

# THE HARMONIZER

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONY



## SPEBSQSA

By SIGMUND SPAETH  
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for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

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That's har - mo - ny for ev - 'ry day!

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===== JUNE 10th, 11th, 12th =====

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**CONVENTION and CONTEST**



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### HI-LITES — INT'L. BD. — TOLEDO FAR REACHING DECISIONS

Convening at 8:00 p. m., Friday, Jan. 14, the report of Chairman Thorne's Contest and Judging Committee (see details—this issue) was adopted as submitted with deep appreciation to this group which has worked incessantly since June, even traveling to Pittsburgh in late fall for clearance of points bogged down in the voluminous correspondence.

The Committee on Extension was authorized to prepare a revised booklet on "How to Organize a Chapter". In the future all new chapters will receive a "12 month probationary" charter, to be replaced by a permanent one if the District President approves.

The use of the Society's name will not be allowed on records cut by member quartets and offered for sale. This in no sense discourages quartets from making commercial recordings. The name belongs to the Society, not to the quartet, and legalities make the move necessary.

The office of Historian, and the special membership of the immediate past Champion Quartet representative on the Board were eliminated, effective July 1, 1949. A Historian will be appointed by the President each year. It

*(Continued on page 6)*

## BUFFALO WILL BE "TOPS"

Over 1200 Reservations made. Have you yours?

"The Woodshed" in Buffalo at the Convention-Contest will give the answer to two vital needs within the Society. (1) Dedicated to non-organized quartets, it will be the answer to the barbershopper's prayer for three others to sing with and a place to sing. (2) By handing the project to the Ass'n. of Discarded and Decrepit Bd. Members, organized in '48 at Oklahoma City largely through the efforts of former Bd. Member Dick Sturges of Atlanta, Pres. Cole gives about 100 of these patriarchs something to do and a new interest in life.

### "PUT ME OFF AT BUFFALO"

June 10-11

If you haven't arranged for time off for the Big Show in Buffalo, June 10-11, or reserved hotel space . . . Do It Now, Brother . . . Do It Now. The location, overnight from about 70% of the U. S. (and Society's) population, and so very handy to the majority of Canadian chapters, means that big attendance is practically certain. They positively will not let you sleep under the American Falls at nearby Niagara.

And, by the way, have those Midwesterners investigated as yet the possibilities of chartering a boat out of Chicago, thus bringing their own hotel? What a gathering that would be!

*(Continued on page 6)*

The Woodshed is the answer also to the many letters, including Harold Gray's, Traverse City, (Over the Ed's. Shoulder, this issue), which is indicative of others, over the years, inquiring about aid and comfort to the men who attend a parade, district contest or International, alone, or at least, not as members of an organized quartet.

### No Organized Foursomes

- Present plans, whipped into preliminary form by Imm. Past Pres. Chas. M. Merrill and Deac Martin for presentation to the honorable "Decrepits", call for a room that is handy to the lobby. It will be labelled—"The Woodshed—No Organized Quartets Need Apply". This does not mean that members of organized quartets will not be welcome. To the contrary! But, they'll have to sing with other than their own foursomes.

Main equipment in the Woodshed will be (1) a rostrum, (2) a blackboard on which names and chapters of the "Tree Top Tenor", the "Logwood Lead", "Burning Bari", and "Buck-saw Bass" will inform the audience who's who. It will be a good opportunity for the audience to fix names and faces, always difficult in the turmoil of a big affair.

### "Chief Log Roller"

The plans call for official "Chief Log Rollers" from past Board membership, to be scheduled for duty from late morning until early morning to meet, greet, and help organize foursomes (as if organization were needed in the face of such an opportunity). A chief duty, no doubt, will be to put balls-and-chains on quartets who have finally located a tenor and "want to sing at once".

### A Testing Ground

The opportunity to test out this novel idea at Buffalo (it may include a Woodshedders' Contest) will show the practicability of comparable projects at district and other meetings. All of which adds up to the fact that —Buffalo Will Be Tops. Have you gotten your all-inclusive reservation book yet?

### BEDSIDE SERENADE



When Art Lynch, Lapeer, Mich., suffered an automobile accident the Antlers of Flint rallied around to cheer him up (or are they, in this case?). Howard Shepard, Pres. of Lapeer Chapter, was on hand to record the event with his camera.

# NEW CONTEST AND JUDGING RULES ARE NOW IN EFFECT

by Frank H. Thorne, (Past Int'l. Pres.) Chairman Contest & Judging Committee

The following is a summary of the report of the Contest and Judging Committee in regard to procedure and also the principle changes in competition rules. The Contest and Judging Committee has a plan of judge training which is now well under way. Committee members were given special assignments as follows:

Jim Knipe is handling stage presence and costume training. Don Webster, harmony accuracy and blend. Phil Embury, voice expression, and Maurice Reagan, arrangement. Lawyer Jean Boardman helps make more accurate and legal the phraseology of words used to express our thoughts. It was decided that our rules should be "laws" and therefore stated in the simplest form possible and that an explanatory appendix would include the fundamental parts of the judges training course so that the laws might thus be better understood. A judge's application form is now used requesting information considered necessary and advisable; and all judges on the old official panel were notified that it would be necessary to re-qualify in order to be maintained on the panel for our next international contest. To be sure a candidate has the proper judicial temperament, each candidate is asked to take a test known as the Johnson Temperament Analysis (recommended by Stanford University) and this must be passed before the judge training course is released.

After the judges have passed the question and answer stage it is planned to submit recordings to them which they will have to judge. In this way the specialist handling each category can ascertain whether or not his training course is understood and whether the judge candidate is capable of handling that particular category. Applications for judge training may be obtained from the Detroit office.

## New Contest Rules

The 40 competing quartets (if they are selected to compete in the semi-final 15-quartet convention contest) will, under the new rules, carry their scores with them, so that their score in the 15-quartet finals will be the total of their semi-finals and finals scores, and the rating of the medalist contestants will be the total combined score obtained in the semi-finals, finals, and medalist contests. Every number or medley sung must be entirely different from those previously used in the various convention contests. In other words, a quartet getting into the medalist contest must, by the end of each contest, have sung six different numbers.

Each quartet, upon application, may receive a complete summary of the scoring of the quartets in any contest in which that particular quartet was a contestant. This summary will be a copy of the secretary of the judges' totalizing sheet. If any quartet desires to publicize the information included in this report, it is their privilege to do so as henceforth there is to be no secrecy connected with it. The scoring of each song separately is discontinued as, to mean anything, each number would have to be of equal elapsed time. An example of how impractical the separate score system was may be realized from the fact that in one contest one number ran three and a half minutes and another only 35 seconds. Obviously the latter number did not offer much opportunity for error because of the short length of time it required and it might, therefore, be rated a place very much higher than the over-all performance of the quartet would otherwise justify.

The application form of the quartet entry blank is to include phraseology that will require a declaration

that they are not professional in conformity with the definition set up in the rules.

## Judging

The total number of judges is increased from 8 to 12 and the alternate judge system is abandoned so that no judge will, under the new rules, be barred from scoring any quartet that appears before him.

Enunciation is now grouped with attacks and releases, and phrasing will now be considered with shading, both of the latter being a portion of the voice expression judge's responsibility. In case you are curious as to just what we mean by phrasing (which is a new addition to our rules), sing: I — — — HAD A — — — DREAM — — — DEAR, take a big breath where the dashes occur, and I can guarantee that you will be penalized for poor phrasing.

Under "arrangement" instead of using the words, "song arrangement" the word "harmonization" is now used and the rules now even more emphatically demand that songs be "harmonized in a manner that is not contrary to the traditional standards of barbershop harmony". This primarily means that present-day style of modern harmony is still very definitely barred and I hope always will be insofar as our quartet singing is concerned.

The former "Voice Arrangement" is now called "Voicing" and of course it is still required that, except for an occasional few chords, the tenor be sung above the melody. However, the rules now state: "Whenever the solo voice (with or without humming accompaniment) carries the burden of the song to the extent that the quartet escapes the risk of penalties for ensemble singing and arrangement, each judge shall penalize 5 points for

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## New Contest Rules

(Continued from page 4)

each melody note not harmonized." As all quartets know, the easiest way to blend is to hum, so that it is considered a bit too easy to avoid penalty if one voice solos and the other three hum and there have been many suggestions that this practice be stopped, which this rule now does. The bass may sing meaningless words or sounds such as "bum, bum" when such arrangement is "consistent with the character of the song", and in fact all voices may so sing "for occasional passages of short duration when used to enhance effectiveness".

If a tie score occurs, the secretary of the judges shall award the place to the quartet scoring highest in harmony accuracy and blend; if a tie still exists, the place shall go to the quartet scoring highest in voice expression; and if a tie still exists, to the quartet scoring highest in arrangement. If a tie still exists, each quartet must sing one number to determine who the winner is. Rules that previously barred sustained bass on the seventh and which required a tonic chord ending, are no longer included. The quartet that desires to experiment with such harmonization will be judged only in accordance with the opinion of the judges as to whether the effect is good or otherwise.

### To the Quartets

While I am on the subject of rules, perhaps I can clear up a point which still seems to be causing arguments in regard to the ranking of quartets under the single number rating system which is however, now abandoned. For instance, the question is asked how a quartet could score first in arrangement in a finals contest and score fourth on the same arrangement in the medalist contest. Two things happen—either one or both of which can cause this seeming contradiction. One is that the quartet may not have sung the arrangement the same and be penalized accordingly.

However, it probably is not understood that in ranking a quartet on a single song the judges had no way of calculating an actual score for a single song so that the only way a rating could be provided was by giving top rank in any category to the single song that was penalized the least; in fact, like one wins a golf game by taking the least number of strokes to complete the course. Therefore, if the competing quartets change their numbers and make less errors than they did with numbers previously used, they can take the first place rating away from a quartet even though the penalties which existed against the previous first place quartet were exactly the same in the second contest. It is the old case of standing still while others pass one by. This obviously happens in quartet sing-

ing as well as in almost every other field of endeavor.

### "Good Luck"

In closing, let me quote one paragraph from my report to the Int'l. Board at Toledo, "it should be helpful to our entire contest system if all our members could realize that nothing makes a contest judge more comfortable than to have a really top-flight quartet sing good. It is when such quartets sing badly that the judges are most unfairly criticized. We must never be so cowardly as to expect them to call them other than they hear them." It is always well to remember the old statement, "A pupil must adhere to the rules, it takes a master to break them."

I sincerely hope that all members will become familiar with our rules and particularly that quartet members will study them carefully and abide by them. After you get your gold medals that will be soon enough to think about breaking them. Good luck.

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

Sing  
Up!



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## 1949 REGIONAL PRELIMINARIES

DIXIE— Miami	April 30
MID-ATLANTIC STATES— Reading, Pa.	May 1
ONTARIO— London	April 23
CENTRAL WESTERN NEW YORK— Syracuse (Onondaga Chapter)	April 30
NORTHEASTERN— Providence, Rhode Island	April 30
OHIO-SOUTHWESTERN PA.— Canton	April 30
MICHIGAN— —Detroit (Metropolitan Det. Assn. of Chapters)	April 30
LAND O'LAKES— Minneapolis	April 30
INDIANA-KENTUCKY— Elkhart	April 30
CENTRAL STATES— San Antonio, Texas	April 30
FAR WESTERN— Long Beach, California	April 23
PACIFIC NORTHWEST— Portland, Oregon	April 30
ILLINOIS— Rock Island	May 1

## Hi-lites, Int'l. Board-Toledo (Continued)

has been found that Imm. Past Champion Quartets are too busy singing to permit a member to actively serve as a Board Member. In the future the deadline for payment of per capita tax will be October 1 instead of November 1, for the fiscal year starting July 1. The 1950 Int'l. Convention and Quartet Contest will be held on June 14-18 at Omaha, with plenty of hotel rooms promised by the Omaha Convention Bureau.

The Board approved cast aluminum signs to be placed at city entrances. Washington, D.C.'s invitation to hold the mid-winter meeting there in January, 1950 was accepted. An all-chapter parade will be the feature.

## 1951 INTERNATIONAL CONTEST— CONVENTION—WHERE?

Several reports have come to the Harmonizer that this-and-that city will make a "strong bid" for the 1951 convention when the invitations are laid before the Int'l. Board in Buffalo in June (it's Omaha in 1950, you know).

As of early 1949, there are no known commitments though any of several dark horses may have them up their sleeves, if readers don't mind a mixed metaphor (always mix metaphors at room temperature).

## PUT ME OFF AT BUFFALO (Continued)

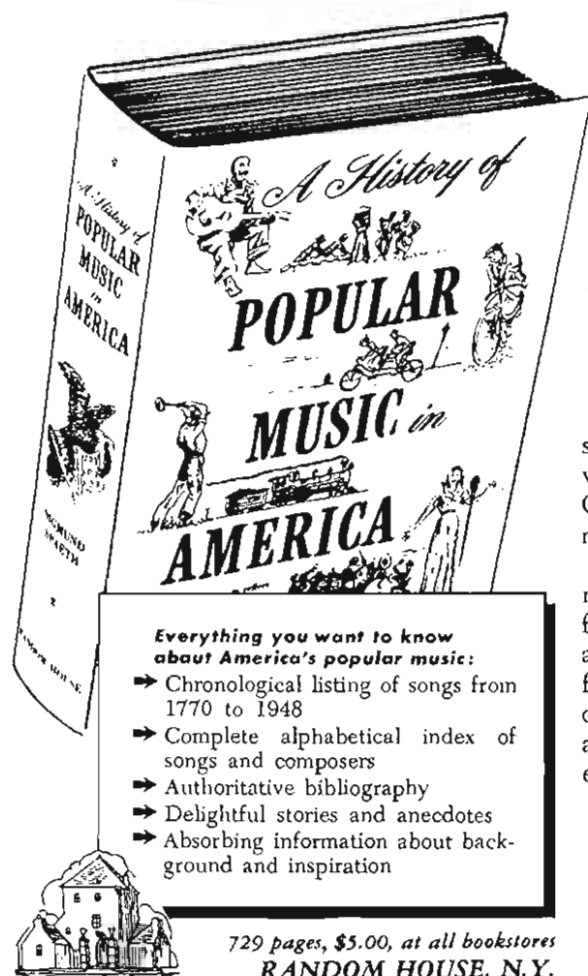
Saturday morning and afternoon, 11th, will be crammed with five (5) conferences that will make many wish they were quintuplets: George Campbell's Class for Song Leaders and mc's; Class for Chorus Directors; Round-table for District Officers; the Conference for Chapter Officers at which you may expect authorities on almost any subject to drop in; and the School for Contest Judges and those interested in judging.

And Schenectady Chapter will put on a One Hour Model Chapter Meeting, "The Old Songs" to adjournment, as part of the Chapter Officers' Conference.

A registration book at \$7.50 from the Int'l. office is the way to start. Then get your hotel reservation coupon off, immediately. Advance registrations had passed the 1100 mark on January 25.

It has been the experience of most cities which have been hosts to the International that a chapter receives an impetus which more than compensates for the work that goes into the job of meeting, greeting, organizing, and executing.

The 1951 field, as yet, is wide open to cities which believe they have the facilities to handle the big event.



## IN ONE FASCINATING VOLUME

# The complete history of America's popular songs by **SIGMUND SPAETH**



A treasure chest of information for everyone interested in the development of popular music in America, packed with wonderful stories about our popular songs, the events that inspired them, the people who sang them, and the men who wrote them: Stephen Foster, Victor Herbert, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart, Oscar Hammerstein, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and all the rest.

In addition, there is the most complete listing of popular music ever assembled in print; a chronological index of songs from 1770 to 1948; an index of songs arranged by titles and also by composers; a comprehensive bibliography. It's a "must" for everyone who wants a completely authoritative, up-to-date, concise history of popular music in America. And it's absorbing, exciting reading. "Easily the best book on this engrossing subject."—Franklin P. Adams, N. Y. POST.

## A HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC IN AMERICA

by **SIGMUND SPAETH**

## Exec. Committee at Toledo Handles Much of Wide Interest

The Int'l. Exec. committee had 40 items on its agenda for the Toledo meeting. The following, and other, recommendations passed by the Board (also see Hi-Lites—Int'l. Board this issue) are of interest to all members:

Land O' Lakes District had suggested that all districts be given additional disciplinary power over chapters. The Committee agreed that Districts should be reminded that they already have full power to recommend to the Int'l. Pres. the suspension of chapters in handling recalcitrant chapters. The "Lakes" District's suggestion that machinery be set up for incorporation of districts throughout the Society was approved, and passed by the Board. L. & R. Committee already at work on it.

The recommendation that the former Int'l. office of Historian be made appointive, year by year as in the case of standing committees, retains the principle while modifying the method.

The proposal by the Sons of Pioneers, Hollywood, that the Society arrange a concert tour for them was rejected. The suggestion that a corner of the Int'l. Office, Detroit, be devoted to a replica of an old-time barbershop was turned down.

Secretary Adams reported that 1060 Buffalo Convention, all event, books had been purchased up to meeting time.

The Committee approved a trek to Davenport, Iowa, in March by the Int'l. Sec. and the Elastic Four to appear on a 45 minute program before the Music Educators National Conference. The Int'l. Sec. will not replace any of the Elastic personnel, altho' he says he'd like to.

"Keep America Singing", the 10 year history will be self supporting, though some money will be tied up in inventory for an indefinite period. When discussed originally, it was considered as a big direct expense item.

The Committee recorded a vote of confidence in Louisville's plan to encourage a contest of collegiate barbershop quartets in that city.

Many proposals, ranging from summer parks to moving picture com-

panies, soliciting the cooperation or sponsorship of the Society in a wide variety of projects were handled.

The Committee re-affirmed the policy that no recordings be made during contests, while frowning upon recordings at parades without written consent of the quartet and the owners of song copyrights involved. Unauthorized recordings utilize the talents of the entertainers and the property of the copyright owners without consent in either case.

The newly appointed committee to handle Quartet Ethics and Procedure (type of selections, expense money, etc.) will have recommendations for the Board at Buffalo in June. Chairman Jerry Beeler will have Chas. M. Merrill and Sanford Brown working with him. Beeler and Merrill have sung with organized quartets ever since they joined the Society, therefore have much personal experience in quartet problems.

These are highlights of the original 40-item agenda to which other items were added during the meeting.

### NEW QUARTET ETHICS COMMITTEE

At Toledo Pres. Cole appointed a Committee on Quartet Ethics and Procedure which is to prepare a plan to guide quartets in many problems which range from compensation to use of the Society's name. V. P. Jerry Beeler (Chairman), V. P. Sandy Brown, and Imm. Past Pres. Charles M. Merrill will have recommendations ready for consideration by the Board in Buffalo in June. In the meantime questions about quartet appearances on commercially sponsored radio and matters which could involve the Society, will be referred to the Chairman of Public Relations, Vice Pres. J. F. Knipe, through the Int'l. office.

The Society has now had ten years of widely varied experience in matters involving quartet appearances on out-of-town parades, appearances for commercial sponsors, and the like, therefore, with 500 chapters functioning, clarification and guidance becomes obligatory upon the Board, which will consider the Committee's recommendations.



### THOSE CHORDETTES

Currently the most sought girls' quartet for the Society's parades, the Chordettes of Sheboygan serenade Pres. Cole in just the right setting, and sitting.

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(ONTARIO)

Chapter

### Collegiate Auditorium

Saturday, March 26, 1949

E. G. AHERN  
City Hall



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by O. H. King Cole

One of the truths in connection with our Society which can't be emphasized too much, is the necessity for exercising extreme diligence in the selection of the Chapter's leaders. This is repeatedly brought to my attention. The tragedy of a suspended Charter, invariably finds its beginning in the selection of improper leadership. *The election of officers, is one of the most important functions of your Chapter.* Unless the proper leadership is provided for, no Chapter will continue to progress. Chapters need the type of individuals who not only can be counted upon to perform the duties or tasks assigned to the office, but who, through their wholehearted efforts will be an inspiration to the rest of the membership. They fan the initial spark of interest into a blaze, and keep that blaze flaming throughout their administration. They will arrange for interesting meetings; they should typify all of the things for which we as an organization stand; they should radiate the happiness that is associated with successful leadership. *Put your nominating committees to work early.*

Look the candidates over carefully and choose wisely, if you expect your Chapter to show continued growth in its various departments.

You have heard of people afflicted with "telephone-itis", people who are not happy unless they are talking on the phone constantly. Then you ought to know what constitutes "Harmonizer-itis."

You are right, it's that particular malady that affects barbershoppers and which causes them to keep their noses buried in the "Harmonizer" all the time, but you haven't heard anything yet. Wait 'till you start reading your copy of the "Ten Year History" of our Society. "History-itis" is the most absorbing pastime of all.

The Committee selected to bring out this document ably headed by Chairman Hal Staab and including such authorities as Messrs. Cash, Stephens and Adams has provided a wealth of material which has been recorded by Deac Martin in his most interesting, unique and inimitable style. I have it straight from Deac that this Committee did a magnificent job in exhuming more material than he believed was in existence. The harmony that prevailed among this Committee found its way into the recording of

the facts and principles outlined, resulting in the proper tone and balance. An examination of the finished product would indicate that Jim Knipe added his dexterity, and printed the book in a way which Deac terms "a labor of love". All of this adds up to the fact that every member of our Society should possess this interesting treatise on our Society. It's a volume that is not only interesting to read, but will stand further study. Each new reading brings a fresh delight. This is a first edition that in years to come will really have the collectors agog. I will tip you off—there are not enough copies to go around. Get in there early with your order, or you are going to be disappointed.

Occasionally I hear reference made to our phenomenal growth, and some of our members would almost have you believe that we are rapidly approaching the saturation point as far as the establishment of new chapters is concerned. This would be amusing to me if it were not so serious when people gain the wrong impression.

There came to my desk recently an editorial from a daily paper in a town that has a population slightly in excess of 10,000. The Editor in retrospect was recounting the important events of the past year in his community. He says, "Many things have been done in the interest of community spirit this past year, but we know of no one organization that has been as free with its talent and has put forth more effort to publicize this City than the barbershop quartet organization. Literally the barbershoppers have sung their way into the hearts of our people wherever they have appeared." He goes on to say that "If there were any special awards for outstanding service to the community, I would cast my vote for the barbershoppers". He closes with this paragraph, "We want to take this opportunity as the year is coming to a close to commend the barbershoppers for the outstanding service they have given to this community in singing, in publicity and in entertainment. This organization has been a real asset to our City and we can all be mighty proud of what they have done for us and what they have accomplished for themselves." The paper was the "Daily Citizen", and the City was Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

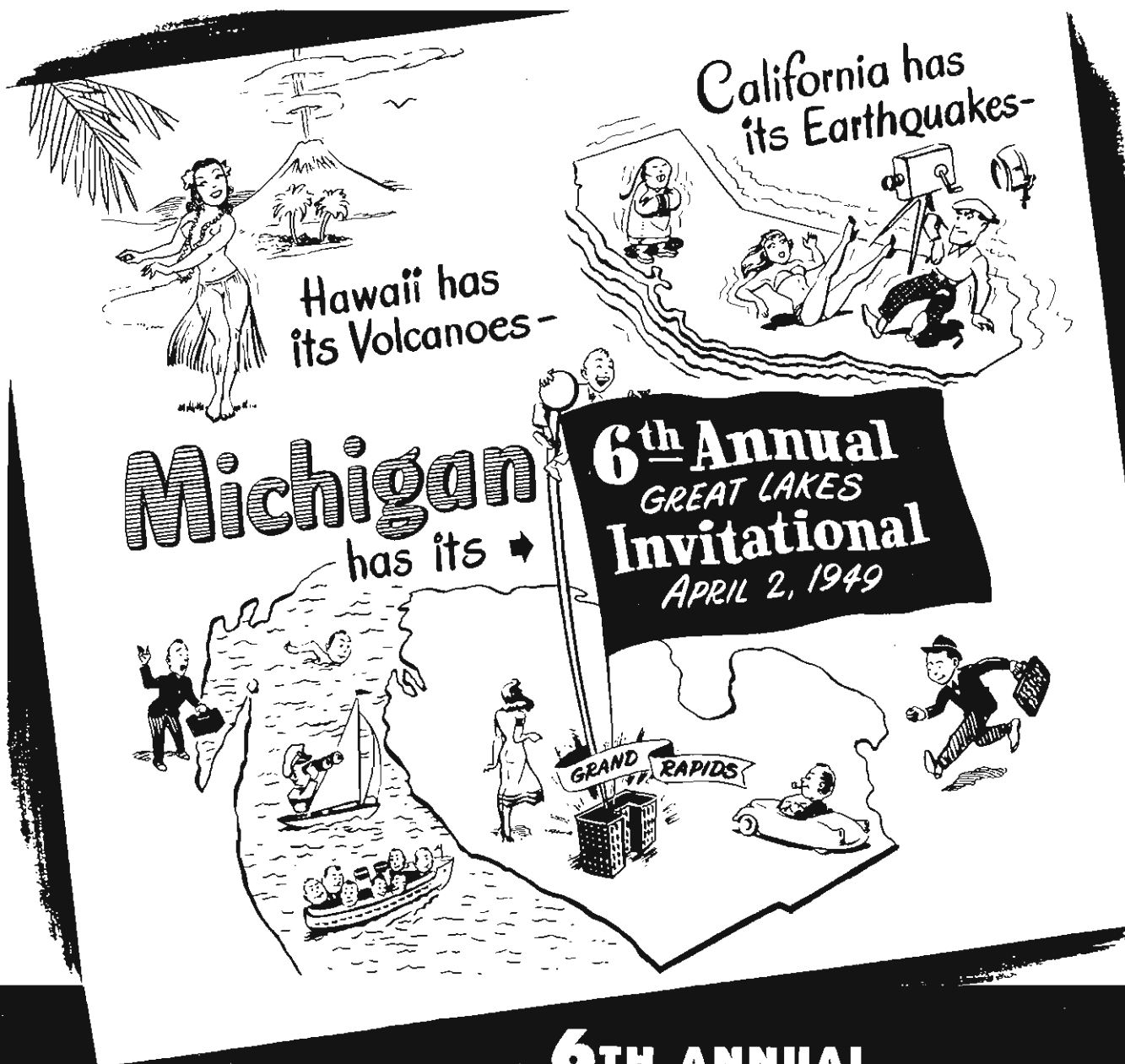
There are many Cities in the United States comparable in size where we can do the same thing that we have

done for Beaver Dam. In fact, there are many other communities where the experience at Beaver Dam has been duplicated. There are still many areas in which we can organize and contribute our talent for the benefit of the communities. It is encouraging to know that our efforts are recognized and this tends to spur us on to further civic endeavors.

Being concerned about the decrease in membership that some Chapters have shown at midway in the fiscal year, I addressed a letter recently to the Presidents and Secretaries of all our Chapters so effected. The letters from those who have replied are invariably encouraging. They show that the membership has been screened. In certain chapters a weeding-out process has been taking place eliminating members who probably shouldn't have joined in the beginning. But, in every community there are bound to be many individuals who have a deep love of harmony in their souls, who have not yet affiliated with our Chapters and who would make good members. The membership committees should strive to contact these individuals and bring them into the fold. I regret to relate that some Chapter officers have not replied to my recent letter, and I hope that their failure to reply is not an indication of lack of interest in the growth of their respective Chapters.

It was my good fortune to visit a number of far western Chapters recently and meet some fine barbershoppers. I attended Inglewood's first parade and heard some fine quartets. Enjoyed a Ladies' night held by the San Gabriel Chapter and incidentally found that "Maury" Reagan (that celebrated Barbershopper from Pittsburgh) has his counterpart in "Four Part Reagan" of the San Gabriel Chapter who sings all four parts and is trying to find a way to do it simultaneously so he can be the Society's first one man quartet. Spent a pleasant evening rehearsing with the Glendale Chapter chorus and met more nice fellows. At San Diego I was royally entertained by several quartets who conveniently arranged to do some rehearsing in my rooms.

Being President of this Society brings so many interesting experiences that it is a shame that every barbershopper can't at some time or other enjoy the privilege. That's all for this time.



# 6TH ANNUAL GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL

for TICKETS &  
RESERVATIONS write:

**APRIL 2, 1949**  
**GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.**



- ★ PRE-GLOW: SAT. AFTERNOON
- ★ INVITATIONAL: SAT. EVENING
- ★ AFTER-GLOW: SAT. EVENING
- ★ ASPIRIN BREAKFAST: SUN. MORN.

WRITE PANTLIND HOTEL FOR ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS



## FROM TOLEDO

As always, the Winter Meeting was the little World's Series — divided between the Commodore Perry Hotel and Toledo Art Museum.

oOo

Parade was in the Peristyle of the Museum, possibly the most beautiful setting thus far for an SPEB public performance. Classic Greek architecture, the roof had special illumination which gave the effect of sitting outdoors in the after-glow or in moonlight.

oOo

No wonder that Jack Ford, Pres., Bud Ohls, Sec., Gen'l Chairman Chuck Schmid and other officers of Toledo Chapter got the news from many "The finest parade I have ever attended, both in quality and setting".

oOo

Introduced by Int'l. Pres. Cole, the quartets in order of appearance: The Antlers of Flint; Four Shades of Harmony, Terre Haute; Westinghouse Quartet, Pittsburgh; the Int'l. champion Pittsburghers; the Clef Dwellers, Oakland County, Mich.; those Chordettes, the Society's sweethearts, from Sheboygan, Wis.; The Mid-States Four, Chicago; "Now It's Your Turn" with Capt. George W. Campbell.

oOo

Ed Haverstock's Toledo Chapter chorus did as fine collective singing as has been heard in many a year. The Westinghouse rendition of "La donna e Mobile" from Rigoletto, with Bill McDowell doing the solo, was travesty which many believed even funnier, because more restrained, than their famous "Rigoletto".

oOo

Comment on the Mid-States Four "They could put on a full two hour show by themselves".

oOo

"Keep America Singing" the Society's history in circulation any way you looked, as those who had them passed them around for autographing. At midnight Saturday Mrs. Roy (Bd. Mem.) Harvey, Muskegon, had the longest collection of autographs, in a volume which the Harveys were taking back to Al Vredevel, longtime Muskegon member and just recovering from a considerable illness.

oOo

A. C. (Chappy) Chapman, the little giant from Toronto, spreading good will and good ideas from Canada to every corner of the States, as he snapped out and snapped up ideas for chapter improvement.

oOo

Nobody more interested than Bill (Int'l. Champ) Conway's dad who didn't miss a trick—either parade or woodshedding.

Those past Bd. Members just can't get over the habit of working. Past Pres. Thorne there in person with the Elastic Four and entitled to enjoy himself but spent all Saturday afternoon as chairman of judging seminar. Everybody reports a splendid session.

oOo

Fractional parts of quartets noted: Web Luebtow of Milwaukee's HiLos; Joe Jones and Carleton Scott of Old Ambassadors (Detroit) woodshedding on Friday evening while waiting for lead Monte Marsden and bass Joe Wolff, who showed up on Saturday; Walter Karl of Cleveland's Lamp-lighters; Bill Jahn of Lorain's Steel Blenders; Two Langs of Ohio's current District Champions; Art Bielau and Joe Murrin, half of the Int'l. champion Misfits; Jack Briody, bari of the Int'l. champion Garden States (looking and "feeling much better, thank you"); Geo. Cripps and Chas. Dickinson of Cleveland's Ramblers; Dave Root of Medina's Quadratores; Max Cripe of Doctors of Harmony (1947 Champs and Int'l. Bd. Member), Leo Ives and Huck Sinclair of Four Harmonizers (1943 National Champs); Ed Place of the Diplomats, Washington, D. C., 1948 Semi-Finalists; Bd. Member Jean Boardman, Station Wagon 4; and other Board Members in quartets. No doubt, many more were represented.

oOo

Very important! Excellent hotel accommodations, well handled by Clarice Canelli (Convention Bureau) and Commodore Perry staff, which is headquarters for Toledo Chapter. That's the foundation of a good time for out-of-towners.

oOo

Current Champions of C.W.N.Y. the Buffalo Bills much in demand on Saturday when they arrived. Bets being made that they and all quartets on the Toledo parade (Chordettes and Pittsburghers excepted of course) will make the Finals at Buffalo.

oOo

Toledo program contained an enclosure inviting those who might want free quartet entertainment or desiring to attend future SPEB events to tear off the coupon and send it in to Sec. Ohls.

oOo

Chairman of Judges, F. H. Thorne, reports: "The candidates for the judges panel had a two-hour meeting on Saturday afternoon to go over in detail the new rules recommended by the C & J committee and adopted by the Board at its Friday night session. A group of 25, consisting of old and new judge candidates, attended. Many pertinent points were discussed. The Contest and Judging Committee was pleased to note the number of new candidates, as it is the desire of the committee to train as many specialists as possible. A complete course

of training has been organized by the committee and applicants who desire to qualify for the official panel of judges should request application from the Detroit office".

oOo

Pres. Cole, as M. C., gently chided some late (front row) comers for missing part of the Saturday night show. During part of the Mid-States 4 act, Marty Mendro, lead, returned stare for stare from one of the lognettes focused upon the quartet from this section. Once he said: "Madam. I'm not so far away, or are you short sighted?"

oOo

Tom Needham reports that Pres. Cole signed four charter applications while in Toledo: Marion, Ind.; Abilene, Texas; Winston-Salem, N. C.; and Loveland, Colo. The last one came after he had checked out from the hotel. The extension-minded Pres. commented, "Let's have more".

oOo

Tom also reports a new foursome melting together after the Parade: Harry Herranen, Milwaukee Sec., and Stan Wallin, Pres., with Assoc. Int'l. Secs. Otto and Needham. After testing audience reaction, the foursome feels that the audience could not appreciate the finer things.

oOo

Needham's check on supplies across the counter during the meet shows: 92 copies of "Keep America Singing", one large barber pole, 7 small ones, 45 of the new luminous auto license plate identifications, "and a heliupa lot of information". No doubt that latter comes under the category of Free Air.

oOo

How the Chordettes keep slim: At the Buckeye Breakfast, so many came to talk to them that they had no opportunity to eat before taking their turn on stage. So many encores that breakfast was cold and appetites gone when they finally returned to their table.

oOo

When Needham checked into the hotel, he carried a long, slender black case. A non-member wanted to know whether Tom was headed for hunting, or fishing. "Neither", Needham replied. "This case is important to two countries". "Ah!" aled the inquiring one, "International diplomacy, eh?". The case held the Society's Canadian and U. S. flags.

oOo

"Butch" Vegalus, Ft. Wayne Chapter member, at the Peristyle Parade lost a purse containing about \$100. "Am I Blue?" But, Harry Herranen, Sec. of Milwaukee, found it, and returned it intact. "Oh What a Beautiful Morning".

oOo

"Distinguished looking couple" — that's Bd. Member Berney Simmer and the Mrs., St. Louis. Friendly too. The Bellhops love 'em, and that means they're real folks. One boy grinned and waved goodbye when they left, with a "I'll be seein' ya" to Mrs. S. She blushed, but friendly . . . and purty.

(Continued on page 11).

## STUB PENCIL (Continued)

Four Chorders, Ontario's District Champs, young foursome just out of H. S., sang everywhere, including the Buckeye Breakfast, where the break-fasters heard the Satnight show repeated, plus the Ottawa Hillbillies, Marksmen, Four Naturals, and Troubadors all of Toledo, and several others.

oOo

Bill Otto's Impressions of Toledo—"A Sunday departure line-up at the hotel cashier's window—the gang all singing and the comment of a bell hop, 'Ain't that somethin'".

oOo

"The interest aroused in many non-member hotel guests, 'What's it all about?', 'How can I start a chapter at home?' should result in new chapters and new members".

oOo

"Parade Chairman Chuck Schmid's teen-age daughter, Norma, and girl friend hunting frantically for youthful and good-looking 'Four Chorders' quartet from London. Someone remarked, 'Don't blame you for chasing these young men', and the reply, blushing, 'It's for my father I'm chasing them'."

oOo

"The delight expressed by many of our long legged members at the seats in the auditorium—first time many had been able to sit in such a place in actual comfort.

oOo

"The personal thrill upon walking into the Board meeting—seriousness of the discussions and high type of Board membership.

oOo

"The impression that 'woodshedding', of which there was plenty was on a far more serious basis. Everyone out to really find the 'hot ones' rather than just howling.

oOo

"A frantic search for tickets by hotel guests who had been impressed by the enthusiasm around the hotel—really frantic in an endeavor to secure tickets for the 'sold out' house—through diligent effort of chapter men, some were accommodated, but many were disappointed.

oOo

"Again hats off 'to the ladies'—wives and others—through their consideration in remaining sometimes in the 'shadow' while hubby takes the limelight—because they love to have him in the limelight—and happy."

MARCH, 1949

## SINGING SIGNATURES

By Int'l. Bd. Member James H. Emsley

Our ten year history does not disclose who first appended a complimentary close to a letter to a barbershopper, but I suspect it was Carroll Adams when he used "Chord-ially yours" thus coining a phrase peculiar to our Society. I have gathered up a few other complimentary closes I thought might be of interest to the Society, and which might in turn bring to light other expressive phrases peculiar to the Society. I do not know who authored all of these, but I am giving credit to those I happen to know have used the phrase. Here's the list:

## Phrase

Bass-ically  
Basso-profundoly yours  
Chord-ially yours  
Chord-fully  
Convention-ally yours  
Crow-ingly,

Crow-matically  
Harmonizingly yours

Hm-m-m-m-m-m-m-bly yours  
Har-MONNICHly yours

Harmony-ously yours  
Harmoniously yours  
In-a-chord  
Krow-matically  
Sing-cerely  
Sing-ingly  
Sing-serially yours  
Sing-seriously  
Song-fully

Yours up and down the scale  
Yours for more—and closer—  
harmony

## Used by:

?  
C. L. Darling Jr., Secretary, Madison, Wis.  
Carroll P. Adams  
?  
Carroll P. Adams (in the spring of each year)  
James H. Emsley, Int'l. Bd. Member, Canton, Ohio  
?  
Ben Owen, Pres., Phoenix Saguaro Chapter, Phoenix, Ariz.  
Ed Smith, Int'l. Vice President, Wayne, Mich.  
Andrew Monnich, Pres., and Dale Conard, Secretary of the Pittsburgh, Penn., Chapter  
?  
Earl W. Cornwall, Secretary, Cleveland, O. (A favorite of Carroll P. Adams)  
?  
?  
Dick Gaston, Secretary, Canton, Ohio  
Waldo B. Heywood, Topeka, Kansas  
Jerry Beeler, Vice-Pres., Evansville, Indiana  
Jim Murphy, Onondaga (Syracuse, N. Y.) Chapter  
Reg Mars, Secretary, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin  
Deac Martin, Cleveland

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PLAN YOUR SUMMER NOW

The preceding issue of the Harmonizer said that it is no secret that chapters which keep going during the summer are among the Society's best. Groups that disband for hot weather miss a lot of fun during the summer, while making it hard to get going again in the Fall. "It takes much less power to keep up momentum than to start it."

Many successful chapters already have plans laid for mid-summer events. They are tied closely into regular meeting dates. If harmony is good in winter, it is even better in summer because the quartets don't have to "get hot" to sing in the summer season, they are already that. Some of the Society's hottest harmonies are in the hot months. Plan to keep going straight through.

AFTER GLOW COMMENT

Some of the most disheartening experiences of chapters have been the After Glow with plenty of talent present and so much noise and hubbub that nobody can hear it. Most experienced quartets dread being invited to sing in an After Glow in consequence. More and more, experience shows that After Glows should be limited strictly to the members and families and that coffee and sandwiches, or equivalent, are the proper refreshments for this late evening entertainment.

One difficulty is that of getting members to get tickets far enough in advance so that the committee will know how many will attend the After Glow. Cases are on record where the committee has become panicky by parade time at the few requests for After Glow tickets, and has had the emcee announce to the general audience that tickets are available. The result is a mob scene that disgusts members, quartets, and outsiders as well.

Reading, Mass. met this problem at its October parade by making After Glow tickets available well in advance and by making no door sales whatsoever. That's one way of control.

"ON OUR OWN FEET"

A note from President Cole suggests the following which will be sweet to the ears of quartets which have been forced into singing a hurry-up arrangement and have done it without sufficient preparation because "it's got to be on the program".

Cole says, "We make a mistake in asking our quartets to come up with barbershop arrangements on request numbers with only limited time to prepare. Invariably the quartet does a poor job and as a result people get the wrong impression of the quartet, our Society, and singing quality. We should start standing on our own feet and telling people what we are willing to sing".

The quartet with a good sized repertoire which has allowed itself to be pushed into such a position will appreciate this more than any others.

## IF YOUR QUARTET CAN'T APPEAR, 'PHONE FACTS

Common courtesy demands that a quartet, which at a late moment cancels appearance on a parade, should telephone the host chapter. It is bad enough for a chapter to find that a quartet appearing on its printed program cannot come. It is far worse, however, if the quartet is expected and doesn't show up. The worst case that has come to our attention was when a quartet wired a chapter about noon of the day of a parade that they could not appear that night. The wire was addressed to the meeting place of the chapter. The parade, of course, was not held anywhere near that building and the wire was not received until members dropped in for the After Glow. In the meantime nobody could explain the absence of the programmed foursome. At least one case is on record where a quartet scheduled to appear did not show up and sent no word of any kind.

A quartet that earns a reputation for being unreliable will eventually pay the penalty, but it is pretty rough on the chapter which it lets down in the meantime.

## ATTEND YOUR REGIONAL PRELIMS

Next best to the Int'l. Contest are the Regional Preliminaries. Make it to the International if you can, but don't miss your Regional show. Some think that it is even more fun than the Big Show because there is more opportunity to meet people, get friendly, and exchange ideas.

And only in few cases in the larger districts is travel any problem to the Regional affair.

## BE ACCURATE — AVOID EMBARRASSMENT

Too many of the printed programs which come to the Harmonizer are proof of the need for better proof-reading of programs—that and double checking the facts back of the proofs. The Harmonizer has suggested many times that the Int'l. office is willing to glance through copy which a chapter plans to give to a printer for a parade program. If this were done more often it would mean more work for those at headquarters but less errors in statements made in our programs.

With copies of the Harmonizer in the hands of every member it would seem almost impossible for a chapter to print a program which included the names of the Int'l. officers with three glaring errors in spelling and the wrong title for O. C. Cash, the Founder. In other words four errors out of ten names, but that's what is on the record. Get the facts, double check them, and read proofs, if you want to get the facts to your audiences.

## NEW AUTO EMBLEMS

New Auto emblem plates approximately 2" high by 10" wide are now available at 50c from the Int'l. office. A new design replaces the former one. The new plate is to a considerable degree luminous, catching the light from a following car.



FOUR SHADES OF HARMONY—As seen by Beaudin

## "NOTHING FINER"

From Al Learned, V.P. of C.W.N.Y. District, comes this comment, written by a minister about a Geneva, N. Y. quartet:

"Personally there is nothing finer promoted in the way of service in our fair city than is being done by this SPEBSQSA. Again and again, I have met up with their good deeds and in every instance the folks that have been served have been loud in their praises of the songsters who have been so generous in giving of their time, and believe that a like sentiment is felt by everyone in town who knows of the wonderful service they are doing".

## QUARTET CAN'T OUT-YELL 500

### "Drunks a Handicap"

Writes a quartet member: "I am not a Prohibitionist, but I believe there is a time and place for everything, and liquor and noise are out of place at Quartet Parades or After-Glows. Many times we have traveled all night and most of the next day in order to sing at a distant Parade. After singing to an attentive and appreciative audience, it is unfair to the tired quartets to expect them to "out-yell" 500 people at a noisy After-Glow. In addition, we are expected to be good fellows and go back to the hotel and go from room to room singing until about 3 to 4 A. M.

"We would much rather sing to one or two people who appreciate our efforts than to sing to a thousand, who seem to be under the impression that, as soon as we start, it is the signal for everybody to begin making noise. Drunks have always been a handicap to good singing, so more power to you in advocating good clean After-Glows".

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

ADVERTISING experts usually question the practical value of such a magazine as The Harmonizer. When they announce their wares in these columns, they generally consider it a gesture of good will, if not an actual bit of philanthropy.

The audience represented by readers of The Harmonizer actually comprises a highly specialized and concentrated market, with a lot of buying power and talking ability. Sig Spaeth sold this idea to Random House, publishers of his new History of Popular Music in America, advertised in this issue. He thinks it would be a good idea if every purchaser of the book (of which there must already be hundreds in SPEBSQSA) would send a post card to Int'l. headquarters announcing that fact. The resulting statistics might prove exceedingly interesting not only to book and music publishers but other advertisers as well.

## SELL YOUR SHOW IN ADVANCE

It is obvious that the chapter staging a public performance is in an advantageous position if it can make advance sale of tickets so that there is no guess work when (and if) the line begins forming at the box office. Two devices to get names for an advance mailing list are well worth considering by every chapter.

Cleveland makes it standard practice to include a tear-out coupon in its public performance programs. The coupon says that the sender is interested in receiving information about future SPEBSQSA events and includes a place for name and address. Cleveland's advance sale seems phenomenal to others. Chicago Chapter combines this same thought with another in an enclosure in its program "In addition to our annual show such as tonight's performance the Chicago Chapter makes appearance in conjunction with churches, lodges, and other worthwhile organizations" and it invites them to send in a coupon for further information about possible cooperation in a future musical event.



# THE OLD SONGSTERS

by Sigmund Spaeth

THE best way to find out how little you know about a subject is to write a book on it. Before turning out his 729-page *History of Popular Music in America*, your correspondent had smugly considered himself something of an authority in that vast field. He had only to get into print via Random House to discover how wrong he was. Ever since publication date last October, letters have been pouring in, cordially pointing out errors of commission and omission.

These letters all start in most complimentary terms and with a reminder that the writers have bought the book, which is something. Then they go to town (usually on the subject of their own neglected songs) and eventually the author wonders why

he ever stuck out his neck that way. The only consolation he has had thus far may be found in the book reviews and the sales reports. He is also honestly grateful for all this constructive criticism, particularly as a lot of it can now be used as material for this department, with the possibility also of future corrections and additions to the book.

PERHAPS the most important correspondence thus far has been with Earl R. Hoover of Cleveland, outstanding authority on the life and songs of Benjamin Russel Hanby, composer of *Darling Nelly Gray*. This writer made only brief mention of that great song in his much discussed history, dating it correctly as of 1856 and emphasizing the fact that Nelly Gray was actually a Negro slave girl who was taken from her home as described in the chorus. It was noted also that Hanby's father ran a station of the underground that smuggled slaves northward and that the Hanby House is still shown at Westerville, O.

To this brief account Mr. Hoover adds considerable information. He supplies the name of John Selby as the lover whose anguish is expressed in the song. He and Nelly Gray were slaves and sweethearts in Kentucky until one day he found she had been sold and taken in chains to Georgia. Selby himself escaped, intending to go to Canada and earn the money to buy the girl's freedom as well as his own. But by the time he reached the Hanby home he had suffered so much from hunger and exposure that he died there.

Benjamin Hanby was only a boy at the time, but he remembered the tragic incident vividly and later poured the whole pathetic story into the song, *Darling Nelly Gray*, which is now generally ranked with Stephen Foster's masterpieces and often mistakenly credited to that more famous composer. Hanby, incidentally, was a sophomore at Otterbein College when he composed the song. (Earl Hoover is ex-President of that college's Alumni Association and a member of its Board of Trustees.)

Hanby wrote about 80 songs altogether, and several of them are well worth preserving. *A History of Popular Music in America* mentions one called *Ole Shady: The Song of the Contraband*, dated 1861. Its words contain a strong suggestion of Henry C. Work's *Kingdom Coming*, which was written a year later. Earl Hoover also points out that Hanby's Christ-

mas hymn, *Who Is He in Yonder Stall?* has been widely sung, and suggests a revival of his *Santa Claus* or *Up on the Housetop*, which appears in many collections, including the Hall & McCreary *Golden Book of Favorite Songs*.

SOME interesting material has been submitted by R. Erskine Kerr of Lake Charles, Louisiana, chiefly about *Dixie* and *In the Gloaming*. We seem to agree about the latter, which is definitely an English song, written by Meta Orred, and Annie F. Harrison, probably reaching America in 1877. But *Dixie* (or *Dixie's Land*, as it was originally called) will continue indefinitely to be the subject of controversy. Mr. Kerr is inclined to accept the story that there was an actual man named Dixie who owned a northern farm where he kept his slaves very happy, so that when they were sent south, they always wished to be back "in Dixie's Land". Evidently Dan Emmett himself told some such story in later years. This editor still believes that the name of "Dixie" referred to the South, although it was evidently not in general use until after the song became popular.

FROM Ray Walker of Brooklyn comes a lot of helpful information, by no means restricted to his own songs. For instance, Ray has given the tip that the name of Jaan (not Jean) Kenbrovin, given as one of the writers of *I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles*, is actually a combination of James Kendis, James Brockman and Nat Vincent, and the last named (at present living in Hollywood) has confirmed this as a fact. Ray Walker himself was responsible not only for *Poor Pauline* (which kidded the early movie serial, *The Perils of Pauline*) but also a later song called *Nay, Nay, Pauline*, a slang expression of 1916.

He had a hand in *Funny Bunny Hug*, one of the animal dance numbers of 1912, and before that he had written the music of *Oh, What I Know About You*. Ray also supplies the interesting fact that *Good Night, Nurse* introduced Mae West as a vaudeville singer at Hammerstein's, New York.

## HOCKENBROUGH DRAWS — AND WRITES

Bob Hokenbrough, Sec. of "Q" Suburban, Ill. Chapter is responsible for several of the snappy new heads that decorate columns in this issue.

In the correspondence about them, Hokenbrough wrote, in part: "I haven't said it before but I personally feel that our Society is one of the greatest assets of our time. Anything that I can do to help the cause will be considered a privilege on my part."



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

1949

February 19—Dearborn, Mich., Parade: Battle Creek, Mich., Parade; Connersville, Ind., Parade; Marion, Ind., Charter Night; Green Bay, Wis., Parade; Wichita Falls, Texas, Parade and Dist. Organization Meeting; Massillon, Ohio, Parade; Phoenix, Ariz., Parade; Scranton, Pa., Parade; Warren, Ohio, Parade; Addison, N. Y., Benefit Show.

20—Bloomington, Ill., Parade.  
21-22—Manhattan, Kansas, Minstrel & Variety Show.

25—Leonla, N. J., Benefit Parade.  
26—Cleveland, Ohio, Parade; Tulsa, Okla., Parade; Lapeer, Mich., Parade; Providence, R. I., Charter Night; East Detroit, Mich., Charter Night; Genesee Chapter (Rochester, N. Y.), Ladies Night; Richmond, Ind., Ladies Night.  
28—Kiowa, Kansas, Minstrel.

March 4—Union, Mo., Jamboree.  
5—Santa Monica, Calif., Parade; Toronto, Ontario, Parade; Pontiac, Mich., Parade; Elyria, Ohio, Parade.

11—Bowling Green, Ohio, Charter Nite.  
12—Pasadena, Calif., Parade; Sparta, Wis., Charter Night; Oshkosh, Wis., Parade; Southtown (Chicago) Ill., Parade; South Bend, Ind., Parade; Canton, Ohio, Parade; McAlester, Okla., Parade.

13—Jerseyville, Ill., Charter Night.  
18—Manhattan, N. Y., Parade; Edwardsport, Ind., Minstrel.

19—Redford (Detroit), Mich., Parade; Saginaw, Mich., Parade; Lubbock, Texas, Parade; Middletown, Ohio, Miami Valley Banquet; Port Angeles, Wash., Parade; St. Ste. Marie, Mich., Charter Night.

20—Canton, Ill., Parade; Mexico, Mo., Parade.  
21—Osborne County, Kansas, Minstrel.

25—Holland, Mich., Parade; Newark, N. J., Jubilee.

25-26—E. Aurora, N. Y., Parade.  
26—Steubenville, Ohio, Parade; New Haven, Conn., Parade; Hamilton, Ontario, Parade; St. Louis, Mo., Parade; Muskegon, Mich., Jubilee; Sarnia, Ontario, Parade; Holly, Mich., Parade.

April 1—Jonesboro, Ark., Charter Night; Dundee, Ill., Parade; De Kalb, Ill., Parade; Hollywood, Cal., Minstrel; Gratiot County, Mich., Parade.

7—Wichita, Kansas, Parade; Winnipeg, Manitoba, Parade; Grand Rapids, Mich., Great Lakes Invitational; Rockville, Conn., Parade; Glendale, Cal., Parade.

6—Wabash, Ind., Minstrel Show.  
8—Klamath Falls, Ore., Parade.

9—Three Rivers, Mich., Parade; Bartlesville, Okla., Parade; New Bedford, Mass., Parade; Lincoln, Nebr., Parade.

10—Richmond, Ind., Parade.  
15—Eaton Rapids, Mich., Parade.

16—Waukesha, Wis., Parade.  
20—Vincennes, Ind., Parade.

22—Elgin, Ill., Parade; Wellington, Ohio, Parade; Penns Grove, N. J., Parade.

23—Jamestown, N. Y., Parade; Owosso, Mich., Parade; Manistee, Mich., Parade; Osborne County, Kansas, Parade; Marinette, Wis., Parade; Wheaton, Ill., Parade; Manitowoc, Wis., Parade; Columbus, Ohio, Parade; Waterbury, Conn., Parade; Racine, Wis., Parade; Grosse Point, Mich., Parade; Carlsbad, N. M., Parade.

23-24—Kansas City, Mo., Parade.  
24—Effingham, Ill., Parade; Belleville, Ill., Charter Show.

25-26—Kendallville, Ind., Minstrel.  
23, 30 and May 1—Regional Preliminaries.

May 7—Newark, N. Y., Parade; Medina, Ohio, Parade; Defiance, Ohio, Parade; La Crosse, Wis., Parade; Lawrenceburg, Ind., Parade; Iron Mountain, Mich., Parade.

14—Warsaw, N. Y., Parade; Marquette, Mich., Parade; Ithaca, N. Y., Parade; Marshfield, Wis., Parade; Painesville, Ohio, Parade; Portland, Me., Charter Night.

14-15—Peoria, Ill., Parade.

30—Springville, N. Y., Parade.  
21—Palos, Ill., Parade; Kenosha, Wis., Parade; Dunkirk-Fredonia, N. Y., Parade; Wauwatosa, Wis., Parade; Appleton, Wis., Parade.

June 4—Terryville, Conn., Parade; Jersey City, N. J., Dance and Quartet Round-Up.  
10-11—Buffalo, N. Y., Int'l Convention and Quartet Contest.

Sept. 10—Gowanda, N. Y., Parade; Mishawaka, Ind., Parade.

17—Englewood, Calif., Parade; Sheboygan, Wis., Parade.

18—Logansport, Ind., Parade.  
24—Dowagiac, Mich., Parade.

Oct. 1—Northampton, Mass., Parade; Binghamton-Johnson City, N. Y., Parade; Lansing, Mich., Parade; Beaver Dam, Wis., Parade.

7-8—San Gabriel, Calif., Parade.  
8—Cincinnati, Ohio, Dist. Contest; Walton-Downswood, N. Y., Parade; Ridgewood, N. J., Parade; Ashland, Wis., Parade.

13—Fond du Lac, Wis., Parade; Hornell, N. Y., Parade; Cortland, N. Y., Parade; New Britain, Conn., Parade; Woodridge, N. J., Parade; Michigan Dist. Contest.

16—Monmouth, Ill., Parade.  
22—Meriden, Conn., Parade; Benton Harbor-St. Joseph, Mich., Parade; Escanaba, Mich., Parade.

23—Washington, D. C., Harvest of Harmony.  
29—Gratiot County, Mich., Parade.

Nov. 4—Bridgeton, N. J., Harvest of Harmony.  
5—Paterson, N. J., Parade; Detroit, Mich., Parade; Hamilton, Ohio, Parade.

12—Jonesboro, Ark., Parade; Central States District Contest.

19—Louisville, Ky., Parade; LaGrange, Ill., "Q" Suburban, Parade.

20—Baltimore, Md., #1, Parade; Pioneer (Chicago) Parade.

December 10-11—Evansville, Ind., Minstrel-Parade.

1950  
January 20-21—Washington, D. C., Mid-Winter Board Meeting and Parade.

21—Milwaukee, Wis., Parade.  
February 4—Jersey City, N. J., Parade.  
11—Scranton, Pa., Parade.  
18—Cleveland, Ohio, Parade.

April 15-16—Kansas City, Mo., Parade.

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## EXTENSION

### OUR NEW CHAPTERS CHARTERED SINCE NOV. 1st., 1948

Date	Name of Chapter	No. of Members	Sponsored By	Name and Address of Secretary
11/3/48	Carrollton, Ohio	26	Canton, Ohio	George Kemmerer, R.F.D. 4.
11/9/48	San Carlos, Calif. (Peninsula Chapter)	39	San Francisco, Calif.	C. R. Thour, 1440 Arroyo Avenue
11/9/48	Winter Haven, Florida	42	Tampa, Fla.	Michael B. Chance, 506 Albert St.
11/10/48	Beaumont, Texas	29	Houston, Texas	Robert N. Brown, 1125 McFadden St.
11/15/48	Newton, Iowa	30	Des Moines, Iowa	Delmar Doty, 241 Lincoln Court
11/15/48	Storm Lake, Iowa	63	Spencer, Iowa	Jim McCord, 127-1/3 E. First St.
11/15/48	Great Falls, Montana	30	Omaha, Nebr.	Floyd McDowell, Leighland Apts.
11/15/48	Huntington, Indiana	23	Wabash, Ind.	Clete Olinger, 304 Wright St.
11/16/48	Jefferson City, Mo.	34	Mexico, Mo.	Harold F. Thrash, 623 E. High St.
11/16/48	Burlington, Iowa	43	Monmouth, Ill.	Geo. Walz, 1510 Agency St.
11/16/48	Providence, R. I.	117	Boston, Mass. and New Bedford, Mass.	Gardiner S. Reynolds, c/o James Motor & Service Co. 175 Taunton Ave.
11/17/48	Derby, Conn.	38	New Haven, Conn.	Leonard Marston, R.F.D. 2, Seymour, Conn.
11/17/48	Woodstock, Ill.	34	Geneva, Ill.	Jack Satorius, 505 E. Jackson
11/17/48	Rockford, Ill.	46	Chicago, Ill.	Henry J. Hanson, News Tower
11/18/48	Bowling Green, Ohio	32	Toledo, Ohio	E. Edw. Richard, 137 Troupe Ave.
11/22/48	Richland Center, Wisc.	17	Baraboo, Wisc.	Wesley Towne, Route 2
12/1/48	Dwight, Ill.	20	Streator, Ill.	Wilfred C. Coe, 121 W. Delaware
12/1/48	Artesia, New Mexico	27	Carlsbad, N. M.	Frank T. Williams, P. O. Box 158
12/6/48	Charleston, W. Va.	40	Wheeling, W. Va.	Lyell B. Clay, 1598 Virginia St.
12/8/48	Sparta, Wisc.	63	La Crosse, Wisc.	Geo. A. Seidel, 215 N. Water St.
12/8/48	Lancaster, Calif.	19	Newhall, Calif.	Ray Froelich, Box 1141
12/10/48	Shawinigan Falls, Que.	26	Grand'Mere, Quebec	G. S. Shaw, 14 Hemlock Ave.
12/14/48	Hudson, Mich.	35	Jackson, Mich.	Robert D. Helms, 600 Oak Street
12/14/48	Norwalk, Ohio	20	Fremont, Ohio	Earl S. Miller, Jr., 45 W. Chestnut St.
12/20/48	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	42	Escanaba, Mich.	Ross K. Laudenslager, 313 Maple St.
12/22/48	Kirkland, Wash.	24	M. Ranier, Wash.	Don E. Soderquist, 131 14th Ave.
12/28/48	Stillwater, Okla.	50	Enid, Okla.	Jones W. Ramsey, News-Press
12/30/48	Canton, North Carolina	35	Asheville, N. C.	Stanley F. Smith, 115 Ford St.
12/30/48	Portland, Maine	25	Reading and Boston, Mass.	Caspar F. Cowan, 192 Middle St.
12/30/48	Bellingham, Wash. (Mt. Baker Chapter)	23	Port Angeles, Wash.	Ray Flockoi, P. O. Box 132
1/19/49	Marion, Indiana	40	Mishawaka and Anderson, Ind.	C. James Cox, 1604 S. Boots St.
1/19/49	Abilene, Texas	71	Wichita Falls and Lubbock, Texas	Elbert Hall, 318 Cedar
1/19/49	Winston-Salem, N. C.	21	Asheville, N. C.	George E. Pickett, 1041 So. Hawthorne Rd.
1/20/49	Loveland, Colo.	33	Longmont, Colo.	E. W. Borland, 610 Jefferson
1/24/49	Dubuque, Iowa	58	Brazil, Ind.	Harry C. Slichter, 12 S. Grandview

#### "ACCELERATE OUR EFFORTS"

By Clare E. Wilson

Chairman of Int'l. Comm. on Ext.

At the conclusion of the Midwinter Conference of International Officers, Executive Committee, Board and various committees of SPEBSQSA meeting in Toledo, the International Extension Committee is enthused more than ever with the opportunity we have to extend Barbershop Harmony into every possible community and with the help of our entire membership we pledge ourselves to accelerate our efforts to that end.

Many chapters have completed fine organizational extension plans and are working closer with related committees with the result that several of them have exceeded their 1948-9 goal of "Every Chapter Get a New Chapter" and have many other prospective new chapters in the making, indicating intense interest. Chapter Extension committees should now be soundly organized and headed by outstanding men so that with the assistance of District and International committees on Extension and our International Executive office, our goal should be very easily attained.

Your chapter, soundly organized in

accordance with recommended procedures, is an inspiration to your own members and increases your enthusiasm for the Society, so that in following the time proven methods of organization we as a Society attract the high type of membership which we thoroughly enjoy in our association with Barbershopping. The true Barbershopper is a man with a deep-seated and natural desire for Harmony not only in song but in all of his dealings and associations with his fellow men. He is indeed a man of good repute, truly representative of the good citizenry of his community. The old adage "Birds of a Feather Flock Together" is indeed aptly applicable to our Society and truly reflects our choice of associates in our Society.

The booklet, "Let's Harmonize," is receiving a tremendous and ready acceptance by our membership and is stimulating our desire to pass along the fine heritage we received from our Founder, Owen C. Cash, to others who are so anxiously awaiting our invitation to join us. Copies of this booklet are available from our Executive Office and we strongly urge that each individual member avail him-

self of the opportunity to get one through his chapter secretary and, through its contents refresh his knowledge of our Society.

The history of the first ten years of our Society, titled "Keep America Singing" is now off the press and its contents is really an inspiration to its reader. It is with pride that SPEBSQSA has risen to such a position of prominence and influence in the lives of its thousands of members and additional thousands who are benefited by its altruistic and unselfish motives. From a very casual, though spontaneous and enthusiastic beginning, our Society has truly become International in scope and occupies a very enviable place in our International scheme of things. The author and the committee are to be highly commended for their compilation of ten years of activity and its preservation to posterity. Since it is indeed a fitting tribute to the ideas and subsequent interest of our Barbershopper Pioneers and we are reminded of our responsibility to ourselves and our fellow men to "Preserve and Encourage Barbershop Harmony" and our solemn duty to "Keep America Singing".

## MR. "AVERAGE" BARBERSHOPPER

By Frank H. Thorne

The Contest and Judging Committee is really giving judge candidates the works, as witness the fact that each applicant must pass a temperament test so the committee can ascertain whether he has a judicial mind. By asking 180 questions, the test (known as the Johnson Temperament Analysis) determines what the tendency is on 9 important traits. Even if the candidate answers the way he thinks he should, he is definitely indicating what he himself thinks. By the time 50 of the answers were received I decided to take an average to see just what kind of a guy Mr. Barbershopper is.

The actual result is plotted on a curve that rates each trait as Excellent—Acceptable—Improvement Desired—Improvement Urgent. Here is the result: The average was 34 "Nervous" as compared to "Composed". Rating: Excellent—"Active" was 70 as compared to "Quiet". Rating: Excellent—"Cordial" average was 80 as compared to "Cold". Rating: Barely under Excellent. "Sympathetic" was 65 for an average as compared to "Hard-Boiled". Rating: Just under Excellent—"Subjective" (poor ability to act logically because of personal prejudices) average was 30 as opposed to "Objective". Rating is Excellent as in this trait a low score is very desirable. "Aggressive" average was 75 as opposed to "Submissive". Rating is above the Excellent range, but I doubt if we would have our fine contests, our quartets, and choruses—and maybe not even the Society—if we were not an aggressive bunch. "Critical" average is 40 as compared to "appreciative". Rating: Excellent—"Self-Mastery" average is 66 as opposed to "Impulsive". Rating just under Excellent, but very acceptable.

So, Dr. Johnson's analysis says, Mr. Average Barbershopper, you are composed, gay-hearted, active, cordial, sympathetic, objective, aggressive (and how), appreciative, and your self-mastery is very good. But, what the heck, we knew that before we started. Mr. Average Barbershopper is a pretty swell guy, so let's be sure we always keep him that way. A real friendly kind of a fellow who has a spirit of harmony in his heart, as well as in his mind.

## GUAM-VAN NUYS SWAP RECORDS

Van Nuys, Cal. reports: "In way of chapter relationship we have made contact with the Guam Chapter and at our last regular meeting, we recorded the whole meeting on a wire recorder and have forwarded the recording to Guam and they are in turn going to do the same.

"We feel that this is a good way of finding how other chapters hold meetings and promote inter-chapter relations. Also we feel it will tend to make each chapter strive for better meetings and improve quartets as a whole. Competition is a good booster."

We hope that many other chapters will take up this idea . . . Eds.

## COMMERCIALY SPONSORED CONTESTS QUESTIONABLE

In several cities promoters have attempted to interest the Society's quartets in commercially sponsored contests.

The Society has frowned upon these for many reasons, including the incompetency of judging in practically all of them. There is no publicity value to the chapter in such a contest.

The Society's name must not be used without careful scanning by several committees, through the Int'l. office.

The danger of commercially sponsored contests was covered rather completely on Page 17, Sept. '48 Harmonizer. Quartets should consult with the Int'l. office invariably before entering such a questionable activity.

## "CHORUSES FOR GLEEMEN"

Haydn Morgan, head of the Music Dept., Michigan State Normal College, has prepared a book of arrangements for boys of high school age, suitable for anything from solos to chorus work. It contains art songs, folk songs, songs of sentiment, sacred and secular selections, humorous numbers, and several numbers composed and arranged in barbershop style by George P. Becker of Ypsilanti, Mich. Chapter. It was published by Hall-McCreary Company, Chicago.

## INTERNATIONAL BROTHERS!

by Tom Needham

An international boundary and 380 miles are no handicap when brothers get together. The urge—barbershop quartet singing, fellowship and the desire to lend a hand. August Neubauer, prexy; Perc Barker, past prexy and 16 Virginia (Minn.) Chapter members drove to Winnipeg Nov. 5th where Neubauer presented the chapter charter to Jack Galbraith, the "baby's" president.

And what an "infant!" About 150 Canadians were present, including wives. They've constructed a shell, have a GOOD chorus of 60, six fine quartets and even the ladies have a top-notch 4-some.

How old is this Winnipeg Chapter?—two months at this writing. How is your chapter doing?

Sixteen Virginians entertained with choral numbers and the "Rangers" made a hit. We quote Perc Barker: "Winnipeg is a live wire outfit capably led by President Galbraith and Secretary Frank Denner. A more efficient, courteous, and hospitable chapter will not be found anywhere. Nobody wanted to quit, so we sang till 3 A. M. and next morning sang for the Mayor in his office. We left with a song in our hearts and a lump in our throats. Winnipeg Chapter is so young it is hard to explain such quality. We freely predict a grand future for them. Well that's Barbershop!

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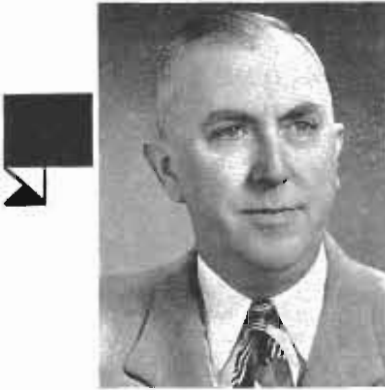
## SELECTIONS

"Someday"  
 "Mood Indigo"  
 "Empty Saddles"  
 "I Ain't Got Nobody"  
 "Kentucky Babe"  
 "Darkness on the Delta"  
 "Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland"  
 "I Want to Linger"  
 "Somebody Knows"

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## FOUNDER'S COLUMN

By O. C. Cash

to give it to your local Library. There is much information in it that may be of reference value to those interested in the musical history of our organization.

The other night I heard George Burns sing the chorus of "Red Rose Rag" to Gracie. He did it just to show her how good he used to be in his vaudeville act. This tune reminded me of "Oceana Roll" which has been messed up so sweetly by the Misfits for the past few years. I am wondering if any of the Brothers have tried "Red Rose Rag." I hope three or four quartets look it over and will prepare to sing it for me at Buffalo in June. While fooling around with that tune, also try "Sing Me To Sleep." This number is sung very successfully by the Flying L Ranch Quartet of Tulsa and it has so many possibilities for different treatment and arrangement that I would like to hear other quartets do it. The last phrase in the chorus affords several different tricks of harmony, by changing the lead slightly

and singing the last few notes straight across, or by letting the bass or baritone carry the melody. It ends up terribly low if sung as written, but you can raise her up an octave and cure that.

So now a few of you boys work these two numbers over and let's have the "Red Rose" and "Sing Me To Sleep" specialists congregate in my room in Buffalo and have a "Jam Session." No quartet will be permitted to get in on this unless it has something worked out to show us. Carroll, Bill, Tom and Peters ought to be able to have an arrangement for us. They have lots of time to practice there in the office.

I have been furnished with a report of the Contest Rules Committee and am amazed at the time and effort which these busy men have put in trying to formulate rules that will insure orderly and satisfactory procedure. I think I agree pretty well with all the report. Hoping you are the same, I am

O. C.

Before I get into the profound paragraphs to follow, let me thank all of you Brothers and Sisters for your greetings at Christmas-time. I am sorry I can't otherwise acknowledge receipt of these nice remembrances, but I want you to know how glad I am that you have not forgotten me.

Since I had very little to do with the preparation of the Ten Year History of our Society, I think it is not immodest of me to say that it is well done and interesting. It will be of even more interest to you than it was to me. The Brothers who spent so much time in getting this book in shape, have performed a worthwhile service for you. Every member of the Society should buy a copy and familiarize himself with the story of the organization. After finishing with the History, a nice thing to do will be

### SINGING CAPITAL CHORUS AT INAUGURAL

There can be little doubt that the audience to which Washington, D. C.'s Singing Capital Chorus sang on the occasion of President Truman's "Inaugural Gala" was the most distinguished ever assembled at any entertainment in America.

The appearance was arranged by Justin Lawrie, Choral Master of Washington's Foundry Church and member of the D. C. Chapter. He was the official chorus master for the entire affair.

In the audience were the President and Vice President Elect, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the ambassadors and ministers from foreign countries, the Cabinet Officers, Senators, Congressmen, Governors, high representatives of the Military, and dignitaries galore. The Singing Capital Chorus, directed by Dr. Robert Howe Harmon, one of America's great choral directors and a member of the local chapter, held its own, and more, with any individual or group on the program, which was loaded with such outstanding entertainers as Abbott and Costello, Edgar Bergen, Joan Davis, Phil Harris and Alice Faye, National Symphony Orchestra, Lum and Abner, Margaret O'Brien, Spitalny and the Hour of Charm Girls, and others equally famous. The chorus of 91 men wore scarlet jackets, black trousers, and black bow ties.

Included in its numbers was Frank H. Thorne's "Keep America Singing". He had the pleasure of hearing and seeing the show by Television from Chicago. His comment:

"I certainly swelled with pride at the way they handled themselves and to say that I was thrilled when they sang "Keep America Singing" is so inadequate that it disturbs me.



Dr. Harmon

I have never heard it sung as your chorus sang it and I do not hope to ever hear it sung better."

Dr. Harmon is a charter member of the D. C. Chapter and has directed the chorus from the beginning, with several competent assistants. He has directed the men's and women's Glee Clubs at George Washington University for 25 years. Although he regularly conducts the most exacting classical music, Harmon thoroughly loves barbershop type harmony.

### OLD MUSIC LIBRARY GROWS

Those who have given old music to the Society's collections are: Marvin Lee, Chicago; Arthur F. Sweeney, Baltimore; Billy Curran, Holyoke, Mass.; Carroll P. Adams, Mrs. M. E. Beyerlein, James Judice, Mrs. F. A. Sawall, G. W. Stanton, Miss Kate Tilley, Detroit; Geo. Strickler, Jackson; Alex "Pat" Finlay, Harry Milne, J. George O'Brien, Saginaw; Wm. P. Osmer, Jamestown, N. Y.; Edwin O. Stuckey, New York City; James H. Emsley, Canton, O.; Dr. Lawrence J. Callinan, Mrs. D. D. Davenport, Miss Ruth Gahan, James F. Knipe, Miss Alice Murray, Cleveland; Ralph Stoltz, Fayette, Ohio; Russell Cole, Chouteau, Frank Essex, Pryor, O. C. Cash, Tulsa, Okla.; Oliver E. Woods, Toronto; and Ralph Rodgers, Milwaukee.

### CARRY YOUR COPY

Herbert Allen of Muskegon, Mich. Chapter makes a fine suggestion: "Last summer I took a trip down into Ohio. I took my most recent Harmonizer with me. Every town I went through that boasted a chapter, I stopped long enough to at least phone the secretary. We swapped a little chit chat, wished each other well, etc. Maybe a little item could be slipped into the next issue of Harmonizer. 'CARRY YOUR LATEST COPY OF 'HARMONIZER' WITH YOU ON YOUR NEXT TRIP AS PART OF YOUR STANDARD EQUIPMENT.' I'm not too good at writing copy, but I'm sure you could do it."

Good copy . . . and good idea, the way we see it . . . Eds.

# Over the Editor's Shoulder

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

Writes Int'l Bd. Member J. H. Emsley, Canton, Ohio, regarding the Ohio S-W Penna. District Contest: "Among all the quartets that participated only 10, or less than half of them, had ever been in either a regional or a district competition before."

"In the first ten quartets that survived the preliminaries only 5 had been in either a regional or a district competition."

"Two of the first five quartets in the Finals had never been in district competition before—one had been in a regional competition, however."

"Seven of the first 10 quartets have been in existence for less than 2 years. Most of the 7—less than 1 year."

"It means we are being infused with new and virile blood, which is gaining ascendancy over our older quartets, and I am glad to see it, because I feel that it means our Society is now firmly established and is now rooting in deep in our hearts and is awakening the spirit of singing that has lain so dormant since the advent of radio when we were induced to let others entertain us, rather than sing and entertain ourselves."

oOo

Floyd R. Emerick, Canton, Ill. Chapter writes that the *Harmonizer* is the only magazine out of the many he receives which he keeps filed together in book form. He continues: "When songs are printed in the *Harmonizer*, could advertising copy be used on the back sheets instead of interesting stories and pictures? Gosh, when a fellow cuts out that song to put in the song folio, he loses some interesting items in the magazine folio!!!"

*Floyd's suggestion came just at the time when the Arrangements Committee and the Harmonizer Committee were considering eliminating song arrangements from the publication for the reason Floyd stated and because it has become evident that the annual folio is the most useful way to present song arrangements.*

oOo

In a letter of praise from R. A. Hilliard, Pres. Asheville, N. C. Chapter, to the Int'l. office, regarding the contributions made by Louisville, Asheville's sponsor, he said of the Kentucky Troubadours: "The Kentucky Troubadours really made this meeting for us. They stepped off the train at 11:00 Saturday morning singing, and when their train pulled out at 5:00 Sunday afternoon they were still singing. These fellows did a marvelous job the two days they were here in helping us properly establish the Society in the minds of the Asheville people."

Adds Pres. Ed Mall of Louisville: "To say that Asheville's hospitality overwhelmed us is an under-statement. We learned a few things about taking care of visitors. Here is a group of men who are leading citizens of Asheville, perfect hosts and full of enthusiasm . . . An outstanding combination. They have 84 charter members. Louisville can be very proud of being sponsor to this group."

oOo

To Carroll P. Adams from "Hec" White of K. C., former sec., Central States District: "Have just finished reading 'Keep America Singing'; it's great and the only thing I hated is that it had to have an ending. I hope that every member will read it and it should be a 'must' for those wishing to form a new chapter to first read this story. 'Thanks to the Committee and author and a Happy New Year to you and the headquarters staff.'"

oOo

Writes Past Int'l. Pres. F. H. Thorne about "Keep America Singing": "It is not only readable, but leads one on from page to page in a very interesting manner and besides it is about the only reading matter I have attempted late in the evening that has kept me awake. That is really something!"

oOo

From Wallace Nash, Grand Rapids, Mich. Chapter: "The article in December *Harmonizer*—'Botsford 'Shy Guy' Reminisces' is interesting to me since he provided us with many arrangements . . . Enjoyed O'Brien's report on the authorship of 'Sweet Roses of Morn'. To my knowledge the information is correct. I sang it with Oscar Jones, his brother (name forgotten) and Bobby (Uke) Henshaw in Shreveport, La. in 1917. I never knew Peake. Congratulations on a constantly improving *Harmonizer*."

oOo

Writes Harold Gray, Traverse City, (Mich.) Chapter about the man who attends a parade, district or international meeting alone or with two others (not a complete quartet): "These men don't attend with a view to be entertained 100% of the time but to round out their week-end with a little harmonious expression of their own—true barbershoppers."

"At practically every meeting, parade or contest the organized quartets are taken care of. The listening guests and members are satisfied, but that group of singing men in the middle who make up the bulk of our memberships must be given a chance for expression if we are to bring out the fullest measure of individual endeavor"



"May I suggest that, at a week-end function, a time and place be set aside during the first or second days, or both, where singing men who want to make up a quartet can meet between program events. Someone act as song leader to conduct singing, the duet or trio will hear the man they want, and who knows how many worthy combinations could contribute to the festivities. At some of the larger events this group might furnish the spark for a 'little International' that could be hilarious".  
*May we get in on this? . . . Eds.*

oOo

Former Int'l Treas. Joseph E. Stern writes about the History: "I read and thoroughly enjoyed ever line, every word, every comma, and every cartoon. As each paragraph unfolded itself, I found myself living the days over again about things I had forgotten. I tried to be realistic and imagine myself a stranger reading the book. I know I still would have enjoyed it as such. It is easy to read and the 'down to earth' style of phrasing is the kind I like".

oOo

Partial text of letter from Russ Cole, Chouteau, Okla.: "Was interested in The Way I See It, December, statement that there is no need to overwork song selections—that there are too many first rate numbers, to make it necessary to over-present certain choices. The supply of excellent numbers is practically limitless and the field is to a great degree as yet untouched. I note the tendency to be influenced by what some outstanding 4 happens to be offering, or by current revivals by films and radio."

oOo

From F. H. Thorne, Director, Chicago Chorus: The chorus presented me with a swell zippered jacket with a card reading, "just to show you a little of our appreciation for the time, hard work, and patience you give us". I thought you might want to use this to inspire some other choruses to, in some way or another, express their appreciation.

"All year long a director sweats and works during rehearsals and many hours outside and wonders what his chorus members think, so this information might be encouraging to some other directors".

(Continued on page 20)



## EFER IFER

Dear Carroll:

How come I didn't see you in Toledo? Don't you get around to those "little conventions" any more? O' course you mighta been there, but lately you been hidin' behind so many agendas that us hoy purloy don't get a chance to confab with you. Too bad, too, because you really need that practice on the bari.

Say, those fellows in Toledo sure know how to run a party don't they? It must be an old custom with them because somebody even wrote a song about them once. You remember: "I Like Toledo Band"! Okay, Okay, but you gotta admit that the Mid Year meetin' was a swell affair, and who're you gonna thank? The Commies? Anyhow, The Buckeye Breakfast was a grand substitute for an After-Glow.

Carroll I gotta a idea. From now on let's quit callin' the post-parade mad-houses "after glows" and call 'em "forever embers". They do go on forever and they positively no longer glow; rather, they just sputter and cease to be "hot". Nobody can hear a thing and it's a shame to waste the time of such good quartets. Better they should be upstairs in a room where some control can be exercised over the audience. Especially those "guests" of barbershoppers. Maybe a solution to the after-glow problem would be to install amplifiers so loud they drowned out the audience, although I and the quartets could think of another kind of drowning that would be a little more permanent. But don't get me wrong. If that's a problem I just lo-o-o-ve that problem!

So long. I after glow now.

EFER IFER.

### "HARMONY LTD." GIVES FACTS

Harmony Limited Quartet of Green Bay Chapter, new Land O'Lakes champs, has found a way to get the proper introduction for the quartet and the Society when doing a singing engagement on the outside. This is a point which has been brought up in the Harmonizer time and time again. Noel R. Safford of Harmony Limited had the following run off on a mimeograph and whenever they are on an engagement the MC is asked to read a copy.

"We are about to hear the Harmony Limited Quartet of the Green Bay, Wis. Chapter Number Four of SPEBSQSA, which means the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Harmony Limited Quartet is composed of the following: Harold Lavin, top tenor; Clayton Sears, lead; Charles De Seve, baritone; and Noel Ross Safford, bass."

## OVER THE ED'S SHOULDER

(Continued from page 19)

The following is from a letter by James A. White, Sec. of Columbus, Ohio Chapter to Sec. Adams: "Heartiest congratulations on your release of January 1 regarding noisy 'After-Glows'. I'm not trying to lead you to believe I'm an angel, not the least, nor do I have any feeling toward those who drink. In your position as Int'l. Secretary it takes good old fashioned 'guts' to approach the subject as you have from time to time. Keep up the good work! This is an expression of my own personal reaction to the matter and am not speaking for our chapter".

oOo

The visit of Int'l. Sec. Adams to Atlanta evoked a letter from past Int'l. Historian Dick Sturges, in part, as follows: "I had the great misfortune of having to entertain him last Saturday night after he had addressed the Atlanta Chapter, and realized as never before, what a terrible handicap he was to the Society—that is from the neck down.

"You may have heard about his difficulties in getting transported down here—missing his plane at Cincinnati . . . I know just what happened when he tried to charter a plane. He was told very plainly that the freight planes were all in service, and even if one were available, that the tonnage involved would make the trip entirely too expensive! Well he finally got a seat on a scheduled plane to Knoxville (he says a seat, but I think they make him pay for two) and then tried to get a taxi to Atlanta. This effort also fell flat when the various drivers looked him over. However one of the more kind hearted ones sent word for

a chap who had a 1½ ton truck, and they finally unloaded him in our midst!"

Sturges added so much more about our secretary's avoirdupois that, it is rumored, Sec. Adams has gone into training. We hope not too far into it, however. . . . Harmonizer Staff.

oOo

"Why I Like Barbershop". The Scranton, Penna. Tribune interviewed five members of the local chapter to find why they preferred barbershop harmony to "the trick arrangements being used by many radio singing groups". The replies started with one from W. P. Phillips "Quartet singing animates a man's best instincts". Bob York prefers it because "There is no greater thrill in music". Duke Jones even enjoys rehearsals. Del Williams said that chords send a ticklish chill up his spine; and Louis Yantorn likes barbershop because "it offers the kind of singing that will never grow old".

### DETROIT'S HARMONY RENDEZVOUS

Scores of Barbershoppers in the Detroit area, visiting members and their guests are enjoying the informal luncheon club sponsored by the Metropolitan Detroit Association of Chapters and known as "Harmony Rendezvous". The group meets regularly each Thursday noon at the Admiral Dining Room, 608 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. It is a grand opportunity for barbershoppers to combine their regular luncheon period with a little close harmony.

All barbershoppers and their guests are welcome at "Harmony Rendezvous" Detroit any Thursday noon.—Bill Otto.

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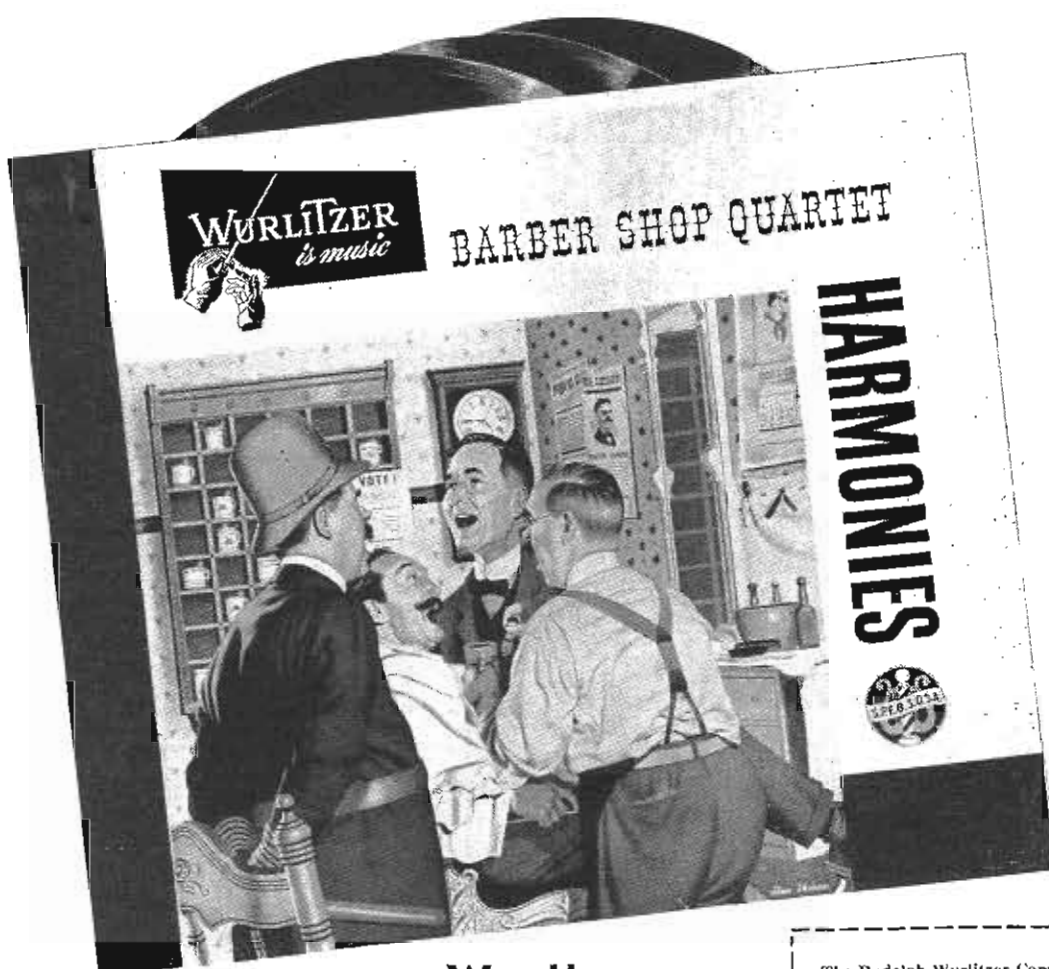
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## C.W.N.Y. INTER-CHAPTER PROGRAM CLICKS

By Al Brown  
Past Pres., Springville, N. Y.

Four neighboring C.W.N.Y. chapters have initiated an inter-chapter program which has proved highly successful and which may prove to be a great boon to small chapters everywhere.

The four chapters, East Aurora, Hamburg, Gowanda, and Springville, none of which has more than 65 members, organized "The Little Four", for the purpose of promoting four major inter-chapter events during the year, one to be allocated to each of the chapters. Spaced three months apart, each event is a "must" in attendance for the other three chapters.

On January 21, over three hundred members and guests attended the second of these "Little Four" events, a Chorus Jamboree, held in Springville. The fact that the evening was to be given over to the choruses stimulated attendance at meetings and at chorus rehearsals throughout December and January.

The meeting was a tremendous success, with the four choruses, six Little Four quartets, and an extemporaneous quartet of the four presidents providing a smooth and well-rounded program.

## "LET'S HARMONIZE"—A HIT!!

The Society has long felt the need of attractive literature to outline concisely the origin, background and objectives of SPEBSQSA for prospective members of chapters and for men interested in organization of new chapters. The booklet gives a top flight bird's eye view of just what SPEBSQSA means to thousands of members and can mean to more. There are many attractive pictures. The text is brief, factual and interesting. It has met with such approval that the demand will soon exceed the supply. In lots of 10, or more, a charge of 10c per booklet applies. This is below actual cost. Please place orders for only as many as you must have. Chapter Secretaries should have 10 or more on hand for prospective members and for use in extension work.

## SOCIETY'S SONG WRITERS' CHANCE

This Society was invited by the Treasury Dep't. to produce an original, official song for the 1949 Savings Bond Campaign. All chapters were notified by the Int'l. office to submit original words and music by Feb. 15. By late January, original compositions had been received from a number of the Society's outstanding song writers, with more promised.

The songs will be judged between Feb. 15th and March 1st, and the winning one will be heard throughout the nation, not only from quartets but nationally known singing stars and orchestras everywhere.

## "KOBY'S WIFE'S ESTOPPEL ESTOPPED"

By Jean M. Boardman

"Hey!" yelled Koby, the barbershop-ping kobold, as he came tumbling out of the fireplace: "My wife is going to bring a lawsuit to join the Society!"

"Your wife!" I exclaimed: "I didn't even know you had a wife; I have never seen her around here."

"I have been making her stay up the chimney," said the kobold, so I can gallivant around with the rest of you barbershoppers who make your wives stay home; but she says she is tired of that and wants to sing around with us and the girls quartets and have some fun."

"We barbershoppers", I explained, "are entitled to a little freedom from our wives six or seven nights a week, and that's why we have it right in the Constitution that only persons of the male cleft are eligible for membership. Furthermore, the law is on our side because some gal out in Chicago tried to sue her way into the Society and the judge threw her case right out of court."

"Kobella, my wife, knows all about that," said Koby, "but she also knows that in addition to being the world's best baritone you are the world's best lawyer, and she says that if you will take her case, what with the new law and all, you can win it as easy as rolling off of a high C."

"What new law?" I inquired.

"She says that Harry is a member of the Society and that she and the other barbershop widows elected Harry and his civil rights platform to be president . . ."

"So that's how it happened!" I exclaimed.

"Yeah, that's how it happened", agreed Koby, ". . . and she says that Harry has promised that he will tell Congress to make a law saying that barbershop widows have as much right to civil rights as any other race or religion."

"I won't take her case! I won't sue my own Society! I won't bite the hand that applauds my baritone!"

"She says", went on the kobold, "that if you won't represent her she will hire Charlie Merrill or Jim Emsley or some other woodshedding lawyer, and plaster the name of the So-

cietty on the front page of every newspaper in the country."

"Then," I cried, "I will defend our beloved Society. I shall rely upon the prohibition against ex post facto laws, I shall assert title by adverse possession, and I shall prove that since time immemorial it has been the custom of barbershoppers not to fraternize with sopranos and altos. They cannot disturb the status quo."

"She says", argued the kobold, "that your status quo has been shot full of holes because you already have let a lot of women into the Society."

"She can prove nothing of the sort", I rejoined.

"She says she will offer in evidence many issues of the 'Harmonizer' in which pictures of girl quartets have been printed, and dozens of advertisements and programs showing that girls quartets have appeared in Society shows. She says that having held these girls quartets out to the public as a part of your organization the doctrine of estoppel prevents you from denying liability, and that under the doctrine of res ipsa loquitur the burden is on you to prove that they are not members, and that you can't do it."

"Oh goodness me!" I said as I paced the floor: "We are in a terrible predicament. 'Res ipsa loquitur'—the thing speaks for itself. How can we avoid the presumption of law? Wait! I see a ray of hope!" I rushed to the phone and put through a call to Int'l. Treasurer Bob Irvine.

"Bob", I queried breathlessly, "do any of the girl quartets pay dues?"

"Nosiree bob", said Bob: "We have never permitted anything like that."

"Victory!" I shouted: "Kobold, go tell that wife of yours that we can prove beyond peradventure of doubt that no woman has ever been a member of our Society because no female dues ever have sullied our fair coffers. Tell her that her case is hopeless."

"O, King of Baritone", said the Kobold as he salaamed to the floor. "thy voice is like unto the shriekings of tenors, the howlings of leads, and the thunderings of basses: triple forte is this wisdom."



### STRICTLY COLLEGIATE-U. OF CONN.

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The Chordbusters, '41  
Tulsa, Okla.

The Harmony Halls, '44  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Pittsburghers, '48  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

## HALL PLANS LONG HAUL

By H. E. Kaiser

Harry Hall, lead singer for the Barflies, is already making preparations to attend the Int'l. Convention in Buffalo. Harry claims the distinction of being one of the two individuals who have attended all National and International contests. Glenn Howard, Springfield, Ill. Chapter is the other. To date his claim has not been challenged. Harry is one of the most enthusiastic members in our entire organization and we believe it would be safer to bet that he will be the first to arrive than it would be to wager on the results of any World Series, football game, or even a political election.

## ANYBODY GOT A GOOD GUN?

Frank H. Thorne of The Elastic Four writes:

"Hank Hedges, Chicago Chapter member, wants me to work up another 'Pass the Biscuits, Mirandy' with lots of shooting. Well I haven't heard of any number that might fit in, but Boy! Oh Boy! do we need a gun that will really shoot blanks. Sure makes us feel foolish when we hit the spot where 'we heard a rifle crack, and a bullet hit the shack, and another broke the dishes on the shelf! Jim shoots the gun. I smash the dishes to the floor. Roy's and Herman's hats fly off—O yeah! Only the damn gun didn't work. All we can do is grin and bear it, but if anyone knows a good number they'd like to hear The Elastic Four sing 'with shootin'', they better send a gun along with the lead sheet."



## "TAKE IT THIS WAY"

The Misfits, 1945 Champions, working out a close one to suit the fancy of Pete Buckley, bass, (r). These boys work 'em out entirely by ear.

## "JUMBO" LIKES 'EM BOTH WAYS

Excerpts from communications from "Jumbo" Smith, tenor of the 1947 Int'l. Champion Doctors of Harmony: "In the December issue I noticed a lengthy article, by our good friend Jean Boardman titled, 'Why The Hell a Quartet Shell'. If Jean will read the 'Contest' Rules he will discover that one of the categories calls for 'Voice Expression'. To the best of my knowledge, voice expression consists of Fortissimo and Pianissimo and their various modifications. Several Champion Quartets are noted for their ability to sing both loud and also soft and sweet. Without using voice expression, you would hardly recognize them, because their ability to sing in this manner, helped them to win their gold medallions.

"In so far as the 'Doctors' are concerned, we don't care a hoot whether or not we sing in a quartet shell. However, due to the poor acoustics of so many places, we do prefer to sing in front of a 'mike'.

"At times I like to hear a quartet pin back its ears and let loose. By that same token, I also like to have those same quartets, sing so soft and sweet that I am almost compelled to hold my breath. It takes all kinds of people to make this world and it also takes all kinds of quartets to make our great singing Society.

Yours for both loud and soft singing".

## MISFITS WERE 4 HOARSE-men

By Cy Perkins

The holidays arrived just in time to save us because for the first time in our eight years of association all four of us were stricken with colds at the same time. That entitles us to the use temporarily of the name "The Four Hoarsemen".

We were on the program of the Commonwealth Edison Co. presented in the Grand Ball Room of the Hotel Stevens. The audience was made up of about 2100 employees, their wives, and sweethearts.

After a preliminary session in one of the outer rooms we went on stage and the fun began. Pete was rumbling around trying to hit the low ones while Joe was making faces at all the high ones. Art filled up his chest (no mean project of itself) and let fly. Yours truly thumped the floor with his right foot and made facial contortions with the idea in view of fooling the audience into thinking dulcet and beautiful tones were coming out.

It was as difficult a job as we have ever worked because of the physical handicap.

We were surprised as well as pleased to find how much can be done when a job *must* be done. No one even suspected that anyone of us had a cold and sore throat—much less, the all of us.

*Moral: If you have to do it you can!*

## QUARTETS SUGGEST STANDARD SHELL

Jiggs Ward, bari of the Int'l. champ Pittsburghers, has a suggestion which other quartets that take to the road have made also. They feel that in the attempt to do something out of the ordinary, local Parade Committees sometimes do the quartets, the show, and in particular the audience a great injustice. "They are the people we have to please", say the quartets. Some shells were designed for looks and not for sound qualities. Says Ward, speaking for experienced troupers, "I believe that most of the quartets would approve a 'standard' shell—the decorations of course would be up to the chapter. Please understand that we are thinking only of making the show better for the audience".

*The Int'l. office has complete specifications for shells, and will be glad to furnish them gratis to any chapter needing a new shell or replacement of an old one.*

### "CHANGE THE NAME OF ARKANSAW? NEVER!"

The suggestion of Ed Lieberman, Teaneck, N. J. Chapter, that the Society's name be changed from "Barber Shop" to "Close" Harmony has brought many letters, of which the one from R.M.P. Burnett, Sec., Carlsbad, N. M. Chapter is probably the most trenchant. ("Way I See It" column deals with another one).

"Not counting the hard winters", Burnett confesses that he is "sixty plus" and has been "making noises that might pass for singing" ever since he could walk. Grand Rapids, Tucumcari, N. M., Oskaloosa, Ia., The Aleutian Islands, and other places "on the other side of the hill" are places where he has quartetted during a colorful career, part of it professionally musical.

After reviewing his vivid recollections of barber shops from N. M. to Alaska and stating that his buddies always called a close one a "barbershop" chord, whether sung within or outside a shop, Burnett says, "I think that N. J. dude (that means an Easterner, Ed) is all wet, and I feel sure that the membership will tell him off . . . Anybody can sing a written score if he has modest musical knowledge, but it takes a person gifted by God to reach and hit the harmonies in their proper places with nothing but a good strong lead to depend upon. That makes a Barbershopper".

Unfortunately, the Harmonizer cannot quote Burnett's classic reference to the Roman Gladiator and Persian Prince (old counterpart of today's male "ribbon counter clerk") in the immortal address by the "Senator from Arkansas", which ends "Change the name of Arkansaw? Never!" And that's the way Burnett, George M. Lucas, Wilmington, Del., and others feel about changing the Society's name.

### CHAPTER BULLETIN BOARDS

By Ed Place, Washington, D. C.

A good idea for stimulating interest in Chapter activities is to install a bulletin board for pin-ups of newspaper and magazine clippings, Parade programs, other programs featuring quartet appearances, pictures and the like. The saying that the right hand doesn't know what the left hand doeth often applies to a busy chapter. Oral reports on various quartet and chorus activities would steal time from the main purpose of the meeting, i.e., singing, but a bulletin board could be scanned by one and all without holding up the order of business. Every member would have the privilege and responsibility of providing material for the bulletin board, but the material could clear through any member of a designated committee. Bulletin boards are such a common sight in most club-rooms that it is a little surprising that chapters have not made greater use of this simple publicity device.

MARCH, 1949

### NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

When it became necessary, due to press of business, for Walter Jay Stephens to relinquish the chairmanship of the Public Relations Committee, J. F. Knipe, Int'l. Vice Pres., was induced to take it on until June 30 if given the help of Ed Place as Associate chairman. The Committee's personnel remains unchanged except for the addition of Deac Martin. During the two and one-half years while Stephens has been at the steering wheel, the Society has benefited from his constant admonition that good public relations is "good conduct and getting credit for it" and "you are the Society". Under the Stephens' guidance the Society has received many notable tributes ranging from national magazine articles to international radio hookups.

### SOMEBODY TELL HIM

"Wanted A Hobby". When the Chicago Tribune carries an article which indicates that a writer doesn't believe that there is such a thing as the Society, it indicates that our organization has a long way to go in extension and public relations even after ten years. The columnist wrote about a cab driver who said that he would be due for retirement shortly and from then on would give his full time to the Society. The columnist said that he was "almost" convinced that there was such an organization and was going to look into it.

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## SHOW OF CHAMPIONS

SAGINAW CHAPTER No. 6

## - Variety Show -

**MARCH 19, 1949**

**Saginaw Auditorium 8:15 P.M.**

**All Seats Reserved**

**\$1.80**

**THE PITTSBURGHERS, 1948 International Champions**  
First Appearance in Michigan

**HARMONY HALLS, 1944 International Champions**

**BARONS OF HARMONY, 1947 Michigan Champions**

**ANTLERS, 1948 Michigan Champions**

**MEN OF ACHORD, 1949 Novice Champions**

**— AND OTHERS —**

Write:- **GORDON L. GRANT** for Hotel and Ticket Reservations  
1911 Court Street, Saginaw, Michigan

**WHEN BETTER SHOWS ARE PRODUCED SAGINAW WILL PRODUCE THEM**



### TAKE A TRIP THROUGH HARMONYLAND

A. E. Meyer of San Gabriel, Cal. chapter built a white picket fence used in the San Gabriel parade and then billed the chapter for \$65.45 but showed a credit of \$65.47, part of which was "Savings on inkum tax" and "savings on workmen's compensayshun by not having any". He made up the difference in stamps.

oOo

Illustrative of the spirit which has made California what it is, Sec. Mark Hartung's bulletin to Van Nuys chapter carried this line "Met Deac Martin's big brother, Clarence, last week—he is a valley resident which proves he's got more sense than Deac". Hartung is an alumnus of Chicago chapter.

oOo

Ed. R. Place, bass of the Washington Diplomats has accepted the chairmanship of the Music Sub-Committee, Washington, D. C. Board of Trade. The committee will have important duties in connection with the National Capitol's 150th anniversary. Place believes the appointment is in recognition of the impression Washington has received musically from the local chapter's successful concerts in Constitution Hall.

oOo

Thanks to Detroit's Frankenmuth program Mrs. M. E. Beyerlein wrote to Jim Garrett, the announcer, that she had heard that the "barbershop club would like to get some old music". She offered a stack, some of it 60 years old, a valuable contribution to the Old Songs Collection.

oOo

When the December *Harmonizer* was delayed, the Pittsburgh, Penna. and Warren, O. chapters called the publication office to ask "how come?" and Kansas City wired the same. About 50 chapters wrote. Delay was due to a "hold" order when all but the last form was already printed. It was possible that the December issue should carry a report of a special Int'l. Bd. meeting held in Chicago in mid-November.

oOo

Houston, Texas chapter had an unusual method of reminding last year's Parade audience that the next one was coming up in January. They utilized a letter-head-size four-page folder with a letter on the front, a layout of the music hall seating plan on the next page, which faced clippings from the local papers about last year's

show. The back cover extended that idea and included a tear-off coupon to be sent in for tickets.

oOo

Henry E. McLean, charter member of Belvidere, Ill., presents a record of almost 1,500 miles traveling to barbershop parades and such between late October and December 1. Longest trip was to Fond du Lac, Wis.; shortest to Aurora. Five or six other Belvidereans constitute the group of roving fans of barbershopping.

oOo

Int'l. Bd. member Roy S. Harvey in writing to approve the *Harmonizer's* policy regarding news in the Swipes section enclosed a clipping from the Traverse City, Mich. Eagle. The clipping was a letter to the editor from Otto Carpenter. He said that the Paragon quartet, visiting from Muskegon, was about ready to head for home on Halloween night when a group of small children, out for mischief, came along. The Paragons sang a number for them. Carpenter wrote, "I feel sure that one song meant more to those children than all the singing we adults heard in the school house (that evening). At any rate they thanked the Paragons wholeheartedly".

oOo

The Four Shaving Mugs, Hartford, went to the hospital to sing to Myles Spellman, local member who had had an operation. While they were singing, the head nurse connected the loud speaker system with the room and they entertained the entire floor for almost an hour. Doctors, visitors, patients, and nurses were delighted.

oOo

Jud Baldwin, Far-Western District Sec'y., made New Year's resolutions regarding his relationship with other members in his chapter: "I will be careful not to offend another member! I will be a self appointed committee of one to bring in new members! I will attend all meetings and chorus rehearsals! I will keep my eyes open for chances to start new chapters nearby! I will give my chapter officers the help and support they need! I will work to make SPEBSOSA the best fraternal society in the world! I will have harmony in my heart and do my best to keep America singing!"

oOo

Noel Ross Safford of the Executive Committee, Green Bay Chapter, sends two tickets for local parades to a handpicked list of his musically inclined friends with the request that the tickets be used or that they be returned at least three days before the

### Important International News Briefs

parade. He reports that very few tickets sent to such a list have been returned, and that the size of the list increases each year.

oOo

In a story about York, Penna. in the American Magazine the opening statement was "just about everybody makes music, even the crows". Then it brought out the fact that a crow is a barbershop quartet enthusiast who wants to sing and can't but does anyway. The story credits York with crow quartets "and many expert ones too" of SPEB patronage, and includes a picture of a quartet in which Mayor Bentzel heads the harmony with gasman Myers, patrolman Rutter and optician Kuhlman.

oOo

Joe Juday, Sec. Ind.-Ky. Ass'n. sends a copy of a Fort Wayne paper dated May 9, 1929 carrying a story about the K-4 quartet of the Pennsylvania Railroad and its singing at Saginaw, Toledo, Lansing, and elsewhere. Fred Bloemke was one of the K-4 members who now belongs to Fort Wayne Chapter and formerly directed its chorus.

oOo

From Dr. Clyde R. Salmons, active and enthusiastic member of Hartford Chapter: "Nowhere in SPEBSQSA can you escape the guy who thinks he is singing bass because he carries the air an octave below the lead, or the other gink who starts to lead but, after the first measure, is found up with the tenor, and when the tenor attempts to save the day by switching to lead, follows him right back. And that woo-o-o character, who must slide in on every attack, usually missing the note by about a half a tone in the end. There ought to be a law! And that's what I like about SPEBSQSA, there is a law."

"Then I do get a tremendous kick out of the *Harmonizer*. I read it through as soon as it comes. And when I have a few minutes to relax I find myself reaching for the SPEB Bible to re-read an item here and there."

oOo

From a member, following a successful parade: "With all due credit to the quartets, who did a magnificent job, I think the people come out here very largely on account of our chorus. If we expect people to pay their way into our shows we must give them variety. . . . The truth of this was very evident at the New England contest. The audience (aside from the SPEBS) grew restless and began to file out.

(Continued on page 27)

## KEEP POSTED (Continued)

I believe that more chorus singing would have kept them happy. Time is a factor in such contests, but can't we do the Regional Preliminaries on the same basis that we do the International and do most of our eliminating in the afternoon, before we invite in the public?"

*(That's just what the Society is going to do—starting this year—Eds.)*

"I was telling a friend about the arduous practice we go through for our parades, and she said: 'You do all that work for nothing?' I said: 'Yes, All for fun and fun for all'. We like that slogan . . . Eds.

oOo

In late November the original Wheaties quartet, credited with introducing the first singing commercial on radio in 1926, gave its final performance at a General Mills Regional Meeting. Two days later William Happenrath, the bass, died. William Elliot, baritone, is a past Pres. of Minneapolis Chapter and William McFarland, who wrote the well known Wheaties song for them, is a member of the chapter's Board and never misses a meeting. They had agreed to appear as a surprise feature in the Minneapolis parade February 12.

oOo

How Times Have Changed! In 1943 Secretary Adams suggested to a company which he then represented in Detroit a \$10.00 ad in a Detroit Parade program. A principal of the company in his sarcastic reply referred to "the contribution to the Society for the Preservation, Encouragement, and Education of Crap Shooting in America". He then said that there would be just as much sense in contributing to the crap shooters as to such a society as SPEBSQSA and he informed Sec. Adams, "If you are personally interested in warbling or crooning or otherwise making yourself obnoxious to those within hearing that is a personal affair." How times have changed!

oOo

In the Louisville, Ky. Courier-Journal, Bill Ladd's "Almanac" column reported the late arrival of member Fred Waring and his "king size" band after a train wreck delayed their trip from St. Louis. "You would have thought that, by the time the show was over, Fred would have flopped for some shuteye", Ladd wrote. "But no". Waring then attended the local SPEB meeting. A true addict!

oOn

On the same day in January, Sec. Adams received two letters from Syracuse, N. Y. expressing the appreciation of the Hospital of the Good Shepherd and the Syracuse Memorial Hospital for fine programs given to patients and staff by the Central City Four and Syra-Chords respectively.

oOo

The Foremost Four, Anderson, Ind., trekked to Chicago in December to sing for the National Executive Baseball Committee. The invitation

stemmed from Commissioner "Happy" Chandler after he had heard them at an Anderson testimonial dinner.

oOo

The postcard notices of Howard Hanson, Lakewood, O. sec. are brief, straight-to-the-point, and often embellished with appropriate art work. An exec. meeting notice carries a (very good) pencil sketch of 6 men at a roundtable discussion. A notice of a chapter trip by bus not only includes departure time at several points but "white shirt and red bow tie".

oOoO

Kansas City's Hy Power Serenaders co-starred with Gladys Swarthout, Jan. 15, before 15,000 at the Municipal Auditorium, with the local Philharmonic and the K. C. Civic Opera Company.

## SOMEONE ELSE TURNED UP

(when you turned me down)

For a **FREE!** Copy

Write GEOFFREY O'HARA

75 East 55th Street, New York City

Ohio-S. W. Penna. District is conducting an interesting experiment, suggested last year by Floyd A. Ball, conscientious sec. of Berea, O. Chapter. Feeling that District members should have more detailed news of District activities than is possible in the compressed space of the Harmonizer Quarterly, he suggested a District news sheet, to be issued oftener. Chief concern of Pom Pomeroy, District Sec., is that old one, "How to get our chapter secs. to come through with news".

## BARBERSHOP RECORDINGS

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Three record set made by the top five quartets in the 1948 Finals<br>Check should be made out and mailed to Rudolph Wur-litzer Co., 121 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Attn.: Mr. Walter Shuck. | PRICE<br>\$3.60<br>Postpaid |
| Three record set made by the top five quartets in the 1947 Finals<br>Check should be made out and mailed to Rudolph Wur-litzer Co., 121 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Attn.: Mr. Walter Shuck. | \$3.60<br>Postpaid          |
| Three record set made by the top five quartets in the 1946 Finals<br>Check should be made out to the Neff Recording Company and mailed to SPEBSQSA, 20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Michigan.        | \$6.00<br>Delivered         |
| Five record set made by the Elastic Four of Chicago (Album No. I) (Temporarily Out)<br>Check should be made out to SPEBSQSA Inc. and mailed to SPEBSQSA, 20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Michigan    | \$6.25<br>F.O.B. Detroit    |
| Three record set made by the Elastic Four of Chicago (Album No. II)<br>Check should be made out to SPEBSQSA Inc. and mailed to SPEBSQSA, 20619 Fenkell, Detroit 23, Mich.                            | \$3.50<br>F.O.B. Detroit    |
| Three record set made by the Elastic Four of Chicago (Album No. III)<br>Check should be made out to SPEBSQSA Inc. and mailed to SPEBSQSA, 20619 Fenkell, Detroit 23, Mich.                           | \$3.50<br>F.O.B. Detroit    |
| Three record set made by the Four Harmonizers of Chicago<br>Check should be made out to SPEBSQSA Inc. and mailed to SPEBSQSA, 20619 Fenkell, Detroit 23, Mich.                                       | \$3.50<br>Delivered         |
| Three record set made by the Harmony Halls of Grand Rapids, Mich.<br>Check should be made out and mailed to Harmony Halls, 214 Houseman Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan.                             | \$6.75<br>Delivered         |
| Four record set made by the Continentals of Muskegon, Mich.<br>Check should be made out and mailed to The Continentals, 310 Iona Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan.   | \$6.50<br>Postpaid          |
| Single record, Mid-States Four, Chicago, Ill.<br>"Lazy Bones" and "Rural Rhythm."<br>Check should be made to Mid-States Four and mailed to Martin S. Mendro, 612 Revere Road, Glenview, Illinois.    | \$1.10<br>Delivered         |
| Four-record set made by the Hy-Power Serenaders of Kansas City, Mo.<br>Check should be made out and mailed to Rutherford Foods Corp, 4 West 13th St., Kansas City 6, Mo.                             | \$6.25<br>Express Collect   |
| Album, made by the Kentucky Troubadours of Louisville.<br>Checks should be made out and mailed to Kentucky Troubadours, 2537 Garland Avenue, Louisville, Ky.   | \$3.95<br>Express Collect   |

## THE STORY BEHIND THE SONG ON THE COVER

IN the days when SPEBSQSA was quite young, it occurred to Sig Spaeth, then as now an active propagandist for barber shop harmony, that there might be a demand for a closing song, to balance Geoff O'Hara's *The Old Songs*, which automatically opens every gathering of the faithful. Sig has always been a staunch adherent of the old-fashioned "echo" effects, which were an absolute "must" for the traditional quartets of the actual barber shops.

He had also made a study of the four-tone pattern represented by the famous Westminster Chime, played by Big Ben in London and on clock towers all over America and sometimes credited to the great Mr. Handel himself. Sig has often pointed out in lectures and on the radio that those four notes, in various positions, supplied the basic themes of *Sweet Adeline*, *Say Au Revoir But Not Good-Bye* and *How Dry I Am!* (originally a hymn tune, *O Happy Day*).

He decided that this could be considered perhaps the most logical pattern of barber shop harmony in the traditional style.

The initials SPEBSQSA fitted the first two sections of the Westminster Chime exactly, and it was a simple matter to add two more lines: "That's harmony for ev'ry day", following each unison line with an echo effect and ending with a rousing climax of close harmony. Sig sent out a few copies privately and it was first tried out on the air by the Kansas City Chapter, just before the national competition at the New York World's Fair. There it was repeated in a network broadcast by the group of contestants. Then it lay dormant, although published as the first number in the original Mills folio of *Barber Shop Harmony*. Recently Sig tried it again with the Manhattan Chapter and it caused an immediate sensation. The echoes of "SPEBSQSA" are likely to be heard frequently in future.

## "MELLOW" TONES



Actually this young quartet of Kirkwood, Ill., sponsored by Moanmouth, Ill. Chapter, has not been named yet. But Int'l. Bd. Mem. Howard Mellow likes them so well that "Mellow" Tones will do temporarily. L. to R.: Glenn Watson, lead, age 10; Neil Van Riper, tenor, age 11; Carl Watson, bass, age 12; Don Gunter, bari, age 13. Says Mellow: "If we can get them started this young, we'll keep 'em."



## No. 20

By Chas. M. Merrill, Imm. Past Int'l Pres.

Any nature lover among us should be able to straighten out the arboreal confusion in the following quotations:

1. Down in the old bamboo orchard under the old bamboo tree.
2. Down among the sheltering poplars, oh honey, wait for me.
3. Is there still room for me 'neath the old pine tree?
4. When the cherry leaves were falling and the sky was turning gold.
5. All night the sycamores I'm totin'; sing for my true love all the day.
6. In the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia on the trail of the lonesome maple.
7. One live as two; two live as one under the yew tree.
8. She is waiting by the cottonwood, Colinette with sea-blue eyes.
9. Through the palms the candlelights are gleaming.
10. Sweet little apple, I'm crazy about you.

(For Answers, see page 45)

## VETERANS' HOSPITAL CONTEST TO BE REPEATED

With the collaboration and cooperation of the Veterans' Administration the Society will sponsor another quartet contest to be finished not later than July 1 this year. Because of the heavy detail work involved, a special committee has been appointed with Bd. Member Edward G. Fahnestock, Wichita, Kans. as

chairman. The balance of the committee will consist of the presidents of the Society's thirteen districts. The decision to repeat the contest was based upon the enthusiasm of Lenard Quinto, Chief of Music, Recreation Service, Veterans' Administration, who cooperated with the Society in the conduct of the first contest, results of which are announced elsewhere on this page.

## CANANDAIGUA, N. Y. WINS VETS QUARTET CONTEST

In the contest for quartets of Veterans, held under the joint auspices of the Veterans Administration and SPEBSQSA, the foursomes made recordings in their respective hospitals. They sent them to Rowland Davis of the Manhattan Chapter who turned the platters over to Int'l. V. P. Sandy Brown. The discs were played back to Judges Harry Brown, Jean Boardman (Int'l. Bd. Mbr.), Maury Reagan (Int'l. Contest and Judging Com.), Leo Ives (lead of Harmonizers, 1943 Int'l. Champs) Bill Holcomb (former Int'l. Bd. Mbr.) and Art Merrill (Int'l. Bd. Mbr.).

The judges picked the best quartets in each of three hospital divisions. Included were: (1) Vet. Adm. Centers; first place won by Bath, N. Y. (2) Neuro Psychiatric Hosp. Div., first, Canandaigua, N. Y., second, Brentwood Hosp., Los Angeles, Calif., third, Chillicothe, Ohio; (3) Gen. Medical and Surgical Hosp. Div., first, Minneapolis, Minn. From these winners the three best of all were chosen. Top honors went to Canandaigua, N. Y.; second, Minneapolis, Minn. and third, Los Angeles, Calif.

Lenard Quinto, Asst. Chief of Music of the Veterans Administration promoted the contest from within the hospital organization; many of our chapters sent teams to develop quartets in their neighborhood hospitals.

## A SONG OF PEACE

At the Buckeye Breakfast, Toledo, Captain George W. Campbell read a poem "A Song of Peace". So many requests were received for the words that we have obtained permission of Lorenz Publishing Co., Dayton, O. to reproduce the poem. It may be sung to Sibelius' "Finlandia".

A Song of Peace  
By Lloyd Stone

This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine;  
This is my home, the country where my heart is,  
This is my hope, my dream, my shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating,  
With hopes and dreams the same as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean  
And sunlight beams on clover-leaf and pine;  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover  
And skies are sometimes blue as mine.  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for their land and mine.

# Coast to Coast,—by Districts

## News about District Contests and District Meetings

Pictures of winners on next two pages

### CLEF DWELLERS FIRST IN MICH.

The 15 quartets qualifying for the finals in the Michigan District contest at Grand Rapids, Dec. 18, were the Clef Dwellers of Oakland County; Songmasters of Lansing; Collegians, Grosse Pointe; Barons of Wayne; Note-Orioles of Muskegon; Harmonaires of Holland; Paragons of Muskegon; Men of Achord, Saginaw-Bay City; Tune Vendors of Dowagiac; Four Keys from Three Rivers; Cosmopolitans, Pitchpipers and Travelers of Grand Rapids; and Left Out Four, Marcellus.

When the scores were totalled by Robert L. Irvine, Int'l. Bd. Member, who served as Secretary for judges Frank H. Thorne (Chmn.), Cy Perkins, Maurice E. Reagan, and Deac Martin, the Clef Dwellers were adjudged Michigan's new State Champions with the Songmasters, Collegians, Barons, and Note-Orioles, following in that order.

Grand Rapids presented a bargain bill to a heavy registration from Michigan. It included the state chorus sing, parade of past champions, a district barn dance, breakfast to the delegates, two daytime elimination contests, an outstanding style show and luncheon for women, and past champions luncheon for the men, ending with a Sunday morning musical breakfast.

The Saturday night finals were mc'd by G. Marvin Brower, four times president of Grand Rapids Chapter. The evening's entertainment included the Grand Rapids Chapter chorus under the direction of Frank B. Goodwin who is also conductor of Grand Rapids Schubert Club, oldest male chorus in the Great Lakes region. The Harmoniacs of Holland Chapter finished first in the Jr. class, and the Men of Achord were adjudged first among the Novices.

### LAND O' LAKES DISTRICT CONTEST

There was nothing limited about the harmony at the Land O' Lakes District Contest at Kenosha on Nov. 6 when the "Harmony L'd." of Green Bay won the championship. Monarch Range 4, Beaver Dam, were second; Northernaires, Rhineland, third; Golden Guernsey 4, Minneapolis, fourth and the Milwaukeeans, fifth. Eighteen eager quartets competed. The judges were Jim Doyle, chm., Andy Anderson, Al Strahle and Herman Struble—all of Chicago. Thirty-three chapters were represented at the District Board meeting. Pres. Johnny Means officiated as a revised constitution was adopted. It was voted also to incorporate the District. Invitations were received from Oshkosh and Wisconsin Rapids for the Fourth Annual Chorus Contest.

### OHIO-S. W. PENNA. DISTRICT CONTEST

The Jolly Fellows of Dayton who have been soaring pretty close to the championship ceiling for several years were adjudged district champions at the fifth annual Ohio-S. W. Penna. District Contest held in beautiful Stambaugh Auditorium, Youngstown, November 6. The judging panel of Int'l. V. P. J. D. Beeler, Chairman, with Robert Ising, Carl Jones, and Mark Roberts as judges, and Int'l. Bd. Member Roy S. Harvey, sec., selected the Tiger Town Four of Massillon for second place. Third came the Closeaires of Middletown, O., followed by the fourth place Steel Blenders of Lorain. Pennsylvania got into the charmed circle in the person of the Keystone Quads of Sharon.

The other five quartets with which they competed in the Saturday night finals were: Hot Rock Four, Washington, Pa.; Memory Laners, Canton; Sharonaders, Sharon, Pa.; Hilltoppers, Cleveland Heights, O.; and the Four Colonels of Corn, Wellington, O., this last a sweet singing foursome only two months old.

The quartets eliminated in the afternoon Preliminaries were Cantones, Canton, O.; Funmakers, Massillon, O.; Gem City Four, Dayton; Home-owners, Washington, Pa.; Televaires, Cleveland; Toledo Troubadours; Washingtons and Wilkinsburgers, Pittsburgh; and the Yachtsmen, Lakewood, O.

Guest quartets were the 1947-48 district champion Buzz Saws, Columbus, the Lamplighters, 1945 champions, Cleveland; and the perennial international medalists Westinghouse quartet of Pittsburgh.

At the evening show Int'l. V. P. James F. Knipe presented Youngstown's charter to J. Frank Conroy, Pres. The program included singing by the Youngstown chorus, G. Robert Smith, Director; and a memorial service by Youngstown Post 15 American Legion. Maynard L. Graft, Pres. Ohio-S. W. District, introduced the audience to the Society and introduced M. C. Chet Long, Columbus Chapter, to the audience. William W. Rowe was the general chairman.

### DIXIE HAILS FLORIDA KNIGHTS (TAMPA) AS CHAMPS

The Florida Knights won it fair and square at the Municipal Auditorium in Birmingham, Sam Breedon, lead; Kit Carson, tenor; Fred Breedon, bari; and Bill Bond, bass. The judges: Dr. Mark Nelson, (Canton, Ill.), Chairman; Joe Wodicka (St. Louis), Bob Shreves, (St. Louis), and Walt Karl, (Cleveland, Ohio) placed

the Choral Keyes (Miami), second; Sentimental Gentlemen (Atlanta), third; Rebel Rousers (Birmingham), fourth; and Magnolia Staters (Jackson), fifth. It all happened Nov. 20 with the district meeting being held the next morning at the Bankhead Hotel with Presy Warren Zinsmaster presiding and Secretary Tom Briskey assisting. Twenty chapters were represented. Berney Simmer, Central States President addressed the group. The 1949 Regional Preliminary will be held in Miami.

### POTOMAC CLIPPERS WIN

In the Mid-Atlantic District quartet Contest on Nov. 19 at Philadelphia some fancy chord clipping put Washington's Potomac Clippers in the top spot with Louis Metcalf, tenor; Norman MacLean, lead; Busey Howard, bari; Gene Watson, bass. Second place went to the Singing Squires (Wash.); third, Scrantonians (Scranton, Pa.); fourth, Jersey Ramblers (Newark) and fifth, Quaker City Four (Philadelphia). Judges were: Maurice Reagan, Chairman (Pittsburgh), Charlie Dickinson (Cleveland), Don Webster (Cleveland) and Bill Hotin (Holyoke).

The district board met a week earlier on Nov. 12 at Newark's Essex House President Ray Sandiford presiding. Nineteen chapters were represented. A motion authorized Passaic and Paterson to co-host a District Chorus Contest. Reading's bid for the 1949 Regional Preliminary was approved. The District plans to have a headquarters suite at Buffalo for the '49 Convention.

### FOUR CHORDERS — ONTARIO CHAMPS

Judges Mark Roberts (Chairman), and Lou Walley of Detroit, and Clevelanders Carroll Pallerin and George V. Cripps made a popular choice when the Four Chorders won the Ontario District Championship at Windsor, Ont. Art Patterson is tenor; Wils Starling, lead; Gerry Crooks, bari and Ron Starling, bass. The Del-Tones (Hamilton) were second; The Regents (Toronto), third; Tunetwisters (Toronto), fourth and the Night Owls (Kitchenerville), fifth. Ontario's genial President "Chappy" Chapman was M.C. while the Wallaceburg Chorus, E. Von Ayers directing, rocked Windsor's Walkerville Collegiate on that Nov. 20th night with clear cut barbershop harmony. Associate Int'l. Secretary Tom Needham led community singing. Friday night, Windsor Chapter held open house at the Norton Palmer Hotel, with 150 attending. The Metropolitan Detroit Chorus of SPEB entertained. Guest of honor was "Chappy" Chapman, who officiated at the district board meeting Saturday afternoon.

Acceptance of bids to host the 1949 Preliminary in May was postponed. Chappy announced that arrangements for a "Canadian Headquarters" at Buffalo in June are almost complete.

(Continued on page 32)

# DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

## and RUNNERS-UP



(1) — 2nd Place — Michigan — Song-masters, Lansing. L. to R. — Burdette Bottom, lead; Homer Winegardner, bari; Howard Hawkins, tenor; Harold McAttee, bass.

(2) — 1st Place — Michigan — Clef Dwellers, Oakland County. Reading clockwise: Harold "Hal" Bauer, bass; William "Bill" Johnston, bari; Duncan Hennah, lead; Thad R. "Dick" Wiseheart, tenor.

(3) — 2nd Place — Mid-Atlantic States — The Singing Squires, Washington, D. C. L. to R. — Lew Sims, tenor; Bill Shenahan, lead; Dean Snyder, bari; Elton Woolpert, bass.

(4) — 1st Place — Mid-Atlantic States — Potomac Clippers, Washington, D. C. L. to R. — Louis Metcalf, tenor; Norman MacLean, lead; Busey Howard, bari; Gene Watson, bass.

(5) — 1st Place — Land O'Lakes — Harmony Limited Quartet, Green Bay, Wis. L. to R. — Harold Lavin, tenor; Clayton Sears, lead; Charles De Seve, bari; Noel Ross Safford, bass.

(6) — 2nd Place — Land O'Lakes — Monarch Range Four, Beaver Dam, Wis. L. to R. — Carl Neuman, lead; Don Schweiger, tenor; Herb Schmutzler, bass; William Ptaschinski, bari.

(7) — Power L. to R. — McPher: Dale W.

(8) — Gamboli John G

Rod Tu



Central States—Hy-  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Franklin, lead; Don  
Bert F. Phelps, bari;

Central States —  
City, Mo. L. to R.:  
Ed Schliebs, lead;  
Orval Wilson, bari.

(9)—1st Place—Ohio-S. W. Penna.  
—Jolly Fellows, Dayton, O. Reading  
clockwise: C. Nurrenbrock, bass; LeRoy  
Lang, lead; Carl Lang, tenor; Claude  
Lang, bari.

(10)—2nd Place—Ohio-S. W. Penna.  
—Tiger Town Four, Massillon, O. Read-  
ing clockwise: Howard Millar, lead; Art  
Leading, bass; Bud Minger, tenor;  
Sheldon Bunting, bari.

(11)—1st Place—Ontario—Four  
Chords, London, Ont. L. to R.: Wils  
Starling, lead; Art Patterson, tenor;  
Gerry Crooks, bari; Ron Starling, bass.

(12)—2nd Place—Ontario—Del-  
Tones, Hamilton, Ont. L. to R.: Jack  
Smith, lead; Nnm Pyper, tenor; Bill  
Smith, bari; John Pyper, bass.

(13)—1st Place—Dixie—Florida  
Knights, Tampa. L. to R.: Sam Bree-  
don, lead; Kit Carson, tenor; Fred Bree-  
don, bari; Bill Bond, bass.

(14)—2nd Place—Dixie—Choral  
Keys, Miami, Fla.—L. to R.: Robert  
P. Holbrook; William H. Hall; Warren  
W. Zinsmaster; John M. Culligan.

# High Note of any evening

Clear as a bell, like your own star tenor, Kingsbury Aristocrat of Beer sounds the perfect high note of enjoyment wherever good fellows gather in friendly harmony.

Ask for it next time. You'll agree, there's a full measure of pleasure in every golden drop.

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ARISTOCRAT OF  
*Beer*



**KINGSBURY BREWERIES CO.**  
**MANITOWOC & SHEBOGAN, WIS.**

## COAST TO COAST

(Continued from page 29)

### SERENADERS

#### CENTRAL STATES CHAMPS

by Tom Needham

Don McPherson, tenor; Ben Franklin, lead; Bert Phelps, bari, and Dale Warwick, bass, harmonized the Hy-Power Serenaders, (K. C.) into first place at Kansas City on November 13th. Following them were: The Gamboliers (K. C.), second; The Plainsmen (Lubbock, Tex.), third; The Four Nubbins (Spencer, Ia.), fourth and The Riss Rhythmairs (K. C.), fifth. Music Hall was the "Court of Swipes" as the judges, The Misfits (1945 Int'l. Champs), consisting of Cy Perkins, Joe Murrin, Art Bielan and Pete Buckley weighed the evidence. Councilman Joe Nolan and Marion Miller were timekeepers. Carroll P. Adams, Int'l. Secretary, was M.C. and Int'l. Vice President Jerry Beeler was Secretary of Judges.

The District Board meeting was held in the morning at the Phillips Hotel, with 48 chapters represented as District Prexy Berney Simner presided. Dividing the area to create a new "Southwestern District," consisting of Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico was unanimously approved. It had already been sanctioned by the Int'l. Board. One hundred dollars was voted for the new district's treasury. An organizational meeting is set for February 19, at Wichita Falls, Texas. In addition to official delegates 50 chapter members and officers attended (despite seemingly prohibitive distances).

### YOUNGSTOWN HOST TO DISTRICT BOARD

The Ohio-Southwestern Pa. District Board met at the Hotel Pick-Ohio in Youngstown on November 7. In addition to officers and delegates the following Int'l. Board Members were present: Jim Emsley (Canton); Jim Knipe (Int'l. Vice President) (Cleveland); Roy Harvey (Muskegon, Mich.), and ex-member Dick Common (Dayton). Distr. President Maynard L. Graft steered the meeting with Secretary Larry Pomeroy assisting. Problems of inter-chapter relations and community service were a principal subject.

Nate Berthoff (Elyria) agreed to compile news data to publish a quarterly district paper. Hands showed that 15 chapters own parade shells. Canton prexy, Bob Hafer, extended his chapter's invitation for the 1949 Regional Preliminary. It was accepted. Cincinnati is to be the host for the 1949 (Fall) District Contest.

### MICHIGAN BOARD MEETS

The Board and Delegates of the Mich. District Ass'n. met in the Pantlind Hotel, December 18th. President Ed Smith (he's also an Int'l. V. P.) officiated during most of the meeting. When his quartet was "contesting", V. P. Roy Harvey (Int'l. Bd. member)

took over. Consensus was that Extension was under control and the district could well afford to concentrate on chapter guidance and strengthening of district organization. Areas within the district will be set up with a governor in each to counsel with chapters to promote better Parades and Inter-Chapter Relations. The third Saturday in November seemed best for '49 District Contest and it was recommended that the Laws and Regulations Committee consider the necessary constitutional amendment.

### "ON THE WAY UP"

Just as we wonder what the catcher says to the pitcher when he walks out to the pitching mound, we often wonder what goes on in the minds of quartets. The following comment by Claude Lang, bari of the (Dayton) Jolly Fellows, 1948-49 Ohio-S. W. Penna. District champions is illuminating. "The contest at Youngstown was a honey. We had 2 foursomes picked that, we were afraid, had taken care of us. We all agreed on the way home that if we hadn't copped it this year we probably never would. There sure are some comers on the way up."

### KNOW YOUR CHAPTER- DISTRICT RELATIONSHIP

The Society divides the U. S. and Canada into geographical Districts, in each of which there is an officially chartered District Association having its own constitution, a complete set of officers and committees, and a Board of Directors consisting of one or more representatives from each chapter located within the boundaries of the District. Meetings of the Board, including all officers of the District, are held at least twice each year.

The operation of District Ass'ns. is one of the most important cogs in the wheels of progress. Coincident with the Society's astounding rate of growth—both in total members and in number of chapters—many details of supervision and guidance formerly handled by the Int'l. Secretary's office now fall within the province of District officers and committees. Similarly, District Boards function locally in much the same way that the Int'l. Board operates on a Society-wide scale. The obligations and duties of a chapter to its District Association are of great importance.

District procedures and the relationships of a chapter to a District Association are covered in a booklet now available from the Int'l. Secretary at no cost.

### CHANGES IN COMMITTEE ON DISTRICTS

Business pressure combined with medicos' advice to "slow down" forced the resignation of Maynard L. Graft, Cleveland, from the chairmanship of the Committee on Districts. W. G. (Stub) Taylor, Schenectady, N. Y. moves up to the chair, and Bd. Member J. Z. Means, Manitowoc, Wis. is added to the committee.

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

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

## CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES PLANNED AND EXECUTED

Through the holiday season many chapters have been caroling with choruses and quartets. Cohoes sang in the street to the holiday shoppers; Waupun used the city's P.A. system; Genesee and South Bend helped the Salvation Army kettle collections on street corners; Conway took along baskets of fruit for shut-ins.

But our good will extends throughout the year. Can your chapter tie Green Bay's record—they recently entertained (count 'em) St. Joseph's Orphanage, the Sanitorium, the County Home, the Old Folks Home, three hospitals, the Home for Wayward Girls!

Northampton reports that in the Dickinson Hospital the children's ward liked the chorus rendition of "The Animal Fair", while the maternity ward preferred "Give me 5 Babies more, Only 5 Babies More".

More and more of our choruses are going to church, pinch hitting for the regular choir. Clarence Marlowe of Clayton, Mo., says "something of this nature would let the church going people of the country know that our society is not a bunch of toppers and that we are just as unselfish and innately religious in nature, if not more so, than any other group or society in the country." Some chapters that have performed in the choir loft recently are: Clayton, Schenectady, Spencer, and Mansfield.

Here are some of the chapters that have been outstanding recently in their work in singing to hospital audiences:

New Haven, Reading, Holyoke, Marlboro, Salem, Boston, New Britain, Northampton, Bridgeport, Schenectady, Penns Grove, Dunkirk, Genesee, Alliance, Medina, Gary, Louisville, Roanoke, South Town, Streator, Grosse Pointe, Saginaw, Lubbock, San Antonio, Osborne, Beaver Dam, Green Bay, San Jose, Glendale, Van Nuys, Long Beach, San Diego, Tri City, Phoenix.

## MERIDEN CHAPTER GIVES TO LIONS CLUB



Meriden, Conn. Chapter co-sponsored a parade with the local Lions Club to raise money for a swimming pool. L. to R.: Ernest Kirkby, Gen. Chmn. Parade Comin.; Harry Hefflin, Pres. Meriden Chapter presenting a check for \$400.00 to Ralph Clark, Pres. Meriden Lions Club. On right Edward G. Kneel, Chmn. Swimming Pool Comm.

## OMAHA'S CHECK TO TINY TOTS



Here's how J. T. (Dick) Stewart, II, presented Omaha's Ak-Sar-Ben Chapter check of \$1,003.58 to two-year-old Eddie Klosterman, who received it "officially" for the Children's Memorial Hospital. Funds came from the Oct. 9 Parade. Total contributions of Omaha Chapter to the Children's Hospital now exceed \$3,000.00. (World Herald photo.)

## SO. BEND SINGS FOR "SALLIES"

A South Bend newspaper reported "With a Salvation Army kettle as a background the Tone Poets and Oak Ridge Four held center stage for an hour and a half while Xmas shoppers kept the kettles boiling". Back of this was a card to South Bend Sec. Leo Zgadzinske from "Mike" Michel of Rochester, N. Y., telling what Rochester did for the Army last Christmas.

In thanking the Tone Poets, the Oak Ridge Four and the South Bend Chapter, Capt. Stubbs of the Salvation Army said that donations jumped 50% while the boys were singing. Zgadzinske concludes: "So I guess there were a few more unfortunate families made happy this year than last. It makes one feel pretty good knowing you have done something worthwhile."

## \$100 A MINUTE SETS RECORD FOR SOCIETY'S QUARTETS

While a Y. M. C. A. building fund campaign progressed in Connerville, Ind., a quartet from the local chapter sang at the Elk's Club Christmas party. Guest Eric O. Johnson asked the boys to sing "Silent Night".

When they had finished, he promised \$500.00 to the Y fund if they would come to his home and sing that same song again for his family. They did—and he did—in addition to a heart-warming welcome from Mrs. Johnson. Chas. Wachstetter, Robert Thompson, Marvin Van Ausdal and Murray Stephens, the \$100.00-dollar-a-minute foursome have agreed to sing again for comparable gifts to the Y. M. C. A. Furthermore it's fun, they say.

## BARBERSHOPPERS ARE GENEROUS

Int'l. Bd. Member Chuck Glover says that our Society should develop into the leading Service organization in the country. Chuck, take a look at the following list—it's just a few of the more recent Community Service benefits that have come to the attention of the Community Service Committee. The gang is in there pitching!

### Northeastern:

New Bedford; proceeds of Brockton show given to South Baptist church. Northampton: large donation to Infantile Paralysis Fund. Burlington: \$2300 raised by a show for a hospital benefit. Meriden: funds for girl scouts. Schenectady: 3 music scholarships for high school students.

### Mid-Atlantic States:

Woodbridge: \$1500 raised for Hasbrouck Heights Hospital Guild.

### Central Western New York:

Bath: minstrel show—\$300 to redecorate Methodist Church. Hornell: \$1200 for local charities. Jamestown: \$400 to boys and girls clubs.

### Ohio S.W. Pa.:

Findlay: donated marching spats to high school band; Napoleon: donation toward wading pool for youngsters. Wellsburg: Donation toward recreation equipment for playground.

### Indiana-Kentucky:

Michigan City: \$650 for a Scout campsite. Mishawaka: Parade for playground benefit.

### Michigan:

Muskegon: 4 memberships in YMCA for four boys. Niles: turned over \$485 to Taylor family benefit.

### Illinois:

LaSalle: bought overcoats for high school band. Macomb: 6 scholarships to Western State College.

### Central States:

Kansas City: \$500 to Community Chest. Kiowa: Bought piano for Boy Scouts troop hut. Bartlesville: playground association benefit.

### Land O'Lakes:

Madison: funds for community band shell. Waukesha: \$100 toward a Youth Center Building.

Have I missed your chapter? Of course I haven't seen the Swipes for this issue . . . drop me a line: Art Merrill, 1567 Kingston Ave., Schenectady 8, N. Y.

## LA CROSSE AIDS WELFARE GROUPS



In Dec. La Crosse Chapter presented checks of several hundred dollars to the Catholic Welfare Bureau and Family Welfare Association. Presentations were made by Ove Geborud (L) and F. O. Russell (R), La Crosse Pres. Recipients were Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. N. Schuh, Director of Catholic Welfare and E. L. Newman, Exec. Sec. of the Family Welfare Ass'n. Chicago Tribune Photo.



### READING SINGS FOR INVALIDS

Reading, Penn. chorus as it appeared on the stairs of St. Joseph's Hospital just before Christmas in its program of carols and old songs for the patients.

### WASHINGTON, D. C. SINGS FOR CHURCH BENEFIT

Frank Shore and Jesse Nussear, members of Washington, D. C. Chapter, invited local quartets to appear at their First Congregational Church in a benefit concert. The church was packed to the rafters to hear the Capitoliens, Chordmasters, Democrats, Columbians, Treble Shooters, Potomac Clippers, and Singing Squires in a concert augmented by Dr. Robert Howe Harmon's Singing Capitol Chorus. The church ladies netted \$300.00 and that same number of people were turned away when the seats had been filled. Ed Carey, Ass't. Chorus Director, is in charge of the First Congregational's music. The Treble Shooters originated in his choir.

### KENMORE, N. Y. URGES MORE COMMUNITY SERVICE

J. D. Schoepf, Pres. of Kenmore, N. Y. Chapter sent a Christmas letter to members in which he said that the fun of singing "unlike the concrete commodities in life can not be bought". He takes the viewpoint that the degree of enjoyment is proportional to the amount of participation of the individual member, and closes with the hope for 1949 "let's sing, help others sing, sing out to those unfortunate people unable to express themselves through song".

The chapter's postcard bulletin for the holidays reflects the Schoepf principles. Between December 21 and January 2 the chapter was scheduled for seven appearances at orphanages, hospitals, and comparable institutions.

### WABASH, IND. CONDUCTS CONTEST—GAINS GOOD WILL

The Wabash County, Ind. Chapter conducted a series of amateur contests, travelling to eight schools and judging more than 100 contestants.

The idea was to promote anything along musical lines. Winners, selected by audience applause, received prize money amounting to \$160.00. Local merchants donated generously. The winners of the contest will appear on the chapter's minstrel show in April. Local people praised it as "the best staged show ever put on by Wabash County people. In fact nothing with the exception of sports has been staged like this for years."

### AID "OFF-THE-STREET"

Walter Jay Stephens, Chicago, suggests credit to the '46 champion Misfits and the Chicagoans for their work at the "Off-the-Street Club" Christmas party, at which all money raised went for educational and recreational purposes for unfortunate children. This program is the highlight of the Chicago Federated Advertising Clubs' activities for the year and the Society did an outstanding job through its agents the Misfits and Chicagoans.

### BURLINGTON, VT. — \$2300 GIFT

From the proceeds of its parade Burlington, Vt. Chapter handed a check for \$2300.00 to the Mary Fletcher Hospital Auxiliary, while gaining city-wide popularity for this type of show and good will for its good deed. Milton Slater, writing in the local paper, reported it in part: "An evening of uninhibited song, alternately crooned, whispered, caressed and bellowed . . . there is no denying the charm and abandon inherent in that kind of unaccompanied singing . . . The concert was a darn good show . . . aurally and visually."

This November 5th presentation in Memorial Auditorium brought together the Four Fortes, the Uncalled Four, the Barrettones, the Maple Sugar Four, the Rustling Reeds, the Ethan Allen Four, the Sigma Phi Four, and the guest quartet, the Linen Dusters of Hartford.

### PATERSON, N. J. GIVES

Withered 4, Excellio 4, Riverside 4, Paterson 4, Pianist Boh Donnelly and the team of Kunitz and Thompson, have made a number of appearances, including Red Cross, Community Chest, March of Dimes, St. Joseph's Hospital, Paterson General Hospital, Hope Dell, Valley View Sanatorium, Boonton Firemen's Home and two Veterans Hospitals.

### ALTON BOUGHT A BOAT



Pres. Denham Franklin (L) Alton, Ill. Chapter presents a check for \$200.00 to Pres. Ed Stobbs of the Alton Voluntary Emergency Corps, Inc. The check pays for the metal boat given by Alton Chapter to the Voluntary Emergency group to be used in water rescue work.

### SCHENECTADY SCHOLARSHIPS



From proceeds of its fourth annual parade Schenectady awarded three scholarships in music to high school students. Contestants were nominated by music department heads of the schools. They were auditioned before a group of local musicians. L. to R.: Fred Rapant, Arthur DeLuke (winner) Sydney Osterhault, Janet Miller, Frank Santoro. Standing: Bruce Butler (winner), Richard Lottridge (winner), Albert Ruiz, and Conrad Kuchay.



## DO YOU REMEMBER?

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

*Is there a genius present . . . and how'd you like to write a song? Well, here's your opportunity. Some time ago your Olde Editor was looking through several bound volumes of oldies that O. C. Cash had contributed to the Society Library and he ran across one that really was intriguing. The title was Tillie Tootie (The Coney Island Beauty) and the words had a swing that just couldn't miss. The melody however was, to say the least, a definite let down and the song fell flat on its face.*

*The number was written in 1898 and how the writers ever managed to mess up such swell lyrics with a tune like that we'll never know. Having in mind many of our members who are capable of turning out swell melodies we couldn't help but feel that Tillie should certainly have another chance. We checked and found that the number is now in the public domain and resolved then and there to appeal to the creative genius that so abundantly graces our grand organization and see if someone can't come up with another Coney Island creation that will really do justice to a lilting lyric that certainly deserves a much better fate than the one that befell it in 1898. Here are the words to the chorus. Let's see what you can do with it.*

*She is the belle of the beach, neat little sweet little peach, all the dudes sigh for her, all the dudes cry for her, but she is way out of reach. She is the queen of the sea, afraid of water not she, as cute as a plaything when she is in bathing, the cute little belle of the beach.*

*Who remembers Charlie King at the Century Roof back in 1918 singing There's A Million Girls Around Me with Phil Baker behind him playing his accompaniment on the accordin. And by the way your Olde Ed used to do a fair to middlin' job with that one before he developed such a bad case of "gravel on the larynx".*

*In the September issue of the Harmonizer was a Society arrangement of a song titled In the Valley Of the Moon written by Charles Tobias and Joe Burke and copyrighted in 1946. The title was familiar but*

the words had us stumped. We remembered back around 1917 singing "in the valley of the moon, where I met you one night in June, etc." and wondered if we were seeing things or was it just that we were nuttier than usual. George Lucas also remembered our valley and our moon and explained that it was written in 1913 by Jeff Brannen and published originally by Joe Morris. George also claims that there is still another In the Valley of the Moon written in 1933 and that Charles Tobias also had a hand in this one. All of which is passed along to show you when you write the Old Songs Committee for information about a song it's important to give us ALL THE INFORMATION you can. A line or two of the verse or chorus will help immensely as there are often dozens of songs with the same or approximately the same titles.

*Our Christmas mail this year brought greetings from the Pittsburghers, Garden State Four, Doctors of Harmony, Sentimental Four, Misfits, Yachtsmen, King Cole, Hal Staab, Art Sweeney, Red Masters, Frank Thorne, Doc Putnam, and Carroll Adams and we deeply appreciated their thoughts of us. Nearly all were special works of art and clever as the deuce but we're inclined to give first place to a greeting that came after New Year's and wasn't intended for a Christmas greeting at all . . . but how we love to get 'em.*

*Our search for My Pretty Maumee didn't get us anywhere but it did bring a letter from Bill Hudson of Kansas City who thought it might be My Little Mohee which he states is an old folk song that goes back eons and eons. It's about a little Indian gal who turned out to be more sincere than "the one he left behind who married the other guy", etc., etc. Bill says there were five verses and he sends the words to four of them. Verse number four is missing and he wants to know if anyone can supply it. No, we didn't find "Maumee" but here we go again with both of them on our hands.*

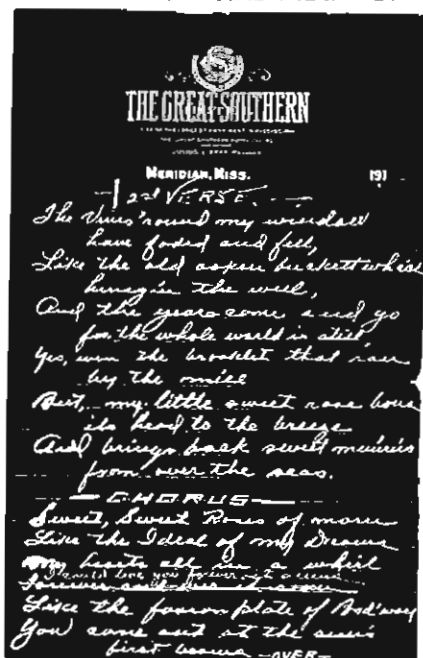
*It was from Billy Curran of Holyoke, Mass. An envelope containing forty wonderful OLD SONGS for the Library. As we looked them over and reveled in the memories that came with such numbers as Keep Your Eye On the Girlie You Love, Down the Trail To Home Sweet Home, Somebody's Coming To Town,*

*M-O-T-H-E-R, They Were All Out of Step But Jim, Oh By Jingo, They Cut Down the Old Pine Tree, Yip-I-Addy-I-Ay, The Little House Upon the Hill, Lew Dockstaders' It's A Long Way Back To Dear Old Mother's Knee, and Don't Wake Me Up I Am Dreaming as Frank Morrell used to sing it, we couldn't help but think what a wonderful thing it would be if every member of the Society would send Old Songs for the Library every Christmas.*

*Notes from the Editor's Cuff. So Joe Troe got his copy of Bridget O'Flynn. Good, we can cross that off. The number that Don Hill wants is Oh By Jingo. We've got a copy of it in the Library. No, indeed, we haven't forgotten Doc Putnam the man who remembered over a thousand songs. Hope Bob Perkins was satisfied. We didn't get them all . . . but that was quite a long list. Darn good thing we were able to dig up I'd Do As Much For You, for Jackson of the San Francisco Chronicle. Can't let those newspaper boys get the idea that we aren't any good . . . even though we aren't. Wonder if Earl Oppenhagen got the dope he wanted on When the Band Played River Shannon? Must have or he'd have written again. Glad Guy Stoppert located Cool Water but for the life of us we can't understand why. Personally we'd much rather drink it than listen to it . . . but we could be wrong. Wonder if Jerry Vogel located I Want You To Know That I Love You for J. E. Jones, In the Land Of Old Black Joe for Earl Thompson and those three numbers for Francis Sourbeer. We sure gave Frank Thorne prompt action on Where the Dreamy Wabash Flows and After Dark. Hope we got them cleared in time for his broadcast. Now all we've got to do is to tell A. W. Pauley about Cecelia and send Lawrence Lent the data on From Here To Shanghai . . . and we can toss this shirt into the laundry and get a new one for 1949 . . . Happy New Year.*

*Your Grandpappy Yodeled I Want To See the Old Home which was written in 1873 by Frank Dumont and James E. Stewart about a homesick chap who was longing for one more look at the "good old home, before I pass away", the chorus of which went: "Oh the good old days are pass'd and gone, I sigh for them in vain, I want to see the cotton fields, and the dear old home again." Do you remember?*

## ORIGINAL DRAFT OF "SWEET ROSES OF MORN"



When the editors read J. George O'Brien's "Do You Remember?" copy for Dec. they immediately started on the trail of the original draft of "Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn" with the hope that it could be reproduced in that Americana issue. Delays made that impossible, but here it is. To get the complete story read the middle column of "Do You Remember?", page 44, Dec. *Harmonizer*, in which O'Brien and Sigmund Spaeth reported the facts about this most popular song written by Oscar F. Jones and Martin S. Penke. Note in the above how Brother Jones changed the fourth line of the chorus. Jones belongs to Dallas Chapter. Peake lives in Montgomery, Ala. Frank Thorne has recently written very fine music for the verse—something that Jones and Peake never got around to.

## "BELIEVE IT OR NOT"

By Chuck Glover

While Bill Coddington, Int'l. Bd. Member was in Hornell, New York attending the C.W.N.Y. District Contest in mid-October, he kept casting inquiring glances at one of the contest judges, namely E. V. (Cy) Perkins of Misfit fame. Bill was trying to tie something together

and finally it struck like a bolt out of the blue. Way back in 1918 Bill and Cy were members of the same U. S. Naval Railway Battery. They trained together in this country and were overseas together. When reminded of this, Cy too had that look of awakening. From then on you just couldn't keep those two apart or from reminiscing about their experiences of thirty years ago.

## AUDIENCE AND QUARTETS

## PRAISE BATH (N. Y.) AFTERGLOW

Because After Glows become more a problem (witness the comment in this issue alone) a letter from H. K. Spencer regarding the Bath, N. Y., After Glow, which followed an unusually successful parade, is well worthy of consideration by all parade committees.

"Heretofore, we have held After Glows and attended other After Glows where a bar was conveniently near. This year we experimented with an absolutely dry After Glow. We had some trouble selling advance tickets, not because it was dry but because people expected it would be the same old story, so much disturbance that it would be difficult to hear the quartets.

"But when we adjourned to the Masonic Temple for the After Glow, all of the 300 seats were taken. From the time Sherm Slocum, our M.C., started the ball rolling until the last quartet had finished, one could not have hoped for finer courtesy than was shown by the audience. The audience was all ears and you could hear a pin drop.

"This may sound rather far-fetched perhaps. But, after the After Glow, scores of people came to us and congratulated us upon the fine manner in which it was presented and praised us in superlatives upon how much they enjoyed it compared with the wet After Glows. Not only the audience but the quartets were loud with their praise.

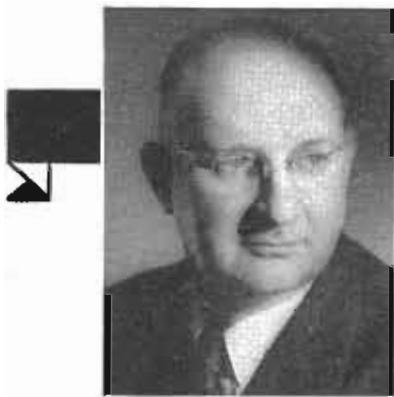
"So, here's one chapter that will never hold another After Glow with a bar. Most of us like and enjoy a drink when among good fellows but there is a time and place for everything and, I agree with Carroll that the time and place is Not at the After Glows."

## 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
Because You're Irish	1917	Kahn & Van Alstyne	Jerome H. Remick
Broadway Rose	1920	Fried & Spencer	Fred Fischer, Inc.
Cecilia	1925	Ruby & Dreyer	Irving Berlin
Cool Water	1947	Bob Nolan	American Music, Inc.
From Here To Shanghai	1914	Irving Berlin	Irving Berlin
Good Night Little Girl, Good Night	1914	Dubin & McCormack	Jerry Vogel
Honey Love Me All the Time	1905	Jerome & Schwartz	Jerome H. Remick
I'd Do As Much For You (from Sweet and Low)	1912	Jerome & Von Tilzer	Harry Von Tilzer Music Co.
I Know What It Means To Be Lonesome	1919	Kendis, Brockman & Vincent	Leo Feist, Inc.
In the Valley of the Moon	1913	Jeff Branen	Jerry Vogel
In the Valley of the Moon	1946	Tobias & Burke	Edwin H. Morris & Co.
I've Got the Time, I've Got the Place, But It's Hard To Find the Girl	1900	Henry & MacDonald	J. W. Stern & Co.
Last Rose Of Summer Is the Sweetest Song Of All, The	1907	Sidney	J. W. Stern & Co.
Mandy 'n Me	1921	Kalmar, Conrad & Motzan	Shapiro, Bernstein & Co.
Oh By Jingo	1929	Brown & Von Tilzer	Broadway Music Corp.
Oh Gee! Say Gee! You Ought To See My	1920	Brown & Von Tilzer	Broadway Music Corp.
Gee Gee From the Fiji Isle	1926	Davis, Santley & Ackman	Irving Berlin
Put Your Arms Where They Belong	1912	Carey	
Sally In Our Alley		(Originally about 1720)	De Luxe Music Co.
Stein Song (from The Prince Of Pilsen)	1898	Hovey & Bullard	Jerry Vogel
Tea For Two (from No No Nanette)	1924	Caesar & Youmans	Harms, Inc.
There's A Lot of Blue-eyed Marys Down In Maryland	1919	Yellen, Ager & Meyers	Leo Feist, Inc.
Tillie Tootie (The Coney Island Beauty)	1898	Lamb & Barnett	Groene Music Pub. Co.
When the Black Sheep Returns To the Fold	1916	Irving Berlin	Waterson, Berlin & Snyder
When the Corn Is Waving Annie Dear	1869	Blamphin	J. L. Carneriss & Co.
When the Sun Goes Down In Dixie	1917	McCarron & Von Tilzer	Broadway Music Corp.

NOTE: The publishers listed may not be present publisher, as songs can change owners several times over a period of years. The listing, however, will enable your dealer to locate the number for you.



# SPARK PLUGS

by Frank H. Thorne, Past Int'l. President

If you know all the answers how to best arrange Barber Shop harmony (lucky you) don't read on. However, by the many questions I have been asked in person and by mail, I realize that there is a sizeable number of our good members who yearn to know more about how to put more musical oomph in their numbers. I'll try my best to help.

But first let me talk on another subject. I just received my copy of our ten year history, "Keep America Singing" and Deac Martin, who wrote it, certainly deserves a vote of thanks from all of us. If you were a part of this great movement during the first ten years, you certainly will want to have a copy for yourself and perhaps for some of your family because you cannot help but be impressed with this tremendous and fine institution which you helped build. I am sure you will never realize this quite so well until you give yourself the enjoyment and realization within the covers of "Keep America Singing."

If you were not a part of that ten year history, you will nevertheless want to get a copy because I am sure you will have a greater appreciation of the fine organization you are now a part of and whose history you will be helping to write in the future.

Every member owes it to himself and to our fine Society to read and re-read "Keep America Singing".

Don't wait for nine other guys to order. Send \$2.50 to Carroll and tell him to rush your copy to you. It will be of intense interest to you now and in years to come will occupy a valuable place in your library. But now, back to see if I can help you, if you need it, in the problem of preparing good arrangements.

First, we must learn how to talk to each other in musical language. The easiest one to use is the DO MI SOL system. Do not stop here because that may be more simple to learn than you think. There are only 12 letters to this musical alphabet. That's not so many so all you have to do is learn what they mean. I hope you know that interesting Jealous song that goes, "I'm jealous of the moon that shines above." Sing it! Good, you have just sung 10 of the 12 musical words we need to know. Now sing "Jealous" again but use these words fi SOL si

LA li TI DO' RE' ri MI'. Sounds like Italian, but it was easy—wasn't it? But we are still short two tones in our musical scale, so if we "slur" or slide the word "that" up an extra one-half tone, we'll put in "di" and when we get to the last word "above" if we slur up a half tone and then go back down again the highest tone will be "FA" so there are the whole 12 tones we are going to talk about.

It will now go. fi SOL si LA li TI DO' di RE' ri MI'-FA'-MI'.

Let's swipe one of Reagan's charts so maybe we can picture this better. It shows the most desirable voicing of the seven principal chords used in Barbershop harmony. Mind you, the melody frequently gets in your way and if it does we have to compromise with it. Now, take a look.

I have added to the right of the chart the tones that would be used in the key of C and to the right of that the key of G and Bb so that those of you who are familiar with instrument notation can find out where you are at. However, by all means learn the DO MI SOL side called the Solmization System. Otherwise, if you want to change keys you'll have to write a new right hand column in each new key you want to use, whereas with the solmization system, you

do not need to bother. Probably at some time you were taught DO RE MI FA SOL LA TI DO'.

That arrangement of tones is called the "diatonic" scale. Note I have used all capital letters. The apostrophe mark on the last DO' is called a "prime."

You see it is the "double" of the first DO, but is one octave higher. Now notice that the di ri fi si li are not capitalized. They are the missing one-half tones needed to fill in between the whole tone intervals. So, when we start at DO and sing every single one-half tone all the way up to the DO' (the next DO an octave higher) that is called the "Chromatic" scale. Guess that's the best I can do. If you are still in doubt as to what I'm talking about up to this point, please try and find someone who can explain it to you so we can get on to the job of what to do with these 12 musical names we know. Now get a quartet together and we'll start on "You had a Dream Dear". Yes, I sing it "I" too, but I'll use the public domain (copyright expired) version. I'll always put the voices in the order from top to bottom, Tenor, Lead, Baritone, Bass. Let's see how absolutely simple we can sing that phrase. Here it is, with Reagan clock numbers indicated:

## 1st Arrangement

YOU	HAD	A	DREAM	DEAR
12	Diminished	11	12	12
MI'	ri'	fa'	MI'	SOL'
SOL	fi	LA	SOL	MI'
DO'	DO'	DO'	DO'	DO'
DO	DO	DO	DO	DO

Now, take a look at the 2nd arrangement. It commences to sound a bit more like our kind of music, but still lacks the old stuff.

## 2nd Arrangement

12	57	57	12	37
MI'	ri'	ri'	MI'	SOL'
SOL	fi	LA	SOL	MI'
DO'	LA	fi	DO	di'
DO	TI	ti	DO	LA

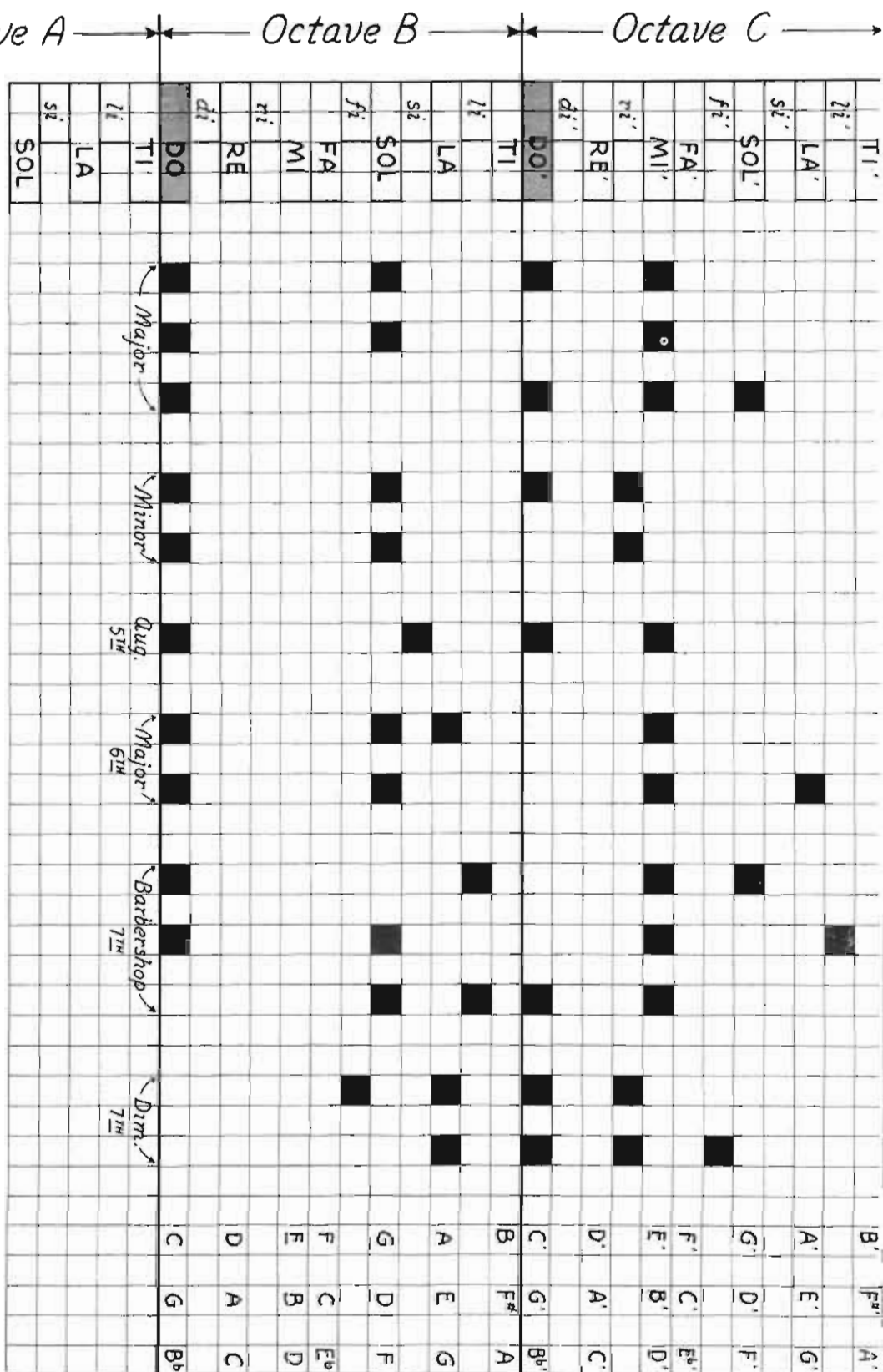
## 3rd Arrangement—Italics and dash will denote a tie.

12	57	57	12	37
MI'	ri'	ri'	MI'-SOL'	SOL'
SOL	fi	LA	SOL-MI'	MI
DO'	LA	fi	DO'-RE'	di'
DO	TI	TI	DO-li	LA

Probably more to your liking (I hope). But if you still want a little something extra we'll let the bass sing a little swipe on "dream" while the rest of the quartet hangs on. Thus, DO'-li-DO'-li—then he goes on to LA on "dear."

Now here is hoping you can think of something still better. Just be careful though—Don't get out on a limb. More on this subject in the next Harmonizer if you want it. Write Carroll or me and say so. I'm willing to spend the time if I can be of help.

## PREFERABLE BARBERSHOP CHORD ARRANGEMENT



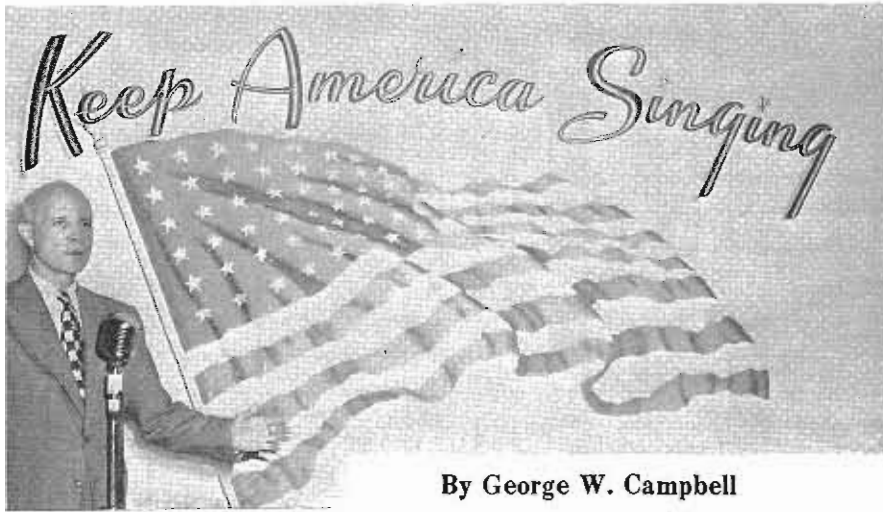
### CHORDBUSTERS ACTIVE

"Doc" Enmeier, tenor of the Chord-busters, writes:

"We're still plugging away at singing with our new lead, Del Jackson. He's doing well and we are making some public appearances now. Were invited to Joplin short while ago and

were told that we did swell. We're slated for Oklahoma City Parade, and McAlester, Okla. show, and if things work out as planned we will appear at St. Louis on their show. We are anxious to make the latter since we won our Championship there in '42. I'm hoping we might all come to Buf-

falo in June, but am afraid chances are rather slim. Tom is pretty well tied down now since he and Kay became the proud parents of a baby girl about 5 months ago. Mrs. Enmeier and I became grandparents about the same time (also a girl)—can you imagine it?"



By George W. Campbell

"Keep America Singing", the ten year history of our Society is off the press. Somehow, word got around that my picture was in it, along with a hundred other important people, hence the terrific interest in it. Laying all seriousness aside, for thousands of you the book is full of abiding memories, inspiration, surprises and downright belly laughs.

Don't let that term "history" fool you. You and I remember "history" as dates and dead things. Keep America Singing is a record of GROWTH. It's live stuff! Old Deac (C. T.) Martin, the author, never monkeys around with dead material. It's your record; you are in it—it belongs to YOU! But you'll have to buy it, but quick. Become an owner of the first run edition.

It is a must for every member of the Society. Henceforth it should be included in the initiation fee of each new member! This is a conviction. Don't misunderstand me — I'm not plugging the book. I paid for my copy. But this column is dedicated to all things that will help to "Keep America Singing"—pardon me. "Singing". Therefore I feel it my duty to urge its acceptance on the part of every member. Get your copy now! Throwing all my Scotch proclivities to the wind I'll go further and give you a bit of orientation on reading the book.

Don't begin at the beginning. There are six numbered sections; actually there are seven. Turn to page 126—the appendix section. Read that number one appendix three or four times. Then close your eyes, recalling any parade you attended in 1948. What progress! Now jump your appendix to lucky 13! There they are—all of them: THE CHAMPIONS!

1939 to 1948. Gentle reader, if you have not bought your copy of Keep America Singing I betcha I know something you don't know. Who was the National President of our Society in 1941-42? Look at that picture on page 42. What a man!

Now back to your appendix before you go to the front. Appendix number three. What a—what a—well, you call it, I'd just say what a Guy! Now begin at the beginning, salute

the Founder and from here on you won't want to be bothered by anything or anybody. I warn you, better take the dog out for a walk before you settle down. Once you pick it up you can't lay it down.



Frank Lewis and John Groce, members of Redford, (Detroit) Chapter raise an interesting question: "What would you do if you were called up in front to lead the whole chapter in a song?" Well, I dare say I would get up and lead a song. What would you do, Frank? Let me know what you did. Maybe there are others who would be interested in telling us what they did. I know what one chapter member did when the president without advance notice or warning of any kind called on him to lead a song.

Said member arose in his place and with considerable dignity declined acceptance of the opportunity with this pungent remark: "Thank you, sir, but I'm not going to get up there in front and make an ass out of myself without preparation." Very few chapter presidents would be so thoughtless. Okeh, Frank, so he did tell you he was going to call on you for a few songs at the opening of the chapter meeting. If you are still waiting for him to call on you I would offer the following suggestions:

1. Be ready with a song—one that YOU know and one that you know EVERYBODY knows. The moment you hit the platform tell 'em we're going to sing! name it, then sing it.
2. No apologies, such as: "Well fellows, I don't know why Bill called on me to lead a song—he knows I'm no song leader." Now, everybody knows it. You talked them into it. They agree with you, and by the time you begin another apologetic remark you begin to sense they agree with you; you've forgotten the song you intended to ask them to sing, in fact you may be wondering where you are—but you know you feel like you were in a mull of a mess. The first step towards self-confidence is prepara-

tion. Don't apologize. People want to be led in their singing together. Be the leader.

3. When leading the whole chapter in singing use songs other than those being rehearsed by the chapter chorus. Let the group sing for the joy and the fun of singing—no instructions — no coaching. At the moment you are the song leader—not the director. As leader you are a member of the group, except that you happen to be the one up front leading with arms, voice and spirit.
4. Remembering always, Frank, the fellows in front of you are more willing to sing with you than you, at the moment, are willing to lead them. Old Man Self-Consciousness is bothering you. Kick him in the teeth.
5. This is negative, but I learned it the hard way; never, never scold the group. I have discovered long since, that an audience is people and people are sensitive; they love commendation and appreciate recognition for effort.
6. Don't be discouraged, Frank. I know, you are saying that is all well and good for an old-timer to say, but I have never done this before. Sure, that is the reason I'm saying it. I know. People love to sing and love to be where singing is being singd whether they are singing or no. Never turn down an opportunity to help people sing together.

Time and experience brings poise and self-confidence in any endeavor. Don't be discouraged.

oOo

In case some chapter presidents have been listening in on this conversation, I would like a word with you if I may? I will have a word with you anyhow. Why not make it a point at each chapter meeting to have some singing just before or after the business session? Don't ask the chorus director to do this. And don't call for volunteers. Give six or eight chapter members the opportunity to lead the informal singing for the next six or eight meetings. Give them six or eight weeks notice too. It will create interest and may be a boon to starting on time.

A few years ago I was complimented with an invitation to be the precentor (song-leader to you) for an international convention attended by representatives from some 60 different nations. Our song book was printed in the three basic languages—English, French and German. Many delegates representing the other 57 nations were singing the songs in their native tongue; but the inspiring thought throughout the whole convention was that we were all singing the same tune!

We can truly say with Walt Whitman, the great American poet "I Hear America Singing". Is it too much to hope for and pray for as we face a New Year that we through the Universal Language, Music, can say "I Hear The World Singing"?

## I SEE BY THE PAPERS



### ELECTRICAL WORLD RECOGNIZES SOCIETY . . .

That dignified journal, the Electrical World, carried a picture in its supplement of four members, Kenny Ball-snider, Jack Dollenmaier, Vic Wrightson, and Ken Way, engaged in their favorite sport. And we don't mean golf.

oOo

### PRECIOUS OLD INSTITUTION . . .

The San Diego Union in an editorial about the joys of living in the "horse and buggy" age mentioned the musical life of those derided days as being "rounded out by the male quartet—or the male quartets, as there was no limit to number in a given community except the scarcity of high tenors. It is doubtful if any living man in this country, beneficiary of high fame or limitless fortune, can ever know again the exaltation and supreme satisfaction that comes from achieving the perfect minor or barbershop chords in 'The Old Mill Stream' and 'Carry Me Back to Old Virginia'. If ever souls reached out in unison for perfection in art it was when four vocal enthusiasts, heads together in a huddle for harmony, rent the quiet atmosphere of summer with their songs".

oOo

### SPEAKING OF MUSIC . . .

Martin W. Bush in his "Speaking of Music" column in the Omaha World Herald wrote "In observing the contemporary music scene and its many facets one is struck by the apparent permanence of the barbershop quartet as an institution. And the breadth of popular interest it has aroused!"

"The significance of the institution as a manifestation of democracy at work in music has been commented on in this space. For it is, in truth, music of the people by the people. Musical professionalism has no place in its workings.

"The move was begotten by amateurs and amateurism is its keynote. Its aim is to give pleasure to the singers themselves and countless others of like musical tastes".

oOo

### A HEALTHY SIGN . . .

The Alton Evening Telegraph said editorially that it is a healthy sign when a musician such as Max Steindel of St. Louis Symphony endorses by his participation a concert of familiar songs as presented by the Alton SPEB chapter. Steindel is past president of the St. Louis chapter and director of the Alton, Ill. civic chorus. The Telegraph added "Now, Americans have

reached that stage of maturity and independence of judgment in such matters where they can select their music from all classifications".

oOo

### FINE TYPE OF FELLOWS . . .

The Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, Mass. in commenting editorially about a Northampton parade said, "It is pleasing to see the fine type of fellows this singing is attracting, with many really distinguished-looking gentlemen among the various combinations. It is a matter of record that barbershop singers include men in high places, some men of wealth, and they get a lot of real beneficial relaxation out of their singing and in turn give a great amount of pleasure to their audiences".

oOo

*The last Harmonizer reported a suit filed in Chicago by a woman who claimed that the Society was unfair to her sex because it would not admit women to membership. The claim was dismissed "for want of equity", but the news of it spread far. The following is the way the Omaha World Herald viewed the situation.*

oOo

### THREAT TO THE QUARTETS . . .

One of the last refuges of the American male is the SPEBSQSA. Omaha knows this organization well. It not only believes in harmony but dispenses same. It is a thoroughly okay outfit. Hence it is disturbing to learn that a woman, the proprietor of an Eastern (SIC) "charm school", has sued the SPEBSQSA to admit her to membership. She demands that the Society either put sopranos and altos in barbershop quartets or establish a female auxiliary. This legal maneuver makes it imperative that all barbershoppers close ranks to ward off the threat.

The petitioner's suit asks the court to direct the Society to "associate women in its activities and thereby add dignity, charm and good singing, necessary in the perpetuation and development of quartet singing".

This is not just a lawsuit, but a canard. It is near calumny to imply that barbershoppers lack dignity and charm and can't sing, or at least, can't sing well.

If justice is to be done, not merely legal but moral justice, the judge will take into account the waning rights of males, the threat to the masculinity of barbershops, and the encroachment of the ladies everywhere.

One last point: "Barbershoppers are hoping the suit will be tried by a male judge. The outcome otherwise would be too dreadful to contemplate".

oOo

*Another one among the many is from the Philadelphia Inquirer.*

oOo

### NEW MENACE TO THE MALE . . .

It can be assumed safely that SPEBSQSA recognizes that women are necessary, in their place. But the refusal of the SPEBSQSA, Inc., to allow women to be members seems to be completely justified, and consistent with any reasonable view of women's role.

In the legal tussle between S. P., etc., Inc., and one Patricia Vance in Chicago, logic, justice and the greater good are all on the side of the men. The unabashed lady, once refused admittance to the hallowed precincts of the organization, now is asking the court to give her a judicial crowbar, so that she can force her way in. There is a note of desperation in the Society's threat to carry the fight to the Supreme Court, if that should be necessary.

Men have seen one citadel after another crumble as women began to get haircuts, smoke, wear pants and hang around bars. The helpless male has even been dragged into such un-masculine pursuits as pushing market baskets around, and changing the baby.

By no stretch of law or imagination, however, could women's invasion of the barbershop be construed as justifying a further encroachment into the barbershop quartet. Only a disastrous dissonance could result."

oOo

### NO PRIMA DONNAS . . .

Commenting editorially on the local chapter the Norwalk, Conn. Hour said this about choruses: "It may well be pointed out that the Barbershop quartet name is somewhat of a misnomer because, while quartets of exceptional talent are features, the background upon which every chapter depends is its large chorus . . . in that chorus background are talents which are lacking in the best quartets. No quartet can be everything. There is definite interdependence which is very important. That is one great attraction in the barbershopper activity — there is no prima donna; it is a program of united effort and united achievement. The bass, the baritone, the tenor, each has his particular place and each is dependent on the others".

oOo

### EASES TROUBLED MAN . . .

Glenn Hancock writing in the London, Ont. Free Press made sound comment when he said "Human nature is still the strongest force of society and peace, and there isn't much difference between four great nations and a quartet of singers when it comes to genuine harmony. If the tenor aspires to personal acclaim the tune is spoiled, and when the bass is unsure of his cues the song loses its equilibrium. No one can be made to sing in harmony unless he wants to."

In the same paper Fred S. Arnott claimed that he had "finally found why bass singers in barbershop quartets always looked like they were scratching their chests with their chins, while the tenors make like young robins reaching for worms". He says that the neck swivelling is done unconsciously by the singers to control the nature of the "air columns in the ducts, pipes, and tracts and things from which it issues". Arnott said that he got all the answers from Int'l. Bd. member Les. Davis except one, that one being "why is the word 'encouragement' in the Society's official title. Said Arnott "We have never seen a barbershop quartet that needed any".



# 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*

Many have heard about M. E. Reagan's Clock System of chords and there is never a month without requests to republish the series which appeared several years ago. My experiences have proved that most who make these requests expect a bulletin about as long as a druggist's prescription. One glance, and they expect to know all about harmony as exemplified by the Reagan Clock.

Actually this key which has unlocked more and better understanding about music than all the other musical studies to which I have been exposed (they weren't many) requires application to get something out of it. Unfortunately, very few of us are willing to work to add to our hobby knowledge. For one reason we are just too tired from earning our daily bread. Furthermore, harmony, we think, is an advanced study; "how can I study harmony when I know so little about music?"

I am a perfect example of the musical ignoramus, impressed early by the fact that this boy or that girl took music lessons and if exceptionally good, "took harmony". I studied neither, for excellent reasons based on economics, but I played various instruments by instinct and sang bari until my voice slipped along with my hair.

About 1941 I met Reagan and for the first time I learned that there was a pattern to much that I knew instinctively, about putting notes together for harmony satisfaction. The outstanding point about his System is its ability to take out the mystery. It starts with the known (clock face) and proceeds to the unknown or that which may be known but not recognized, which is a sound practice in teaching. A person with the ear to recognize notes in combination and the willingness to study at a piano with the clock chords as a text can learn a musical Esperanto, the universal language, by which he may call a man half way across the country and ask "what do you think of a 3 o'clock chord on the first sweet in 'Sweetie'?", and the listener will know exactly what he means. Beyond that, however, watch the toll costs rise as the man called argues against the 3 o'clock chord and in favor of one of his own pets.

In my opinion it would be pointless for anyone not gifted with better than average ear to dally with the Clock System; and one who does have the ear must accept in advance that he must dig out the facts for himself preferably with one hand on the piano. Some of my musical friends say that there is no need for the Clock System because all chords are already named.

No doubt they are, but I never had opportunity to learn about tonics, subdominants, intra-synthetics, etc., and they look so forbidding that I am afraid to tackle them.

But I do know a 5 o'clock when I hear it — and I have just heard it strike.

oOo

In the December issue Ed Lieberman, Past Pres. of Teaneck, N. J. Chapter, advocated eliminating "barbershop" from the Society's name. Although only one member, John C. Schmitt of St. Louis, took the trouble to approve Lieberman's suggestion, it is possible that other members agreed with him wordlessly.

It is a suggestion that has been discussed by the Board almost from the beginning, and in every case any suggestion to change the Society's key word has been voted down because it is the brand which sets this Society apart from all other singing organizations. There are thousands of singing groups in America. This one is devoted to the preservation of a certain form, namely "barbershop", which has been recognized and approved by musicians, Boards of Education, music critics, and others, as a distinctly American form. I like the harmony of the Andrews Sisters, DiMarco Sisters, Mills Brothers, and the Ink Spots, but it is not "barbershop," even though it is "close harmony". Sorry, Ed, but that's the way I see it.

## GETTING YOUNGER AS WE GROW OLDER

Ages of competitors at Michigan's District Contest, Grand Rapids, had obviously come down so far, compared to those competing in earlier years, that Int'l. Sec. Adams sent an Age Questionnaire to all quartets.

Twenty-seven quartets with an average age of 32 years entered. Age average of the top 15 was 31. The top 7 quartets averaged 27 years. The high five averaged 29 years as follows: 20, 20, 28, 33, and 45. Without the last one, the average would have been barely over 25.

This is quite a difference from the earlier years when most of the members were in the 40-and-up age brackets. "Keep America Singing", the Society's history, noted this trend nationally as a "good omen and assurance that barbershopping has merit of its own" and is "not a mere sentimental attempt to recapture a past era".

This, bolstered by the Michigan data, furnishes the answer to young and promising quartet prospects who fear that they "wouldn't enjoy themselves with a lot of old men".

## GRAND'MERE ROMEO

Grand'Mere, Quebec is far from Detroit, but "close" in harmony. When Chapter Pres. Romeo Ouellette, made the trek to see his brother, Bill, in Detroit, he went to see Adams, Otto, Needham, et al and thus became the first Society member from Quebec to visit the Int'l. Office. The Ouellette family is: father, mother and three sons. The boys and the father all play the piano, saxophone, violin—just about anything. The mother taught 'em. If there isn't a chapter meeting, chorus or quartet rehearsal, they make music at home—write "barbershop" arrangements, too. President Ouellette sang the praises of Ted Hanna, Chapter Secretary and others. They've sponsored the Shawinigan Falls Chapter and are going after Montreal, Quebec City and Three Rivers. Quebec Province will rock to barbershop quartet singing with a French accent. Romeo, Romeo, we know wherefore thou art — and doing a grand job. Oh yes, brother Bill Ouellette will join some Detroit area chapter.

## "STORING UP DREAMS"

When Lee Smits, commentator on WXYZ Detroit, was absent the night before the Detroit Parade; he left this note for his substitute announcer: "A must for Friday's broadcast—give the ninth annual parade of barbershop quartets the best plug you can..."

The substitute announcer said: "Well, I can think of no better plug than to mention that twelve chapters of Lee's favorite organization, from the Detroit area and border cities of Canada, are sponsoring nationally famous quartets..."

"Added to Lee's Memo is this footnote: 'I used to think that barbershop singing was chiefly appreciated by a type like myself, of small town origin, old enough to remember the sinking of the Maine. But you'll find at these annual barbershop festivals of song a growing percentage of young folks, girls and boys, in the audience.' While Mom and Dad sit holding hands, lost in misty-eyed dreams, the youngsters are storing up their dreams for the years to come... Thanks to that noble band of idealists... the SPEBSQSA."

# SWIPES from the CHAPTERS



## Dixie Dope

By Bob Holbrook

The writer from Miami is back from Alabama  
With a dearth of material running  
thru his head.  
For from the lack of reports from  
Chapter Secs.  
He should have stood in bed.

Jonesboro, Ark., tells us that the proceeds from their recent star studded show went to a local organization called Child Care, Inc. The Wonder Statesmen are doing a great amount of gratis work for civic clubs and churches. St. Petersburg, Fla., chartered a bus a couple of days before Christmas, decorated it with multi-colored lights in the spirit of the season, and toured the city singing everything from Silent Night to Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail. Reports from the Crippled Children's Hospital and the V. F. W. Home, their most important stops, makes you wish you had been there with them. Tampa, Fla., Orchids to their chapter secretary, T. L. Robertson, for swell reports, and the chapter as a whole for giving him worthwhile material to report. The Florida Knights, First Dixie Champions, hail from here, and are a credit to their chapter and community with their many free performances before the various civic clubs, hospitals, and churches. A revamped and revitalized quartet, known as the Floridaires, is gaining momentum, and the folks at the Old Folks Home feel there is none better. The Tampa Chorus, undoubtedly the finest in the southeast, has played the major role in gaining the prominent and valuable place the chapter now has in the community. Their Christmas party for the elderly people at the Old Folks Home, their capable handling of the invitation to take over a local radio station's forty-five minute Christmas Eve program (hundreds of favorable comments came in), and their excellent work in singing on the guest spot of the Tampa Symphonette's "Concert in the Park", all goes to prove that their recognition as an extremely valuable asset to the City of Tampa is well earned. In addition they are extension minded, as every successful chapter is, and recently sponsored the Winter Haven, Fla. Chapter to the tune of 37 charter members. Neither

do they overlook inter-chapter relations as their close cooperation with the St. Petersburg Chapter and the other Florida chapters will show. Miami, Fla., having been definitely awarded the Regional Preliminaries on May 1st, is busy making arrangements to provide visiting quartets, wives, and other visitors with the time of their lives! Circle your calendar for this event. You won't be sorry! A new and fully accredited foursome, called the Miami Four, is now in operation, and their appearance in the T. B. Ward and the Mental Ward of the Pratt's General Hospital was thoroughly a case of mutual enjoyment. Three of the members belonged to the chapter from its inception. They were all itching to sing in a quartet, but never could find a fourth. Along came the American Legion Convention and quartet contest. All three being members of the Legion, they sent out several appeals, and finally came up with one of the sweetest leads I ever heard. He was a member of the Legion but no one in the chapter had ever heard of him. Result: They won the national title in the American Legion Contest. Now the new boy is a member of the Miami Chapter and we all are mighty proud of the new quartet. Moral: Don't let the woods keep you from seeing the trees. If the fellow you want does not seem to be in the organization go out and round him up.

Elsewhere in this issue you will learn the result of the Dixie District Contest. However, a tribute to the Birmingham, Ala. Chapter is definitely in order. Their hospitality, and that of the Bankhead Hotel, where we were guests, could not have been improved upon. One other quarterly activities report from Atlanta, Ga. was received, and to those of you who don't send 'em in, don't blame me for not mentioning you all.

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

## Quebec, Canada

Grand Mere chorus entertained at two paid performances. The proceeds paid the salary of instructor, imported to teach music to English speaking school children. Northernaires quartet—E. Gendron, tenor, Romeo Ouellette, lead, Ray Ouellette, bari, and Ted Hanna, bass, sang for all important local gatherings. Chorus et al went en masse to Shawinigan Falls. Result—an up-and-coming chapter. Grand Mere is following leads to organize chapters in Montreal, Quebec, and Three Rivers. Another Grand Mere quartet, singing barbershop in French, will soon make its debut. Oui!

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## VINCENNES

Ind. chorus singing for local Elks Cancer Fund.

## Kentucky Kernels

By Fred N. Gregory

Don't be surprised if the Louisville Parade this Fall will require two days with two shows each day. Two shows on the night of Nov. 20 in the huge Municipal Auditorium still could not accommodate all those seeking admission. The Chorus extravaganza presented will no doubt create even a greater demand for tickets this Fall. In addition to top flight quartets, the Chorus of 100 voices, under the direction of Bob Ising, presented a complete show by itself—but good. Variety in type of songs, including a dramatization of "How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm", the use of their own quartets with the chorus, provided a pattern for future shows by the Chapter Chorus exclusively. The problem of Chapter interest was not only answered but demonstrated. Every member was given plenty of opportunity to exer-

cise his voice and no doubt that's one reason Louisville has such tremendous attendance at all chapter meetings. Louisville also sponsored a chapter at Asheville, N. C. and sent Kentucky Troubadours to charter presentation night, Dec. 4. Frankfort Ky. started Fall activities with Burgoon dinner for ladies, and has a new quartet in addition to their good Rebels.

Inter-chapter relations in Wabash Valley has resulted in Terre Haute sponsoring Sullivan with 60 members and 4 quartets. Terre Haute, Clinton, and Brazil have been holding monthly novice quartet contests, alternately meeting at the above places and making the events Ladies nights also. New quartets such as the Tone Blenders and Statesmen at Terre Haute. Hav-n-sos and Silvertones of Clinton. Hoosier State 4 and Two Pairs of Brazil are the outgrowth. Brazil proud of their member Dud Thomas of Duquaque, Iowa who has sparkplugged a chapter at Dubuque and Brazil is the sponsoring chapter, 58 charter members, all singers. Teenage quartet contest in county schools played to overflow crowd at Wabash and later also found time to sponsor chapter at Huntington. South Bend has two new quartets. Huntington had 19 charter members and one quartet—"Huntingtones". One song, \$500, is the amount paid the White-water Valley Four at Connersville by a local business man, which was their contribution to YMCA Building Fund. Charles Corcoran of the Soft Tones of Mishawaka has replaced Harry Ivins of the Eagles Four and the Soft Tones have reorganized with Geo. Corbridge lead, LaMar Phend tenor, Melvin Kaiser baritone, and Claude McMillan bass; and those Chamberlin Brothers continue almost daily to spread community service. As a matter of fact every Ind.-Ky. chapter was active in Holiday season on community service, hospitals, for shut-ins, nurses homes, cancer drives, etc. Corydon's Delinquent Four (students at Indiana—2 of them) doing a good job at University—sang at Homecoming at Sigma Chi and Phi Gam Houses. Fort Wayne playing card system is providing real fun also developing new quartets and works out swell when the Auburn boys come down—or vice versa. Heck, fellows, all our chapters are busy having fun and our gang can't have fun without keeping America Singing.

## TWO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Sponsored by Lorain, O. Chapter, a farewell party to Lorain's High School seniors included a presentation of choir pins to 17 graduating members of the school's a cappella choir, directed by Howard Hansen, also director of Lorain Chapter chorus. Elyria and Wellington Chapters participated. Writes Bill Jahn, bass of the local Steel Blenders: "When those kids sang their last number after graduating members had received their pins, even I, accustomed to the better things in music, felt my vision get cloudy, and my nose start to twitch . . ." In Cleveland, a nearby suburb of Lorain, in late January, G. I. Kerns, chief of community center activities for the Board of Education, started a barbershop harmony class at John Marshall High School under the direction of Paul Crane, member and chorus director of Lakewood and Berea Chapters. Both men and women were welcome into this novel experiment. The chorus is to include 10 sessions, starting with group singing, out of which Crane hopes that quartets will evolve.

## First Annual QUARTET PARADE

in historic

VINCENNES, INDIANA

Wednesday, April 20 1949

PANTHEON THEATRE

- Featuring -

DOCTORS OF HARMONY  
Elkhart, Indiana  
1947 International Champions

MID-STATES FOUR, Chicago  
1948 Second Place International Contest

CHORDETTEs, Sheboygan, Wis.  
America's Finest Girl's Quartet

THE  
FOUR SHADES OF HARMONY  
Terre Haute, Ind  
1948 International Medalists

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For further information write

RANDALL ELLIS, Secy.  
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## SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

CHAPTER

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., Inc.

will present its

—FIFTH ANNUAL—

PARADE of QUARTETS

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JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL

Featuring

The Doctors of Harmony  
1947 International Champions

Clef Dwellers of Oakland  
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Buzz Saws  
Ohio State Champions

Big Towners

Minor Chords  
Ind.-Ky. Champions

Plus Four Distinguished  
4Somes

Afterglow

PARADE TICKETS  
\$1.80 including tax

For Tickets Write  
LEO ZGODZINSKI, Secy.  
221 Embell Ct. :: So. Bend, Ind.

## Central-Western New York Song Chats

By Chuck Glover

Our district was a bee hive of activity the last quarter. A parade somewhere each weekend in October and November and our District Contest in mid-October. Most chapters extremely busy, what with visits back and forth between themselves and working toward communities' services at Christmas time. Our inter-chapter groups still thriving—it gets a much better percentage of membership out to meetings and makes them more enjoyable. We are particularly proud of our chapters' activities during the Christmas season. No one will doubt again that S.P.E.B. is the area's most active community service organization . . . Entering into the spirit of the night Addison's chorus sang carols at Village Hall Xmas Eve—and along with Hornell, the Steuben County group of chapters has been developed to the extent that they all met to entertain at the Bath Veterans Home with their new area chorus. . . . Binghamton-Johnson City donated \$416.43 to Kalurah Shrine Charities. Their chapter membership now at all time high, brought about by developing chapter chorus which rehearses weekly under the fine leadership of Al Nemeth. The "Simmering Four" and "Four Sharps" both entertained at Binghamton State Hospital Christmas Party . . . It is more quartets that they are after in Buffalo Chapter. Recent meeting was devoted to quartet formation and from it several good ones were developed, and as Warner Bullock puts it, "No doubt a couple of them will jell". They are beginning to work themselves into a frenzy as they are to be hosts to our June International Contest . . . Dansville chorus sang carols for the patients at their General Hospital. King's Daughters Home and for other shut-ins around the community . . . It is easy to see now why Bill Coddington is sometimes late in answering mail. His quartet's, the Optimists', list of activities show that they must be out every night keeping E. Aurora on the map . . . Congrats to Geneva. Through their quartet's efforts as coaches, their prodigies from Canandaigua won the National V. A. Hospital Quartet Championship sponsored by our Society. Their quartet's participation in singing at Salvation Army Kettles netted \$394, more than has ever been taken in before. Their chapter is a definite service club in their community along with Kiwanis, Rotary, etc. . . . Unusual things turn up frequently at Gowanda—while recording a song recently In-A-Lather Four forgot to turn off recorder which picked up the unbiased and unrehearsed comments and opinions of another quartet present. "Meow!" Their chorus too sang carols under community tree, an annual event . . . Ithaca invites a guest quartet from some neighboring chapter to each of its meetings. Results, greatly improved attendance . . . Christmas Party at Jamestown was means of securing over 80 toys that were turned over to the Salvation Army and distributed to community's needy children.

## JAMESTOWN'S HARMONY KINGS



Reading from L. to R., the Harmony Kings of Jamestown, N. Y., are Milt Eckstrom, bass; Ron Covey, baritone; Ward Belknap, lead; and Pres Hoskin, tenor.

dren. Chapter also presented check for \$100 along with a like amount to the Creche Society. Early Christmas week with the co-operation of the Chamber of Commerce and Police Department, a whole city block was roped off in the down-town section and the words of the Christmas carols were thrown on large screen. It did the heart good to hear nearly 1,000 people give forth with Christmas carols for well over an hour . . . Lockport chorus and quartet sang at Niagara T. B. Sanatorium in late November . . . Through their second annual "Cabaret Night" Niagara Falls was able to donate \$100 to Boys Club . . . Warsaw's quartet Marathon got off to grand start. It looks like the quartet members are designated and will learn the same number or numbers so that they will be judged according to which quartet sings those numbers the best. When these fellows go any place it is the whole chapter in a bus, not just a few here and there in cars. It is probably less expensive and more fun that way . . . Hundreds of friends of Ted Tinsman would want to know that he passed away in mid-January. Truly a great loss to his chapter, district, and the Society . . . Quarterly activities reports were also received from the following, Corry, Pa.; Endicott; Springville and Walton-Downsville.

. . . Yuletide spirit not found lacking at Syracuse as both Onondaga and Central City Chapters pooled their quartets and as a result they visited 4 hospitals and 2 sanatoriums to spread cheer Xmas eve. Syra-Chords sang at dinner that resulted in raising \$5,000 for Community Chest . . .

## ANSWERS

(See page 28)

1. Cherry.
2. Palms.
3. Apple.
4. Maple.
5. Cottonwood.
6. Pine.
7. Bamboo.
8. Poplars.
9. Sycamores.
10. Yew (excuse the pun, folks. Frankly, I just plain ran out of trees.—Merrill).

## ITHACA, NEW YORK CHAPTER SPEBSQSA, Inc.

### 2nd Annual PARADE of QUARTETS

MAY 14, 1949

BAILEY HALL

(Cornell University Campus)

Featuring

GARDEN STATE QUARTET

Jersey City, N. J.

WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET

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Schenectady, N. Y.

— PLUS —

OTHER TOP NOTCH 4 SOMES

AFTERGLOW - EAGLES BALLROOM

Parade Tickets \$1.50 - \$2.00

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## The Dunkirk - Fredonia, NEW YORK CHAPTER

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FIRST ANNUAL

PARADE of QUARTETS

Saturday, May 21, 1949

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AUDITORIUM

Dunkirk, New York

Featuring

The Finest  
in Barbershop  
Quartet Harmony

PLUS

Chapter's Own Chorus

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# WAUWATOSA '49er PARADE

Saturday, May 21, 1949  
'TOSA HIGH AUDITORIUM  
Wauwatosa (Milwaukee) Wis.

Featuring  
PITTSBURGHERS  
MID-STATES FOUR  
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CARDINALS  
CHORDETTEs

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— WIS. CHAPTER No. 1 —  
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### FOURTH ANNUAL HARMONY JUBILEE

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

— 8:15 P. M. —

★ MEMORIAL HALL ★

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ON RACINE"

For Tickets and Further Information  
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RACINE, WISCONSIN

## MANITOWOC CHAPTER ENTERTAINS NETHERLANDERS



When the Dutch ship Prinz Willem III of Amsterdam, Holland was laid up for repairs in Manitowoc, Wisc. crew members were invited to a chapter meeting. Here we have L. to R.: Ed Walthers, Past District V. P.; Dr. John Meyer, V. P.; Clarence Tass, Pres.; J. Z. Means, District Pres.; G. Ooms, J. Vanden Roll, Hank Bak, and William Van Zalinger of the Prinz Willem. One Hollander sang his only English song "Now is the Hour" and was surprised and pleased when the chapter developed a humming background in four parts for his solo.

### Land O' Lakes Log

By Bill Ohde, Jr.

The above title came to us in the wee sma' this morning—logically enough, our friends will say, since we got a wooden head. Awright—YOU think of a better one, and we'll use it. (Title, that is—not head.) Tho it's a long time after, the Christmas spirit returns to us as we read over the 4th QR reports from the District. There isn't a club in the bunch that didn't give generously of their time and talent in the way of caroling 'n such for shut-ins, underprivileged, old folks and so on. We aren't listing all of the instances here. But, believe me, we're proud to be a part of SPEBSQSA when we look at the record.

Remind us sometime to find out from Marquette, Mich. what the name of their club stands for. It's "Kawbaw-gam", and probably is Indian for "You - stay - on - your - pitch - and - I - stay - on - my - pitch - and - we - pitch - um - fine - harmony - all - around." Helping the Odd Fellows throw a benefit for a family who lost their home in a fire, and presenting a typewriter to the Morgan Heights T. B. Sanitarium were just two of this chapter's pre-Christmas activities. When Madison, Wis. wants to boost the morale of a neighboring chapter, they go all out—but literally. Entire chapter visited Beloit for that purpose November 16, with favorable results. The Madison chorus, the Cardinals and the Four Lakes City Four made with the flats and sharps at Madison General hospital on December 22 and a week later sharps at Lakeview Sanitarium. No less than six quartets from Winnipeg, Man. appeared along with their 50-voice choir at the Deer Lodge Veterans hospital recently and were rated "best yet" by the boys there—who, incidentally, get to see and hear the best of professional talent for comparison. By the way, that's a neat round number of quartets for a medium sized chapter to boast of. (Ed note: A preposition is a poor word to end a sentence with.) The report from Beaver Dam, Wis. is fittin' to bust with a list of all the charity appearances of their chorus and their super-active quartets—the Kirsch Foundry Four, Monarch Range Four and B-Flat Beavers. Fitting testimony to the chapter's community status is given in a fine editorial clipped from the Daily Citizen of that city. The boys really rate in the ol' home town! Fond du Lac, Wis. (That's French for "bottom of the lake", but t'aint really so) has

set a goal for 120 members come July 1, and we bet a busted pitch pipe they make it. They are also organizing a quartet of ministers, priests and rabbis (the Sec. doesn't say how many of each), for which we respectfully suggest the name "Hallelujah Four" and the slogan "Sweetest harmonies this side of heaven". Casey's Four Wheelers, Old Style Quartet, Terry-Klein's, Lacrosse Cavaliers and the Nameless Four fill the entire QR-ly sheet from LaCrosse, Wis. with single-space type accounting for where they've been of late, and a healthy % of the record concerns charitable or civic improvement causes. The Cavaliers donated 13 weeks of a schedule of radio appearances to the Veterans Administration there. Marinette, Wis. netted a sizable sum with their second annual Nite of Harmony on behalf of the

## MARINETTE CHAPTER

— Number 26 —

S P E B S Q S A, Inc.

will present its

SECOND ANNUAL

### PARADE of QUARTETS

Saturday, April 23, 1949 at

Marinette High School Auditorium  
Marinette, Wisconsin

Featuring

MID-STATES FOUR  
ATOMIC BUMS  
HARMONY LIMITED  
THE FOUR KEYNOTES

PLUS

Marinette  
Chorus and Quartettes

For Parade and Afterglow Tickets

WRITE

W. E. PFLEGER, Secretary  
1012 Carney Blvd., Marinette, Wis.



### SPEB WINDOW

The downtown ticket office of the Milwaukee Railroad in Milwaukee went all out for the cheer that makes Milwaukee famous.

Keith Albers Memorial Fund, an athletic project for the high school at nearby Coleman, Wis. Two organized quartets are beginning to make themselves heard in and about Marshfield, Wis. and two are a-borning. Chapter members now get their news in a monthly sheet called "The Agonizer". This chapter, by the way was sponsored by Wisconsin Rapids, who breezed over for a charter night celebration October 23 to help make the presentation harmoniously perfect. To Milwaukee goes the nickel-plated harbor pole for the most unusual item in this batch of reports: the Tonsillaires and the Milwaukeeans are now immortalized on records in—of all places—the University of Brussels, Belgium! Seems they sang for an exchange student who's collecting American "folk" music. Winnebago-land (Oshkosh, Wis., to you) plans a parade this Spring which will be 100% for the benefit of the local Children's Home—will have the youngsters as guests at the show. A half-hour program as part of a Halloween Party at Pine Crest Sanitarium, Powers, Mich. was one of this Fall's contributions by the Escanaba club, who also sang for shut-ins at the County Convalescent Home after a December 20 program of Christmas music broadcast over the local radio station. The long distance record for inter-chapter—nay, even inter-district relationship—is hereby applied for by 3 Rivers, Mich. who furnished a 22-man chorus and four quartets (took six carloads) to Ashland, Wis. for the latter's charter night parade November 13. That's 1400 miles they traveled, son! Minneapolis members spent the afternoon of Christmas Eve cooperating with the local Elks club when they toured the city in a chartered bus, made eight different stops in under-privileged sections (had all the stops out, so to speak) to sing and distribute candy and gifts to all the children. It was well worth braving the cold for that tour! Waukesha, Wis., too, found that inner satisfaction which comes from making others happy. Their generosity with song at Christmas time will—we know—inspire them to keep up the good work the year 'round. When the Har-

MARCH, 1949

mony Limited of Green Bay, Wis. won the Land O'Lakes district contest, their chapter honored them with an inter-chapter party on October 29, attended by delegations from Manitowoc, Sturgeon Bay, Marinette and Seymour.

Quarterly reports were also received this trip from Manitowoc and Sparta, Wis. Why the rest of you lugs are hiding your lights under bushels or crawling under wet rocks is beyond us, but all we can report is what is forwarded to us. Can we do better in March? See you then with the answer!

# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MANITOWOC

Proudly Presents  
ITS FOURTH ANNUAL

## PARADE

A STAR-STUDDED PROGRAM

### ★ THE ANTLERS

Michigan District Champions, 1948

### ★ THE GAY NINETIES

Nationally Known Kiwanis Quartet

### ★ THE CHORDETTES

and other

Wisconsin Quartets

- PLUS -

Sheboygan Chapter Chorus

*Manitowoc's Famous*  
★ Chorus ★

Saturday, April 23

Lincoln High School Auditorium

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*Invites you to its*

## THIRD ANNUAL QUARTET PARADE

TWO PERFORMANCES 2:30 P.M. AND 8:00 P.M.

» » SATURDAY, MAY 7th, 1949 « «  
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

— featuring —

THE MISFITS, Chicago, Ill., 1945 Int'l. Champions

THE DOCTORS OF HARMONY, Elkhart, Indiana  
1947 International Champions

THE MID-STATES FOUR, Chicago, Illinois  
Second 1948 International Contest

[ PLUS THE 100 VOICE LA CROSSE  
CHORUS AND LOCAL QUARTETS ]

**TICKETS \$1.20 Tax Incl.**

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**—PALOS CHAPTER—**

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC.

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**First Annual  
SPRING QUARTET PARADE  
AND AFTERGLOW**

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FENGER HIGH SCHOOL  
AUDITORIUM112th and South Wallace  
Chicago, Illinois

THE ELASTIC FOUR

1942 International Champions

THE MELLOW FELLOWS  
of Park Ridge

THE VIKINGS

Illinois State Finalists

THE JOHNSON SISTERS  
Sweet Adeline Champs

THE HARMONAIRES

Indiana State Champs

BANDY (BASSO PROFUNDO)

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Plus Three Other Distinguished Quartets

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Opposite South Shore Country Club

**MID-STATES FOUR  
AUTOGRAPH  
RECORDS**

This picture of Chicago's Mid-States Four, autographing a record album at Wurlitzer's new Chicago store, appeared in the Wurlitzer Bulletin. At the left is Bob McCloud, Dept. Superv.

**Illinois Inklings**

By W. Welsh Pierce

Once more the kaleidoscope (Printer—you spell it) captures 'highlights of Illinois' chillun.

In Alton their 4-Sharps were kept keen by appearance before a dozen or more church and civic groups, while in Aurora aids to a church Athletic League and a visit to Kane County T. B. Sanatorium constituted good deeds for the period. Aurora has a new quartet we hope is not prophetically named—the Too Flat Four... And speaking of interestingly-titled quartets, Barrington comes up with an Un-Aimed Four, who nevertheless were direct hits at Naperville Sanatorium. This same fine chapter's Four Jewels found grateful settings at several church, P. T. A., and Am-Legion affairs... Beardstown makes every member sing in a quartet at every meeting. Makes them!!!! Most places seem to have trouble shutting some guys up!... Belleville is mighty proud of their new Chorus Director, Harold Taylor, who, incidentally is Asst. Director of the St. Louis Chapter chorus. We'll be listening... Accentuating the last syllable of their name Belvidere apportioned \$100 of their show profit to the local High School Music Dept. No doubt to help the small-fry learn to read music which they won't need when they grow up and become barbershoppers... Bloomington bloomed for the Exchange Club on the latter's party for the ladies. No ex-changes rectified after the party... Canton celebrated Christmas with carols at a local hospital and the homes of five shut-in... In Champaign-Urbana it was city-wide caroling, with special attention given to the Legion and Vets... Charleston sparked the Rotary Club annual dinner and also kept up their good work at Rantoul. A full hour and a half show at Armed Services Recreation Center, plus ward singing at the Base Hospital. This is about the 'steenth time the boys from Charleston have done this... Chilli-cothe is rightfully bragging up their talented Director, Floyd Connett. This young chapter toured the city on Christmas Eve with carols for shut-ins and candy and fruit for kiddies... Decatur got in the parade again, Armistice Day that was, with a flat-bed truck and 30 husky voices. We are told that the horses behind them enjoyed it immensely. Decatur's Borrowed Timers, no young bucks themselves, regaled the folks at the Eastern Star Old Ladies' Home, while the entire chapter visited six hospitals just before Christmas... The Elgin-

Aires of Elgin Chapter visited Vaughn Hospital in December, whereas the entire chapter did a stint of community caroling for the local Jr. C. of C... Fox River Valley aided and abetted the Am. Legion Auxiliary in a show at Elgin State Hospital and is proud to announce their sixth sponsored chapter at Woodstock. Just sposin' every chapter sponsored six more!!! Highland Park is off to a good start under the musical direction of Don McKenzie of the Northwestern University School of Music... LaSalle also comes up with talented chorus direction under Phil Kalar, formerly of Station WLS in Chicago. La Salle's Tunedrafters and Four Minor Keys keep the local civic and charity front well entertained... Lombard sent an octet to Vaughn Hospital and around Christmas time did some carols over the downtown public address system. Even the corner Santas stopped jingling to listen... Oak Park has nine quartets and what's more they all report their activities to their secretary. Someday we'll ask the publisher to turn over six pages of the Harmonizer to us so we can list all of Oak Park's activities. Sorry to hear the Tunetwisters have pft-t-t-t. Now who'll sing "Harbor Lights Yodel" for me... Peoria kept the fire going under Salvation Army Kettles. Also a trip to Havana (not Cuba) resulted in a new chapter getting under way. Peoria's Lyric Four and Melo-

**JOHNSON "SISTERS" ARE  
ACTUALLY SISTERS**

The Johnson sisters, Chicago, made a hit with SPEBSQSA when they sang barbershop to national conventions back in the early 40s. Outside of the Society, their biggest boosters are four husbands and Mom Johnsoo. L. to R.: Stella, bari; Irene, lead; Harriet, bass; Ruby, tenor.



### ECHO FROM OKLACITY

Here is the Fox Valley Four, Batavia, Ill. singing for a room at Oklacity last June. L. to R.: Stanley Johnston, tenor; G. A. Johnson, lead; John R. Waterfield, bass; T. L. Favoright, bari.

### Illinois Inklings

Continued

Deans rate orchids for their Hospital and Vets appearances . . . Sec. Murph Johnson lists 12 noteworthy items performed by that live bunch at Pioneer (Chicago). We'll settle for the ones about a show for Vets at Vaughn Hospital, that they have a new quartet called the Skyscrapers and that the whole kit and kaboodle got on television . . . Q-Suburban (LaGrange) had a right happy time for themselves, but they didn't forget the boys at Vaughn General Hospital. Nor did they overlook their meeting night hosts, the Husdale Community Center. The Q's gave the latter a party that will assure themselves free rent till 1981 . . . In the Christmas mood, as seemed most everyone, Rock Island gave a much appreciated show at Pine Knoll Tuberculosis Sanitarium . . . In South Town (Chicago) a rounded group of activities materialized. They sponsored a chapter at South Cook, gave a million dollar show for the Harvey Optimists, entertained Pioneer, visited Vaughn and Hines Hospitals, sent a foursome to the P.T.A. and slid through the Christmas stint on a wagon-sled, caroling like mad all over the South Side of Chicago. Glen Ellyn was Veteran-minded and their Illinoisy Four gave freely of their talent at several Am. Legion affairs . . . Quarterly Activities Reports were received also from the following chapters: Cambridge, Palos, Streator, and Woodstock.

### ABILENE, TEXAS HAS HOPE

Co-sponsored by Wichita Falls and Lubbock, the new Abilene, Texas Chapter got off to a flying start with Hope. Hope in this case means the one and only Bop Hope whose show was playing Abilene on organization night. After the show, several chapter members gave Bob, his leading singer, Bill Farrell, and his personal manager, Dick Gibson, a workout on four part harmony, found them well qualified and as a result the three are charter members of Abilene. Says V. C. Perini, Jr. of the new chapter "These boys really love to sing and know how to handle harmony". The chapter started off with 71 signatures to the application for a charter. (See excerpts from Abilene paper in this issue).

### RENO'S THREE PART PARADE

Past Pres. Charles M. Merrill reports that Reno's first parade packed the house with the "hottest audience I have seen." The pattern consisted of Klamath Falls chorus, five quartets, audience singing, four quartets, and a finale with all participants.

It was followed by an After Glow limited to barbershoppers and their wives, strictly informal and family-like, with no admission charge. The third phase came on Sunday morning when the Merrill's invited all out-of-townners to their home for coffee and doughnuts. About 150 turned out. Merrill moralized upon the value of such a public performance as an incentive to keep quartets on their toes. He says "Next year our audience will know what to expect and it will be tougher to please them."

### WES GUNTZ

'Society's Greatest Listener'  
Ship's Cafe—Chicago

### SERENADE TO MASTERS

All Michigan and adjoining areas know "Red" Masters who in his special cot on wheels has attended most Society affairs, including Int'l. contests in that area, and who conducts a general insurance business year after year from a prone position.

In late January, Red's phone rang in early morning—"This is SPEBSQSA Inc. calling Red Masters—Please listen for harmony". It was the Home Towners of Washington, Penna., Jack McThehil, tenor; Wayne Johnston, lead; Paul Johnston, bari; and Morry Uppstrom, bass, who were doing a program for the local Chamber of Commerce.

Tied in with this, "Red" reports, "I called Carroll Adams about noon on Sunday at the office and the old work-horse answered on the first ring (he gives the Society round the clock service). I told him about the Home Towners serenade. Just at that time he was receiving a phone call from Hap Woodruff, Sec. of Chicago Chapter who wanted a copy of 'Keep America Singing' since the Chicago Tribune wanted to review it immediately."

Says Adams, "Ain't telephones and Society spirit wonderful?"

## THE JAMESTOWN CHAPTER

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., Inc.

will present its

THIRD ANNUAL

## PARADE OF QUARTETS

Saturday, April 23, 1949

JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

### Featuring:

HARMONY HALLS, 1944 Champions

MASSILLON TOM CATS, 1947 Ohio Champions

WITHERED FOUR, 1946 Dist. Champs, Paterson, N. J.

FOUR CHORDERS, London, Ontario, 1948 Dist. Champs

BUFFALO BILLS, Buffalo, N. Y., 1948 District Champs

Many other district quartets plus Jamestown Chorus

For Parade Tickets

@ \$2.40 - \$1.80

E. J. MUZZY

142 Prospect Street

Hotel Reservations

HOTEL JAMESTOWN

Jamestown, N. Y.

## THE TELEVAIRS



This Cleveland quartet wore tramp costumes in a recent parade. L. to R.: Geo. Marsh, bari; Jack Tighe, lead; Jack Hurley, bari; Lester Meier, bass.

## Ohio, S. W. Pa.

By James H. Emsley

Without exception every chapter in the district performed distinct community services during the Xmas season, either by caroling tours, or staged performances, for those less fortunate than us. Bowling Green is the newest addition to the Society, and its chorus and "The Four Janitors" (Janzer, Nixon, Torrey and Richards) already have given the community its first earful of harmony. Canton gave a concert on Xmas night at Scio for the employees of the Scio-Ohio Pottery Co., famed for its cordial employer-employee relationships. Carrollton, recently organized, has a bank president, Robert P. Hills, as its chorus director and already has two organized quartets. Cleveland had its best attendance record on two successive meetings nights when Don

Webster gave informative talks on Reagan's Clock System, to prove that there are other things besides "fish and chips" that attract members to a meeting. Columbus chorus assisted the Maennerchor celebrate its 100th anniversary. Dayton's party for the press proved worthwhile when it paid a dividend in the form of a full page feature article replete with pictures of local quartets and plugs for the Society generally. Defiance has a new foursome named the "Oldsmobilers" who are gaining local fame, as is the chapter by its liberal donations to the Boy Scouts and the High School Band Boosters. Elyria has again promoted an all high school boys barbershop quartet contest to encourage and preserve quartet singing in America. Galion is encouraged with the reception accorded its Alpagona 4 and The program cover at first glance appears Galion Clippers. Lakewood's parade to be printed on a towel, and their cleverly cartooned cards announcing meetings are worthy of attention of other chapters. Lima has been making wire recordings of practice sessions to improve chorus. Mansfield feels the loss of Virgil Cox, tenor of the Shelby Harmonizers who are seeking a replacement. Massillon is aiding Akron in staging a parade by lending its chorus and all its quartets gratis. Medina's present parade plans are a little different than most, featuring only local chapter quartets and area high school quartets. Middletown's novel parade revealed quartets dressed as circus crews, with ladies attired in 1890 costume sitting with the "Rounders" (16 men that get together and sing) on a bleacher seat. Painesville now has two organized but unnamed quartets. Shenango Valley, Sharon, Penn., voted to provide entertainment for the blind at their scheduled meetings and its Sharonaders aided the Youngstown Chapter in publicizing the district contest there. Steubenville's Subway 4 travelled to Canton to meet other visitors from Carrollton and Massillon at Canton's guest night, and broke in on the

## THE OLMSTEDERS



The chair, around which the Olmsteders, N. Olmsted, Ohio, group, carries a date of 1891, is made entirely of wood and was given to the chapter as a permanent asset. The quartet L. to R.: Ken Duncan, (tenor); Art Wissman, lead; Bob Burghardt, bari; and Erv LeGraud, bass and chapter sec. Wissman got his first "boughten" haircut in this chair in 1910.

## HALF PAST FOUR



The original Half Past Fours of Lakewood, Ohio Chapter broke up when half of the foursome went out of town. The remaining two didn't want to sing duets so here's the new combination, which looks permanent. L. to R.: Bill Butler, tenor; Chuck Reimer, bari; John McKenna, bass; Stu Pearson, lead. McKenna has attained the ripe old age of 20, the others are mere youths. But how they love the old songs!

be-bop business at the Teen Agers Swing Haven, by invitation of the kids. Warren's Tune Tellers and Song Vendors with its chorus are satisfying the need for entertainment in nearby communities. Wheeling now has a Mixed Up 4, and the chapter has interested Bethany College students sufficiently so that they organized a Barbershop Choral Group on their own. Quarterly activities reports were received also from the following chapters: Lorain, Springfield, Wellington and Wellsburg.

(Continued on page 39)

## STEUBENVILLE, OHIO

CHAPTER

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC.

Presents its

FIRST ANNUAL

## Parade of Quartets

MARCH 26, 1949

S. H. S. AUDITORIUM

8:15 P. M.

Featuring

The WESTINGHOUSE FOUR

1948 International Medalists

The BUZZ SAWS

1948 Ohio Champions

TIGERTOWN FOUR

1949 District Runner-Ups

— ALSO —

FOUR MALDEHYDES of Pittsburgh, Pa.

MEMORY LANERS of Canton, Ohio

Plus other top-notchers

and Chapter Chorus

Tickets \$1.50 and \$1.00

For Tickets and Hotel Reservations write

BALDIE J. PINCIARO

745 N. Seventh St.

STEUBENVILLE, OHIO

APRIL 23, 1949

## COLUMBUS CHAPTER

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC.

presents

FOURTH ANNUAL

## PARADE

MEMORIAL HALL 8:15 P. M.

Featuring

Elastic Four, Chicago

1942 SPEBSQSA Champions

Four Cardinals

Tri-Cy Synchronizers

Harmonaires

Clef Dwellers

Westinghouse

Buzz Saws

Buckeye Song Busters

—PLUS—

other quartets from local chapter and the chapter chorus.

AFTER-GLOW

Deshler Wallick Hotel

—TICKETS—

H. RALPH KAGAY

299 N. Ogden Avenue

COLUMBUS 4, OHIO



### DETROIT STORE REVIVES '90s COSTUMES

This is the J. L. Hudson Co. window in Detroit, which has always been donated to the annual parade of Detroit and Oakland County Chapters. Detroit, by the way, is where the term "Parade" originated.

### Michigan's Pitch Pipe

By Roscoe D. Bennett

It's contest time in Michigan . . . With the annual district battling for titles completed, new "bush league" kings crowned and the annual regional, qualifying for the international, only a short time away, chords are really polished in the Michigan district these days . . . The Grand Rapids Chapter was host to the district on Dec. 18 . . . It was a three-day affair and gala in every respect . . . the host chapter made no money, in fact lost, but the district profited and everyone had a great time . . . The Clef Dwellers of the Oakland Chapter won the championship in the senior division . . . The Harmoniacs of Holland, formerly the Sandmen, won the junior title and the Men of A Chord, Bay City, a youthful group, were acclaimed novice kings . . . Boyne City staged the "bush league" meet in January . . . Florida-like weather produced a big entry list and a lot of auditors . . .

Midland Chapter exhibited a new quartet at its annual parade, Jan. 29 . . . It consisted of two members of the old Improvisors, Luman Bliss and Bill McIntyre and two members of the old Metro-Gnomes, Ralph Hand and Chet Payne . . . High school students in the Ypsilanti Chapter area willing to join SPEBSQSA can do so with the chapter underwriting their per capita tax . . . One quartet and eight new members have been added . . . Traverse City Chapter installed the Beulah Chapter, Dec. 6, Bob Atkins, chapter proxy presenting the charter . . . The Songmasters of Lansing headed the Traverse City Variety show, an event of Oct. 30 . . . One new quartet has been organized in the White Lake Chapter . . . Dowagiac began its parade career Oct. 28, before a packed house . . . Kalamazoo Chapter, a 110-member outfit, has set Feb. 12 for its annual "Serenade of Quartets" . . . Grosse Pointe is laying plans for establishment of new chapters in Mt. Clemens and St. Clair Shores . . . The chapter is now extolling the virtues of the Collegians, four Wayne University boys who won third place in the district contest . . . The chapter is now meeting at the Whittier hotel . . . Holland has set its annual parade for March 25 . . . A new chapter in Hudson has been set up and chartered through the interest of the Jackson

Chapter . . . The chapter is especially proud of its chorus, now a sensation wherever it appears . . . The singing Lansing Chapter entered a team in the Community chest drive there and with song and work went way over the top . . . Fourteen new members, all carefully inspected, have been added to the roster during the quarter . . . Mt. Pleasant Chapter is organizing a complete minstrel show for the purpose of taking it around to various chapters in the district . . . Owosso is getting ready for a parade, April 23, the first in the chapter history . . . An American flag and a barberpole are now musts at all Dearborn Chapter meetings . . . A membership drive and a parade for April 16 are the big events in the lives of Three Rivers Chapter members at the moment . . . This live group has sponsored a chapter in Ashland, Wis. chorus and quartets making the trip there by bus . . . A bigger chorus is in prospect . . . A new quartet, the Melodeers, is the latest adjunct of the Redford Chapter . . . The second annual parade is coming up March 19 . . . Community work, singing for shut-ins and filling Christmas baskets for the needy, has been the big work at Saginaw during the quarter . . . The next quarter is to be taken up with the annual parade, March 19 . . . It may be the Pittsburghers will head the show . . . South Haven Chapter is the newest baby of the energetic Muskegon Chapter . . . Sympathies have gone out to John Hodgson, upon the death of his wife . . . Hodgson is the lead for the Oldtimers . . . Al Vredevel, Muskegon dynamo, is recovering from a heart attack and there's general rejoicing . . . Nice things were said about and to Dr. Nettleton by members of the Charlevoix and Boyne City Chapters at a farewell party . . . The good doctor is leaving for the south to humor a period of illness . . . Two Chicago quartets, the Chicagoans and the Big Towners, were feature attractions on the Benton Harbor, Festival of Harmony, Nov. 6 . . . The outstanding feature of the presentation were the columns and columns of publicity before and after the affair . . . The Swipe acknowledges receipt of reports from Greenville, Ortonville, Monroe, Marcellus, Lapeer, South Haven, Oakland County, Manistee, Belding, all rounding out a useful and eventful quarter.

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18" by 24"

Made of Cast Aluminum, finished with the Authentic Barbershop Colors in Enamel.

*Eyebolts for hanging are attached*

Priced at \$25.00 Each,  
With Reflecting Emblem \$30.00

Manufactured by  
MICHIGAN CHAPTER No. 56  
Three Rivers, Michigan

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Write LEON V. RIGGS  
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### MANISTEE CHAPTER

THIRD ANNUAL

## PARADE

Manistee High School

Auditorium

Manistee, Michigan

Saturday, April 23, 1949

8

Outstanding  
Quartets

PARADE TICKETS \$1.00

AFTER GLOW  
at Elks' Temple \$1.00

WRITE

VERSIL J. OLSON, SEC.

Manistee Chapter  
SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
338 SECOND ST., MANISTEE, MICH.

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and Blades for 3 generations.



## Northeastern District

By W. G. (Stub) Taylor  
Schenectady, N. Y.

This District is making a notable contribution to the altruistic aims of the Society, as this column will show. Barre, Vt., and Burlington, Vt., choruses and quartets jointly gave two concerts, one in Burlington, benefit of Mary Fletcher Hospital, the other in Barre for City Hospital. Barre quartets also have entertained patients at three hospitals. The Rustling Reeds sang in the Methodist Church. Conway, Mass., for second year caroled at many vicinity homes, one that of a sick chapter member. Fruit baskets were distributed to elderly couples. An old lady, thus visited, phoned the wife of Chapter Pres. Jesse Smith that "I've lived in this section for 27 years and it's the first time anyone has remembered me at Xmas." Truly the rewards of barbershopping are found in good works such as these. Derby, Conn., Chapter, newly organized, participated in annual Xmas Carol Sing. Holyoke, Mass., entertained quartets from Springfield and Northampton. Care-Free Four visited Northampton, also assisted Hartford in extension work at West Springfield, Mass. Marlboro, Mass., quartets entertained at three hospitals and VFW Navy Day program. Highland City Four made widely publicized appearance at the half of benefit football game for 5-yr.-old cancer victim at Milford, Mass. Chorus and quartets joined with Anna Maria College Glee Club (girls) in concert for VFW building fund and in Xmas caroling at City Hospital and Home for Aged. Chorus joined with K. of C. for more caroling. Funds for community swimming pool at Meriden, Conn., were increased \$400 by proceeds of Parade, co-sponsored by Lions Club. Pres. Harry Heflin has become very popular MC of barbershop affairs, and an active promoter of inter-chapter relations in Connecticut. Silvertones very active in charity appearances. Unique program of Xmas music presented by Middleburg, N. Y., by singing in churches in four different villages all the same night. New Bedford, Mass., is co-sponsor, with Boston, Mass., of new chapter at Providence, R. I. New Bedford Smoothies and Jolly Whalers placed 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in District contest, and sang at several churches. Both broadcast over WEAN promoting Providence organization. Smoothies sang at Community Fund drive and St. Mary's Home. Reorganized Neptunes made first appearance at St. Paul's Church. Small inner chorus, called Twelve Oarsmen, formed to relieve overworked quartets, sang at two churches. Full chorus went to County Jail and House of Correction—to provide entertainment. Pres. Bill Clarke presented charters to Salem and Brockton, Mass., both sponsored by New Bedford, which also organized prospective chapter at Fall River, Mass. In New Britain, Conn., the Chil-

dren's Home and Polish Orphanage were each presented with \$500 (Parade proceeds). Chapter provided Xmas show at hospital. Hardware City Four sang at six civic affairs. New Haven, Conn., has three new quartets, namely, Par Four which has entertained Chamber of Commerce, Newhallville Four which has sung at Vet's Hospital, and Four Clefs which entertained sanitarium patients and a civic association. All have broadcast on WHNC. Chorus opened Community Chest drive, caroled on radio, and sang for CYO and Notre Dame Academy. Chapter sponsored Derby, Conn. District Lt. Gov. Jack Emerson is very popular as MC. University of Conn. (New London and Storrs), chorus and quartets appeared in Xmas benefit show for Municipal Home at Hartford. Northampton, Mass., held inter-chapter night, with guests from four chapters. Chorus sang at Dickinson Hospital. \$1000 from Parade proceeds went to Infantile Paralysis Fund. Donations made to Red Cross and cancer fund. At Quincy, Mass., Four Alarms sang at county hospital. Reading, Mass., has demonstrated that successful Parade can be put on in small town without hotel or restaurant facilities. Proceeds benefited school dental clinic. Quartets sang at three churches, two charter nights, Rotary Club, and meeting with Quincy Chapter. Salem, Mass., recently organized, had their Old City Four and Four Lyres on their charter night program. Schenectady, N. Y., again awarded scholarships in music to local High School students, financed with Parade proceeds. Their talent was so outstanding that three instead of two awards were made. Chorus and quartets entertained Mayfield, N. Y., PTA for school benefit and to promote a new chapter, and caroled at County Home and two homes for aged. Mohawk Clippers and Four Mugs attended charter presentation at Whitestown, N. Y., co-sponsored by Schenectady. Scotia and Ravena Rotary Clubs and Schenectady Boy Scouts were entertained by quartets during the quarter. Springfield Mass., and Rockville, Conn., Chapters had a get-together. Springfield has three new quartets. Technicians and Melodiers, with the third one tentative. Latter two sang at State Sanatorium. An octet sang around Salvation Army Xmas kettles, and a quartet visited Vet's Hospital. Another Vet's Hospital, the Rocky Hill, was entertained by Terryville, Conn., chorus. The chorus at Waterbury, Conn., gave two church benefit concerts, and Chapter raised \$690 for Kiwanis Youth Service Fund by putting on a minstrel show.

A quarterly activities report was received also from Mystic, Conn.

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

## NEW HAVEN CHAPTER, SPEBSQSA, INC.

presents its

*Second Annual*  
**PARADE of QUARTETS**  
Saturday, March 26, 1949

*Fairhaven Junior High School*  
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

*featuring the*

## GARDEN STATE QUARTET

1946 International Champions

AND TEN OTHER  
TOP QUARTETS

*from the*

Northeastern District

For Hotel Reservations,  
Parade Tickets at \$1.20  
Afterglow Tickets at \$1.75

*Write or wire*

TOM ROURKE, Sec.  
80 Elizabeth Street  
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

## Ontario Harmonie

By Hughbert Hamilton

Giving pleasure to others while deriving pleasure in the giving—that's a hard-to-beat formula for happiness and the Old Songsters know that it works. It's good to report and it's good to read that more and more chapters are contributing time and talent to those in need of a lift in spirit.

The entire membership at Chatham visited the Old Folks' Home and the House of Refuge on Christmas Sunday, giving each group a half hour program of chorus and quartet numbers. It looks like an annual event from now on. The chorus and quartets of London Chapter are kept busy with similar all-for-free presentations—at Centennial Church on Nov. 23, a concert to aid the choir fund; on Dec. 8 for the patients at Westminster Veterans' Hospital; on Sunday evening, Dec. 12 replacing the regular choir and organist of Colborne United Church. The Londonnaires, at the request of the Sheriff, gave the inmates of the County Jail a fine program on Christmas Day (Yes, their numbers included "Daddy Get Your . . ."). The District Champs, London's Four Chords, paid a fraternal visit to Hornell, N. Y. Chapter on the occasion of the District Contest there. These popular youngsters also gave of their talents at Byron Sanatorium and at Chatham and Sarnia Hospitals.

The Medway Four have given two programs for the patients at the Military Health and Occupational Center. Wallaceburg's Chorus, smart in new jackets, contributed greatly to the artistic success of the District Contest at Windsor on Nov. 20. This chapter's Three Quarts and a Pint have also been active in entertaining the patients at the great military hospital at London. At Kitchener, two of the chapter's quartets had a part in the annual exhibition sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce—a demonstration of another home product, harmony.

Sarnia's public service record was further strengthened by a pre-Christmas visit of chorus and quartets to the Lambton County House of Refuge where, in addition to their offerings of song, gifts of tobacco, fruit and candy warmed the hearts of the inmates. Two prizes—of \$40 and \$20 value—are being awarded by the chapter to the two best quartets in a competition to be held in the city schools. And for Barbershop Quartet Singing that's real Encouragement thereof.

## Mid-Atlantic States

By Jack Briody

Wilmington, Del., No. 1, reports their First City Four among performers at Veteran's Hospital, Perry Point, Md., November 13. The Uncalled Four, impromptu quartet, sang in show for Veteran's Hospital, New Castle, Del., December 16. The Mellowaires entertained at party at A. I. duPont Institute Children's Hospital, December 30 . . . Members of Baltimore, Md., No. 1 gave performance for inmates of Maryland State Penitentiary. Chapter donated \$125.00 to Christmas Charity Fund . . . Two new quartets formed in Bridgeton, N. J., Chapter although yet unnamed are going strong. The Harmony Four did their bit during Christmas Week for the Salvation Army . . . Ridgewood, N. J. Chapter members made donation of \$25.00 to Elks Crippled Children's Fund. Also gave \$25.00 to the town Community Chest. Chapter busy forming quartet classes. Two, consisting of 8 members each, already under way. A check for \$50.00 was presented to Bill Holcombe as a contribution towards Christmas present to the children of Paterson Orphanage. Bill is the head of the institution . . . December 22 saw 15 members of the Harrisburg, Pa., chorus singing hymns and carols at the Keystone Polyclinic and Harrisburg Hospitals, and at the County Home. A letter of thanks from the head of the County Home was received by chapter president . . . The Veteran's at Administration Hospital of Lebanon, Pa., were treated to an evening of barbershopping given by 35 members of the local chapter on November 15. The entire chorus and three quartets of Reading, Pa., entertained at Berks County Tuberculosis Sanitarium on December 20. The same gang did their stuff two nights later for patients of Reading Hospital . . . The Police Quartet and Club Harmony Four of Bronx, N. Y., made tour of local Veteran's Hospitals during Christmas Week. Quartets and chorus of York, Pa., entertained in High School Auditorium on behalf of the Kiwanis Club Crippled Children's Fund. For the third year, chorus visited County Home for Old Folks. Marlboro, N. J., Hospital patients were given a taste of barbershop on December 9 when members of Westfield, N. J., staged a two hour concert. Quarterly reports were also received from Jersey City, Vineland, and Woodbridge, N. J., as well as Baltimore, Md., No. 2 and Diamond State (Wilmington).



### WINNIPEG'S CHARTERING

Here Gov. Percy Barker, Land O'Lakes District (L) approves presentation of charter to Jack Galbraith, Pres. Winnipeg, Manitoba, Chapter by August Neubauer, Pres. Virginia, Minn. Chapter. The "Virginians" travelled more than 400 miles to help get Winnipeg underway.

## Newark N. J. Chapter

Number 2  
SPEBSQSA, INC.

Presents

### A JUBILEE OF HARMONY

Friday, March 25, 1949

at the

Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company

### AUDITORIUM

300 BROADWAY NEWARK, N. J.

— FEATURING —

The Garden State Quartet

1946 International Champions

The Potomac Clippers

1949 Mid-Atlantic States District Champs

The Four Chords

1948 Mid-Atlantic States District Champs

The Jersey Ramblers

1949 Mid-Atlantic States Contest  
4th Place Winners

The Essex Four, Newark, N. J.

The Newark Suburban-Aires

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THOMPSON and KURNITZ

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Paterson, N. J.

50 Voice Newark Chapter Chorus

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## Regional Preliminary CONTEST (ONTARIO)

### BEAL TECH AUDITORIUM

Saturday, April 23

## LONDON ONTARIO

A great show assured.  
Barbershoppers within coming  
distance cordially invited.

### TICKETS

Reserved \$1.50 :: General \$1.00

from

President R. W. HALL  
428 Richmond St., London, Canada

### Central States

by Ken Hegarty, Kansas City, Mo.

*Snow and ice made travel hazardous in the closing days of 1948 in the Central States district, but barbershop activities suffered little. Meetings went on as usual with only slightly reduced attendances. Until near the Christmas holidays, pleasant weather prevailed over the plains states and SPEBSQSA songfellows were kept busy in a variety of events, including extension work that constantly is going on in this vast territory. Never in any 3-month period in the history of the Society has there been more activity in the area.*

Future Farmers of America, largest annual gathering rural youth in U. S. entertained by Kansas City Chorus at their annual convention . . . Howard Talbot, Kansas City secretary moved to Miami, Fla., and Carl Neve, treasurer for many years, assumed both duties . . . Chapter was pardonably proud of its quartets in Central States District Contest, winning first, second and fifth places . . . St. Louis Chapter had prominent part in fourth annual Music festival November 26 . . . First Mound City parade scheduled for March 26 . . . George Bagot

lent a legal hand, along with others, to complete incorporation St. Louis Chapter . . . Joined with the Clayton, Mo., Chapter for annual songfest at Koch Tuberculosis hospital . . . All six quartets busy during Christmas holidays at church, hospital, old folks home and Salvation Army events . . . Ten appearances, most of them at churches, were made by Herman, Mo., Chapter from October 2 until New Year's eve . . . Among the "baby" chapters in Missouri is Jefferson City. . . . Mexico, Mo., sponsored the new chapter, which has two quartets already . . . Harold Bosworth, Oklahoma City secretary, reports chapter has 113 members now and is pressing close to Wichita and Kansas City as the largest in the area . . . Southern Serenaders recently appeared with Bill Stern on National radio hookup . . . Veterans at the Will Rogers hospital seemed to enjoy thoroughly the chords of the Oklahoma City chorus December 13. It's an annual presentation by the chorus and quartets . . . The Oklahoma Citians want to know if anyone can surpass this for distance traveled to a meeting and regularly: R. R. Jackson, president of the Anadarko Bank & Trust Co., Anadarko, Okla., attends virtually all meetings, making the 135-mile round trip . . . Tulsa, with six quartets now, plans to have at least ten by summer . . . On first and third Fridays of each month, Bartlesville, Okla., chorus can be heard in a 15-minute broadcast over KWON . . . Programs are presented solely to promote good old barbershop

singing . . . Warren Bickford, president of Blackwell, Okla., Chapter, has moved to Guymond, Okla. . . . Bus trips to make appearances in other towns have done much to keep enthusiasm running high at Hutchinson, Kans. . . . Both Lyons, Kans., and Stafford, Kans., have been corresponding with Hutchinson, with the idea of forming new chapters . . . At Kiowa, Kans., trucks carrying barbershoppers were driven about town December 22 . . . The carol-singing drew much praise from the townfolk . . . Incidentally, Kiowa is in Barber county . . . Chapter purchased forty folding chairs for the Boy Scouts hut . . . Most noteworthy activity of Des Moines Chapter was December 20 when two appearances were made, the first at the Home for the Aged and the second at Veterans Hospital . . . Ft. Dodge, Ia., Chapter coming along nicely in chorus work. In addition, it has three quartets—half its membership . . . With thirty-five members signed, Newton, Ia., is looking forward to charter night . . . Crippled children in Woodbury county in Iowa were entertained December 19 by the Wigmanaires from the Sioux City Chapter . . . Denver assisted the newly formed Longmont, Colo., Chapter in its first parade in December . . . In October, the Denver members entertained at the Fitzsimons Veterans hospital . . . Weary of carols, which blared from many street corners the Cavern City four of Carlsbad, N. M., sang nothing but barbershop numbers in a program for the Sisters Hospital

## THIS YEAR THE CENTRAL STATES REGIONAL PRELIMINARIES

WILL BE HELD  
'DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS'  
IN SUNNY

### SAN ANTONIO

APRIL 30, 1949

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

TICKETS - \$2.00 - \$1.50 and \$1.00, Including Tax

AFTERGLOW - PLAZA HOTEL BALLROOM — ADMISSION \$1.50

For Contest and Afterglow Tickets Write  
E. A. KUEHN - CONTEST HEADQUARTERS - ROOM 1530 - PLAZA HOTEL

For Room Reservations  
TOM POWELL, Vice President - General Manager - PLAZA HOTEL

Christmas eve . . . Six members of the Springer, N. M., Chapter went to Las Vegas, N. M., for an inter-chapter meeting and were joined by two from far off Kansas City, "Trees" Lockwood and Ray Koenig . . . Secretary C. M. Steen of Springer went to Amarillo, Tex., for charter presentation . . . Eight of the chapter's members sang at the community Christmas tree program . . . Finally Galveston, Tex., has acquired a permanent home to try out chords. It's the Oleander Recreation Hall . . . Charter night party at Amarillo was a success in every way . . . Five days later the new chapter put on a show for underprivileged children . . . Houston, Tex., Chapter incorporated October 8, 1948 . . . Sponsored new chapter at Beaumont, Tex. Membership gradually climbing, now standing at 124 with four organized quartets . . . Quarterly activities reports also were received from the following chapters: McAlester, Okla., Manhattan, Kans., Kingman, Kans., Abilene, Kans., Burlington, Ia., Wichita Falls, Tex., Longmont, Colo., Colorado Springs, Colo., and Longview, Tex.

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



*Meet Me In St. Louie!*



## THE ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC.

will present its

### FIRST ANNUAL PARADE OF QUARTETS

Saturday, 8:15 P. M. March 26th, 1949 at  
KIEL AUDITORIUM -- OPERA HOUSE

★ Featuring ★

CARROLL P. ADAMS, *International Sec'y.*, M. C.

THE PITTSBURGHERS

MIS-FITS

FOUR SHADES OF HARMONY

HARMONAIRES

McPHEE FAMILY

MIXED-UP FOUR

DOCTORS OF HARMONY

ELASTIC FOUR

FLYING "L"

ST. LOUIS POLICE QUARTET

DECATURETTES

FOUR OLD GRADS

ALL SEATS RESERVED \$2.80 - \$2.40 - \$1.80 - \$1.25

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AFTERGLOW — HOTEL CLARIDGE

## THE KANSAS CITY MISSOURI

C H A P T E R

Presents its Fourth Annual

### POST EASTER PARADE OF QUARTETS

Saturday Night, April 23,

::

Sunday Afternoon April 24

In Kansas City's BEAUTIFUL MUSIC HALL

*The established peak in entertainment of the spring show season in the Heart of America*

#### Guest Quartets:

THE PITTSBURGHERS

1948 International Champions

BIG TOWNERS - Chicago

FOUR KERNELS - Omaha

AQUATENNIALS - Minneapolis

#### Kansas City's

80 Voice Chorus



#### Kansas City Quartets:

HY-POWER SERENADERS

RISS RHYTHMAIRES

THE GAMBOLIERS

THE SKELLODIANS

THE VAUDEVILLIANS

THE HARMONY HONEYS

(Members of K. C. Sweet Adelines)

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Tax Included

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Headquarters: HOTEL PHILLIPS

#### Hotel Reservations:

BEA KENNEDY

c/o Hotel Phillips

KANSAS CITY, MO.





### ORINDA, CAL. CHORUS

Features of Orinda's December Harmony Night included a Juvenile Amateur contest.

### Far-Western Sunshine

By Dick Schenck

Far West really going places with inter-chapter relations. Hollywood has made visitations to Glendale, Newhall, Pasadena and Inglewood. Cinema City Four appeared at American Legion Benefit show and Harmony HiLighters entertained the vets at Sawtell Hospital Xmas Eve.—Down in Long Beach the chorus and three quartets spent two hours entertaining at Naval Hospital Xmas Eve.—Over in Arizona the baby chapter Globe showing the way by taking part in community Christmas Tree Lighting Program. Newhall and San Fernando Valley, Van Nuys showing older chapters how to do things. Newhall underwriting the musical education of a youth who is unable to finance his own and Van Nuys came up with Harmony Breakfast to which other chapters were invited. San Gabriel chorus made two gratis appearances on Xmas shows, one for Highland Park and one for San Gabriel Community Christmas program. Mission Airs and Major Chords made appearances on the Disabled Amer. Vets and Amer. Legion Xmas Shows. Quarterly Activities reports were received also from Glendale, Pasadena, and San Francisco.

### Pacific-Northwest District News

By Alan L. Cornwell

Tacoma, Washington, Chapter Chorus of 30 men sang for patients of Madigan General Hospital, one of the largest Veterans' Hospitals in U. S., near Tacoma, December 22nd. Appearance included the Echoes, a very fine Women's Barbershop Quartet, from Enumelaw, Washington. New Chapter at Everett, Washington, has made fine start. Mt. Ranier Chapter put on a show for Marine Hospital patients December 20th. Chorus of 20 Mount-Aires, and Echoes participated. Mt. Ranier Chapter sponsored new group at Bellevue, Washington, called Lake Washington Chapter. It includes 3 neighboring communities on beautiful Lake Washington. Klamath Falls, Oregon Chapter journeyed to Reno Parade with their chorus and House Bros. Quartet.

### TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

Bloomsburg, Pa., chorus sang at the Bloomsburg Hospital on Christmas Eve and at a big community meeting on December 23. Plans are going forward for the chorus to entertain at the State Hospital at Danville.

### THE HAYDEN QUARTET

#### PART TWO

By "Curly" Crossett

Shortly after Young replaced Bieling as first tenor, (Bieling was forced to drop out in 1914 because of a throat ailment) Sam Rous, (S. H. Dudley) also left the quartet to accept an executive position with the Victor Company. Reinald Werrenrath, a young singer who had already made a name for himself as a Victor solo artist took over old Sam's job as baritone and the rest is history. "Werry" made good right from the drop of the hat—old Sam was good, no doubt about that, but "Werry" was even better. Mr. Werrenrath is one of the truly great baritone singers—he was not only a concert artist on the Victor staff, but by hard work, graduated to the Red Seal Section—a high honor indeed for any singer. Here's what Victor had to say about him in one of their old catalogs:

"Reinald Werrenrath has been making Victor Records for some years. As a younger artist (he is still young) his contributions were made to the Black and Blue Label classes. By sheer force of merit he won a place among the immortals of modern vocal music, and he will in future contribute to the Red Seal Records. He has sung with the Metropolitan Opera Company, and he has sung in concert everywhere throughout the United States. He is the son of George Werrenrath, who was himself a famous singer. He was born of Danish ancestry, in Brooklyn, N. Y., and graduated from New York University. He has a splendid rich baritone voice, clear, smooth and sympathetic, and beyond that he sings with extraordinary understanding and intelligence."

The above gives some idea of what the Victor Company thought of this great singer, and you can judge for yourself what it meant to the old Hayden to have such a famous baritone for their beloved quartet. It meant for one thing, added prestige, for here was a singer who was a famous personality, and justly so, for he worked hard and earned every honor that an adoring public gave him. With this wonderful man to inspire them, the quartet became as near perfect as it ever could be; and was much in demand.

In the next issue, I'll list some of the many recordings made by the Hayden for the Victor Company.

### PORT ANGELES CHAPTER

announces

### Third Annual Quartet Parade

ELKS AUDITORIUM

Saturday Night, March 19th, 1949



"We want every Chapter in the 12th District represented"

\* \* \*

H. B. MOLCHIOR, Sec'y.  
Port Angeles, Wash.

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presents

SECOND ANNUAL

## HARMONY FESTIVAL

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AUDITORIUM

Saturday, March 12

WEST'S 10 BEST  
QUARTETS

60 MAN CHORUS

under direction of

PAUL McFATRIDGE

Ed. East — M. C.

Tickets \$1.20 - \$1.80 - \$2.40



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This directory is for convenience of traveling 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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## OHIO-PA. NEWS, Continued

Toledo sponsored two chapters, Bowling Green and Port Clinton, Ohio. Quartets and chorus brought Christmas cheer to patients at Toledo State Hospital. Every chapter member pitched in to help put over the Mid-winter Int'l. Board Meeting and Parade Jan. 14-15. All can take justifiable pride in this outstanding affair, which is covered in "Stub Pencil" notes.

Charlestown, W. Va. was organized Nov. 15 and already has a quartet with more invitations than they can accept. Made a hit on Wellsburg Parade Jan. 28. Chapter now has 60 members and a chorus. Charter night planned in April. Keep your eye on Charlestown.

---

# WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT

## *"Keep America Singing"*

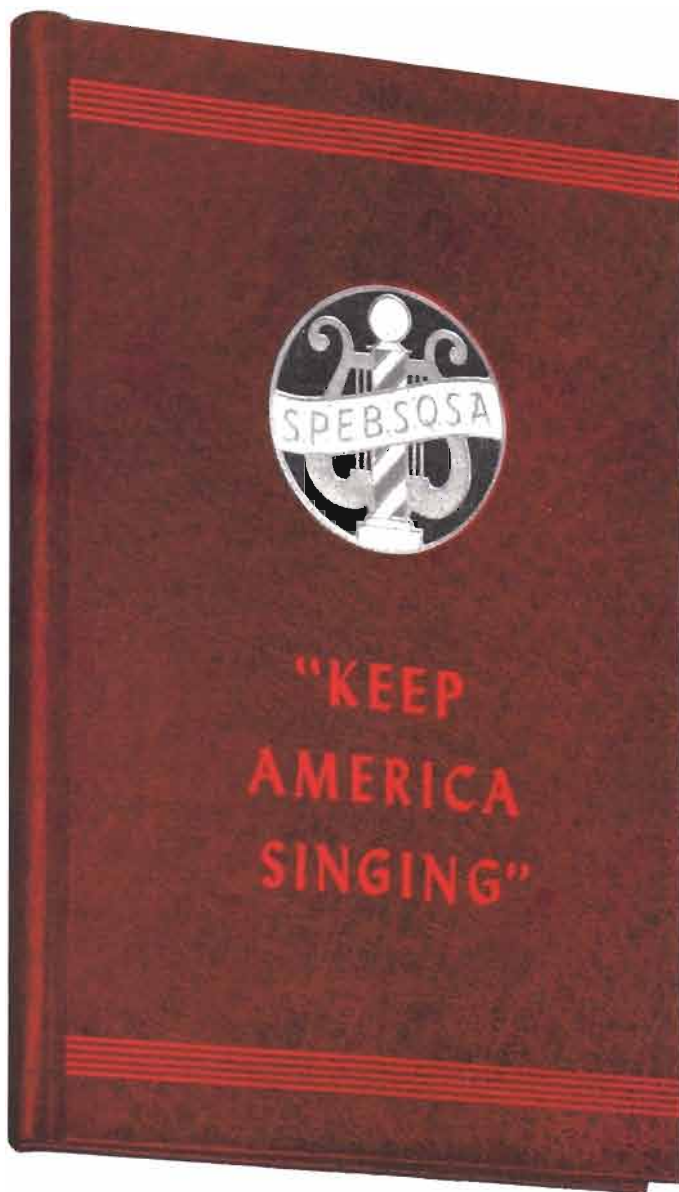
The 10 year history of the Society came out just before Christmas. By New Years Day letters were already arriving from early recipients. Since then, the letters to the International Office have turned into a flood. Here are excerpts from a few:

Past Int'l. Pres.  
F. H. Thorne

"The book will  
help our future".

Past Int'l. Pres.  
Phil Embury

"A beautiful job...  
a terrific piece of  
work".



"Hec" White,  
former Sec.  
Central States  
District

"The only thing I  
hated is that it had  
to have an ending"

O. H. King Cole,  
Int'l. Pres.

"I have thus far  
bought only twenty  
copies".

[ Statement by Carroll P. Adams to Thilbert  
McQuinsten and others who have not ordered. ]

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