

THE

HARMONIZER



DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONY

VOLUME XIII

NUMBER 1

SEPT 53

1st PLACE
VIKINGS, ROCK ISLAND ILL.
Conover, Livesay, Maurus, Lindley



3rd PLACE
SING-COPATES, APPLETON, WIS.
Stummer, Marth, Hammond, Paas



4th PLACE
ANTLERS, MIAMI, FLORIDA
Swentzel, Schindler, Brooks, Morton



5th PLACE
STATESMEN, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
Schultz, Machado, Gilstrap, DuVall



2nd PLACE
FOUR CHORDERS, LONDON, ONTARIO, CAN.
W. Starling, R. Starling, Mills, Patterson



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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BARBERSHOP QUARTET SINGERS
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(Golden Anniversary Days)



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Editorial and Advertising Office
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EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION

ROBERT G. HAFER
(20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Mich.
Phone: KEnwood 2-8300)
JAMES F. KNIPE

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Bud Arberg
Rowland Davis
Robert Hockenbrough
Deac (C. T.) Martin
Charles M. Merrill
J. George O'Brien
Sigmund Spaeth
F. Stirling Wilson

BUSINESS MANAGER

Donald I. Dobson

20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Mich. Phone KEnwood 2-8300

Eastern Representative—S. A. Moscato, 5 Columbus Circle, New York 19, N. Y., Phone Columbus 5-7256

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA

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TIME PENALTIES

by Berney Simmer
Chairman, Int'l Contests and
Judging Committee

Dear Friends:

"Time" has always been a precious thing, and in our Society Contests it assumes an importance that can be very distressing!

In the early days our Judges recognized that an inequality existed which had to be eliminated if we were to compete on an equal basis—hence, our present rule establishing a minimum and maximum of singing time. Imagine one quartet presenting two short or fast numbers of about three minutes total singing time, and another presenting two medleys consuming six minutes. Basically, the latter quartet had twice the opportunity for error.

Therefore, in our present Official Contest Rules we find:

ARTICLE 14. SINGING TIME and PENALTIES. The total singing time of any two songs or medleys shall be not less than four minutes nor more than six minutes. A penalty of five points shall be assessed for each second a quartet sings under time or over time. In case of variance between the timing of the two timekeepers, the time most favorable to the quartet shall prevail.

All quartets registering for the fourteen recent Preliminary Contests received a copy of the Rules and yet there were twenty-five Time Penalties ranging from 5 to 120 points! Some of you who suffered these penalties may have been good enough to qualify in all five categories but lost your opportunity because of a needless penalty. It is inexcusable for an experienced quartet to suffer a Time Penalty but one of the Semi-Finalists in Detroit would have been within six points of becoming Medalists had they not been assessed a 30 point Time Penalty! Think of the hours of rehearsal lost in six seconds!!

It is an established fact that most Time Penalties are assessed for singing under time. It is natural for a quartet to step up the tempo and sing faster under the stress of a Contest, so play it safe—time your numbers to run between 280 and 300 seconds.

It is not difficult to shorten or lengthen the two songs by small effective changes in arrangement, or in tempo through interpretation of the numbers, and it can mean the difference in winning or losing a Contest.

CHECK YOUR SINGING TIME!

THE COVER

The Harmonizer is "in hock" to Bob Hockenbrough again for the fine cover illustration on this issue. It's a great help to have that kind of talent on tap. The Editors.

"Apostle of Harmony"



Owen Clifton (O.C.) Cash
February 13, 1892—August 15, 1953

A man who symbolized an important phase of an era is gone. The era was the 1890s and 1900s into the first World War; the phase was informal harmony singing of popular music. That music is important today because it reveals musical customs of an earlier era while its lyrics carry much of the thought and many events of those more tranquil days. Also by that time informal harmony singing had evolved into a distinct American pattern that was basically the same wherever four or more men able or willing to carry four parts got together.

Owen Clifton Cash was molded by those times and by the life in the small towns in the Southwest where he spent his most impressionable years. Longing to restore the popular songs and singing customs of his youth and early manhood, songs and customs which were nearing the vanishing point in 1938, that year he headed a local movement in Tulsa to attempt to revive them. Within ten years he saw the results of that localized intent impressed indelibly across great cities as well as small towns of two nations in a different atomic age. The singing patterns were preserved along with the songs.

The Harmonizer of December, 1943 was dedicated to O. C. Cash by a foreword which said in part:

"Only rarely does America produce a son with the ability to open the nation's eyes to what it has been missing in simple and wholesome pleasure that is easily attainable. Less often does such a one have the generosity to share his vision be-

yond his immediate environs; the conviction, courage, and tact to win others to his thinking; and the patience backed by driving force to attain an objective which holds no pot o' gold reward . . . Cash has done more than spread wholesome enjoyment to the early 1940s; he has furnished the means to preserve a period rich in American traditions . . . It is conceivable that his Society may in the future be the connecting link between whatever generation is current, the one preceding it, and the one to follow, as oldsters and youngsters group in harmony".

Fifteen years and an International status, as compared with the ambitious "national" hopes in 1943, have brought thousands of members into the Society to whom Cash is merely an honored name. Widespread retelling of the events leading to the formation of SPEBSQSA and its early struggles inevitably results in misinformation and some inaccuracies. The Society is fortunate that the march of events of those days is recorded in "Keep America Singing", the book which covers highlights of the first 10 years, and that every word was approved by Owen Cash with a brief "That's how it was" notation.

Past President Hal Staab (also deceased) led the drive to get those early years of the Society down on paper as the participants had lived them.

The Man

The book of the Society's ten years does not include biographical facts about the founder, therefore, it is well to set down salient ones concerning the man and his early environment as

well as some of his interests apart from the now famous harmony avocation.

When Owen was about age six his Baptist-minister father took the family from northern Missouri, where the boy had been born February 13, 1892, near the tiny hamlet of Keytesville in Chariton County, on a wagon trek over the dirt roads and trails to the Southwest. After a trip comparable with crossing Africa by motor car today they arrived in Catale in the Coe-Wee-Scoo-Wee District, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, to become a part of Oklahoma later. They set up housekeeping in a log house rented from an old Cherokee. Subsequently they lived in Vinita and in Blue Jacket where young Cash played in the Silver Cornet Band and began to get the feeling of baritone harmony. He graduated from Bacone College, Bacone, Okla. and was admitted to the Bar in that state in June, 1916. Next year he enrolled in the U. S. Army but was still waiting to go overseas when the First World War ended in 1919. Two years later he joined a subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana as assistant tax commissioner, and in 1930 became tax commissioner of Stanolind, a Standard Oil pipe line subsidiary.

His profession as a tax lawyer led naturally into activities in the National Tax Association, the Oil Industries Information Committee, and the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, while his public service duties included work in the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce and the Oklahoma Public Expenditures Council. More personally his affiliations included the Presbyterian Church, the Sons of the

American Revolution, and the Tulsa Farm Club. The Cash ranch near Talala, Okla. is today a well run producing farm property. The owner's weekend home is replete with mementos, photographs, sketches, and souvenirs of 15 years in SPEBSQSA.

The background, the activities, and accomplishments just outlined give a picture of a man who attained much comfort and strength through his sense of material order, intellectual order, and moral order. He was a prudent man.

His wife Corinne, his daughter Betty Anne (Mrs. Eugene A. Oathout), and his sister, Miss Idress Cash who took the long rough trail with small Owen to the Cherokee Nation so long ago are justifiably proud of the one who earned the title of Good Citizen before the outside world knew him as the "Apostle of Harmony".

Owen Cash's prudence was something that friends and associates took for granted. In consequence in countless places he will be remembered more for his humanness and his sense of humor. At its finest that Cash humor is preserved in the name of our Society and in the title with which he endowed himself. The invitation to the original meeting at the Tulsa Club, April 11, 1938, was signed by Rupert I. Hall, "Royal Keeper of the Minor Keys" and by O. C. Cash, "Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman" of "The Society for Preservation and Propagation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in the United States". Shortly after, Propagation was changed to Encouragement and he took in all of America. Still later he headed his own title with "Founder and Permanent . . ." The combination of the grandiose applied to such a hobby and the obvious tongue-in-cheek dig at the spreading alphabetical agencies of the New Deal smacks of Mark Twain with overtones of Will Rogers, all three of them sons of the mid-states.

During the Society's first year he announced intentions to petition WPA (an emergency agency) for \$9,999.99 to survey the male vocal range, nationwide. Before the first Convention-Contest in Tulsa, June 1939, he solemnly informed news reporters that Herbert Hoover, Alfred Landon, "Al" Smith, and James Farley, top names in the news of the day, would be "invited to Tulsa" to sing in a quartet.

At New Year, 1942, many Society members received a certificate from Cash raising them to the status of "Ex-Okies" since they had "harmonized successfully . . . with the famous Okie Four—World's foremost exponents of barbershop harmony" with which quartet he sang an enthusiastic baritone.

His humor was gentle, frequently keyed to some element of self-depreciation, hardly ever conceived in terms which might embarrass anyone or make the butt of the humor uncomfortable. These excerpts from The Founder's Column in the Harmonizer are typical:

After the Grand Rapids Convention-Contest, 1942, the Column carried the

complaint that the judges were "deef". "The Okies sang in the first preliminary and from all unbiased reports went over big with the audience, but just to show you how incompetent and prejudiced the judges were, one of them came rushing over and said the Okies have the honor of being the first quartet eliminated. I can't understand it, until I found out one was a lantern maker (past pres. Embury). The continual hammering and picking away on them tin lanterns has made him deaf as a board. Then there was Reagan who was an electrician by trade (Maurice Reagan is a great authority on electronics)."

Writing of a get-together in Detroit, "Huck Sinclair and me was setting around, listening to all them sweet chords and wiping our eyes and Huck said between sniffles 'Cash, I never knowed I had so many friends or could sing so good'".

He wrote to an out-of-town banker who had inquired about membership in the Society, "There is nothing that so quickly and effectively restores the respectability of a banker as joining up with SPEBSQSA. Because of the warm hearts and generous souls of our club the rules have been amended to allow bankers to join . . ."

In 1945 commenting upon the Sweet Adeline organization Cash said in part: "It is a shame this had to come up just when we were getting along so peacefully. I am bewildered, confused, and all messed up besides . . . hoping you are the same".

Some of his early columns were treasures of Americana. The May 1945 Harmonizer narrates in detail how they left Missouri and landed in the Cherokee Nation, the need for schooling for the children and how his preacher-father picked out a tramp who had been kicked off a Frisco freight train and got him to teach school (where he did a perfect job of moral as well as formal education of the little pupils) until the U. S. Marshal walked into the school house one day, "Pearl handled six shooters dangling from his wide cartridge belt" and took the teacher away to finish his penitentiary sentence back East. It is Cash narration at its best, bright-hued with local coloring and brimming over with smiles.

Owen Cash and the Society 1953

What was Cash's attitude toward the way the Society was handled after he turned the reins over to succeeding Boards and administrators, and based upon the actions of those administrators, what did he think of the organization's future?

He followed with keen interest the many intricate phases of expansion throughout Canada as well as the States. In general he had nothing but praise for the administration of the international organization, the districts, and the chapters, though in the late '40s he expressed some concern over the possibility that the influx of younger members, reared in a different school of harmony ("and life"), might "wean the Society away from barbershop", particularly because of

the intense competition in contests "where they've got to throw the book at the judges".

He said: "If that were ever to occur, the Society might not last long because it would dump overboard the very thing that made it", and has kept it unique and apart from other singing organizations, meaning its distinctive style of harmony with an appeal to all sorts, degrees, and ages of music appreciation.

But in 1953 he said he had ceased to worry "too much" on that point which would reduce SPEBSQSA to the level of comparison with other musical groups, professional and amateur. "We've got some good heads; they won't let the Society drop what we stand for".

He listened to the plans of the Committee on Long Range Planning as expressed at the first meeting of the House of Delegates in Detroit, June, 1953, when Dean Snyder, Committee chairman, said to the House in part: "The old order passeth, giving way to the new" . . . It is evidence both of our vigor and our maturity that we could make this significant change so smoothly . . . He cited the many activities now possible to give outlets for the energy and interests of every member, including opportunities for craftsmanship in the technically musical phases of barbershop harmony. In closing he quoted Alfred Noyes: "If I looked farther ahead, it was because I stood on giant shoulders". Here in the presence of our founder, our past presidents, and other 'statesmen' of our Society, these words have special significance".

Afterward, when asked what he thought of the plans for the future, the founder said: "They're sound; we'll keep on having good leaders"; this from one who in earlier years had felt, with many other seniors, that note singing was beneath the contempt of a "true barbershopper", but who now endorsed the technicalities of music as one of the things helpful to the Society's advancement thus far, and necessary for the future.

The man who symbolized an important phase of an era is gone. But for his particular fitness to be the nucleus in the Society's tentative stage of development, that phase of the 1890s and 1900s might not have been projected into this age to give untold pleasure to participants and those who love to hear harmony. Fifteen years of the Society constitute a proving period of sufficient time under varied conditions in urban and rural areas to demonstrate that popular songs sung in the traditional barbershop pattern are still important in the atomic age.

The man who was the symbol of the preservation and encouragement of such singing had faith that its traditions will be passed along by a generation twice removed from his own, though just as actively interested and even more proficient within this Society. "They won't let the Society drop what we stand for" he said.

D. M.

VIKINGS, ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS TAKE CHAMPIONSHIP CROWN

MEANS TRADES BRIEF CASE FOR "GRIEF" CASE

Choice of 1956 Convention City Deferred until January

In the first election conducted by the House of Delegates of SPEBSQSA, John Z. Means, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, was elected Int'l President of the Society. Edwin S. Smith, Wayne, Michigan, automatically became Imm. Past Int'l President. Carl C. Jones, Terre Haute, Indiana, was elected to a second term as First Vice-president. Dean Snyder, Washington, D.C., was elected to the office of Second Vice-president. Ray C. Niblo, Des Moines, Iowa, was elected Treasurer.

Under the new By-Laws of the Society, now in effect, the Int'l Board consists only of the five officers, the Founder, and ten elected members, five to be chosen each year for a two year term. It was necessary this year to elect five for one year also.

For the one year term—F. C. Armstrong, Warren, Ohio; Rowland F. Davis, New York City; Frank A. Graham, Jasper, Oregon; Wm. P. Hinckley, Reading, Mass.; James S. Martin, Palos Heights, Ill.

For the two year term—Dr. Paul C. Hartig, Minneapolis; Harley S. Miller, Plant City, Fla.; Paul F. DePaolis, Rochester, N.Y.; Howard D. Tubbs, Detroit, Mich.; Reddie A. Wright, Pasadena, Calif.

(Continued on page 7)

Four Chorders, 2nd; Sing-Copates, 3rd; Antlers, 4th; Statesmen, 5th

In 1951 the Schmitt Brothers, in 1952 the Four Teens, dark horses as black as the ace of spades, carried off top Society honors. This year's went to the veterans. Three of the top five had previously been Medalists. A fourth had been in earlier Int'l Contests. Only one quartet, the Statesmen from Sacramento, came to Detroit unknown.

The Vikings ran second to the Four Teens in 1952, were Finalists in 1949, 1950 and 1951; three times running ('48-'49-'50) placed second in the Illinois District Contest before they finally copped that title in 1951.

The London, Ontario Four Chorders climbed another notch in their relentless pursuit of the gold medals. Third last year, fourth in '50 and '51, Semi-Finalists in 1948 and '49, the widely known Canadians have won the respect and admiration of many thousands for their wonderful musicianship, their likable personalities and their outstanding sportsmanship.

The Appleton, Wisconsin Sing-copates were Semi-Finalists last year at Kansas City, and the year before at Toledo but since then changed two of their personnel, so in a sense are a new quartet.

The Miami, Florida Antlers have been up in the top rank for many years, since 1947 in Milwaukee. Medalists three times, their top grade was achieved in 1949 in Buffalo and 1950

in Omaha when they reached third place.

The Sacramento, Calif. Statesmen never had competed in a Society Contest prior to the Far Western District Int'l Preliminary at Long Beach in May.

Ten "Tie" for Sixth

In alphabetical order, these ten four-somes "tied" for sixth place—Atomic Bums, Minneapolis; Cardinals, Madison, Wis.; Chicagoans, Southtown, (Chicago); Four-in-a-Chord, Cleveland; Harmony Counts, Warren, Ohio; Kord Kings, Oak Park, Ill.; Lytle Brothers, Sharon, Pa.; Notecrackers, Genesee (Rochester), N.Y.; San Diego Serenaders; Toronto Rhythmairs.

Seven of the Society's fourteen Districts were represented in the fifteen-quartet Finals. Dixie had one; Seneca Land, one; Far Western, two; Illinois, three; Johnny Applesed, three; Land O' Lakes, three; Ontario, two.

Chairman of Judges Johnny Means had put together a smooth working panel of Judges:

VOICE EXPRESSION — Carl Jones, Terre Haute, Ind.; W. Carleton Scott, Birmingham, Mich. and Lew Sims, Washington, D.C.

ARRANGEMENT — Maurice Reagan, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jim Ewin, Washington, D.C. and Loton Willson, Boyne City, Mich.

HARMONY ACCURACY—John Hill, Lansing, Mich.; Paul DePaolis, Rochester, N.Y. and Forrest Haynes, Chicago.

BALANCE & BLEND — Joe Jones, Detroit; Marty Mendro, Chicago and Mark Roberts, Grosse Pointe, Mich.

STAGE PRESENCE—George Chamblin, Columbus, O.; E. V. Perkins, Chicago and Carroll Pallerin, Cleveland.

Int'l Treasurer Berney Simmer again acted as Chairman of the Secretaries: George Adams, Oak Park, Ill.; Joe

(Continued on page 7)

ONLY A MEDALIST CAN KNOW



Only a Gold Medalist knows what a thrill it is to have those charmed circlelets draped around your neck. It's no more than fitting that wearers should do the draping. Here The Four Teens—LtoR—Stelmets, tenor; Chinnoek, lead; Cahall, bass; Lamont, bari, hang the prized awards on the Vikings—LtoR—Maurus, tenor; Conover, lead; Livesay, bass; Lindley, bari.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN WINS "CONVENTION CHAMPION CHORUS" TITLE

"Q" Suburban, LaGrange, Ill., 2nd
East York (Toronto, Ont.), 3rd

The Great Lakes Chorus of Grand Rapids, Michigan, directed by J. R. (Bob) Weaver, finished out front in a field of sixteen chapter choruses in the first Int'l Convention Chorus Contest ever held by the Society. "Q" Suburban, La Grange, Ill., directed by Dick Svanoe, came in second. East York, Toronto, Ontario, with Al Shields directing, took third.

When the chorus contest was first set up last Fall, it was of course an unknown quantity. For this reason, it was scheduled to be held in the ballroom of the Sheraton-Cadillac. As the months went by and more and more choruses entered, it became obvious the ballroom could hardly hold just the choruses, let alone an audience. In January, the Executive Committee decided to shift the event to Masonic Temple and it proved a good decision, as better than two thousand witnessed the competition.

In addition to the three toppers, the other thirteen sang in this order:

Chorus	Chapter	District	Director
Middletown	Middletown, Ohio	Johnny Appleseed	Charles (Bud) Apking
Gowanda	Gowanda, N.Y.	Seneca Land	Robert Palcic
Precisionaires	Detroit	Michigan	Ed Easley
Spencer	Spencer, Iowa	Central States	Robert Pfaltzgraf
Alexandria Harmonizers	Alexandria, Va.	Mid-Atlantic	Dr. Harold (Bud) Arberg
Wichitones	Wichita, Kansas	Central States	Virgil Chambers
Sheboygan	Sheboygan, Wis.	Land O'Lakes	Henry Beyer
Franklin- Oil City	Franklin-Oil City, Pa.	Seneca Land	W. Roy Wolfe
Canton	Canton, Ohio	Johnny Appleseed	Lester Green
Terre Haute	Terre Haute, Ind.	Indiana-K'y	Carl C. Jones
Cascade	Eugene-Springfield, Oregon	Evergreen	J. Hubert (Bud) Leabo
Muncie	Muncie, Ind.	Indiana-K'y	Ernest Boyer
London	London, Ont.	Ontario	Art Patterson

Montreal, Quebec and York, Pa., though entered, had to cancel their appearance at the last minute.

Past Int'l Pres. Frank H. Thorne, Chicago, acted as Chairman of the Judges:

VOICE EXPRESSION—Dr. Lawrence Callinan, Cleveland; Henry Schuffeld, N.J. and Bob Mack Rodriguez

bert, Detroit and Clare Wilson, Omaha.

ARRANGEMENT—Jim Ewin, Washington, D.C.; Mark Roberts, Grosse Pointe, Mich. and Loton Willson, Boyne City, Mich.

HARMONY ACCURACY — Jerry Beeler, Evansville, Ind.; Ted Boyd, Toronto and Louis P. J. Coopmans, Moline, Ill.

BALANCE & BLEND—Luke Sletten, Minneapolis; John "Jiggs" Ward, Pittsburgh and Ray Jones, Milwaukee.

STAGE PRESENCE—George Chamblin, Columbus, O.; Joseph Lewis, Dallas, Texas and Mat Wilson, Holland, Mich.

Past Int'l Board Member Dick Common, Dayton, Ohio acted as Chairman of the Secretaries — Dean Snyder, Washington, D.C.; Staff Taylor, Columbus, Ohio; Warren Zinsmaster, Miami, Fla. Ray Sandiford, Bloom-

MEANS ELECTED

(Continued from page 6)

Convention Choice Deferred

One of the last actions of the outgoing Int'l Board was to defer the choice of a convention city for 1956 until the Mid-Winter Meeting in Minneapolis next January.

As President Smith put it, "Too often in the past, our choice of convention cities has been dictated by emotion rather than by clear, logical thinking based on accurate information".

Advised that the incoming administration planned to create a new committee whose main duty would be to study the entire question of convention locations, the Board voted overwhelmingly to wait until January.

Seven invitations had been received—Boston, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Los Angeles, Louisville, Miami and New York City.

A proposal was discussed to hold the next five conventions in Detroit because of the convenience and economy of having the convention in the same city as the Hq Office. This was voted down.

Means Justifies Ends

In his brief talk, accepting the presidency, Means said that he thought long and hard before arriving at the decision to accept the Nominating Committee's invitation.

He expressed doubt that he could fill the shoes of outgoing President Smith, praised very highly the accomplishments of Smith's administration, and paid a personal tribute to President Ed for his, "... abundant ability, capacity for planning far ahead—an all 'round good guy, who, when I first met up with him, I thought talked too much ..."

Vote Expenses

When the Society's new By-Laws were being drafted and discussed at numerous meetings in the past nine months, one constantly recurring question was, "How can you ask the fourteen District Presidents who already are laying out so much of their own money to do their District jobs properly to attend at their own expense two more meetings a year in distant cities?"

Likewise, how long can the Society continue to pick men as officers and directors only after it has been established that they can spend their own funds to attend meetings?

Practically everybody can make the Convention and Contest in June, but the Mid-Winter Meeting is strictly a business meeting and there isn't much "fun" connected with it.

Solution—outgoing Pres. Smith presented to the new Board a recommendation favored by last year's Executive and Laws and Regulations Committees that the railroad fare of all members of the House of Delegates from their homes to Minneapolis and return be reimbursed. After considerable discussion, this measure was adopted.

VIKINGS TAKE CROWN

(Continued from page 6)

Hermesen, Madison, Wis.; Alex Grabhorn, Buffalo, N.Y. Timers were Lloyd LeBaron, Wayne, Michigan and Henry Soucek, Onkama, Michigan.

Past Int'l Presidents Phil Embury and King Cole emceed the Semi-Finals, Jerry Beeler the Finals. Ed Smith performed his final chore as President at the Medal Contest and Immediate Past

President Jim Knipe and newly appointed Society Secretary Bob Hafer split the Jamboree assignment.





President's Column

by John Z. Means

SIXTEEN YEARS OLD! Yes, the Society is celebrating its sixteenth year—a truly momentous occasion in any young life, and in considering the possibility of a parallel, my thoughts have been led into some interesting comparisons.

When a child reaches this never-to-be-forgotten age, he becomes suddenly aware that the days of childhood are past—that suddenly the child has become an adult and with this adulthood a marked change has obviously taken place. It appears that a similar change, or maturity if you please, has taken place in our Society. Where formerly our accomplishments were brushed aside, much as we are prone to brush aside the accomplishments of children, these attainments are now being accepted as matters of real consequence in the form of substantial contributions to the enjoyment and well-being of our various communities. This comparatively young Society surprises us on occasion with the sound, level-headed good

judgment and the expanded fields of knowledge which have been developed during its brief span of life and now begin to make themselves evident.

It seems surprisingly similar, that as a child is wont to do, the chief interests of the Society in its early formative years were primarily self-indulgence and amusement for the individual member. The passing years have led us to realize the need for more mature thinking and our scope has broadened noticeably.

At sixteen it seems to me our young Society shows an amazing amount of poise and self-control. Our public utterances have begun to command more attention. Our bearing and mannerisms attract the public eye—our comments and conversation, the public ear. This is as it should be with sound growth and development. All these are things that are readily visible to the active eye and discernible to the attentive ear, but the maturity so evident to the casual observer has not lessened the problems and matters of concern to the still young Society, but

rather has served to complicate and intensify them; and so shall it be throughout the Society's lifetime just as it has been in yours and mine. Such is the demand of normal growth and development.

SWEET SIXTEEN! Yes, we've had our "Growing Pains", our troubles and trials; and we will undoubtedly continue to be faced with problems in a seemingly endless stream. Yet, as the young life progresses and prospers toward the fulfillment of its ultimate goal, so shall this wonderful Society of ours continue to progress and prosper in the accomplishment of its purposes.

But to any young life one thing is of particular importance — having its share of fun. There is studying to learn, working to progress, but the old adage cannot be ignored—"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy"—Let's not forget to have fun and lots of it, and help others to enjoy themselves, too! On that course we'll go far toward our stated desire to "KEEP AMERICA SINGING."

FLOATIN' DOWN TO ????-TOWN



Washington, D.C. hired this C&O Canal barge for a ride one night in July. In white shirt, standing just to the right of the center post, is Past Int'l V.P. Jean Boardman. The quartet on the stern—The Rhythmatics—LtoR—Ray Torriño, Joe Matthews, Charley Rhodes, Joe Seegmiller.

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES"

Forty three hundred and some people came away from Detroit with memories of the finest SPEBSQSA Convention ever. A big "Thank You" was earned by the many Detroit area people who worked on the committees responsible. Here they are:

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll P. Adams, M. J. Anderson, Milt Arthur, Wm. Barry, Mrs. Bill Bond, Mrs. D. W. Carmichael, Cecil Cruik, Mrs. Ethel Cronin, Mr. and Mrs. Al Enson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Eason, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Escott, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Favinger, Mrs. Joseph Feclenu, Mrs. Victor Faylor.

Ray G. Fritz, Ron Gamble, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hufner, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Harrington, Francis Higgins, Floyd Holloway, Joe Jones, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Johnson, Gerald Larkins, Mr. and Mrs. Seaborn Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Kiersey, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd LeBaron, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis, Frank Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Al Maier, Howard Mansfield, Mr. and Mrs. Monty Marsden, Richard McDardell, Mr. and Mrs. Ray L. McCulpin Jr., Neil B. McLeod, Wesley Meier, Mrs. Robert Montgomery, Charles Osburn, Mrs. Harold Podvin, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Reinhardt, Mrs. Ted Robbins, Mrs. Mark Roberts, Harold E. Sepull, Henry D. Schubert.

Alex J. Singer, Mrs. Ed Schwoppe, Ted Thetford, Trevor Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Trille, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tuhbs, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wales, Colonel Winnick, Mrs. Joe Wolff.

oOo

CORRECTION

"Too late for Herpicide"—an error was discovered in the picture of the Kalamazoo, Michigan Town Criers, inside back cover. LtoR, they are Cook, Baker, Johnston, Barrett.

TEN OF THE FINALISTS AT DETROIT



ATOMIC BUMS, MINNEAPOLIS, MIN.
Mikelson, Saxe, Stetten, Ehlson



NOTECRACKERS, ROCHESTER, N. Y.
Parr, DeLong
Feor, Gale



KORD KINGS, OAK PARK, ILL.
Solberg
Ruppel, Hobik, Jackson



SAN DIEGO SERENADERS, SAN DIEGO, CAL.
Manthei, Boyle, White, Hodapp



CHICAGOANS, SOUTHTOWN, CHICAGO
Chase
Seors, Corbett
Jensen



HARMONY COUNTS WARREN, OHIO
Peeler, Shafer, Corbin, Dunmire



FOUR-IN-A-CHORD, CLEVELAND, OHIO
Wellman
Bieber, Gross
Emerson



LYTLE BROTHERS, SHARON, PA.
Dick, Paul, Bob, Mai



CARDINALS, MADISON, WIS.
Liscum, Joo Ripp, Phil Davies, Jerry Ripp



TORONTO RHYTHMAIRES, YORKTOWN, ONT.
Morgan, Sawyer, Evans, Thomson

JUDGE AND JUDGE CANDIDATES MEETING

The Saturday afternoon meeting of the Judges and Judge Candidates was attended by approximately 150 members so deeply interested in perfecting their judging technique and in discussing the rudiments of judging that they willingly passed up the wonderful entertainment at the Jamboree.

The first half of the meeting consisted of a general discussion by the Category Specialists with questions and comments from the floor. Every District was well represented and the interest shown was a testimony to the sincerity of every man present to encourage quartets through a better understanding of their chosen field of judging.

Certificates of proficiency were then presented to 32 candidates who had been qualified for certification by the International Board, and the meeting then broke up into six smaller groups where detailed discussion was held covering all points pertinent to the respective category, with each of the Category Specialists on the International C & J Committee acting as moderator for his group.

Berney Simmer reported a particularly successful school for Secretaries and Timers, with new applications being filed by several men. George Chamblin, who pinch hit for Floyd Strong, Category Specialist for Stage Presence (unable to attend due to doctor's orders), also reported good attendance and active interest in the finer points of judging Stage Presence.

Marty Mendro and John Hill, in Balance and Blend and Harmony Accuracy respectively, also reported high interest and enthusiasm in discussing the intricacies and problems of their respective Categories. All meetings were well attended and the interest shown, points up the need to secure a meeting time at future Conventions with less conflicts to permit larger attendance at these interesting and instructive meetings.

SING AT MEDAL CONTEST

As has been the custom for a number of years, Past Champion quartets were featured participants in the Saturday night Medal Contest.

Four were on hand this year—the 1952 Four Teens, Scott A.F.B., Ill., outgoing champions; the 1951 Schmitt Brothers, Manitowoc, Wis.; the 1950 Buffalo Bills and the 1949 Mid-States Four, Chicago.

The 1948 Champion Pittsburghers were all in Detroit, but Harry Conte developed a throat condition and they couldn't sing. Prior to this year, the local chapter chorus usually opened the show. This time, the winner of the Convention Champion Chorus crown, the Great Lakes chorus of Grand Rapids, Michigan, appeared. Directors of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Choruses were presented awards during the show.

INVITATIONS FOR 1956 MID-WINTER MEETING

Invitations for the 1956 Mid-winter meeting, scheduled for January 20th, 21st and 22nd will be considered by the International Board of Directors at their meeting in Minneapolis on January 16th, 1954. Under the Society's new international by-laws, it is a requisite that each Chapter wishing to bid for this important event submit its invitation on an official form available from the Society's Headquarters Office.

The host city must be able to provide 300 hotel rooms to house two people each, and it must have an auditorium with good acoustics, seating not less than two thousand.

All invitations should be submitted to International Headquarters as far in advance as possible of January 10th, 1954.

SOME "PICKENS" AT SARASOTA



One of the features at the Sarasota Summer Festival this year, Jane Pickens, of radio, TV, and the concert stage, joined her voice with these Sarasota Chapter members—Lito—Mert Place, Roger Adams, Freddie Angers, Dr. Henry Vonnacka, Forest Freeman, Earl Eadens, Armand LaFontaine and Ed Miller.

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SNYDER ADDRESSES H of D ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

(One of the first things Ed Smith did after he was elected president of the Society in 1952 was to appoint a committee on long range planning. Dean Snyder,

newly elected Int'l 2nd V.P. of Washington, D. C., was made chairman. Eleven other respected members of the Society also served on the committee. Eds.)

First report of the Long Range Planning Committee was presented to the House of Delegates at its first official assembly Thursday morning, June 11, 1953.

Speaking from notes, Chairman Snyder defined Long Range Planning as "Thoughtful discussion and thinking ahead, not a lot of reports on paper".

Emphasizing that many men had given him their ideas in round-the-



Dean Snyder

table discussions as well as in writing. Dean presented a picture of SPEBSQSA as a three dimensional affair.

HORIZONTAL—the Society is not just a quartet society, but embraces a wide range of activities—quartets; woodshedders choruses; leadership (through holding of office); specialists (arrangers, melody writers, lyric writers); collectors (old music, records, tape recordings, pictures); Parade followers; chapter visitors; letter writers.

All these have very legitimate reasons for membership in the Society and should be encouraged in their various activities.

Dean credited L. A. "Pom" Pomeroy, Teaneck, N. J., with origination of the expression "A Hobby Within a Hobby", as best descriptive of the "Horizontal" aspects of Society membership.

VERTICAL—the Society is very much like the medieval guilds or crafts. Likely young men were introduced into the various crafts as apprentices and progressed gradually through the journeyman stage until they became master craftsmen.

In addition to the masters and the aspirants, Dean pointed out, "The Society is blessed with an additional class not 'crows', but 'Sidewalk Superintendents', men who come in as intelligent listeners, who like to watch

others perform, who, if properly sold the idea may well become interested and set foot on the 'Ladder of Growth'".

DEPTH—the personal dimension—the associations members make.

A Lot to Sell

Dean recalled a conversation he'd had with the President of a well known service club. After looking over some of the Society's literature and material and listening to Dean describe the workings of SPEBSQSA, this man commented, "You fellows certainly have a lot to sell. I wish we had one half as much".

"A lot to sell! To whom?" asked Dean, and answered himself—

"to young men, through such programs as Armed Forces Collaboration, cooperation with college and high school contests—

"to music educators, whose seeming indifference to the style of singing we love so much is due almost entirely to their lack of exposure to it and their complete lack of understanding of what we are doing in a legitimate field of music—

"to the general listening public and there we have been doing the best job to date—

"to our own membership through such programs as 'Barbershop Craft'".

Dean pointed up his talk with a reminder and an admonition, "The Society is *you*. Long Range Planning is *you*. What kind of members are *you* going to bring in. What kind of program is *your* chapter going to have." Concluding, he said "Somewhere in

the writings of Alfred Noyes, the great English poet and essayist, are to be found these words: 'If I looked farther ahead, it was because I stood on giant shoulders.' Here at this first session of the new House of Delegates—in the presence of our founder, our past presidents and the other 'statesmen' of our Society—these words have a special significance.

"I invite all of you to consider our future and to look ahead. There are giants among us. Find one and stand on his shoulders—or better still, become one yourself."

(Editor's Note. Mimeographed copies titled "Our Dimensions and Our Opportunities" of Dean's complete address to the House of Delegates are available. If you wish one, write to SPEBSQSA, Inc., 20619 Fenkell Avenue, Detroit.)

CONTEST OFFICIALS CERTIFIED

The following were certified for the permanent panel of Contest officials at the Int'l Board Meeting in Detroit:

VOICE EXPRESSION—Ralph Lougee, Bob Hafer

BALANCE and BLEND—Carroll P. Adams, Mark Bowsher

HARMONY ACCURACY — Henry Lewis, Don Stephens, Tom Grove

SECRETARIES — R. George Adams, A. C. Chapman, Joe Hermesen, Paul M. Kernan, Ray Niblo, Chuck Schmid, Reddie Wright, Darrell Dewitt, O. B. Falls.

TIMERS—Russ Stanton, R. T. DeBusk.

THE OLD SONGS

At right, Hank Dakin, of St. Louis, as he presented two bundles of old sheet music to Founder O. C. Cash during the Detroit Convention.



"WHAT'S BEST FOR THE SOCIETY?"

— Look Back — Look Ahead —

GET INTO THIS CONTEST!

In announcing a contest for members to submit ideas of "What's Best for SPEBSQSA Over the Next 10 Years", the Committee on Long Range Planning, Dean Snyder, Washington, D. C. chairman, believes that it would be helpful to contestants, and enlightening for others if the Society's pages were turned back about a dozen years to see the sort of planning then in progress.

Illustrative of what was going on in those distant days, when H. B. (Hal) Staab was national vice president in 1941, he wrote to President Adams: "I have a lot on my mind that I want to get off . . . it might be entitled 'In which direction are we going?'" He devoted seven and a half single spaced pages to pointers along the path. Only a few highlights can be repeated here:

He asked what path we are taking, since we should know where we are going before we plan for arrival. Always strong for service, he felt that the singing ability of members should be applied to the benefit of local communities. He thought that community service jobs would help keep membership interested. The three essentials needed immediately for 1941 were good leadership, efficient organization, and money. His principal worries were on the last two points. The offices of secretary and treasurer should be separated and a president should preside over his own board meetings, although the immediate past president should become a national officer automatically so that the Society could benefit by his experience.

He said that we should appoint a secretary "who has his heart in barber-shop singing but must possess executive and promotional ability. It is an imposition to ask a business man to devote the necessary time to the secretaryship".

We should have a committee on finance, laws and regulations. We should be set up by districts, which would allow the formation of several states into a district. He thought that there might some day be a national council of the "district" governors meeting annually to advise with the board of directors.

He said that no one knew how many "paid" chapters or paid members there were in the Society and nobody knew what to expect in annual income. He suggested that national dues should be raised from 50c to \$1 and when we would have a paid membership of four or five thousand we could get a part-time paid secretary. He added "I would even go farther and charge 50c more per member to take care of a small national publication that might be issued quarterly". He suggested a House of Delegates in the future.

The constitution should clarify convention management and procedure in the matter of selecting convention cities and that it should also define the types of membership (one type, active, was decided upon and that is all there is today). He said that a chapter should have at least 10 or 12

you fully their candid views as to what path would be best for the Society to take, what our objectives should be, and what steps are necessary . . . I am sending copies to Cash because he was Founder; Embury because he is vice president; Stern because he is secretary; and

HERE'S ALL THE INFORMATION ON THE CONTEST

1. *Purpose* — To draw out ideas from many sources as to the objectives which the Society should set for itself between 1953 and 1963—and the procedures necessary to reach the objectives.
2. *Who May Compete* — Any member in good standing as of August 15, 1953, except members of the House of Delegates and the Decepsits (former Int'l Board members) may compete.
3. *Type of Entries* — Entries shall be not more than 500 words, written on one side of paper. Be sure to put your name and address on every sheet.
4. *Content Style* — Judges will weigh the content rather than literary quality of manuscripts received. In other words it's what the contestant says, rather than the way he says it that will count.
5. *Time Limit* — Entries shall be sent to the attention of the Committee on Long Range Planning, 20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Michigan—and must be received by December 1, 1953.
6. *Reward* — The member adjudged winner by the Long Range Planning Committee will (1) receive two books of tickets for the 1954 Contest at Washington, D. C.—(2) will have his presentation printed in the March, 1954 Harmonizer—(3) will be cited at a suitable time and place before an all-Society meeting at Washington in June, 1954.

* * *

members before a charter should be issued and that they should have voted to adhere to the national constitution and must have their chapter fee and dues.

He suggested that each chapter should submit to the national office a list of its members so that Headquarters would have some idea of size of membership, and he foresaw the possibility that chapter secretaries might keep a record of activities for publication.

He suggested that the national office issue information that would stimulate interest but that building new chapters was primarily an established chapter's function. He was quite sure that there should be some sort of convention registration fee to cover the cost of advance publicity, badges, tickets, clerical work, rental of office machines, installation of speaking systems, etc. He pointed out that the Society's constitution referred to the "national" board and brought up the possibilities of international expansion.

He said, "It might be a wise idea to ask members of the board to write

Martin who would either have to have imagination and ideas or starve to death".

While Staab's comments are singled out, this correspondence was typical of what was going on among considerable number of 1941 members, seriously considering what to do about a Society organized just for fun.

When the Staab thesis went into wider circulation it accelerated thinking tremendously. In April '42 Staab wrote Cy Perkins, Chicago, that he was in favor of making dues "large enough so that the national office could function on a business like basis and would be able to offer real assistance to chapters" by an adequate system of records, publication of a magazine, distribution of barber-shop arrangements, among others. He said that he was in favor of raising dues to \$2 per year . . . "we may lose some members but the eventual benefits would far outweigh temporary loss . . . if we increase dues, I would favor starting a paid secretary at \$50 per month, this rate to continue until income warrants an increase." In June

(Continued on page 13)

WHAT'S BEST FOR THE SOCIETY?

Continued

'42 he wrote (long hand) to a board member who could not attend the Grand Rapids convention . . . "The \$2 per capita tax was voted. I have worked out a platform of accomplishment . . . which will show what will be done for the 4c per week dues". He said that he had appointed a song arrangement committee to prepare 15 songs to be distributed and that he was planning a quarterly publication for September that year.

On March 25, '43 when Staab was president he wrote "My Vision of the Future" which was printed in the Harmonizer.

"My vision of the Society in years to come is that of an organization made up of more than 50,000 members with a thousand or more chapters scattered in every state in the Union. National officers and directors will be elected annually by a House of Delegates . . .

National Headquarters will be managed by a permanent paid secretary who will be selected on the basis of ability by the national board. He will be responsible for the conduct of the Society business, under the supervision of the president and the board of directors. District associations will cover the United States. These will be headed by district officers who will become an integral part of a national plan of organization. Each district will have its own convention and quartet contest, the climax of the year being the national convention and quartet contest at which officers will

be elected and the championship quartet will be crowned. There will be a council of district presidents who will meet at the time of the convention and collaborate with the board of directors. There will be an association of past national presidents who will remain continually active in a consulting capacity especially on problems of the future. There will be a resurgence of barbershop quartet singing all over America. The Society will become one of the most favorably known Service Organizations in the nation. Our Founder, O. C. Cash, will become as well known as are Harris of Rotary and Prince of Kiwanis. The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber-shop Quartet Singing in America will have reached its zenith only when these things have been accomplished.

My vision is not only a vision, it is a prophecy. If we love our Society enough, we will reach the heights". That was in 1943. "International" was too nebulous to set down on paper. In 1953 it may seem incredible that men were wrestling with fundamentals such as outlined in this brief bit of Staab correspondence because so many of the items are accepted today as standard practice in the Society.

The Long Range Planning Committee feels that the 15th year is the time for all who are interested in the Society's future to submit their views.

The committee will weigh values and consider them in the light of knowledge of what has gone on, what is being planned now, and what is ahead; therefore the announcement of the contest printed here.

FOUR TEENS ON WORLD TOUR

The Four Teens, Society 1952 Int'l Champions, are headliners in the All Air Force Show "Tops in Blue". They will hit the major air bases all across the country to the West Coast, then to Japan and Korea for three months. Back via Wake and Hawaii to San Francisco across the southern part of the U.S. to the East Coast. Then they'll tour up the East Coast to Newfoundland, Greenland, Iceland, Scandinavian Countries, Germany, France, Italy, the Balkans, North Africa, Saudi Arabia, South America, the Canal Zone, then home.

Mike Egan is still with the group working as advance agent two weeks ahead of the troupe.

A "FOUR-MAN TEAM" IS A QUARTET

Late in June, Secretary of the Army Robert T. Stevens announced that Infantry rifleman replacements being assigned overseas will be shipped from the United States in four-man teams. It is expected that all Infantry enlisted replacements will be moved overseas in this manner.

The Army gave as its reason that men who remain throughout the replacement system with other soldiers with whom they have received basic training, maintain a higher esprit de corps and become more readily adjusted to their duties in their first overseas assignment.

30, NOT 29

The faces of various people at Int'l Hq. are red.

Thirty entries were received in the Swipe Swap Shop "I'm Going Home" Arrangement Contest.

Only twenty-nine were mentioned in the June Harmonizer and only that number of pictures were printed, (See page 18 June '53 Harmonizer).

On June 6th a letter arrived in Detroit from Sherry Brown, Warren, Pa.:

"... I turned the pages of the June Harmonizer, saw the winning arrangement and continued to hunt in vain to see what disposition had been made of the entry by yours truly . . . not a word about little Sherry.

"... the arrangement submitted by Brother 'Skid' Davies is certainly very nice. But I did burn the midnight oil plenty in putting my own together, and if I may be excused for being so immodest, I think it was a darn good one. What happened to my entry?"

Answer—It got to Detroit. It was judged by the judges. It, with all the rest of the material, was returned to Detroit—then—blank! Sherry did not get a letter asking for his picture and thumbnail sketch. His picture, etc., did not appear in the June Harmonizer. He has a perfect right to be mad.

Here's the dope—excuse the expression—better make it pitch—



Sherry Brown, 417 East St., Warren, Pa. Age 46. Joined Society in 1947 as Charter Member of Warren, Pa. Chapter. Past Chapter Secretary, 2 years and presently Area Counselor. Has dabbled in arranging for several years, for own amusement and use by several nearby and local quartets. Always stuck to sing bari (the part nobody else wants) in any songfests.

(Sherry writes on letterheads of New Process Company, which, if memory serves, makes and sells men's shirts by mail. That's a free plug to partly make up for our error. Eds.)

Aurora Illinois Chapter

IS PROUD TO PLAY HOST

For The

ILLINOIS DISTRICT QUARTET CONTEST AND CONVENTION

Time:

October 3, 1953—Preliminaries 8 pm

October 4, 1953—Finals 2 pm

Place:

WEST AURORA JR. HIGH SCHOOL

Headquarters:

LELAND HOTEL

(Including 2 Special "Woodshedding" Rooms)

Reservation Chairman:

Don Rowcliffe, 2 N. Boadway
Phone 6-4131

Ticket Chairman:

Bill Henderson, 57 S. Anderson,
Phone 6-2497

General Chairman:

Dud Smith, 175 Western Avenue
Phone 2-0113

(Aurora Chapter Meets Tuesday Nites,
8:00 PM, Aurora Recreation Center)

MEET THE NEW INT'L PRESIDENT

by Joe Schmitt, Tenor of the Schmitt Brothers, 1951 Int'l Champions

That famous "Stetson" now shades the pin of the International President. At 42, John Z. Means, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin becomes the youngest man ever to take over the reins of SPEBSQSA.

(Joe hasn't been a society member long enough to know that Charlie Merrill, 1947-48, was only 40. Eds.)

Johnny, as he prefers to be called, was born in Pecos, Texas. One of three children, two girls and himself, he grew up in a typical ranch setting. Retaining his love for the ranch life he still holds part interest in a ranch in New Mexico.

Today, as General Superintendent of the Eddy Paper Corporation, he has eight scattered plants to supervise. Don't be too surprised if some day he drops in on one of your meetings. Short speeches are a specialty of this well versed Ex-Texan Wisconsinite.

Music has always played an important part in the lives of the Means Family and Johnny is no exception to the rule. Nothing takes precedence over polishing up a seventh and no pleasure lifts him more than a ringing chord. It was this love of true harmony that led Johnny to the Society. He joined the Manitowoc Chapter, as a Charter Member, in 1946. His natural ability for leadership pointed the way for him to soon become its president. Under him the chapter grew and sponsored others. The next step up the ladder of administration was the presidency of the Land O' Lakes District. With Johnny at the helm, the LOL lengthened its long list of "firsts". If anyone wants to know of the accomplishments of the new Int'l President ask any member of the LOL.

Family life and love of home is the only excuse which Johnny's conscience will accept for missing or putting off a barbershop chore. Married to Margaret Haines in 1933, Penny, Jeff, and Dora Beth are the three Means who

call him Dad. The Society has become almost as another member of the family. Marge has put aside her household duties to help her hubby on numerous occasions. Together they have written and arranged "Sandman" and "Story Book Girl". These two original songs and arrangements give one an insight into the warm and genuine hominess of 832 Lincoln Blvd.

Education started at Hardin Simmons for the "Cowboy" and later that year he toured the European Continent as part of the World Famous Cowboy Band. It was on this trip that Johnny first considered music as a career.

Again the longing for real home life caused him to say no. Taking his four-string guitar with him he transferred to University of Arizona and it was there that he and Marge met.

Polo was the sport which caught his fancy then but now an occasional round of golf suffices. Someone told me that he can still chin himself with either hand, not bad for 42.

Soon after joining the Manitowoc Chapter, Johnny became an intimate friend of Milt Detjen. Milt was a converted "HIGH BROW" and was out teaching the thrills of his new found love. Johnny became his most apt pupil. Together they used the "Chordettes" as a quartet to work with, nice work if you can get it. Milt and Johnny worked out primary arrangements and interpretation. Next on the list for our new President were the Schmitt Brothers, just four fellows who had heard of the Society and bought a Mills Book. His ability and diligence in training them will long be noticed, we hope. At Detroit this year once again some of his pupils finished in the top five. The Sing-Copates of Appleton are the latest recipients of his tireless energy.

With a record and ambition such as John Means has it is little surprise to those who know him to think of him as the President of our Society. He didn't miss a rung on the long ladder leading to the top—from the International Board to the Chairmanship of the Contest and Judging Committee to the top of the heap.

If actions tell, we have a giant to lead us this coming year. His description of a barbershopper best suits him, "If you want to be a barbershopper, give it all you have and it will come back to you many times over. Singing men are good men."

REMINDER!

Drop that fan and make out your order right away for loose-leaf copies of official SPEBSQSA arrangements of Christmas carols for the coming season. Although, as this item is being written, many barbershoppers are sweltering under record high temperatures, we can't escape the fact that the Christmas season isn't too far off and our quartets and choruses should be preparing to brush up on Christmas carols.

Four Christmas numbers are carried in stock in the International office—titles are X-6 SILENT NIGHT—X-8 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR—X-9 CANTIQUE DE NOEL (O HOLY NIGHT)—X-13 O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL. Prices are 10c each for less than 10—5c each in quantities of 10 or more. Please order by symbol number from SPEBSQSA, Inc., 20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Michigan.

CHAPTER HONORS PRESIDENTS



Never before in the history of SPEBSQSA has one chapter given the Society two Int'l Presidents. Manitowoc, Wisconsin greeted Johnny Means on his return from Detroit. Ltr—C. C. McCurdy, District V.P.; Jim and Joe Schmitt, Int'l Pres.

Means, Past Int'l Pres. King Cole, Fran and Paul Schmitt, Henry Beyer, Land O' Lakes District V.P. It need hardly be said that the Schmitt Brothers are the Society's 1951 Int'l Champions.



The tornadoes in lower and central Michigan failed to hold back the usual early arrivals. Personnel of various Int'l Committees began to check in at the Sheraton-Cadillac Monday and Tuesday. By Wednesday morning it was not at all unusual to hear a fulsome chord now and then.

oOo

Among the earliest birds was Stirling Wilson, of Washington, D.C., who, with Dean Snyder, also of Washington, Mark Roberts, Carleton Scott, Carroll Adams and Howard Tubbs, of Detroit, Rawley Hallman of Pontiac, and Int'l Pres. Ed Smith, helped to judge the finals of the world wide U.S. Air Force barbershop quartet contest at Selfridge Field on June 4th and 5th.

oOo

Eight years had passed since the last SPEBSQSA Contest and Convention were held in Detroit. Probably very few of the same personnel were on duty in the headquarters hotels. In 1945, perhaps 300 barbershoppers attended from outside Detroit, a far cry from the 4000 odd who broke all records this year. What makes barbershoppers different from average convention goers is perhaps best illustrated by the comment of the youngish Statler Hotel cashier who said on Thursday, "That's beautiful music they're putting out. I hope they're still singing when they leave Sunday." She was only too well acquainted with the artificially stimulated vocalizing that all too frequently ends up in a terrific letdown. She had yet to learn that barbershoppers sing just as well the day they leave as the day they arrive. There's a difference when you sing because you love to and know how. Bellhops at the Sheraton were thoroughly indoctrinated. On Sunday, their farewells to departing guests included, "See you in Washington next year". One remarked, "This is the craziest, sanest crowd I've ever seen".

oOo

This year's convention was preceded in Detroit by the Baggage Traffic Managers Association and was followed by the Coal Dealers of America. (The Society will not accept the responsibility for any "clinkers" or "miner" chords left lying around after Sunday evening. Eds.)

oOo

Credulous early arrivals took a bit of kidding from natives who solemnly asserted the numerous stands being erected along Washington Boulevard were to be shells for quartets and choruses. Actually they were Ford Motor Co. displays in connection with the company's Golden Jubilee.

FROM DETROIT

Perhaps the visitors shouldn't be blamed too much. The city of Detroit actually rechristened Washington Boulevard for the duration and erected "Harmony Lane" signs exactly like the regulation street markers.

oOo

Detroit's Hobby Chord Four, Ed Reddick, tenor; Earl Rubert, lead; Joe Jones, bar; Howard Tubbs, bass; were on deck as early as Tuesday to greet incoming barbershoppers.

oOo

What has become of the grand old custom of having competing quartets register as a unit and sing a song as they check in? A lot of conventioners registered early then hung around the Sheraton-Cadillac registration desk for the specific purpose of hearing the competitors but few complied with this old tradition of "singing in". (Natch! They were all at the Statler. Eds.)

oOo

Again this year, the Convention coincided with the local baseball team's schedule. The Yankees were in town early in the week and the Nats came in for the weekend. Some of the players and Bob Addie, Sports Writer for the Washington Times-Herald, were happy to get standing room at the Medal Contest. (For an opinion see "I See by the Papers" in this issue, page 34. Eds.)

The final meeting of the 1952-53 Int'l Board was supposed to be a condensed affair—a one night stand—Wednesday night to be exact. Just the one meeting was scheduled, in contrast to the usual two or three sessions. Called for 8 P.M., as usual a few just made it by passing up dinner, expecting to be free early and catch up on the food situation. Four hours later, all business finished, the meeting closed, but in the meantime so had all food facilities at the Sheraton-Cadillac. Stub knows at least one Past Int'l Pres. and one Vice-Pres. who never did get to eat until breakfast time.

oOo

First meeting ever of the House of Delegates drew very nearly 100% attendance. Minneapolis' Dr. Hartig was home sick in bed; Wisconsin's Dick Donahue's wife had just given birth to a youngster and Dick sent a box of cigars to represent him. Decatur, Illinois' Tom Armstrong touched only the high spots along the road but couldn't quite make it in time. Ed Hackett, of Louisville, has been unwell for some time. With the further exception of Past Int'l Presidents Embury and Cole (who arrived later) and Merrill, all eligibles were on hand.

oOo

After the Rev. Erwin Britton, of Wayne, Mich. Chapter, opened the session, Detroit Common Council Pres. (Continued on Page 16)

NEW INT'L BOARD MEETS



The Society's new Int'l Board consists of only sixteen men. Here most of them are shown in the first meeting of the new Board Thursday afternoon at Detroit. Starting at bottom left—Past Int'l Pres. Jim Knipe, Cleveland; Bill Hinckley, Reading, Mass.; Frank Graham, Eugene, Ore.; Pete DePaulis, Rochester, N.Y.; Reddie Wright, Pasadena; Howard Tubbs, Detroit; Int'l Treasurer Ray Niblo (against the curtain); Int'l Pres. Johnny Means (standing); Int'l V.P. Dean Snyder, Washington, D.C.; Past Int'l Pres. Frank H. Thorne, Chicago (in far corner).

Starting down right hand side of table—Carroll Adams, Detroit; Imm. Past Int'l Pres. Ed Smith, Wayne, Mich.; Harley Miller, Tampa, Fla.; F. C. Armstrong, Warren, Ohio; Past Int'l Pres. Jerry Beeler, Evansville, Ind.; Rowland Davis, New York City; Jim Martin, Palos Heights, Ill. Past Int'l Presidents Beeler, Knipe and Thorne attended by special invitation.

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

Louis Miriani welcomed the assembly. In their customary fashion, the delegates from the G-r-e-a-t South-west had been extolling the virtues of their section of the country and Miriani aptly turned the tables by announcing he expected to see any day now signs along Detroit's Eight Mile Road — "You Are Now Entering Texas".

oOo

The meeting got off on a stirring, yet amusing note, when the assemblage sang "America" and "God Save the King" under the direction of International Board Member Art Patterson of the London, Ontario Chapter and the Four Chorders. Miriani, capitalizing on the error made in announcing "God Save the King" instead of "God Save the Queen", said that everyone there would be glad to trade the King for the Queen if they had been privileged to meet that charming lady as he recently had.

oOo

Under normal circumstances, at least one-half of the time of each Convention Chairman is spent in explaining that the weather in the Convention City is unseasonable for that particular time of the year. For once this year's Chairmen, Lou Harrington and Seaborn Lawrence, didn't have to make excuses as the weather turned out to be as good as advertised by the Detroit Chamber of Commerce.

oOo

The Evergreen (formerly Pacific Northwest) District and the Johnny Appleseed District both arranged to pass out apples to visiting barbershoppers. Evergreen District President Obie Falls got the jump on Johnny Appleseed by making an announcement on the floor of the House of Delegates meeting to the effect that two representatives of the Evergreen District were stationed at the door to give Yakima (the apple capital of the World), Washington apples to each person leaving the room. Johnny Appleseed District President Tracy Evans then asked for the floor and briefly invited everyone present to compare the Evergreen apples with those available in the Johnny Appleseed District Headquarters.

oOo

Falls extended an invitation for the Society to come to the Pacific-Northwest in 1963. The Louisville, Ky delegation is asking for the 1956 Convention and might well take the hint. Ft. Knox is just outside Louisville and there are reputed to be \$18,000,000,000 in gold bars stored there.

oOo

Second President of the Society, Dr. Norman Rathert, of St. Louis, a comedian by the yard, informed everybody that including Past Presidents of the Society in the House of Delegates was the worst law the Society ever passed—"It means I'll get to talk and will you all be sorry".

THEY SANG NIGHT AND DAY AND THEN SOME



This picture, in the opinion of the editors, is about as fine a study in "what makes barbershoppers click" as any camera is ever likely to record. The picture was made outside the Masonic Temple, probably at intermission time.

The same "Doc" at the Decrepits meeting Saturday noon when the air raid sirens let go, couldn't stand it any longer and bellowed, "Dig that crazy pitchpipe".

oOo

Another large laugh was unwittingly caused by a waiter in the Sheraton's Book Casino when he asked in purest Central European broken English, "Would anybody like peach pie"? Both Johnny Means and Commander Severance had their pitchpipes out of their pockets and ready to go before they realized what he meant.

oOo

Founder Cash in his talk to the House of Delegates, recalling an old remark of Will Rogers, "Opera is a whole lot better than it sounds", emphasized that barbershoppers, far from being lowbrow musically, are actually discriminating, have grown out of opera into higher realms of musicianship.

oOo

Past Int'l Board Member Russ Gentzler, Kansas City, appeared at the House of Delegates meeting to present a scrap book of K.C. Convention and Contest publicity. Austin Thames and his wife did most of the compilation. Artist Dan Jacobson (See Harmonizer cover Dec. 1951 issue. Eds.) hand tooled the leather cover.

oOo

Bob Hafer, the Society's new Secretary, made a host of friends at the House of Delegates Meeting by being extremely brief in his "Hello" to the group.

oOo

Every Thursday, Detroit area barbershoppers meet at Hotel Detrouiter for what they call a "Rendezvous Luncheon". They made the mistake of passing the word around without getting an accurate check of those who planned to come. Result was 150 showed up and Manager-of-the-hotel-Barbershopper Ken White had to go like mad to get them all fed. That he and his staff were able to do it at all was quite a tribute to their organization.

To give all the members of the House of Delegates a chance to see the Hq Office, chartered buses hauled those who could go out there on Thursday evening. Each delegate was asked to hold up as many fingers as he would bring guests on the trip. Noted teetotaler Gordon Grant, Saginaw, Mich., cracked, "First time I've held up two fingers in a long time". After 45 minutes en route, Int'l VP Alex Grabhorn, unaccustomed to Detroit's vastness, inquired if the office were in Michigan.

oOo

The term "crow", as applied to non-singing members of the Society has always been regarded with disfavor by many members. These and others were pleased to hear Int'l V.P.-Elect Dean Snyder rechristen that class of members "Sidewalk Superintendents". As far as Stub is concerned it would be nice if it would catch on.

oOo

The Vagabonds of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Finalists last year, qualified for this year's Contest as well. However, personal commitments of one of the men prevented him from devoting the necessary time to competition in Detroit. Knowing this the barbershoppers on hand early for the Convention were startled to see and hear the Vagabonds on a special program presented by the 100 Club in the Sheraton-Cadillac the Tuesday night before the Contest.

oOo

Two of Detroit's outstanding service clubs, Kiwanis and Rotary, lose their luncheon audiences if they don't wind up their programs at 1:30 sharp. Both of them on successive days went about 10 minutes overtime when they couldn't get enough of the singing by the Four Teens, the Rip Chords (new A.F. Champs of Warren AFB, Wyoming and Laramie, Wyoming Chapter) and the Hobby Chord Four of Detroit.

(Continued on page 17)

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

Twenty-seven store windows on Woodward Avenue, main shopping street, had displays featuring SPEBSQSA. At least four persons told Stub the bass in the quartet in one of J. L. Hudson's windows was a dead ringer for Int'l Treasurer Berney Simmer.

oOo

Remark made by George Lauder of the Detroit Convention and Visitors' Bureau on his first visit to the Registration Headquarters in the huge Crystal Ballroom of the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel: "This is a men's Convention, but it takes the women to run it".

oOo

Leading the crazy hat parade this year was the Sheboygan, Wisconsin Chapter Chorus with "20 gallon" red and white striped caps similar to those worn by the Mid-States with their zoot suits. Ed Duplaga, Past Vice President of the Johnny Applesced District, from the Akron, Ohio Chapter, was there with his perennial red derby. Jack Ford of Toledo, Ohio, was resplendent again in his ensemble of many colors topped off with his Sherlock Holmes hat. Dr. Browne of the Minneapolis Chapter doffed professional dignity for the Convention wearing an unusual cocoa brown straw cap.

oOo

There were a record-breaking 181 ladies present at the Thursday noon luncheon in the Italian Gardens of the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel. Marie (Mrs. Frank) Tittle, Chairman of the Committee, presided, with Elsie (Mrs. Joseph) Tecteau, Co-Chairman, assisting. At the speakers' table were also Mrs. King Cole, Mrs. Ed Smith, Mrs. Phil Embury, Mrs. Norman Rathert, Mrs. Rupert Hall, Mrs. Frank Thorne, Mrs. James Knipe, Mrs. Carroll Adams, and Mrs. Hal Staab. Entertainment included the Pinafores; the Rip Chords; Four Teens; and Schmitt Bros. Mrs. Wm. Favinger, Chairman of the Ladies Hospitality Committee, welcomed everybody and outlined plans for their entertainment. Favors were small bottles of perfume donated by the J. L. Hudson Company through the courtesy of their Advertising Manager, Bill Bond, bass of the Wolverines.

oOo

It took Mary and Roy Harvey, former Michiganders, now living in St. Petersburg, Florida, a few days to get used to wearing shoes again. Among the first to greet the Harveys was Past Int'l President Frank Thorne, who was anxious to check with them on his new home built in the Harvey's St. Pete neighborhood, where Frank hopes to retire when the National Aluminate Corporation admits that it must find a new Vice President.

oOo

Two of the busiest quartets attending the Convention were the Four Teens and the newly crowned Air

Force Champions, the Rip Chords. The Teens arrived June 3rd and sang anywhere and everywhere they were asked right through Sunday the 14th. The Rip Chords are members of Laramie, Wyoming Chapter, competed in and won the Air Force World-Wide Barbershop Quartet Contest at Selfridge Field.

oOo

Mrs. (Int'l First Vice-President) Carl Jones, Terre Haute, Indiana, could legitimately claim the title "Foremost Barbershop Widow". Carl arrived Tuesday; attended committee meetings Tuesday night, Wednesday morning and afternoon; Board meeting Wednesday night; House of Delegates Thursday morning; Board meeting Thursday afternoon; Detroit Contest Judges meeting that night; judged Semi-Finals and Finals Friday; directed the Terre Haute Chorus Saturday morning; judged Saturday night Medalist Contest; sang in between times with his quartet, The Minor Chords.

oOo

Int'l VP George Chamblin, Columbus, Ohio wasn't too far behind. He acted as Judge in the quartet and chorus contests, attended various Board and committee meetings and tried to keep the other three Buzz Saws happy, not to mention Mrs. C. who remarked Sunday morning she hadn't seen him since Wednesday.

oOo

"Of all sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are these . . . 'Our tent—or couldn't come at the last moment'". In no other place can you find such sad sacks as two or three men, rarin' to go but minus the part or parts to round out their quartet which was all

hoked up to show everybody how Mandy Lee should be sung.

oOo

This year's Woodshed was bigger and better than ever. The ballroom at the Statler was by far the biggest room ever, with the exception of the one used at the Statler in Boston last January. Even so, despite repeated efforts, Stub never got inside the doors. There aren't any accurate figures on just how many people were in and out of the Woodshed but it must have been well up in the thousands.

oOo

Past Int'l Board Member, Marv Brower, now President of Far West, now of Santa Monica, formerly of Grand Rapids, took charge of the Woodshed M.C'ing for the Decrepits again but turned much of the actual M.C'ing over to Bob Moffatt. Bob is Past Pres. of L.A. Chapter, a woodshedder deluxe and he kept things moving along beautifully with the help of Woodshed Chairman Frank Lewis of the Redford Area (Detroit) Chapter. Bob held on for 18 hours straight in one session.

oOo

The Society's long time official photographer, Past Int'l Treas. Art. Merrill, of Schenectady, was sadly missed. Foto Kam, of Toledo, had two men on the job, taking specified pictures for the Society and a multitude of candid shots of the members and their families all around town and in the hotels and Masonic Temple. All these pictures were made for sale to interested people. If you want to get in touch with Foto Kam, their address is 213 Main St., Toledo, Ohio. Write to the attention of Zenny Cieslikowski.

(Continued on Page 18)

THE FOUNDER FINDS AN ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE



O. C. Cash, left, "light" hair, can well afford to pass out a few tips on how to sing—even to a chauplon quartet. Bruce Conover and Bob Livesay listen with all ears, but Bob Lindley couldn't resist a peek at the flashbulb and Bob Maurus should probably change his brand of cigarettes.

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

Tracy Evans, President of the Johnny Appleseed District, got a million dollars worth of free publicity Friday morning at the Semi-Finals when Emcee Embury announced his books of tickets had been found. Actually, they weren't Tracy's tickets but another's in an envelope with Tracy's name on it. Embury about gave up a little later when he laughingly announced that Int'l Pres. Smith's three books of tickets had been picked up on a bus and turned in by the driver. Smith had the last laugh when he calmly announced from his seat that

KANKAKEE KAPERS



You never know what you'll run into when you haven't got a gun. These hirsute adornments were much in evidence at Detroit. Kankakee, Ill. is celebrating an anniversary this year and these Kankakeeans are getting ready for it.



If these girls aren't from Holland, Michigan, they should be.

if Embury would take the trouble to look he'd find the books had been emptied of tickets, then sotto voce to a friend next to him, "Wait 'til I catch up with Laura. I'll give her 'what for' for littering up that bus".

oOo

First names of members of the competing quartets listed in the Convention Program helped straighten out many puzzles. Vaughan Liscum, baritone who sang with the Cardinals at Kansas City, didn't lose that much weight in the past year. His brother Mike stepped into his place in the quartet when Vaughan's business commitments tied him up. However, Mike sings tenor, and tenor Joe Ripp moved down to bari.

oOo

The Founder, O. C. Cash, never one to pass up a bit of fun, turned to a neighbor during the morning Semi-Finals and said, "Do you know how to pick the winners—if you see any gray hair or a bald head, just scratch 'em off".

oOo

Page Helena Rubinstein! John Hooker, lead of the Warsaw, N. Y. O-at-Kans, has very light eyebrows. When appearing before the footlights, he uses eyebrow pencil. Backstage, before the Semi-Finals — no eyebrow pencil. Thoughtfully, the management hadn't washed the windows of the dressing room — Presto! — eyebrow makeup, courtesy Masonic Temple.

oOo

If you have never heard 4421 barber-shoppers and their families sing, you have never heard singing. This was the first time in history so many of the clan had a chance to put their voices together and the result was awe inspiring. Not only did the crowd do a fine job on the old favorites, but when Ray Jones, of Milwaukee, led Bill Diekema's "Keep America Singing", by no means the easiest song in the world, the crowd came through like a well rehearsed chorus.

oOo

Stub enjoyed seeing members of Past Champ, and other topflight quartets taking the time to give pointers to competing quartets, and to hash over their problems.

oOo

In addition to the Past Champion quartets who were on hand in full force—Four Teens, Schmitt Brothers, Buffalo Bills, Mid-States Four and Pittsburghers, parts of others were on the scene—George McCaslin, Bartlesville Barflies (1939), tenor; Frank Thorne, bass of the Elastic Four, (1942); Huck Sinclair, bari, Four Harmonizers (1943); Ray Hall, bari and Ed Gaikema, tenor, Harmony Halls (1944); Joe Murrin, tenor and Cy Perkins, bari, Misfits (1945); Jack Briody, bari, Garden State (1946); Max Cripe, lead, and Lee Kidder, bass, Doctors of Harmony (1947).

oOo

Footwork is becoming increasingly important. The Madison, Wis. Cardinals have always been adept with the feet and this year made good use of this ability in a clever song entitled "Mr. Tap-Toe". The San Diego Sere-

naders did "Harrigan" in the contest last year and again this year. They've added a little jig by Chet Hodapp and Budd Boyle toward the end that's very effective. But the prize for dancing, if there was one, would have to go to the Yakima, Wash. Evergreen Quartet. In the Jamboree, one of them did a soft shoe routine while the other three sang "Night in June."

oOo

By 1957, there'll probably be a quartet pulling rabbits out of a hat to the tune of Easter Parade and by '60 or '61 they'll be strutting their stuff while performing a Giant Swing. All of which will perhaps be alright provided no animal acts are allowed.

oOo

Perhaps no one so evidently enjoys singing as Fritz Miller, bass of the Baltimore Volunteers. How those boys can turn on the volume. Only the Atomic Bums approach them. Had either the Vols or the Bums been singing Friday afternoon when the hail storm hit, they'd probably have drowned it out—not that the Vikings can't pour it on at times.

oOo

Says Desc Martin of Cleveland, "Even this type isn't small enough to express my opinion of those who would divide competition into age groups so the oldest quartets will 'have a chance against the kids'. One of my most heartening observations was the youth of the Finalists and Medalists—that way the Society goes on and on. That's life and progress. And I was no youth when the Society was organized, 15 years ago".

oOo

Admiral Perkins came all the way from Hawaii again to attend the convention. Past Int'l Pres. Beeler called on him to stand up and take a bow and reminded the audience that the Hawaii Chapter had been extremely hospitable to Jerry and the Mid-States Four when they were returning home from Korea in 1951 and to the Buffalo Bills last year.

oOo

Just about all Past Int'l Presidents of the Society have been appointed Admirals in the G—r—e—a—t Navy of the G—r—e—a—t State of Nebraska. Past Int'l Vice-President Clare Wilson, of Omaha, came to Detroit especially to induct Dr. Norm Rathert, of St. Louis and Ed Smith. Beeler asked all the Nebraska Admirals to stand and salute Admiral Perkins "Nebraska Style".

oOo

Granville Scanland, original bari of the 1940 Champion Flatfoot Four, looked not much heavier than he did in '39. And Dunc Hannah, lead of the Detroit Clef Dwellers, looked well despite a recent operation.

oOo

Speaking of looking well—Past Int'l Pres. King Cole has permitted what used to be a lower minor league mustache to become a full fledged big leaguer. Wife Kay won't stand for any kidding about it—says she loves it. Now if King were only "Kissing" Chappie Chapman of Toronto, there'd be evidence aplenty to seek out.

(Continued on page 23)

CANDID VIEWS AT DETROIT CONVENTION (AT THE CHORUS CONTEST)



It takes some time to get one chorus off a stage and another on so the quartets and others pictured here, put on a bit of entertainment during changes of scene.

Reading from top—left to right—The Minor Chords, Terre Haute, Indiana, LtoR—Beeson, Jones, Ramon, Carl Jones. The Singing Bricks. Detroit's Clef Dwellers, LtoR—Wiseheart, Honnah, Bauer, Easley. The Emcee—Int'l Treasurer Berney Simmer, St. Louis. The Song

Leader, Henry Schubert, Dearborn, Mich. The Pinafores. The Buzz Saws of Buckeye Capital (Columbus) Ohio Chapter. That's bari Don Vorce kicking up a fuss. Otherwise, LtoR—Staff Taylor, Bruce Lynn, George Chamblin. The Pitchblendaires, Detroit, Mich.,—clockwise from midnight Jack Golding, Don Golding, Tom Pollard, Dale Clixby, The Compress Aires, Painted Post, N. Y., LtoR—Hughes, Whitten, Olmstead, Orcutt.

CANDID VIEWS AT DETROIT CONVENTION—THE WOODSHED



In the center of the top—the Mid-States Four. Top right, Emcee Frank Lewis, Detroit, trying to drum up some business. The quartet in the white suits couldn't be the 1953-54 Champions, but is. Next to them, the Lytle Brothers, Sharon, Pa. That's Dick making coy faces at the mike. All by himself is Post Int'l B'd Member Morv Brower. The hillbillies unfortunately got away before the photog-

ropher could identify them. The three little girls and the boy are the Singing Brocks, as if you didn't know. The chorus with the jumbo caps come from Sheboygan, Wis. The quartet with the bends (middle, second from bottom)—Merri Men from Lansing, Mich. The chorus, bottom right, is made up of men from various Mid-Atlantic District Chapters—directed by Bud Arberg, front and center.

CANDID VIEWS AT DETROIT CONVENTION (SUNDAY BREAKFAST)



Viewing from top, left to right—The Toronto Rhythmolres. The usually dignified London, Ontario Four Chorders scarcely recognizable. The usually undignified Atomic Bums, of Minneapolis, in characteristic action. The Vikings. The Son Diego Serenaders. The Schmitt Brothers—basso Fran essaying a solo flight. Three shots of the zanies known as the Mid-States Four. The Harmony Counts, Warren Ohio, Les Shafer on the solo.

Some general views of the crowd. That's Bud Arberg demonstrating how to walk on eggs—Emcee Ron Gamble at the mike. The second picture from the left at the bottom caught the Founder almost unawares. The camera bugs had a field day. That's Int'l Secy Bob Hafer handing lapel pins to the Kord Kings of Oak Park, Ill.

CANDID VIEWS AT DETROIT CONVENTION



Viewing from top, left to right—Intermission time of the Masonic Temple. Two scenes at the Registration Desk. Int'l Pres. Elect Johnny Means talking to Judge Candidates Class. The waxworks of the HoFd Meeting, LtoR—First V. P. Carl Jones, Imm. Past Pres. J. F. Knipe, Treasurer Berney Simmer (head down), Past Pres. Frank Thorne, Pres. Ed Smith, Secretary Adams (of mike). Some of the ladies at the

Decrep-pets luncheon. Hans Beyer, LOL District editor, talking to the meeting of District Bulletin Editors. That's Com'dr Sev Severance with the pipe, Pom Pomeroy with the glasses. Part of the crowd in the lobby of Masonic Temple. The "Trading Mart" for exchange of books of tickets. The other six pictures across the bottom were taken at Judges meetings, District Officers, Chapter Officers and House of Delegates.

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

King and his wife Kay brought a quartet of girls with them—not the Chordettes, in which King's daughter Jimmy sings tenor—aged ten to fifteen. They are two pairs of sisters and their mothers also are sisters. They were dressed in and call themselves "Pinafores". Those who know King and know that the Society Hq Building Fund is close to his heart were not surprised to hear the Pinafores sing—

"Keep things popping
For barbershopping.
Build up the Building Fund . . ."

oOo

The Chordettes were very much in evidence and did a beautiful job of singing whenever called upon which was not infrequently. Stub heard at least one other girl quartet, this one from Pittsburgh, that could sing, BUT good.

oOo

Continuing Chordette popularity was attested by an incident occurring in the wee sma' hours at the Statler Saturday morning. Cornered by admirers, the gals finally consented to give out with a couple of numbers and with the opening few chords, doors began opening up and down the corridors on the eighth floor. Presently a pajama-clad and enthusiastic crowd was listening as the four lovelies of radio and TV fame vocalized their memorable arrangement of "Balling the Jack".

oOo

Walt Tait, of the Berkeley, California, chapter, took in his first International Contest. In the late 1920s, Walt sang in a California quartet, "The Harmony Four," with his brother George, now of the Long Beach Chapter, and two present members of the Washington, D. C. Chapter, Lew Sims and Elton Woolpert. Walt proclaimed that after thirty years of quartetting his interest is still going up.

oOo

Detroit was a rallying place for ex-members of former foursomes. One example is "The Tunics," formerly of Lafayette, Indiana. Hap Bailey, tenor, came clear from California and met his former colleagues, now scattered. They donned their old quartet suits, apparently refurbished their old songs, and proceeded to give out with ringing harmony.

oOo

Anne Campbell (Mrs. George Stark of the Detroit News) helped handle convention publicity. She and Dean Snyder had a reunion—both having been part of the famous Redpath Chautauqua organization of twenty-five years ago.

oOo

Proof of the quality and popularity of the Staab-Hill Folio (price 60¢ each from International Headquarters) is the fact that 6 of the 8 numbers contained in the folio were sung either in the Quartet or Chorus Contest.

SEPTEMBER, 1953

DECREPITS MEET



This was no doubt one of the more solemn moments in the Decrepits meeting at Detroit. In the less solemn moments they say they were rolling in the aisles. To be a Decrepit, you must have been an Int'l Board Member at some time or other. LtoR—those in the picture are—Grabhorn, Buffalo; Schenck, San Gabriel; Hermson, Madison, Wis.; Coddington, East Aurora, N. Y.; Martin, Cleveland (cheek on hand); McFarren, Buffalo; Grant, Saginaw (white hair); Scott, Birmingham, Mich.; Marlowe, St. Louis; Gentzler, Kansas City, Mo.; Right side of the aisle—Buitendorp, Muskegon, Mich.; Reagan, Pittsburgh; West, Charlotte, N.C.; Adams, Detroit; Marsden, Detroit; Holcombe, Paterson, N.J.; Red Masters, Detroit (in wheel chair); Zinsmaster, Miami (just got his head in).

MORE DECREPITS—THIS TIME EATING



In spite of ulcers and other conditions peculiar to the aged and infirm, many of the Decrepits ate heartily. Clockwise from six o'clock—Hermson, West, first President of SPEBSQSA Rupert Hall, Tulsa, Okla.; Past Int'l Pres. Phil Embury, Warsaw, N.Y.; Dr. Mark S. Nelson, Canton, Ill.; J. George O'Brien, Saginaw, Mich., who stopped at the right place to pick up some items for his "Harmonizer"; "Do You Remember" column; Maurice Reagan, Pittsburgh; Monty Marsden, Detroit; Gentzler; Shad Coye, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Leonard Field, Jackson, Mich.

The Chicagoans dashed out after their appearance in the Finals Friday night to appear on an air show for the benefit of Flint Tornado Relief.

oOo

The Association of Discarded and Decrepit Past Members of SPEBSQSA Board of Directors, Without Voice, Without Portfolio, Not Inc., in other words—the Decrepits, had their annual meeting Saturday A.M. Ed. Fahnestock, Most Antique Relic, conducted the zany meeting. Roy Harvey was Head Nurse to M.A.R., and Harry Brown, Keeper of the Wampum and Antique Records recorded the meeting for posterity.

oOo

Roll call was promptly answered by Cy Perkins who appeared with a plate of rolls. The reports of officers told at length what they had not done during the year. The Nominating Committee after listing most of the members and telling why they would not make good officers, offered Welsh Pierce as Head Nurse, the other officers to succeed themselves. With the customary parliamentary insults, they were unanimously elected, then duly robed by "Dr." Clarence Marlowe.

Prof. Herman Phlügenheimer (Bob Irvine), then gave a learned lecture on "Decrepititus", illustrated by charts, (by Dick Sturges). The gist of it seemed to be that as long as it cannot be cured, one can at least hide the symptoms by means of his numerous suggestions. The continuous laughter belied the seriousness of his efforts. Luncheon followed, including entertainment by the Kord Kings, the San Diego Serenaders, the Debutones and the Pinafores.

oOo

Children of members were in evidence in seemingly increasing numbers. Holly Smith, Pres. Ed's daughter, thinks a luncheon for teen agers would be in order at Washington next year. (John Cullen, et al. please note. Eds.)

oOo

Stub was pleased to note that a number of barbershoppers who started quartetting in their teens have maintained their interest and have progressed up the ladder of competition accordingly. On page 25 of the March 1950 issue of the Harmonizer appeared pictures of 9 teen age quartets. Six of the boys pictured either competed

Continued on page 24)

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

in this year's Contest or appeared on the program as past champions. Included were Harry DuVall, and Jack Gilstrap, bari and bass of the Sacramento Statesmen who appeared in the March 1950 Harmonizer as members of the Grant-Hi-Four. Bert Devaul, bari of the Blenders of the Oklahoma City Chapter, was shown on the Harmonizer spread as Bari of the Freshmen of the Wellsburg, West Virginia Chapter. The Four Teens were also shown with their original bass as they sang as an Eau Claire High School quartet.

oOo

The long arm of Selective Service is expected to break up some of our more promising "younger" quartets. Chances are that by the time you read this item the third place Sing-copates will have one or more men in the Armed Services. The Statesmen, fifth place Medalists, are also keeping their fingers crossed, but there appears to be little doubt that the Rhythmairs of the Yorktown, Toronto, Ontario, Chapter will be on hand making a strong bid for the championship next year.

oOo

Ain't nature grand! Indeed it is, but sometimes it can be most inconsiderate. Just as the Vikings got to the line "... But when you're crying, you bring on the rain ..." a terrific hail storm struck the roof of the auditorium and completely drowned them out. Acting with judgment and dispatch, Chairman of Judges Johnny Means called it off and asked the quartet to retire until the storm ended and begin from the beginning. A lesser quartet might have been a bit ruffled, but if the Vikings were they certainly didn't show it.

oOo

The Vikings had assured themselves a rooting section last winter when they carried the Springfield, Mo., chapter parade after the weather had obviated determined efforts by the Four Teens and the Mid-States to keep their date with the southwest Missourians. Quite a few decibels of the ear-splitting ovation which greeted every appearance of the Rock Islanders originated in the vocal chords of the Springfield contingent — Chorus Director Paul Shelton and his family, Clure Nichols, Doc Farmer, SESCO Tipton and Bud Jackson, among others.

oOo

Very few years ago it was commonplace to see three quartets from one District among the Medalists. Illinois, Ontario, Land O'Lakes, Dixie and Far Western split the honors five ways this year.

oOo

First time in history Ontario and Far Western District landed two quartets in the Finals. Johnny Applesseed, Land O'Lakes, and Illinois led the parade at that level with three places each.

WHAT A WORKOUT



Those escalators at The Sheraton-Cadillac never got such a workout as during the Convention. With 1500 to 2000 people going in and out as many as six times a day, no wonder the elevator service wasn't quite as speedy as some would have liked.

George McCaslin, Oklacity; Phil Embury, Warsaw, N.Y.; Maurice Reagan, Pittsburgh; Deac Martin, Cleveland; looking for a place to put a few new bends in old chords. Rescued by Lee Kidder, bass of the 1947 champ "Doctors of Harmony", (now of the Clef Chords), to do the bending in his room to the amazement (amusement?) of the Chamberlain brothers also present.

oOo

"Doctor" Bud Arberg still gets called Lieutenant frequently in spite of the fact that for more than a year he has been a civilian. However, his job is the same as before, "Chief of Music Unit under Special Services Section of the Entertainment Branch of the Adjutant General's office".

oOo

Southtown Chicago Chapter has already started a "Washington Club" for which each interested member is depositing \$1.00 per week.

oOo

Herb and Ila Marie Wall (he's Central States Sec'y) and their daughter, Susie Clingan, a charming threesome from Springfield, Mo., at recent Internationals, by-passed Detroit. Herb lost his mother the day before the big show, while Susie is recuperating after having presented Herb with his first grandchild, a girl.

oOo

Web Leubtow and Bill Oestreich, the tall half of the Hi-Lo's, Past Int'l Medalists of the Milwaukee Chapter were going strong. They didn't miss an opportunity to Woodshed and they got almost as great a kick out of showing off the Singing Brock Family, as they would have gotten out of singing in the Contest again (they

couldn't compete in the Regionals this year because of business commitments).

oOo

Every Dixie District president in the history of the "rebels" District was on hand. The entire present Executive Committee was also accounted for. Though "not nearly so far away as the West Coast", Int'l B'd Member Harley Miller of Tampa submits to Int'l B'd Member Reddie Wright of Pasadena and to other Harmonizer readers that the Dixie District officers came a "right fur piece" to represent their growing District which this year qualified three quartets.

oOo

To salve Reddie Right's pride irked by Tampa, Florida Harley Miller's allegation that the Far West District served Florida Orange Juice in its Hospitality Headquarters the Antlers of Miami sang "California, Here We Come" when they visited the enemy camp one night.

oOo

Bill Schindler, baritone of the Antlers, obtained quiet for announcements very effectively on several occasions by means of a "Little Bull" Horn, a flashlight battery powered megaphone which Bill sells in private life.

oOo

Ben Jordan, the "C'mon-and-hear" bass of the Hawkeye Four of Des Moines, Ia., has had to drop out of the quartet—on orders of the doctor. Though much missed at Detroit, his spot with the Hawkeyes was well-filled by young Jerry Pike.

oOo

The Society has produced few sportsmen better than Dick, Bob, Paul and Mat Lytle, the brothers from Sharon, Pa. Following the Finals Friday night, they were a part of the crush waiting for elevators in the Statler when someone commiserated with them over the fact that they'd missed medaling for the first time since 1951, when they were runners-up. Very patiently, they explained to a crowd of admirers: "We just lost out to five better quartets, that's all!"

oOo

The Lytle family made the 1953 convention the occasion for what was virtually a family reunion, with Mom and Pop and assorted sisters, brothers, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law very much in evidence. All wore grins of pride in the Lytle Brothers—grins, it might be added, which didn't change a bit after the 1951 runners-up were eliminated in the Finals.

oOo

The Society received a timely three-page spread in "Inside Michigan", the story and pictures being assembled by Bud Jackson of the Springfield, Missouri Chapter, former member of the Society's Int'l Committee on Public Relations.

(Continued on page 26)

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A TREASURY OF HOME ENTERTAINMENT

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

Jim Dunham, Detroit Chapter member, is an oldtime showman who had the time of his life serving as "aide" to the college-age Statesmen of Sacramento (each competing and Past Champ quartet was assigned an aide). Jim is a make-up expert and took care of that item for the boys, saw that they got to bed early, helped doctor Tenor Al Schultz's disappearing voice, sold the quartet's possibilities to the skies and arranged for one of the fellows to drive a new car out to the Coast. Here's the payoff, two of the boys had an opportunity to stay over in Detroit for a few days. They picked up a parking ticket, on a rented car, that Jim fixed at Traffic Court with a song and dance routine that would even have won over one of our own 15 judge panels.

oOo

Sev Severance, former Editor of Mid'l Antics is a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy (U.S. not Nebraska) and was slated for transfer to Seattle from Washington July 1. He isn't there yet if he stopped off to visit all the barbershoppers and Chapters he promised to on the drive out with Spike (Mrs. S) and the "crew of four young 'uns".



Past Int'l Pres. King Cole, Manitowoc, Wis. and two of the Chordettes, at left, the lead Lynn Evans, at right, the bari, Carol (Hagedorn) Buschmann, King's daughter, Jinny, was the original organizer of the Chordettes and sang with them continuously until July of this year when she resigned to take care of her thriving family. Marge Needham, of Chicago, dropped out of a United Air Lines plane, not literally—she was a stewardess—to take over Jinny's spot July 6th when the quartet opened in Minneapolis.

Dr. Callinan, of Cleveland, had his troubles trying to locate the Johnny Appleseed District headquarters room at the Sheraton-Cadillac. When he couldn't find it on the bulletin board, he called on the house phone, only to be told no "Appleseed" was registered. When he asked the operator to look under "Johnny", you don't need much imagination to guess what she replied.

(Continued on Page 27)

WHAT THE COMPETING QUARTETS SANG AT DETROIT

*Indicates songs sung in Finals

xIndicates songs sung in Medalist

Air Capitals — Watermelon Time in Louisiana — Down South Medley — Dream, Dream, Dream.

Antlers — Mighty Lak A Rose — Rockabye Moon — *In the Hills of Old Kentucky—*Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland — xCarolina Moon — xYou Remind Me So Much of My Mother.

Atomic Bums—San Francisco Bay—In the Evening by the Moonlight—*Great Smoky Mountains in Dixie—*Trail to Sunset Valley.

Blenders—When the Man in the Moon Says Hello—Yawning.

BMA Gamboliers—It's Time to Sing Sweet Adeline Again—Moonlight and Roses.

Cardinals—Mr. Tap Toe—Alone with My Memories of You—*Mississippi Mud—*Back Home Again in Indiana.

Chicagoans—Roll On You Mississippi — Mood Indigo — *Carolina Mammy Medley—*If You Were the Only Girl in the World.

Chordblenders—Cruisin' in My Model "T"—Yona from Arizona.

Clef Chefs — My Little Girl—Sweet Cider Time Medley—When I Lost You.

Columbians—Ain't She Sweet—You're the Girl I Meet in Dreamland.

Desertairs — Great Smoky Mountains in Dixie—Ain't She Sweet.

Evergreen Quartet—Watermelon Time in Louisiana—How I Wish that I Could Help the Sandman.

Florida Knights—Peg O' My Heart—My Wild Irish Rose.

Foremost Four — Love Me and the World Is Mine—Mood Indigo.

Four Chorders—There's A Rose on Your Cheek—Wonderful Mother of Mine—*Rose of Tralee—*Because—xSailing Down the Chesapeake Bay—xThe World Is Waiting for the Sunrise.

Four Harpooners—When the Man in the Moon Says Hello—Dream, Dream, Dream.

Four-In-A-Chord — My Sweetie in Tahiti—Down by the Old Mill Stream — *Mona from Barcelona—*Bye Bye Blackbird.

Four Naturals—Mammy and Me—Old Man River.

Harmony Counts—Way Down Home Medley — There's A Rose on Your Cheek—*I Wonder What's Become of Sally—*Give Me A Night in June.

Hawkeye Four—Toot, Toot, Tootsie—Way Back Home in Dixie.

Helmsmen—Sailing Down the Chesapeake Bay—How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?

Humdingers—If You Knew Susie—Like I Know Susie—I Love You Truly.

Jerseymen — MacNamara's Band — Little Town in the Ould County Down.

Kord Kings—My Home Town Is A One-Horse Town—Back to Illinois—*Angelina, Down in Carolina — *My Indiana.

Kord Kutters—When I Wore My Daddy's Brown Derby—Down by the Old Mill Stream.

Lytle Brothers — Auntie Skinner's Chicken Dinner—Honey Gal—*Heart-breakin' Gal — *Drifting Back to Dreamland.

Note Crackers—Are You from Dixie—I'm All Dressed Up with A Broken Heart—*Mississippi Mud—*My Indiana.

O-At-Kans—When You Wore A Tulip — Only An Irishman's Dream. Onchords—Oh, Susanna—Annie Laurie.

Royalaires—Bye, Bye, Blues—Dreaming Medley.

San Diego Serenaders—Harrigan—I'm Missin' Mammy's Kissin'—*Mammy—*Somebody Stole My Gal Medley.

Sing-Copates—When That Mobile Boy Sings Those Memphis Blues—Pucker Up and Whistle — *Roll On Silver Moon—*Moon Over the Prairie—xI Don't Mind Being All Alone—xBecause.

Statesmen — Hello Ma Baby—Yankee Doodle Medley—*Ballin' the Jack — *Only An Irishman's Dream — xCruisin' in My Model "T"—xDown on 33rd & 3rd.

Templairs — Bye-Bye, Blackbird — I Find Your Smile.

Toronto Rhythmaires — Yawning — Way Down in Georgia—*Mammy—*There's A Rose on Your Cheek.

Town Criers—Side by Side—Tuck Me to Sleep in My Old 'Tucky Home.

Vikings — When You're Smiling — Roses of Picardy—*There'll Be Some Changes Made—*The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise—xAngel Eyes—xWhen I Lost You.

Volunteers—San Francisco Bay Medley — You'll Never Know the Good Fellow I've Been.

Whipcords — Why Do They Always Say "No"?—I'm Going Home.

Wolverines—Mammy—It Happened in Monterey.

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

Thanks to the City of Detroit's Department of Parks and Recreation, a large outdoor stage in the Center of Washington Blvd. (renamed Harmony Lane for Convention Week) and a sound truck were provided to make an outdoor woodshed which gave huge crowds of passersby opportunities to hear snatches of quartet and chorus appearances between contest sessions.

oOo

Many barbershoppers had an opportunity to see the world's largest flag, U.S. of course, draped over 8 stories of the world's largest department store, the J. L. Hudson Co. The flag was raised on Saturday to commemorate Flag Day (June 14th) and the touring Women's Army Corps Band played for the ceremonies.

oOo

Al Boyd of Ye Old Tymers chapter (St. Louis) had some trouble getting a quartet together but finally managed to find kindred souls in Paul Shelton and Clure Nichols of Springfield, Mo., and "a swell guy whose name Stub never did get" from Toronto. They got good and hoarse together!

oOo

The former Pacific Northwest District, now called Evergreen, has many colorful names connected with it. The District publication edited by Secretary Hub Stone is called Timbre. The Eugene-Springfield, Ore. chapter is called the Cascade Chapter. The Cascade chorus and the Evergreen Quartet of Yakima, Wash., the District's representative in the quartet contest both drew number thirteen position in their respective contests. The chorus competed on the 13th of June.

oOo

Evolution of a song. The Four-in-a-Chord, Cleveland, sang "My Sweetie from Tahiti" in the Semi-Finals. (You'll find it in the Society's own book, Songs for Men, No. VI. Eds.) Dick Sturges wrote the tune and lyrics in 1952 and sent them to Bill Diekema to arrange. Bill arrived in Kansas City with an arrangement, but hadn't had a chance to hear it sung by a quartet. He wanted a foursome of fast readers and was referred to the Four-in-a-Chord. They learned the song quickly and sang it for Bill and Dick before they left Kansas City. Predictions are it'll be a hit.

oOo

Frank Leone and Bob (Royalties) Gall of Kansas City have solved the perennial problem of what-to-do-with-the - little - woman - while - out - barbershopping. They've taught the gals all the barbershop techniques and organized a foursome called the Couple-Chords. They were much in evidence in the Woodshed and around the hotels.

CO-CHAIRMEN



At left—Lou Harrington—at right Sebe Lawrence—Co-Chairmen of the Detroit Convention, caught in a moment of "relaxation".

Bill and Cleo Bailey (he's a self-confessed crow in the Tulsa chapter) seldom miss the big sing. This year, they'd been in Michigan for a previous convention and stuck around an extra week just to hear barbershopping's show of shows. Bill's only claim to fame as a music maker is with a duck call, with which instrument he is somewhat more than expert at luring mallards into gun-range.

oOo

The Kansas City BMA Gamboliers clicked with the Jamboree audience with their original ditty that went something like this—

"... They say our judges are so smart;

They never miss a cue.

They judge you with a tender heart; They'll do their best for you..."

Oh, Brother! What a lie!

oOo

Biggest surprise of the Jamboree was the act staged by the Chord-blenders of Easton-Phillipsburg, Pa. Billed as "a great big happy family", they combined some excellent comedy, imaginative costumes, extraordinary musicianship, both vocal and instrumental, into a skit that brought down the house. Once or twice well over on the rowdy side, with a bit of laundering, the act would be a 100% success before any audience, barbershop or otherwise.

oOo

Although 18 Choruses were entered in the First International Convention Chorus Contest last minute cancellations by Montreal and York, Pa. reduced the entry to 16.

oOo

Due to the relative newness of Chorus competition Stage Presence judges were instructed to judge only from the waist up. However, most competing choruses were in complete uniform and all made striking appearances.

oOo

As usual, the Saturday afternoon Jamboree produced its quantity of quartet

spokesmen comedians and The TEM-PLAIRS started the ball rolling by introducing one of their numbers thusly: "This number features our bass—if you can feature our bass". They also claimed that "We're here today because we weren't there yesterday," and really brought the house down.

oOo

The HELMSMEN put so much into their singing of "Sweet Sixteen" that one of the wings of the quartet shell waved in the breeze when they hit that terrific swipe on "Sweet".

oOo

The HUMDINGERS introduced their selections as typifying "The music that creeps into your heart", and proceeded to sing two "creepy" type numbers.

oOo

Much evidence of the benefit of Quartet Clinics held in connection with the Fall District Contests and Spring Regionals was apparent. Many quartets attested to the fact that they entered this year's competition with added confidence and know-how because of their participation in this type of activity.

oOo

To many, the most beautiful singing of all throughout Convention week was the group singing at various times by from 1500 to 4500 barbershoppers. The singing went from a happy note to a sad note when on the Sunday morning Breakfast Program the crowd sang Happy Birthday to Frankie (Mrs. Carroll P.) Adams, and then Auld Lang Syne for Carroll prompted by notice of his retirement on June 30.

oOo

A hilarious (?) time was had by all the members of the second-place "Q" Chorus, when they were locked in the blacked-out Masonic Auditorium until after midnight following the Semi-Finalist contest Friday evening. It seems that arrangements had been made to provide a room for a last-minute rehearsal, but the caretakers of the building had not been advised so all lights were turned out and the place was locked up tight. In the flickering glow of many lighted matches, the members of the Chapter raised their voices in a loud unharmonious wail which finally aroused the watchman who rather grumpily freed them from their midnight prison.

oOo

Chorus contest assistants back stage got a big chuckle out of the facial expressions of Director Bud Leabo (pronounced Lecbo). Bud really works at it and gets remarkable results with his Cascade Chorus from Eugene and Springfield, Ore. Everyone wondered how a guy with such a small face could give out with such a broad grin when his boys hit a key change or fancy swipe just right.

(Continued on Page 28)

STUB AT DETROIT

Continued

The Jerseymen, of Philadelphia, asked to be moved up on the Jamboree program because they had hired a guitar from a local music store and had to have it back by 5:00 P.M.

oOo

Forty-four wives of former members of the International Board graced the luncheon tables at the annual meeting of the Decrep-Pets in the Founders Room of the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel on Saturday. The gathering was in charge of President Frankie (Mrs. Carroll P.) Adams, and Kaye (Mrs. O. H. King) Cole, Secretary. Dick Schenck, Immediate Past President of the Far Western District, presented Mrs. Johnny Means and Mrs. Adams with large boxes of California preserves and jellies as a consolation gift because they hadn't been able to accompany their husbands on their recent trip West at the time of the Regional Preliminary Contests. The ladies were entertained by the Pinafores, the San Diego Serenaders, the Rip Chords, and the Singing Brock Family. Officers for the next year are: Florence (Mrs. Hal) Staab, President; Mary (Mrs. Roy) Harvey, Secretary.

oOo

There were fewer conflicts in meetings, conferences, etc. this year than in the past 2 or 3 years, but there still are too many, and the only way to correct it is to schedule the Convention to begin one day earlier. This is exactly what the Executive Committee has done in connection with the Washington Convention in 1954, and everyone is going to like it. The conflicts this year occurred Thursday afternoon when there were 2 events going on simultaneously; Thursday evening when there were 4; and Saturday afternoon when there were 4.

oOo

More than 100 chapters were represented in the unusually large attendance at the Chapter Officers Conference Saturday afternoon, and that in the face of five or six counter attractions. Carroll Adams conducted the session.

oOo

As the Four Teens approached the end of their year as champs they staged a dramatic farewell. While the Teens sang softly their Emcee and impresario unique, Mike Egan, marched to the mike and made a gracious good-bye speech, announcing that the Teens were shortly to depart on a world tour with an Air Force show to be gone a year or more.

oOo

The British Empire's clothing industry got a major plug from the London, Ont. Four Chords and the Toronto Rhythmaires. Very likely, no louder plaids have ever been conceived, certainly they've never been worn.

oOo

The Vikings wore fancy white coats with white satin lapels. By coincidence, the Mid-States Four wore coats of similar cut in brown.

WHAT THE COMPETING CHORUSES SANG AT DETROIT

Alexandria, Va.—I've Been Working on the Railroad—Wait 'Til the Sun Shines Nellie.

Canton, Ohio—Ohio Medley—Dream, Dream, Dream.

East York, Ontario—Susie Brown—Let's Fall in Love All Over Again.

Eugene-Springfield, Oregon—Who Was the Girl in My Dream Last Night—Somebody Stole My Gal.

Franklin-OH City, Pa.—'Til the Day—Lindy Lou.

Gowanda, N. Y.—Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up that Old Gang of Mine—You're The Girl I Meet in Dreamland.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise—Alabama Jubilee.

London, Ontario—Dixie Medley—Beautiful Dreamer.

Middletown, Ohio—Alabama Jubilee—Row, Row, Row.

Muncie, Indiana—You're The Girl I Meet in Dreamland—My Indiana.

Precisionaires (Detroit)—Great Smoky Mountains in Dixie—Rose of Tralee.

"Q" Suburban (LaGrange, Ill.)—Oceana Roll—Son of the Sea.

Sheboygan, Wis.—I'd Love to Live in Loveland—Somebody Loves You.

Spencer, Iowa—Watermelon Time in Louisiana—Sandman—Dreaming Medley.

Terre Haute, Indiana—I'm All Dressed Up with A Broken Heart—When the Bell in the Lighthouse Rings Ding Dong.

Wichita, Kansas—Sweet Roses of Morn—I'm A Son of the U.S.A.

The Vikings found out quickly that champions must have a sense of humor. Shortly after their return home, a local paper ran an excellent picture of the four, but the cut caption left something to be desired.

Here's what it said:

"INTERNATIONAL BEAUTIES VYING FOR WORLD CROWN—Representatives of the forthcoming Miss Universe competition at Long Beach, Cal., from Alaska, Belgium and South Africa are pictured..."

oOo

The Schmitt Brothers put in a good public relations lick for SPEBSQSA by singing High Mass at St. Aloysius Church Sunday morning. It's highly improbable that congregation has ever heard any better singing. Bro. Ray played the organ. A good many barbershoppers attended.

oOo

Room hopping with its rapid fire singing frayed the vocal chords of most of the quartets including the Statesmen who started out Saturday with one man with scarcely any voice at all. They pulled a clover swift on the Breakfast Program when they swapped parts, having the bass move to Tenor, the Tenor to Bari and the Bari to Bass.

oOo

Looking like four survivors of a walking marathon, the Mid-States Four wowed the Breakfast audience with their indefatigable comedy (not only that but it seems to be tireless). They dragged in wearing pajamas and night shirts with Art Gracey and Forry Haynes carrying big Bob Mack on a stretcher.

oOo

In his opening remarks, spokesman Marty Mendro said that they knew "they'd eventually get around to this room". Haynes capped the antics with a spontaneous electric shaving routine with one of the microphones.

A half hour of the Sunday breakfast was broadcast by Station WJR on George Cushing's program "In Our Opinion".

oOo

By the time the Convention Office closed Saturday afternoon, approximately 800 orders for registration books for the Washington Convention had been received and processed. By the end of the week following the Convention the total had passed the 1000 mark.

DAVID SILVERMAN
Music Librarian

WJR, The Good Will Station,
Inc., Detroit

Says the following songs are in Public Domain and you may use them anywhere, anytime, and in any way.

Title	Composer
HAPPY HOTTENTOTS	
HARD TIMES COME AGAIN NO MORE	Catlin-Delehanly 187-
HAT ME FATHER WORE	Stephen C. Foster 1854
HEAR DEM BELLS	Ferguson-McCarthy 1876
HE DIDN'T SPLIT THE WOOD	1880
HE NEVER CAME BACK	William Jerome 1892
HE NEVER CARES TO WANDER FROM HIS OWN FIRESIDE	William Jerome 1891
HENRIETTA	English-Felix McGlannon 1892
HER BRIGHT SMILE HAUNTS ME STILL	Ford-Brotton 1895
(English) Carpenter-Wrighton	
HER EYES DON'T SHINE LIKE DIAMONDS	
Dave Marlon	1894

PHOENIX, ARIZONA STAGES BLOOD BANK SHOW

♪ ♪ ♪



These pictures, reproductions of newspaper stories and promotion pieces tell the story of Phoenix, Arizona Chapter's Second Annual Blood Donor Appreciation Festival of Barbershop Quartet Harmony.

Admission to the show was restricted to those who donated a pint of blood—no promises, no pledges—two tickets—one pint of blood.

Six thousand plants were obtained and 12,000 enthusiastic hearers jammed the Outdoor Bowl at Encanto Park.

Quartets participating were the Four Teens, San Diego Seren-

aders, Crown City Four, Travelaires, 24 Feet of Harmony and Phoenix own Bell Tones, Forte Fours, High C's and Four Bucks. The Phoenix Chapter Chorus also was featured.

Art Baker, star of the TV show "You Asked for It", emceed the show. The response to the appeal for blood was so great that it overtaxed the facilities of the Phoenix Blood Bank.

It was found necessary to arrange for the use of the Southern Pacific and Irwin Memorial Blood Donor Cnr, "The Lifeline".

Cooperation of stores, civic leaders, banks, churches, newspapers, radio stations, civic clubs and other groups was outstanding.



ILLINOIS

The Annual District Meeting was a three-day affair, Friday, May 1st to Sunday, May 3rd, in the Kaskaskia Hotel, LaSalle, Ill.

Chapter Officers met on Friday for a down to earth discussion. Twenty-six chapters were represented at the District Meeting on Saturday.

Among proposals discussed was one advanced by District V.P. Alex Finkler that consideration be given to the possibility of a contest for "entertainment" quartets.

With the Int'l Preliminary Contest and the District Chorus Contest to fill out the weekend, there was no lack of activity.

CENTRAL STATES

Longmont, Colorado was the scene of the District's Annual Meeting. Here is how the Central States District "Serenade", Herb Wall, Springfield, Mo., Editor, covered the event, "From registration on through to the last quartet on the Sunday morning Clinic, everything went smoothly and pleasantly."

"The barbershopper-conscious town turned itself inside out to make us welcome. Red and white barber poles were up and down the street, and in store windows were cleverly worded "Welcome" signs. The folks were swell, the publicity colossal, the meeting place adequate, the auditorium excellent, the quartets tuneful, the choruses well trained, the contest well managed and in addition to that, the high altitude clear mountain air was bracing and enjoyable."

INDIANA-KENTUCKY

Meeting Sunday morning, May 3rd, in Indianapolis, following the Regional Preliminary on Saturday, the Board of Directors of the District set a Society precedent by voting that Indianapolis (Broadripple) Chapter be the permanent site of the District Contest each Fall. The Spring Regional Preliminary Contest will continue to be open for bids.

Plans for the coming year include a membership drive; promotion of new chapters; sponsoring of college and high school quartet contests.

DIXIE

"Meeting in the glass walled clubhouse at Elinor Village, Daytona Beach, Fla., overlooking the sunbathed pool, Dixie's Board of Directors had a hard time concentrating on facts and figures of membership and treasury dollars. Guys who can't see a quarter note without bifocals suddenly found their astigmatism no hindrance in enjoying the swim-suited lovelies who paraded and lolled on the outside. Despite this, there is record of some business being transacted."

That's how Bob Farran covered the District's Annual Meeting in the excellently edited Dixie District bulletin, "The Rebel Rouser". Twenty-five of a possible forty chapters were represented. The matter of dividing Dixie District was tabled. St. Petersburg, Fla. was awarded the 1954 Int'l Regional Preliminary. Memphis, Tenn. received the first Dixie Achievement Award.

MID-ATLANTIC

Reports submitted at the District Annual Meeting in Scranton, Pa. indicated a surge of activity throughout the District in the past year.

Seven new chapters have been added. Membership has increased enough to enable the District to qualify four quartets for the Int'l Contest for the first time.

The newly created District paper "Mid'l Antics" has contributed considerably to activity and interest.

Plans have been made to hold the 1953 District Meeting and Convention in New York City October 17th and 18th at Carnegie Hall. The sponsors—Areas 1, 2, and 3 have pledged their share of the net proceeds to the Int'l Hq Building Fund.

JOHNNY APPLESEED

The District displayed health, vigor and enthusiasm at the May 3 Board Meeting at Canton, O. With several chapters gained and lost in the last 6 months, the chapter total stands at 60, with an increased membership.

Financially, the District is sound, if not wealthy. The QUARTER-NOTE, district publication, continues to be

mailed at no charge to all members in the District, and operating expenses came well within income.

Plans were revealed for the 3rd Annual District Chorus Contest and Barbershop Jamboree to be held June 28 at Columbus with 24 choruses, representing the winners and runner-ups in Area Contests, competing.

The first annual District Show "Harvest of Harmony" was announced for Lakeside Ohio Auditorium on August 29. Top-flight District quartets have volunteered their services and Lakeside will give a guarantee and a portion of the ticket sale to the District treasury.

The third District event, the Quartet Contest, will be held at Washington, Pa. on October 17.

Thirty chapters were represented and the following officers were elected for the coming year; R. Tracy Evans, Parkersburg, president; Karl Haggard, Sharon, Pa., past-president; Howard Hansen, Lakewood, vice-president; Paul Chenoweth, Dayton, vice-president; Staff Taylor, Buckeye Capital (Columbus), secretary; Lloyd Rossell, Washington, Pa., treasurer; Nate Berthoff, Elyria, editor QUARTER-NOTE.

LAND O'LAKES

With 26 chapters represented, including 14 quartets, the District's Annual Meeting was held May 1 in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. in connection with the Regional Preliminary Contest.

Pres. Allan Kapitzke, who was re-elected for his 4th term, attributed the recent LOL growth in membership to Chapter activity and Community Service; and stressed their primary importance to the health of a chapter.

Green Bay, Wis. was picked as the site for the LOL District Contest Nov. 7, 1953; and Mankato, Minn. for the LOL Regional Preliminary next May, 1954.

For what is probably a record for cities under 5,000, Tomah, Wis. presented at the District meeting a charter application with 51 names signed up. They are going ahead with full steam with the aid of Sparta and other nearby chapters and are planning their charter night for October.

The Achievement Award presentations saw the Beaver Dam Trophy, for cities over 20,000 pop., go to Minneapolis, Minn., site of the Mid-Winter Board meeting in Jan. 1954. Second place went to Sheboygan, Wis.

The George Hood Trophy for cities under 20,000 went to West Bend, Wis., with Escanaba, Mich. second. In the scoring for these awards, points are given for all chapter activities, with the highest scores awarded for Community Service, in which the winning chapters were very active.

(Continued on Page 31)

COAST TO COAST

Continued

SOUTHWESTERN

The Lone Star State's No. 1, Lubbock, chapter proved to all the Southwestern District that Regional Preliminary Contests can be enjoyable and staged at a profit to all.

On May 9th, the hundreds of barber-shoppers who braved the local dust storm, found well organized reception, hospitality and saw one of the most ingeniously staged contests in this District.

The 52 page program with a 4 color cover was titled "The Southwestern District Barbershop Gazette" and it contained photos of every competing quartet.

The show was opened by a massed chorus made up of over 150 members from every part of the district. Dr. John Heiden of El Paso, Texas directed the group and the resulting harmonies were amazing considering only one short rehearsal was held before showtime.

Following the contest, entertainment was furnished by The Kernels, Omaha, Nebraska and The Keynotes of Newton, Kansas. Equally delightful were the afterglow, morning-glo and quartet clinic that followed.

Credit for the outstanding contest goes to O. W. Ribble, President and General Chairman; Co-chairman J. Ray Dickey and Pat Cunningham, assisted by every Lubbock chapter member.

Those attending the District business meeting that preceded the contest, heard the reports of growth in both members and chapters in the Southwest.

A new District Executive Board policy was put into action. The board consisting of 14 members includes 7 for a one year term and 7 for a two year term. Seven new members will be elected each year. Named for two year duty were: Harold Rusk, Dallas, Texas; Robert "Bob" St. John, San Antonio, Texas; Joe Lewis, Dallas, Texas; Aylett Fitzhugh, Dallas, Texas; I. S. "Hank" Wright, Oklahoma City; Louie Laurel, El Paso, Texas and Joe Kemendo, El Paso, Texas. Named to serve for 1 year were: Ernie Dick, Oklahoma City, Okla.; A. R. Avery Hall, Houston, Texas; G. P. Pat Cunningham, Lubbock, Texas; Grady Musgrave, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Cecil F. Watson, Albuquerque, N. M.; Norman Busbee, Fort Worth, Tex.; and Bob Teague, Shreveport, La.

Officers elected from the new board for the year were: President, Joe Lewis, Dallas, Texas; Vice-Pres., G. P. Pat Cunningham, Lubbock, Texas; Secretary, Harold Rusk, Dallas, Texas and Treasurer, Lew Laurel, El Paso, Texas.

Wichita Falls, Texas was selected for the District Contest in November, 1953. Abilene, Texas was named as the location for the 1954 Regional.

SEPTEMBER, 1953

FAR WESTERN

Flanked by the glittering blue Pacific and blessed by the usual perfect weather, the Long Beach, Calif., Chapter hosted the Annual Board Meeting and Regional Quartet Contest of The Far Western District on April 25. The election resulted in the elevation to District posts of the following: G. Marvin Brower, of Santa Monica, President; Jim Clarke of San Jose, 1st V. P.; Budd Boyle of San Diego; Dick DeBusk of Huntington Park and Dr. A. J. Wagner of Tucson, Ariz., as Vice Presidents; Jerry Graham of Arcadia, Cal., as Secretary and Tex Modlin of Pasadena, Calif., as Treasurer.

A successful bid by Pasadena Chapter was made for the Fall Meeting, scheduled for November 14.

The April 25 Meeting was highlighted by the presence of Int'l Sec'y Carroll Adams and Johnny Means from Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The presence of these two gentlemen did much to add prestige to the meeting and much good advice and guidance was obtained.

Following the Quartet Contest, Johnny Means conducted a quartet clinic.

The Contest was won by the San Diego Serenaders and the Sacramento Statesmen. The latter foursome had not before been in District competition and were surprise co-winners. The Travelaires of San Jose were the alternate quartet.

The District Achievement Awards were won by Whittier, Arcadia and San Gabriel in that order.

The High School quartet from Bell, Calif., sponsored by Huntington Park Chapter and recent winners in the High School eliminations, were a surprise guest quartet and received an ovation for their singing. They were presented with silver cups by Art Baker, famous screen, radio and TV star, who was also MC of the Regional Contest and who is also a very well known member of the Society.

MICHIGAN

The annual meeting was held in Benton Harbor on May 2nd in connection with the Regional Preliminary Contest. Reports were given by all committees, including a financial report on the Troubadour by business manager, Rush Wyman. The delegates present voted that a special convention issue of the Troubadour be published to welcome visitors to Detroit for the International Convention and Contest. The delegates voted that the chapters subsidize the special issue by each contributing \$10.00 in ads.

A special tribute was paid to Roscoe Bennett, editor of the Troubadour, and Rush Wyman, business manager, for their fine work.

Mark Roberts, Chairman of the District Chorus Contest, reported that the 1953 Michigan District Chorus Contest would be held at Alma, Michigan, on July 19, 1953, at the picnic grounds.

A motion was passed that the District be reapportioned into fourteen areas rather than the present ten.

The nominating committee submitted their slate, and the following officers were elected; President—Clarence Jalving of Holland; First Vice-President—Loton Willson of Boyne City; Second Vice-President—Don Wright of Hudson; Treasurer—Tom Grove of Dowagiac; Secretary—Louis Harrington of Detroit and Hamtramck.

NORTHEASTERN

Election of officers: President, Charles F. Ricketts (re-elected), 1st Vice President, Lawrie Adams; 2nd Vice President, Nicholas Girie; Treasurer, Paul E. Carney (re-elected); Secretary, Edward J. Stetson (re-elected).

Achievement Awards: small community award to Reading Chapter. Honorable mention: Derby, Conn. Presque Isle, Me., Willimantic, Conn. Medium community award to Northampton Chapter. Honorable mention: Lynn and Salem, Mass., Waterbury, Conn. Large community award to: Boston Chapter. Honorable mention: New Bedford, Mass., Providence, R. I., Schenectady, N. Y. Int'l Bldg. Fund Donations and Pledges by 16 Chapters—\$2532.00. Advertising received from 15 Chapters and one industrial firm for June issue of the Harmonizer (dedicated to the NE District) totaling 5 1/4 pages \$1,370.00. Three quartets competing in Int'l Quartet Contest in Detroit in June, to receive \$400.00 towards expenses. New Bedford Chapter honored in having 2 quartets entered in the Int'l Contest—The Four Harpooners and the Helmsmen. Also competing will be the Four Naturals of New Haven. Alternate quartet, the Noblemen from Providence, R. I.—Area Counselors Don Dobson and Bob Jellison commended for outstanding work in promoting Area Jamborees. At Area No. 7 Jamboree, the Four Harpooners were judged the winners of the Novice Quartet Contest, and exactly two months later placed in Regionals. New Bedford, Mass. Chapter to be host for the District Quartet Contest to be held in that city on October 3, 1953.

NE District had net loss of 3 chapters but gained in membership.

(Continued on page 32)

COAST TO COAST

Continued

EVERGREEN

It was voted unanimously to drop the entire Alaska trip project, and this action was taken upon the recommendation made by Art Campbell. Vancouver was given the achievement award, with Astoria second, and Yakima third.

The Forest Grove matter was settled by the Executive Committee having taken unanimous action to rescind their previous action, and to leave the matter entirely up to the quartets.

Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Board voted to increase the number of Vice Presidents from 2 to 4; subject, of course, to approval by the Int'l Committee on Districts.

The Board voted a resolution regarding the Int'l Building Fund to the effect that as soon as the Society is ready to present definite plans, and definite cost, the Pacific Northwest District will pledge its proper share of the cost of the building.

The Board voted, also, to ask the Int'l Executive Committee to re-issue their District charter under the name of the Evergreen District. It was announced that the name of the District magazine will, from now on, be "Timbre".

The Board voted to reduce the 5% rate of assessment, which was to have gone into effect on July 1st, to 3%. The District contributed \$600.00 toward the expenses of the qualifying quartet to attend the Convention in Detroit. It was voted to pay the expenses of the District Officers to the 2 District Board meetings each year. It was voted to pay the expenses of the District President and the District Secretary to Detroit, the amount not to exceed \$250.00 each.

The Executive Committee recommended to the new District Officers that there be 4 Area Chorus Contests during the coming year.

The result of the election was as follows: President—O. B. Falls, Seattle; Vice President—Ross Relyea, Vancouver; Vice President—Dwight L. Calkin, Spokane; Vice President—Chas. Ricketts, Roseburg; Vice President—Bennett Loftsgaard, Klamath Falls; Secretary—L. H. Stone, Klamath Falls; Treasurer—Doug Smith.

SENECA LAND

The Regional Preliminary and Convention were held at Binghamton, N.Y., May 1, 2, 3.

Two Pennsylvania counties, Jefferson and Clearfield, formerly Johnny Appleseed District, were added to Seneca Land.

The District Quartet and Chorus Contest will be held in Penn Yan, N.Y. 1954 Regional Preliminary was awarded to Buffalo.

(Continued on page 33)

HOW TO RUN A CHAPTER OF SPEBSQSA

As told by the founder, O. C. Cash, to a brand new Chapter Secretary

(Editor's Note. These letters came to light a few months back when O. C. Cash cleaned up a couple of files of correspondence he had stored in his garage for many years.

We feel they are of some interest as historical documents, but even more important we think these letters might almost have been exchanged last week instead of nearly thirteen years ago.

The prices mentioned—\$1.00 for a buffet dinner, etc., may come as something of a shock to those of our members who were in their early teens, or younger, thirteen years ago.)

December 17, 1940
Cleveland, Ohio

"Mr. O. C. Cash
Permanent—etc.
SPEBSQSA
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Brother Cash,

I was drafted as Secretary-Treasurer of the local chapter of the Society at the October meeting and have been devoting too much of my time trying to get it organized on some sort of business-like footing, both financially and artistically.

The mere fact that someone is soliciting dues actively and sees that everyone chips in his bit for food, etc. at the sing sessions has given the boys a more active interest.

I need to know the necessary moves to put us on some sort of official footing with the national headquarters. What do we have to do to get diplomas, etc., for the boys who have shelled out their two bucks? The treasury has been drained to pay mailing costs, but we have to do something soon about headquarters.

You may be interested to know we now have fifty really interested members. Not less than seventeen have chipped in dues so far with no real pressure.

If you have any ideas beyond what I've asked about, will you please let me know.

Fraternally,
James F. Knipe"

* * * * *

December 31, 1940
Tulsa, Oklahoma

"Mr. James F. Knipe
The Martin Printing Company
Caxton Building
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Brother Knipe,

The Directors of the National Chapter and all other members that care to attend will meet in the Coronada Hotel, St. Louis, on January 18, 1941, to adopt a constitution and plan for the St. Louis Convention in July, 1941 . . . This will be a tremendously interesting meeting . . . At that time we can tell you how to instill a lot of interest in your local chapter.

Briefly, here are some of the things other chapters are doing to maintain interest. All chapters have had your difficulties and some of them have overcome these obstacles. The Kansas City and St. Louis chapters have organized, within the Society members, a barbershop glee club, charged a little extra fee and hired a good musical director to arrange a bunch of the barbershop songs in barbershop harmony to be sung by the glee club. Both of these chapters have put on shows and concerts for charity, crippled children's homes, hospitals, etc. and have had tremendous success.

Some of the chapters have taken one complete song each meeting and concentrated on that one for the whole bunch, so that the whole gang sang it correctly. See the attached notice of the St. Louis Chapter.

You should have your meetings in hotel ballrooms in a dignified atmosphere, without serving liquor, but having beer available in an adjoining room so that the noise will not interfere with your program. You should encourage singers from church choirs to attend, and if you are diplomatic with the beer angle, you will have no difficulty. At least one half of our members sing in church choirs and some of them drink beer. About one half of our regular attendants do not drink intoxicating liquor.

We have discontinued the proposition of buffet dinners, except for special occasions. Many of our best singers are not able to pay \$1.00 or \$1.25 for dinner.

We have found that \$2.00 dues is sufficient for postcard notices, stamps, etc., 50c going to the National Chapter and \$1.50 for your own use. The diplomas are 50c each and the 30c profit on these also goes to the National Chapter as these boys have a lot of expense in stationery and stamps.

Respectfully,
O. C. Cash

COAST TO COAST, Continued

ONTARIO

Annual Business Meeting of the District was held in London, Ontario May 2nd. Int'l Pres. Ed Smith attended the meeting and complimented outgoing District President Chappy Chapman and Secretary George Marks, both of Toronto, for the forward strides made by the District in the past year. (For the first time, Ontario qualified two quartets for the Int'l. Eds.)

W. Stan Hutson, Oshawa, was elected President; Hilton Howe, Toronto; Norm Mills, Sarnia; Bob Turnbull, Brantford; Vice-presidents. Bert McLean, Hamilton, was elected Treasurer to succeed himself and Fred Bodington, of Toronto, Secretary.

MONTREAL TAKES
NEW ENGLAND
BY STORM

by W. G. (Stub) Taylor and
R. M. Turner, Schenectady Chapter

Never before in the Northeastern District, and probably not in the entire Society, has there been such a wonderful demonstration of good international relations and fine sportsmanship as when the curtain went up on the Montreal Chorus of 40 men at the fourth annual N.E. District Chorus Contest on May 23rd at Norwich, Conn. Instantly, before they had sung a note, there was an immense burst of long sustained applause, particularly by the members of the fifteen other competing choruses, to greet the group which for thirteen hours—all night in fact—had traveled 400 miles by bus to enter the contest. And to cap the climax, they won it!!

Organized only three years ago, the Montreal Chapter has produced a chorus, under the able direction of Harry Frazer, which is outstanding in every category, beautiful to hear, and smart in appearance, every man uniformly attired in natty blue-gray.

NEW TYPE EMBLEM

The Society's official decal of the emblem has been replaced with a special Scotch-Lite reflective emblem which can be applied without soaking in water.

The new emblems which are available at the same price as the decals (25c each) have an adhesive backing which permits application to the outside of car windows and on bumpers. Rain keeps the Scotch-Lite beads clean and the emblem is readily seen at night from a great distance when reflecting automobile headlight beams.

Order your Scotch-Lite emblem from your Chapter Secretary or from Society Headquarters at 20619 Fenkell Avenue, Detroit 23, Michigan. (The decals are no longer available.)



"You keep coming in too soon, J. T.—now let's all try it again—
... row, row, row your boat, gently ..."

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Where the "Parade of Quartets" was born!

DETROIT'S No. 1 CHAPTER'S
14TH ANNUAL
PARADE OF QUARTETS

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1953 International Champions
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I SEE BY THE PAPERS

acquaintance with the Society. Wrote
Beulah, "... rare is the man who
sing none

have been present Saturday night and
remained unconvinced that barbershop
is a true folk art that is growing as
a true folk will (remark)

(Reprinted from the Washington, D. C. Times-Herald)

Sports Addition

BY BOB ADDIE

IT IS A REMARKABLE thing how people love to sing. The fact was never more forcibly brought out than when the Nats were in Detroit over the week end and shared the lobby of the Statler with numerous barbershop quartets—many from the Washington area.



Bob Addie

Now you wouldn't expect a general to shoot off a cannon every time he has a spare moment but these barber shop boys really loved their work. In Detroit, it seemed that when two people met they had a drink. When three got together, they formed a union. And when four congregated they burst into song.

They sang on the elevators, in the lobbies, on busses, in the streets, in the dining rooms. They were all sizes and ages. They stuck to their own quarters mostly but after a couple of days, they got to "free-wheeling"—that is, the bass from Peoria would hook up with the tenor from Kalamazoo and they would tickle each other with new arrangements.

Somewhere in the gathering was Tommy Henrich, an old barber shop singer himself. The ex-Yankee fearfully showed signs of the disease when he was playing ball. Wherever he went he would burst into song. One night, at the Touchdown club, he hooked up with a real good baritone. There wasn't a happier man in the joint than Tommy.

Singing used to be a big part of baseball years ago. Before the advent of television and radio, there was a popular misconception that the movies or "flickers" hurt the batting eye. Perhaps there was a germ of truth in that belief years ago when the movies would flicker on and off (or so they tell me).

I remember this past spring when the Nats were journeying north with the Cincinnati Reds. I visited the Cincinnati bench in one of the towns where we were rained out when one of the players remarked idly there was a good movie in town.

Rogers Hornsby said automatically: "Never went to movies when I played ball; they hurt my eyes."

Piece of Americana that Almost Got Lost

Anyway, every club in the old days had its own quartet. It was a delightful bit of Americana that virtually had ceased to exist before the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (try that on your pitch pipe) revived the custom.

In these days, of course, few of the gentlemen keep shaving mugs in the favorite barber shops. Mustache cups went out with the bustle and such is the pace of modern civilization (or maybe it's the price of haircuts these days) that few linger any more in their favorite "lonsorial parlors" (whew, whew) to wait for the sun to shine for Nellie or tell of the virtues of sweet adeline or reminisce about an evening in the moonlight.

But things used to be different. In baseball's early days, all games were played in the sunshine (whatever that is). That meant time hung heavy on hands of the athletes who, in those days, were not overburdened with college degrees and thus sought the simpler pleasures.

It's quite true that the comic book has done a great service for many athletes who would be bored to death on the road trips. The movies and the television have helped, too. After all, not every ball player is an accomplished lobby-sitter.

A lobby-sitter is the champ of them all. He is a man who can sit in a hotel lobby, hour after hour, without a single printed word to distract his blank stare. The Nats, in their time, have had some contenders for the title.

Had Peculiar Affinity for the Stage

But in the old days, baseball and the barber shop were closely intertwined. A man was not a man unless he could digest the Police Gazette while having his handle-bar mustache trimmed and at the same time chipping in with a musical note or two.

When the ball players got enough in the old days, they used to be booked in that dear, dead thing called Vaudeville. While, even then, a dollar didn't go as far as George Washington made it go across the Potomac, things were a lot cheaper. A winter touch in vaudeville meant that you had made the grade in two professions because the old-time athletes had a peculiar affinity for the stage.

Thus, sometimes there was an ulterior motive in getting the quartet together and sharpening up on the latest songs. Off hand, some notable big league singers included Al Mamaux, Mike Donlin, Rube Marquard of the Giants; Germany Schaeffer, the old Nat clown, and dozens of others now obscured by time.

In more recent times, Buddy Hassett, of the Yanks, was quite a singer and divided his time between the microphone and first base—with perhaps a shade going to his voice.

The Tigers had a rookie in camp last spring named Keith Little. The boy, a personable six-footer, had first been recommended to the late Wish Egan, Detroit's great scout, by a Grand Rapids newspaperman. Every time the newspaperman saw Wish, he would make a pitch for this boy, Little, telling what a great singer and dancer he was. After a bombardment of such superlatives—always about the boy's singing and dancing—the weary Egan said: "I'm trying to assemble a ball club, not an act."

Recalls Ring Lardner's 'Harmony' Tale

Anyway, the boy finally got a trial but didn't make it, much to the sorrow of the Detroit players who were charmed by his voice and wanted him to stay around to while away the long road trips.

In a way, the story about Keith Little was reminiscent of the famous tale told by Ring Lardner called "Harmony." In this story, there is a fading ballplayer with a great tenor voice. Comes the time for the old guy to get his walking papers and the other players can't bear to lose the best man in their quartet.

They try all sorts of tricks to keep him in the league but he finally goes. Then comes a rookie with a splendid voice and the cycle continues.

All this was recalled by the eager barber shop quartets gathered in solemn and singing conclave. Somehow, there's something comforting and sound about a country full of people who sing for the sheer joy of it.



First World Wide U. S. Air Force Barbershop Quartet Contest

Featuring 10 quartets selected in Preliminary Contests in Air Force Area Conferences in the Continental United States and Overseas Commands, the first World Wide Air Force Barbershop Quartet Contest held at Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan June 4th and 5th was an outstanding success.

The competition at Selfridge was judged by members of the Society's official panel as follows—Arrangement, and Chairman of Judges, Mark Roberts, Grosse Pointe, Mich., Harmony Accuracy, Rawley Hallman, Pontiac Michigan; Voice Expression, W. Carleton Scott, Birmingham, Michigan; Balance & Blend, Carroll

Chords of Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming, members of the Laramie, Wyoming Chapter, by the retiring champions, the Four Teens, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Members of the Rip-Chords, who were scheduled to appear on several programs in connection with the Society's Convention and Contest are A/1c Billy Lovins, T/Sgt. Marvin Swenson, A/2c Donald Coughlin, and A/1c Robert Walkley.

It was interesting to note how many of the competing quartets were made up of members of the Society. Several which were not officially affiliated with the Society have had the benefit of coaching from SPEBSQSA quartets.

AIR FORCE CHAMPS SING FOR LADIES



The newly chosen Air Force Champion Rip Chords sang at the Ladies Luncheon on Thursday. LtoR—Tenor to Bass—the airmen are, A/1c Billy Lovins; T/Sgt Marvin Swenson, A/2c Donald Coughlin, A/1c Robert G. Walkley. At the speakers table, extreme left—Mrs. Edwin S. Smith. Next to her is Mrs. Frank Trifle, chairman. Just beyond the quartet—Mrs. Harold B. Staab, Mrs. Phil Embury. Bottom right is Carroll Adams who emceed.

Adams, Detroit; Stage Presence, Cmdr. F. Stirling Wilson, Washington, D. C.; Secretary, Howard Tubbs, Detroit. The Master of Ceremonies for the Contest, which was held in 2 sessions was International V.P. Elect, Dean Snyder, of Washington, D. C. Dean last year turned over the Chairmanship of the Armed Forces Collaboration Committee to Stirling Wilson, and both these men were flown to Selfridge by the Air Force to be a part of the most tangible result of collaboration between the Society and the Air Force, as part of the over-all Armed Forces Collaboration program. Timers for the Contest were Capt. Everett MacDougall, and Staff Sgt. Mayfield. Capt. MacDougall was the Project Officer and his office did a remarkable job in planning and playing host to the Contest. Every man participating in the competition received a Certificate of Participation and individual trophies were presented to the newly crowned champions, The Rip-

The Airmenaires who finished in third place are stationed at Darmstadt, Germany and were one of the quartets coached by Hal Baner, bass of the Clef Dwellers who, with Past Int'l Jerry Beeler, toured military installations in Germany as part of the Armed Forces Collaboration program last year. Hal was on hand to root for his boys. Also in attendance were members of families of participating airmen from as far away as New Orleans, Louisiana.

Colonel Peter Agnell, Head of Air Force Special Services, was there as the official representative of Air Force Headquarters, and he was elated with the results of the first Contest conducted on this basis. Both Colonel Agnell and Society President Ed Smith, who attended one of the sessions and was called upon for remarks, expressed the hope that this Contest would be an annual project on the Air Force recreation calendar.

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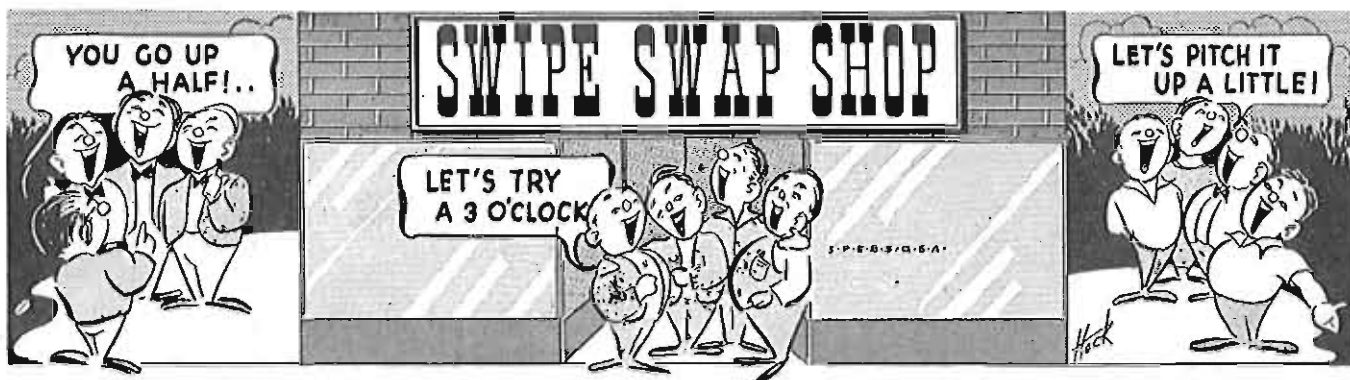
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Barbershop Craft Session at Detroit

The first Barbershop Craft Session to be conducted as part of an International Convention took place Saturday, June 13th, at 2:00 P.M. in the Ivory Room of Detroit's Hotel Statler. In spite of the necessity for holding this session at the same time as the Jamboree, the Judge Candidates' School, and other meetings, it was well attended by a group of enthusiastic barbershoppers hailing from virtually every district within the Society.

At this meeting, the purpose of which was to establish basic concepts rather than to hold a complete session devoted to Barbershop Craft, the following recommended procedure, previously presented to the International Board, was distributed. It is reproduced here for those members who were unable to attend the session in Detroit and for chapter and district officers and chorus directors who wish to arrange for Barbershop Craft Sessions.

BARBERSHOP CRAFT SESSION RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE— PREPARED BY BUD ARBERG

I. Introduction

a. Introduction of the Leader of the Barbershop Craft Session.

b. Leader directs group (previously seated by parts) in "The Old Songs" and one or two other Society standards.

c. Leader presents the specific aims of the Barbershop Craft Session emphasizing 1) demonstration through, and focus on, barbershop singing rather than just words about it, 2) potential increase in every barbershopper's enjoyment, through his increased ability to practice and understand the Barbershop Craft, 3) need to define the barbershop style (not form) and the craft to which it has given birth both for those within and without the Society, 4) basic musical worth of the barbershop style as unaccompanied singing, adhering to true rather than tempered pitch, and demanding a high degree of skill and imagination to produce satisfying or striking musical effects within the limits of character-

TRY THESE ON YOUR QUARTET!

Here's a tag (Example 1) sent in by Cy Owen, Director of the Milwaukee Chapter Chorus for "O! Joe!" (Available from Int'l Hdqs.—Symbol #UV 502. Price 15c). It's sung to the words, "Listen to that fussy rag." Cy was one of the contestants in the recent song arrangement contest conducted through the SWIPE SWAP SHOP.

Rolly Kontak, Past Secretary of the Toledo Chapter, has sent in this tag for Edward Berg's song from Book Five, Songs for Men Series, "Roguish

Eyes." Rolly comments, "Not that there's anything wrong with that ending that is written in Mr. Berg's swell arrangement, but then we're never satisfied 'til we change a song around (See Example 2) Dig that 10 o'clock chord on "for!"

Rolly, by the way (whose address is 3543 Bellevue Rd., Toledo, Ohio), says he has a couple of arrangements for "Tiger Rag" and "Shanty Town" which he will be glad to offer to any quartet willing to kick them around.

Ex. 1.

Ex. 2.

istic harmony, melody, rhythm, lyrics, and voice quality, and 5) the Barbershop Craft Session as a primary means of helping every barbershopper fulfill his instinctive desire to contribute to the betterment and enrichment of barbershop singing as a distinctive style in American music.

II. Demonstration and Analysis

a. Group sings familiar song such as "I've Been Workin' On the Railroad;" "Good Night, Ladies;" "Anld

Lang Syne;" in "straight" fashion, without emphasis on "ringing" barbershop chords or swipes. The song should be simple, and one not ordinarily sung in barbershop style.

b. Group sings same song, this time in barbershop style. (This may be woodshedded, with the leader indicating the desired chords or swipes, or it may be sung from a specially prepared arrangement distributed for

(Continued on page 37)

Swipe Swap Shop (Continued)

this purpose, depending on experience and reading ability of the group as determined previously.)

c. Two versions are compared, stressing the greater variety of chords sung and their characteristic "ring" in the barbershop rendition. (These observations should be drawn out of the group, if possible.)

d. Group is asked to woodshed, in barbershop style, the first strain of another song, not well suited to barbershop treatment. ("Stardust," "Night and Day," etc. Comparisons are made between the two songs sung. e. This experiment leads logically to a demonstration-discussion of the chief characteristics of barbershop melodies, words, rhythms, voice qualities, and harmonies.

f. *Melodies*—Sing through simple barbershop songs ("Tell Me Why," "The Old Songs," etc.) pointing out relatively limited range and predominance of chord tones.

g. *Words*—Selected lyrics of barbershop favorites are reviewed for common traits, including directness, simplicity, a "me-to-you" idea. ("Tell Me You'll Forgive Me," "After Dark," etc., etc.)

h. *Rhythms*—Singing by the group of typical rhythmic phrases from barbershop standards ("Goin' South," "I Love The Way You Roll Your Eyes," "Mississippi Moon," etc.). Comparison with rhythms from other songs less suited to barbershop rendition (slow triplets in "Peithouse Serenade," fast syncopation in show-type songs like "Hallelujah" and "I Know That You Know"). Point up solid, steady, bouncing rhythm of barbershop, or the absence of pronounced rhythm to permit effective "swipes."

i. *Voice Quality* (timbre)—Group sings a series of chords from a song. Leader adjusts the tone quality by demonstration of a firm, steady tone without pitch waver (vibrato), showing group the greater "ring" achieved when the chords are so "locked in."

Group again sings the passage from the song ("Out with the sun's first gleam" from "Roses of Morn," for example) concentrating on achieving a solid barbershop voice quality. Need for constant pitch, and "tuning" the four notes of a chord to get maximum ring leads naturally to:

j. *Harmonies*—Here the leader demonstrates (by voice or at the piano) the formation from the first seven partials or harmonics of the overtone series (liken these to the "open" tones on a trumpet or bugle) of the major chord (3-letter) and the barbershop 7th (4-letter) chord, the cornerstone of the barbershop style. (The swipe

on "me" in "The Old Songs" will demonstrate the difference in chord quality between these two chords, and, in reverse, the first two chords of "Coney Island.") The "fundamental" nature of barbershop harmony is stressed, plus its adherence to "true" pitch. (A brief, non-technical explanation of the tempered vs. the true scale might be appropriate here.) Depending upon the interest and qualifications of the group, limited demonstration (with the group singing examples of each from well-known barbershop songs) can here be made of the remaining five chord qualities normally found in barbershop harmony—minor, 6th, diminished 7th, 9th and augmented.

Subsequently, as time and inclination permit, the leader takes the group through demonstrations of various barbershop voicings of the chords, comparing these to traditional voicings. Then swipes, key changes, and practice in hearing chords within a given key can follow. After the group feels its feet on the ground with the barbershop 7th chord (have the group sing up and down this and the other chords), the "Clock System" as developed by Maury Reagan, should be introduced as a valuable system of chord nomenclature. This system should be presented as particularly apt for barbershop harmony since it places all twelve chord roots in a familiar, accessible frame of reference. Understanding of Maury Reagan's "Clock System" will come after the ear has become thoroughly accustomed to the common chord progressions used in barbershop songs.

k. Questions from the group and summary by the leader are best put at the end of each session, if it is conducted in parts. Care should be taken to keep the discussion directed to the Barbershop Craft, or to those aspects of music peculiar or related to it most directly. General music education periods, including music reading, voice production, and related subjects, are valuable and may be required. They should be separately scheduled, however.

After presentation of this approach to an understanding of the Barbershop Craft by Bud Arberg, a lively discussion and demonstration period followed. During the inevitable look-see into some of the uniquely appealing aspects of barbershop harmony, Phil Embury, a member of the Committee on the Barbershop Craft, came to the piano to show some of his unusual chord passages. The audience, seated by voice sections, was its own demonstrating group.

As usual with these sessions, there was not enough time to cover all the ground or to answer all the questions burning in each person's mind. A long period of informal discussion and demonstration followed the regular session. Thus the first International Barbershop Craft Session ended.

LEARN! HELP OTHERS! CONTRIBUTE TO "THE SHOP"

Readers of these columns will be interested in this excerpt from a letter from John Hill of some time ago concerning the origin of this department of the Harmonizer: "We are a Society committed to an art or a science, or both. We publish an expensive (in terms of precious, generously donated time as well as funds), beautiful quarterly book. Other societies of our acquaintance bound together by mutual interest in activity of hobby significance in subjects related to the arts and sciences and sports who publish for distribution among their membership include in their published matter considerable material relating to their technique, science, etc., and to new discoveries and developments reported by their membership in their pursuit of their particular interest. Question: (And this was first posed to then Int'l President Jerry Beeler) "Why doesn't the Harmonizer include material designed to improve the ability of the ordinary member (and extraordinary, too) in this pursuit of ours to stand up and sing with three other men in a satisfactory manner?"

The idea was taken up. At Toledo, this department was given its name. After John Hill and Ira Murray contributed the material for the first four issues, a committee, headed by Past President Jim Knipe, was formed. This committee, after the Kansas City Convention, was named the Committee on the Barbershop Craft, with Bud Arberg as chairman.

All members are hereby invited to send in their questions, comments, material, and ideas which will assist this committee and this department of the Harmonizer to fulfill these goals.

LASTED A DECADE



It isn't easy for a quartet to stick together for ten years. The Abbott Medicine Men of Waukegan, Ill. Chapter are in their eleventh year. Back, LtoR—Bill Ehlers, bass; Herman Schaefer, bar. Front, LtoR—Les Pierce, lead; Roy Truelson, tenor.



OVER THE EDITOR'S SHOULDER

(Since the Convention the mail has been loaded with letters commenting on the event. Extracts of a few follow.)

Ed Place, Washington, D. C. "The Detroit Convention was out of this world . . . Sunday Breakfast was a grand climax".

Wayno Foor, Rochester, N. Y. "Everything worked out fine. Congratulations."

Joe Lange, Chicago. "The wonderful memories of Harmony Lane will linger with me for a long, long time. See you in the Nation's Capitol in 1954."

Welsh Pierce, Camp Hill, Pa. "It was a wonderful convention."

Al Canfield, Lombard, Ill. "Congratulations on a wonderful convention. I'm sure it was a huge success. I can assure you it was from our perspective."

Clare Wilson, Omaha. "Faye and I feel this was one of the finest conventions we have ever attended."

Radford Severance, Silver Spring, Md. "The Detroit Convention was really a killer. Chords are still ringing in my ears. The breakfast was the best I've ever been to . . . really an enjoyable time."

Bob Lindley, bari of the Vikings. "We are still trying to build back our strength after what is the most significant weekend our quartet ever has and ever will experience."

Don Mumford, Manager, Hotel Statler. "I hope Detroit and Hotel Statler may once again enjoy the privilege in the not too distant future."

Clarence Jalving, Holland, Mich. "I don't believe I ever had a better time in my life, even though it took me two days to get caught up on sleep after I got home."

W. B. Hynes, Akron, Ohio. "I had a very good time at the convention."

Ray Sheffield, Boston, Mass. "A barbershopper has not 'lived' until he attends an Int'l Contest. This affair was the finest possible. Everything was handled expertly and the singing and barbershop spirit were out of this world."

Neal Lang, Manager, Sheraton-Cadillac. "It was one of the most enjoyable experiences we have had and we sincerely hope Detroit will be selected for many future conventions."

Dave Dobson, Manager, Hotel Ft. Shelby. "The Society's Convention was one of the finest we have ever had the pleasure of serving."

Ralph Lougee, Hornell, N. Y. "Just a note to tell you we have such pleasant memories of Detroit and a very wonderful time."

Bob Arnold, Warsaw, N. Y. "Just starting to return to normal after what I thought was the finest Int'l Convention to date."

Ken White, Manager, Hotel Detroit. "Your gracious comments with regard to the cooperation you received from all participating hotels has been read with interest."

Dick Curzon, Omaha. "Hi! Ho! Hi! Ho! It's off to work we go and what a heck of a thing to do after a convention such as the one in Detroit . . . The show was terrific. Those choruses were out of this world and the quartets are getting finer by the year."

Bob Lytle, Sharon, Pa. "We have, for a number of years, had excellent singing and judging but never before has the overall calibre of both struck me as being so outstanding as in this past contest. The chorus work was equally fine—even the woodshedding was superior to former years. My main regret was that I didn't get to meet Bud Arberg and attend one of his sessions. Well, now I still have that to look forward to."

Gordon Clark, Youngsville, Pa. "What a grand convention we were having a week ago today. Nothing was overlooked . . ."

Henry C. Weber, Louisville, Ky. "Sorry I had to miss the convention. The boys from Louisville, as usual, said the contest and the convention as a whole were excellent."

DELAYED "THANK YOU"

Joe "Moose" Murrin, tenor of the 1945 Champion Misfits, Chicago, resigned from the Chicago Police Department early this year and, after a serious operation, moved with his family to Phoenix, Arizona. To the surprise of many, Joe made it to Detroit for the Convention, 50 pounds lighter than when last seen. His letter, part of which is quoted, was written in April, but didn't make the June *Harmonizer* through an oversight.

" . . . Thanks for the many 'Get Well Cards' from so many of the barbershoppers throughout the country who heard of my illness. I was unable to contact each and every one of them, so if you can find space in the *Harmonizer* to express my deep appreciation, I'd be grateful . . ."

"STUB" IS EMBARRASSED

Stub Taylor, Schenectady, N. Y., did most of the work of assembling

the material for the Northeastern District section in the June *Harmonizer*. In spite of his request to omit his picture, it was run (See page 39, June *Harmonizer*). Stub wrote in part, "I did look on page 39 and found quite a surprise, coupled with a little embarrassment too. They say if you tell anything to a newspaper man he will rush and print it and now I believe it. You must have run short of material. Well, this organization is for fun and harmony and you've had your fun with me."

"Aside from my part in it, congratulations on a fine issue."

LIKES SWIPE SWAP IDEA

From time to time, through the years, Dean Snyder, Washington, D. C., has preached the need of barbershopping education through the medium of the *Harmonizer*. After he received the June issue, he wrote in part,

"I am delighted with the Swipe Swap column in the current *Harmonizer*—particularly the way in which the arrangement contest has worked out and in your plans for a continuation of the contest idea."

"It was a ten strike to include photos, brief biographies, and excerpts from letters of the twenty-nine men who contributed arrangements of 'I'm Going Home'. You know how strongly I believe that we should encourage a lot of people to experiment with bsq. arrangements. Even if they turn out to be poor arrangements, the exercise will be valuable. When you go farther and give these people Society-wide recognition by publishing their pictures and biographies, it does a lot to encourage study and practice in four part harmony by the 'journeymen' as well as the 'master craftsmen'."

MODERN AS A SPRING HAT

Munson Hinman, Secretary, Salt Lake City Chapter, writes in part,

" . . . Splendid issue of the *Harmonizer*. Can't help feeling proud of this magazine when I show it to my friends . . . always carry it in my briefcase. It's interesting to compare it with past issues—especially those of the early 1940's—and note the changes in type styles and format which keep it as modern as a Spring hat. And there's not an article in it that I don't like. I especially enjoy the articles on barbershop craft. Let's have more of them."



COMPETING CHORUSES AT DETROIT

ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS, Alexandria, Va.
Mid-Atlantic District
Director, Dr. Harold Arberg



SPENCER, Iowa, Central States District
Director, Robert Pfoltzgraff



WICHITONES, Wichita, Kansas
Central States District
Director, Virgil Chambers



TERRE HAUTE, Indiana,
Indiana-K'y District
Director, Carl C. Janos



COMPETING CHORUSES AT DETROIT



CASCADE, Eugene-Springfield, Oregon
Evergreen District
Director, J. Hubert Loobo

FRANKLIN-OIL CITY, Pa., Seneca Land District
Director, W. Roy Wolfe



CANTON, Ohio, Johnny Appleseed District
Director, Lester Groon

SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin, Land O' Lakes District
Director, Henry Beyer



THE WINNING CHORUSES AT DETROIT



GREAT LAKES, Grand Rapids, Michigan District
Director, J. R. (Bob) Weaver



"Q" SUBURBAN, LaGrange, Ill., Illinois District
Director, Dick Svanoo
(2nd Place)



EAST YORK, (Toronto), Ontario District
Director, Al Shields
(3rd Place)



COMPETING CHORUSES AT DETROIT



PRECISIONAIRES, Detroit, Michigan District
Director, Ed Easley



MUNCIE, Indiana, Indiana-K'y District
Director, Ernest Boyer



LONDON, Ontario District
Director, Art Patterson

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio, Johnny Appleseed District
Director, Charles Apking



GOWANDA, New York, Seneca Land District
Director, Robert Polcic





The Old Songsters

by Sigmund Spaeth

THERE seems to be some controversy over the origin of that great song, *In the Gloaming*, which, incidentally, is ideal material for barbershop harmony. In this writer's *History of Popular Music in America* it is credited to two Englishwomen, Meta Orred and Annie Fortescue Harrison, as of 1877, with some sincere compliments to its effective words and music.

Now comes word from Will W. Todd, of Gibsland, La., concerning an entirely different story which has appeared in several Louisiana papers as well as the *Etude* magazine. According to this account a certain minister, Rev. Elias George, living in the little town of Marion, La., engaged a Mrs. Harrison and her daughter, Anna Portesque (generally known as Ann Porter) to educate his nine children in music and other subjects. The daughter, who was both personally attractive and an excellent musician, fell in love with a rather wild young man named Miles Goldsby, but was eventually persuaded by her mother to give him up and move back to her native New Orleans. Some years later Anna wrote to the George family that a song, *In the Gloaming*, inspired by her romance, was about to be published, with words by her friend Meta Orred, suggested by the composer herself.

Unfortunately this interesting tale seems to have no foundation in fact. Mr. Todd, who has been doing a bit of research in the matter, heard recently from Richard S. Hill of the Music Division of the Library of Congress as follows: "Annie Fortescue Harrison is a well-established composer of popular songs. She was the third daughter of James Fortescue Harrison, who was once a member of Parliament for Kilmarnock, Burghs. In 1877, the year she wrote *In the Gloaming*, she married an amateur composer, Lord Arthur William Hill. The English music dictionaries give long lists of other songs by her. She even composed an operetta, *The Lost Husband*, which was produced in London in 1884".

That seems to dispose of another fantastic story.

ONE of the most active of Old Songsters living today is Eddie Miller, who teaches singing at his unique studio, 162 West 54th St., New York City. The walls are lined with pictures of historical interest, for Eddie has been associated with some of the greatest names in show business. (He

even taught Fred Allen to make some acceptable vocal noises!)

Eddie Miller was a member of the old Avon Comedy Four, along with Smith and Dale, who are also still active. At one of the early meetings of the Manhattan Chapter of SPE-BSQSA he sang in a pickup quartet representing the Lambs Club, with our own Geoffrey O'Hara and "Senator" Ed Ford filling in above and below his lead.

He has the distinction of being the first man in this century to record all four parts of a quartet with his own voice, using the barbershop style of harmony. He did the trick originally in a short motion picture, but later put himself on records in a way that some of the modern exponents of musical self-duplication might well envy.

Jim Walsh, of Vinton, Virginia, a broadcaster and writer for VARIETY, one of the outstanding authorities on old songs and phonograph records, writes that a comedian named Silas Leachman actually performed this stunt as early as 1896, using cylinder records made by the Chicago Talking Machine Company. His technique, of course, was crude as compared with that of the versatile Miller.

Eddie is one of those exceptional singing teachers who are not only experienced singers themselves but able to give practical help to all kinds of voices and for every type of performance, from the concert and operatic stage to radio, television and records. He is far from a mere theorist, and can illustrate just about all the effects he wants a pupil to produce.

RAY WALKER, who will celebrate his seventieth birthday before the end of this year, deserves a rather special place among Old Songsters. He is now playing the piano at the Cafe Metropole in New York on the site of the building in which he performed similarly fifty years ago.



Early in the present century Ray Walker was well known on the Keith circuit and as accompanist and writer of special material for such singers as Fannie Brice, Sophie Tucker, Mae West and Blossom Seeley. (The first song used by Miss West in vaudeville was Walker's *Good-night, Nurse*.) He was a popular pianist in such bistros as Steve Brodie's, Mike Callahan's and McGurk's (known as "Suicide Hall"). He was also one of the charter members of ASCAP in 1914.

In recent years Ray has been active as a broadcaster in Miami, besides playing regularly (since 1948) in the Bonanza Room of the Surf Club at Miami Beach, throughout the winter season. In addition to the Mae West song, he was responsible for such early hits as *Poor Pauline*, *Mississippi Dippy Dip*, *Fido Is a Hot Dog Now* and *Funny Bunny Hug*, with a 1952 publication, *I Found a Peach on Miami Beach*.

Ray Walker can play practically any tune anyone asks for. His memory is astonishing and his reminiscences would fill several volumes. Quite an Old Songster!

MOTION pictures are making more and more use of old songs, and in some cases they are responsible for successful revivals. *Stalag 17* makes use not only of the ancient *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*, but features Harry Archer's *I Love You* (from *Little Jessie James*, dated 1923) in a scene which shows American prisoners of war dancing together at Christmas time.

M-G-M's new edition of *The Band Wagon* revives nine of the great songs of Howard Dietz and Arthur Schwartz, only three of which appeared in the original show. (Fred Astaire starred in that production as well as in the current film.) Patrice Munsel sings *Home, Sweet Home* and *Comin' Thro' the Rye* in addition to operatic arias in the screen biography, *Melba*, and Sir Laurence Olivier appears as an interpreter of old ballads in the new British production of *The Beggar's Opera*. A picture on the lives of Gilbert and Sullivan is on the way, with Martyn Green doing most of the singing. Unfortunately *Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie* failed to make full use of its opportunity to feature barbershop quartets. Such a picture is still to come and it will be a good one!

SHARE THE WEALTH

by Past Int'l Board Member Robert Hockenbrough

"a means by which we 'share the wealth' of experience gained in quartet, chorus and chapter activities."



Hockenbrough

WHAT BETTER WAY to Share the Wealth . . . and to get your Share of the Wealth . . . than to attend the great conventions staged annually by our Society. Whatever your special interests in barbershopping . . . Chapter activities, District activities, chorus directing, M.C'ing or judging, you'll find a program scheduled especially for you.

The on-the-spot exchange of ideas . . . the opportunity to discuss experiences first hand . . . the chance to meet and talk with barbershoppers from all over the country provides a wonderful opportunity to gather material and inspiration for barbershoppers everywhere. However, until the time comes when ALL barbershoppers can attend these conventions, be sure to read Share the Wealth for the latest collection of successful ideas and experiences.



LIKE PULLING TEETH to get some guys to pay their dues. Murph Johnson, Editor of the Pioneer Chapter Bulletin, points out the importance of Chapter dues by paraphrasing a recent advertising slogan, thusly: "Dooz dooz everything". Munson Hinman, Secretary of the Salt Lake City Chapter in Utah, submits the following method of collecting dues: "We're holding a swell campaign for membership renewals and getting good results. Relying on the maxim that 'it pays to advertise', we've done just that—we've made pleas in the chapter bulletin; mailed dues invoices every 20 days; posted sizzling multi-colored notices on the chapter bulletin board, changing them weekly; and presented paid-up cards with pomp and ceremony. The members have really responded, and so far 19 have renewed. Total cost of the campaign to date is \$1.71, or 1.8% of the total dues collected". The "sizzling multi-colored notices" mentioned are available from the Carr Speirs Corporation, Stamford, Connecticut.

* * * * *

PLAN FOR BUILDING MEMBERSHIP. George Hegdahl, Secretary of our Minneapolis Chapter says: "I have a new plan for building member-

ship that I thought you might find interesting. I have requested the name and address of potential member friends from five chapter members, and I received 8 potentials. I will send these potential members our regular notices for 3 meetings. If they attend at least one meeting, they will get 2 more, and if not signed up by then I will drop them from the list. I also expect to write a personal invitation and possibly include the name of the member who recommended them. The way it looks now, I may have a mailing list larger than the one our letter service has for regular members".

* * * * *

TRY THIS for converting visitors into members. Victor Borg, Secretary of the Tucson, Arizona Chapter offers the following . . . "Every meeting night, and that is 52 Wednesdays a year, I go to the Amphi Men's Club, where we meet a few minutes early and set up a small display consisting of a 4x8 sign which says 'For Visitors', a few copies of our 'WELCOME' note, a sample membership card, a few application cards, a few copies of 'LET'S HARMONIZE', and last, but not least a few back copies of the HARMONIZER. I have seen this display attract not only the visitors but also the steady comers.

* * * * *

The following excerpts from the minutes of the annual meeting of the Illinois District Board brings forth these gems of wisdom for conducting a successful Chapter. Harry Harris, 1st Vice President of the District, in his report stated: "A chapter gathered together for its own amusement should plan to give some thought to old folks, hospitals, civic drives for the betterment of the community, Salvation Army, etc. and make appearances for their benefit. Those Chapters doing so—flourish".

"Have rehearsals start on time".
"Make every effort to rotate the crowds in some of the offices to maintain their enthusiasm".

Illinois District President Charles H. Hecking presented the following six-point program:

1. Chapter Officers should appoint Nominating Committees now so that the committee members can observe the performance of chapter members during the year before nominating them for office in March.
2. Chapter Secretaries should not take it upon themselves to act as censors in matters they receive from the District and International Offices.

3. Chapters should plan activities that appeal to their individual membership. Activities which appeal to a small-town might not appeal to a suburban or big city chapter and vice versa. Under this heading the chapter should schedule one or two meetings per month exclusively for woodshedding.
4. Chapter Officers and members should realize and appreciate the importance of the Areas, the Area assembly and the Area Counselor.
5. It is the responsibility of each chapter secretary that each individual member receive his copy of the District Bulletin.
6. Every chapter in the District should be incorporated.

* * * * *

INVITATION CARDS. Many Chapters have found that they can increase interest in their organization by providing their members with special invitation cards. The member signs his name to the card and gives it to any of his friends and acquaintances who he thinks will be interested in visiting the Chapter. These cards (I have half a dozen in front of me at the present time) range from the quite elaborate to the quite simple in design, but they all have the name of the Chapter, the initials of the Society and the time and place of meeting. Usually this information is contained on one side while the other side is blank; however, one enterprising group came up with the idea of printing on the back the names of the old songs which all barbershoppers love to sing; thus, the card serves a double purpose acting also as a memory booster when the boys get together.

AREA 8 OF THE ILLINOIS DISTRICT is amplifying the visiting card by including the names and the time and place of meeting of all of the Chapters in the Area. The advantages of this are quite obvious . . . an enthusiastic member of one Chapter is able to extend the invitation to friends and acquaintances who are more conveniently located to other Chapters in the Area.

* * * * *

FULL HOUSE FOR FALL. Too many Chapters make the mistake of banking on big-name Society quartets to fill their auditorium on show night.

There is only one way to put the customers in the seats and that is for
(Continued on page 45)

SHARE THE WEALTH

(Continued from page 44)

each and every member of the Chapter to get out and sell tickets. We can't overlook the importance of adequate coverage in the newspapers and the use of posters and direct mail letters. These, however, are all secondary to the member calling on his



friends with the tickets in his hands. Naturally, this works best when EVERY member sells his FULL share of tickets.

Ferd Boddington, Secretary of our Ontario District, in speaking of program planning, comes up with this new and unusual twist for a very unusual program: "One night we have planned this year that we didn't have last year and that is one called 'Let George do it-Nite'". It seems that we have about 22 Georges in the Toronto Chapter and this year we have two of them on the Executive, so they will head the Committee for that night and recruit as many willing and able Georges as are needed to put the night over. Should be a lot of fun."

Be on the lookout for situations in your own Chapter which will enable you to develop new and unusual programs such as the one described above.

* * * * *

AREA IDEAS. Jerry Graham, Secretary of the Far Western District, tells us that in appointing the Area Counselors, the Counselors were assigned to Areas other than the one in which their home Chapters were located. Marv Brower, President of the Far Western District, says: "This strikes me as being an excellent idea; remembering the biblical quotation about the prophet 'being without honor in his own country'."

Further information on the success of this unusual program can be obtained by writing to either of the above mentioned gentlemen.

* * * * *

Another idea for Area Counselors to consider is the possibility of all Chapters within the Area learning at least two or three of the same numbers which will enable them to participate and enjoy the mass singing of all the Chapters at any and all times, whenever they get together.

QUARTET IDEAS. This is just a reminder that we still have an ample supply of the Plan for the Conduct of a Lottery Quartet Contest. This

is a lot of fun and if you haven't tried it, be sure to write for your copy to the International Office in care of this column. From the Pitch Pipe, Chicago Chapter Bulletin, edited by Lynn Hauldren, we came across a rather interesting idea which will prove a lot of fun at Area gatherings; to wit: "One item on the night's program that looks like fun: drafting of one part from each chapter to form pick-up quartets."

"INITIATIVE IS DOING THE RIGHT THING WITHOUT BEING TOLD"—Hubbard. The ideas are here in this column—it's up to members and officers of each Chapter to take the initiative and to put them to work. It seems to me that the most practical application of this column would be for the Chapter Officers to review it at their regular monthly meetings and to select from it the ideas which can best serve their particular Chapter.

This is your column . . . Share the Wealth . . . distribute the ideas . . . pass along the experiences . . . we're in business only as long as you continue to help out.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Attention of the Harmonizer Editors and the International Headquarters Building Fund Committee has been called to the fact that the \$624.95 contribution credited to the Boston Chapter in the list which appeared in the June issue of the Harmonizer is a contribution of the entire Northeastern District.

The amount is the proceeds from the Wes Enman - Hal Staab Memorial program sponsored by the Northeastern District. The event was held in the City of Boston.

MEET THE NEW ASSOCIATE INT'L SEC'Y

The beginning of the new fiscal year, on July 1, saw the addition to the International Headquarters Staff of Donald I. Dobson as Associate Inter-



national Secretary. Although he has been a member of the Society less than five years, Don seemed "destined" to become a barbershopper.

WANT TO SING IN A CAVE?

Professional actors and musicians have often been confronted with largely audienceless houses and have felt as though they were performing in a cave.

Barbershoppers are "different" in many ways. The Kentucky Chapters of the Indiana-Kentucky District are sticking their necks out come the end of September and deliberately preparing to sing in a cave. Not only that, they plan to put on a program at Echo River, a cavern 360 feet below surface. Mutual Network has already made plans to broadcast it on a coast to coast network Saturday night, September 26th. The cave is Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, one of the major wonders of the world. Singing in the cave is purely incidental to what promises to be a very fine weekend of barbershopping with three to four hundred of Indiana-Ky's finest.

Interested? Then get in touch with Robert W. Hawthorne, 1505 St. Mary Ave., Owensboro, Ky.

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO TAKES CHORUS TITLE

On Sunday, June 28, at Columbus, Johnny Appleseed District barbershoppers, numbering 2,200, the largest gathering in the district's history, heard 16 crack choruses, representing 11 out of the 12 areas in the district, and acclaimed the following choruses as the best: Middletown, first; Buckeye Chapter, second; Niles, third; Parkersburg-Marietta, fourth and Canton, fifth.

During three years' service in the Air Force, Don rounded out 12 years of church choir singing and six years of school choral work by singing in a quartet, The Sergeants of Harmony, who were members of the Belleville, Illinois Chapter, near Scott Air Force Base. Since then, Don has been singing in quartets such as the Curly Tops, Northeastern District Runners-Up in '51 and the Chord Choppers, and woodshedding at every opportunity.

In addition to singing (all four parts), Don became familiar with Chapter and District operations, serving as Area Counselor and President of the Reading, Massachusetts Chapter.

Don is 24 years old and is married to the former Sally Ann West, daughter of Stan West who has sung in three International Contests with the Aberjona Moaners of Reading Chapter. He and Sally have hopes of raising a quartet of barbershoppers. The arrival of a tenor is expected in the near future.



Do You Remember

by J. George O'Brien

117 West Genesee, Saginaw, Michigan

Dear Young Ed: We started out to tell you what is and what isn't barbershop. So far about all we've done is to try to impress on you (and a whole lot of the other worthy brothers who've shown a heap of interest since Olde Ed's one-man filibuster got going) that the boys in our foursomes today are missing the boat when they pass up thousands of naturals that were written between 1890 and 1915 in favor of the current favorites, or worse still, the same ones that everyone else is singing.

What is barbershop, Junior? When we started this tirade we thought we knew. Now we're not so sure. Being reasonably certain that we'd get a lot of help from some of the other grey-beards like Olde Ed, we asked half a dozen of the leading exponents and their replies, though enlightening, are, to say the least, confusing.

Frank Thorne says it isn't the song but rather the arrangement that makes it barbershop. He goes on to illustrate that such numbers as Down By The Old Mill Stream, Sweet Adeline, When The Maple Leaves Are Falling, all of which are recognized as standards, could be easily arranged to be anything else but, and we have to admit that he certainly has a point. He goes on to state that Up A Lazy River, which the Elastics did so beautifully, certainly wasn't a barbershop "type" song to start with, and still his arrangement was absolutely orthodox. Now, where are we, Sonny Boy?

Deac Martin, a dyed-in-the-wool barbershop addict, than which there is no whicker, stated that to him, and possibly only to him, the principal identification of barbershop four-part harmony is when the melody is consistently below the tenor, AND WHEN 7TH CHORDS ARE PRE-DOMINANT. He argues that the trend toward too many sixth and ninth chords, particularly in lengthy successions, takes the harmony out of barbershop into "modern", and Olde Ed adds a lusty "amen" on both counts.

Then the good Deacon throws us completely for a loop by adding that in his opinion neither the type nor age of a song, but rather "an undefinable appropriateness" makes some songs suitable while others leave him stone cold. "What makes a song appropriate", writes Deac, "I don't know. Certainly it isn't the word theme or type of melody. Why I feel that Darling Nellie Gray (1850), I Long To See The Girl I Left Behind (1890's), Love Me And The World Is Mine (about '07), Let The Rest Of The World Go

By (about '17), Girl Of My Dreams (about '27), and Now Is The Hour (about '49), and a few thousand others in the 100-year span are 'good barbershop', while cringing when I hear that lovely World Is Waiting For The Sunrise done barbershop style, I DON'T KNOW."

And if you think that hasn't got Olde Ed in a tizzy, you're farther off than Africa, for that, Dear Deacon, is exactly what we're trying so darn hard to find out, aren't we, Junior?

Phil Embury, in somewhat the same vein, lists ten old favorites ranging from Heart of My Heart, written by Andrew Mack in 1899, through Dear Old Girl (1903), Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland (1909), to I Want A Girl (1911), and makes the following observations:

1. That most barbershop harmony-type songs were written beginning in the Gay 90's up through the early teens of the twentieth century, and
2. Composers of that time, such as Theodore Morse, Harry Von Tilzer, Thurland Chattaway, James Thornton, Andrew Mack, Chas. N. Daniels and Will Rossiter, HAD A FEELING FOR GOOD HARMONIZING MELODIES.

Rudy Heinen says that a good barbershop song should have beautiful words, and a melody that should enable you to "feel the harmony", even if you only heard somebody whistle it. He too bemoans the fact that those numbers between 1890 and 1912, when barbershop quartets were at their peak and practically all the songs were "naturals", are being overlooked. Specifically, he wonders why such numbers as When The Bees Are In The Hive, My Creole Sue, Nelly Dean, By The Light Of The Silvery Moon, and Dancing Down In New Orleans or When The Harvest Moon Is Shining On The River are rarely heard. And so do we.

John Hill and Ed Smith give interesting, but rather contrasting views. John takes the position that the songs that please the audience are the songs we are going to have to sing, and that certainly makes sense. He points out that some of the biggest crowd pleasers may even contain a few bars of strictly jazz band style harmony arranged in the four way modern, parallel moving, lead on top style, and offers as a case in point the Vikings' rendition of Undecided that darn near brought the house down at Kansas City a year ago. He adds that some of the old-time champs would probably have a tough time following some of our "youngsters" on a program today and even opines that twenty years hence the boys who wow 'em today

would probably lay an egg. John's arguments are sound, and we only wish we had room to include his whole letter. It ain't what we wanted to hear, but maybe we'd better listen. At least it's got us thinking.

Ed Smith takes almost an opposite tack. He admits that some of our quartets can make any song sound good and agrees that he enjoys their entertainment. "But", says Ed, "there is a vast difference between being entertained and being THOROUGHLY THRILLED and impressed at the fine treatment that is given so many of our true barbershop numbers."

"I would develop the theme that a good barbershop song needs a good melody. It needs the kind of a melody that can be remembered, the kind that lives for years and years, and years and years, and that kind of melodies just hasn't been produced in recent times. The kids of today don't remember the melodies of the songs that were popular last year. The melodies they remember are the melodies of the old songs. I believe that any song of the enduring type, the kind that people like, will make good barbershop harmony, whether it was written in 1850 or 1950. I DOUBT VERY MUCH THAT OVER A HANDFUL OF SONGS THAT HAVE BEEN WRITTEN SINCE 1925 WILL ENDURE."

And Russell Cole, bless his heart, writes pages of fascinating copy about which you'll hear later, sums it up like this:

"The love of harmony is ageless and universal, and mayhem practiced upon it, however smart it appears at the moment, carries the seed of an early demise. In my view, the Society's fours, appearing before gatherings across the country, miss their golden chance if they fail to give the simon-pure article, WHICH BOYS SURE KNEW HOW TO WRITE IN THE 'HIAWATHA' DAYS."

There you have it, Junior, right from the experts, and now, if you're as completely befuddled as we are, you'll be looking forward with keen anticipation to the next issue when Olde Ed will try his gol darndest to tell you what he started out to tell you a long time ago... what is a barbershop song. 'Til then, Sonny, keep hoping. Sing-cerely, Olde Ed.

ADDED TO THE OLD SONGS Committee are Harold L. Winget, 940 Polhemus Street, San Jose, California, and Kenneth S. Grant, 19405 Purnell Avenue, Rocky River, Ohio, as appointments of our new President, Johnny Means. Welcome to the Old Song madhouse, gentlemen. From past

experience, Olde Ed knows that you will both be very valuable additions, and a great help to the boys who seek information on the oldies.

THERE'S BEEN OODLES OF INTEREST in the Avon Comedy Four arrangement of Julie My Own, furnished to us sometime ago by Charles Coleman, who made the original arrangement. Art Sweeney, in his own inimitable manner, made us a beautiful reproduction for photostating. George Moynahan furnished a splendid copy of the lyrics, and Headquarters had quite a number of photostats made. The requests for this arrangement have been so heavy that it is now in its "second printing".

THE YNEWDEU DEPARTMENT POINTS WITH PRIDE to some real service recently to one of our members overseas. A/1C R. N. Sanback from Rose City, Michigan, now stationed in Paris, got together with three other fellows on the way over and formed a quartet. One of the boys remembered a portion of a song which turned out to be There Must Be Little Cupids In The Briny. They couldn't recall all the words, and Sanback sent his request to the Old Songs Committee. It so happens that there is a copy of this number in our Library in Detroit. The next day after the request was received, a copy of the words to the verse and chorus was on the way to Sanback. Two days later, thanks to Dan McNamara of ASCAP, a piano copy of the song was in the mail. How's that for service?

BOOK NO. 6 SONGS FOR MEN was released July 1st, and Olde Ed is

happy to report that at long last a published arrangement to Yona From Arizona is available to members. It's in the new folio, along with Gee Boys It's Great To Lead A Band, Dick Sturges' new original, My Sweetie In Tahiti, That Old Hometown Of Mine, and many others.

WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT of the You Name 'Em Department, we received a photostatic copy of Every Little Bit Added To What You've Got from J. H. Stewart, Jr. Thanks, J. H. We dug up The Wedding Of The Sunshine And The Rose for Doctor M. S. Nelson, Singing A Vagabond Song for Paul Vandervoort. An arrangement of I Don't Mind Being All Alone for Pete Newberg, but haven't been able to find If I Were King for J. D. Hensley. We found

Down Where the Swanee River Flows for Tom Potenza, but missed on When Mammy Sang An Old Time Song for Russell Rogers. Oh well, we can't get 'em all, but we sure keep trying.

YOUR GRANDPAPPY YODELED the Gal With The Balmoral, written in 1861 by Fred Wilson and H. J. Herrers, about a chap who went to skate with his sweetheart Kate. After spending fifteen cents for carfare and a dime to get her in the park, he fell flat on his face and Katie glided gracefully away with a fancier skater. Where does balmoral come in? She wore one. And weren't they just dilly for skating? Chorus: Oh there's fun upon the ice, and lots of nice young gals, My goodness how they glide along, Dressed in their balmorals. Do you remember?

THE HI-DIVERS OF WORCESTER, MASS. CHAPTER



The fat one is Paul Carney, Northeastern District Treasurer. Others are Ed St. Andre, Anthony Beaudry, Tom Woods.

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	COMPOSERS	PUBLISHERS
After Tonight, Goodbye	1915	Sterling-VonTilzer	Harry VonTilzer
After You've Gone	1918	Creamer-Layton	Broadway Music Corp.
Angry	1925	Mecum, Cassard, Brunies	Melrose Music
Back In Your Own Backyard	1928	Jolson, Rose, Dreyer	Bourne, Inc.
Because You Were An Old Sweetheart of Mine	1911	Jacobs-Robinson	M. Witmark & Sons
Carrie (Carrie Marry Harry)	1909	VonTilzer-McCree	Mills Music
Cotton Pickin' Time In Dixieland	1913	Howard-McCane	Jerry Vogel
Daddy Won't You Please Come Home	1921	Sissle-Blake	M. Witmark & Sons
Down At The Barbecue	1914	Ernie Erdman	Will Rossiter
Down By The Gas House	1927	Tracey-Prantadosi	Shapiro, Bernstein and Company
Dreamy Alabama	1919	Earl-MacDonald	Shapiro, Bernstein and Company
Eyes Of Irish Blue	1910	O'Hara-Doyle	Shapiro, Bernstein and Company
Follow The Swallow Back Home	1924	Rose, Dixon-Henderson	DeSylvia, Brown, and Henderson
Gal With The Balmoral, The	1861	Wilson-Herrers	Russell & Pates
Got No Time	1925	Kahn-Whiting	Jerome H. Remick
High Cost Of Lovin', The	1914	Bryan-Meyer	Leo Feist
I'd Like To Find Another Girl Like Mary	1914	Chas. K. Harris	Southern Music
I Don't Mind Being All Alone	1926	Gaskili, McHugh-Mills	Mills Music, Inc.
If You Can't Get A Girl In The Summertime	1915	Kalmar-Tierney	Mills Music, Inc.
I Long To See The Girl I Left Behind	1893	John T. Kelly	M. Witmark & Sons
My Little Bimbo Down On The Bamboo Isle	1920	Donaldson-Clarke	Bourne, Inc.
Runnin' Wild	1922	Grey-Woods-Gibbs	Leo Feist
Singing A Vagabond Song	1929	Burton-Messenheimer-Richman	Irving Berlin
There Must Be Little Cupids In The Briny	1915	Jack Foley	Harms, Francis, Day and Hunter
Wedding Of The Sunshine And The Rose, The	1915	Murphy-Gumble	Jerome H. Remick

NOTE: The publishers listed may not be present publishers, 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.



By Chas. M. Merrill, Past Int'l Pres.
No. 38

As barbershoppers we make frequent contact with our feathered friends. Can you keep the record straight and give us the bird on these?

1. This bird (together with some sunshine) came along with Aura Lee. (No, it is not a blackbird! Don't be lazy; finish the song!)
2. This bird's song awakes a bright new morning up that lazy river.
3. This bird may be found singing on that long, long trail into the land of my dreams.
4. The call of this bird when evening is nigh finds me hurrying to my blue heaven.
5. This bird is calling its sleepy mate while the world is waiting for the sunrise.
6. This bird was pining for its little lady love while Kentucky Babe was being put to sleep.
7. This bird sang from the old apple tree while I told my love to the girl in the heart of Maryland.
8. This bird was worn as a decoration by a hotsy who, alas, is nobody's sweetheart now.
9. Although apparently Caroline can't hear my interminable calling, I miss her in the morning when this bird gives his call.
10. Je te plumerai la tete.

For answers, see page 58

FACTS ABOUT TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D. C.

Chuck Schmid, Toledo Chapter, has again explored the main means of travel to the International at Washington next June. He calls attention to the possibility of changes in rate structures. According to Chuck, plane information was furnished by John R. Kruse, Toledo Trust Travel Bureau; bus information by Mrs. McCarthy, Greyhound; auto mileages by W. J. Polhemus, Toledo Automobile Club; rail data by Paul Dahlquist, New York Central R. R.

To Washington and return From	Time (Hrs.)	Via Railroad			Via Plane		Via Bus		Auto One Way Mile- age
		Pullman Time (Hrs.)	Coaches One Way Lower Berth Fare	Rail Fare	Time (Hrs.)	Fare	Time	Fare	
Atlanta, Ga.	14	\$44.40	\$ 7.60	\$31.70	3	\$71.70*	16½	\$23.35	653
Birmingham, Ala.	17	55.60	8.65	39.95	3½	82.00*	19½	28.30	814
Boston, Mass.	8	38.50	5.80	30.74	2¾	48.60	12	17.20	450
Chicago, Ill.	17	65.55	8.30	44.05	3	71.90*	23	28.90	724
Cleveland, Ohio	12	37.25	5.00	25.80	2	39.60*	20	15.60	365
Dallas, Texas	34	93.40	14.50	68.30	5	148.40*	65	47.35	1473
Denver, Colo.	32	125.95	16.60	90.65	7½	180.40*	48	58.25	1608
Detroit, Mich.	15	50.60	8.55	34.20	2½	51.90*	18	22.70	542
Ft. Worth, Texas	34	95.15	14.50	69.65	5	148.40*	66½	48.90	1506
Indianapolis, Ind.	15	56.75	7.60	38.35	4	62.90	23½	24.05	556
Kansas City, Mo.	27	92.35	11.55	64.30	5½	115.10	37	39.60	1052
Los Angeles, Calif.	64	185.75	27.30	134.20	11	283.80*	87	95.40	2890
Louisville, Ky.	18	53.95	7.60	35.65	2¼	59.20	24	25.50	603
Miami, Florida	21	80.20	11.95	55.70	3½	120.30*	22	38.55	1217
Minneapolis, Minn.	24	89.30	11.55	62.40	5½	111.40*	35	42.05	1171
New York, N. Y.	4	20.10	5.00	15.16	1¼	27.40	6½	9.10	227
Okla. City, Okla.	35	108.50	14.10	76.15	6	142.60	44	47.35	1334
Omaha, Neb.	26	94.60	12.25	66.50	5¾	122.50*	36	45.90	1146
Phoenix, Arizona	36	156.45	23.90	117.00	11¾	247.80	85	80.95	2592
Pittsburgh, Pa.	8	26.40	5.00	19.35	1¼	24.90*	7	11.35	235
Portland, Ore.	59	180.55	27.95	126.05	12¾	283.80*	86	95.70	2969
San Diego, Cal.	65	185.75	27.30	134.20	13½	283.80*	89½	95.40	3014
San Francisco, Cal.	64	185.75	27.30	134.20	11½	283.80*	85	95.40	2876
Seattle, Wash.	59	180.55	27.95	126.05	12¾	283.80*	91	95.70	2990
St. Louis, Mo.	21	76.85	8.90	51.70	3½	88.20	29	29.80	793
Tacoma, Wash.	61	180.55	27.95	126.05	12¾	283.80*	89	95.70	3022
Toronto, Ont.	16	45.75	5.80	38.15	4¼	53.30	30	23.60	507

*Indicates AIR COACH service at reduced rates available to/from these cities.

The fares shown are round trip in each case, and do not include Federal Tax, which at this time is 15%.

The travel time represents number of elapsed hours for travel in one direction via direct routes, based on schedules which afford convenient departure and arrival times at origin and destination.

DISTRICT SECRETARIES AND BULLETIN EDITORS MEET

Eleven of the fourteen districts were represented at the meeting held in the Statler Hotel Saturday morning of the convention.

The secretaries held their session first and hashed over the problems facing the man in that office. Three things were emphasized by the "Old Hands" for the benefit of newcomers—

Accurate records of District membership

Parade Clearances

Special attention to the promotion of the two Contest Meetings held in the District each year.

To facilitate the work of the District Secretaries, several changes in Int'l Hq methods were recommended. The District Bulletin editors really "cut the skinny" according to Sev Severance who moderated the meeting. All sorts of information, suggestions and ideas were exchanged and the men in attendance were unanimous in their opinion that a similar meeting should be scheduled for Washington in 1954.

LIKED CHORUS CONTEST

W. L. Underwood, Music Critic of the Wichita Falls, Texas, Daily Times, wrote in his column soon after the Detroit Convention: "For those who attended the annual convention and quartet contest of The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., at Detroit recently, the most impressive segment of the three-day program was the choral contest held Saturday morning, June 13. This was the first such event in the 15-year history of the big annual sing-song, but in 18 choruses from Eugene, Oregon, to Montreal, Quebec, its perpetuity is assured.

"But, moreover, it produced almost incredibly fine choral singing—tone diction, shading, ensemble—ready for competition in any field. This was a tremendous exhibit."

MODULATIN' FOUR



This Southtown (Chicago) quartet leads a very active existence—LtoR—Wally Knapp, lead; Erv Beyer, bar; Harold Baxter, bass; Ralph Marks, tenor.

DISTRICT OFFICERS MEET AT DETROIT

Under the leadership of Charlie Ricketts (Northeastern District) this session, which was attended by representatives from every District, provided much lively discussion of District problems. It would be difficult to summarize all the topics covered as too many of them proved to be local problems. Each man who spoke told of specific activity in his District and how it differed from such activity in the other Districts. General discussion was almost impossible since various people wanted to discuss particular problems.

It was felt by the committee in charge of the session that some revision of these meetings be planned for the future. Now that District Presidents are members of the House of Delegates and therefore will know of the business being handled by the International Officers, we see no need for meetings of all District Officers at the International Conventions. It is our understanding that the Districts are now encouraged to face their own problems and to solve them in the best manner possible. The President of the District is the key man and upon him rests the responsibility of keeping the



The Four Teens sing for Wisconsin's Senator Riley.
Shouldn't be too hard to guess where.

District in line with International laws and policy.

In view of the further fact that District secretaries and editors will continue to meet at the International Convention, it is suggested that the District Officers conference be discon-

tinued at future conventions. We found out that no two Districts use exactly the same methods of operation since each has found it advantageous to adopt procedures that best fill individual needs.

"Pom" Pomeroy

Pasadena Invites You

To The
ANNUAL CONTEST
Of The
FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
PASADENA CIVIC AUDITORIUM
November 14, 1953



TOP STARS

Of The
GOLDEN FAR WEST

★ QUARTETS

★ CHORUSES

★ MC — ART BAKER

SINGING

GOLFING

SWIMMING

WE HAVE PLEASANT — COMFORTABLE — SUNNY WEATHER
HERE ALL YEAR, AND ESPECIALLY IN JUNE. WOULD YOU LIKE
TO COME TO BEAUTIFUL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN 1956?

important international news briefs

KEEPING POSTED

Add quartet names with a tickle—The Prisoners of Cadenza, Huntington Park, Calif. Chapter; The Fo' Pas, Deland, Fla. Chapter; Three Breezes and a Russell, Menominee, Wis. Chapter.

oOo

East Aurora, N.Y. Chapter listed all the advertisers in its Parade program on the inside back cover by type of business, suggesting this handy guide be torn out and kept in phone book. Incidentally, there were 100 advertisers in the program. Show was for the benefit of the Philanthropic Fund.

oOo

It isn't "SPEBSQUA", or "SPEBSKWA", or "SPEB". The initials of the Society cannot be pronounced as a word. Old time members know this, but newer members have occasionally been known to fall into error.

oOo

Read what Don McGunagle, Secretary of Lakewood Chapter, had to say in his Tonsil Bender Bulletin:

"Why don't you take the hull by the tail and get yourself a quartet . . .

Once you've tried it you'll never go back to merely 'living'. Don't get discouraged if it doesn't sound too good at first. . . . You ought to hear some of the old records I have of quartets that are in the top bracket now. They sounded like the Foul-airs then. But they stuck to it and they had fun doing it too."

oOo

Must be something in that Jersey air. Teaneck publishes HIM SINGER. Ridgewood puts out the TONE-CRIER. And Milt Plapinger of Philadelphia closes his letters "Chorus-pondingly yours".

oOo

Int'l Vice Pres. George Chamblin, Columbus, Ohio took a young girls quartet to the Columbus School for Girls back in May. One mother subsequently told George her little girl reported, "We had the best time at school today. Mister Chamblin came out and sang with his Chordettes".

oOo

Yet another sacred portal has been violated—if you care to look at it that way. At the Portland (Maine) Women's Chorus Spring Concert, featured guests were the Saccarappa Yappers of Portland Chapter. What's more, their program included a couple of originals by Society members—Jumbo Smith's Honey Gal and Nate Berthoff's Great Smoky Mountains.

oOo

Don't gather from this that things are going to get "fowled" up in the Evansville, Indiana, Chapter this year, but Ducky Drake and Bill Henn (tenor of the several times International Finalist "Songfellows") were

elected as Chapter Secretary and President respectively this year.

oOo

The June issue of The Rainbow of Delta Tau Delta fraternity carried an article on SPEBSQSA written by Int'l Pres. Ed Smith who belonged to DTD at Albion College.

oOo

Archie Bleyer conducts the orchestra on the numerous Arthur Godfrey shows. He is quoted as saying, after attending a barbershop Parade in Boston Symphony Hall, "It's impossible to hold an audience for three hours with any kind of entertainment, yet I have sat here for three hours in this packed hall and the people are still insisting on more of the same thing. It's phenomenal!"

oOo

Int'l V.P. Dean Snyder, Washington, D.C., sent some SPEBSQSA materials to Dr. Cecil W. Munk, Director of the Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music. Among other things, Dr. Munk said, "I am much impressed with the article by Earle W. Moss. He has brought the idea of nature's

scale to the layman in understandable language. "The rules and regulations for judges are standards which many organizations could follow. The idea of one judge judging only one particular phase is excellent.

"I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Society for the excellent work they are doing".

oOo

Dallas, Texas Chapter raised \$2,500.00 on its Third Annual Parade in May for the benefit of the Children's Development Center.

oOo

The Schmitt Brothers, 1951 Int'l Champs, were featured attraction on the Dallas show. Fran, the bass, found a slip of paper in his dessert cookie at dinner in a Dallas restaurant. It said, "You will be blessed with many children". Already the father of six, Fran handed the paper to Jim who was to be married the following month. Comments were probably very appropriate.

(Continued on next page)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS B.S. CHORUS



This picture will gladden the hearts of at least a couple of Illinois grads who go for barbershop—Frank Thorne, Chicago and Maurie Reagan, Pittsburgh. This group was organized just a year ago. Front row—Don Chamblin, Dick Huntley, Bob Leonard, Jim Slagle, Warren Royer. Second row—Wayne Breeze (Director), Cleon Elmore, Clifton Zabka, Bob Hedges, Roland Clement, Don Bradshaw, Bob Talhott. Third row—Dave Koval, Ron Streibich, Bill Willcox, Bob Rankin, Bill Winterhoff, Tom Jones. Wayne Breeze and Don Bradshaw represented both ends of the Campus Chords of Champaign-Urbana, Ill. Chapter, who competed at Kansas City in 1952.

KEEP POSTED Continued

Readers of the Harmonizer will recall the suit brought against the Society by the Dixie District last September (Sept. '52 Harmonizer, page 38) to enjoin the Society's quartets from singing songs about "Dixie", "Mammy", "Swanee", etc. until such time as the Society saw fit to hold an Int'l meeting in the Southland. Judge Emeritus O. C. Cash has issued from his Chambers (bed that is) an "Order Staying Proceedings" since the Society has agreed to hold the 1955 Int'l Mid-Winter Meeting in Miami.

oOo

Some curious things come to the attention of this column. The Crown City Four, Pasadena, compiled a record of activity in the year, May, 1952 to May, 1953, that has probably never been equaled. They made 147 public appearances, not counting local chapter work, including 17 PTA groups, 23 church groups, 24 Service Clubs, 14 hospitals, 18 SPEBSQSA Parades including the Phoenix Blood Bank Show, and a multitude of civic affairs, organizational functions, weddings, wakes and fancy balls. In their report, they also listed their repertoire.

This included a number of standards and a title which aroused curiosity, "Upper Peabody Tech".

oOo

Perhaps the Harmonizer will have to give some consideration to family subscription rates. Herb Young is quoted in the Miami, Florida Chapter Bulletin as asking for several copies because his wife always gets the first one.

oOo

Southtown (Chicago) Chapter is making plans for a Special Train to go to Washington, D.C. next June for the Contests and Convention. Train will probably leave Thursday AM and arrive in Washington that night—returning, depart Sunday afternoon, arriving Chicago early Monday morning. If interested, write to W. H. Kramer, 1416 East 74th St., Chicago 49, Ill. Round trip fare, about \$37. ➤

RUSS WIDOE, FORMER DIRECTOR OF GREEN BAY, WIS. CHORUS, "FORGIVES"

(Reprinted from Land O' Lakes District Harmony News.)

For the first time in six years I watched a Parade of the Green Bay Chapter from the other side of the footlights.

I was director of the local barbershop chorus for three years and even after I had to resign that capacity I continued to MC the yearly productions.

Working closely with the barbershoppers I don't think I had an opportunity to view their accomplishments with proper perspective. I was either too worried about their short comings, or my own, to observe objectively the good along with the bad.

As I remember back, I used to squirm a little under the burden of contest rules, repetition of materials, "copy-cat" arrangements, chord happy quartets, judges who I thought were tone-deaf and rule-bound, and what appeared to be dictatorial and senseless edicts from the ivory tower. As I listened to the Green Bay Parade this year, and found myself grinning and thoroughly enjoying myself for over two hours, I couldn't help but re-evaluate a few of my former gripes.

In the first place I had the feeling that barbershopping was growing up. Out of the maze of rules a more free expression was emerging. Quartets came out on the stage who were having fun with arrangements that included some colorful swipes but they weren't try-

ing to outdo each other to see how many different chords they could include per measure. No longer did I hear belabored rhythms tied to corkscrew progressions that didn't fit the melody. The entire evening passed without a repetition, something that was rare back in 1947. The moth-eaten dogs that we always expected at every show were conspicuous by their absence and those that did appear came out in brand new dress.

As I thought it all over I began to forgive the boys who write the rule books. Any set of rules, I suppose, has its drawbacks in certain instances. The barbershop rules have undoubtedly kept out a lot of fine musical ideas, and stifled the ambitions of certain professional musicians, like myself, but they have kept the fun of singing alive and they have maintained a steady hold on a type of material which men obviously enjoy singing in harmony.

As I saw those wide grins on stage I thought, "A tendency toward long-hair in the wrong hands could wipe those grins off permanently and in the final analysis clear the stage of a lot of happy guys." Barbershopping need not apologize, however, because what they are promoting is real music. Most people don't seem to realize it any more, but like the Sabbath, music was made for men, and not vice versa.

That same chapter has organized a Convention Club in its own chapter. Members who wish to do so pay the chapter sec'y one buck, or more, a week so by next June their fare and Registration Book will be paid for.

oOo

Long Beach, California, Chapter took part in that city's Hobby Show and took third prize for its exhibit.

oOo

The Melody Messrs. of Utica, New

York, Chapter received a "note"-worthy compliment following one of their appearances. A gentleman wrote, "I took Mom, though for nine weeks she hasn't been well; she enjoyed herself right back into better health, thanks to you fellows".

oOo

Dick Faas, bass of the 1953 Int'l Third Place Sing-Copates, Appleton, Wis., writes that Gil Stammer, bari, has gone into service and the quartet is, at least temporarily, unavailable.

THE PHILADELPHIA, PA. CHAPTER CHORUS Walter H. Groff, Director





Wilson

Be a Chorus Director and Keep Those Muscles Supple— BUT **KEEP UP YOUR INSURANCE!**

by Professor F. Stirling Wilson

We went to the trouble of writing about how barbershoppers could keep in good physical shape, considering their general unshapeliness, but then we hadn't seen the International Chorus Contest in Detroit. That settled it—all you have to do to be physically fit is be a chorus director. They get more violent mileage out of a small spot on the stage than any group I ever heard of.

Leave us analyze these directors in a scientific manner. To me one of the most entrancing types is the director who has a motion exactly like Roy Campanella throwing a base-stealer out at second base. He has a deceptively gentle motion at the beginning of a song, but all of a sudden his emotions run away with him; he sees that runner taking a long lead, the pitcher throws the ball or the music is marked "crashinto", and so he throws that imaginary ball, and you can almost hear the umpire saying "He's out!" Boy, the exercise he gets. Shoulder muscles, wrists, knee caps, etc.

Then there is the Muffin Moulder director. He always keeps his arms pressed closely to his sides and directs with the hands only, using a motion like grandmother had when she formed those delicious blueberry muffins, or if you prefer, a motion like a guy at Atlantic City picking up handfuls of sand and letting it drip through his fingers. This type of director is fine if the chorus can see him, but if not, he can always use his eyebrows to help out. A disadvantage of that is that the raised eyebrow indicates surprise, and the front row may become embarrassed by seeing their director look surprised every time they hit a chord correctly.

A third type, and rather intriguing, too, is the Harp Picker director, the man with the prehensile fingers who picks small holes in the air (not the melody) with his fingertips, but his chorus usually gets migraine headaches from watching his fingers.

The Shush-Husher director is one of the most annoying types. No matter how softly the boys are singing, even "muy pianissimo", you would think they are giving off volume like a battleship turbine or Niagara Falls. He shushes them on almost every word, frowns at them threateningly, motions downward with his palms as if to say, "Not so loud, they'll hear you." This is known as the Silent Treatment.

Another is the director who uses his arms as if he were lifting himself out of a swimming pool. He gets his



arms on the ledge of the pool and from then on, throughout the song, he tries to lift himself up and out, but never quite makes it. Sitting in the audience, you begin to feel sorry for him. You wonder if he can get out of the water before his strength is exhausted, and if you weren't surrounded by people you would give way to that impulse to shout, "Use your feet," or lean down and give him a hand up. All of a sudden the song ends, he turns 'round with a dazzling smile and you take out your handkerchief and wipe the perspiration from your palms.

After all, you knew him when he was only a baritone and you don't want to see him die on the stage.

Contributing to the fine physical condition of our directors, which enables them to work at paying jobs in addition to directing, and help around the house, doing such chores as bringing in the morning paper, setting mouse-traps, carrying yesterday's newspapers down to the cellar and replacing burned-out light bulbs—is their footwork. The average director, with the possible exception of the Muffin Moulders, could stay six rounds with Rocky Marciano and never have a glove touch him. Of course, the favorite stance is the spread feet, but your director who really enjoys himself pivots, rocks, sidesteps and cavorts, the cavort being a culmination of all intricate dance steps known to Arthur Murray.

Worthy of comment certainly are the facial expressions of the directors.

One moment you are basking in the warmth of a smile that picks you out like a spotlight, then you are the target of a look of vicious hatred that says plainly, "I'll tear you limb from limb right after this song." In general, however, the expression is one of quizzical bewilderment, as if asking, "What on earth are we doing up here and what are we going to sing?" And that changes quickly to one of parental encouragement, "Just take this spoonful, it doesn't taste bad." Then the anxious bird-dog watchfulness, waiting for those weeds to move (that's when the pitchpipe is being blown), up go the hands, and the chorus is off. Not always, of course. Sometimes they're on.

But after the song is over, comes a calm like an Hawaiian sunset. The director turns like a Marine corporal, his stance is graceful, his smile benign, his demeanor modest. He graciously includes the chorus in his acceptance of applause, his pulse is normal again, and he has that feeling of well being that follows a workout in the gym.

(Continued on page 53)

Be a Chorus Director

Continued

You wonder if all this work is necessary, eh? Have you watched a chorus when the walk-on is in order? If the boys had striped suits on, what would they remind you of? Then someone in the back row whispers, "Say cheese", and the smiles light up and die right down as the sordid realization of what they are up against overwhelms them again.

They line up and face right and left. One man has a twitching trouser leg that shows the audience he is ready to bolt without notice. The big guy in the back row has got to scratch his nose, come what may. Two in the front row know doggone well that their bow ties are crooked and their mental suffering shows in their faces.

Everybody is nervous and jittery. "So this is the way you feel when you take that last walk, and face the newspapermen just before they strap you in the chair" is what they seem to be saying.

With this aura of despair and gloom saturating their every thought, and gnawing at their vitals, the chorus sounds a B flat, takes a deep breath and breaks out into some such title as "I'm laff, laff, laff—come along and laff with me." And the director takes them right over the top and into the trenches, game to the core. What would we do without them? (No, no, don't answer. If any of my director friends read this, I'm only engaging in a bit of chaffing.)

"THE ABOMINABLE FIFTH" IS NO NEW THING

Both Stedman Rohn, Ludington, Michigan Chapter and Alex McDonough, Secretary-Treasurer, Ak-Sar-Ben Chapter, Omaha, sent in tear sheets of an article written by George Malcolm-Smith in "Protection", house organ of The Travelers Insurance Company.

Malcolm-Smith, who is stationed in Hartford, Conn. and ought to be a member of SPEBSQSA, if he isn't, wrote in part: "... Nobody knows precisely how the Kate Noonan Four came into being. It was one of those felicitous accidents by which fortune favors mankind... Four harmonious spirits chanced to meet as fellow boarders at Mrs. Noonan's menage, and there discovered that their voices, when lifted in song, blended to produce a unique quality..."

"Any and every spare moment was seized to 'render a chune'... When, as rarely occurred, some crass outsider made bold to add his voice to the sacred four, he was extended all the hospitality that the Budapest String Quartet might accord a banjo player..."

"Perhaps no cooperative effort brings men into closer rapport than a vocal quartet..."

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS OF SPEBSQSA (International) FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 1952 to JUNE 30, 1953

REVENUE:

Per Capita Tax received from members (exclusive of Harmonizer subscriptions)...	\$61,801.00
The Harmonizer:	
Subscriptions received from members	\$24,692.10
Miscellaneous, extra copies, etc.	119.15
Advertising	7,811.69
Total Harmonizer Revenue	\$32,622.94
Less cost of publishing and distributing Harmonizer	35,346.90
	\$ 2,723.96 (2,723.96)
Fees received for chartering chapters	1,240.00
Fees received for quartet registration	870.00
Sale of Supplies, Music, Books, etc.	
Total Sales	\$42,464.97
Less actual cost of the goods sold	25,678.63
Balance to apply to general overhead costs of operation	16,786.34
Revenue derived from Detroit Convention	19,161.85
Miscellaneous income	1,483.99
TOTAL INCOME	\$98,419.22

EXPENSES:

Expense of Maintaining International Office	
Salaries of employees	\$43,464.83
Rent, cost of equipment and its maintenance, upkeep of office, fuel, light, cleaning service, etc., and office supplies	13,202.40
Taxes, legal fees, insurance, bond, audit, and accounting fees	3,528.69
	\$80,186.92
Other Costs of Various Services Rendered to Districts, Chapters, Members	
Printing, postage, mimeographing, shipping, including all Int'l Committee expense for above	17,299.18
Telephone and Telegraph	2,156.99
Travel expense of members of Int'l Office Staff	4,286.40
	23,741.67
Stenographic expense, postage, phone calls, wires, travel for officers other than Int'l Secretary	2,886.07
Membership Record Department	5,792.66
Other expenses not classified	992.01
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$93,598.22
NET INCOME TRANSFERRED TO NET WORTH OF SOCIETY	\$ 4,821.00

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION SPEBSQSA (International) as of June 30, 1953

ASSETS

WORKING ASSETS:

Petty Cash	\$ 240.33
Cash in Bank	26,843.92
Accounts Receivable	2,428.49
Prepaid Travel	426.00
	29,937.74

INVENTORY:

Supplies (Cost)	10,828.10
Music (Cost)	4,885.44
10 Year Histories	581.40
	16,294.94

PERMANENT FUND ASSETS:

Reserve Fund (U. S. Gov't Bonds)	32,169.80
Reserve Fund (Cash in Spec. Acct.)	19,920.17
	52,079.97

SPECIAL FUND ASSETS:

Cash in Spec. Bldg. Fund Acct.	12,674.99
U. S. Bonds in Bldg. Fund Acct.	1,000.00
	13,674.99

TOTAL ASSETS

\$111,987.64

LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable—Misc.	1,265.17
Building Fund	13,674.99
Advance Payment Per Capita Tax	16,906.00

ACCRUED TAXES:

Federal Income Tax Withheld	605.10
Federal F.I.C.A. Tax Withheld	46.67
Federal F.I.C.A. Tax Withheld (Society's share)	45.48
Federal Unemployment Tax	64.06
Michigan Unemployment Tax	244.31
	994.51

NET WORTH 7-1-52

74,326.97

NET INCOME 12 MOS. ENDING 6-30-53

4,821.00

79,147.97

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET WORTH

\$111,987.64

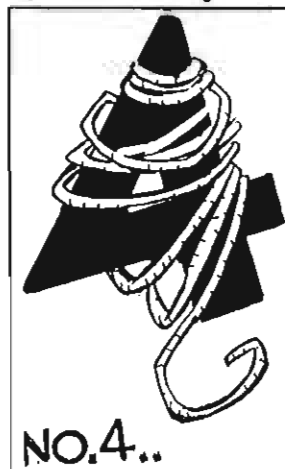
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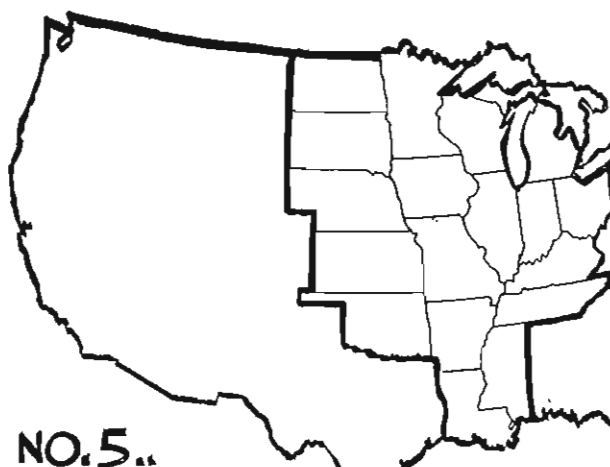
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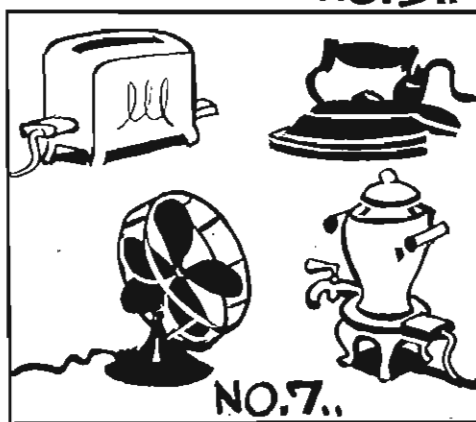
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NO.6..



NO.7..



NO.8..



NO. 9

(FOR THE ANSWERS, SEE PAGE 57)

DISTRICT CONTESTS SCHEDULE

DISTRICT	DATE	LOCATION
Central States	October 17	Pittsburg, Kansas
Dixie	Not yet determined	Not yet determined
Evergreen	November 7	Portland, Oregon
Far Western	November 14	Pasadena, California
Illinois	October 3-4	Aurora, Illinois
Indiana-Kentucky	October 10	Indianapolis, Indiana
Johnny Appleseed	October 17	Washington, Penna.
Land O' Lakes	November 6-7	Green Bay, Wisconsin
Michigan	October 17	Lansing, Michigan
Mid-Atlantic	October 17-18	New York, New York (co-sponsored by Areas 1-2-3)
Northeastern	October 3	New Bedford, Mass.
Ontario	October 24	Sarnia, Ontario
Seneca Land	October 24	Penn Yan, New York
Southwestern	November 14	Wichita Falls, Texas

RED FACED EDITOR

This paragraph should follow the first paragraph of "The Way I See It", next page.

By this time, July 3-4-5, '41, Carroll Adams was already a veteran in the three year old Society. In August '39 several Michiganders, including Howard Tubbs, Joe Wolff, Ed Schvoppe, and Glenn Shields, had organized the first Michigan Chapter, Detroit. Carroll had gotten wind of it, attended the third meeting, and was active from then on. His first major job was in promoting SPEBSQSA's first state association which got under way in January, '41, with all four parts harmonized, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing and Flint. The third national presidency was not in the hands of a novice at administration.



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

This is about Carroll Parker Adams. At the International in Detroit, the Adams' retirement was discussed almost as often as how-I-picked-12-out-of-the-15, or why-I-disagree-with-the-decisions, though little of that came to my ear, now that the category system of judging has evolved and has proved itself to the majority of members. The first judicial categories and Carroll Adams came into the Society's national attention in 1941 at St. Louis where "Doc" Rathert, second president, handed us sheets for judging "Harmony and Blend", "Song Selection and Originality", and "Stage Presentation", each judge marking each contestant in all three categories, and where we elected a Michigan man named Adams as national president. "International" was beyond even Owen Cash's dreams then.

"Keep America Singing" (the history) says: 'Adams accepted the Society's mandate with the knowledge that he would be lucky if, during one short year, he could uncover the approximate length and breadth of the Society . . . Five days after Adams became president, he told the Chicago chapter: 'Up to now we have contented ourselves with good times—now the country looks to us to do things—we must have leadership, money, and more chapters' . . . He believed that by the end of his administration the Society's finances would allow it to launch a national quarterly publication and employ a full-time secretary at a national headquarters. 'We must catch the vision and go to work' . . . The vision included revision of the constitution, written by him only in January to meet new conditions . . . It encompassed magazine articles, song arrangements, a roster of chapters and the multiplication of activities through committees wrestling with development and organization'.

All this merely hints at the magnitude of the job faced by the third president and the accomplishments since "the Society, organized in the State of Oklahoma, operated in various states of total confusion".

In recent years, I have heard the statement: "Carroll Adams is the Society". Such comment is either without knowledge or consideration of the

evidence. The fact that we came through that formative stage is due to the initial push of the zealots of '39-'40-'41, followed by the fortuitous Adams-Staab combination when Hal Staab succeeded Carroll as president while Adams became national secretary. A principal asset possessed by both of them was the "vision" backed by ability to weld Boards and membership of that era into units whose almost fanatic labors built a founda-

It would be impossible to set down the Adams "visions" that fused with others, then became concrete and are now built so solidly into the Society's structure that they have lost identity and are accepted as a natural part of the whole. Some of them were contributed when Carroll was working for love of it. Then he went on part-time, and became full-time Int'l Sec. in 1944. At first, National h.q. was in the Adams home. Records and materials overflowed the space assigned to them and splashed over the entire house. An infestation of harmony bugs, likely to break into 3½ harmony parts at any hour of the 24, was too apparent there too often.

But in 1945, when the Society rented headquarters at 18720 Grand River Ave., Detroit, Sec. Adams and wife Frankie were seldom home. Days, nights, holidays, Sundays, were about the same in that ceaseless push toward improved organization and maintenance of higher standards. He was called a "slave-driver" often, invariably with the reservation that he drove no one on the Board, in the chapters, in the office or elsewhere in the Society as hard as himself.

My contacts with Carroll were constant from his presidency, through the formative period, and during the years when I edited the *Harmonizer*. I have never known such whole-hearted devotion to a job, and I've rambled far enough to have had some opportunity to observe. I know his personal sensitive side and his administrative self which at

times evidenced determination to get the main job done for the membership though it necessitated what some member, interested in some small part of the over-all, might consider a temporary brush-off.

I heard with great satisfaction the decision of the Board to furnish Carroll a retirement income which under membership conditions that seem fairly stable nowadays will cost each of us about 15 cents a year. The tottering members of the Decrepits (former Int'l Board members), in which intra-Society organization I am approaching seniority too darned fast, also raised a tidy sum for Carroll which carries with it the respect and affection for the Adams we knew.



At left, Bob Hafer, successor to Int'l Sec'y Carroll P. Adams—Adams at right.

tion for quick expansion under succeeding administrations such as has not been equalled by a comparable group elsewhere. I can't refer to Adams as the fulcrum because a fulcrum is static. Perhaps a master control meshed into the intricate working of the entire machine would be better. At times Carroll and Hal (and I) disagreed over "what's best for the Society", but that was not unusual when other men of convictions often went to bat for their ideas of "what's best" for the beloved organization. (A program resembling Hal's House of Delegates idea of 1943 went into effect in '63 at Detroit. The Society wasn't ready for it when first proposed, and hasn't been until now.)

KEYE (COLUMBUS) OHIO AND NEW BEDFORD, MASS. DUCT SUCCESSFUL HIGH SCHOOL QUARTET CONTESTS

ITONES, from the Ohio State School for the Blind, all seniors, won Buckeye Chapter's 3rd annual High School Barbershop Quartet Contest on April 25, 1953, at Bexley High School Auditorium.

The MARITONES plan to use their \$200 Scholarship Award for first place to continue their musical training and, if possible, obtain some barbershop arrangements printed in Braille.

Closely following the champs were the NORTHERNAIRES, from North High School, winning \$100 scholarship for 2nd place; the SHAVERS from East High School, third; METEORITES from West High School, fourth; and the HAPPY HARMONIZERS from North High School, fifth.

More than 15 High School quartets were originally entered, with 12 actually singing, to a large house. All ticket sales were handled by the Downtown Lions Club of Columbus, co-sponsors of the contest, and all profits went to their annual Sight-Saving program, as a 100% charitable project.

The Contest was judged on SPEBSQSA judging standards. Chairman of Judges was Past Int'l V.P. George H. Chamblin, Buckeye Chapter. Others on the Judges Panel were Carl and Claude Lang, of the Dayton Chapter, members of past International Finalists JOLLY FELLOWS; Bill Oursler, Saginaw, Mich., member of past Michigan Champs, the BARONS OF HARMONY; Paul E. "Snook" Neal, Columbus; Al Szabo, Elyria, Ohio, Chapter.

The 1953 Contest was co-chaired by Morton R. Cook and Kenneth R. Evans, under the direction of Staff Taylor, past President, and Dr. Frank B. Razor, newly elected President of Buckeye Chapter.

ANSWERS TO BAFFLERS

(See page 48)

1. Swallow
2. Robin
3. Nightingale
4. Whip-poor-will
5. Thrush
6. Bobolink
7. Oriole
8. Bird of Paradise
9. Bobwhite
10. Alouette

Ed Stetson, New Bedford Chapter, writes concerning the High School Barbershop Quartet Contest conducted last May:

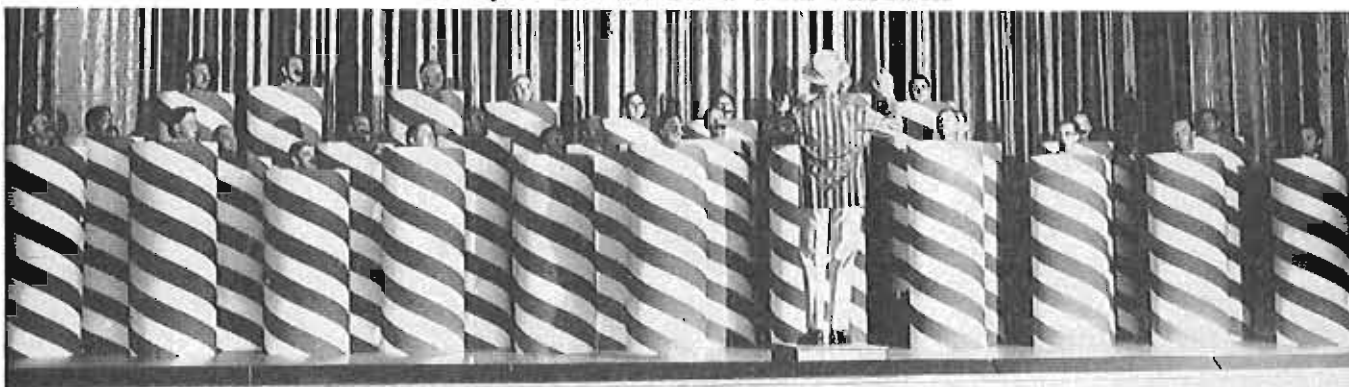
"To my knowledge, this is the finest publicity ever received by any chapter for a community activity. Newspaper space alone totaled over twelve columns.

"Final results show that it cost the chapter about \$300. This included a \$100 music scholarship to the winning High School, individual engraved cups to the winning foursome, prizes for the two runners-up and a trophy to be held by the winning High School for a year.

"After evaluating everything, we in New Bedford feel we presented as fine a display of barbershopping at work as could be found anywhere. The people of New Bedford and surrounding communities really know the meaning of SPEBSQSA. We plan to make this an annual event.

"I heartily recommend the High School Quartet Contest as a community activity project to all chapters of our Society. Maybe we should have an International Committee for High School Quartet Contests."

UNIQUE STAGE SETS FOR PARADE



Arcadia, California Chapter used these stage sets at its last Parade. The quartet is singing in front of an old-fashioned gramophone and the dog at left (for the benefit of younger readers) is the trademark of the Victor Talking Machine Com-

pany. In introducing each quartet, the MC, Int'l Board Member Reddie Wright, Pasadena, would place a four-foot record on the gramophone, give the handle a few turns and announce the quartet.



BLENDERS, OKLAHOMA CITY
Miller, De Voul, Hull, Potts



TEMPLAIRS, MUNCIE, INDIANA
Turner, Cooley, Klopfenstein, Tobey



FOREMOST FOUR, DAYTONA BEACH, FL.
Harmeling, Lubbers, Taylor, McCabe



CLEF CHEFS, ELKHART & MISHAWAKA, IND.
Joe Chomborlin, Kenny Chomborlin,
Charles Chomborlin, Lee Kidder



EVERGREEN QUARTET, YAKIMA, WASH.
Don St. Mary
Goble Jim St. Mary
Bob St. Mary



TOWN CRIERS, KALAMAZOO, MICH.
Baker, Johnston, Cook, Barrett



HAWKEYE FOUR, DES MOINES, IOWA
Langerak, Boudewyns, Owens, Pike



WHIPCORDS, JANESVILLE, WIS.
Richardson, Skid Davies
Clark McClellan



AIR CAPITALS, WICHITA, KANSAS
Robb, Chambers, De Vorss, Fahnestock



KORD KUTTERS, PEKIN, ILL.
Powell, Moses, Sharpe, Sudberry



OAT-KANS, WARSAW, N. Y.
Arnold, Finch, Hoaker, Grave



JERSEYMEN, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Crow Noanon
Baese Morning



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WOOD-SHEDDING
Friday and Saturday

MORNING GLOW
Sunday A. M.

BUSINESS
FUN
ENTERTAINMENT



1954's OUTSTANDING PARADE

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THE VIKINGS
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The BUFFALO BILLS
Former Nat'l Champions

The ATOMIC BUMS

The GAY NINETIES

HOST CHAPTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MID-WINTER MEETING

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JANUARY 16th, 1954

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