, is such a hobby. Music has a way of calming nerves. It also brings fellows together for better acquaintance and understanding."

"ALUMNAE BOOK QUARTET CONCERT" . . .

Rochester, N. Y. Democrat-Chronicle. "Ever since the younger set began to sing the recently resurrected 'When You Were Sweet Sixteen' those who belong to the not-so-young set have been trying to tell them the way that it should be sung . . . Of course they've never had any way of proving their point. But now the chance has come. They have only to escort younger set members to the Eastman Theatre and

(Continued on page 21)

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I SEE BY THE PAPERS

(Continued from page 20)

let them hear for themselves. The 9 quartets, which will appear under the auspices of SPEBSQSA, may not present that particular favorite of the juke boxes, but the younger set will get the general idea of what their elders mean when they reminisce. The concert is sponsored by the Alumnae Association of the University of Rochester".

"THEY AIN'T NO SECH ANIMULE" . . .

Harrisburg, Penna. paper. "Once in a while a member of the SPEBSQSA still runs into someone who thinks 'they ain't no sech animule'. Despite the fact that the Society now has chapters in most major cities of the United States and Canada and has been featured in prominent publications, there are many who think it is just a group of tonsil artists who get together now and then for lack of anything better to do. The entertainment given Sunday by the Harrisburg Chapter at the Dauphin County jail is typical of SPEBSQSA's activities. The group sings 'for those who need entertainment most.'"

"IT ISN'T A MAYAN WORD" . . .

Salt Lake City, Utah Tribune. "It isn't a Mayan word, a 'miracle' drug, or a new deal project. It's just the initials of 'Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.', commonly called 'barbershoppers'. About 10 years ago I received a copy of a circular letter sent out by the founder, O. C. Cash of Tulsa, Okla., outlining his plan for a revival of barbershop harmony. While the idea brought back to me nostalgic memories of my days with amateur and professional quartets, I doubted that with the radio and the phonograph it would ever amount to much. Today there are approximately 15,000 members in chapters all over the United States and Canada and the organization publishes a 64-page quarterly magazine" . . .

Mr. Ham Park who wrote the above was wrong on one point, membership figures, which exceed 20,000. Eds.

"MEMORIES" . . .

Birmingham Post. With a picture of the Rebel Rousers to start off the story the Post reported: "Memories of handlebar moustaches, engraved shaving mugs and hair parted in the middle will be relived Friday night when members of one of Birmingham's fastest growing clubs get together".

"KING OF FRANCE" NOT A MEMBER . . .

Waterbury, Conn. American. Reporting the Chapter night program the American said: "Among the charter members are Fibber McGee, the King of France, Al Smith, and President Truman". Harmonizer editorial comment: Just for the record, the Society had been in existence several years before Fibber McGee took note

of it, Al Smith was one of the early (not "charter") members, President Truman is a member, and we would like to know who the King of France is, so that we could investigate his chapter extension activities across the water. Maybe "Adeline" doesn't sing well en Francaise.

"BARBERSHOP SINGING" . . .

Lincoln, Ill. Courier. "There is something a little more important than just fun and novelty in listening to a good barbershop quartet. The growth, not only of that so adequately and so definitely named organization largely responsible for reviving interest in this kind of music, the SPEBSQSA, but the general revival of public awareness in it shows how universal is its appeal. Among some more or less authoritative commentators on the subject it is being considered as possibly the real folk-singing of America. Certainly its quality is distinctive and its form is definite. The lead is carried by the second tenor. Above the lead is an improvisation sung by the first tenor, and below are the baritone and bass parts. And its roots are deep in the soil of American living".

"ATTENTION TEN-ORRS!"

In Portland, Oregon, Pres. G. T. McDermott's phone has been ringing since this editorial appeared in *The Sunday Oregonian*. "Something over a year ago this page noted the founding in Portland of a chapter of the 'Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America' . . . But now comes a cry for succor. It stems from Gladstone McDermott, president of the Portland chapter, a man of good will and pleasing (second tenor) voice, who informs this page of the acute need for top tenors, without which no male quartet can perform . . . Mr. McDermott reports that the society's local chapter has half a dozen fine trios that would be fine quartets simply by the addition of a top tenor to each. He believes Portland must have many top tenors in hiding. So does this page, which has never failed to speak up for the gorgeous art of the barbershop four, and it now echoes Mr. McDermott's cry in full-throated voice."

OLDEST - YOUNGEST



In Waterloo, Iowa Chapter, Rand Manley, son of E. O. Manley, Chorus Director, sings lead in the chorus. Just as regular in attendance as anybody else is John R. Smith, age 93, who has a son, John Smith, Jr., age 49, also a singer in the chorus.

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by ARTHUR A. MERRILL, Chairman Int'l. Committee on Community Service

\$PEB\$Q\$A CONTRIBUTIONS

In addition to giving pleasure to millions through introducing or re-introducing them to the good old songs by parades, radio, or public performances, the Society increasingly donates cash to worthy causes.

The following were selected from just one issue of "Swipes", November, 1947, and it is possible that some contributions were missed. Northampton, Mass. Parade netted \$1,025 for the benefit of the Infantile Paralysis Fund. By a two hour show, New Bedford, Mass. wiped out a deficit on the Y. W. C. A. swimming pool used by polio therapeutics and also gave generous cash donations to several local funds. Terryville, Conn. assisted in a benefit performance for local polio victims. Meriden, Conn. gave a sell-out minstrel show for the benefit of the Community Nurse Ass'n. Washington, D. C. Chapter staged a show for the benefit of the Second Baptist Church charity fund. Headed by Buffalo, C-W New York chapters carried on a joint drive for the benefit of the Sister Kenny Treatment Fund. Binghamton, N. Y. gave to Shrine Charities. Toronto chapter made donations to under privileged children. Fort Wayne, Ind. Chorus aided the northside Civic Ass'n. in raising funds for a new building. Clayton, Mo. raised \$2,000.00 for a children's park shelter. Omaha raised \$1,021 for their Children's Memorial Hospital

Just after the November issue went to press, Hartford's parade for the benefit of Shrine Hospital netted \$3,600.00 for that institution. This is the second time in two years that Hartford Chapter has donated that amount to the hospital. Says Past Int'l. Pres. Hal Staab, "The Society owes Hartford a debt of appreciation for so wonderfully exemplifying the tenth article of our Code of Ethics "To render altruistic service to our communities".

SOUTHTOWN-CHICAGO PUTS OUT



Southtown Chicago Chapter aided the Community Fund drive by furnishing a man representing "barbershopping" to sing "Night and Day" all week long. 24 hours a day, during the Drive. The stunt was sponsored by "Truth or Consequences" program.

SPEB RINGS BELLS FOR "SALLIES"

Two chapters, Macomb, Ill. and Genesee Chapter, Rochester, N. Y. aided the Salvation Army at Christmas time in its annual collection of funds. The Macomb affair started when the local Kiwanis Club challenged the Junior Chamber of Commerce to a two hour bell ringing contest for the Salvation Army. Kiwanis won by an even \$20.00, then challenged SPEB, which collected more money in its two hours than Kiwanis and JC's combined. Then they went to sing at the Salvation Army Orphanage.

At Rochester, the Melody Mutilators, with emphasis on carol type of singing, joined the Police and Firemen who took over the Salvation Army Christmas kettles in the downtown district. The combined effort brought in a normal week's collection in one day. That was on Saturday Dec. 20. On Monday the Note Crackers repeated. On Tuesday evening the Arcadians and others kept the pot boiling in the New York Central station.

"SALLIES" KETTLES BOIL



Joseph Du Plessis, veteran train announcer at N. Y. C. station, Rochester, N. Y., joined with SPEB carol singers to fill Salvation Army's kettles at Christmas. Reading right from Du Plessis, Phil Salatino, Dr. Frederick Tinsman, Frank Michel and Chas. Shiner. Salatino and Shiner sing with the Arcadians; Tinsman with the Be Naturals, and "Mike" Michel is unattached.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Here's a good definition of Community Service from an editorial in a recent issue of Schenectady's Union Star:

"Another thing that cements the Barbershop singers to the public is their utter freedom from commercialism. Week in and week out throughout the year they appear without charge, at church and community functions, at service club meetings, at veteran's hospitals, at institutions for the aged, the children, the indigent... They sing for the pure joy of doing it, and because they have such a good time themselves, willingly share it with others."

Organize A Quartet At Your Veterans' Hospital...

The Veterans' Administration plans to make records of all quartets organized in the Hospitals. The records will be submitted to our judging committee, who will pick out the best, and announce the winners in Music Week. This is an opportunity for our society—for your chapter. Contact your nearby Veterans' Hospital; go out with a quartet or two to stir up interest; follow up by sending out a wood shedding team to work with the interested veterans. It can be done—we know of two chapters (there must be many more)—Dayton and Schenectady—who have already done some of this work.

Orchids For Outstanding Community Service:

To these chapters who have reported Charity Benefits:

Kansas City: \$500 to Community Chest.

Marlboro: for local polio victim.

New Haven: 7000 dimes for March of Dimes.

Rochester: Univ. of Rochester Swimming Pool fund.

Schenectady: for High School Vocal Scholarships.

Flint: \$4000 for indigent children, other charities.

To Geneva, N. Y. for inviting some blind men to their meeting—the men enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

To Chicago No. 1 for organizing weekly hospital visitations . . .

To Omaha: for sponsorship of junior quartets in eleven high schools, aiming toward a junior parade next spring. Is your community service committee active? If you have any new ideas, any charity benefits to report, any community service pictures, send them to chairman Art Merrill, 1567 Kingston Ave., Schenectady 8, New York.

BARBERSHOP BAFFLERS No. 16

by CHARLES M. MERRILL, Int'l. President

Most of us are familiar with the deceptively lilting refrains of the old tear-jerkers. But how many can recall the "stories" which the verses fill in as background? Study the following list of titles and then fill in the number of the plot summary which seems to fit the situation.

- A. "She May Have Seen Better Days" ()
- B. "Just Tell Them That You Saw Me" ()
- C. "She Is More To Be Pitied Than Censured" ()
- D. "A Bird In A Gilded Cage" ()
- E. "She Was Happy Til She Met You" ()
- F. "No! No! A Thousand Times No!" ()
- G. "Take Back Your Gold" ()
- H. "The Girl I Left In Sunny Tennessee" ()
- I. "We Never Speak As We Pass By" ()
- J. "A Rose With a Broken Stem" ()

1. Friend wife goes home to mother. Hubby follows to seek a reconciliation, but his lovable old mother in law shoves her oar in, refuses the opportunity for a meeting and proceeds to give him what for.
2. A crowd's cruel laughter and angry jeers at the sight of a woman lying on a doorstep abandoned, forsaken, unknown, leads a by-stander to philosophize with considerable verbosity.
3. At a ball a wealthy woman, the fairest of all the sights, excites the envy of a girl until her lover points out the ugly fact that the lovely lady had married for wealth, not for love.
4. In the big city a girl, unexpectedly encountering a former school mate, first avoids him and then answers his request for some word

for the home folks with an evasive and wholly unnewsworthy message.

5. In response to the demands of a desperate Desmond that she "wed him or else", his threats to kick her out of her home, his tying her to the railroad tracks, the intrepid heroine had but one reply to make.
6. She became his virtuous bride and life was sweet until the tempter came. Now the fallen and dishonored bride lives midst wealth. Her sad face, however, tells how her heart aches and how she longingly thinks of her past life. (At best a pretty vague yarn and hardly worth elaboration.)
7. At a gay masquerade a girl is chosen queen. But she, thoughtless child, had broken her sacred vow to the son of one of the guests. Said guest proceeds to sadden the girl by disparaging reference in the form of a rather confusing simile.
8. Seated at a table at the old concert hall on the Bowery, a group of gay young blades direct their jeers at the next table where sits a girl who had fallen to shame. This most ungallant conduct inspires a broad-minded old gal to "explain".
9. Returning to his home after a few years absence a traveller is met by his weeping mother and friends but no sweetheart. In response to his inquiry the mother points to a spot in the churchyard's little lot.
10. Jack, the cad, has promised his sweetheart (in order to gain Heaven knows what foul ends) that he will wed her. Now he refuses to do his duty and is to wed another. His sweetheart scorns his promises that she shall not want and insists: marriage or nothing. (Note: as far as we can make out, she got the latter.)

(See Answers on Page 53)

OAK PARK MINSTRELS



In the grey gabardine jackets, with specialists in foreground, Oak Park (Ill.) Chapter in its Show Boat set, with Dick Svanoe, chorus director, close-up in white jacket. "Mr. Interrupter," otherwise Dr. Wade Harker in center-front.



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Over the Editor's Shoulder

[A Public Forum for Constructive Criticism
as well as general Comment. Contributions
welcome. Keep'em telegraphic.]

Cooper Heaves Brick. "Barbershop quartets (on radio) today seem to be getting away from the fine points of Barbershop Harmony. They seem to feel the necessity of using more swipes than are good form, in my opinion. The other day I heard a quartet use a swipe on the first chord of each phrase, two swipes in the middle of each phrase, and from four to a dozen supposedly modulated chords at the end of each phrase. Maybe that's good! Maybe my old critical ear is tuned only to the good old way of barbershop singing! Maybe barbershop harmony is going the way of all music, and is becoming modern! Frankly, I can't see it! I want the good old style of singing the good old songs . . .

"Even my two kids have said, within the last week, 'Pop, the old songs seem to have more harmony and are much more pleasant to listen to than the new songs'. They were referring to songs of 1935 to 1945, but still they called them 'the old songs'. They like jive when they're dancing, but

prefer 'the old songs' when they want to listen. They're crazy about the re-birth of 'When You Were Sweet Sixteen'—play it all the time.

"There are too many quartets singing the discordant type of close harmony. It just ain't barbershop, and it's my feeling that the SPEBSQSA should make these quartets that sing that way, state that it isn't barbershop. (How 'make' 'em, Mr. Cooper?—Eds.).

"To improve the situation, why wouldn't it be practical to have some expert Barbershopper write a series of articles on 'How The Best Barbershop Quartets Sing Their Songs' giving tips on harmony to the nova quartets.

"I know it would be appreciated down this way, as many of our boys here feel they don't know anything about Barbershop Harmony, and would like to read something they could understand about it".—Rog Cooper—Fred-erickton, N. B.

Christmas letter from Dr. Clyde R. Salmons, Hartford, to Sec. Adams: "What a thing this SPEB organization is getting to be! More than just a group of men who get together to sing, it has possibilities of becoming one of the greatest forces in the world for the breaking down of religious and racial barriers, and for bringing men together in harmony of soul as well as of voice.

"I would not (God forbid!) ascribe a religious significance to this movement but it sometimes seems to me more than just plain coincidence that at the exact moment in world affairs when it was most needed, our founder should have been inspired to strike the keynote of that chord of good fellowship whose reverberations, I believe, are destined to be heard around the world."

Writes Int'l. Bd. Member Walter Jay Stephens:

The Harmonizer is the most direct and interesting way that our Society can reach the average member and I certainly believe that it is worth every ounce of effort and money that has been put into it. Keep up the good work!

Business Mgr. Gives Eds. "the Business"—Memo from Assoc. Sec. Otto to Adams, Knipe, Martin: "Sitting alone in the office (Carroll is out of town and the girls have left for the day), I really got down to a good serious reading of the November Harmonizer . . . The article on page 5, 'The Anatomy of Quarteting' is something that I would



like to see more of. It actually gets better with each successive reading, and I don't mind admitting that I have been laughing right out loud, feeling a little foolish about the fact that I have seen these sketches hundreds of times, but the write-up that accompanies them is what attracted me. I am certain that our members will enjoy this article just as much as I have, as well as the entire issue of the magazine . . . This is the "Business Manager" giving you the "business".

Writes Arthur F. Sweeney, Ass't. Sec., Baltimore No. 1—after raising the question of how much good Society's singing is doing: "Last March I was ill with pneumonia, so ill in fact that my physician was calling every two hours. My good wife saw Barbershop Harmony in the radio programs for the evening, and tuned it in for me.

"It was a program of the Rock Island (Ill. District) contest, and broadcasting were the winners, The Big Town-ers 1st, the Smeets Brothers 2nd, and the Vikings 3rd. Also John Hanson's Chorus and Chordeliers as guest artists".

"Shortly after the broadcast the doctor came and said the crisis had been passed. After being told the reason was a renewed interest in life because of the broadcast, he said it was a most remarkable occurrence, so you see good is done by our broadcasts and I shall always be grateful to the participants in this program and to our Society and its Founder for making this possible."

PERENNIAL CHAMPS



The St. Mary's Horseshoers, Manhattan Chapter, regularly win the Central Park contest conducted by the city's Park and Recreation Department. (L. to R.): Frank Maier, tenor; Leo Lecomte, lead; Fred Moynihan, bari; and Frank Miller, bass.

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SPARK PLUGS

by Frank H. Thorne

Roy S. Harvey, Int'l. Board Member from Muskegon, Mich., supplies some fine ideas for this issue of SPARK PLUGS. Every chapter should plan carefully to give all members a chance to sing during chapter meetings as a supplement to an organized and more frequently rehearsed chapter chorus. We cannot over-emphasize the importance of group singing as it not only helps to produce quartets, but it provides opportunity for our members to let off musical steam, as it were, which is good for them, good for the chapter meetings, and good for our Society.

I was particularly amused by a later letter I received from Roy:

"We had a bang-up Christmas Party at our meeting Thursday. The tree decorated with notes and clefs and the presents were cards reading with names and things to do — Continentals — 2 songs: Roy Harvey — a Christmas story etc. Even Santa does not ask me to sing.)"

Come on over to Chicago, Roy. We will let you sing in our chorus, but let Roy tell you how Muskegon spark plugs their meetings:

"To keep our meetings interesting, we have always tried to keep our business session to an absolute minimum. We talk about having it seven or eight minutes long. Of course that does not always cover it, but we try.

"The first part of our meetings are in charge of the President and after the meeting is called to order and opened with the singing of America, we lead off with minutes of the previous meetings. These so-called minutes are features of the meeting and are put on the program early in order to help to draw early attendance and although they are sometimes filled with everything except what happened at the last meeting, they are built around such a thought and are filled with all the current wise-cracks that the Secretary can dig up, applying all the jokes to individual members and mentioning as many names as possible for human interest. "Corn" is not only permitted, but encouraged, and the minutes start off the meeting in great humor.

"Our new Secretary, Herb Allen, stood up to read the minutes last

month with a scroll about four feet long from which he read the minutes, but of course, the last last three feet of it were blank.

"One caution is that the jokes must be clean so that the smutty type is definitely out.

"After the minutes, the President makes announcements and introduces guests. We have used various methods, either by having the guest give his own name, or the man who brings him introduce him; but by far, the most satisfactory way is to have a guest register card, have the name read by the presiding officer or the Master of Ceremonies and applause held until all are presented. This speeds it up, the names are all heard distinctly, the guest can rise as his name is read to identify himself, and it makes a more pleasant and dignified presentation.

"After these short preliminaries, the meeting is turned over to the M.C., who starts off with group singing. There is no doubt that those who are active in preserving and encouraging quartet singing like to participate themselves and many of us crows have only the one opportunity each month to really participate, and we all think we are pretty good; in fact we know it.

"I think that the only standard complaint from members is that there is not enough group singing but that complaint is filed no matter how much we have.

"Meetings always of course, include opportunities for every organized quartet to perform. Visiting quartets are brought in from time to time and the marathon contest permits the organized handling of newly organized quartets and has been quite a successful activity.

"As a rule there is one novelty entertainment introduced, a musician or dancer or story teller, or something which happens to be available or a favorite of the program chairman for the evening. This adds novelty and surprise, and the members never know what to expect.

"Our Master of Ceremonies is elected when the officers are elected, is made a member of the governing board, attends board meetings, and each month's meeting is planned and discussed at the preceding board meeting. A Program Committee is appointed the first of each season by the President-Elect, consisting of 13 members, a General Chairman, and each other member is delegated as a program chairman for each succeeding month. This is an improvement over the previous plan of ap-

pointing them from time to time as we went along because it gives each one an opportunity to think up ideas and plans to be carried out when his turn comes. The entire group meets for discussion of the program and such details as seem necessary. A special committee is appointed to handle details of the annual parade.

"Special chapter meetings for special occasions always seem to create much interest and good attendance. For example, we usually have three joint meetings per year which are sponsored by Muskegon. The quartets and membership from these chapters are always invited and it is refreshing to greet other barbershoppers and exchange ideas and new swipes with them.

"Our June, July and August meetings are usually held at a country club or yacht club or outdoor spot, and this adds variety and breaks monotony.

"To summarize:

1. Start on time.
2. Hold business to a minimum.
3. Have experienced M.C. in charge.
4. Completely plan and time every meeting, allowing an estimated time for each quartet, each spell of gang singing, etc.
5. Add variety to the meetings.
6. Have monthly bulletins that keep the members interested, particularly those who missed the previous meeting.
7. Have snappy minutes of previous meetings.
8. Encourage contacts with outside chapters.
9. Have formal program lined up and meeting closed singing "God Bless America" while the program is going good and everyone having a good time. Impromptu quartets, etc., can take over, but those who have to leave after the formal closing will realize they have attended the complete meeting. It is always good practice to quit while things are going good and not after the steam has started to leave the entertainment and some are getting tired.

"Barbershopping is a swell hobby, and a hobby is something we go crazy over specifically, to keep from going nuts over everything in general."

HARRY ARMSTRONG GIVES LOW DOWN ON "ADELINE"

So many reports have been printed as to how Harry Armstrong wrote and finally published "Sweet Adeline" that his own version of the facts is reproduced here for the record.

Armstrong "came up the hard way", he says. Born July 22, 1879, in Somerville, Mass., his musical education was limited to two years study on the piano. But he was considered a boy prodigy, in spite of his lack of formal musical education. At age 15 he played the piano for the three round boxing bouts "in connection with entertainment then legal in the state." Visiting the pugs at training camps, he mixed music with mutilation and got a permanently flat nose, but there he composed the melody of the chorus of "My Old New England Home", which he peddled all over Boston but to no avail. "New York publishers felt the same way about it," he recalls.

He was torn between the desire to be a professional boxer or a song writer, but music won out and he went to New York to play the piano in a Coney Island cafe, from which he graduated to San Souci Music Hall, on Third Avenue, a favorite hang-out for Tinpan Alley song pluggers.

Then he got a job with M. Witmark & Son, music publishers, "eighteen dollars a week too, every Saturday".

While he was trying to peddle "My Old New England Home" he met Richard H. Gerard, another song writer. Says Armstrong, "Several weeks after meeting Gerard he came into the office with a set of lyrics 'You're The Flower Of My Heart Sweet Rosalie'. For two years we tried to dispose of 'Sweet Rosalie'. A couple of publishers accepted it, but when the time came to publish it they returned the manuscript to us. After three years I again played my song for Isadore Witmark. He said, 'I like the song, but not the title. Anyway we have a song 'Sweet Rosalie'. Get a new title and I'll publish it'.

"In the meantime Gerard had a new line in the chorus 'At Night Dear Heart For You I Pine', but could not find a title to rhyme with it. One day we were walking along Broadway and passing one of the theatres we noticed a poster announcing the farewell appearance of Adelina Patti, the famous Italian Prima Donna. Stopping in front of the poster Gerard said 'Adelina. Adelina, Adelene, Adeline, at night dear heart for you I pine. And so 'My Old New England Home' became 'Sweet Rosalie,' and later became 'Sweet Adeline'.

"Witmark published it immediately, but no one would sing it. The singers all said it was too slow, too old fashioned. So after a year it reposed on the top shelf in an obscure corner where the professional copies were

kept. One day the 'Quaker City Quartet' from Philadelphia came in the office looking for a new song. Fred Rycroft the Witmark manager played all the songs in the Witmark catalogue excepting 'Sweet Adeline' which by this time was entirely forgotten.

"They were walking out when Rycroft grabbed me and said, 'Harry, play 'Sweet Adeline' for them, maybe that's the kind of a song they are looking for'. I played and sang it for them and Harry Ernest the manager exclaimed, 'That's the kind of a song we are looking for. We are opening in Hammerstein's Victoria Theatre next week, come and hear us sing it.'

"And so I heard them sing the shot that has been heard all over the world. The rest is history. The tune of 'Sweet Adeline' was composed in 1896 and it was published in 1903.

"The moral of the song is, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again".

REUNION



It's been 25 years since Sidney Blackmer (R), picked up thumb-wielder Ed McHugh in Miami, and drove him to Tampa. Now McHugh is associated in Detroit with Lou Ohliger, insurance, and Blackmer is star of "All My Sons."

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Carolina Moon

By BENNY DAVIS

and JOE BURKE

Arr. by M. E. REAGAN, SPEBSQSA



1 2 3 4

The moon was shin - ing bright in Car - o - lin - a The

5 6 7 8

night we said good - bye so ten - der - ly. And

9 10 11 12

now that I'm a - way from Car - o - lin - a,

13 14 15 16

Won't some - bod - y tell the moon for me? Oh!

Chorus

17 18 19 20

Car - o - lin - a moon, keep shin - ing,

21 22 23 24 25

Shin - ing on the one who waits for me. Car - o - lin - a

26 27 28 29 30 31

moon, I'm pin - ing, Pin - ing for the place I long to be.

32 33 34 35 36 37

How I'm hop - ing to - night you'll go, Go to the right win - dow, Scat - ter your light,

38 39 40 41 42 43

say I'm al - right, please do! Tell her that I'm blue and lone -

44 45 46 47 48

ly, Dream - y Car - o lin - a moon.

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SCHENECTADY PARADE



Above you see the work of that ever active trigger snapper—Int'l. Board Member Art Merrill of Schenectady. If Art got commercial rates for all the pix he's taken of me, and you, and at least 75% of the members of SPEB, he'd be a rich man. Top left down we have—shell erecting—marquee lights featuring Garden Staters who appear next below. Then the CWNV champ Velvatoners . . . "Shorty" at the lights. Top center—marquee again—Frank White saying "S.R.O."—Garden Staters again—Doctors of Harmony—chorus—N. E. Dist. champ Harmonizers—Fireside Four. Top right—quartet in lobby before show—the usherettes—Tri-City Synchronizers . . . Drifters—Sunday A. M. farewell at Station.

CHICAGO'S SHOW A RIOT

Chicago finally got what it had waited for, the 4th annual presentation of the local chapter. More than 4,000 people jammed Medinah Temple to hear this all-Chicago quartet and Chicagoland Chorus parade with the Doctors of Harmony and George W. Campbell added for extra features. The Chicago show, written by Vince LaBelle and W. Welsh Pierce, had a plot and everything. (See Geo. V. Campbell's report in "Keep America Singing").

Some samples:

Adeline: "At today's prices the eggs laid around here should make us all rich. Booking Agent: "Now you're talking turkey". Assistant: "Don't talk turkey to me, I don't like them Turks." Doctors of Harmony: "Coming home from the East, we fell asleep on the train and forgot to wake up. so here we are".

10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT HQ.

Friday afternoon, January 2nd, Int'l. Hq. celebrated the beginning of the tenth calendar year of the life of this organization. One of the highlights of the ceremony was the initiation into membership as the first new member for 1948 of Sidney Blackmer, then starring in "All My Sons", at the Shubert Lafayette. The climax was the singing of the theme "Old Songs", the first number rendered by a SPEBSQSA quartet on the day when the organization was founded in Tulsa. The quartet was made up of Blackmer, James Gregory, member of Jersey City Chapter, also appearing in "All My Sons", Carroll P. Adams, Int'l. Sec., and Ed Smith, Int'l. Vice President.

SPEB SCHOLARSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Thus far Schenectady, N. Y. and Washington, D. C. have gone farthest in planned development of scholarships and oral music programs.

A year ago the Harmonizer carried the highlights of the Schenectady scholarships made possible by utilizing proceeds from the annual parade. The scholarship was not intended as complete musical education for the winners but rather to popularize serious vocal study among male high school students and to provide assistance to those who qualify. At that time two high school students had been chosen and were studying with vocal teachers. Since then, these teachers are helping the chapter in the College of Barbershop Musical Knowledge, putting a professional stamp on the chapter's efforts.

This Musical Knowledge development program teaches the fundamentals of voice culture, including such points as quality, the control of the voice by the ear, voice range (They say it must be "male-human" not "female or male-cow"), breath control, voice placement, diction, tonal accuracy. "You don't have to be a trained singer to be a good quartet man but it helps" they say.

The program includes sight reading which, of course, covers the meaning of notes and symbols on the printed page. Harmony structure is part of the course to aid members in analyzing interesting arrangements. Technique of conducting group singing and the same applied to choral singing are in the curriculum.

Most of these lead to the final and main subject, quartet development, in which quartets are judged by the SPEB rules of competition.

THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS



Santa Claus (Charles De Long) greets four children guests at Oakland County (Mich.) Annual Christmas party. Lloyd Tackleson, chapter treas., is delighted to find there is a Santa Claus.

FEBRUARY, 1948

THE *Jamestown* CHAPTER

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BY-PRODUCTS

A cold drizzle was falling upon the town. The day looked bleak and weary. Nevertheless, a crowd of rabid enthusiasts was elbowing its way into a High School Auditorium to listen to the Podunk Chapter's "Parade of Quartets." A rather small, middle-aged man nervously paced the floor under the overhang. Obviously, he was waiting for someone. Soon a tall fellow appeared, and even the crowd caught the infectious warmth of their greeting. It had been years since they had met last. The tall man had been a lead in a quartet when that section of town was just a commons. Waiting for the show to start, they were reliving those bygone years. The short man had never married; the tall one had lost his wife some years ago. Both were living alone in their respective apartments.

They sat through the show with evident enjoyment. Occasionally, phrases such as, "That's real harmony," would emanate from their lips. When the show was over, they walked out together. The rain had stopped, the air had cleared, and the sun came breaking through.

Soon there will be a new "quartet" singing in those lonely apartments, tonight and every night, simply because of O. C.'s inspired quirk that led to the formation of a great organization. This incident describes only a single by-product of this group which hides its good deeds and accomplishments under a crazy name that few can repeat from memory.

H. M. "Hank" Stanley

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THE OLD SONGSTERS

by Sigmund Spaeth

THE ranks of the Old Songsters are becoming thinner. Almost any obituary column nowadays is likely to note the death of some old-time songwriter, perhaps better known to the public by his tunes or words than by his own name.

To singers of barbershop harmony, the most significant loss recently has been that of John Thurland Chattaway, who in 1899 wrote both words and music for the immortal *Mandy Lee*. He died at the age of 75 in Milford, Connecticut, which had been his home for the past 45 years.

Many of those who habitually sang *Mandy Lee* were totally unaware of its authorship, and there are still more who have never realized that Thurland Chattaway also supplied the lyric of Kerry Mills' famous *Red Wing* as well as the same composer's *Barn Dance*. Among the less known Chattaway songs were *When the Blue Sky Turns to Gold*, *I have Grown So Used to You and Pals*, *Good Old Pals*. His first song, *Just Send an Angel Down*, was published by Howley, Haviland & Dresser, for whom he acted as editor of a house organ with Paul Dresser's brother, Theodore Dreiser.

Thurland Chattaway was born in Springfield, Mass., but when he was ten years old his family moved to Philadelphia, Pa., where he became an outstanding boy soprano in a local church. He came to New York at the age of 24, where *Mandy Lee* was introduced by Gus Edwards and became America's leading harmony hit at the turn of the century.

The composer's good friend Harry Armstrong who came out with *Sweet Adeline* a few years later, filled in as bass in a quartet that sang *Mandy Lee* at Thurland Chattaway's funeral.

A MEMBER of the Kansas City Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Harry Denni, sends this department some interesting details of the life of his brother, Lucien Denni, who died at Hermosa Beach, California, last summer, in his early sixties. Lucien Denni's best known tune was the popular *Ocean Roll*, an early ragtime hit, for which Roger Lewis wrote the words. That song sold a million-and-half copies after its composer had disposed of his rights for a mere \$500. Among his other successful numbers were *My Skylark Love* and *Synco-patin' Lovin' Louise*.

Lucien Denni was born in France, the son of an operatic tenor, Martin Denni, but came to this country as a two-year-old child, when his family settled in New York. He played the piano in public at the age of nine, and appeared at Tony Pastor's Music Hall while still a mere boy, later working with Irving Berlin as a song plugger for the old Ted Snyder Music Company and coaching professional quartets.

Denni acted as orchestra director for a number of musical shows, including Howard Hall's *Don't Tell My Wife* (for which he wrote the score), Allen Doone's *Colleen Bawn*, Victor Herbert's *The Only Girl*, several of the Ziegfeld *Follies* and the Hammerstein-Kern *Show Boat*. After coming to Kansas City as manager of a music store, he became active in the production and direction of amateur shows, for which he also wrote considerable music. One of the last of these K.C. productions was the Elks' *Gambols* of 1937.

Meanwhile Lucien Denni and his wife (who collaborated with him in his later musical work) had moved to California, where they created and directed a successful operetta, *Love's in the Air*, for the Hermosa Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce. Denni also composed, arranged and conducted music for motion pictures, including animated cartoons.

During the first World War Denni wrote several patriotic marches, in one of which, *The Nation's Awakening*, he conducted the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra. Of interest to harmonizers are such Denni songs as *Memory's Garden*, introduced by Frances Alda, and *You're Just a Flower from an Old Bouquet*, which was popularized by Elsie Janis. So his gifts were by no means confined to the lively ragtime of the *Ocean Roll*.

TWO other songwriting names appeared not so long ago in the obituaries. One was that of Lieut. Gitz Rice, best known as the composer of *Dear Old Pal of Mine* and *Keep Your Head Down, Fritzie Boy*, both classics of the first World War, but also generally considered the chief creator or adaptor of that all-time hit, *Mademoiselle from Armentieres* (*Hinky-Dinky, Parlez Vous*).

Gitz Rice was a Canadian by birth and graduated from the Conservatory of Music of McGill University. While serving in France with the Canadian forces, he collaborated with a British sergeant, "Red" Rowland, in producing the ribald song whose endless

verses became known to every English-speaking soldier. The story is that Gitz Rice adapted the tune from a French folk song, *Mademoiselle de Bar-le-Duc*, speeding up the time and working out the earliest lyrics with Rowland. There was said to have been an actual "Mademoiselle", a young waitress in a cafe at Armentieres, who reputedly refused to kiss a general and became famous because of that self-restraint.

In his early days Gitz Rice played the piano in vaudeville for such stars as Irene Bordoni, Florence Moore and Blanche Ring, also directing a group of male singers known as the Royal Northwest Mounted Police. His less known songs include *I Want to Go Home*, *By My Fireside*, *Waiting for You* and *Because You're Here*.

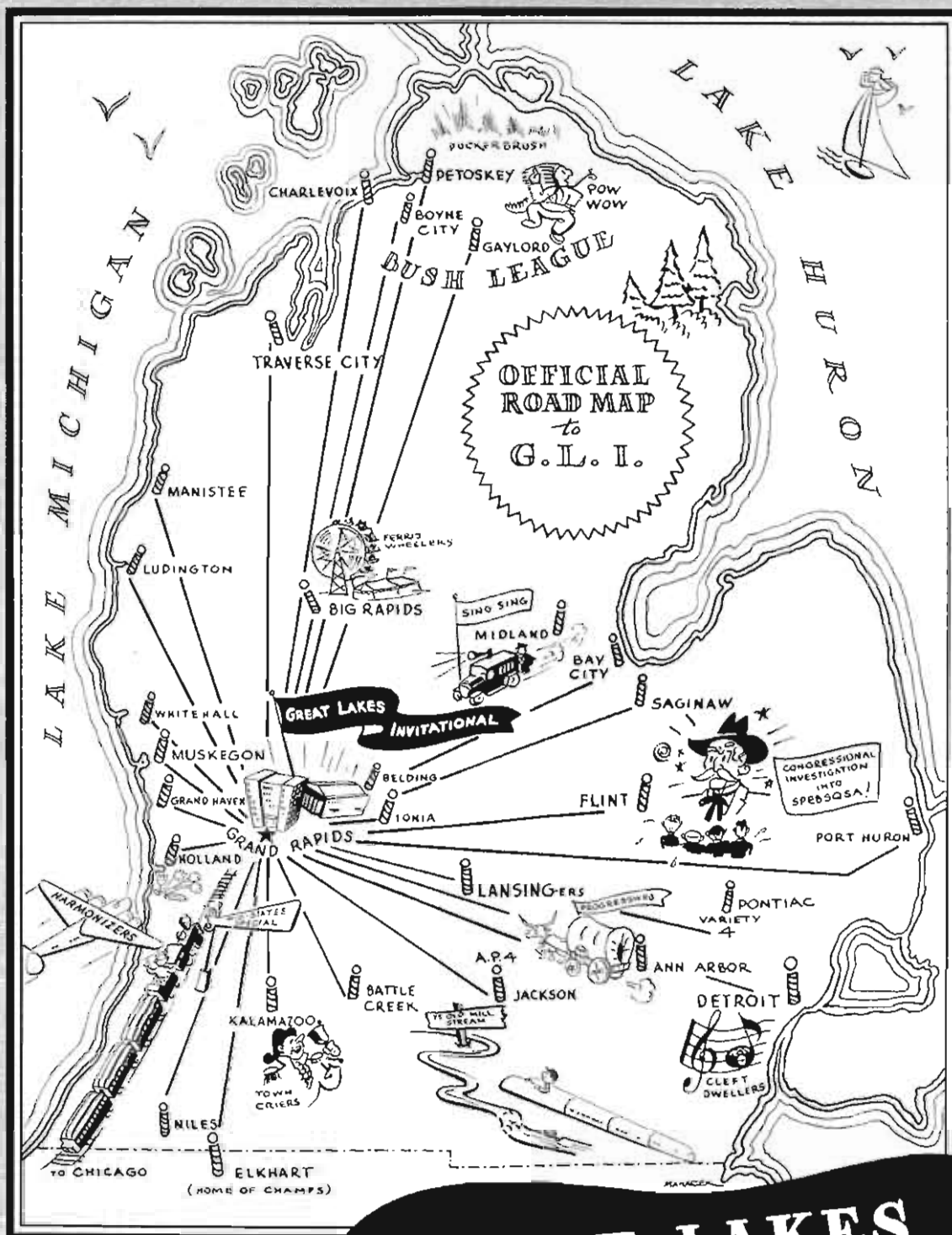
The other death to be recorded here is that of A. Seymour Brown, known primarily as a lyricist, whose most famous song was *Oh, You Beautiful Doll*, with Nat D. Ayer as composer. Brown was an actor and singer as well as a songwriter, featured as a comedian in the Ziegfeld *Follies* of 1907-10 and collaborating with Harry B. Smith in writing the words for those shows. His partnership with Nat Ayer also produced *Moving Day in Jungle Town*, *Chin Chin*, *If You Talk in Your Sleep Don't Mention My Name*, *Can't You See I Love You?* and other hits.

Seymour Brown, who died in Philadelphia, Dec. 22, at the age of 65, was one of the founders of ASCAP, active in the creation of such musical shows as *The Newlyweds*, *The Matinee Idol* and the *Greenwich Village Follies*.

SCHENECTADY PARADES FOR MUSICAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Eight quartets gave a sell-out audience at the Plaza Theater, Schenectady, November 14, such a thrill that they were asking for more when the show finished promptly at 10:30. Ticket Chairman Frank White was in the Ticket Window in minstrel top hat and cutaway. Ushers were wives and daughters in Gay '90's costumes. A quartet sang in the lobby before the show. A few lines of stage business tied the first four quartets together; the Fireside Four, Mohawk Clippers, The Drifters, and the Harmonizers, all of Schenectady.

Hal Senstrom as M.C. brought on the Velvatoners, Johnson City; Tri-Cy Synchronizers, Binghamton, 1946 Champion Garden State Quartet, and the current champions, Doctors of Harmony. S. H. Williamson, President, presented the annual musical scholarships.



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THE PEERLESS QUARTET

Part Two

by "Curly" Crossett

Albert C. Campbell, that great "top tenor" of the famous Peerless Quartet, passed away at his home in 1947. With his passing went the last of the original members, Stanley, Burr, and Collins having passed on before him. Thus ended the greatest and most famous quartet of all time. In the next issue I shall give a glimpse of those two masters of harmony, Albert C. Campbell, and that great comedian and top-notch baritone, Arthur Collins, with a list of their recordings. Hope you enjoy these old discs—some date back to 1907, when the Peerless was born, and in the next installment, you will find some old Edison cylinder records by the Peerless.

(to be continued)

Victor Records by Peerless Quartet

- 16957—Artillerist's Oath
- 18957—Winter Song
- 16507—Big Bass Viol—Bass Solo by Frank C. Stanley with Quartet Cho.
- 16324—Did He Run
- 16956—Emmaline Lee
- 16262—In the Light of the Same Old Moon
- 16341—Let's Go Back to Baby Days
- 16904—Mandy Lou
- 16352—Sweetheart's A Pretty Name When It's Y-O-U
- 5817—Sweetness
- 5767—That Fussy Rag
- 17514—Pussy Cat Rag—With Ada Jones
- 17341—That Raggedy Rag
- 17320—Those Ragtime Melodies
- 17430—Good-Bye Summer! So Long Fall! Hello Winter Time!
- 17372—Down Old Harmony Way
- 18458—I Hate to Lose You
- 17927—Is There Still Room For Me 'Neath the Old Apple Tree
- 18272—When the Sun Goes Down in Dixie
- 18170—When Your Five Times Sweet 16
- 18295—Hong Kong
- 17983—Down Where the Swanee River Flows
- 17944—Ghost of the Terrible Blues
- 18225—In the Days of Old Black Joe
- 17816—There's A Little White Church in the Valley

Columbia Records by Peerless Quartet

- A1335—Back to the Old Folks at Home
- A1496—Buffalo Baby Rag
- A1497—Don't Blame It All On Broadway
- A1346—There's One In A Million Like You—With Manuel Romain
- A1327—Harmony Joe
- A1626—He's A Rag Picker
- A1379—Just A Dream Of You Dear
- A1223—Kentucky Days
- A1709—Sleepy Moon
- A1223—Tennessee Moon
- A1443—Million Dollar Doll
- A1579—In the Palace of Dreams
- A1223—That Mellow Melody
- A1279—Way Down South
- A1247—My Little Persian Rose
- A1425—On A Good Old Time Sleigh Ride
- A1515—Ragtime Dream
- A1536—Harmony Bay
- A1244—Ghost of the Violin
- A1185—Hear That Orchestra Rag
- A1378—Love Me While the Lovin' Is Good
- A1318—My Turkish Opal from Constantinople
- A1251—Oh! You Silvery Bells
- A1403—Salvation Nell
- A1261—At the Ragtime Ball

KING COAL 4



These boys are favorites in Pittsburg (no "h" please, if you write 'em) Kans. L. to R. they are: E. Paul Van Horn, tenor; C. B. Pearson, lead; A. B. York, bar; and arranger; and Geo. D. Longston, bass.



PEERLESS QUARTET

THE STORY BEHIND THE
SONG ON THE COVER

by Hal Staab, Past Int'l. Pres.

I drive my car about 20 hours a week. While driving, I work out ideas, think up sales talks, and write songs, both lyrics and music. Many of my best songs were composed to the hum of a motor: "When the Man in the Moon Says Hello", "Colleen My Own", "In the Fields of Oklahoma", "Love is Like a Dream", "When the Harvest Moon is Shining", and "Lovely are Your Deep Blue Eyes", which is to be published next spring, are all products of concentration while driving.

"Beautiful Isle of Make Believe" was no exception. I wrote the lyrics and melody of that song while driving a distance of seventy miles between my home in Northampton and Waterbury. (That road has been productive of three good songs). When I reached Waterbury I parked the car, and wrote the words and music. (After hearing the Chordettes sing the song, I'm convinced that it is damn'd good, even if I did write it).

At about that time, Int'l. Secretary Carroll wanted a new song for his quartet, The Grenadiers, that had been organized in the Oakland County Chapter, so I sent the lyrics and melody to Past Int'l. President Phil Embury, who agreed to arrange it. Phil did a masterful job. The Chordettes, girls quartet of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, really made the song known. It was one of the first that they memorized, and they sing it at nearly every Parade in which they appear. They say it's the best that I have done. Well, maybe it is, but "Violets Sweet", and "Lovely are Your Deep Blue Eyes", are right up there, in my feeble estimation. Besides, I've written a hundred songs that the Society hasn't heard.

LOUISVILLE'S 2nd ANNUAL PARADE

By Jack Byrne

On Nov. 22 a flood of Championship quartets and SPEB celebrities surged into Louisville and the Seelbach Hotel well in advance of the big show that night where the top quartets of the Society sang to two capacity houses in the War Memorial Auditorium. It is a remarkable tribute to the Louisville Chapter to be the third largest box office attraction since the Auditorium was built some 15 years ago, exceeded only by the Breakfast Club of Hollywood and Fred Waring's Chesterfield Show.

Our chapter chorus stole the show with "Dry Bones", an arrangement by director Bob Ising. Following this number the audience applauded for one solid minute. Our directors booked most of the same quartets for next year's show to be staged on Nov. 21st, 1948.

Our Souvenir program with its 5 colors carried 64 pages and was given away to some 4,000 people. About 500 seats were donated to the Kentucky School for the Blind.

HOLLYWOOD SHOW A TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITIES

Referring to the Hollywood Chapter's "Close Harmony Show" at the High School, November 25th, the music critic of the Los Angeles Herald Express said "The goodly crowd fairly wept with joy". That in a nutshell was the show me'd by Art Baker, headlined by the Doctors of Harmony, ably supported by the Westernaires, Phoenix; the Four Staters, San Diego; the Golden Statesmen, San Francisco; and the Hollywoodsmen; topped off by the San Gabriel chorus.

The fact that only 1,000 saw the show was due to three major setbacks. After tickets had been substantially distributed at low prices (to pack the hall), Hollywood merchants decided to advance the date of their annual movie star parade to the 26th, the date originally selected by the chapter. It had to start all over, getting a new school permit, new tickets, new printing, recall and replace original tickets, re-vamp and re-distribute publicity, and even arrange a different date with the star performers, the Doctors.

The second major set-back is reported because it is so important to any chapter without experience in handling these affairs. Since the School Board did not allow ticket sale at the school, tickets were turned over to the downtown ticket agencies for distribution. The chapter frankly admits that in its inexperience it retained the best tickets for the chapters and gave the rest to the agencies for public sale. "That mistake will never be made again" they say, while generously offering their experience to other chapters. To cap the climax of errors, on the day of the show the local newspapers referred to the show "tomorrow", which was the original date set. And yet 1,000 is not a small crowd by any means and it was a grand show from start to finish. A triumph over adversity.

FEBRUARY, 1948

Toronto Repeats!!

PARADE

MARCH 6, 1948
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T O L E D O . O H I O T O L E D O . O H I O	<p>PRESENTS ITS</p> <h2>ANNUAL PARADE of QUARTETS</h2> <p>Saturday, March 13, 1948</p> <p>STATE THEATRE .: 8:00 P. M.</p> <hr/> <p>Featuring</p> <p>DOCTORS OF HARMONY</p> <p>THE PITTSBURGHERS -o- CARPENTER BROS.</p> <p>and other exceptional Quartets from neighboring states.</p> <p>:-: TOLEDO CHORUS :-:</p> <p>Capt. Geo. W. Campbell — Carroll P. Adams</p> <p>Judge Harvey Straub, M. C.</p> <p>AFTERGLOW, SECOR HOTEL</p> <hr/> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Parade Tickets (all reserved seats)</p> <p>\$2.50 - \$2.00 - \$1.50 tax inc.</p> <p>Afterglow - \$1.00</p> <p>(sold only with Parade Tickets)</p> <p>Write MR. E. A. METZGER</p> <p>1520 Shenandoah Road</p> <p>Toledo 7, Ohio</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Hotel Reservations</p> <p>Write:</p> <p>MR. C. J. MURPHY</p> <p>4035 Burnham Ave.</p> <p>TOLEDO 12, OHIO</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Parade Tickets (all reserved seats)</p> <p>\$2.50 - \$2.00 - \$1.50 tax inc.</p> <p>Afterglow - \$1.00</p> <p>(sold only with Parade Tickets)</p> <p>Write MR. E. A. METZGER</p> <p>1520 Shenandoah Road</p> <p>Toledo 7, Ohio</p>	<p>Hotel Reservations</p> <p>Write:</p> <p>MR. C. J. MURPHY</p> <p>4035 Burnham Ave.</p> <p>TOLEDO 12, OHIO</p>	T O L E D O . O H I O T O L E D O . O H I O
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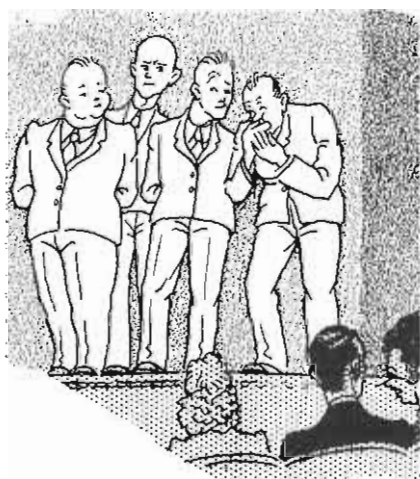
What Note Do You Blow on Your Pitchpipe?

By Ed Haverstock, Toledo Chapter

Every successful quartet has evolved its own system for picking off the pitch from the pitchpipe. And even so we've heard some of the finest make a false first step. This article is not intended to induce any quartet to drop a satisfactory method, but to furnish suggestions to newer fours. Eds.

Any quartet that has suffered the embarrassment of getting started in the wrong key before an audience knows how important it is to have a pitchpipe and to use it correctly. If you continue in the wrong key you may find that either the bass or tenor is unable to reach all of his notes.

At the very least your chords will sound muddy or strained and the notes will not have the right feel when you sing them.



To use the pitchpipe it is necessary of course to know in what key you wish to sing each song. During rehearsal you may decide you want to pitch a song a little higher or lower than the music is written, but whatever key you select, the man with the pitchpipe should memorize the key-note.

You can quickly determine the key in which a song is written by looking at the key signature, which is the number of sharps or flats appearing immediately after the clef sign. The key of C has no sharps or flats, the key of G has one sharp, F has one flat, B-flat has two flats, and A-flat has four flats. These are the most common barbershop keys.

Some quartets have tried to solve the pitch problem by singing everything in the same key. But as you expand your repertoire you will find some songs just will not fit this procedure. And a change of key from one song to another is very refreshing to the listeners.

Probably the best and safest procedure for setting the pitch is to first blow your keynote on your pitchpipe.

The lead will hum his note. The tenor will hum the third note of the scale above, the baritone the fifth note of the scale below, and the bass will hum the keynote an octave lower than the lead. This is the same chord on which you would normally end a song, the simple ending, not a swipe or tag ending.

This keynote or tonic chord will give you a feeling of tonality that you can carry through the entire piece and from it you should be able to go to any other chord that you wish. Humming the tonic chord is a bit safer than humming the first chord of your song, even though some songs do not start on the tonic chord, and the lead does not always start on the keynote. Hum the tonic chord first and then go to your opening chord.

Several long experienced harmonizers who read Brother Haverstock's script say that the humming of the opening chord, starting with the lead's note is ample. Take your pick. Eds.

It is not advisable to follow the practice of blowing the first melody note on the pitchpipe. The melody note can be any note of the scale and it is very difficult for the tenor, baritone and bass to get their pitch in that way.

Furthermore every chord is made up of at least three different notes, which is another way of saying that your pitchpipe note can be harmonized by three different chords. Thus if the lead blows a note which is not the

keynote and the other voices take it to be a keynote, you can get a very strange chord indeed!

There is another way of finding your pitch which deserves consideration. Instead of sounding the keynote, try blowing the fifth note of the scale! The fifth note of the scale is called the dominant note because it tends to dominate the harmony of a tune and is a common note to both of the two most frequently used chords. It is very easy to find your pitch from this dominant note if everyone knows that you are sounding the dominant and not the keynote. Many songs start on the dominant chord which makes the use of this note especially desirable. But if you decide to use this system on some of your tunes you should use it on all of them to avoid confusion.

It is the feeling of most quartets interviewed that "you'd take an awful chance" by this method. We say—"To each his own." Eds.

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

SLIGHTLY SOUR



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ANNUAL PARADE and HARMONY JUBILEE

Iron Mountain, Mich.
C H A P T E R
S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC.

May 15, 1948

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— 8:00 P. M. —

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FOUR KEY-NOTES
Appleton, Wis.

CHORDETTEs
Sheboygan, Wis.

AND CHORUS OF 50



Doctors of Harmony, Elkhart, Ind.—Max Cripe, Elton Hummel, Lee Kidder, H. H. (Jumbo) Smith.



Lions Club Serenaders of Kansas City—Don Stone, Bert Phelps, Ben Franklin, Jimmy Hurley.



Mid-States Four of Chicago—Bob Rodriguez, Marty Mendro, Forrest Haynes, Art Gracey.



Chordollers, Rock Island, Ill.—Above, Walter Chambers, Louis Coopman. Below, Harold Gray, John Gustafson.



Westinghouse Quartet, Pittsburgh—Carl Chada, Ed Beers, Earl Elder, Ed Hanson.

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"That Frankenmuth Program"

Throughout Michigan, northern Indiana and western Pennsylvania, New York State and Ontario it is very common to be asked "Did you hear that Frankenmuth program last night?" This question comes not only from SPEBSQSA members but from all walks of life and conditions of interest, because it is built around ever popular recordings of quartets. The Harmonizer asked Ralph W. Sharp, Vice President, The Fred M. Randall Company, a Detroit advertising agency, to set down the facts of how the program was developed and how it is maintained. Mr. Sharp wrote the following:



Ralph W. Sharp

"In 1942 when the war got into full swing Frankenmuth couldn't buy bottles and they wanted me to find some way to get folks to bring back the empties. Radio seemed the best way. I could get a quarter hour. About that time I had visited a meeting of the SPEBSQSA. It seemed just the thing for talent. So, rooting through WJR Library, I found thirty-four old time songs by the Fireside Quartet. Thinking I would only run a month or two. I figured thirty-four was enough. So we began.

"Everybody, our distributors, the client, the public and the station liked the program. I scoured the country for records and got WJR to subscribe to every portfolio that contained quartets of old time songs. Looked up Carroll Adams, got his cooperation and began to record various SPEBSQSA quartets hereabouts. Then attended a number of contests, made records of the boys and gave them records to take home.

Popularity Increases

"The program kept getting more popular and public demand just wouldn't let us quit. We found quite a few quartets did not broadcast well and we had to cut back. By adding and subtracting, we have today about two hundred and seventy numbers we rotate, featuring six numbers each program with "The Strawberry Blonde" as the theme song.

"Last September, we brought the Doctors of Harmony to Detroit and with the Michigan Male Chorus Association as background, broadcast a beautiful program from the Michigan State Fair. Last February, the Hooper rating reported the program out-pulled everything on Detroit stations day time excepting Kate Smith.

"The program is becoming more popular than ever. We plan to use Cleveland, Indianapolis and Chicago stations in 1949. The mail is consistent and from more than half the states in the union. Particularly heavy from Ohio, West Pennsylvania and Indiana.

Mr. Sharp did not mention that he wrote a story about SPEBSQSA for ROTARY magazine. Nor did he mention the weekly plugs on the Program for SPEBSQSA parades and special meetings. We should add also the week devoted each year to a live program utilizing our quartets in the Detroit area.—Eds.

PATERSON, N. J. ENTERTAINS DISABLED VETS

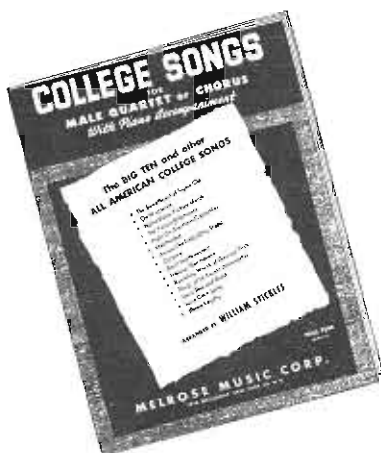


Paterson Chapter took 25 disabled veterans to dinner then to the annual parade. Quiz question—How many of the following SPEB members can you identify? Pres. James E. Matthews, 1st V. P. Edward Spinnler, 2nd V. P. Roy Williamson, Corresponding Sec. Richard Caples, Treas. Albert Barr, Recording Sec. Emil Battaline, Sergeant-at-Arms William Luciana, Ass't. Sgt.-at-Arms Michael Hanley, Ernest Lutz, Joseph Hancock, Peter DeKorte, Alfred M. Schuler, members of the Bd. of Directors. Former Int'l. Bd. Member William Holcombe is in the picture as well as Robert Goepel, Chairman of the Special Activities Committee of the Manhattan Chapter, and Robert MacEnery, Sec. of the Baltimore No. 1 Chapter and Int'l. Sec. Adams.

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FIGHT ON (Southern California) :: THE U. OF M. (Minnesota)
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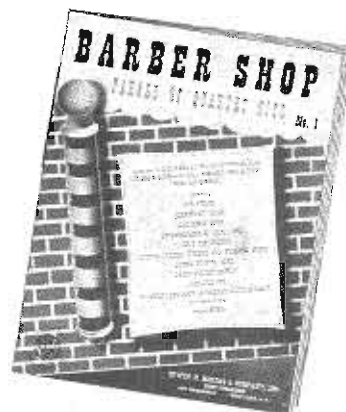
CONTENTS

CAROLINA MOON • KENTUCKY BABE •
SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI • ANGRY •
• QUAKER DOWN IN QUAKER TOWN •
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AFTER YOU'VE GONE • MARINES' HYMN
GO U NORTHWESTERN • WE THREE and
MANY OTHERS.

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

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

Two days before February deadline finds Ye COLD Editor flat on his aching back since last Friday engaged in a hand to hand combat with Virus X, Microbe Z, Vitamin PDQ, or just plain old-fashioned flu so if this column smacks of aspirin, quinine, phenobarb, sulpha, alpha, or delta psi epsilon think nothing of it. We're so full of pills that we're just bound to rattle around a bit so please bear with us as bravely we tell mother that "the show must go on" and diplomatically we ignore her when she asks why.

Every cloud has its silver lining however even the one that arises when a flu patient sneezes into the sulfa and this situation is no exception. *We believe we've found out why the old songs are so much better than the modern ones.* The oldtimers wrote melodies that were so simple that they were hard to forget. Then they added lyrics that were so simple and sincere that you wanted to remember them. Moderns feel that it's smart to add a dash of sophistication (a la Cole Porter) and in so doing they make both their lyrics and their melodies tough to remember.

To cite a case in point, we blew ourselves to a new radio-phonograph for Christmas and someone got confused with April Fool's Day and gave our kids a record of Too Fat Polka. A hundred times we've heard it in the last few days and a thousand times we've tried to forget it. But you know the darn thing's so simple and has such a lilt to it that, once you've heard it, you just can't get rid of it. On the other hand practically every radio program since we've been forced to be here and listen has featured Jack Owens new hit How Soon. It's a nice tune and certainly must be out of the ordinary or it wouldn't be near the top of the hit parade week after week. But for the life of us, as much as we've heard it we still can't remember it all the way through. Funny the things you'll dream up when you're full of pills, isn't it?

The search for old songs is indeed intriguing. You run into them where you so least expect them. Some time ago we exhausted practically every avenue looking for the Gang That Sang Heart Of My Heart. Discouraged and ready to quit we dropped in at the Bancroft Hotel one noon and the clerk handed us an envelope containing half a dozen copies of this very song and a letter from the publisher saying that he was reviving it and would we pass these copies out to some of the quartets that were ap-

pearing in our parade. They didn't even know that we were looking for the number. Remember also what a time we had finding Leaf By Leaf the Roses Fall? Now comes a letter from Phil Kane of Mt. Pleasant. After Phil read in the last Harmonizer that we'd finally located the number he suddenly remembered a bunch of oldies that he'd recently acquired and on looking through them sure enough there was a copy of Leaf By Leaf and where do you think it came from? Out of an attic right here in Saginaw not ten blocks from our office.

Now Phil wants Somebody's Hat Is Hanging In the Rack (Where My Hat Used To Be) a number that was recorded by Victor back about 1917 but so far we haven't been able to even get a clue. Maybe we'd better take a look in our attic and in the meantime will you please look in yours?

No question but what there are a lot of these old gems lying around in attics and basements and someday unless something is done about it they'll end up at the junk dealers as scrap paper, lost forever. That's the reason we started the Old Songs Library at Headquarters and that's the reason we're urging you good members to dig 'em up and send 'em in. This is *Your Library* and the songs in it will be available to you just as long as you live and to those who follow long after both you and the old Ed have ceased to sing off key. Get busy and help build it up as rapidly as possible.

Having had advance information about the new Library we were among the first to send in our old songs. Among them were such choice morsels as Bedelia, Blue Bell, In the Shade Of the Old Apple Tree, Just As the Sun Went Down, 'Mid the Green Fields Of Virginia, Pride Of the Prairie Mary, Tippecanoe, Wait 'Till the Sun Shines Nellie, When the Bees Are In the Hive, and You're As Welcome As the Flowers In May. Where do you suppose we got 'em? We bought the whole kaboodle for *One Dollar* from a fellow here in town who wanted to get rid of them. Right now we have another batch to turn in which includes When You and I Were Young Maggie, Ramona, I'd Love To Call You Sweetheart, Gliding Down the Waters Of the Old Mississippi and others. These were given to us by Harry Milne a member of our chapter who owns a furniture moving business. These movers get lots of old music and they'll gladly save it if you'll only ask for it.

If you have a collection of your own and you still enjoy it by all means hang on to it. But when you're through, if you haven't anyone else who really wants it why not make sure that it doesn't go to the junk

man by leaving it to the Society. Surely that makes sense, doesn't it?

Thanks to Jack Lawless of Bridgeport, Connecticut it looks like maybe we've caught up to that Southbound Train for Ernie Vennard. To LCdr SC Rad Severance of the USN and Sig Spaeth who seem to have collaborated in cornering Little Lize I Love You, our sincere appreciation. But a thousand curries on R. Harry Brown who finally made us give up on Hooray Hooray It's Rain Rain Raining. We chased that baby back to at least half a dozen quartets and many times we thought we were oh so close, but always it came out the same. "Yep, we sing it but we never saw a copy. We learned it from . . ." etc., etc., etc. Maybe the darn thing just grew up like Topsy. *We still don't know.*

In the old song list is a number that Rus Cole recommends very highly. It's a quiet Mills Brothers type ditty called Gimme De Leavin's. Incidentally Rus, who's been doing research lately on Old London Music Halls, says he'll gladly make them known to anyone who's interested. Rus also has the largest collection of old song titles we know of and they're still available to members just for the cost of the printing. His address, Russell Cole, Chouteau, Oklahoma.

We're happy to have been able to furnish old song data recently to the Hi Los of Milwaukee, the Westinghouse Quartet of Pittsburgh, the Misfits of Chicago, the Roundabouts of Los Angeles, the Antlers of Flint, the Noteworthy's of Geneva, and the Sentimental Four of Ft. Wayne. Yes sir the You Name 'Em We Dig 'Em Up boys sure do get around a bit, don't we?

Funny . . . we still haven't heard any- thing from Down In the Valley Where Roses Are Growing. Maybe you weren't paying attention, we'll try again. It's on a Conqueror record No. 8555 made in 1933 by the Hoosier Hot Shots. What's the right name, who wrote it, who published it, and when? And while you're looking see if you can dig up the same data on one that was written around 1850 a part of which went: "In the Catskill mountains there did dwell a lovely youth I knew him well. Then said Caleb Jones, oh my son. When he was turning twenty-one."

Your grandpappy yodeled the Fellow Who Played the Drum a real old cutie by Arthur West with a chorus which went: "She wouldn't go into the balcony, or into a circle stall. She wouldn't go into the gallery for fear that she should fall. She wouldn't go into the boxes, it made her feel so glum. She wanted to sit in the front of the pit, with the fellow who played the drum." Do you remember?

It Helps to Know about a Song

Interesting facts from the Song Arrangements Committee, Don D. Webster, chairman.

"GIVE ME THE RIGHT TO LOVE YOU"

(December 1947 Release)

Back in 1917, two Chicago boys, Ben Bard and Abe Glatt wrote a song that was destined to become a great hit. This song was introduced in one of the big Columbia Wheel Burlesque shows by Bard who later moved to Hollywood where he met and married the late Ruth Roland, actress.

"Give Me The Right to Love You" retained its popularity through the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 staying near the top with the favorites. This barbershop arrangement was done extremely well by Frank Thorne, and the committee predicts that it will become a favorite with our quartets.

"IN WALKED AN ANGEL"

(January Release)

It has been said that a poet must be inspired to do his best work. This is also true with song composers.

The writer of this song, Arthur Trombley, Hartford Chapter, tells us that one day he was sitting in his office when in walked a very dear friend. The result was, "In Walked An Angel".

We feel that you'll find this a very singable number. It has an interesting melody line and some very good harmony possibilities. The arrangement is by Don Webster.

"Carolina Moon"

(In this issue)

"Of the many fine "Carolina" songs that have become top hit tunes in the past three decades, perhaps none has enjoyed greater popularity than "Carolina Moon". And no wonder, with its dreamy melody and its appealing lyrics.

This song is a natural for barbershop treatment, both verse and chorus, and would definitely be an asset to the repertoire of any quartet."

LOOSELEAF ARRANGEMENTS AVAILABLE

Answering the many requests for looseleaf arrangements the Int'l. Committee on Song Arrangements makes extra copies of the following numbers available, in any quantity at 5c per copy, in lots of 10 or more of one song. Less than 10 arrangements of a single number will be 10c each. Please order them by symbol numbers from the Int'l. office, 18270 Grand River, Detroit 23.

- X1 After Dark
- X2 In the Evening by the Moonlight
- X3 Sailing on a Moonbeam
- X4 Love is Like a Dream
- X5 I'd Love to Live in Loveland
- X6 Silent Night
- X7 Hymn for the Home Front
- X8 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
- X9 Cantique De Noel (O Holy Night)
- X10 Beautiful Isle of Make Believe
- X11 You Tell Me Your Dream
- X12 I Want a Date at a Quarter Past Eight
- X13 O Come All Ye Faithful
- X14 Colleen My Own

I BELIEVE IN THE OLD SONGS, too



WRITE FOR
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- X15 Won't You Please Come Back to Me?
- X16 Sing, Brother, Sing
- X17 Keep America Singing—Thorne
- X18 When the Man in the Moon Says Hello There
- X19 Daisy-Annie Rooney Medley
- X20 Honey Gal
- X21 SPEBSQSA, Inc.
- X22 That Old Quartet
- X23 Gentle One
- X24 Juanita
- X25 America (God Save The King)
- X26 God Made a Wonderful Mother
- X27 Don't Send Around Tomorrow
- X28 Keep America Singing—Diekema
- X29 How Can I Leave Thee
- X30 The Old Songs
- X31 Give Me the Right To Love You
- X32 Sweetheart of Sigma Nu
- X33 In Walked An Angel

The above is in answer to increasing demand for extra copies, and it represents only actual cost of printing and mailing. The Committee will continue to furnish at least one new arrangement each month free to all members.

INFORMATION YOU WANT

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

TITLE	YEAR	COMPOSER	PUBLISHER
All By Myself	1921	Irving Berlin	Irving Berlin
Any Rags	1902	Thos. S. Allen	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
Baby	1922	Wenrich & Peck	Leo Feist
Come To the Land of Bohemia	1907	Shields & Evans	F. A. Mills
Coney Island Washboard	1926	Nestor, Shugart, Durand & Adams	Lewis Music Pub. Co.
Don't You Mind It Honey	1906	Cara Roma	Charles K. Harris
Down Where the Swanee River Flows	1916	Albert, McCarron & Von Tilzer	Broadway Music Corp.
Georgia Moon	1914	Havez & Barron	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
Gimme De Leavin's (When You Get Through)	1908	Cole & Johnson	Jos. W. Steru & Co.
He May Be Old But He's Got Young Ideas	1916	Johnson, Gerber & Jentes	Leo Feist
How Sorry You'll Be—Wait'll You See	1919	Kalmar & Ruby	Waterson, Berlin & Snyder
I'm Looking For A Bluebird	1921	Merrill & Rich	Robbins Music Co.
It's Not What You Were It's What You Are Today	1896	Dave Marion	Edward Marks Pub. Co.
I Wish I Had Never Seen Sunshine	1937	Johnnie Roberts	Southern Music Co.
Look What You've Done	1918	Creamer & Layton	Broadway Music Corp.
May I? May	1897	Rourke & Peasley	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
My Lady Lou	1899	Doty and Brill	Chas. B. Ward Music Pub. Co.
My Lovin' Henry	1905	Friedlander & Sherman	Charles K. Harris
Old Pal Why Don't You Answer Me?	1920	Lewis, Young & Jerome	Waterson, Berlin & Snyder
Ragtime Cowboy Joe	1912	Clarke, Muir & Abrahams	Robbins Music Corp.
Send Back My Honeyman	1922	Handman & Creamer	Bourne, Inc.
So Long Mary	1905	George M. Cohan	Jerry Vogel Music Co.
Timber Winds	1939	Jack Ross	M. M. Cole Pub. Co.
Where the Sunset Turns the Ocean Blue To Gold	1902	Buckner & Petrie	Edw. B. Marks Music Corp.
You'll Never Know the Good Fellow I've Been	1940	Jack Coogan	Jerry Vogel Music Co.

Swipes from the Chapters

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

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

Illinois Inklings

by W. Welsh Pierce

Area "E"; Illinois; Barbershop Heaven—call it what you will it all comes out the same. Lots of fun and heavenly harmonics for everybody. It is almost awe-inspiring to your humble editor to review the mass of Activities Reports and see what a tremendous amount of good will and civic embellishment is created by even just one group of chapters in our glorious Society. No doubt every area is the same, at least this scrivener is going to assume this to be a fact and that no good purpose will be served herein by an endless repetition of "Blank Chapter had a Parade, a Ladies Nite, wowed a Kiwanis Clambake or an Elks election". If this is printed at all (and God knows the Editors of the *Harmonizer* may faint at our sacrilege) you will be told only about unusual and special activities that may be of some help in keeping other chapters from having to say "Well, Tuesday is meeting night. What'll we do". Let's just assume all of Illinois' 49 Chapters had "Parades" that "packed" 49 halls and that the applause was so great it blistered 49 palms . . . We can always look to Oak Park for something new and a little different. Their Tune Twisters entertained Christmas Shoppers in down town Oak Park by caroling over an outdoors public address system. And if they did their Harbor Lights Yodel I'll bet the stores sold a lot of Alpine outfits. Kegs, anyway . . . Greater Alton comes through with the disclosure that their Ladies' Night show was enlivened by one of their quartets, dressed as women, responding when the M. C. called for volunteers from the fair sex. Same "old bags" with "new chords", no doubt . . . Aurora rates a plug by this statement from Sec. Smith: "We are fortunate in obtaining some excellent singers. As a result, the Aurora Chorus is becoming known in this Territory

CHORDSPLITTERS



The Chordsplitters of Logan County, Illinois, Chapter, has become increasingly popular throughout the county. Here's how they look making their bid. L. to R.: G. Arthur Brown, bari; Tom Perry, tenor; Omer Potter, bass; and Edwin Gardner, lead.

as one of the best, second only to the (censored) and Chicago choruses. (The censored chapter was Oak Park) . . . At a Christmas Party put on by Barrington a surprise act was a women's chorus, organized on the q.t. by wives, etc., which sang a parody on barbershopping to the tune of "Feudin', Fussin' and Fightin'". Now we're wondering what Grand Pa was "pickin' up" when they shot him . . . Danville joined with the local Moose Lodge for a shindig called "Daze of '49". They must not be counting on being in Oklahoma City for our "Daze of '48" . . . Decatur rates accolades for this event as chronicled by Sec. Geo. Wright: "Then on our regular December 23rd meeting night 50 of us, in two special buses and a police escort, made the rounds of hospitals and sanitarium here to sing carols in the halls and meeting rooms" . . . Pioneer (Chicago) was sponsored originally by Chicago No. 1 so in December they invited "Mom" to come and visit her "Brats". A nice little twist in Inter-Chapter Relations . . . We promised not to mention ladies Nites so Bloomington crossed us up by holding a "Stag", (an annual one at that) on December 29th. The only explanation we can give is that on "regular" meeting nights the women are not invited, but on "Stag" night this rule is "positive" . . . The Rock Island Chapter was a little more liberal. On November 4th they staged an affair which included the women but since it was "Dutch treat" the Ladies must have paid their own way . . . Springfield mourns the passing of Roy Fox, as does everyone else who ever had the pleasure of meeting him. He was Barbershopping personified and your humble Editor will never forget Roy

in the first quartet he ever heard sing After Dark. In those days we called it Everglades and the first night Roy sang it for us we had him do it fifty times or more, the last time under a street light at 4:30 in the morning. Roy and his quartet having to then drive 150 miles to Springfield and go to work. God rest his melodious soul . . . Elgin kept busy with the usual activities and rates special credit for the shows put on at Hines and Downey Hospitals . . . Fox River Valley got rid of a lot of social obligations by having a joint "at home" for Chicago, Barrington, Elgin and Aurora Chapters. Not a bad idea for those Chapters who get behind in their inter-chapter activities. "The Fox Valley Four made eighteen public appearances in the three month period and the Northwesterners and the Esquires also were mighty busy. The Chapter Chorus participated in the Barrington Chapter Show." . . . La Salle crashes the news-front by staging a Midnight Glow." Thought the glows were about used up, but this is a new one. Held on New Year's Eve, incidentally . . . Chicago No. 1's Secretary, Sir Hugo, writes pages about the wonderful things this inconspicuous chapter has done, but most of it is routine. As your Editor can't spell routine, the curtain is perforce drawn. Of national interest, however, was the effort to interest High School quartets in our kind of entertainment. Chicago entertained teen age quartets from Wells and New Trier High Schools and also made a determined effort to get a chapter started in Northwestern University. Delegations from Northwestern have visited Chicago on several occasions. Sec. Stanger feels also that mention of an intra-chapter quartet contest should be made. Just because Chicago developed a quartet called the Elastics from a similar marathon years ago is no sign a new champion awaits discovery. But . . . The Logan County Chapter (in Lincoln) followed a happy trend indicated by so many chapters this past Christmas Season. They (Lincoln) spent the evening of Dec. 21 by visiting two hospitals and then closing the evening by putting on a half hour show at a local orphanage. All this in the great tradition, we would say . . . Peoria aided all of us by putting a Postmasters Convention in a happy mood. Never has the mail service been so good. Also Peoria did a multiple-corner carol job for the Salvation Army. Heavy pots in Peoria for the poor, we're told. A post Christmas party at Peoria State Hospital rounded out the good deeds . . . South Town (Chicago) is really

JACKSONVILLE'S

4th Annual

SPEBSQSA Double-barrell

Parade of Quartets

March 6th - Saturday - 8 P. M.

March 7th - Sunday - 2 P. M.

Illinois School for Deaf Auditorium
JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS

a live wire. Their quartets busy like all get out, but what makes for solidity are the truly interesting meetings they have. Sec. Gallagher briefs things up this way: "We have a program following the regular meeting. Usually a visiting quartet, a sound picture when possible, recording machine for quartet development, "Robber" style pick-up quartets and straight pick-up quartets. We usually have a small afterglow and then on to some late spot for the insomniacs" . . . We swore not to mention parades, and we won't, but there's no harm in quoting Bob Haeger of Q Suburban in part: "After the show we entertained and royally fed over 400 people at the Acacia Country Club. I don't know how the management contrived to feed such a mob but they did—each one having his choice of roast beef, baked ham, spaghetti, baked ribs, salads, desserts, etc. to infinity and all at no cost to the guests. (So bi-carb is free, huh?) I'll never know how the Club managed to make a dime, but perhaps it doesn't matter — the owner just signed up as a member" . . . Quincy rates plaudits for the fine reception given to officers and delegates to the Fall Convention of Area "E". Somebody in Quincy either owns a radio station or they know where the body is hidden. This Quincy quadrille got a "plug" every half hour the entire day preceding the event. Incidentally this "hosting" official society events is one of

the very best chapter pepper-uppers known to mankind . . . The boys in Macomb crashed the newspapers before Christmas by accepting a challenge from the Kiwanis to see who could raise the most money in Salvation Army kettles. The poor K's had nothing to offer but "chatter" while the quartets sang their way to victory—Barbershoppers \$264.31, Kiwanis \$82.00 . . . Roanoke was another chapter to warble all over town just before Christmas. Fine reception by the populace. To keep things moving in January the Roanoke boys staged a "Family Night" for Mother, Dad and the Kids. (You see how these cute boys get around our Ladies Night ban) . . . Charleston won a parade—whoops, there's that word again—but this time it was an honest to goodness street parade. Charleston's Barbershop Quartet float in the Eastern State College home-coming parade won first prize. But watch! Next time they'll win again as they have since bought a surrey with fringe and all. No doubt to welcome visiting dignitaries . . . Jacksonville held its own in a Christmas song fest of local choral groups. We knew they would . . . Joliet tells of a special guest in December, one Michael Finucane, from Urles, Lisselton, County Kerry, Ireland. Mike seemed quite taken up with barbershop, but we doubt if it will ever take hold in Ireland. Can't you imagine one Irishman blowing a pitch pipe and the other three saying "We'll

be damned if we do" . . . Dixon which is somewhat North of the Line of the same name, stumps us with a quartet called the Watt Four. We don't know whether these lads are local bulb snatchers or if we should take the name literally and forget the whole thing. That's a good "last line" so we'll leave it . . . Belvidere feels mighty grateful to Oak Park for their support in making the November Parade the success that it was. Extension Committee is proud to report the sponsorship of the new De Kalb Chapter. Rockford will be next. Chapter Chorus and quartets sang for the local P.T.A. in January and the American Legion Post in February. Northwest Suburban. Afternoon of Harmony on January 25th was a sell-out for more than 30 days before the Show. From the standpoint of providing enjoyment and pleasure for our members, the continuation of our monthly "Fun Nites" the last Monday of each month has been a tremendous success. On Oct. 27th, the North Shore Chapter from Winnetka, were our guests and there was a total turnout of 125 members and guests. Nov. 24th we were visited by the Elgin Chapter and those present totaled 112. Dec. 29th we made the occasion a "Ladies Night" for our own membership, and despite the fact that it was during the holidays we had a capacity crowd of 150.

The Peoria Chapter

"HAVEN OF HARMONY"

Present Their
SIXTH ANNUAL SING

At The
SHRINE MOSQUE, Peoria, Ill.

FEATURING
THE PEORIA CHORUS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SMITH APPLIGATE

The Best of Harmony - - - Tops in Quartets - - - A Fine Show

The International Champs — DOCTORS OF HARMONY
THE HARMONY HALLS . . . THE HARMONIZERS . . . THE CARPENTER BROS.
. . . and Many Other Outstanding Quartets . . .

!!! **ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW** !!!

The Highlight of the Years' Entertainment

SATURDAY EVENING
JUNE 5th
8:15 P. M.

♪ ♪ ♪
The Old Songs
♪ ♪ ♪

SUNDAY AFTERNOON
JUNE 6th
2:15 P. M.

WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS

"Once a Champion Always a Champion"

The Bartlesville Barflies, '39
Bartlesville, Okla.

The Elastic Four, '42
Chicago, Ill.

The Misfits, '45
Chicago, Ill.

The Flatfoot Four, '40
Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Four Harmonizers, '43
Chicago, Ill.

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

The Chordbusters, '41
Tulsa, Okla.

The Harmony Halls, '44
Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Doctors of Harmony, '47
Elkhart, Indiana

HARMONY HALLS "EXPECT TO BECOME A QUARTET"

Writes Ray Hall: "Our quartet has not been too active for the past few months, due to our needing a little rest. We sang together at the Grand Rapids Ladies night party in Dec. For us to get together was like meeting old friends, on the stage in Pantlind Ball room. After shaking hands around, we went into a huddle like a football team, and after getting our signals, we proceeded to sing, and believe it or not, it turned out pretty good, so we have decided to spend more time together. Perhaps we can make a quartet of ourselves if we practice."

"While making a stage entrance recently, singing Mandy and Me, due to the side being closed where we usually enter, Bob had to lead on instead of Gordon. This confused Bob Hazenberg so badly that he completely forgot the words. Of course we have only sung the number two or three thousand times. That reminds me of the time in Milwaukee when the stage manager set the rule that all quartets should exit opposite from the side which they entered. Due to having made exits the same way we came on for years, I insisted on leaving the same way that night, even though the other three members tried to steer me off the other way. I went the way I had for years, taking them with me."

DOCTORS USE INSTRUMENTS



The Int'l. champion Doctors of Harmony took no chances that the mike might not be right when they went on the air on the Elgin Watch National Broadcast Thanksgiving Day.

RAMBLINGS OF THE MISFITS

Since they won the Int'l. championship in 1945 the Misfits have taken trains, planes, busses and automobiles to hundreds of parades and shows. On every occasion the robust lead Art Bielan has threatened to miss connections, and those who know him well are always on edge until he actually shows up, because he is so widely known as "the late Mr. Bielan".

Cy Perkins, bari of the Misfits, reports that on a recent trip to Evansville, Art Bielan strained to the utmost and accomplished what he had always threatened — he missed the train. At Evansville next morning the Misfits trio had a wire "Missed the train. Am catching next one." "He caught the train alright but in the meantime," says Perk, "Roy Frisby of the Elastics had collected 10 separate bets, based on his statement that the Misfits wouldn't be together on the train".

The Misfits say that too many of us in the Society "lucky enough to be invited to appear on parades" take these affairs for granted. The Misfits realize the terrific amount of work that has had to precede each event. "They just don't shape up themselves". In consequence the quartet expresses its appreciation of the work done by committeemen and all who make these shows so successful by "giving so freely and willingly of their time in order that others might enjoy a grand show".

They report that in mid-December it was their privilege to appear on a program sponsored by Chicago Federated Advertising Club, a Xmas party whose proceeds keep under-privileged children off the street by giving them wholesome supervised entertainment. Perkins says "I know that all quartets, whether champions or the comers, always get a tremendous amount of pleasure out of appearing for such a worthy cause. It gives us a new outlook and a new spring in our step, to find that through our quartet efforts we have been able to bring cheer to others".



ROANOKE, ILL. ACTIVITIES

On the left is a wood carving (guess what) done by Al Garino, chapter member. Below is the Roanoke Chorus with C. Webb, director. 7th from left, front row. G. Small, Pres., is 3rd from left, back row. Al Garino stands third from right, back.



NEPTUNERS New Bedford, Mass.



Third place winners in the N. E. District Contest. The quartet includes Lt. Gov. Charlie Ricketts who is Chapter Pres., L. to R., Everett Wood, Ricketts, John Briden, Chapter Sec., and Al Maine.

Northeastern District

by Stub Taylor

Christmas spirit pervaded many Northeastern chapters. Marlborough, Mass., chorus toured city with girl carolers from Anna Marie College. Harvey Station, N. B., entertained sponsoring chapter of Fredericton, N. B., promoted concert with Brunswick Ensemble, gave joint concert with Harvey Junior Choir in Milltown, N. B. Charter night program Dec. 12 preceded by banquet. Middleburg, N. Y., chorus took part in Schenectady Parade, sang for local business club and at Schoharie, N. Y., for Eastern Star, gave benefit concert at Central Bridge, N. Y., for local church. Rockville, Conn., had Ladies' Night attended by four neighboring chapter delegations, and visited Northampton Chapter. Chorus and quartets entertained at American Legion Home. Silk City Four did likewise at Newington Crippled Children's Home. First Parade planned next fall. Waterbury, Conn., chorus participated in municipal carol sing, entertained Christmas parties of City Hall and local power company employees, and took part in New Britain, Conn., charter night program. Conway, Mass., village of only 350 people in a farming community, sent 40 members and guests to Northampton Parade. Chorus joined Youth Center on Christmas Eve to carol for shut-ins in 15 homes. Chapter is only adult entertainment and recreation organization in town. Sec'y Jesse Smith mentions original difficulty of survival, but now membership is growing, enthusiasm increasing, and opportunities are unlimited. Chorus and quartets of New Bedford, Mass., made recordings the U. S. Dept's. "Voice of America" radio program. Sixty-eight members participated in Quincy, Mass., charter night program. At Swansea, Mass., they sang for underprivileged children to finance Christmas dinner and gifts, and at Sassaquin Sanatorium they entertained patients before Christmas. Two chorus appearances were for church benefits. Sunday evening, Dec. 20, sang carols at First Baptist Church. Jolly Whalers, Smoothies and Neptuners all included the Sanatorium in their numerous appearances. Northampton, Mass., contributed to Community Chest and Brightside Orphanage. Parade netted \$1025 for Polio Fund. Hal Staab MC'd Diamond State (Wilmington, Del.), Parade. District Contest at the New Haven

and Quincy charter night, also spoke at Hartford Parade. Art Laprade coaching Conway Chapter chorus. Chorus entertained Dickinson Hospital and County Sanatorium, and gave concert at Florence. Chapter sponsored Barre and Burlington, Vt., chapters. Smith College students at charity event auctioned half-hour concert by Tri-City Four. Melochords, among numerous appearances, sang at three community service events, a hospital and a sanatorium. Springfield, Mass., chorus sang for Turnverein. Activities of Tune Spinners included

NEW BRITAIN GETS CHARTER.



Bill Ryan, Pres. Hartford, Conn. the sponsoring chapter, presented the charter Oct. 25 to Harry Ginsberg, Pres. Hardware City Chapter, New Britain. L. to R.: Bill Marsh, Sec., J. Harold Johnson, Treas., John McNamara, Vice Pres. Ginsberg and Ryan.

Northampton Parade and several church affairs. Street Walkers entertained American Legion, church fair, and community meeting. Holyoke, Mass., chorus entertained at Leeds Veterans Hospital. Melochords, reported also by Northampton, among other events sang at South Hadley schools for children's Hallowe'en parties and for three hospitals. Carefree Four sang at South Hadley Falls for two churches, one a benefit event. Meriden, Conn., Silvertones were hit of Charity Club annual show, made three Wallingford, Conn., appearances for YMCA building fund, sang at Rocky Hill, Conn., Veterans Hospital and broadcast on WMMC. Chorus and Silvertones participated in New Britain Charter Night. Junior Quartet sang two nights in church benefit. Terryville, Conn., chorus and quartets entertained Masons at Bristol, Conn., put on two church benefit shows and entertained at Rocky Hill Veterans Hospital. The Hartford, Conn., Parade on Nov. 22 netted \$3500 for permanent endowment fund of Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children. Univ. of Connecticut Chapter, New London, born in October, has entertained twice on campus and thereby carved perma-

nent niche for themselves. Burlington Vt., another infant, is developing chorus and four quartets, with Parade in early prospect. New Britain, Conn., chorus sang for blind group and will entertain soon at Newington Veteran Hospital. Nameless Four is new quartet. Every chapter in Connecticut was represented at Charter Night. New Haven, Conn., sponsored Waterbury, Mystic and Univ. of Connecticut (New London) Chapters, held District contest, participated in show for Newington Veterans Hospital, and was loudly acclaimed by teen-agers at meeting of Catholic Youth Organization, five of whom, one a girl, wanted to join right away. Boston, Mass., Chapter, organized in September, is growing rapidly, with quality as keynote. Charter night scheduled for February 28th. Fredericton, N. B., sponsored Harvey Station, N. B. Chapter by getting members of Male Chorus interested. Was represented at the new chapter's Charter Night in December. Sec'y Roger Cooper presented charter. Quincy, Mass., made recordings of chorus and reorganized quartets. Planning to attend Boston Charter Night. Reading, Mass., chorus and quartets devoted time to Christmas carols, took part in Quincy Charter Night, sang at Bedford, Mass., Veterans Hospital and at Bedford PTA meeting. Minstrel show being planned. Mystic, Conn., organized in October, has heavy demands for engagements due to excellent performances. Chorus sang for Christmas party, and at Noank, Conn., for similar event. Caroling occupied Christmas Eve. Quartets have entertained churches, American Legion, two syle shows and many PTA groups. Schenectady, N. Y., continued successful development of 15 objectives for improvement. November Parade departed from stereotyped form by presenting local quartets in vaudeville continuity without MC. Middleburg chorus was on program. Pre-curtain antics and costumed usherettes added Gay-Nineties flavor. High School music scholarship contest expanded to include girls and instrumentalists. Chorus sang at Freedom Train dinner and at Saratoga Veterans Hospital, and caroled at community homes for old ladies and old men, crippled children, and tubercular patients. Monthly sessions of "College of Barbershop Knowledge" continued with lectures by prominent local musicians. Mrs. Merrill, mother of Charlie, Bill and Art, was serenaded at Art's home during her visit. Syracuse, N. Y. Chapter, co-sponsored by Schenectady and Cortland, was presented charter by Art Merrill. Clippers and Integrators assisted Middleburg in Central Bridge, N. Y., church benefit. 3000 miles away, Schenectady's Atom City Four, now located at Richland, Wash., appeared in Tacoma Parade. Four most active quartets—Harmonizers, Clippers, Drifters and Fireside Four—made 54 appearances in the quarter, entertaining over 21,500 people and unnumbered radio listeners.

CLEVELAND NEWS EDITOR NAT HOWARD SAYS, "SPEB QUARTETS PROFESSIONAL— COULDN'T BE THAT GOOD OTHERWISE"

N. R. Howard, editor of the Cleveland News, who wrote his daily column around the local "My Home Town" quartet review held Jan. 31, has the sentiment and the supersensitive ear of a true barbershopper. Good harmony of any kind holds him and, when it is mixed with period costumes, props, and the memories conjured up by a typical old-time quartet number well done, he vibrates inwardly like a violin string, though you might never guess it from his expression, which frequently becomes more deadpan the deeper he feels.

Now fifty, Howard can recall many of the oldies when they were new. His duties don't permit as much music as he would like to absorb or produce. Given a piano he loves to modulate exquisitely from one oldie to another through an entire evening with occasional excursions into the modern just to prove that he is not set in his ways. That last might well typify his attitude toward his profession as well.

The Cleveland concert which evoked the Howard column had as a theme a trip around the country where producer Carroll T. Pallerin revealed quartets in all manner of settings, each singing at least one of the nostalgic "I'm-going-back-to" type of songs. The narrator carried the audience from one setting to the next. For the spirit and a concise review of what went on, read Howard's column.

BRIMSTONE FOUR CINCINNATI



As they appeared on Middletown, O., Parade. L. to R.—Dr. J. S. Mathews, tenor; Ray Myers, lead; Dr. Glover T. Keen, bar; Bob Sommers, bass.

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES"

Thanks to J. Geo. O'Brien (Saginaw); James F. Kriple (Cleveland); James H. Emsley (Canton); O. C. Cash (Tulsa); Wm. P. Osmer (James-town, N. Y.); Marvin Lee (Chicago); George Strickler (Jackson, Mich.); James Judice (Detroit); and Ralph Stoltz, who have already sent in scads of sheet music to start the SPEB collection that we can make the most complete collection of memories in the land.

Don't let the ashman get it. He won't appreciate it, but this and future generations will thank you for dusting off that old sheet music.

In the NEWS

Come, sing, now; sing; for I know you sing well. You have a singing face.—Fletcher.

Do-Me-Sol-La

BALANCING THE CITY BUDGET is more important, and the Marshall Plan for the rescue of

*the
Editor's
Column*

Europe is more significant; but the barber shop singing at Public Music Hall Saturday night was more fun.

They had three quartets on the program of the district sing of the SPBSQA who were worth going a mile to hear. The present international champions, the Doctors of Harmony of Elkhart, Ind., favored Cleveland with a tuneful visit; the Nela Park Lamplighters, my auld favorites, were on the program; and a Columbus foursome, the currently best in Ohio, did as good harmonizing as any one there. The other quartets were nice to listen to, but these three aggregations sang with expert restraint and noticeable harmonic imagination.

IN FACT, THEY WERE so good that I got into a big argument with Len Weitz and Deacon Martin, before the evening was over, about the degree of professionalism such good singing seemed to me to demand. These two chapter pioneers thumbed through the constitution and by-laws and showed where any one who gets paid regularly for singing can be in a quartet licensed by the society but must be in a minority of it.

All right, if that is the case, then these top singing fours must work at it all the time, without resort to the normal activities and purposes of life. They COULDN'T be that good unless they did.

THE ELKHART CHAMPIONS

[so adjudged at the 1947 international convention] are singing before some audience an average of two nights a week all year, I was informed. They have been appearing elsewhere than in Elkhart every Saturday night for I forget how many weeks. They make recordings which sell by the thousands. It's "amateur" music, but it couldn't be

more exacting and demanding if the quartet was making a living by its talents and hard work.

THE NICEST feature of this national mania of tens of thousands of men of all walks of life is that it provides for the resuscitation and preservation of many songs which rush forth, rise, fall, and are never heard again. The wastage of our popular song business has depressed me for many a day.

The Columbus quartet took 27 years off my memory by rendering (strange word for music performance, isn't it?) "I Want to Go Back to the Sleepy Hills of Ten-Ten-Ten-o-see." My generation was in white flannels and blue coats when that was popular, and yet a nicer ballad of Tin Pan Alley nostalgia never was written. It died speedily, in the competition of songs about going back somewhere into rustic America.

"It's Only a Shanty in Old Shantytown" is in need of not quite such exhumation, as it is one of the naturals for men's voices of our times; but the Elkhart Doctors, singing it straight and then with a double-talk refrain, presented it as crisp as when it emerged in the early 1920s.

THE ECSTASY with which the quartets sing is unlike anything in the world. After a third encore, the spokesman for one of the quartets warned the audience that there had to be a limit of applause if the quartet was ever to be halted; so it was easy to reflect how the roar of approval comes to the ears of four masculine harmonizers a little more magically than to any other kind of entertainer.

In the first place, any male quartet worth its spiritual salt will sing alone and exclusively to each other, without public attention—on a desert isle. The mere soundwaves of a diminished seventh to the hearing of those causing them are beyond any other joy in life.

Even a quartet with a tenor or a baritone who is a shade flat can relish a harmony that has originality and hard work behind it. Slight flatness can be shrugged off, when you like barber shop singing.

When you add the testimonial of spontaneous audience enjoyment to this rapture, life becomes almost too acutely wonderful to be borne. If the Barber Shop society continues to grow in members and virtuosity at the rate of its last five years or so, I foresee the day when cities will pass ordinances forbidding quartet singing in certain places, on certain occasions, or at certain times. They will do this in self-defense.

—N. R. HOWARD.

Land O' Lakes

By Tom Needham

Kenosha sponsored a card party to raise funds for concert expense. 350 people came to play and listen to barbershop harmonies. Vice president Earl Warner said they not only took the people's money (a nice profit), but "sold" them on barbershop so well that they are already clamoring for tickets for the next parade. Specialty Four, Key-Notions and Men Of Notes quartets have filled every possible local invitation, including station WLIP. Ladies' night, Dec. 15, was also farewell party for Pres. Tom Honore, whose new home is Martinsville, Va. Tom says the Society should get ready to grant another charter. Iron Mountain is under way with plans for a parade in May. The chorus, directed by T. Ray Uhlinger, sang over WMIQ. Talent for the parade, including Int'l. Sec. Carroll P. Adams as MC, will be shared with Marquette for their show the previous night. "Kawbawgam" chorus sang for patients at Morgan Heights Sanitarium where they are rated as top morale builders. Mustachio Four, Academic Four, Northern Airs, Harvester Four and the Twin City Four quartets have kept the community happily entertained. Madison's first rate chorus sang at Evansville, Wis. Harmony Jubilee and at their own Harvest of Harmony at East Side High School. Top quartets included Doctors of Harmony, who flew in from the west coast where they had appeared on a Thanksgiving Day broadcast. "Doctor's" did a superb job despite a very ill tenor. Cardinals have sung at 21 functions for total of 12,000 harmony hungry listeners. Austin has lost its top executive, because President Hanson's business requires him to work in another city. Vice president Cec Falkum is very capable man to carry on the good work. The fortunate chorus has acquired the enthusiastic leadership of Kenney Hostad. Chapter has almost completed plans to sponsor new "baby" at Albert Lea. Waupaca is growing. Has had joint meetings and songfest with Wisconsin Rapids and Wausau and made annual trip to Scandinavia for Christmas program sponsored by Lutheran Men's Club. All hands busy planning for bang-up parade. April 4 is date for Racine's third annual Harmony Jubilee. Details nearing completion for sponsoring new chapter at Waukegan, Ill. Chapter was "Racine Night" guest at Milwaukee, Jan. 16. La Crosse succeeded proudly with its Harmony Festival of Nov. 9. The "Terryklein's" quartet is new and includes Harmer Root, tenor, Eugene Toepel, lead, Alvin Mikelsin, bari, and Dean Hedberg, bass. Listening reports are good. Old

Style quad made four appearances and Casey Four Wheelers were busy filling 19 invitations. Manitowoc held third annual "Night of Harmony", Oct. 25. The unusual success of the show resulted from fine stage setting (center shell as barbershop with one picture frame on either side, in which quartets sang when introduced by reminiscent dialogue) fine quartets including Atomic Bums of Minneapolis, Gay Nineties of Montivedeo plus Manitowoc chorus. Dandee Lions and Songsters quartets have entertained locally. Chapter encourages formation of new quartets by filling some invitations (hospitals and sanitariums) with 12 chorus men (enough for three quartets) feeling that at least one quartet will emerge from the group as a permanent unit. Wisconsin Rapids townspeople actually amazed at the first parade of the chapter. Show-stopper quartets included the Hi-Los (Milwaukee), Four Key Notes (Appleton), Cardinals (Madison), Big Towners (Chicago) and Atomic Bums (Minneapolis). The chorus and community singing rounded out the parade so well that, when asked, the audience unanimously stood up and applauded for another show. Beaver Dam's Three O'Clock Four have reorganized with new tenor, Art. Lehman, and have made several appearances. B Flat Beavers and Monarch Range Four have made many appearances for charity, former also singing at Manitowoc and Madison parades. Marinette received its charter at their first parade Dec. 1. Green Bay was the sponsor and helped sell barbershop to local citizens. Chapter has found much need for charitable entertainment and is planning for another show. Kewaunee chorus sang Christmas carols for ailing folks at several homes, as well as for community tree program. Oshkosh busy organizing chorus and increasing membership. Jolly Boys quartet has appeared frequently—and very well, too. Milwaukee Chapter initiated two new organized quartets: the official Milwaukee Police Dept. Quartet and the Milwaukeeans. Their ability and fine reputation have given a boost to the chapter. All other quads: the Hi-Los, Cream City Four, B Naturals and the Mellow Fellows are important factors in keeping public in "touch" with barbershop and in advertising Feb. 21 Winter Carnival Of Barbershop Harmony. Outstanding appearances of the Hi-Los were on Wisconsin Rapids parade and Johnson Wax Program broadcast from Racine. Chapter was guest of Wauwatosa, Oct. 16. Milwaukee host to Wauwatosa, Nov. 7, as well as to Racine and Kenosha on Jan. 16. Chorus and quartets entertained at hospitals and institutions for the veterans and aged. Hi-Los assisted chorus in a half-hour radio concert over WTMJ, Dec. 28. Entire chapter traveled by bus to Burlington to put on show for Legion members, who are helping to spark plug a new chapter. Past officers night held Oct. 3.

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APPLETON, WIS.
C H A P T E R
"Keep America Singing"

Central States

by Hec White

Chapters throughout the district were most generous in furnishing Christmas carols by quartets and choruses for worthwhile causes. Lack of space precludes the mention of all. On the fringe of this big district Laramie, Wyo. presented their second annual program, December 17 at which an honorary degree Master of Barbershop Harmony from the University of Wyoming was awarded to Founder O. C. Cash . . . The state of New Mexico held an inter-chapter meeting, December 10 at the call of Santa Fe, it included the chapters at Las Vegas and Albuquerque; the evening of rich harmony ended with a fine Dutch lunch . . . Press time finds our new chapter at Anthony, Kans. completing plans for their Charter program, they have three organized quartets and their sponsoring chapter, Wichita, will be featured on the program as a prelude to its own Parade, Feb. 28 . . . Chorus and quartets of Lincoln, Nebr. took part in the dedication of the Pinewood Memorial Bowl, a shrine to World War II. The chapter joined a beach party at Linoma Beach attended by members and wives of Omaha, Nebr. and Council Bluffs, Ia. A second contribution to the Children's Memorial Hospital was made by Omaha, Nebr. Chapter in November swelling their gifts of the year to \$1850. *magnum opus*, . . . in the heart of Missouri the Centralia Chapter staged its "all state" Parade to an overflow audience of 561. The "Show Me" chorus made up of Centralia and Mexico, Mo. members was a distinct hit as were the quartets from Hermann, St. Louis, Clayton, Mexico and other localities. Joining forces Mexico, Mo. and Centralia, Mo., journeyed to Bowling Green, Mo., forming a new chapter there . . . Hermann, Mo. gave its first public show, November 28, being assisted by their good neighbors at Centralia, Mo. . . . Claiming to have the oldest Barbershopper, John R. Smith, age 93, Waterloo, Ia. received excellent publicity in a Sunday feature story which will increase interest and membership in their parts . . . The state "where the tall corn grows" is to have its first Parade of Champions, February 29 when Des Moines, Ia. will proudly present it; the chapter was not too busy to present excellent entertainment to the shut-ins at their Veterans Hospital, December 22; they sang ward by ward and in the hospital auditorium . . . With a population of 3500 Cherokee, Okla.

PITTSBURG, KANSAS CHORUS



Left: Dean Croxton, director of the Pittsburgh, Kansas show October 27 and member of the Four Tones. At extreme right, Sec.-Treas. Howard Millington. Arnold Close, Chapter Pres., is 4th from left, front row.

MILE-HI MELODIERS

In the past 6 months this Denver 4 has sung more than 50 Public Service engagements, mostly in hospitals. L. to R.—R. F. Morton, tenor; G. R. Mauldin, lead; H. H. Sellon, bar; and O. C. Samuel, chapter Pres., bass.



presented "Harvest of Harmony" to a paid audience of 1500; they used their own four quartets and two from nearby chapters; the show was such a success that it is being repeated for a stadium benefit at nearby Alva, Okla., Feb. 16; another testimony that size of a community is not a limiting factor . . . Way out in the Panhandle of Texas the Pampa Chapter held its first public event; their own chorus and two quartets were assisted by the Flying "L" Ranch quartet of Tulsa, Okla., the Boreome Foursome, Okla. City, Faith City Four, Wichita Falls, Texas and Hub City Four from Lubbock, Texas . . . Busy with preparations for the International Convention, Oklahoma City, Okla., never-the-less found time to hold their annual Ladies Night, November 29; 150 members and wives had a grand time . . . Via radio station K.S.O.K., Arkansas City, Kans. is spreading harmony and news of the Society in a 15 minute broadcast each Sunday morning . . . Advance planning on the part of the Kansas City, Mo. Chapter brought visits by International President Charlie Merrill and Int'l. Secretary Carroll Adams to their city on regular meeting nights on two different occasions. The chapter held an outstanding Ladies Night, December 12 with over 300 members, wives and visitors. As part of their well planned charity program they adopted a needy family at Christmas and donated to the Christmas Seal Fund . . . All members

of the newly formed Windsor, Mo. Chapter visited Kansas City, December 8 and demonstrated that they already knew something about harmony: charter will be presented March 14th. . . . Based on recent activities Dallas, Texas may become known as the "rambling chapter"; chorus and quartets entertained the Vets Hospital at McKinney, Texas, again for the Vets at Lisbon, Texas, helped install the new chapter at Longview, Texas, organized a chartered boat cruise; sang at State Fair, stole the Ice Show and the International Convention of the "Story Tellers Society" . . . Celebrating their Charter Presentation with a well planned banquet Longview, Texas entertained 70 members and guests, November 18. The program was well supported by members from Houston and Dallas, Texas and suitable decorations added to the festive pre-Thanksgiving occasion. The chapter is working on a Minstrel soon to be presented for the benefit of the Vets . . . With a Variety Show the Pittsburg, Kans. Chapter netted about \$300 and put part of it to good use in chartering a bus for 23 to pay a visit to the Parsons, Kans. Chapter, November 4. They held two Ladies Nights and two special guest nights and are proud of their hard working chorus . . . Knowing the enjoyment of inter-chapter events Tulsa, Okla. has been busy rounding-up nearby neighbors. Bartlesville and McAlester, Okla. are their newest; "O.C." resumed his orig-

CHEROKEE HARVEST OF HARMONY



Clee Doggett leads the Cherokee (Okla.) chorus in "Coney Island Bahe" in the Dec. 4 harmony harvest festival.

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The Harmonizer

49

inal role in presenting the Bartlesville charter and the Chordbusters and Flying "L" Ranch quartets helped launch the McAlester group . . . The Kiwanis Club joined the Wichita Falls, Texas Chapter in a youth rehabilitation benefit show before 2500. Chapter used its chorus of 40, four local quartets and others from Lubbock and Pampa, Texas and Oklahoma City, Okla. . . Active Clayton, Mo. must have encouraged their Greater St. Louis Four to set a new high in public appearances, the foursome making 24 appearances during the quarter. Sponsoring a neighboring chapter contest they attracted representatives from St. Louis, Hermann, Centralia and Mexico in Missouri and Alton and O'Fallon in Illinois. Their chorus and quartets entertained the boys at Marine Hospital, Kirkwood, Mo., Dec. 14 then on December 21st the shut-ins at Koch (TB) Hospital in St. Louis County. St. Louis Chapter forgot to send in its quarterly report, but we know they are active . . . A novel idea was used by Wichita, Kans. in renting a bus with a public address system; they toured the city, December 23rd singing Christmas Carols as they journeyed; the Veterans Hospital and Union Station were among their stops. Their 100 members and wives chartered two railroad coaches to attend the Central States District Contest at Topeka, Kans. and had a grand time the entire weekend . . .

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Ohio Hi-Notes

By James H. Emsley

Akron is tuning up for 15 min. radio broadcast soon and its Atomic and Rubber City 4's have been active at civic events. Berea's barbershoppers baptized Berea with the blended voices of 11 Ohio quartets and its 36 man chorus at its first parade. Columbus at a recent rehearsal held a Ladies Night to convince the wives they really did rehearse, and also featured a New Quartet Night that gives promise of 4 new quartets—and has adopted a definite chorus policy that gives assurance of making its chorus outstanding in Ohio. Canton concentrated on concerts in small nearby towns, and aroused so much interest in the vicinity that two high school auditoriums were sold out a week before Carroll Adams showed up to MC at one house; the Parade featured the Doctors of Harmony, the Westinghouse 4, The Pittsburghers and The Tom Cats and several other visiting foursomes as well as the local Nonchalants, The Four Fellows and The Memory Laners, the latter being Canton's finalists in the district contest. 12 inches of snow in a four hour period delayed arrival of several quartets for 4 or 5 hours but they all reached Canton in time to "Show"—and 2 packed houses were thrilled. Its chorus and quartets traveled by chartered bus with an amplifying system to carol for Canton's hospitals, Aultman Home for Aged Women and the Philmatheon Society for the Blind. Cincinnati's treat to its ladies, and its journey to Lawrenceburg, Ind., and 5 Ohio towns, and its parade on Dec. 6, together with its Xmas caroling rounded out a year of good-fellowship. Conneaut, one of Ohio's newer chapters has a 20 man chorus, and an unnamed 4 which has the town on edge. Dayton played host to the Ohio-SW. Penn. District Contest at which its Jolly Jellows placed 2nd and followed it up with a ladies night with roses for the gals, and a special toast to the wives who had aided the chapter. Past Prexy pins were awarded to Ward Pohl, Howard Marshall and Int'l. Bd. Member Dick Common. Elyria's plans for a parade are progressing as are several quartets who meet in secret session, and the Elyria Chordbusters are about to resume chordbusting. Findlay's first parade is set for Feb. 14 and its chorus is striving to be in shape for that event. Hamilton held its first parade November 1, and it more than deserved the "lavish praise" headlined in the local paper for presenting its 50 man chorus and 10 quality quartets including the hometown Minktown 4 and Hamilton 4. Boys and girls Hi-Y quartets were encouraged at a recent meeting and civic affairs were serenaded by quartets who were overjoyed by the enthusiastic reception they received. Lakewood's Yachtmen, 4 Steps of Harmony, The Chordial 4 and an unnamed foursome and the entire chorus concentrated on entertaining shut-in veterans at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital, and cheered the patients at Sunny Acres Sanitarium for

ALWAYS IN HARMONY



Former Int'l. Vice Pres. J. F. Knipe, Cleveland, telling past Int'l. Pres. Phil Embury and the '47-'48 Chairman of Int'l. Song Arrangements Committee, Don Webster, what "Mr. Average wants in song arrangements." Never an argument in the Society. Just a discussion between three strong minded individuals.

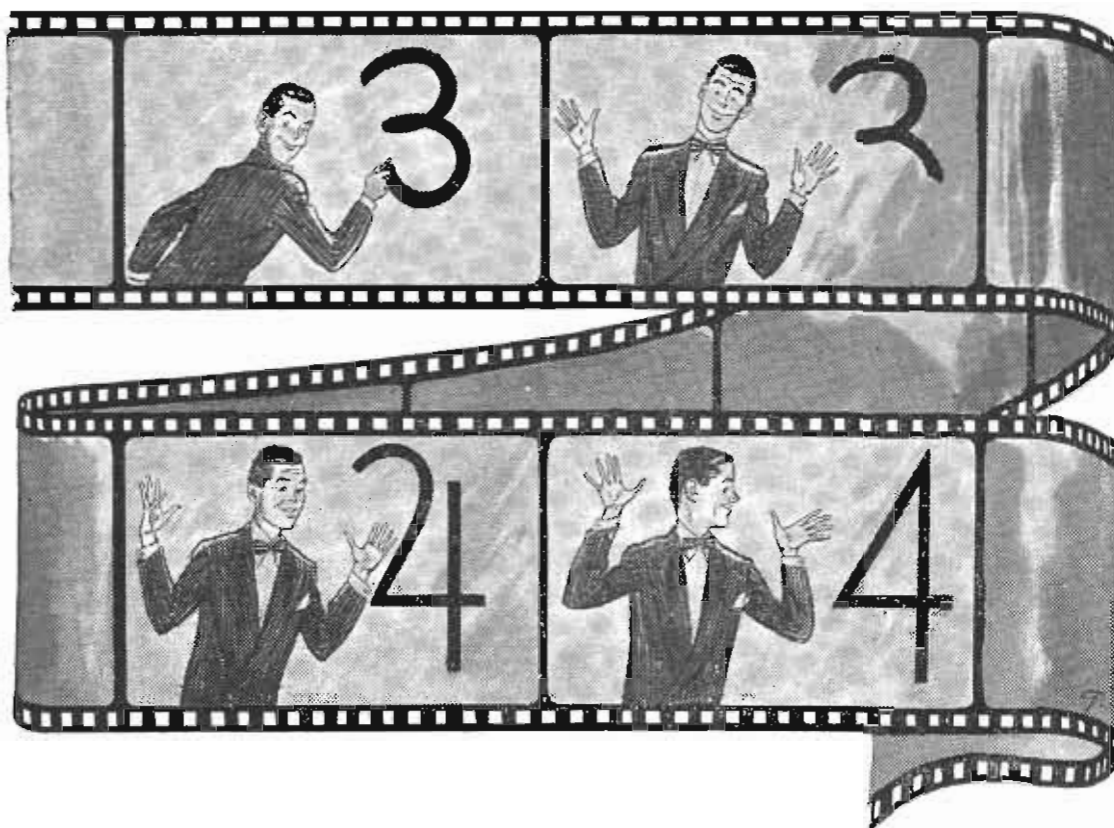
the 4th consecutive year, and then joined with Berea in its community sing at the hospital. Lorain is more than proud of its chorus for participating in the Mary Lee Tucker show, an annual charity event for the Orphanage and the Home for the Aged, and for journeying to Macedonia to the Hawthornden State Hospital, and can justly be proud of its Rusty Pipers, Steel Blenders and two other unnamed quartets for their contributions to those events. Church, PTA functions, and a nurses' Xmas party at Elyria were other items on a long agenda. Its Steel Blenders came home with some bacon from the district contest after vying with the best of the mid-west, and fresh from participation in Lorain's parade Oct. 25. Massillon's 2 auditorium parade clicked like clockwork when the Doctors of Harmony exposed capacity houses to "barbershopitis" as did its Tom Cats, Tiger Town 4, and Fun-makers in conjunction with 6 other quartets. Middletown, not being satisfied with staging a parade and afterglow, which won the approbation of the Society's old-timers, entered its Burning Shingles and Closeaires in the District contest, bussed its entire chorus around town caroling, harmonized for its citizens over WPFs, made notable contributions to civic affairs, and then decided to end the society year harmonizing by promoting another Miami Valley Chautauqua and to play host to the regional preliminaries on May 1st. Pittsburgh pitched in proudly to entertain Int'l. Bd., Jan. 17th and went all-out in its efforts, carrying out an involved schedule of events with precision that won unstinting admiration and praise. Sharon, Penn.,

Washington County and Wheeling, W. Va., have been sponsored and an assist was given the Canton, Ohio Chapter in forming the new chapter at Steubenville, Ohio, and extension work is going on in Beaver Falls, Greenburg and Charleroi. The Pittsburghers have sung at many a benefit show, as have the other double twosomes, The Westinghouse quartet, The Washing-Tones, The Charleroi Lions 4, The Four-Maldehydes and The University of Pittsburgh 4. Pete Elder's chorus was one of the attractions of the Jan. 17th parade. Springfield's chorus initiated the chapter in public service at the Community Chest Victory Dinner and furthered their public contributions by singing Yule songs at hospitals and the K. of P. Home for the Aged. Steubenville is looking forward to March 13 when its charter will be formally presented and Sec. Bill Taylor has already traveled with a baker's dozen of barbershoppers to Pittsburgh and Canton garnering the "facts of barbershopping". Toledo's tome of activities includes 20 quartet appearances by its Troubadors, Four Naturals, Doehler Quartet and Pacemakers who co-operated with the chapter in many other activities too numerous to mention. Warren warmly welcomed Conneaut to the fold Nov. 4, and with Pittsburgh, earned credit for the chapter at Sharon, Penn. The Song Vendors competed—manfully, but disastrously, (to use their own words) at Dayton and were proud to sing at Canton's parade. The Hum-Dingers, a new quartet, have been unearthed, and are looking forward to Warren's forthcoming parade.

HAMILTON, O. CHORUS



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Magic ink? . . . Mirrors? *Not at all!*

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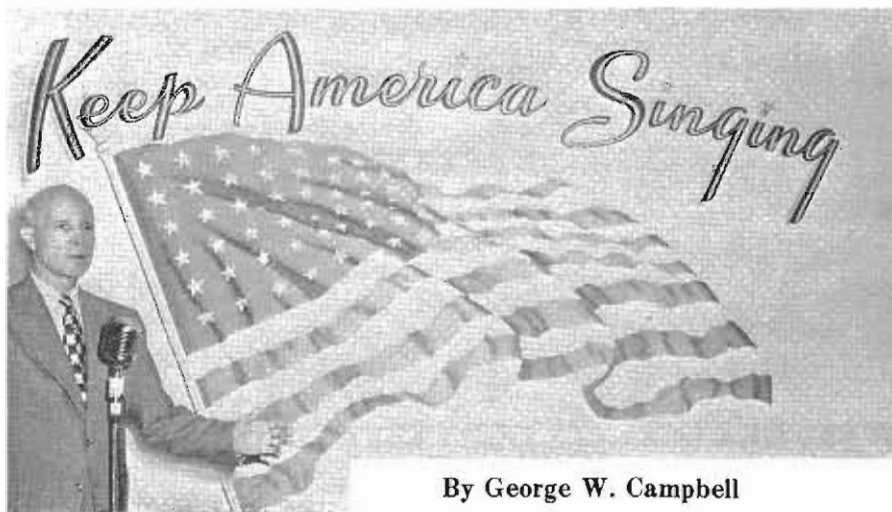
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By George W. Campbell

Saturday, November 8, 1947

This bit is being written for the February Harmonizer before the November issue is in the mail. I have just finished working in two outstanding parades. Last night I was in Chicago for their fourth annual "Presentation Show", and tonight I have just returned to my most comfortable quarters in the Midland Country Club from the Midland Chapter (Michigan) parade. Their third annual "Barbershop Quartet Parade and Harmony Show". Chicago, hit a new high in "shows". I use the word show literally—it was just that! A real show.

The first act and two scenes involved the trials and tribulations of a booking agent, his assistant, and sweet Adeline the office secretary. The outfit was broke, nothing to sell; but sweet Adeline Sweet had ideas. It seems the chapter chorus and several quartets held rehearsals in the same building where the booking agent and his assistants loafed. Some very runny sequences around try-outs of the no-good talent picked up about the building; one a high diver (Ed McCormack, Chicago chapter's great story-teller who was terrific throughout the show); a few quartets were inveigled into the office for try-outs; a lot of first class corn, all of which moved with the expert timing one expects from professionals. It finally became apparent the broken down agency had a good show on their hands. By this time the near-riotous audience, needing quelling and some relief from their side-splitting pains; then the Great Campbell, (that's me) went on while the agent and his assistants prepared for the dress rehearsal. What a show! You have heard the old army song "Old Soldiers Never Die"—well, "Old Champions Never Die". Shall I name them? Doctors of Harmony—the Misfits—Four Harmonizers — Elastic Four — Mid States Four—and the Big Towners.

After a lot of scene shifting right in the audience's face the second act was under way. Gosh, the audience

took the show right out of the hands of the director. They applauded until their hands were bleeding, they yelled, they cried, they wept, and finally sobbed their hearts out as the final curtain fell. The Chicago chapter chorus was in great form—better than ever. Congratulations to the general chairman and his show committees.

Midland, Michigan

"Vass you effer in Midland?" No? Then you have missed seeing one of the great little towns of America that does things in a big way.

There is even room in Midland. If they ever fill in the open spaces within the corporation limits they'll have a city of about 500,000 people. I like it! Lovely homes, a beautiful school and country club of modern architecture. Chapter Secretary Warren Abbott, Jr., met me at Saginaw wearing a Brigham Young beard. Frightening! Seems the ticket sale was going a little too slow, so each member of the chapter became a publicity committee of one and declared they would wear beards until the night of the show. When these beards began to sprout the citizens rushed to buy tickets to rid the community of these House of David disguises. Children did not recognize their own fathers. Wives refused to kiss their husbands, but every one held on to his whisker until the house was sold out. Every whisker had disappeared at curtain time.

Like Chicago, Midland drew heavily on their own home talent for their parade; four local quartets plus their own chorus provided about half of the program. The International Champs, 1947, were the guests of honor.

Michigan state champs, The Barons of Harmony of Saginaw and the Variety Four of Birmingham were also guest quartets, plus the Great Campbell who irritated the audience. Chicago is a great metropolitan center of several millions of people. Midland is a small city of about 15,000 people. As I ponder these two experiences, they were experi-

ences, (I mean these two shows I have just seen) I am convinced SPEBSQSA has a mission and is meeting the challenge.

The Midland show would have knocked Chicago's great audience of 4500 people for a loop, and the Midland audience would have whooped and yelled and loved the Chicago show. Why? Barbershop quartet singing IS music. And music transcends time, place conditions, class, race, creed or age.

Saturday, November 15, 1947
Buffalo, New York. Every quartet favored with an invitation to appear on any one of three Buffalo chapter parades pines for a return engagement. There are reasons, two at least: Kleinhans Music Hall is one of the finest in the world! And, the Buffalo chapter, like many other host chapters, of course, has that fine old spirit of making you feel at home, even if they wished you were. Not being a quartet myself, I think I can speak for many of them. They are not professionals, like a road show troupe, travelling from one town to another in one night stands, hardened to the rigors of travel. They leave their family and fire-sides and week-end upon week-end, to hurry back to the job Monday morning. Do they love it? It's their meat and drink, it's their milk and honey. Of course they love it. To be met at a train, to know there

(Continued on page 53)

A Honey of A Tobacco!

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MIXTURE... it's a grand
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Keep America Singing

(Continued from page 52)

is a comfortable room awaiting you and your tired carcass after a long drive or a sleepless night on a sleeper; (that's funny), not having to wander around in a strange city trying to find something to eat before show time—these and many other thoughtful kindnesses which our chapters shower on their guest quartets not only enhances the quality of the performance, but to me it reflects the spirit of the Chapter—hence, the spirit of the Society.

Back to the Buffalo Parade. The demand for tickets was so great for their third annual parade, we all had to do two shows, in two different auditoriums, but in this same grand Kleinhans Music Hall. Shows were timed to start at 8:15 and 8:30. Off we go to the first show in one part of the building with a guide to grab us just as soon as we finish our bit.

Down we go into the bowels of the building through a mile and a half of tunnels finally coming out on the stage of the main auditorium for the second show. Alex Grabhorn, the tall, handsome, all-around, (built on the Carroll Adams lines horizontally) president of the Buffalo chapter, surely had things well organized. John

Lahey, board member and general parade chairman was cool, calm and collected. He had to be! If one of us important termites boring our way through the tunnels had got side-tracked from our guides—well, I shudder to think what might have happened—not to the show but to us.

Right now it would not surprise me if some quartet member is still wandering around Kleinhans Music Hall. We all are, in spirit.

Sunday, November 16, 1947

Aurora, Illinois. Having some engagements with the High Schools, Aurora College and Civic groups, I arrived here just in time this afternoon for the Aurora chapter parade. I "snuck" in, and did I have myself a time. Nothing to do but to sit and listen. They called it the "Second Annual Parade and Chorus Concert". They had a theme too: "Keep America Singing for the Sake of Democracy". Aurora had not far to go to provide an excellent parade for their community.

They dipped into Chicago—30 miles away—Oak Park just between, and their own local quartets. Bob Haeger, director of the chorus is a whiz on interpretation of barbershop quartet singing, both in his chorus and the "Tune-Twisters" of Oak Park which he tenors. Bob gave a marvelous interpretation of "Keep America Singing" which was one of the high lights of the show. The three Chicago Champs were there, also the Society's most famous clowns—The Mid States—('clowns' used strictly as a highly complimentary term, God bless 'em)—and Frank Thorne led the audience singing. Yes, he did. Frank's technique is improving, as a song leader, and I was delighted to witness, right there before my own eyes the fruits of my labors.

My friend, Willis A. Diekema borrowed my slogan—"Keep America Singing" as the title for an inspiring song as did Frank Thorne. Both are excellent. Bill wrote the words and music, and made an arrangement of it for chapter choruses. See the August 1947 Harmonizer.

A tip for our "down-east" chapters. Dr. Richard Grant, director of the Manhattan chapter chorus, my old friend and comrade in arms (world war 2) is available for your audience singing, but extend your invitation well in advance of your date. Dick will give you a delightful time. Dick and I know we are the greatest song leaders in America, but I'm still claiming the world's championship.

Surprising though it may be, I discovered in my mail during the past few weeks conclusive proof that three persons besides myself, the editor and the proof reader read this column. To them with a grateful heart, I hope they are facing the happiest year of their lives.

SIG SPAETH SAYS . . .

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

- DANNY BY MY SIDE (Harrigan-Braham)
- IRISH JUBILEE (Thornton-Lawler)
- MARGUERITE (C. A. White)
- MOLLY O! (Wm. J. Scanlan)
- PICTURE THAT IS TURNED TOWARD THE WALL, The, (Chas. Graham)
- PLAYMATES (Harry Dacre)
- SWEET KATIE CONNOR (Harry Dacre)
- SUNSHINE OF PARADISE ALLEY; The (Ford-Bratton)
- TA-RA-RA-BOOM-DE-RE (Sayers)
- WAIT TILL THE TIDE COMES IN (Gussie L. Davis)

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

. . . Keep These Lists For Reference . . .

Answers to Barbershop Bafflers

(See Page 23)

- A. (2) — B. (4) — C. (8) — D. (3)
- E. (1) — F. (5) — G. (10) — H. (9)
- I. (6) — J. (7)

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BIRTH OF THE AVON COMEDY FOUR

The most famous quartet in the history of public entertainment was the Avon Comedy 4. Smith and Dale, two of the three surviving members, are this year celebrating 50 years of continuous and uninterrupted association as a team. Their story, giving a picture of American life at the turn of the century and an account of the development of vaudeville, will soon appear in a book titled "They Laughed at Us." Smith and Dale, whose address is the Lamb's Club, New York, have given the Harmonizer the facts about the origin of this famous foursome. This is real theatrical history.

Hark Hear That Gale!

Around 1900 when Smith and Dale were doing a blackface singing and dancing act, Will Lester, manager of the Imperial Vaudeville and Comedy Company, asked them to join the company. The boys accepted the offer though no salary was mentioned but the letter stated that they would share in the "profits". On the December night when they arrived at Rondout, N. Y. a snow storm was raging and no vehicle was available. So, carrying their suitcases, they braved the storm and lugged their luggage two miles to Washington Hall and found that the Company consisted of four men, Jack Coleman "Straight man" and ballad singer; Will Lester dialect comedian and singer; Johnny Lenhardt, piano player, and Gene McCarthy, electrician and property man.

The Company received room and board to put on a show in Washington Hall every Saturday and Sunday night. On week days they would appear at nearby towns on one night stands, putting on illustrated songs and ending up with square dances with the audience. When Smith and Dale joined them they arranged to put on a two hour show including square dances. The boys formed a comedy quartette, Lester singing lead; Coleman, tenor; Smith, baritone; and Dale bass. They did several acts finishing with a school act.

"We Demand Our Share of the Loss"

After playing two hard months in the Catskills, Smith and Dale asked to see their share of the profits but were shown their share of losses instead. Their room and board had been paid for and that was all they received. Coleman's mother was ill and he went home. Lester claimed he had to go home to get his brother out of trouble; that left Smith and Dale with a piano player and an electrician who was engaged to a girl whose father ran a general store in the town.

Smith and Dale sent for a singer and played out a former contract at the Kingston Opera House. After paying printing and other bills the company

owed, the boys demanded and received five dollars from the electrician for fares to New York City.

The Quartet is Born

When they arrived home they found out that Coleman and Lester had been engaged as singers in the back room of a cafe on 116th Street and Lexington Ave. The boys asked Coleman and Lester to join them in forming a comedy quartet that would do the school act which always went over big with the up-state audiences. The act contained good slap stick comedy, buck dancing, and songs like "That's How I Love You Mame", "Stella", "My Gal From Dixie", all sung in barbershop harmony. Coleman and Lester agreed to quit the cafe the following week. As Smith and Dale left, Smith said, "Charlie, we need a new name for the four. We can't use the name Imperial Vaudeville and Comedy Company". "That's right, Joe. Let's look at the name of the joint the boys are singing in", Charlie answered. There on the window of the cafe was the name AVON. "That's it", Smith exclaimed, "AVON COMEDY FOUR".

TAKE A CHANCE 4 Centralia, Mo.



Here we have L. to R.: Ken Way, lead; Virgil Blanton, tenor; Weldon Harris, baritone; and Jack Schutt, bass.

WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET

Address Correspondence to
HARRY W. SMITH

**306 FOURTH AVE.
PITTSBURGH 30, PA.**

Miscellaneous

Don M. Gable, editor of the Record of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Chicago, sent member Deac Martin a clip from the magazine of Sigma Chi showing the cover of February '47 Harmonizer which included Frank Thorne's arrangement of "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi". It reached the Sigma Chi editor from another "Deac", M. H. Aylesworth, the first president of National Broadcasting.

At the Quincy, Ill. Parade a bull session developed at which Robert S. McKinney and Dr. Hermetet, both from Macomb; Doug Jackson of Joliet, Carroll P. Adams of you know where, and Royce Parker of Peoria were in attendance. Talking about early backgrounds it developed that McKinney, Hermetet, and Jackson came from the towns of Craig, Pinhook and Bardolph, Ill. All three admitted it was unlikely that any one else present had ever heard of any one of the three villages. Was it in the General Store of one of these towns that Abraham Lincoln earned his sobriquet "honest Abe"?

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Indiana-Kentucky

By Frank D. Vogt

Kendallville's charter night Dec. 9 held before capacity audience at High School. Welcoming speech by Mayor E. V. Cartness with Dick Twitchell as M.C. and Lee Kidder leading Community Singing. Chorus opened with 4 songs followed by the Nobleaires, 6'4, Hobby Harmonizers, Soft Tones Stage Door 4, Sentimental 4 and the Doctors of Harmony. Ft. Wayne parade Oct. 25 packed Quimby Auditorium—tremendous success with Chordettes, Mid-States, Carpenter Bros., A.P. Four, Food City Four, Ted Haberkorn M.C. with dynamic George Campbell leading community singing. Ft. Wayne Tone Twisters made 7 appearance since the last Harmonizer. Chorus has been busy making 5 appearances including one at the Veterans Hospital in Marion and one at the Ft. Wayne Christmas Party for 55 orphans. The Sentimental 4 have been busy, making 28 appearances including Community Chest Drive, Marion Vets' Hospital, Cincinnati Shut-In's Party, WGL Broadcast for Christmas Party Donations for the needy and the first Television broadcast in Ft. Wayne. The Hobby-Harmonizers appeared in 9 places, the Colonial 4, 14 times and the Reddy Kilowatts at 13 events in the last 3 months. Muncie 2nd annual parade Nov. 1st before audience of 4500 with the proceeds matched by local newspapers to provide a new shell and amplification system. Parade started off with the 75 voice chorus. Carpenter Bros., Harris triplets, 3 Tones, Songfellows, Harmony Halls, Mis-fits and the Doctors. Muncie now with 72 members is going great guns, the chorus filling 3 engagements in the last 3 months including a Community Christmas Sing before 7500 people, and an appearance on Radio Station WLW Cincinnati. The Templairs made 13 appearances, while the All City Four made 12 and the Harris (6 yr. old) Triplets, Muncie Mascots, steal the show wherever they go. The Four Specs made 6 appearances, which all means that there is considerable good Barbershop Harmony in Muncie, the home of the District Contest in 1948. Corydon—In October the chapter observed Ladies night at Wyandotte Lodge with dinner, the chorus and quartets entertaining. Wabash put on a show at Ft. Wayne, and 2 at the Eagles Theatre on Nov. 18 with a swell show for the Youngsters Christmas Party at Whites Institute Dec. 22. Mishawaka has been regular in carrying on inter-chapter relations with Mich. City, Ft. Wayne and Elkhart. Soft Tones made 9 appearances including Past President's Party for Gil Carpenter. East Chicago Oct. 13 held combined open house and Ladies night. Geo. Mitchell led Community singing followed by The Baritones, Melody Butchers and Harmonaires of Gary. South Bend doing a nice job of rebuilding their chorus. New quartet, Reco Sportsmen, made 8 public appearances in the last 3 months. Tone Poets singing again with Fred Tag-

TOTAL 25 FEET—
REDDY KILOWATTS

In Ft. Wayne (Ind.) the footage of the Reddy Kilowatts totals almost 25, since each is well over 6 ft. L. to R. they're Orval Grove, tenor; Harold Wible, lead; Leslie Emmerson, bari; and Harry Burd, bass.

gart as lead. Evansville's huge parade before 3700 was a heart warming success. They had 7 newspaper stories with 3 full headlines, 7½ hours actual radio time. The entire show was broadcast over WMLL the FM station, which barbershoppers say has never been done before. Gary held open house Nov. 17 at American Legion when Gil Carpenter (the best bari in the world) was presented with Past District Presidents Pin. The Harmonaires were on the Tri-Kappa show for underprivileged children. We have a nice letter which reads as follows:—"A very thoughtful gesture by the Gary Harmonaires on Dec. 17 when they visited a shut-in in her home by singing Silent Night while mounting the steps of her home, brought a big smile to her face, and song after song followed. Prior to visiting her the boys sang for the nurses and staff of the Methodist Hospital." Indianapolis chapter is on the go, nearing their 75 membership goal. The Allisonaires a new quartet sang before a total of 2500 people, the Rippleaires before 2000 in recent weeks. On Jan. 6th they both entertained at the Veterans Hospital. Elkhart—The Chromatic Chronicles in the past 3 months appeared in public 6 times including twice at Goshen and once at Kendallville helping start new chapters. The chapter, with Ft. Wayne has sponsored the Kendallville and Goshen Chapters. Ladies night at Woodcliffe Inn with 100 Barbershoppers and wives was a gala affair. Lafayette wants to publicly thank all the quartets who helped make a Charter night a success. Having regular weekly meetings and concentrating on chorus work. Meetings have been changed to every Tues. at 7:30 P. M. in the Lahr Hotel, Room 201.

THE VARSITY FOUR



Purdue University gave Tippecanoe Chapter, Lafayette, Ind., this handsome quartet. L. to R.: "Doc" Ruggles, tenor; Ed Easley, lead; Bob Sanford, bari; Bob King, bass.

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Central-Western New York Song Chats

by C. E. GLOVER, Sec.

To be healthy you've got to be active, and if it's activity that you're looking for brothers, you can sure find it within our C W N Y District. Chapters are so ambitious that they just can't be restrained, even if nobody is interested in restraining nobody . . . Addison Chapter held a concert in November featuring three local quartets, along with their handsomely uniformed chorus. The show was so good, that it was repeated three times in nearby communities within a period of two weeks . . . Buffalo just keeps rolling on. Chapter membership hits new high. Monthly meetings have been so interesting and well attended that they are inaugurating semi-monthly meetings in the future. Most delightful Ladies Night and Christmas Party in mid December. The third annual parade was highly successful, attended by an overflow crowd of 4000 . . . Corry quartets and chorus have appeared in about twenty engagements during the last quarter, including the Rotary Club, W C T U (Did someone say we're not Democratic?), Exchange Club, P. T. A. meetings, as well as participating in the Warren Charter Night program . . . Highlight of Cortland activities was their parade in mid October. Chorus under directorship of Joe Yannuzzi was a highlight . . . East Anzora visited Warsaw during October. Several members attended Lockport Charter Night in November and the Auxora Four-A sang at the Kiwanis Old Folk's Party . . . Geneva activities fill three pages. They attended charter nights at Newark and Seneca Falls, as their sponsors. Their quartets now total six. At a recent meeting, chorus director Godfrey Brown stepped down and let anyone who wished wield the baton, resulting in better understanding of director's problems. Chapter started a weekly barbershop radio broadcast. Newspaper publicity very consistent. They even sing their mayor into office instead of swearin' him in . . . Gowanda parade of quartets proved that an event can be successful without many out-of-district quartets. A 50 man chorus from Springville, Hamburg, and Gowanda under the leadership of Jack Saglinben was an outstanding highlight. The chorus sang Christmas carols as part of community service . . . Rochester's Genesee Chapter got rolling after having quite a lull last summer. The Melody Mutilators, Note Crackers, and the Arcadians have been very busy with appearances at Seneca Falls Charter Night, Gowanda Parade, Lion's Club Party for the Blind, Salvation Army Drive, Farm Bureau Membership Campaign, American Legion meeting, and chorus went to Veteran's Hospital at Canandaigua. Ted Tinsman and his recorder are at every district function . . . Hamburg Ladies Night honored the lovely gals at a dinner meeting. They enjoyed the Springville Chonchordiers and Buffalo's Melody

ADDISON CHORUS



The back row of the Addison (N. Y.) chorus reads (L. to R.) Seamans, L. Andrews, Harris, Adsit, Murray, Seeley, Hand, Hill, Abeel, Stiker, Jones, Magee. Front Row (L. to R.) Slocum (pres.), Young, McCarrick, Gundersen, Alison, White, C. Andrews (Dir.), Hopper, Dinny, Weil, Keck, G. Smith, Hurt.

Men, as well as their own Burger Specials. Chorus under direction of Ken Wells is progressing and new quartets are expected to materialize . . . Things got off to a great start in Ithaca on Charter Night, November 1, attended by many district quartets and members as well as over 400 locals who filled the Little Theater to capacity. Part of the program was broadcast, and Ed Farling et-al must be congratulated on their chapter's fine start. Two quartets, the Hilly City Four, and the Note Wasters are most active . . . Jamestown Chorus featured on Baptist Church Christmas program. Also at the Boy's Club Christmas party. The chapter has a novelty comedy foursome that blow out-of-this-world instruments. Efforts being made to establish a new chapter in Westfield and Erie, Penna., and have assisted in organizing the new Dunkirk-Fredonia chapter . . . Kenmore's Chorus had a busy Christmas season, singing at two hospitals, a crippled children's guild, and an orphanage. Fumblin' Four featured on Kenmore Hospital Benefit sponsored by St. Paul Holy Name Society . . . Lockport activities include electing new president, as Ken Burch, greatly responsible for starting the chapter, is now in Rome, N. Y., (how about a chapter there soon, Ken?). Chapter activities include participation at Masonic Lodge, Community Fund Drive, Kiwanis and Lion's Club lunches, Methodist Church Club, and numerous other Christmas activities. Charter night, November 22, was the chapter's highlight, which brought participation by nine other district quartets . . . Niagara Falls promoted a Cabaret Night, which went over with a bang. Proceeds were presented to the local Boy's Club. The Lost Chords appeared on Gowanda Parade, as well as Warren, Penna. and Lockport charter nights . . . If Olean Chapter keeps growing, they may have the largest chapter in proportion to town's population in the Society. At present, 92 members in a town slightly over 16,000. Not only big, but active too. Their chorus appeared at the Allegheny Men's Club and the Rocky Crest Sanitarium. They had their first birthday party December 13th, at which quartets were present from Warsaw and Buffalo. They invited the ladies and had a wonderful time . . . To

Rochester No. 1 chapter's Jack Harby goes most of the credit for the successful C W N Y District Contest held in that city in October. The highlight was the finals held in the Eastman Theater. In a little over a year Barbershopping in Rochester has come out of the barbershop into the concert hall . . . Highlight of Newark activities centered around their Charter Night, November 8, attended by 10 district quartets and featuring their own Four Thorns. Charter was presented to Dick Hanley by Scotty (The Monotone) . . . Activities at Warsaw in addition to regular chapter meetings, seems to center around their Frequently Flat Four. In three months they made over 20 appearances. Special recognition due them for their cooperation in the Sister Kenny Foundation Fund Campaign . . . Walton-Downsville parade a huge success. Their Dam-Town Four and Filtering Four sang at Methodist Choir entertainment at Grand Gorge, N. Y., and the Waltones were featured on radio from Oneonta and also attended Syracuse Charter Night, and came from Rochester District Contest with fourth place all wrapped up . . . Syracuse Chapter's Mike Germain knows when he sees good publicity, and follows through on it. Fred Waring's Glee Club conductor, Don Craig, was in town, so Mike saw to it that he attended their meeting which resulted in a marvelous news story and picture in the following day's paper. Their slogan of "200 in '48" is a good one, and their quartet activities are becoming a noticeable part of all Syracuse activities.

MELODY MEN, BUFFALO



On the left Bill Delfeld, bari; Larry Hemink, lead; Ralph Bohn, bass; Ross Davis, tenor.

Mid-Atlantic States

by J. J. (Jack) Briody

Only barbershoppers would have braved the young blizzard which the Union City Chapter had to contend with on the occasion of their second annual Dance and Quartet Round-Up January 3rd. Secretary Donohue reports about 600 present . . . Baltimore No. 1, held parade to capacity house on November 22nd. A soft spot in the hearts of these boys is the Maryland State Penitentiary. Chorus and quartets make monthly visits to the institution to give out for the guys who can't get out. The Harmonizers still sprcading the SPEBQSA Gospel on the Tuneful Traveler Program over station WBAL. The chapter besides sending the Four Steps to the Christmas Basket Party of City Wide Club, helped the cause with a check for \$25.00 . . . The Harvest of Harmony staged by Washington, D. C., Oct. 24, was a tremendous success. Featured quartets were the Doctors and Garden Staters. The ladies of the Asbury Methodist Church were given a treat on November 24th, when the Singing Capital Chorus aided by the Antlers of Flint, Michigan, put on a barbershop program. During the past 3 months the chapter continued its 15 minute Sunday afternoon broadcasts over Station WGAY. Potomac Clippers were featured on first national television station WNBW New Year's Eve . . . Bloomsburg held its first parade November 8th and for a baby chapter the affair was most successful. 950 people packed the High School Auditorium. Granddads quartet, after 16 years as a unit, disbanded because of the death of bass, Dorsey Wenner. Entire chapter mourns the loss of a grand fellow. During the "semester" the Parlor City Four put on programs for the veterans in Danville State Hospital, Almedia Sunday School Party and Child Study Group. Christmas Eve, chorus sang Christmas Carols on all four floors of Bloomsburg Hospital . . . During the past three months the Bronx Chapter has played host to many out of town brothers and friends, including Chordettes of Sheboygan, Wisconsin;

PENNS GROVE TOPPERS



This is practically an officials' 4, with Atwell Chance, tenor, on left; W. C. Morning, Pres. Penns Grove-Cardneys Pt. Chapter, lead; Glenn Clemenson, Secretary, bar; and Gene Lamkin, Past Pres., bass.



MANHATTAN, N. Y. CHAPTER CHORUS

Manhattan chorus welcomed the ladies Dec. 11.

MANHATTAN CHORUS

by Dr. Richard W. Grant

Chorus Dir. and President of Chapter In writing about the Manhattan Chorus, it is extremely difficult to stay away from an ascending scale of superlatives. This is not because they are musically better than the many other fine barbershop choruses but because of what this group has contributed to the growth and development of the Manhattan Chapter.

Organized in early November, 1946, with the encouragement and blessing of Prexy Sig Spaeth, this chorus of sixty men has indeed proved to be the "sound core" around which the Manhattan Chapter is continuing to go forward in an ever widening circle of accomplishments. A large percentage of the personnel responsible for the direction of the Chapter's affairs of 1947-48 comes directly from the chorus membership. From its membership also has come two outstanding quartets — "The Manhattanites" and "The Novelairens".

Under the collective belts of these barbershoppers in one brief year are two brilliant and successful ladies nights at Hotel Pennsylvania and Hotel New Yorker. Back of them also are the unforgettable memories of one big time radio broadcast and many appearances at veterans hospitals.

Would that I could mention all the names of these fine harmonizers, but this article would be no good without "orchids" and a solid "swipe" for our chorus committee headed by those two enthusiasts, Rowland F. Davis and Bill Milne.

the Balladaires of Jersey City and the Healy Sisters of Washington Heights, N. Y. The N. Y. Police Quartet besides appearing in six barbershop shows within the district, made visits to Kingsbridge and St. Vincent's Hospitals. On December 20th, the Four Sharps entertained at a drive for Sister Kenny Fund. Chapter held a successful Variety Show at Manhattan Center, November 21st . . . Jersey City's Garden Staters and 1-2-3 Four carried the ball for chapter during the quarter just ended. The former, appearing in many parades, too numerous to mention here, also sang for 15 paraplegic veterans and their wives at the Lyndhurst, N. J. Elks Club, December 21st. The 1-2-3 Four visited several Masonic Clubs, to aid in Christmas Basket Fund Campaigns. Chapter privileged to have the Chordettes visit with them twice during the quarter . . .

. . . Thirty-five members of the Newark Chapter journeyed to St. George Hospital, Staten Island on December 7th. Chorus as well as five of the chapter's six quartets treated the patients to barbershop harmony in all its forms. On the way home gang stopped at roadside diner. Singing ensued, which led one lady patron to remark, "some college, no doubt." Some of the boys are considerably over college age so her comment caused no displeasure . . . Idea of appointing new program chairman for each meeting paying dividends for the Paterson Chapter. System has resulted in fine entertainment for the gang. The four quartets of the chapter have made 114 appearances at charitable affairs in three months. No wonder President Jimmy Matthews justifiably says "Can you top this." Under the auspices of USO, 40 members of Philadelphia visited Fort Dix Hospital and entertained the boys there. January 8th, chorus and three quartets sang for the entire hospital in general recreation auditorium of Valley Forge Hospital . . . Teaneck held a combination Minstrel and Parade at local High School Auditorium, November 7th. Jim Yeoman did a masterful job both as coach and interlocutor. End men and quartets all chapter members . . . November 16th, Forest City Four of Wilmington No. 1, entertained at Veterans Hospital, New Castle County Airbase; November 16th. Delawareans sang for Associated Nurses' Annual Banquet. Inter-chapter visitations made to Penns-Grove, Baltimore and Bridgeton. Chapter chorus and quar-

tets now making bi-monthly visits to Y.M.C.A., and the Veterans Hospital. Plans are in making for second annual parade at DuPont Hotel, May 15th . . . Diamond State, (Wilmington), presented second annual parade November 30th. The show, held in cooperation with the Optimist Club, was a complete success. Wildela Four accompanied Philadelphia chapter chorus on its visit to Fort Dix Hospital, October 21st . . . During past two months, York has fostered two more quartets. Four Hoover Bodies and the Gantley Flamethrowers are already busy singing at public functions. Throwers went over with a bang at the Bloomsburg parade where delegation of 26 York members helped swell audience. Most notable project during last quarter was the annual visit to York County Home, December 18th. 100 members entertained the residents of the Home with old songs and Christmas Carols.

Michigan's Pitch Pipe

by ROSCOE D. BENNETT

Michigan is all atune for its own big show, the Michigan district contest and convention to be held in Kalamazoo, Feb. 21 . . . The boys of that chapter, particularly Ernie Gibbs and Lyle Rapp, have been working night and day for weeks on end to put it over . . . And over it will go . . . Quartets from all over the state are flocking in . . . Something new in the form of contests has been added . . . There are three championships up, Michigan senior, Michigan junior and Michigan novice . . . The first is for quartets which have gone places before . . . The second is for quartets that have tried but never placed and the third or novice is for quartets that have never tried before . . . It's attracted a lot of interest . . . Speaking of contests, the Dearbornaires, knocked off first place in the Detroit Metropolitan area "Bush League Contest" . . . The Dearborn Chapter was made happy thereby . . . Only four members, two sick and two out of town, missed the Dearborn Ladies night at Warren Valley Country club . . . The boys of the Holland Chapter are really getting around . . . Mat Wilson, for instance, attended the Harvest Of Harmony in Washington, not long ago . . . And for Int'l. Bd. Member Willis Diekema, he's gadding around all the time and everywhere in the nation wherever he hears there's some singing going on . . . "The Holland Windmill", is the name of the new chapter bulletin . . . A Home and Home league has been formed by the Jackson Chapter, wherein quartets visit there and in return Jackson quartets return the visit . . . Saginaw, trying to get more members doing things, has devised a plan whereby chairmanship of regular meetings is taken over by a different member each time . . . The second annual Variety Show, a Saginaw feature, has been set for March 20 . . . The Barons of Harmony are singing practically all the time, they're so popular . . . Redford Chapter has incorporated as a non profit organization under Michigan laws . . . Speaking of sacrifice, here's the tops! Treasurer Ed Herrold sawed off a finger at the first joint to make the chapter a new frame for its charter . . . He landed in the hospital, naturally, but the frame and the charter adorn every meeting . . . Carroll Adams, ye int'l. secretary, dropped in during November and showed the boys how to prepare an oyster stew dinner . . . As usual the Flint Chapter staged a highly successful "Festival of Harmony" on Nov. 1 and turned the money over to the Old Newsboys association for unfortunate kiddies at Christmas time . . . Adrian Chapter is sporting a new monthly bulletin. Secretary Charles Matthews and Jeff Clemes are getting it out . . . Muskegon got the quartets from its own 17 sponsored chapters together for a "contest" . . . It was a gala meeting and at the same time a boost in interest for the new chapters and quartets . . . Bill Griffith did the arrang-

FLINT FESTIVAL OF HARMONY



Antique automobiles and period costumes gave a "way back when" flavor to Flint's Festival of Harmony. Quartets L. to R.: Towncriers, Kalamazoo; Barons of Harmony, Saginaw; Cleft Dwellers, Birmingham; and (at mike) Three Corns and a Bunyan, Pontiac.

ing . . . Len Horton, Muskegon prexy, has formulated a new slogan: Service - Pleasure - Entertainment - Benevolence - Song - Quality - Sociability - Art . . . Put this altogether and it spells SPEBSQSA . . . Manistee has been busy doing good deeds about town . . . It entertained Ludington one night . . . There are 65 paid up members in Albion Chapter meeting twice a month . . . And eating, as well as singing . . . The Gratiot County Chapter boasts a 100 per cent membership in its chorus . . . Chester Robinson does the directing . . . Its Charter night parade was staged in Alma high school early in December and wowed the natives . . . Entertaining the unfortunate at Percy Jones and Marine hospital has occupied a lot of time on the part of the Grosse Pointe Chapter . . . There are four operating quartets in this 79-member group . . . Pretty fair, eh! . . . Lansing staged its third annual Cavalcade of Quartets, Oct. 25, and got away big . . . The Pleasantaire of the Mt. Pleasant Chapter traveled all the way to Newberry Nov. 20 and 21, during deer season . . . Among those who heard them were Dizzy Trout, Bob Swift, Harry Heilmann and Hal Newhouser of baseball fame as well as hundreds of deer hunters . . . Mt. Pleasant's Festival of Harmony in October was unique in stage setting . . . The shell was in the form of a barber pole, which slowly opened as the quartets were announced . . . The Cleft-Dwellers have been keeping the Oakland County Chapter before Michigan's barber-shoppers every week during the last quarter . . . And while the big boys were away the mice, in the form of the Harmony Shavers and the Four Counts, began to play around and did all right too wherever they went . . . Carleton Scott is doing a nice job with the chapter chorus . . . The Petoskey Chapter has found the going tough but is surviving nicely . . . The faithful, as everywhere, are doing the heavy work . . . Traverse City quartets are covering the entire upper Michigan district . . . The three most worked are Traverse Bay Tones, Northmen and Bell Four . . . Sturgis Chapter did the unusual in its Dec. 5 parade . . . It had five different stage settings and a flock of big name quartets, such as Mid States Four, Carpenter Brothers and Chordettes . . . Another feature—Sturgis merchants "sponsored" the quartets at \$100 per clip . . . They liked the idea and have already bid for sponsor's

spots for next year's show . . . No mistaking where the Gay-Lords quartet comes from . . . It's the pride and joy quartet of the Gaylord Chapter, an enterprising 30-man outfit . . . Rocky Rockefeller, spark of the Belding Chapter, is hard at work . . . Belding will soon have another quartet in addition to the well known Beldingaires . . . Allegan is working on an active chorus . . . Tim Weber, hard working secretary of the Detroit Chapter, records heavy activities in that group . . . High spots were the visit of the Wallaceburg, Ont., 75 voice chorus, the Nov. 1 parade, the meetings wherein a guest quartet is featured at every meeting; the activities of the chapter quartets singing wherever they can and wherever asked . . . The Four Shorties, Tim records, have a new tenor and going places . . . Ypsilanti Chapter is three meetings old . . . Will hold its charter night celebration sometime in February . . . Hamtramck Chapter paid a special tribute to prexy Dr. Stephen Skrzycki, surgeon and thrice mayor of that city and a rabid SPEBSQSA member . . . The Hamtramck bulletin boasts a 200 circulation . . . The Midland parade in November has instilled new life in that group . . . The Metrognomes have agreed to disagree, says Secretary G. Warren Abbott, and individual members are now looking around for new quartets . . . The Kitchen-Blenders have a new lead . . . Members of the Midland Chapter chorus grew side-burns, ala the gay 90's as a part of their uniform dress for the parade . . . White coats completed the ensemble . . . Holly is striving for a chorus . . . It already has two going quartets and wants more . . . There are 23 active members . . . Quartets from Oakland County, Pontiac and Dearborn Chapters are singing regularly for the kids at Wayne County Training school and Juvenile Detention home . . . Bill Otto is proud of a recent letter of thanks from D. L. Pearson, recreation supervisor of the Wayne school . . . Grand Rapids is working tooth and nail for Great Lakes Invitational, April 10 . . . G. Marvin Brower has just returned from California . . . Attendance of 100 per cent in quartets in the Michigan District contest at Kalamazoo is a must . . . Cecil H. Fischer, chapter president has ruled . . . The edict includes even the Harmony Halls . . . The Great Lakes chorus, Frank B. Goodwin, director, is now rehearsing every week . . .



THE WAY I SEE IT

by Deac Martin

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

Attributed to Voltaire, 1694-1778

The picture of the Flint, Mich. concert, shown elsewhere in this issue, recalls another concert, in just such a Buick as Barons of Harmony are holding down in the center of the stage when I went on a "goodwill tour" over the rutty roads of southern Iowa about 1910.

The tour organized by the businessmen of Red Oak was supposed to create a lot of goodwill in the towns and villages within a 30 mile radius, and get the inhabitants to bring their butter and eggs into Red Oak for tradin'. At the tail end of this horseless carriage procession, which of itself was to astonish the hinterland, was the white Buick with squeeze horn, extra tubes, acetylene lights, rope for pulling out of ditches and all, including cans of gasoline and oil strapped to the running-board. When the other cars got underway we lingered in a village and entertained (?) with "He's a Cousin of Mine", "Mammy's Shufflin' Dance", "White Wings", "Annie Rooney", "In The Evening By The Moonlight", and those late hits, "Cheer Up, Mary", "Cuddle Up A Little Closer", "Down In Jungle Town", and "I Remember You", not forgetting "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" and "By The Light of the Silvery Moon".

At the last stop a rain storm came up, the Buick got mired to the hubs, and caught fire. We leaped into gumbo up to our knees, and got home 24 hours behind the rest of the procession. •

One of the most fascinating books that has come my way in a long time is the first annual issue of Harry Dichter's "Handbook of American Sheet Music", a catalog of sheet music for sale by Dichter, whose address is 5458 Montgomery Ave., Philadelphia 31, Penna.

A foreword by John Tasker Howard presents the Handbook not only as a collection of music but of "value to students of social and political subjects. Songs have provided a contemporary record of American customs and points of view for almost two centuries and here we find convenient groupings of songs about automobiles, aviation, circuses, sports, temperance and transportation".

Howard points out also the value of the book in appraising old sheet music. For example a first edition of the "Star Spangled Banner" is worth \$1,000.00, yet it is possible to buy a first edition of an obscure Stephen Foster song as low as \$3.00, as compared to the higher price of the better known Foster numbers even in reprint. Howard says, "This handbook will become a much thumbed

desk book for the collector, the student, and the music librarian".

When I first glanced through the book I didn't realize that it was a catalog offering the numbers at definite quoted prices, so I wouldn't understand why Dichter didn't include "Daisy Bell" in his list of "cycling" songs; "Skating in the Park" in "Sports" or "Father, Dear Father" or "The Drunkard's Doom" in his "temperance and drinking" classification, as examples. But a letter from him straightened my thinking. He lists only those items which he has for sale. To show the difference in values between first editions and later prints: a first edition of "My Country 'Tis of Thee", 1831, is priced at \$100.00 while the same song reprinted in 1861 can be had for \$2.00. A reprint of Foster's "Beautiful Dreamer", 1864, is worth \$1.50, and that applies also to "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming", 1855 edition.

Lending interest and zest to the hook are the black and white illustrations of the covers or first page of several antiques, such as "Tally One For Me, Baseball Song and Chorus", 1882, which shows an overflowing small grandstand, one would guess, about an eighth of a mile from homeplate. Showing that I am not alone in my enthusiasm, Richard S. Hill of the Library of Congress, wrote a five page review for the December PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY, and I understand that LIFE is angling for a story about the collection.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY INT'L. BOARD, PITTSBURGH, JAN. 17, '48

RESOLUTION No. 1

WHEREAS the January, 1948 Mid-Winter Meeting of the International Board of Directors of this Society has completed with great success the many business matters brought before it for consideration and judgment in a true spirit of harmony; and deeply conscious that such success could not have been achieved without the energetic support and effort of many groups and individuals to whom proper recognition should be given and appreciation and thanks expressed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Board and the officers of the Society acknowledge with deep appreciation their thanks and gratitude;

To the very gracious host Chapter, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, its officers, members and committees for the time and effort so generously bestowed, and the consideration shown the members of the International Board;

To the management of the Keystone Hotel for their friendly cooperation, consideration and genial hospitality;

To the several quartets for their very delightful and entertaining contributions to the meeting;

To the press of Pittsburgh for excellent advance publicity of this Mid-Winter gathering

and full coverage of the meeting, and the year-round activities of Pittsburgh Chapter;

To the many others whose personal efforts to make this meeting a notable and happy occasion have borne fruit, thus contributing to the success of this meeting, and the furtherance of the objects of the Society, completely demonstrating to this grateful Board that the purposes of the Society are most capably exemplified in the City of Pittsburgh.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of these resolutions be by the International Secretary sent to the officers of the Pittsburgh Chapter.

RESOLUTION No. 2

WHEREAS the members of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in American, Inc., who hail from all walks of life, have a "song in their hearts," and WHEREAS they love to harmonize, not only in musical expression, but also on a spiritual basis among all mankind, and

WHEREAS the members of our Society are assembled here in Pittsburgh to encourage, preserve and promote harmony, good-fellowship and good-will among our neighbors in our communities, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that our membership will direct their untiring and everlasting efforts to uphold and promote our Society's objective and slogan—

"KEEP AMERICA SINGING."

"WANT IDEAS?"—READ THIS

The editors invite your particular attention to Illinois Inklings by District Ed. Welsh Pierce. Inklings are always good reading, but this time Editor Pierce had to weigh such a tremendous volume of activities that he double-screened them—with the result that the column is loaded with ideas for others to use, to their pleasure and profitable conduct of chapter affairs. The same goes for Swipes from almost any section. District Editors nowadays are faced by reporting so many activities that they must compress into three lines an activities story that would have been front page news only a few short years ago.

Far-Western Sunshine

by Dick Schenck

Tonsil benders of the West Coast were treated to a grand evening at the Parade staged by the Hollywood Chapter on Nov. 25th, featuring those grand songsters "The Doctors of Harmony" Int'l. Champs. Also on the program of super barbershop were the Four States of San Diego, The Westernaires of Phoenix, the Golden Statesmen of San Francisco, The San Gabriel Chorus and Hollywood Chapter's own Hollywoodsmen. While in So. Calif. the "Doctors" were kept on the go with appearances before various civic groups. High Sierranaders appeared on the Nat'l. network show, *People are Funny*. Pasadena—deep in plans for the first Far Western District "Harmony Festival" to be given Mar. 13th in that city with the local chapter as sponsor. A chorus of at least 150 is expected for this show made up of Barbershoppers from Southland chapters. Four Roses and Crown City Four keep on the jump. Tri-City (Maywood) giving the fair sex a greater interest in their chapter by staging a ladies night once a month. Newhall one of the newer chapters is busy spreading story of the Society throughout community. Also showed they have the true barbershop spirit by serenading the "shutins" during the Christmas holidays.—Vocal Scholarships are being awarded in the two high schools in the San Gabriel area. The plan is modeled after Schenectady's. Chapter adopted the plan as a means of aiding the community and furthering student ambition. Chorus under direction of Albert Broad rapidly gaining fame throughout the Southland and demonstrated their desire to help by singing at hospitals during the holidays. With aid of guest quartets from neighboring chapters San Gabriel has completed sixty-five consecutive weekly programs on the air in the interest of Barbershop in Southern Calif. and the Society in general.—From the Golden Gate region comes word that the Golden Statesmen of the San Francisco Chapter give freely of their time by entertaining civic clubs of the area. Inglewood, one of the newest chapters in the district has five active quartets, the Foxy Four and 24 Feet of Harmony especially busy.—Van Nuys held charter night Nov. 15. Int'l. director Russ Stanton gave highlights about the Society and fine program of visiting quartets was presented. Cliff Roberts President of Glendale the sponsoring chapter presented the charter and evening was concluded with a grand buffet luncheon.—Sharp

CROWN CITY 4



FOUR ROSES



Between the climate and these two quartets Pasadena Chapter is getting gooshy proud. Top, L. to R.: Walter Reed, lead; Tom Wirick, tenor; Ari Huston, bass; Jim Arnold, bari, seated. Above: Front, Paul McFaridge, tenor; left, Reedie Wright, lead; Right, Russ Blakeley, bari; Rear, Wally Arnold, bass.

Four and Harmonaires making many appearances before civic groups and on the air for the Sacramento Chapter.—Berkeley had ladies night in December which was a honey. San Jose reports twelve public appearances by one of its quartets.—Approximately 150 Barbershoppers and wives of Southern Calif. made a pilgrimage by train, car and plane to the first Parade of the Phoenix, Ariz. Chapter. In February a grand success highlighted by the appearance of international finalist quartet Bonanza Four of Reno, Nevada. It is expected that the Phoenix show will spur the formation of more chapters in the Land of the Sun. Ye editor notes from many of the reports that several of the chapters in Calif. are organizing choruses.

DAYTON, O.

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Pacific-Northwest

By Herb Molechior

Eugene, Oregon Chapter has two organized quartets, the Mumbler and the Plungers. Entire membership visited Salem, Oct. 6th. Nov. 21st Klamath Falls Chapter members visited Eugene. Joint program at the Very Little Theatre, included the wives and was preceded by a dinner and followed by an Afterglow. Audience of 250 crowded the theatre. Klamath Falls—Dynamic Johnny Houston is Musical Director of the Chorus which has appeared before Eagles, Eastern Star, Foot Printers, American Association of University Women, Tulalake Growers Association, Klamath Potato Growers Association, Lions, Elks and several other community groups. Chapter's top quartet has sung for Klamath County Infirmary, also National Guard, Youth Delinquency meeting, several churches, etc. Mt. Rainier, Wash.—Eddie Hotton leader of Chapter Chorus, Chapter's top quartet—the Mountainaires, has made 30 appearances in past three months. Two other quartets are coming along well. Future looks bright. Port Angeles—Nov. 28th chapter collaborated with Elks in sponsoring Annual Minstrel Show. Entire cast and chorus made up of members of chapter. Four quartets and chorus of 33 participated in Tacoma's Parade Oct. 25th. Tacoma's first Annual Parade sold out four days before show, resulting in over-flow show in smaller auditorium. Total audience of 1600, many others turned away, 14 quartets and 2 choruses made up program. Port Angeles, Portland, Bellingham, Tacoma and Mt. Rainier contributed talent. Chapter has invited Society to hold Regional Preliminary in Tacoma April 24th.



TACOMA ON PARADE

At the Tacoma (Wash.) Parade, Oct. 25—on left (l. to r.): The Harmony Vendors, Louis Tebeau, bari; Fraser Chisholm, lead; Chas. Cheney, bass; Paul Newman, tenor. On our right we have the Melody Men with Sam Saari, tenor; Art Wickens, lead; Frank Anarde, bari; and Leo Barton, bass.



BRANTFORD, ONT. CHARTERED



Pres. Jack LeMaitre, Brantford, received chapter charter from Hughbert Hamilton (London) Pres. Ontario Distr. Ass'n. In background the Bell City Four—L. to R.—Hap Houlding, V. P., tenor; Harry Wood, Sec., lead; Bob Turnbull, Publ. Rel. Ch'm'n., bari; and Frank Gaffney, Treas., bass.

Ontario Harmonie

By Hughbert J. Hamilton

All chapters in Ontario show signs of concentrating on that fundamental objective—the encouragement of quartets. In the one dozen chapters of the district there are over thirty organized fours and, no doubt, a number close to graduation from the state of being unorganized. With such a field to draw from no difficulty is expected in having fifteen aspirants for district honors when the regional preliminaries are held at Toronto on May 1. The Queen City was awarded the contest because its citizens are hungry for barbershop harmony. Their second annual parade, although scheduled for March 6 is completely sold out, and President Albert C. ("Chappie") Chapman, who rarely misses a Society function within a radius of 100 miles of Toronto, is confident that whatever four is selected to represent the district at Oklahoma City will be serious contenders for the champ-of-champs' crown. The most ambitious inter-chapter gathering yet attempted this side of the border marked Brantford's "Dog House Night" on Friday, Jan. 16. Fifteen quartets and two choruses entertained large delegations from five other chapters and the success of the evening is reflected in preparations for similar affairs in several other cities. London sent five of its quartets. One of them—The Friday Nighters—featured a song specially written for the occasion. (The composer is standing at the District Editor's side with a raised club, so

here are the words of the chorus): Why go to Brantford to get in the dog house; We each have one of our own. Our dear little wives spend half of their lives, Putting us out with the pup and a bone. When we go out singing, their hands they start wringing—But that's what they do everywhere. So we've come to Brantford to get in the dog house, And we don't care; For when this is over we'll move in with Rover, And end up the night right there. Kitchener's two quartets, The Quarter-Tones and The Ups 'n' Downs, have been kept busy with appearances at various hospitals, bringing cheer to the inmates and prestige to their chapter. On Nov. 28 an inter-chapter rally, billed as a "Nite of Harmony", attracted many visitors from nearby chapters. The district's baby chapter at Amherstburg is a thriving youngster with an organized chorus and the prospect of at least one good quartet. A successful Ladies' Night on Nov. 26 proved that the Amherstburgers are smart in dealing in the women early. Neighboring Wallaceburg continues to spread the fame of its large chapter chorus with recent appearances for a crippled children's organization and several church affairs. Two newly organized quartets have also been heard by the townsfolk. The people of Sarnia are looking forward to that city's third annual parade coming up March 20. A live chorus and three very active quartets. The Cantabilairs, The Melatones and The Harmoniacs, do a splendid job of keeping the public barbershop conscious.

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HOW NOT TO HAVE A GROUP PICTURE TAKEN



The above was cut off a picture of a chapter chorus and saved to prove that photographers are not invariably right. Had the picture been reproduced with all these hands you could hardly notice anything except hands. As a general rule, in a group picture, it is entirely safe to tell the photographer to cut them off at the waist; and have just as few hands in the foreground as possible. Prominent hands are a problem in making pictures look good. Bear in mind also that a compressed group picture is more interesting than a long line of loosely integrated individuals.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF CHAPTERS AND DISTRICTS

This directory is for convenience of travelling members and those needing it in conducting SPEBSQSA contacts. Any other use violates our Code of Ethics—"We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain"

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