

HARMONIZER

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET HARMONY



MEET THE CHAMPS

- ♪ The Contest Story . . . Page 2-21
- ♪ Convention Report . . . Page 2-33
- ♪ The Annual Meeting . Page 2-33
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1955
INTERNATIONAL
CHAMPS
THE FOUR
HEARSEMEN
AMARILLO, TEX.

INTERNATIONAL MEDALISTS

- 2 THE CONFEDERATES
MEMPHIS, TENN.
- 3 THE FOUR-TISSIMOS
SKOKIE, ILLINOIS
- 4 THE AIR FOURS
BELLEVILLE, ILL.
- 5 THE TORONTO
RHYTHMAIRES
TORONTO, ONT.



2



3



4



5

the winners...

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1955 BARBERSHOP MEDALISTS WINNERS

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SUGAR CANE JUBILEE (FOUR TISSIMOS) 3rd Place Winners
SIDE BY SIDE (AIR FOURS) 4th Place Winners

PART 2—GEORGIA ON MY MIND (FOUR HEARSEMEN) Champions
ED 2295 **JUST AS YOUR MOTHER WAS (THE CONFEDERATES) 2nd Place Winners**
TIME AFTER TIME (FOUR TISSIMOS) 3rd Place Winners
I'M SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD (TORONTO RHYTHMAIRES) 5th Place Winners

PART 3—I BELIEVE (FOUR HEARSEMEN) Champions
ED 2296 **TO THINK YOU HAVE CHOSEN ME (THE CONFEDERATES) 2nd Place Winners**
WAIT TILL THE SUN SHINES NELLIE (AIR FOURS) 4th Place Winners
THERE'S A LITTLE PEACH DOWN IN GEORGIA (TORONTO RHYTHMAIRES) 5th Place Winners

ON ONE LONG PLAY 33 1/3 RPM RECORD —

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ED 2288 **WEDDING BELLS ARE BREAKING UP THAT OLD GANG OF MINE (MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA CHORUS) 2nd Place Winners**
SIDE BY SIDE (EAST YORK, TORONTO, CANADA CHORUS) 3rd Place Winners
OCEANA ROLL (OAK PARK, ILLINOIS CHORUS) 4th Place Winners

PART 2—WASHINGTON WADDLE (JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN CHORUS) Champions
ED 2289 **I BELIEVE (MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA CHORUS) 2nd Place Winners**
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YONA FROM ARIZONA (WARREN, OHIO CHORUS) 5th Place Winners

PART 3—GONE (JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN CHORUS) Champions
ED 2290 **IF THERE'S ANYBODY HERE FROM MY HOME TOWN (MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA CHORUS) 2nd Place Winners**
MY HEART STOOD STILL (OAK PARK, ILLINOIS CHORUS) 4th Place Winners
BEAUTIFUL DREAMER (WARREN, OHIO CHORUS) 5th Place Winners

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September

VOLUME XV 1955 NUMBER 3



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Two merry Merrills. Daughter Anne pins the Int'l President's button on the lapel of father Arthur.



A September cover without a Bob Hockenbrough illustration would not seem natural. This is the third year in a row Bob has executed the Medalist cover.

THE HARMONIZER is the official publication of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. It is published quarterly in March, June, September and December at International Headquarters, 20619 Fenkell Ave., Detroit 23, Michigan, and entered as second-class matter at the post office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Editorial and Advertising offices are at International Headquarters. Notice of change of address should be submitted to the editorial offices of THE HARMONIZER at least thirty days before the next publication date. Subscription price is \$2.00 yearly and \$.50 an issue.

THE FIVE MEDALISTS AT MIAMI BEACH



Back Row—L to R—

THE CONFEDERATES—2nd Place—Dixie District, Memphis, Tenn. Chapter
George J. Evans, tenor; Wally Singleton, bass; Dave LaBonte, lead; Bill Busby, bari.

AIR FOURS—4th Place—Illinois District—Belleville, Ill. Chapter
Ernest Plude, lead; Bill McTeer, tenor; Dug Peck, bass; Tom Brown, bari.

Center Row—L to R—

THE FOUR-TISSIMOS—3rd Place—Illinois District, (Q Suburban) LaGrange, Ill. Chapter
Bruce Johnson, bari; Jim Bond, bass; Squeak Tilton, lead; Warren "Buzz" Haeger, tenor.

TORONTO RHYTHMAIRES—5th Place—Ontario District, (Yorktown Chapter) Toronto, Ontario
Dune Thompson, bass; Ed Morgan, tenor; Gord Lang, bari; Norm Sawyer, lead.

Kneeling—L to R—

FOUR HEARSEMEN—1955 Champions—Southwestern District, Amarillo, Texas Chapter
Dwight Elliott, bari; Wendell Heiny, tenor; Deane Watson, lead; Dick Gifford, bass.

17th Annual

Convention and Contest

FOUR HEARSEMEN, AMARILLO, TAKE CROWN JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN, CHORUS TOPPER ARTHUR MERRILL ELECTED PRESIDENT CHORUS CONTEST MAY BE ABANDONED

DOWN Among the Sheltering Palms, 3000 barbershoppers from every section of the United States and Canada spent from two days to a couple of weeks supervising the choice of a new Int'l Champion Quartet and a new Int'l Champion Chorus.

The thousands who made the journey to "The Nation's Playground" were well repaid for their efforts. Unbelievable Miami Beach, with its nearly 400 hotels, must be experienced—it can't be described. Those who came early or stayed on after the convention had the chance to make use of the unmatched facilities, and they were the wise ones. The contest days were so full of things to see and hear and do that the competition for attention was overwhelming. No true barbershopper would ever pass up an Int'l Contest, but the temptation to swim, fish, or just go sightseeing was very strong.

Off to a great start in the Semi-Finals, the Four Hearsemen from Amarillo, Texas added to their lead in the 15 quartet Finals and climaxed a consistently fine job of singing with a brilliant performance in the Medal Contest.

Favored in the "Winter Book" because of their runner-up position at Washington in 1954, the Hearsemen displayed a well balanced, full-voiced quartet, thoroughly grounded in every aspect of the art.

Janesville, Wisconsin Chorus, representing Land O' Lakes District, directed by D. Schuyler Davies, took first place in the abbreviated Chorus Contest—abbreviated because only ten of the Society's fourteen Districts sent competing choruses to Miami Beach. Michigan, Central States, Far Western and Evergreen Districts found the distance and financing of chorus entries too difficult.

DETERMINED to prove Dixie has qualifications for barbershopping other than the mere ability to play host, the Confederates, of Memphis, Tennessee, Semi-Finalists at Washington, placed second to the Four Hearsemen. Arrayed in butternut gray Confederate colonels' uniforms, complete even to swords, their appearance was matched by their excellent singing.

The Four-Tissimos, (Q Suburban), LaGrange, Illinois, took third. The Air Fours, an Air Force quartet, members of Belleville, Illinois Chapter, came in fourth and the Toronto Rhythmairs, with a new baritone, third last year, took fifth place.

Illinois District, in addition to contributing the third and fourth place medalists, placed two other foursomes in the Finals, Barber-Q Four, LaGrange and the Kord Kings, Oak Park. All three Michigan entries reached the Finals. Miami's Memory Four, chosen as alternates in the Dixie Int'l Preliminary, became last minute competitors when Bill Hall's accident made it impossible for his Miamians to sing and surprised everyone by making their way into the Finals.

PER CAPITA DUES

There is no such thing as prorating of Int'l Per Capita Dues. Chapters may prorate chapter dues if they wish to do so. From January 1 to August 31, the Int'l Per Capita Dues are \$5.00 (this includes *Harmonizer* subscription fee).

Members accepted into membership between September 1st and December 31st must pay \$7.50 Int'l Per Capita Dues. This increases the original outlay, but eliminates the necessity of collecting twice in a short period. In return, the member gets up to 16 months membership, six issues of the *Harmonizer*, and two issues of *Songs for Men*.

Michigan City, Indiana, with Rudy Hart directing, second place at Washington last year, was runner-up to Janesville in the Chorus Contest, followed by East York, Ontario, (Al Shields); Oak Park, Illinois, (Bob Haeger); Warren, Ohio, (Don Fernandez).

THE MEDAL Contest Saturday night saw the appearance of The Orphans, finishing their year as Champion, and six past champion foursomes—the Pittsburghers '48; Mid-States Four, Chicago '49; the Buffalo Bills '50; Schmitt Brothers, Manitowoc, Wis. '51; Four Teens, Belleville, Ill. '52; and the Vikings, Rock Island, Ill. '53. Alone, that evening's singing was worth the trip in the opinion of many.

Merrill Elected President

At the House of Delegates Meeting Saturday morning, election of International Officers of the Society took place. Arthur A. Merrill, Schenectady, N. Y. Chapter, was elected president. Rowland F. Davis, Manhattan (N. Y.) Chapter, second vice-president last year, stepped up to first vice-president. Dallas, Texas Chapter's Joseph E. Lewis moved up from his Int'l Board seat to the second vice-presidency. Mark P. Roberts, Detroit, Michigan, succeeded Ray Niblo, Des Moines, as Treasurer.

Elected to two year terms on the Int'l Board were Homer Aspy, South Pasadena, Calif.; Calmer Browy, Madison, Wis.; Dwight Calkins, Spokane, Wash.; William H. Hall, Miami, Florida; and Judge Luther "Luke" Sletten, Minneapolis, Minn. John Salia, Manhattan (N. Y.) Chapter, was elected to the unexpired one year term of Joe Lewis.

(Continued on next page)

Hearsmen Take—

(Continued)

Bob Hafer was reappointed Int'l Secretary.

Chorus Contest Debated

At all levels—Int'l Executive Committee, Int'l Board, House of Delegates, and in discussions by members everywhere, the whys and wherefors of chorus contests at the Int'l Convention were hotly debated.

The fact that four of the Society's fourteen Districts were unable to finance a chorus entry to Miami Beach because of the high cost opened up the whole subject of the desirability and feasibility of attempting to hold an Int'l Chorus Contest.

In some of the very large Districts, it has been found that only chapters nearby the city in which

elimination contests are held compete for the privilege of representing their District at the Int'l Contest. That raises the question whether or not the best choruses even get to the Int'l Contest.

The cost of travel for thirty to sixty men, anywhere from a few hundred to several thousand miles, has become a terrific burden on chapters and Districts.

Administrative problems connected with the housing and seating of competing choruses have reached serious proportions.

Solutions offered ranged from abolition of chorus contests at the Int'l level to Inter-District contests where convenient, to the Michigan District's proposal of four sectional chorus contests which would qualify four choruses to compete with the host chapter which would automatically qualify. The funds raised

at these four sectionals would be used to help defray the expenses of the winning choruses to the Convention.

By action of the Int'l Board, the entire matter was referred to the Int'l Executive Committee for further study.

New Slidefilm Started

Second step in the Society's Audio Visual Program, preparation of the Voice Expression Sound Slidefilm, was authorized by the Int'l Board. Profits from the first Sound Slidefilm, on Balance and Blend category, are being segregated in a separate fund to finance the issuance of further audio visual presentations. The B&B film is available at Int'l Hq for \$25.00.

Community Service

Various proposals have been made to the Society to adopt nationwide eleemosynary projects. The

IT'S GOOD TO BE A CHAMP



The Wichita, Kansas Orphans, 1954 Champions, in dark coats, taken immediately after they hung the gold medals on the Four Hearsmen. (Left to right)—Bari Pete Tyree, bari Dwight Elliott,

tenor Wendell Heiny, lead Bob Groom, lead Deane Watson, tenor Bud Bigham, bass Dick Gifford, bass Jay Bond.

Int'l Board of Directors considered all of them and expressed present Society policy in these words:

"In view of certain projected undertakings within the Society, the activities of our chapters should, for the present at least, be confined to specific collaboration with other local groups in such events as community concerts, institutional, and civic charitable projects."

Minimum Membership

The present requirement that each chapter have 20 members in good standing at all times in order to retain a charter was reaffirmed by the Int'l Board. Perennially a subject of debate, the prevailing opinion was that any change should be toward a greater, rather than reduced, minimum membership.

Educators Tie-up

The program of collaboration with Music Educators National Conference, entered into a year ago, has met with considerable acceptance. The Int'l Board approved plans to participate in the MENC 1956 meeting. The Society's brochure, entitled "A Music Educator's Introduction to Barbershop Harmony," has been fairly well distributed and very favorably received. These kits are available to chapters at 50c each for personal

distribution to school music supervisors and instructors.

1958 Convention

Invitations have been received for the 1958 Convention and Contest from Chicago, Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan, Dallas, Texas and Philadelphia, Pa. have submitted unofficial bids for 1959.

No decision was reached regarding a choice of site for 1958. This will probably be done in January at the Mid-Winter Convention.

In other action, the Int'l Board voted (effective Jan. 1, 1956) to rescind the action of July 1, 1954 when the Per Capita Dues Rebate to the Districts was increased from 50c to \$1.00; approved payment of travel expense of members of the House of Delegates to Denver next January; approved the uniform expense formula worked out for bookings of the 1955 Champion Four Harsemen; took notice of the increasing number of complaints of long winded emcees and quartet spokesmen and okayed in principle creation of an Emcee Training Program; turned down a proposal to prescribe 16 as the minimum age limit for membership, but urged upon the chapters extreme care in the matter with due consideration of the fact that the Society considers 16 as the recognized minimum age limit.

NON-SOCIETY QUARTET CONTESTS

Last year's Int'l Public Relations Committee Chairman, Munson Hinman of Salt Lake City, is purchasing agent for Intermountain Theatres. He's in a position to know what's afoot in the movie field. When an attempt was made to promote movie house barbershop quartet contests, (drawing on SPEBSQSA talent, natch), Munson took advantage of the chance to state clearly the Society's policy on non-society contests. In part he wrote—

"... It is my duty to inform you that local chapters of our Society will not participate in any quartet contest promoted by theatremen.

"We have an iron-clad rule against entering into any commercial exploitation of our amateur and non-profit hobby.

"Audiences tend to judge costumes and stage business rather than musicianship and barbershop craft."

The Society cannot prohibit entry into such outside contests. It can and does insist that any quartet appearing in such a contest may not identify itself with the Society, whether by use of the Society's name, its initials, or even by implication.



Directors of the winning choruses look on as Lew Sims, third from left, Director of the 1954 Champion Washington, D. C. Chorus, presents the O. C. Cash Memorial Trophy to D. Schuyler

"Skid" Davies, Jamesville, Wis. Otherwise, (left to right)—Don Fernandez, Warren, Ohio; Bob Haeger, Oak Park, Ill.; Al Shields, East York, Ontario; Rudy Hart, Michigan City, Indiana.



The PRESIDENT'S Round Table

Greetings, gentlemen.

It's good to get back in harness. It's an inspiration to work for the finest organization in the world . . . it's a pleasure to work and sing with the most harmonious men in the world.

I'd like to dedicate this space to one subject — Membership. It's a challenging subject, but not a difficult one in our organization. It's a pleasure to sell a superior product!

It's a subject that pays dividends. If your chapter officers worry about budgets, don't furrow your brow and sharpen your pencil . . . Instead, just sign up a few members. It's easier. Isn't a growing chapter a healthy chapter? Time spent in membership promotion pays off handsomely.

What do you think of the following membership formula:

Attractive program plus guest invitations equals More Members!

Isn't the first part the most important? If you'd like to check your own chapter, try the following five point check list. It's based on the most frequent comments received by Bob Hafer from a questionnaire sent to former members:

1. Is your chapter program a *balanced program*? Do you have enough time for chorus? for quartets? for woodshedding? If your chorus tends to take too much time, why not lower the boom definitely at the end of *exactly one hour*?
2. Does your meeting start on time? It's difficult to get a balanced program if you start late. Blow a pitchpipe at starting time and Sing! It's a good habit.

3. Does your chapter try to mix meeting with afterglow? Why not separate them? This may require a change of your meeting room. I've heard from scores of sources that this should pay off in *membership*.

4. Does your group mix? Do you make guests and new members feel at home? Are there any cliques? Have your officers been on deck too long? Why don't you train replacements?

5. Is there too much talk? Too much business? Why not tell your officers to do their business outside of the meeting time? Tell them to bring in the answers — and they'd better be good. But tell them you'd rather sing than talk in chapter meetings.

If your chapter program ranks high in the five check points, the second part is easy. Persistence is all that you need. Remind the group to bring in guests — remind them *before each meeting*.

Easy?

I'd like to close with some pleasant quotes from Bob Hafer's questionnaire:

"The relaxation after a hard day's work was worth any price. I could hardly wait the week till next meeting."

"I met some of the finest men in the various chapters."

"I never enjoyed good clean fellowship with respectable citizens as in the SPEBSQSA."

"The grandest bunch of men I ever met."

"Personally I think barbershopping is one of the greatest things in America."

"The best organization in the country BAR NONE."

There were many other similar comments. But remember, these are from men who saw fit to remove themselves from membership. Why? It appears that quite a few chapters score low on the 5 check points listed above.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please write me. My mailman has asked his boss for a wheelbarrow. The address is: 1567 Kingston Ave., Schenectady 9, N. Y.

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THE MEMBERSHIP PICTURE

With five months remaining in the current membership year, the report of July 31, 1955 indicates that the Society, as a whole, is "over the top" from both the standpoint of number of chapters and total membership. The information published below is a comparison of District standings as of July 31, 1955. The June issue of *The Harmonizer* published a similar report on page 21. The District standings for number of chapters and membership remain in exactly the same order as of April 30, 1955; however, we find, as of July 31, that in *percentage of recovery*, many changes in standing have taken place.

In the Society's top ten chapters in total membership, the rankings are the same as of the April 30 membership with the exception that Sheboygan, Wis-

consin has gone slightly ahead of Minneapolis, Minnesota. In the Membership Promotion picture we find that Niles, Ohio still remains in the number one spot and has shown an increase in three months from 71.4% to 90.5% with Keene, New Hampshire and Millersburg, Ohio in the same position. Newcomers to the select group are Riverdale, New Jersey; Washington County, Pennsylvania; and Greater Indianapolis, Indiana. Because of the tie positions, 11 chapters are listed rather than ten.

The April 30 report mentioned that 130 chapters had made increases in membership as of that date over December 31, 1954. As of July 31, 1955 the number of chapters increasing membership over the December 31 figures totals 279 chapters. How is *your* chapter doing?

THE TOP ELEVEN CHAPTERS IN MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Percentage of Increase from
December 31, 1954 to July 31, 1955

Chapter	District	% of Increase	Population (1950 Census)
1. Niles, Ohio.....	Johnny Appleseed...	90.5%	16,733
2. Keene, N. H.....	Northeastern.....	69.2%	15,638
3. Millersburg, Ohio.....	Johnny Appleseed...	65.0%	2,398
4. Oakland County, Mich.....	Michigan.....	61.9%	396,001
5. Riverdale, N. J.....	Mid-Atlantic.....	55.0%	1,352
6. Washington County, Pa.....	Johnny Appleseed...	54.8%	209,628
7. Scituate, Mass.....	Northeastern.....	54.2%	1,457
8. Fargo-Moorhead, N. D.....	Land O'Lakes.....	51.3%	38,256
9. *Greater Indianapolis, Ind.....	Indiana-Kentucky...	50.0%	427,173
10. *Topeka, Kansas.....	Central States.....	50.0%	78,791
11. *Warsaw, New York.....	Seneca Land.....	50.0%	3,713

*Tied

SOCIETY'S TOP TEN CHAPTERS

July 31, 1955

Chapter	District	Members	Population (1950 Census)
1. Manhattan, N. Y.....	Mid-Atlantic.....	275	1,960,101
2. Muskegon, Mich.....	Michigan.....	171	48,429
3. Tulsa, Okla.....	Southwestern.....	167	182,740
4. Sheboygan, Wis.....	Land O'Lakes.....	155	42,365
5. Minneapolis, Minn.....	Land O'Lakes.....	151	521,718
6. Miami, Fla.....	Dixie.....	150	249,276
7. Wichita, Kan.....	Central States.....	134	168,279
8. Dearborn, Mich.....	Michigan.....	129	94,944
9. Chicago #1, Ill.....	Illinois.....	130	3,620,962
10. Washington, D. C.....	Mid-Atlantic.....	116	802,178

DISTRICT STANDINGS

As of July 31, 1955

*District	Chapter 7/31/55	Chapter 12/31/54	*District	Membership 7/31/55	Membership 12/31/54	*District	Percentage of Recovery
1. Central States.....	68	69	1. Land O'Lakes....	2604	2669	1. Northeastern....	111.1%
2. Land O'Lakes....	63	61	2. Mid-Atlantic....	2567	2379	2. Evergreen.....	108.4%
3. Johnny Appleseed	57	61	3. Central States...	2404	2437	3. Mid-Atlantic....	107.9%
4. Mid-Atlantic.....	55	52	4. Johnny Appleseed...	2173	2149	4. Dixie.....	103.8%
5. Illinois.....	51	50	5. Illinois.....	2130	2111	5. Indiana-Kentucky....	102.6%
6. Northeastern.....	50	45	6. Northeastern....	1806	1626	6. Southwestern....	102.4%
7. Far Western.....	42	39	7. Michigan.....	1579	1664	7. Johnny Appleseed....	101.1%
8. Michigan.....	34	39	8. Far Western....	1457	1446	8. Illinois.....	100.9%
9. Seneca Land.....	32	34	9. Dixie.....	1415	1363	9. Far Western....	100.8%
10. Dixie.....	32	31	10. Indiana-Kentucky....	1232	1201	10. Central States...	98.7%
11. Indiana-Kentucky	29	30	11. Southwestern...	1158	1131	11. Land O'Lakes...	97.7%
12. Southwestern....	29	27	12. Seneca Land....	1123	1168	12. Seneca Land....	96.2%
13. Evergreen.....	27	26	13. Evergreen.....	985	909	13. Michigan.....	94.9%
14. Ontario.....	21	22	14. Ontario.....	793	875	14. Ontario.....	90.6%
Society.....	590	586		23,426	23,128		101.3%

*Listed according to ranking.



Finalists at Miami Beach

A. BARBER-Q FOUR:

La Grange (Q Suburban, Ill.) Chapter, Illinois District.

L to R: Jim O'Connor, Tenor; Tom Watts, Bass; Homer Maulberger, Lead; Bob Haeger, Bari.



B. KORD KINGS:

Oak Park, Ill. Chapter, Illinois District.

L to R: Doc Ruggles, Tenor; Al Hobik, Lead; Bob Jackson, Bari; (front) Ward Solberg, Bass.

C. MEMORY FOUR:

Miami, Florida Chapter, Dixie District.

L to R: Dan Whipple, Bari; John Condra, Lead; Gene Cokeroff, Tenor; Dave Whipple, Bass.



D. TREBLE MAKERS:

Redford (Detroit), Mich. Chapter, Michigan District.

L to R: (back) Bill Rowell, Lead; Vic VanYorx, Bass; (front) Ed Reddick, Tenor; Glenn Van Tassell, Bari.



E. EASTERNAIRES:

Jersey City, N. J. Chapter, Mid-Atlantic District.

L to R: Bob Bohn, Bari; Ray Michalski, Bass; Tom Dames, Lead; Dan Heyburn, Tenor.





F. COLUMBIANS:

*Washington, D. C. Chapter, Mid-Atlantic District
L to R: Bill Ball, Lead; Howard Cranford, Tenor;
Charlie Hay, Bari; Joe Yznaga, Bass.*



G. DESERTAIRS:

*El Paso, Texas Chapter, Southwestern District
L to R: Bill Spooner, Lead; Chas. Van Dien,
Tenor; Ernie Winters, Bass; Lou Laurel, Bari.*



H. PITCHBLENDIAIRES:

*Detroit, Mich. Chapter, Michigan District
L to R: Don Golding, Bass; Dale Clixby, Bari;
Jack Golding, Tenor; (front) Tom Pollard, Lead.*



J. WOLVERINES:

*Dearborn, Mich. Chapter, Michigan District
L to R: Al Rehkop, Tenor; Bob Craig, Bari; Dick
Florence, Bass; Joe Sipots, Lead.*



K. COMPRESSAIRES:

*Painted Post, N. Y. Chapter, Seneca Land District
L to R: Bob Hughes, Lead; Hank Whitten, Tenor;
Gene McIlwain, Bari; Hugh Olmstead, Bass.*

All of the Miami Beach Convention photographs were made by Ernie's Studio & Camera Center, 661 N. E. 125th St., North Miami, Fla. (8" x 10" prints may be ordered at \$1 each. Please identify by Harmonizer Key Letter and Page Number.)

MEET THE NEW OFFICERS OF

The President



Arthur A. Merrill was born in Honolulu, T. H. . . . graduated U. of Cal. in 1927, engineering; MBA, Harvard, '29 . . . went with General Electric and has been there since, ourrent assignmunt—Manager, Salary and Wage Practices, Apparatus Sales Division.

Through brother Charles, (Reno, Society Pres. 1947), Art became interested in the Society . . . organized Schenectady, N. Y. in 1944 . . . engaged actively in affairs of Northeastern District, became in succession—Int'l Board Member, Int'l Vice-President, Int'l Treasurer . . . has served on many Int'l Committees and as Contest Judge for a number of years.

Art married Elsie Breed in 1929 and has one daughter, Anne, an ardent barbershopper.

His administrative experience with General Electric well fits Art for the exacting task of presiding over the affairs of the Society. His years of active service in all levels of Society operation insure a thorough knowledge of the job ahead.

Art sings bass. So does brother Charlie. So does brother Bill who helped launch Honolulu, T.H. Chapter.

The First Vice-President

Rowland F. Davis, of New York City, became a member of SPEBSQSA in 1947. He has been a very active supporter of Manhattan Chapter ever since joining. In 1951, he was elected to the Int'l Board and last year served as 2nd Vice-president.

56 years of age, Rowland attended schools in Herkimer, New York, graduated from Cornell with a degree in Electrical Engineering. In his own words, throughout his life he, "has sung sporadically and more enthusiastically than harmoniously at parties, picnics, and whenever the opportunity offered."

The picture shows him examining telephone desk units in his capacity with A.T.&T. Married, Rowland and Sophie have two sons.



The Second Vice-President

Joseph E. Lewis, of Dallas, Texas, joined the Society in 1947. He broke into active competition singing lead with the Dallasaires. Having received their baptism of fire in District Contests, they successfully competed in Int'l Prelims and made the big contest at Toledo in 1951 and Kansas City in 1952.

Joe has had administrative experience in Society affairs all the way, having held the offices of Chapter President; Southwestern District Treasurer, Vice-president and President; Int'l Board Member.

Joe is president of the National Bond & Investment Co., Dallas. He is married (to Mary) and has one daughter, Marilyn, whose enthusiasm for barbershopping is nearly equal to Joe's.

The stuff Joe has in his hands, if you can't make it out in the picture, is MONEY.



The Treasurer

The reader will have to imagine bookshelves lined with Blackstone and other legal beagles behind Mark Roberts' head.

A "Hoosier" by birth and a Detroitier by preference, Mark is a Detroit attorney—educated in the public schools, Detroit Tech and Detroit College of Law. Mark's wife, Isabel, doesn't merely condone her husband's Barbershop activities but encourages Barbershopping as an excellent hobby. Their daughters, Dolores and Marcia are frequent visitors to Society functions.

Mark started his quartet singing as a Marine in France in W.W. I. He joined the Society in 1940, sang in competition at all levels with the Detroit Turners who reached Finalist rank at Grand Rapids in '42. Mark is a certified judge in all categories and is among the Society's leaders in number of contests judged. He has been Chapter Secretary and President, District President, Chairman of International C & J and Laws and Regulations Committees. Hasn't missed an Int'l Convention since his first in St. Louis in '41. One of a select few members who own a complete set of Harmonizers and its predecessor "Barbershop Re-Chordings."

"... a knowledge box of contributions of men with varied interests and backgrounds in SPEBSQSA"—Deac Martin.

THE WAY I SEE IT

BY J. D. BEELER, PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Jerry Beeler was Int'l President in the years 1950-51. He became active in The Society in 1944 and, by any definition, rates as an "elder statesman." Below appears a digest of the "Keynote Speech" he had prepared for delivery at the House of Delegates Meeting in Miami Beach. Called home to

Evansville by his mother's serious illness, he turned a draft of his speech over to Past Int'l Pres. John Z. Means who read it at the meeting. (A limited supply of copies of the complete draft is on hand at International Headquarters. Copies will be furnished on request.)

... This will not be the usual Key-note address given at the start of a Convention and having as its objective the presentation of essential issues of interest to the assembly about to go to work. Rather it is given as a check on our past and a possible guide to the future.

Probably, what I am about to say may meet with objections from some listeners... I am fully aware of the great progress we have made. We are recognized today as a strong force in not only our local communities, but in the states and provinces and the nations. Our progress has been definitely forward, but I am going to leave the flowers and the praises to those who can more adequately express themselves.

What I want to check up on is our love to sing, freely and extemporaneously; our ability to promote good fellowship as a result thereof; our allegiance to a Society that is unique.

My talk will be built around the thought that prompted the composer to write *Bring Back Those Good Old Days*—not the "good old days" of the galvanized tub in the kitchen. I refer to our own fairly recent "good old days"—the early years of our organization—when new chapters were spontaneously springing up all over the land, where fun and woodshed harmony were the rule. I refer to the days when Owen Cash and his founding group conceived this Society and had in mind old fashioned four part harmony, sung by male voices—sung by a *quartet*.

Members, or prospective members, attending early meetings of the Society were welcomed into the fold and definitely urged to fill in a quartet. Whether the result of natural enthusiasm for something

new and different, or, merely the desire to increase membership, it was genuine and contagious.

Key men and quartets gave unstintingly of their time and talent to encourage and promote. Our keystone was the preservation and encouragement of *quartet* singing. For this reason, our institution has had such an appeal and hence growth.

Can it be that many of the problems we have encountered, such as staggering losses of membership, the failure of many chapters to survive and prosper, stem from a cleavage from that keystone? We have lost too many fine members—many fine chapters—and I ask you why?

Isn't it quite possible that many men affiliated with us because they believed us to be a *quartet* group, but as time went on found us to be another of the many choral groups. Is it possible that one of our inherent weaknesses is dependence on a chapter membership meeting. No one has yet come up with the answer to the question how such a meeting can be adapted to the needs or the requirements of the quartet singer. Chapter meetings are, by nature, more readily adaptable to group singing. The result is that the true barbership *quartet* man would prefer to meet other men of his own choosing, in the privacy of a home, rather than attend the most stimulating chapter meeting yet devised. He would rather spend the meeting time in rehearsal where he can "feel" the effect of his own single voice. I am afraid that the Society, as we are operating it today, does not give such a man what he wants, but rather the Society is *demanding* of him what it wants.

This brings me to the question whether or not we have strayed too

far from our original concept, perhaps to too great an extent have departed from our self imposed confinement. Our definition of barbershop harmony hasn't changed. Isn't it true, therefore, that pure and unadulterated barbershop harmony can only be produced by a *quartet*, not an octet, or any multiple thereof.

In our choruses that have been so rapidly improving and have become so important a part of our development, do we actually encourage, or are we inclined to discourage, by weeding out the chapter member who simply cannot, perhaps for any number of reasons, hit them precisely on the nose.

Are we, by concentrating on our own chapter chorus director's arrangements, which frequently are tricky, discouraging a good barbershopper visiting a sister chapter, or actually scaring a prospective member. Whether all of such director-made arrangements are basically in true barbershop style certainly is open to dispute. Should we not consider the possibility of requiring that each chorus learn, exactly as written,—one, two, or three prescribed arrangements per year.

By all means, we want progress, if it is progress.

Should we continue to permit each District to qualify a chorus for competition at the Int'l Convention. Or, should we at least consider the advisability of conducting "Sectional Eliminations." It seems to me the burden we are placing on our Districts, (which means our members), to finance annual trips is not a healthy development and could have an injurious effect.

Let it be definitely understood,

please, that I am not opposed to choruses—contrariwise, I am strong for them and honestly feel they form the backbone of our chapters, but I am *frankly fearful* that by sheer weight of numbers the quartet could be absorbed and eventually swallowed up, unless we again find a way to appeal to quartet men and continue to hold up our quartets as the elite of the Society. The chorus must always recognize that the quartets are entitled to first and all-out Society support and that the real objectives of the chorus should be

first—the development of quartets

second—the rendering of public service

third—the winning of contests.

... There are still too many barbershoppers who have too little regard for our International organization. I wish it were possible for all to attend meetings of the Int'l Board, Executive Committee, or Int'l standing committees. They would then better understand, appreciate and defend the labor of love that, largely by the trial and error method, has brought us to a fully grown, efficiently run organization.

I am strong for the development of our District organizations, but we must never overlook the fact that it is our International organization, manned by professionals, guided by those who prove their allegiance and ability, who have dedicated time, energy, talent, and money to the cause, that really makes us click.

... Let's bring back that part of our "good old days" when we had more fun, kept our members on our rosters, never lost a properly organized chapter and enthusiastically, conscientiously, and consistently actually *preserved* and *encouraged* the kind of singing that has made us what we are today.

CHARLES F. SCHWAB

Charley Schwab, tenor of the 1943 Society Champion Four Harmonizers, Chicago, died of a heart attack August 2nd.



Gentle hint to wives, sons, daughters and other relatives, it's not too early to plan on presenting a 1956 membership (check with local chapter secretary) or one or more of these

Christmas Gifts For Barbershoppers

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CIGARETTE CASE—emblem, gold color.....	4.50 ea.
DECAL—Society emblem, three colors.....	.15 ea.
EMBLEM—Scotchlite reflective, three colors.....	.35 ea.
GUEST BOOK—For chapter or personal use, (loose leaf type).....	3.50 ea.
"KEEP AMERICA SINGING"—authoritative history of Society.....	2.50 ea.
LAPEL EMBLEM—regular member, three color.....	1.50 ea.
(Complete Jewelry Folder Available on Request)	
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'51 Pen and Pencil Set.....	17.50 set
'51 Custom Pen and Pencil Set.....	24.50 set
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—without emblem.....	2.50 ea.
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SEMI-FINALISTS AT MIAMI BEACH



SHARP 4

Eugene-Springfield, Ore. Chapter,
Evergreen District
L to R: Bob Huffman, Tenor; Ron Lodge, Lead;
Jerry Holloway, Bari; Wilson Barber, Bass.



CARDINALS

Madison, Wisconsin Chapter, Land O'Lakes District
L to R: (back) Dr. J. Kammer, Bass; M. Liscum, Tenor;
(front) Jerry Ripp, Lead; Joe Ripp, Bari.



VERDUGO DONS

Glendale-Burbank, Calif. Chapter,
Far Western District
L to R: Dub Stallings, Bass; Bufe Strange, Lead;
Bob Scott, Tenor; Don Plumb, Bari.



VARSTITONES

Seattle, Wash. Chapter, Evergreen District
L to R: Jimmy Iddings, Lead; Clayton Lacey, Tenor;
Merv Clements, Bari; Paul Brown, Bass.



WHIPCHORDS

Janesville, Wisc. Chapter, Land O'Lakes District
L to R: R. G. Richardson, Jr., Bari; R. Clarko, Tenor;
Bruce McClellan, Bass; Skid Davies, Lead.



TEMPLAIRS

Muncie, Ind. Chapter, Indiana-Kentucky District
L to R: Paul Cooley, Tenor; Wally Lawrence, Bass;
Joe Harris, Lead; Mel Turner, Bari.



TRAVELAIRS

San Jose, Calif. Chapter, Far Western District
L to R: Bob Downey, Lead; Elmer Fairbanks, Tenor;
Del Hokanson, Bass; Del Green, Bari.

SEMI-FINALISTS AT MIAMI BEACH



CHORD COMBERS
 Gloversville-Johnstown, N. Y. Chapter, Northeastern District
 L to R: Mike Johnston, Lead; Chet Franco, Tenor;
 John Hemstreet, Bari; Fran O'Brien, Bass.



CHORD MASTERS
 Binghamton-Johnson City, N. Y. Chapter,
 Seneca Land District
 L to R: (front) Jack Munglo, Bari.; Bill Birch, Bass;
 (back) Bill Monroe, Tenor; Jack Kanick, Lead.



ELM CHORDS
 New Haven, Conn. Chapter, Northeastern District
 L to R: Jack Hines, Bass; Doc Sause, Lead;
 David Chapman, Tenor; Nemo Lynch, Bari.



FOUR-IN-A-CHORD
 Cleveland, Ohio Chapter, Johnny Appleseed District
 L to R: (rear) Ray Biaber, Bass; Tom Wellman, Bari.;
 (front) Ken Emerson, Tenor; Al Gross, Lead.



DIXIELINERS
 Evansville, Ind. Chapter, Indiana-Kentucky District
 L to R: Bill Schaar, Tenor; Bob Evans, Bass;
 Don Julian, Lead; Jim Negley, Bari.



CROW BARS
 El Dorado, Kan. Chapter, Central States District
 L to R: Paul Graham, Tenor; Jack Pittman, Lead;
 George Baer, Bass; Gene McClure, Bari.

SEMI-FINALISTS AT MIAMI BEACH



CHORD BLENDERS

Allentown-Bethlehem, Pa. Chapter, Mid-Atlantic District
L to R: Dwayne Young, Bass; Al Yost, Bari.;
Harold Stocker, Tenor; Gerry Ball, Lead.



BLACK HAWKS

Jonesville, Wisconsin Chapter, Land O'Lakes District
L to R: Keith Merrifield, Bari.; Ruol "Bud" Madison, Lead;
Herb Shultz, Tenor; Don Doherty, Bass.



ATOMIC BUMS

Minneapolis, Minn. Chapter, Land O'Lakes District
L to R: Maynard Saxe, Tenor; Les Mikelson, Lead;
Regis Ellefson, Bari.; Luther Sletten, Bass.



BUZZ SAWS

Buckeye (Capital) Chapter, Columbus, Ohio,
Johnny Appleseed District
L to R: (rear) — Staff Taylor, Tenor; Bruce Lynn, Lead;
(front) Johnny Glass, Bari.; George Chamblin, Bass.



B.M.A. GAMBOLIERS

Kansas City, Mo. Chapter, Central States District
L to R: Orval Wilson, Bari.; Eddie Schliebs, Lead;
Jack Cook, Tenor; Jim Byrne, Bass.



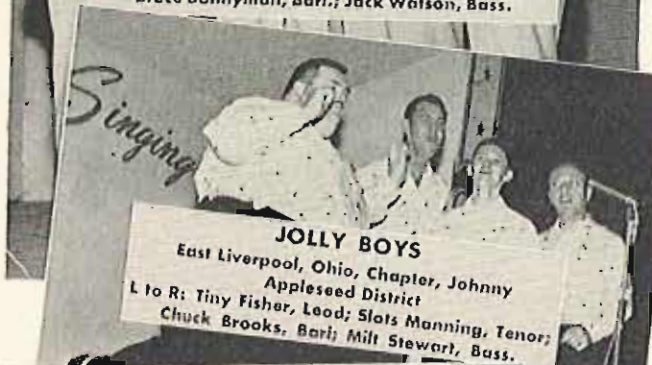
AGRICULTURISTS

Janesville, Wisconsin Chapter, Land O'Lakes District
L to R: Art Duerst, Lead; Cecil Rhodes, Tenor;
Dean Taylor, Bari.; Don Nelson, Bass.

SEMI-FINALISTS AT MIAMI BEACH



TORONTO TOWNSMEN
Toronto, Ontario Chapter, Ontario District
L to R: Bob Bridgman, Lead; Stan Green, Tenor;
Bruce Bonnyman, Bari; Jack Watson, Bass.



JOLLY BOYS
East Liverpool, Ohio, Chapter, Johnny
Appleseed District
L to R: Tiny Fisher, Lead; Slat Manning, Tenor;
Chuck Brooks, Bari; Milt Stewart, Bass.



PLAY-TONICS
Teaneck, N. J. Chapter, Mid-Atlantic District
L to R: Gene Laubs, Tenor; Vic Trabulsi, Bari;
Dave Mittelstadt, Lead; Ralph Brandt, Bass.



HELMSMEN
New Bedford, Mass. Chapter, Northeastern District
L to R: (back) Ken Bastian, Tenor; Bep Balotraci, Bari;
(front) Enach Duarte, Lead; Joe Hamburges, Bass.



SPRING SINGERS
Colorado Springs, Colo. Chapter, Central States District
L to R: Bill Butler, Tenor; Vic Holmes, Bari;
Monty Duerksen, Bass; Bill Brooks, Lead.



HAWKEYE FOUR
Des Moines, Iowa Chapter, Central States District
L to R: Bob Langerak, Tenor; Bob Boudewyns, Lead;
Fred Owens, Bari; Jerry Pike, Bass.



GREAT SCOTS
East Liverpool, Ohio Chapter, Johnny Appleseed District
L to R: Scotty Ward, Tenor; Angus Ward, Lead;
Jack McCullough, Bass; Sandy Smith, Bari.

WASHINGTON D. C. SINGING CAPITAL CHORUS



1954 Champions of the Society, the Washington Chorus came in force to Miami and sang everywhere. Lew Sims is the director in the picture, but Washington boasts five others, all of whom

have directed the chorus in public concerts. They are Bob Harmon, Ed Carey, Frank Townsend, Jim Faust, and H. H. Copeland.

FOR THE RECORD

Once in a while, a Society old timer will appear with a tiny little barber pole in his coat lapel. This was, for a long time, the official SPEBSQSA emblem. As early as 1942, Dick Sturges of the Atlanta Chapter, dissatisfied with the pin, got together with a custom jeweler, Charles Comerro, and the two dreamed up a new emblem embodying the barber pole, the letters SPEBSQSA, and a lyre in the background.

Dick presented the pin to the Board of Directors at the Convention in Grand Rapids in June of '42, but nothing was done about it. In the Fall of '43 Dick made a new sketch along similar lines and presented it to the Board at the Detroit Mid-Winter Meeting in January. The Board then appointed a committee, consisting of Sturges, Carroll Adams (then Int'l Sec'y), and Joseph P. Wolff of Detroit, to proceed with the matter.

Sturges then made several different designs and the committee decided on the one which is now the Society's official emblem.

The gold, silver, and bronze medallions which are presented to

the five medalists in each year's Int'l Contest owe their origin to Roscoe Bennett, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Roscoe was General Chairman of the Society's 1942 Convention and Contest held in Grand Rapids. He conceived the idea of the emblems one Sunday morning in church while watching choir boys being awarded their monthly medallions on ribbons. Roscoe sold the idea to then National Pres. Carroll Adams and they worked out a design. *The Elastic Four*, Chicago, 1942 Champions, were thus the first to receive Society medallions. Lacking funds to purchase the medallions, since the Society's treasury was at that time practically non-existent, Adams sold Detroit Chapter on the idea of presenting the medallions. In 1943, host chapter Chicago, presented them and in 1944 and '45 Oakland County, Michigan Chapter took over.

In 1946, the Board adopted the medallions as an official function and also voted to present sets to the 1939 Champion *Bartlesville Barflies*, the 1940 Champion *Flat Foot Four*, and the 1941 Champion *Chord Busters*.

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COMPETING CHORUSES AT MIAMI BEACH



THE INT'L CHAMPIONS OF SPEBSQSA

Land O' Lakes District—Janesville, Wisconsin Chapter

D. Schuyler Davies, Director

"Washington Waddle"

"Lonesome I Guess, That's All"



SECOND PLACE

Indiana-Kentucky District—Michigan City, Indiana Chapter

Rudy Hart, Director (7th from right)

"Those Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up That Old Gang of Mine"

"Dear Hearts and Gentle People"



THIRD PLACE

Ontario District—East York, (Toronto), Ontario Chapter

Al Shields, Director

"Side by Side"

"Going Home"

COMPETING CHORUSES AT MIAMI BEACH



FOURTH PLACE

Illinois District—Oak Park, Illinois Chapter

Bob Haeger, Director

"New Ashmolean Marching Society"

"My Heart Stood Still"



FIFTH PLACE

Johnny Appleseed District—Warren, Ohio Chapter

Don Fernandez, Director

"Yona from Arizona"

"My Angelina"

REMAINING FIVE CHORUSES NOT LISTED IN ORDER OF RANK



Mid-Atlantic District—Plainfield, N. J. Chapter

Tony Doganieri, Director

"The Derby"

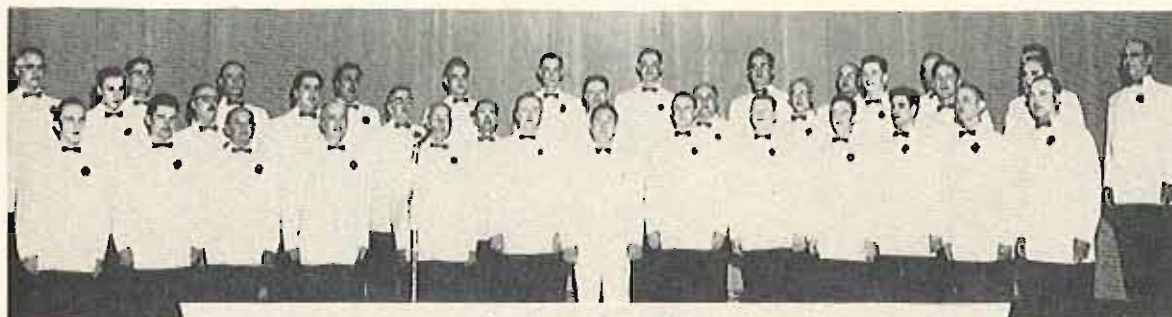
"See You Some Tuesday"

COMPETING CHORUSES AT MIAMI BEACH

CHORUSES ON
THIS PAGE NOT
LISTED IN
ORDER OF RANK



Dixie District—Miami, Florida Chapter
Grover Baker, Director
"I Love the Land of Old Black Joe" "Aura Lee"



Seneca Land District—Olean, New York Chapter
Floyd Newburg, Director
"You're the Girl I Meet in Dreamland" "Dreaming" (medley)



Southwestern District—Dallas, Texas Chapter
Aylett Fitzhugh, Director
"Down in the Valley" "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen"



Northeastern District—Montreal, Quebec Chapter
Harry Frazer, Director
"Wait 'Til the Sun Shines Nellie" "I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen"



FROM THE MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION

As Staff Taylor, tenor of the Buckeye Capital (Columbus, Ohio) Buzz Saws, so aptly put it in a chapter bulletin—

"Each International Contest and Convention is different and exciting in a new way and we might literally say this year was 'all wet and ended up in a big stink'—which was true. The Sunshine State failed to live up to its name—we had rain and overcast much of the time—but not enough to spoil the swimming. And at the diLido Hotel, 1 A.M. Sunday, an oversized stench bomb was tossed into the air conditioning system. The crowd in the lobby and the Woodshed evacuated but FAST."

It has pretty definitely been established that whoever dropped that ente little package was not expressing his opinion of the singing that had been going on for several days and nights.

If you haven't seen Miami Beach there's no point in trying to describe it. All the adjectives in the language, complimentary and otherwise, have been used about "The Beach" by many expert word slingers. For SPEBSQSA purposes, it left little to be desired. The auditorium was perfect and only a few blocks from the hotels. The weather was varied and not unpleasant. The hotels were handsome, air cooled, and generally comfortable. Food, etc. was excellent and prices were not at all unreasonable. The "natives" were cordial and friendly. What more can one ask?

Only real gripe heard was from the fellow who had to pay a \$10 fine for a traffic violation and that was his own fault for going through a red light—crazy Yankee. Incidentally, this department

WOW! WHAT A LINEUP

These Champions Sang at Miami Beach

THE
MID-STATES
FOUR
1949
CHAMPIONS



THE
BUFFALO
BILLS
1950
CHAMPIONS



THE
SCHMITT
BROTHERS
1951
CHAMPIONS



THE
FOUR
TEENS
1952
CHAMPIONS



THE
VIKINGS
1953
CHAMPIONS



The 1948 Champion Pittsburghers also appeared at Miami Beach, but their pictures did not turn out well enough to use.

knows of several fine collections of parking tickets if anyone is interested in souvenirs.

For the first day or so, greenhorn visitors kept the pants pressers busy. After that, it became obvious why so many natives wear seersucker. What with the humidity, the wet winds off the sea, and the sudden tropical downpours of liquid sunshine that drench you before you can run three steps, it's either seersucker, a bathing suit, or a birthday suit.

Compensations galore—another shower just after returning to the hotels from the Jamboree—followed by the most beautiful twin rainbows ever seen. Oddly enough, a friend of this writer, staying in the Nacional Hotel, Havana, Cuba, saw the same natural phenomenon.

Hotel rules banning female shorts in the lobby at all times and requiring coated gentlemen after 6 P.M. worked no hardship except on a few of the very stubborn. After a close-up view of some of the street strollers (no barbershoppers, these) the rules are quite comprehensible.

Excellent food was available just about anywhere. San Antonio, Texas' Howard Bumbaugh fell a victim to his favorite corned beef and cabbage. Despite the warnings of Dallas' Stan Martin and Tom Helzer, Howard piled on great gobs of horseradish and was spotted the following 3 A.M. on Collins Avenue, walking it off. Said Bruce Lynu, of Columbus, Ohio, "I'll never be able to stare another Kosher Dill Pickle in the face."

Would that more quartets would follow the example of the Four Hearsemens, the Confederates, the Desertairs, the Great Scots, the Buzz Saws, the Verdugo Dons, and perhaps a few more, who really go in for costuming. It adds so much to the presentation.

The Great Scots wowed the audience with their entrance and exit. In full kiltie regalia, they marched in, "nyah-nyah-ing," nasally, like a bagpipe band. Report has it they did much of their practicing in five feet of ocean water, displaying amazing ability to hit a gut buster between waves.

Somebody asked, "What would



The Int'l Board put in a good many hours of hard work. (Left to right)—Harley Miller, Tampa, Fla.; President-elect Art Merrill, Schenectady, N. Y.; Joe Lewis, Dallas, Texas; Pete DePaolis, Rochester, N. Y.; (standing) Int'l Pres. Simmer; Reddie Wright, Pasadena, Calif.; Howard Tubbs, Detroit; Ed Stetson, New Bedford, Mass.; Glen Reid, Logansport, Ind. Seated, end table at right—Int'l Sec'y Bob Hafer. Present but hidden, V.P. Rowland Davis, New York City; Imm. Past Int'l Pres. Johnny Means, Manitowoc, Wis.; Treasurer Ray Niblo, Des Moines.

happen to these hotels if the air conditioning system broke down?" The answer is you could then think you were in almost any city in a non-air-conditioned hotel. Official U. S. Weather Bureau reported temperatures for June 18—

	High	Low
Boston	91	63
Buffalo	92	62
Chicago	89	64
Detroit	89	62
El Paso	98	60
Los Angeles	81	56
Minneapolis	75	65
Phoenix	101	65
Toledo	91	57
Washington, D. C. .	84	65
MIAMI	High 84	Low 69

For probably the first time in history, there was no duplication of songs at the Jamboree. It was a dandy show, featuring a mixture of straight singing, specialties, solos, comedy, and costuming. Credit for the planning goes to Imm. Past Int'l First V.P. Dean Snyder, Washington, D. C., who months ago conceived the idea of sending a questionnaire to all quartets asking what they'd sing on the Jamboree, if called upon. Study of these questionnaires enabled the M. C., Past Int'l Pres. Jim Knipe, to program the show.

The Mississippi Misses, Fort Madison, Iowa, current Sweet Adeline champions, made a grand slam at the Jamboree. They're pretty, they dress nicely, they can dance, they

sell their songs, BUT, above all, they can really sing—soft, loud, and all the way in between.

From the competing quartets' viewpoint, the mechanical handling of the contests was better than ever before. Individual dressing rooms with all facilities were topnotch. Auditorium Committee Chairman Pete Bailey and his backstage "runners" kept quartets constantly informed on the timing of the performances.

However, the winners of the Chorus Contest, Janesville, Wisconsin Chapter, very nearly didn't get to compete at all. Through some sort of foul up in timing they were still at their hotel when the "on deck" signal sounded. A hurry call brought them to the Auditorium, but fast.

Plane stories were plane-tiful. The Evansville, Ind. Dixieliners left Miami Sunday afternoon. Before they reached Tampa, somebody suggested they bust one. They did, just as one of the plane's four motors went bust. Unresolved question—did the motor go out so it could listen?

A woodshedding foursome of Dallas fans, en route home, had the not altogether pleasing experience of dropping a hundred feet or so in an airpocket, fast. Bill Malloy, singing lead, dropped about four full tones with the plane, but regained pitch when the ship leveled off. Ray Watson, D. C. McNeely, and

(Continued on next page)

Emmet Haskew swear it's on the level, but Stub believes there's something (H) askew. (Stub is now unemployed. Eds.)

The Singing Brocks, Connersville, Indiana, sang several times in the Woodshed, Auditorium lobby and in various hotels.

Six Society Past Presidents were on hand—Rupert Hall, Tulsa; O. H. King Cole, Manitowoc, Wis.; Dr. Norman Rathert, St. Louis; J. D. Beeler, Evansville, Indiana; J. F. Knipe, Cleveland; John Z. Means, Manitowoc, Wis. Jerry Beeler had to fly home Friday night when he received word that his mother was seriously ill.

Past Int'l President Harold B. Staab was represented by his widow, Florence. Corinne Zinsmaster, widow of the late Int'l Board Member Warren Zinsmaster, Miami, figured prominently in ladies' hospitality activities.

Two of the Buzz Saws, Buckeye Capital (Columbus, Ohio) Chapter and three of the Atomic Bums, Minneapolis have been in the Int'l competition just about every year since 1947 in Milwaukee. Staying in the top rank of Society competition for that length of time is no mean accomplishment. Tenor Staff Taylor and bass George Chamblin, Buzz Saws, tenor Maynard Saxe, bari Regs Ellefson and bass Luke Sletten, Atomic Bums, are to be congratulated.

Youngest competitors by far were the Sharp Four, Eugene, Oregon. They all graduated from Eugene High School the week before the contest.

The Verdugo Dons amazed the Jamboree audience with their beautiful presentation of *The Story of Jimmy Brown (The Three Bells)*. Their four voices sounded just as good, if not better, than the nine used by Les Compagnons de la Chanson, the French group of singers who skyrocketed to fame several years ago with this tune.

The Chordblenders, Allentown-Bethlehem, Pa. Chapter, as usual had 'em rolling in the aisles. Introduced as male models from Burdine's department store, demonstrating what the well dressed quartet should wear in Miami, the audience failed to recognize

PROFESSOR WILSON GOES

Well, I went to Miami Beach. Actually, I went to Collins Avenue. I took a dip in the ocean just to see what Middle Westerners do when they get in salt water. They get wet, I found.

I learned a lot about judging quartets. I had studied all the literature the Committee sent me; tried my hand in various contests; then found out how to judge, solely by accident, from a lady in flounced batiste who sat right behind the judges' pit.

"Just see how much larger that bass' right ear is than his left. You know very well, Rhoda, that a quartet like that has no balance. And they aren't uniform. The baritone has a single petunia in his buttonhole and the others have double. What could his wife be thinking of to let him go on lopsided like that? And as for Song Arrangement, I happen to know they arranged to sing that song four months ago. The original title was 'There's A Gulley In The Gulf of Guatemala', and they changed it to 'Pell Mell Papa Made a Pass at Me'. There must be some rule against that, and I understand the Guatemalans feel terrible."

It rained. It was a dry rain, the natives said. They swore it would leave dust on your clothes. They needed the rain, but the barbershoppers didn't. It rained during the night. It rained during the forenoon, and during lunch. It rained during the afternoon and during the evening, not hard, but just hard enough to



make the Californians jealous. California doesn't have rain. They have irrigation and Reddie Wright.

After the Convention nearly 300 of us went to Havana. The foresighted had made reservations early and got air-cooled staterooms. Those without air conditioning said they would rather be investigated by a Senate committee than spend another night on that ship.

You have heard of "Cuba Libre." It turned out to be a false rumor. There is nothing free in Cuba. We went on a tour of the city, saw cathedrals, distilleries, cigar factories, sugar plantations, etc. At one of the big rum foundries they sat us down at little tables, on each of which were a number of bottles standing in a row. They told us to go right down the line and try them all, and then to have a conference

them behind their dark glasses. The "modeling" was greeted with roars of laughter, but that was as nothing compared to the convulsions caused by their M-O-T-H-E-R routine. Lead Gerry Batt (220 pounds) and bass Dwayne Young (115 pounds, wearing lead shoes) spell out the letters acrobatically as tenor Harold Stocker and bari Allen Yost sing a duet. The second chorus,

at vastly increased tempo, leaves the acrobats breathless and the audience helpless. Fortunately, they were the last quartet on the Jamboree program. To follow those antics would be plain suicide.

All who attended the Int'l Contest in Detroit in 1953 will remember what happened to the Vikings as they sang *When You're Smiling*. The lyrics go, "But when you're

TO THE DEEP SOUTH

with the cashier if we found some we liked.

Unfortunately, at my table, the bottles stood in a circle instead of in a row, so we were unable to tell when we got to the end, and we made several laps around the ring before we got the idea. Then we got it all of a sudden. Some of the boys preferred the liquor with the varnish taste, some liked the banana and pineapple cordials. Most of us liked them all in combination.

The combined chorus of all barbershoppers sang on the steps of the Cuban Capitol. American baseball has long been popular in Cuba, just as Cuban baseball is popular with the Washington ball club. The Cubans even have a big diamond on the first floor of the Capitol—a 32 carat diamond. The crowd of Cubans who listened to our chorus was peculiarly unimpressed. We prepared them for the worst by introducing a pick-up quartet which sang a song over the mike. They had to sing loud because a ladies' vocal orchestra was performing right across the street at an outdoor cabaret. When they finished, the Cuban audience remained enthusiastically silent. Then the chorus sang a song. The Cubans remained fervidly immobile. The chorus sang another song. The Cubans showed admirable restraint, not batting an eye or clapping a hand. This was too much. The Director of Turismo grabbed the mike and made an impassioned speech in Spanish, the gist of which was "For

the love of Mike, caballeros, give 'em a hand. They are here on a goodwill mission. What do you care if they sing lousy. Applauden! Applauden!" So they did, gently and sedately. I doubt if barbershop singing will ever take the place of Jai-Alai in Cuba, or even rum and tobacco.

The trip back was featured by the Cruise Quartet Contest, in which imaginations ran riot in the matter of costume, somewhat less in the matter of songs. The contest was won by one of the sweetest singing, spectacularly harmonizing and handsome quartets ever assembled on a post-convention cruise. The lead was Bob Hafer, an up-and-coming young man who sleeps at the Detroit headquarters from 9 to 5 daily, except on Saturdays when they wake him up and put him out at 12:30. Dwight Calkins, Prexy of Evergreen District sang bass; the bari was Ed Gentry, of Evansville, Indiana; and modesty forbids my mentioning the incomparable tenor, although I will give you a hint that it was I. The prizes were bestowed by Marty Mendro with his right hand and grabbed back immediately by his left, since they were show-room samples.

Upon arriving back at Miami Beach, we scattered all over Florida, through charming little towns, fine beaches, sunny skies, refreshing showers and hotdog stands. I can hardly wait to visit the Denver igloos, and the Good Humor factories.

that many songs sung at Miami Beach were arranged out of range of the higher parts. Common sense would seem to indicate arranging within range as absolutely fundamental. Better to sacrifice some of the "spectacular effects" than to end up with a screeching tenor or a bogged down bass.

Past Int'l Pres. King Cole had a dandy time at the Finalist Contest between quartets, polling the audi-

ence on the songs most closely associated with Int'l Champion quartets. There were violent differences of opinion, but also quite a number of clean cut decisions—1944 Harmony Halls, *Rock and Roll*; 1948 Pittsburghers, *Night in June*; The Orphans, *Sweetheart of Sigma Chi*.

When the Air Fours, an Air Force quartet from Belleville, Ill. Chapter, made the Medalist Contest, they knocked out of the Jamboree what would probably have been one of the highlights. Early in the week, the Air Fours, the Air Chords, newly crowned Air Force Champions, and the Four Teens, 1952 Society Champions (just out of the Air Force) sang as a 12 man chorus just for kicks. It sounded so good that Past Int'l Pres. Norm Rathert suggested they appear on the Jamboree.

The Air Chords were formerly The Lancers, of Pioneer (Chicago, Ill.) Chapter. They sang in Washington last year, then joined the Air Force together and have continued to sing.

Washington, D. C.'s F. Stirling Wilson helped to judge the Air Force contest in which the Air Chords were selected. He and the other judges, Dr. Norman Rathert, Jim Ewin, Harley Miller, Joe Wodicka, Roy Harvey, and Mark Roberts, were awarded "Oscars" by the Air Force for their assistance. Wilson is still wondering why his is engraved "Runner-up."

The invention of the flashbulb was a great forward step in photography. (Remember flash powder.) However, when a dozen cameramen pop bulbs one after another in an almost constant succession, it becomes a first class nuisance to both performers and audience. The Society prohibits the taking of any pictures during the competitive singing and always contracts with a professional photographer to take pictures of the Jamboree and other activities. Such pictures are placed on sale immediately for a reasonable fee. It seems to this department a strict ban should be placed on all but the pro during performances. There are fast, quiet cameras and fast film for those who insist on taking their own.

Might as well get rid of all the gripes at once. *God Bless America*
(Continued on page 27)

crying, you bring on the rain," and as they reached that line the heavens opened and hailstones, big as eggs, slammed down on the roof of the auditorium completely drowning out the quartet. They sang the song at the Medal Contest in Miami Beach, but only after bari Bob Lindley had recalled the Detroit incident and prayed it wouldn't bring on the season's first hurricane.

No expert arranger, Stub felt



1. Ladies Luncheon.
2. The crowd at the Sunday Breakfast in the Auditorium.
3. Spring Singers, Colorado Springs serenading Miriam (Mrs. Robert) Boemler in front of the Auditorium.
4. Past Int'l Board Members (Decrepits) luncheon.
5. LtoR—Hal Reid, Dayton, Ohio; J. George O'Brien, Medina, Ohio; Howard Hansen, Lakewood, Ohio; Virgil Hartsock, Dayton, Ohio.
6. Presentation of Air Force Oscars to the men who judged the Air Force Contest. LtoR—(at mike) Major Miller, USAF, Dr. Norm Rathert, St. Louis; Jim Ewin,

Washington, D.C.; Harley Miller, Tampa, Fla.; Joe Wodicka, St. Louis; F. Stirling Wilson, Washington, D.C.; Roy Harvey, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Mark Roberts, Detroit.
7. LtoR—Lou Metcalf, Wash., D.C.; Dan Cuthbert, Baltimore, Md.; Past Int'l Vice-President Jean Boardman, Washington, D.C.; Fritz Miller, Baltimore, Md., (Metcalf filling in for Clarence Gedrose for a reunion of the Station Wagon Four).
8. Chairman of C. & J. Committee Marty Mendro briefing representatives of quartets before the first contest.
9. Glenn Sudduth, bass of the Miamians, emcee at the Sunday Breakfast.

is not the national anthem of the United States of America. There are a great many people who do not like to sing it at all for varied reasons which are quite valid. To ask an audience to *stand up* and sing it, as though it were *The Star Spangled Banner* or *God Save the Queen* is incorrect.

Retired Int'l Secretary Carroll Adams missed Miami Beach—first miss since St. Louis in 1941.

The Illinois Haegers were much in evidence. Warren, "Buzz," sang with the third place Medalist *Four Tissimos*. Bob's Barber *Q Four* made the Finals and his Oak Park, Illinois Chorus came in fourth.

It runs in the family—Bob's wife, Carolyn, could have been a lonely barbershopping widow. Instead, she put to excellent use her fine voice, keen ear, and knowledge of the old songs with various friends of long standing.

"Pop" Conway, father of bass Bill Conway (Pittsburghers), was in line Sunday morning at the diLido, apparently unaware the Gold Star Mothers had taken over the hotel for a meeting.

Tenor Maynard Liscum, of the Madison, Wisconsin Cardinals, came up with a strep throat for their appearance in the Friday morning Semi-Finals. He managed to get through their two songs, but it was a tough struggle and obviously affected all four men.

Sunburns were plentiful in spite of the rain and overcast skies. No serious cases were reported, something of a miracle when you consider how many "inlanders" with little or no experience of salt, sand and sun were exposing themselves.

Speaking of salt, many complained half seriously that everything tasted salty—soft drinks, soda, ice, coffee, drinking water.

The Vikings announced their intention to retire, at least temporarily. Representing all the other Champions, Marty Mendro,



Here's how the Mid-States appeared at the Breakfast Sunday morning. In a borrowed Miami Beach Police Cruiser (covered wagon) the near victims of an Indian massacre clowned in their inimitable fashion. Below, (left to right) —tenor Bob Mack, lead Marty Mendro, bass Art Gracey, bari Forrest Haynes.

Mid-States' lead, presented them with lighters, suitably inscribed.

Only four times has a second place Int'l winner come through to take the championship the following year. Chicago's Misfits did it in 1944-45. Chicago's Mid-States did it

in 1948-49. The Vikings managed in 1952-53 and the Four Hearsemen this year. There's a lot of pressure on any quartet at the Int'l, but it's acute for the previous year's runners-up.

The Four Hearsemen claim to
(Continued on page 29)



10. The Mississippi Misses at the Jamboree, LtoR—Nancy Bergmann, T; Rose Rump, Bass; Darlene Cowles, Lead; Marcy Paul, Bari.

11. Part of the crowd of 283 barbershoppers who sailed to Havana.

12. Woodshed crowd serenading Bill Hall by phone to hospital in Tallahassee.

13. Chairmen of Convention Committees.

14. Massed chorus, impromptu, directed by Rudy Hart,

Michigan City, Ind., singing on the steps of the capitol of Havana.

15. The Brock Family, Connersville, Indiana, singing in the lobby of the Auditorium.

16. J. Fenwick (Fenny) Brossier, President, Miami Chapter, as he extended official welcome at the International Board meeting.

17. Olean, N.Y. Chorus.

18. Int'l Pres. Simner announcing the Mid-States Four. (Props furnished by the quartet).

have overheard a conversation between two Miami Beach businessmen on Collins Ave. which ran like this: "Who won the contest at the Auditorium?" asked the first shopkeeper. "I heard it was the Four Hirsh-men," was the reply. "Oh! Some of our boys!" was the delighted reaction.

The 1949 Champion Mid-States' act Saturday night would have been terrific under any circumstances. Following so soon after Pres. Berney Simmer's colossal blooper in calling for the new champions an hour before their scheduled appearance, the Mid-States' little suitcases which read, left to right, "DOWN WITH BERNEY SIMMER" literally brought down the house.



Give an M.C. enough rope and he'll . . . View of one B. Simmer immediately after the event described in the previous paragraph.

A surprise awaited visitors to Bill Dickema's (Holland, Michigan) quarters at the diLido Saturday night. The Antlers, (several times Int'l. Medalists), were reunited for the first time in many months. Originally formed in Flint, Michigan, three of the four emigrated to Miami in 1950.

How about a little gallop-ing poll to determine how many of the folks who bought registrations for Miami and didn't show up plan to do the same for Los Angeles in 1957. Write or wire STUB. How anybody in his right mind can purchase twenty or thirty registrations eight or nine months in advance and suddenly, thirty days before the Convention, wake up to the fact that he's not going to need them passes understanding. Many who could and

would have gone if given a half decent chance to make advance plans were kept away by lack of registration—too late to do anything when the early birds began cancelling out in droves a few weeks before.

Sole representative of the Society's first Champions, tenor George McCaslin (Bartlesville Barflies) had no difficulty finding threesomes to sing with.

As always, people had trouble finding people because, 1) they weren't in Miami Beach; 2) were there, but invisible; 3) were there, visible, but not the right people.

A gorgeous young thing rushed up to Jim Chinnock at the di Lido Hotel and eagerly asked, "Where's Don?" The Four Teens' lead reluctantly pointed toward the table where Cahall was sitting, figuring, no doubt, that the bass gets all the breaks. She took one look at Don Cahall and exclaimed as she made a fast exit, "Oh No! I meant Don Lamont." (Lamont, the original bari, has been replaced by Rex Reeves, who was married recently, leaving only 3 gay bachelors in the Teens now.)

At the close of the Medalist Contest, Fred Dennis (Oak Cliff, Tex.) rushed backstage to find the Four Hearsemen. He looked everywhere and finally ran into a man carrying a bag from their dressing room. "Are you the Hearsemen's host?" asked Fred. (In his excitement he could have said, Hearstmen's Horse or Hoarsemen's Hearst!). "NO," deadpanned low-voiced Pete Tyree, "I'm an Orphan." A red-faced Dennis humbly apologized for not recognizing another champion in the darkness and confusion.

Throughout the convention, three of the 1950 Finalist Dallahsaires spent most of their time looking for their lead, new international 2nd Vice-president Joe Lewis. By the time they were able to get together late Saturday night, bari Ernie Boring had developed a sore throat so that they never could hit one together.

Newly elected Int'l Board Member Cal Browy, Madison, Wis., was on the cruise to Havana; reports it was a great success and that there was a general demand for a post-

convention event at Minneapolis next year.

On his way home, Cal stopped off in Tallahassee to see Miami Convention General Chairman Bill Hall, (seriously injured in an auto crash in May). (Latest word is that Bill has been transferred to Doctors Hospital, Coral Gables, Fla., where he will undergo additional surgery. Eds.)

Bill fretted most after his accident as to how his smashed sinuses would affect his singing. Shortly before the convention, the other Miamians flew up to visit Bill and they, at Bill's insistence, immediately tried it out. Bill sang all that afternoon and picked up renewed courage to finish his fight to recovery.

On the wall of his hospital room was a picture of the Memory Four, the quartet that replaced his Miamians in the contest. While Bill was proud as could be of the Memory Four's fine showing, he was even more appreciative of the daily visits they made to his bedside after his accident. (The lads are all attending college at Tallahassee and sneaked over between classes.)

Mike Egan, former M. C. for the Teens, was in Miami Beach in spirit. He kept a long distance line from Denver to a phone backstage at the Auditorium open for at least half an hour while he awaited the announcement of the contest results, so he'd be sure to get his sleep and carry on his duties for the Air Force there.

Nate Berthoff, editor of Johnny Applesseed's Quarter Note, brought his two young offspring to the District Bulletin Editors meeting. Nate probably figured he'd "Break 'em in young" but the kids outsmarted him. Right in the middle of his eloquent remarks on how and why the Quarter Note gets out, the youngsters put up such a howl that Nate had to cut his remarks short and withdraw as gracefully as possible.

A new piece of unofficial jewelry was sported on the lapel pin of Jim Poindexter, of Kansas City, Mo., at Miami Beach. Instead of the usual title, such as Past President, Secretary, or something similar, Jim's read "International Woodshedder."

(Continued on next page)

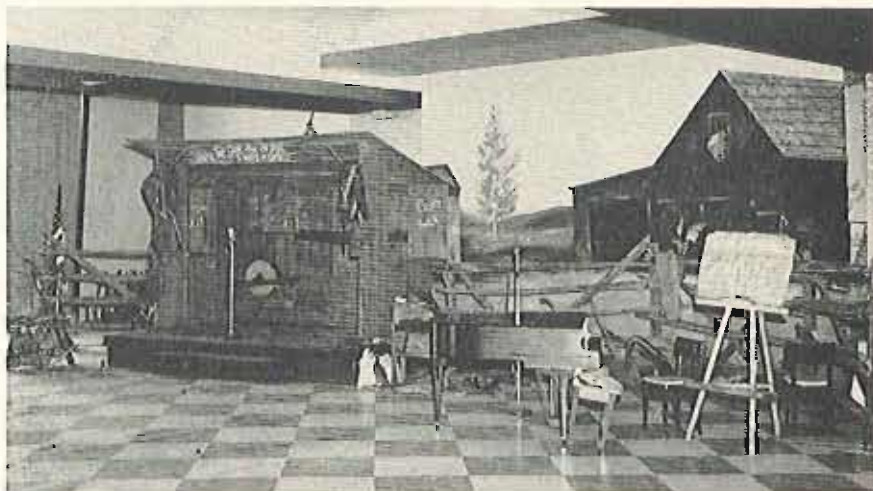
He claims he had it made especially to answer all the people who kept asking him who he was and where he came from.

A Teen-Ager group were really having a ball singin' in the surf, but the high waves were making things tough as each big comber swept away their sweet-singing tenor, Janey Lou Porter of Jackson, Miss. Each time a wave hit, however, brother Dick and Mike Lewis of Dallas dove to the rescue and brought her back just long enough to get in a few more chords before another wave hit.

The Southwestern District Hospitality room had as huge a crowd outside, waiting to get in, as was inside, at the Zodiac Room of the Delano Hotel. Eddie Schorr, who had the thankless task of trying to keep the door closed while the quartets were singing, reports all kinds of "approaches" by people trying to squeeze in. Best, in his book, was the chap who insisted he had a priority because he had waited outside an hour and a half last year at Washington without getting in.

Friday night the Sagamore was the scene of an impromptu, private "Can You Top This?" contest between the Olean, N. Y. and Dallas choruses who serenaded each other with choice items from their respective repertoires.

Dean Snyder, whose important role in the planning of the mass evacuation of the nation's official family from Washington under a simulated A-bomb attack kept him from being at the convention at the beginning, flew to Washington as



*ASB—after stench bomb

soon as he was excused and immediately took off for Miami. He made his first appearance at the convention as the last man in the Singing Capitals lineup when they appeared at the Saturday morning House of Delegates Meeting.

"Old Gravel Throat" Jack Briody of Jersey City (bari of the 1946 Champs, the Garden State Quartet) was always available for quartet consultation and just plain or fancy woodshedding in the diLido lobby. Jack didn't get to the Finalist competition. When informed that his proteges, the Easternaires, had not made the Medalist group he exclaimed, "Good! They ain't ready yet. BUT just wait!"

The Four Hearsemen's charming wives were proudly displaying the 1954 second place medals which their husbands presented to them after the new champs had received

the top awards this year. As one of them grinningly explained, "We played second fiddle to barbershop-pin' all this last year, so we think we earned a medal to show for it."

It seems only fitting to call attention to the splendid work done by various members of the Miami Chapter and their wives.

Dr. Joe Lasky, and his wife, practically converted their living room into an "Aides" office. Doc was Chairman of the Aides Committee and as a result of his experience with bus, train, and plane schedules could take a job tomorrow as Traffic Manager of any big industry. Some 48 competing and Past International Champion Quartets and 11 Choruses including last year's Champion Singing Capital Chorus were met and hosted throughout their stay, and helped in making their departure on time. A terrific logistics job and a wonder-

THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES



Standing (left to right)—Harley Miller, Tampa, Fla.; Pete DePaolis, Rochester, N. Y.; Imm. Past Pres. John Z. Means, Manitowoc, Wis.; Int'l Pres. Simner, St. Louis; 2nd V.P. Rowland F. Davis, New York City; Treasurer Ray Niblo, Des Moines; Int'l Sec'y Bob Hafer. Seated (left to right)—Howard Tubbs, Detroit; L. A. Pomeroy, New York City; Dwight Calkins, Spokane, Wash.; Paul Chenoweth, Dayton, Ohio; R. Tracy Evans, Parkersburg, W. Va.; Glen Reid, Logansport, Ind.;

Calmer Browy, Madison, Wis.; Hilton Howe, Toronto, Ont.; Wayne Foor, Rochester, N. Y.; Ed Stetson, New Bedford, Mass.; Howard Cooper, La Habra, Cal.; Rev. Wayne Smith, Miami Beach; Chuck Snyder, Lombard, Ill.; Herb Wall, Springfield, Mo.; Past Pres. Rupert Hall, Tulsa, Okla.; Lou Harrington, Detroit; Int'l Pres. Elect Arthur Merrill, Schenectady, N. Y.; Joe Lewis, Dallas, Texas; Louis Laurel, El Paso, Texas.

Barber-Teens at Miami Beach

by Karen Browy

Activities for the teen-agers began with the opening of the hospitality room for the Barber-Teens in the Star Room of the Shelborne Hotel Wednesday night, June 15. That night everyone got acquainted.

On Thursday night after the first part of the Semi-Finals, all the Barber-Teens 15 and over agreed that we would meet in our hospitality room to talk, sing and have fun.

Friday noon was the luncheon for the teenagers at the Pickin' Chicken with nice chicken and shrimp dinners. Everyone dressed up for the luncheon and looked so nice. We became even better acquainted.

The Sagamore Hotel, where I stayed, had planned a swimming party for guests Friday night which was called off because of rain. Since I had invited the Barber-Teens, I asked the manager of the hotel to turn on the pool lights for us and we swam until some of the kids came over and invited the gang to the di Lido Hotel for woodshedding, etc.

Our brunch-style-show-swimming party Saturday morning at the Shelborne Hotel was really wonderful. After a delicious breakfast, we had a very beautiful style show. Between the boys exclaiming over prices and the girls oohing and aahing about the styles, we had fun. Then we all went swimming in the

beautiful swimming pool. We had to scamper to get into dry clothes to go to the Jamboree.

After the Medalist contest Saturday night, we went to our Teen Hospitality Room to await the arrival of the quartets that had been invited. We got cokes and then heard the *Vikings*, *Toronto Townsmen*, *Travelaires*, *B.M.A. Gamboliers*, *Verdugo Dons*, *Pitch Blendaires*, *Play-Tonics*, and *Desertairs*. After they had all sung, we did some singing ourselves, then cleaned up and went to the di Lido to hear more singing.

At the Breakfast-Glo Sunday morning all the Barber-Teens sat together at one table.

Havana Cruise

On the cruise there were no organized projects for the Teens, but we walked around on the boat and listened to the woodshedding. Tuesday night we attended the quartet contest and cheered lustily for the two quartets that had Barber-Teens as members.

We made many new friends and had a grand time. We did not see much of our parents as the Barber-Teens were always together in groups of two, three, four, or more all the time. We had loads of fun and are looking forward to Minneapolis next summer.



In the white shirts—the Glendale-Burbank, California Verdugo Dons. The Dons answered Miami Chapter's polite offer to have a "host" meet their plane with a joking request that it be a "hostess" instead, preferably four. This is a fair sample of the kind of hospitality Miami dispensed—four beautiful Florida bathing beauties met the Dons.

There were official hosts for both men and women in each of the 17 official hotels.

Fred Wolti, Chairman of the Judges Luncheon with the help of the management of the Algiers Hotel gave the Judges, Secretaries, and Timers a pleasant break (in a grueling week-end) which they will all remember.

Too much cannot be said for the Ladies Hospitality Committee under the direction of Lucille Von Arx. Credit is also due Lucille's husband, Joe, a Miami Chapter member. Joe and Lucille are partners in a law office and you don't need three guesses to know who did most of the legal work immediately prior to and during the Convention.

Roy "Swanny" Swanborg, Vice President of the Miami Chapter, and Past Secretary of the Dixie District served as Chairman of the Meeting Rooms Committee and saw to it that excellent facilities were provided for all meetings and training sessions. Glenn Sudduth served as Chairman of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee with excellent results. Glenn is a Lieutenant on the Miami Police Force and handles

(Continued on next page)

STUB PENCIL—(Continued)

ful display of the renowned Southern Hospitality.

Pete Bailey and his Auditorium Committee, who are mentioned elsewhere, played a key role in the success of the Contests.

Harry Goldstein Chairman of the Breakfast Committee won kudos for a smooth running breakfast with the help of M. C. Glenn Sudduth. The food was served hot and on time!

Ralph Hills Chairman of the Civic Relations Committee was responsible for having Washington Avenue renamed "Harmony Lane" for the Convention. Street signs were displayed and street poles were decorated with barber pole stripes.

Fenny Brossier, President of the Miami Chapter was Chairman of the Hospitality Committee and his group did a truly outstanding job.

a Radio Program for the Police Department.

Henry E. Kopplow, Sr. headed up the Transportation Committee and took some big assignments in stride. Hank has handled movements of from 50,000 to 100,000 persons in the past for Shrine Conventions.

Ricky Acker and Marilyn Lewis, as Co-Chairmen of Teen-Agers Activities, with the help of Karen Browy and Bob Suhrheinrich kept the Barber Teens happily occupied. Ricky is the daughter of Fred Acker prominent member of the Miami Chapter.

Marilyn is the daughter of International Board Member Joe Lewis of Dallas, Texas. Karen is the daughter of Cal Browy President of the Land O'Lakes District and member of the International Board, and Bob Suhrheinrich is Past Int'l Prexy Jerry Beeler's grandson.

Bud Heath, Past President of the Miami Chapter, served as Chairman of the Woodshed Committee and with the help of Glenn Thomas, Glenn Carlson, Dale Syl-



At left, Shirley Ann Heath, daughter of Woodshed Chairman Bud Heath. Right—Mrs. Miriam Boemler, wife of Bob Boemler, Miami Chapter.

vester, Grover Baker, et al., set up the woodshed and the various props in such a manner as to bring approval from all present, and especially Past International Board Member Dick Sturges, originator and designer of the Woodshed. The custom has developed in recent years for the

CHORUS DIRECTORS, SONG LEADERS MEET

The combined Chorus Directors and Song Leaders Class brought together sixty-one men representing a good cross-section of the Society. It was interesting to note that twelve men were attending as new chorus directors for the first time.

The open discussion on chorus building and its problems, proves a definite need for a basic "How to Build A Chapter Chorus" manual. It was suggested that ground work

views on the methods and ideas used by his group.

At all times, stress was placed on the formation of more quartets in each chapter. The chorus as an incubator has a great responsibility in performing this duty. It has been proved that when this is done, the problems of the director in most instances are lessened. All directors present voiced their wholehearted support of this phase.



Part of the Panel at Chorus Directors and Song Leaders Class: (Left to right) —Grover Baker, Director, Miami Chapter Chorus; Lew Sims, Director, Washington, D. C. Chapter Chorus; Rudy Hart, Director, Michigan City, Indiana Chapter Chorus; Bob Maurus, tenor of the 1953 Champion Vikings, of Rock Island, Ill.

for such a manual begin by asking all directors in the Society to submit proven ideas and teaching methods to the International Office. The manual should incorporate simplified ideas and basic technical methods understandable to the layman as well as the director with limited experience. Basic methods on such subjects as: Voice Placing, Chorus Balance, Diction, Breathing Methods, Arrangements, Song Interpretation, ideas for creating new quartets from within the chorus and general chorus activity be seriously considered.

The group further agreed that a chorus director must have some knowledge of both the technical and personal aspects in chorus building before he will meet with success. In this respect Lew Sims, Director of Washington, D. C. (Int'l. Chorus Champions, 1954) expressed his

Panelists at this fifth annual directors meeting were J. Hubert Leabo (Creswell, Oregon), Aylett Fitzhugh (Dallas, Texas), Grover Baker (Miami, Florida), Lew Sims (Chevy Chase, Md.), and Rudy Hart, (Michigan City, Ind.).

The remainder of the meeting was taken up in the interest of Song Leading. Paul Schmitt, (Two Rivers, Wisconsin) and Bob Maurus, (Rock Island, Illinois), moderated this session by having the attending group participate in singing the songs that can be used for community affairs. Songs were listed and given the correct pitch. Special emphasis was placed on the method of directing large groups by the simplification of each gesture in order to convey to the audience the proper vocal expression desired. The efforts of Schmitt and Maurus were enthusiastically received.

The Panel wishes to extend an invitation to all Directors of Chorus and Song Leaders to meet with them at the Minneapolis Convention next year.

Rudy Hart, Michigan City, Ind.

host chapter to add a prop to the Woodshed. The Miami Chapter's contribution, thanks to an extended search by Bud Heath, was a genuine old-fashioned dinner bell.

District Publication Editors Conference



At extreme right, seated, Johnny Appleseed's Nate Berthoff and children. The rest of the District paper editors or their proxies are (left to right)—Lou Harrington, Michigan; Bob Schoenhoff and Fred Dennis, Southwestern; Elford Lumpkin, Dixie; Tom

Helzer, Southwestern; Calmer Browy, Lo'L; Burt Moyer, Illinois; Bill Jennings, Southwestern; Herb Wall, Central States; Ken Phinney, Seneca Land; and Jack Gray, Lo'L.

Need for conferences of chapter bulletin editors at International and District meetings and the desirability of a monthly International news release to chapter bulletin editors were emphasized at the District Editors' Conference in Miami Beach.

District magazine methods were also discussed in the conference, at-

tended by representatives of 10 Districts.

Moderator was Calmer Browy, Madison, Wis., LOL president, International Board Member, and now chairman of the International Public Relations Committee.

It was agreed that more and better chapter bulletins would result

from District conferences of editors, bulletin contests at District and International levels, and exhibits of leading bulletins. (Editor's Note.—International Public Relations Committee is considering a proposal by Munson Hinman Jr., Salt Lake City, committee member, for an organization of chapter bulletin editors.

"Go West Young Man...Go West"

The immortal words of Horace Greeley are now resounding in the rafters of SPEBSQSA meeting halls from Teaneck, New Jersey to San Gabriel, California. Yes sir, podner, that's the cry of folks throughout barbershopdom as we point toward the mid-winter convention of 1956.

This year's conclave will be hosted by the Denver, Colorado chapter, assisted by the many chapters in the Rocky Mountain area and by the Central States District. A western theme will prevail for the big meet in January: This will be carried out throughout the entire convention and show on Saturday night. Even the advertising prior to the convention will have its boots & saddle flavor. General chairman M. D. "Smitty" Smith has already unleashed his lasso and has rounded up a full complement of wranglers to serve on his many committees. Heading up the list is chapter president Ed Zabriskie and his charming wife who will be the official host and hostess. Publicity is being handled by Mike Egan. Bill

Tatterson has his brand on the ticket sales, and the pre-show chuck wagon will be driven by Ralph Tate. Ralph's wife, Glenna, will ride shotgun on the ladies and see that their fashion palates are satisfied. Fred Downey will shoe the horses and the Denver Tramway Company to see that everyone's transportation requirements are met. The brothers Lay, Harry and Willard, will hold down the corral posts. (This might be known in the East as the reception committee.)

How much wood could a woodshed shed if a woodshed could shed wood? The answer to this question was provided promptly by M. K. "Ziggy" Zigler: "chords and chords and chords." He was appointed forthwith to shred said shed.

Bill St. John is the foreman for the "Harmony Roundup" show which is the convention's Saturday night climax at the historic Tabor Theater, Harry Sparrow, the Colorado Springs singer, will fly up to ride herd on the "Food for Thought" luncheon Saturday noon.

Harry's appointment is evidence enough that this event will be one of the most informative and memorable sessions of the convention. Harry Brescia is stocking up large supplies of bacon, beans, murine and aspirin for the Sunday morning Wranglers Breakfast.

Headquarters hotel for the convention will be the "Cosmopolitan." The facts about travel to the Mile High City will be published in the next Harmonizer, as compiled by Port Clinton, Ohio Chapter's Chuck Schmid. In addition to a most terrific barbershop weekend, the Denver Chapter and the Mile High City of Denver offer you wonderful winter sports in the nearby Rockies, tours of interesting sights including the Capitol of Colorado, the temporary site of the U. S. Air Force Academy, uranium mines, the best in museums plus fine eateries and ample hotel accommodations at the "Cosmo" and the "Brown Palace." So hitch up your team friend and head for the golden West... Colorful Colorado... to be specific the Mile High City of Denver for the tops in barbershop.



: DO YOU REMEMBER?

by J. George O'Brien

117 West Genesee Ave.

Saginaw, Michigan

AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY. How many times have you heard that old phrase and what has it meant to you? To Olde Ed who was just out of his three cornered pants when this history making event was actually taking place, it's been more or less of a bromide to indicate "a long time ago," but actually a century did turn and many good members of the Society were on hand to prove it.

For those who were not and who henceforth will not have an opportunity to participate personally in such an epic of time, let's turn this one again and see "what was cooking."

1899 AND THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, released from the imperialistic yoke of Spain the previous year, were now clamoring for independence. Admiral Dewey, hero of Manila, returned to New York and received a typical hero's welcome with ticker tape and all. The automobile was now such a nuisance that it was officially barred from Central Park. At Medicine Lodge, Kansas, an irate woman named Carrie Nation began smashing up local saloons with her hatchet. At Sing Sing, Martha Place became the first woman to be put to death in the electric chair.

PEOPLE WERE READING Edwin Markham's *Man With The Hoe*, George Ade's *Fables In Slang*, *The Gentleman From Indiana* by Booth Tarkington, Richard Carvel by a young English writer named Winston Churchill, and Elbert Hubbard had just published the now famous "Message To Garcia."

AT THE THEATRE people

were watching Mrs. Leslie Carter in "Zana," Sam Bernard, Marie Dressler and Christie MacDonald in "The Man In The Moon," and "Becky Sharpe" with Minnie Madern Fiske. Musically, Alice Nielson appeared in Victor Herbert's comic opera "The Singing Girl," Anna Held appeared in "Pappa's Wife" and Gentleman Jim Corbett, ex-heavyweight boxing champ, did a prizefight scene in a revue called "Around New York In Eighty Minutes."

IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS Jim Jeffries won the heavyweight championship from Bob Fitzsimmons and Sir Thomas Lipton made his first unsuccessful attempt to take the sailing trophy back to England with his Shamrock which was defeated three times in a row by the Columbia.

1900 AND CONGRESS STANDARDIZED THE GOLD DOLLAR as the unit of monetary value in the United States. Two thousand U. S. Marines aided in the capture of Peking, China, thereby terminating the Boxer uprising.

In New York the Associated Press news service was formed, the Hall of Fame was started, the first issue of "Who's Who In America" made its appearance, and Happy Hooligan and his mule Mande, the creation of cartoonist Frederick Burr Oppen were launched on an eventful career that was destined to bring joy and laughter to millions for many years to come.

PEOPLE WERE READING Jack London's stories of the Yukon as well as such favorites as Alice Of Old Vincennes, Monsieur Beaucaire, Sister Carrie, To Have And To Hold and Alice In Wonderland.

THERE WAS SCANDAL IN THE THEATRE. A yesteryear version of Marilyn Monroe, named Olga Nethersole, opened at the Wallick Theatre in Clyde Fitch's

adaptation of "Sappho" and before the curtain had hardly descended on the last act the play was condemned as immoral, the theatre closed, and Miss Olga wound up in the clink.

This caused a real whing-ding and before it was over Miss Nethersole had in her corner such greats as Arthur Brisbane, Samuel Untermyer and Harriet Hubbard Ayer. At the trial she was duly cleared and the show ran on for 86 performances.

David Balance turned out his first version of *Madame Butterfly*, Mande Adams played Sarah Bernhardt's role in "L'Aiglon," Weber and Fields were at the Music Hall in Fiddle-de-dee and Owen Hall and Leslie Stuart's "Floradora" . . . the Oklahoma of its day, which was destined to break all records by running for 505 consecutive performances, was introducing its still famous sextet of "typewriter girls" to the "Stage-Door Johnnies" who waited with "hansom cabs" to escort them to Rector's or Churchill's for a bird and a bottle.

IN 1899 AND 1900 NAMES LIKE JOE HOWARD, THE VON TILZERS, Will Cobb, Gus Edwards and Andrew Sterling were beginning to gain recognition in Tin Pan Alley and Paul Dresser was undoubtedly the era's most prolific song producer.

Among the hits "at the turn of the century" were *Always* (Horwitz and Bowers, not Irving Berlin), *Hearts and Flowers*, *Hello Ma Baby*, *Mandy Lee*, *On The Banks Of The Wabash*, *My Wild Irish Rose*, *The Blue And The Grey*, *The Fatal Rose Of Red*, *Good Bye, Dolly Grey*, *I've A Longing In My Heart For You Louise*, *Just Because She Made Dem Goo Goo Eyes*, *When The Harvest Days Are Over* *Jessie Dear*, and a number that is still more or less familiar to all barbershoppers as *Heart Of My Heart*, but which Andrew Mack

who wrote it in 1900 called "The Story Of A Rose."

FOR THOSE WHO THINK the only song ever written about baseball is *Take Me Out To The Ball Game*, the Old Songs Committee research staff reports that baseball songs go back at least as far as 1861 which is the copyright date of the *Home Run Quick Step*. Included among baseball numbers in the 1800's were *Hurrah For Our National Game*, *The Red Stockings*, which was written in 1869 and dedicated to the Cincinnati club even then, *Tally One For Me*, *Slide Kelly Slide*, *The Mighty Casey*, *McGuffin's Home Run* and many others.

OUR OLD BARBERSHOP-PING PAL, RUDY HEINEN, of Halbur, Iowa has been trying for years to locate the following numbers from S. H. Dudley's show "His Honor The Barber", *Corn Shuckin' Time*, *Merry Widow Brown*, *My Castle On The Isle Of Love* and *Rainbow Sue*. Can anyone help?

FROM KEN COTTON (via Russ Cole) comes a lead sheet and the words to *On The Old See-Saw*, written in 1907 by Ed Gardenier and Gus Edwards which certainly looks like it might have possibilities. If you'd like to look it over, write headquarters.

AND DEAC MARTIN . . . JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT (sez he) has made an arrangement of *Betsy's The Belle Of The Bathers* which looks awful good to Olde Ed. This is a real "cutie" written and sung by Richard Carle in Mary's Lamb about 1907. The verse has a high melody which can be done as a tenor solo with background humming or can be transposed for bass lead. If you're tired of *Mississippi Mud* and would like to try this one on for size, drop a note to C. T. "Deac" Martin, 971 Union Commerce Building, Cleveland, and we're sure he'll be happy to send you a copy. Who knows . . . you may still be the life of the party.

IN THE YOU NAME 'EM WE DIG 'EM UP DEPARTMENT there is never a dull moment. Duncan MacDougald of Brevard, N. C. wants to know where the old "shave and a hair cut, two bits" came from and everybody's guessing. Olde Ed's guess, not from a song at all but from the realm of tap dancing. What's yours? Russ Platte, of Columbus, is interested in *Where The Southern Roses Grow*, Otto Ziffer,

of Santa Monica, wanted a piano copy and we told him where. Hal Harris, of Tucson, asked for Russ Cole's *Petunia* and Shirley Brandish, of Calais, Maine, wanted *The Girl Who Threw Me Down* and *The Tempest*. Jess Crabtree, of Oretech, Oregon, took us back to the early days of this column when he asked about one of our very first problem children, Katy of *On San Francisco Bay* fame. Jerry Kelly, of Minneapolis, wanted *When Maggie Doolie Did The Hoolie Hoolie* and George Chamblin asked about *The Violet*, *The Rose and You*.

MAYBE WE'RE JUST WHISTLING IN THE DARK but when we looked over the list of songs sung by the competing quartets at Miami and found only one mention of *Mississippi Mud* we couldn't help but feel encouraged. But our joy was short-lived when we read with horror that some of the boys were

actually singing the *Muskrat Ramble* . . . UGH!!! Maybe it's time to mention once again that A BARBERSHOP SONG IS A SONG IN WHICH YOU CAN FEEL THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY THE FIRST TIME YOU HEAR THE MELODY, and if you can FEEL anything in that mess of yack yack you're a better man than we are Gunga Din.

YOUR GRANDPAPPY YODELED *If You Want A Kiss, Why Take It*, an invitation to a poke in the nose, which was written in 1866 by S. H. M. Byers and H. M. Higgins, a couple of daredevils who said, "There's a jolly Sexton proverb, that is very much like this, that a man is half in heaven, when he has a woman's kiss, but there's danger in delaying, and the sweetness may forsake it, so I tell you bashful lover, if you want a kiss, why, take it." Do you remember?

THE SCHOOLMASTERS



This is probably the only foursome in SPEBSQSA composed entirely of school teachers. They belong to Seattle, Wash. Chapter and are on the faculty of Woodrow Wilson Junior High School. (Left to right)—Walter Venema, tenor (journalism and general studies); Rod Stubbs, lead (principal); Bill Saas, bass (music); Orv Nyland, bari (art).



OVER THE EDITOR'S SHOULDER

CHANGE SPEBSQSA?

Has any thought been given to changing the name of our Society to a more sensible and workable designation? When I first heard it, my reaction was just about that of the average man. It sounded funny. After a time, however, the novelty began to wear off. Few things are funny the second time around.

Perhaps I am especially sensitive because of having handled public relations for the Charlotte Chapter and more recently Atlanta. The first time a paper runs the name, it is published in full. The writer laughed, the city editor followed and the public did the same. Thereafter, because of space limitations, the papers have used only the initials of the Society.

... And so it goes. I realize that the thought of change always causes concern and opposition, especially among the old timers. We are all creatures of habit. Even so, for the reasons given and probably for many others which have occurred to fellow members, I strongly urge that consideration be given to changing our organization's ridiculous moniker to

BARBERSHOP HARMONEERS, Inc.

or anything else appropriate which could lead to the adoption of a sensible name for a group of business and professional people. I should like the general membership to express themselves on this question in letters to your office.

Bab Gamble
Atlanta, Ga.

"SOUND AND FURY"

In this day of "hi-fi" electronics, there should be no excuse for the amplifier system in a convention hall. Why not take up a collection and hire a good sound man for the next convention?

When seventy-five voices shade to complete cut-off, what are they trying to prove? Who started this chorus contest in a society for the

preservation of quartet singing? Why?

We can prove that we like children. However, when we travel 1500 miles to listen to quartets sing, we do not want to sit in back of two little boys who, after the first quartet sang Saturday night, decided the noise they could make would be more interesting.

Question—"We are looking for a bari."

Answer—"Well, I sing bari, but I only sing in the chorus."

That's a barbershopper?

At that, with all the rain, *A Son of the Sea* was quite appropriate. Does anybody know how many "seafaring" men we have in the Society.

Eduard W. Perry
Treasurer
Euclid, Ohio Chapter

CHAMPIONS' SONGS

At the Convention one of the M.C.'s thought of a good way to kill time between quartets by asking the audience what, in their opinion, was the name of the song by which each Past Champion Quartet was best known.

The object of this letter is to ask that you get this information and print it in the *Harmonizer*. I am sure such a list would be interesting to more than just me.

Art Ball
Norwood Park Chapter
Chicago, Ill.

(Editor's Note—Stub Pencil was there as you can see in his column covering Miami Beach. To Stub, and this observer as well, there were very few clean cut decisions. The Emcee attempted to decide things by show of hands vote, but in several instances it was obvious he was looking through his bifocals and seeing "bi," "tri," and "quad." If the "Past Champion Quartets Club" gets organized, as seems very likely, the Editors will suggest as their first piece of business a poll of the champions themselves on this question. Who should know better than the men who sang the songs?)

OMISSION

The "other member" you mentioned as singing in the Kamahini Four, (page 37, June '55 *Harmonizer*, Ed.), was Al Medeiros, tenor, and Immediate Past President of Honolulu Chapter.

Mat Wilson
Holland, Mich. Chapter

WHO'S THE MOSTEST?

Rev. Frank L. Cook, one of our chapter members, will reach age 90 on August 27. He is the bari in the Octogenarians Quartet, whose combined ages total 345. If laid end to end, those years would reach back to the time of the Pilgrims' landing at Plymouth Rock. It is believed the Octos are the oldest active quartet in SPEBSQSA and that Frank is the earliest born active member.

Is there a challenge?

Let's hear about other quartets who are "most" anything such as

Heaviest
Tallest
Corniest
Youngest
Louisiest
Longest organized
Travelingest, etc.

Ernest Cullen Murphy, Sr.
Eugene, Ore. (Cascade Chapter)

ENJOYED CONVENTION

The experience was one I can't ever forget. Aside from all the chill-bump, spine-tingling harmony, there were other features which made indelible impressions. After attending the House of Delegates meeting on Saturday morning, I was struck by the calibre and sincerity of purpose of the men who direct the destinies of organized barbershopping at the top level. I went to this session out of curiosity. I came away with a distinct feeling of pride.

Let me confess something. Practically my sole interest in barbershopping is the music.

(Continued on next page)

WHAT COMPETING QUARTETS SANG AT MIAMI BEACH, FLA.

* Indicates songs sung in Finals

x Indicates songs sung in Medalist

AGRICULTURISTS—Hello Wisconsin—
We'll Meet Again

AIR FOURS—Side By Side—Wait Till
The Sun Shines Nollie—*Meet Me To-
night In Dreamland—*Great Smoky
Mountains In Dixie—x When Day Is
Done—x Mandy & Me.

ATOMIC BUMS—Great Smoky Moun-
tains In Dixie—My Lovely One.

BARBER-O FOUR—Oh Susanna, Dust Off
That Old Piano—Story Book Ball—
*When That Midnight Choo-Choo
Leaves For Alabam—*A Shanty In Old
Shanty Town.

BLACKHAWKS—Washington Waddle—
Sweet Lorraine

BMA GAMBOLIERS—Arkansas—Close
Your Lovely Eyes.

BUZZ SAWS—My Cutie's Duo At Two
To Two—Medley—(Down In Jungle
Town—Down Among The Sheltering
Palms).

CARDINALS—Bye-Bye Blues—Medley—
(When That Midnight Choo-Choo
Leaves for Alabam—Alabammy
Bound).

CHORDBLENDERS—Charleston—
'Twas Only An Irishman's Dream.

CHORDCOMBERS—Muskrat Ramble—
Write Me A Letter.

CHORD MASTERS—Sunshine Of Your
Smile—Son Of The Sea.

COLUMBIANS—Muskrat Ramble—Roses
Of Picardy—*That Old Home Town Of
Mine—*Down In The Valley.

COMPRESSAIRES—Good Bye Old Dixie
—Asleep In The Deep—*Medley (Smile
Darn Ya Smile—Powder Your Face—
When You're Smiling)—*I'll Take You
Home Again Kathleen.

CONFEDERATES—Wonderful Days
Gone By—To Think You've Choseu Mo
—*Aint She Sweet—*Just As Your
Mother Was—xMedley—(Hello Song—
Save Your Confederate Money)—
xSomewhere Over The Rainbow.

CROW BARS—Yona From Arizona—All
Dressed Up With A Broken Heart.

DESERTAIRS—Mandy—Apple Blossom
Time—*Please Don't Talk About Me
When I'm Gone—*Girl Of My Dreams.

DIXIELINERS—Shine—Happy Days And
Lonely Nights.

EASTERNAIRES—Shine—Danny Boy—
*Cuddle Up A Little Closer—*Dear Old
Girl.

ELM CHORDS—Son Of The Sea—Sweet
Rosie O' Grady.

FOUR HEARSEMEN—The Sunshine Of
Your Smile—When You're A Long
Long Way From Home—*Charmaine—
*I'd Love To Live In Loveland—
xGeorgia On My Mind—x Valley Of The
Moon.

FOUR-IN-A-CHORD—Sweetie In Tahiti
—The Whiffenpoof Song.

FOUR-TISSIMOS—Mammy Chloë—She's
Only A Bird In A Gilded Cage—*Sugar
Cane Jubilee—*Time After Time—
xSave A Little Sunshine For A Rainy
Day—xCabin On The Hill Top.

GREAT SCOTS—Too Many Parties—
Down In Maryland.

HAWKEYE FOUR—Dixieland Medley—
(Way Back Home To Dixieland—Are
You From Dixie)—Medley—(Son Of
The Sea—By The Sea).

HELMSMEN—Hopelessly—Because.

JOLLY BOYS—Side By Side—Son Of The
Sea.

KORD KINGS—My Home Town—Some-
body Stole My Gal—*Mammy Of Mine
—*Dreaming.

MEMORY FOUR—Down In The Valley—
I'll Take You Home Kathleen—*Love-
ly Lady Dressed In Blue—*Don't You
Cry.

PITCH-BLENDAIRES—Alexander's Rag
Time Band—Apple Blossom Time—
Medley—(*Mobile Boy—*Sailboat Of
Dreams).

PLAY-TONICS—Those Wedding Bells
Are Breaking Up That Old Gang Of
Mine—Sunbonnet Sue.

SHARP FOUR—When You're Smiling—
Tiptoe Through The Tulips.

SPRING SINGERS—If I Had My Way—
Son Of The Sea.

TEMPLAIRES—Sailing Down The Chesa-
peake Bay—Bye Bye Blackbird.

TORONTO RHYTHMAIRES—I'm Sit-
ting On Top Of The World—Last Night
Was The End Of The World—*Medley
—(Ida, Sweet As Apple Cider—Yes Sir
She's My Baby—Cuddle Up A Little
Closer)—*Yawning—xSon Of The Sea
—xEnd Of A Perfect Day.

TORONTO TOWNSMEN—Mississippi
Mud—When You're Smiling.

TRAVELAIRES—Golden Gate—Mammy.

TREBLE-MAKERS—'Twas Only An
Irishman's Dream—Down By The Old
Mill Stream—*Mammy—*Lonesome,
That's All.

VARSITONES—Somebody Stole My Gal
—Great Smoky Mountains In Dixie.

VERDUGO DONS—When The Sun Goes
Down In Dixie—Roses Of Picardy.

WHIPCHORDS—When The Sun Goes
Down In Dixie—The Gal I Loved In
Sunny Tennessee.

WOLVERINES—That Old Gang Of Mine
—Wait Till The Sun Shines Nollie—
*I'm Goin South—*I Only Want A
Buddy Not A Sweetheart.

OVER ED'S SHOULDER—(Continued)

shopping before was at the local level. That was wrong. Barbershop-
ping could never have gained the
recognition it has and come to
occupy the position it does in
American life without superb di-
rection from a group of dedicated
men. Without question they merit
our allegiance and support. Let's
give it.

Dr. L. M. Childers
Coral Gables, Fla. Chapter

LIKED CONVENTION

As usual, it was the best one yet,
wasn't it?

About twelve years ago, when I
moved to Tampa, my brother and I
joined a church choir directed by
Mrs. J. Tom Watson, mother of
Deane Watson, lead of the Four
Hearsemen. At the time, none of us
had heard of SPEBSQSA, but there
were a tenor and bass in the choir
who liked to sing quartet and we
formed the Florida Four.

When we heard about SPEBSQSA
we formed a Tampa Chapter with
the able assistance of Bob Aldrich,
first chapter in Dixie District. Dur-
ing its first years, Tampa sponsored
eight other chapters in Florida, so
it's not incorrect to say Dixie bar-
bershopping got its start in Deane
Watson's mother's choir.

She was at the Miami Beach
Convention and pleased beyond
words when I pointed out these
facts to her.

Sam Breedon
Tampa, Florida Chapter

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Champion Four Teens, don't try
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*a wise man will make
more opportunities
than he will find . . .*

Francis Bacon

. . . applied to our own situation this might be revised to read "a wise chapter will make more opportunities than it will find" . . . and the source of these chapter opportunities begins with good planning. Planned programming is the essence of every successful chapter!

In a recent issue of the Salt Lake City SPOTLIGHT Munson Hinman said "we are packing 'em in with planned programs." Planning good programs however, requires considerable effort and thinking. And that's not easy. Edison said, "there is no end to which man will not go to escape the real labor of thinking." But if you apply the time and thought the results will certainly be most rewarding for you and your chapter. Try it and see!

Right in line with this business of programming are some mighty solid ideas released by Staff Taylor, of Columbus Ohio, chairman of the Public Relations Committee for the Johnny Appleseed District. And here they are . . .

SPECIAL MEETINGS FOR THE PUBLIC. Here's a chance to get close to the public and directly expose them to barbershopping. If at all possible, hold these meetings on your regular meeting night, which will bring attention to that fact and, in addition, stimulate your own members' attendance.

We suggest: (1) Plan a "public meeting" at least once a quarter. (2) Really plan the event. Allow 4 weeks for preparation, committee appointments, program planning, news publicity, invitations, etc. (3) Follow up the event vigorously with a news story, "thank you" letters where necessary and postcards or personal invitations to those in attendance for your next meeting. (4)

Don't mention "membership" at these meetings. Rather, show the public what a terrific time we have as barbershoppers so that their urge to join will be even greater.

However, we guarantee you'll get membership applications but, remember, we want quality more than quantity.

High School Night call it "Hi-Jinx" or "Tunes for Teens" or other catchy phrases. Invite the school superintendent, school principals, music teachers and all boys in the music classes, school glee clubs, or other such organizations. Serve cakes. Program several quartets, the chorus, some good recordings. Give them a short talk on the Society, on barbershop harmony. Urge the organization of school quartets, with your help. (Note: This might be the start of an annual High School Contest). Close the program early and parents and school officials will approve.

Newspaper, Radio and TV Night Plan this one well as it will repay you many times over in the future. Invite all personnel of newspapers, radio and TV stations, but don't have too much of a program. Remember, many of these men already know of the Society. Stress the local angle, expose them to your activities. Have them sing some simple arrangements with your chorus, join in the woodshedding. But all "low-pressure."

Service Club Night Invite members of Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, etc. (only one group at a time) to one of your regular meetings. Stress the fact that we are a service club, too. Go through a typical meeting, show them a "revolving chorus," a "tag quartet." Suggest that they have a barbershop harmony meeting and offer to sing for them.

Barber Night Here's one which is a natural for publicity. Invite all

the barbers in town to a meeting. Rig up a barber chair with all the trimmings, and get shots of real barbers singing barbershop harmony.

GOOD PLANNING PAYS OFF according to "Hob" Evans, President of our Rockford, Illinois Chapter. Hob says, "our chapter met every week and inasmuch as it is practically impossible to plan 52 special events in each year, we found over a period of time our meetings were reverting to merely practice sessions of our chorus, with no active participation by the Crows and Part Time singers. Therefore, our officers after considerable thought and discussion, have made radical changes . . .

"All summer meetings are to be held out doors. Beginning in September, we are changing our meeting place from the American Legion Hall to the Y.M.C.A. (a non-drinking place).

"We have changed from weekly meetings to meeting the first and third Friday of each month. These meetings will begin with a one hour rehearsal of the chorus and a second section, which will include planned entertainment. This program of planned entertainment has already been arranged and confirmed through the first of next year.

"Our officers," says Hob, "are proud of the progress we have made in such a short period of time which includes summer, when normal activity is at a low ebb."

Note: Apparently a lot of chapters are under the impression that a planned program means something "special" for every meeting night. I don't hold with that at all. I do believe that it is possible to PLAN every meeting regardless of whether you meet 26, 52 or more nights in a year. And there's no law that says a good program can't be

repeated every couple of months.

The "special" programs can be held to one a month. Participation in Area and District functions will fill in part of your regular schedule. Interchapter activities both as host and visitor will fill in more. Your regular show plus community service activities also must be counted. The meetings where you are on your own must never be allowed to revert to just chorus singing unless that is part of your *PLAN*... there should always be time for refreshments... for visitors... for visiting quartets... for tag quartets... for pick-up foursomes and for general woodshedding.

Of this you can be sure... you will never revert to just chorus... or just quartets if you *PLAN* a program that provides something for every member. (Editor)

In the Quaker City Re-chord-er, the Philadelphia Chapter Bulletin, Tony Krauss says, "We have to realize the chorus is not the chapter; it is only a part of the chapter! Perhaps it has been overemphasized to the detriment of other barbershop activities... we can and should pay more attention to... the other activities which would give us a better all-around program.

"A chapter meeting is not a chorus rehearsal unless it is so announced and if a chorus rehearsal is part of a meeting program, the meeting should be turned over to the chorus director for that purpose, and for the allotted time."

YOU'LL FIND LOADS OF HELP for planning your chapter activities in the fine material available from the International Office... there is a good folder on Chapter Programming in the MR. PRESIDENT brochure... and the Chapter Reference Manual also is packed with stimulating ideas. Both of these should be part of your chapter files.

YOU GOTTA ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES and go to work, for after all the *PLANNING* is done, the job is just begun. Someone must do the follow-through and see that the plans are put into action. And believe me our Society will thrive only as long as we have sufficient men in each chapter who are willing to take over these responsibilities.

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE... and like the future of our country, the future of our Society is in the youth around us. Attracting and

keeping these young men is the strength of our future. So some of your *PLANNING* should be aimed in this direction. One of the better ways of reaching these younger fellows is the **HIGH SCHOOL QUARTET CONTEST**. Our International Office has available a Music Educator's Kit which your chapter should purchase and present to the music educators in your community. This will acquaint them with the value of barbershop quartet singing and open the door to setting up the High School Quartet Contest.

The Michigan District **TROUBADOUR** reports that the Grand Rapids high school quartet contest was so successful that plans are already being made for another in 1956. Make a similar event part of your *PLANS*.

VISITORS MAY BE FUTURE MEMBERS so treat 'em right. Received a letter on the subject from a brother barbershopper, Frank Reidel, Leucadia, California... he says the need is "for the barbershopper with the know-how to get hold of the new-comer for woodshedding before and after each meeting." The least we should do is extend a word of welcome and treat them in such a way that they'll want to return.

NEED A DIRECTOR?... Some of our chapters are coming up with ideas that should result eventually in additional Song Leaders and Directors. For example, the Santa Monica Chapter has a system to select songs for group singing. Each member selects a song and the title is placed in a hat for drawing. As the song number is drawn, that member leads the group in the song and then selects a quartet to sing it with him. The chapter reports that it satisfies the twin urge of every member—to wave his arms in front of the gang and to sing in a quartet. Along this same line the Muskegon, Michigan Chapter has a Director's contest. Members are picked at random to direct the chorus... and to quote from their chapter bulletin "that's when the fun begins... **THIS** you've gotta see... it's hilarious"... and I see in the Boston Off-Beat, the Boston Chapter bulletin where they give their director the summer off. They meet every Tuesday but with no formal rehearsal—no director—just informal singing, talking and plenty of woodshedding.

A TIP TO CHAPTER EDITORS
... Dee Paris who writes Sharp Notes for the District of Columbia Chapter has developed the following code to maintain the standard and increase the value of his bulletins. He says, "I follow a code which states that our bulletin should **EDUCATE, INFORM, PROMOTE, RECOGNIZE AND RECORD**. Under each of these headings I have listed subjects and sources for information. I find that it regularly provides me with new ideas."

DISTRICT OFFICERS when planning your next convention you might want to consider these two very successful ideas introduced by the Illinois District as part of the Regional Preliminaries held in Deatur last May. First was a Food for Thought Luncheon patterned after the one held at the Mid-Winter Meeting in Louisville in January. A real success and our chapter officers went home with a brochure containing more than a dozen good ideas. Second was a special Quartet Contest for all unorganized quartets as well as any organized foursomes not competing in the big contests. Both events were well attended and everybody had a barrel of fun.

BOTH ENDS AGAINST THE MIDDLE... the spirit of competition will result in greater ticket sales and one way to create this spirit is to divide the chapter into two teams... the basses and tenors (both ends) against the baritone and leads (the middle). The team selling the most tickets gets a free feed at the expense of the other. Try it!

WELL THAT ABOUT DOES IT for this time. I was loaded with material for this issue but the boss (That's Hafer) said, "don't worry about whipping too much material into shape for this issue... we'll be loaded with Convention reports and pictures." Imagine that! Read through some 150 bulletins and pieces of mail... this is the result of the first time through. I know there is enough for the next issue still remaining. Thanks to all you bulletin editors for putting us on your mailing list. Those of you who haven't yet done so... please do!

Ya know, I have the feeling lately that I've been doing too much work and not enough singing in this here society. How about me singing lead with you next time we meet... hummm?



KEY CHANGES FROM THE CHAPTERS

● Russ Markland writes in the Glendale-Burbank, Calif. Chapter Bulletin *Crowcalls*: "Three years ago there was a fine idea conceived by Dick Blaine called the 'On to Kansas City Club', recently brought to my attention by Don Plumb as being worthwhile starting again. The idea is for those who want to make the next Int'l Convention to put money each week into a fund for use when convention time rolls around. Appointing Lupe Boyd as their treasurer, each man deposited whatever, however, and whenever he could. Come convention time, they were surprised to find they had more than enough to cover transportation by air. If any of you men are interested in such a scheme again, let me know, and maybe something can be worked out."

● When a barbershop chapter chorus appears on the same program with 1) a blonde Swedish soprano 2) Congo dance drummers from Haiti 3) Italian folk dancers 4) energetic Austrians in their axe swinging dance 5) the hypnotic candle dance of Pakistan 6) approximately a dozen other international entertainers and has to sing several encores to satisfy a distinguished audience, largely composed of representatives of 45 foreign countries, you can't be far wrong if you guess it's the Washington, D.C. Singing Capital Chorus. So it was, May 24th, in Constitution Hall, when the World Trade Committee of the Washington Board of Trade staged a benefit for CARE.

● Again this year, Des Moines

Chapter has made a substantial cash contribution to a good cause—\$1075.00 to the Y.M.C.A. Boys Home.

● The Elmira, New York (Horseheads) Chapter entertained the "Connie Rathbun Handicap Club" June 12th. The club consists of physically handicapped people.

● Every year, for eleven years, the Philadelphia Inquirer Charities, Inc. has presented a Music Festival in Philadelphia Municipal Stadium (scene of many Army-Navy football games). Held on June 10th, before a capacity audience of 60,000, with such headliners as Margaret Truman and Tony Martin, the festival was again a huge success. Featured on the program were three chapters of SPEBSQSA, Philadelphia, Delaware County, Pa., and Woodbury, N. J. Not sought for, but highly welcome, the extensive Inquirer coverages—two full pages, an excellent story and pictures in the May 29th magazine section; innumerable daily mentions, certainly did no harm to barbershopping in the Philadelphia region.

● Space limitations kept this out of June *Harmonizer*. Kenmore, N. Y. Chapter used a page in its Parade Program to plug its own wares in novel fashion as follows:

HELP WANTED—MALE

All ages—all voices.

Should like to sing or like to hear other men sing. A love of harmony, vocal and otherwise, is essential characteristic we seek.

Openings in Buffalo for Friday nights only, and in Kenmore for Monday nights only. Hours are 8 P.M. until as late as you and three other Joes like. Salary is out of the question, but you'll be richly repaid with one of life's greatest satisfactions—a chance to sing four part harmony with amiable men—in quartet or chorus, as you prefer.

Barbershopping is fun. Why don't you try it.



Ted Grunden, president of Tacoma, Washington Chapter, is equally at home with a razor, a paint brush, or a pitchpipe. The paintings of old time quartets, visible in the background, are Ted's. Murals in his barbershop, also his own work, follow the same theme.

Ask any member in this concert audience for details, or call—

● This year, Toronto, Ontario celebrates its tenth anniversary. As always, when Toronto does something, it does it right. Details of the projected celebration are not yet available as the *Harmonizer* goes to press, but one small item is indi-



cative. Framed reproductions (see photo) of the chapter's charter will be presented to each of the Past Presidents of the chapter. (Note the brass plates engraved with each president's name which are permanently attached to the original charter—a nice touch. Eds.)

● Detroit, Michigan has what is known as the Central Volunteer Bureau of the United Community Services. This organization acts as a clearing house for service volunteers in metropolitan Detroit health, social, civic and cultural agencies. Detroit SPEBSQSA members furnished all entertainment for the "Thank You Dessert Party" staged by the Bureau. Int'l Board Member Howard Tubbs was emcee. Henry D. Schubert, Detroit Chapter President and well known Society Contest Judge and Community Song Leader, directed crowd singing. *The Pitchblendaires* and *Treble Makers* (both Miami Beach Finalists) and the 30-Man *Precisionaires* demonstrated barbershop harmony for the edification of the overflow crowd of 1200.

● "For the first time in history, the roar of mighty Niagara will be subdued by the full throated voices

of 350 barbershoppers." That, in part, is how the slier read that Sam Richardson, of St. Catharine's, Ontario Chapter, sent to ten chapters in western New York State and nearby Ontario, promoting the International Picnic, Queen Victoria Park, Niagara Falls, Ontario on July 17th. Griff Harburg, Kenmore, N. Y. Chapter, co-chaired the event with Richardson.

● Advice from Racine, Wisconsin Chapter to all Parade Chairmen—Be sure to have a utility man on one of your show quartets. It looked like hard times when only three of the *Masqueraders*, of La Grange "Q" Suburban, Ill. Chapter, showed up for the Racine Parade. The tenor was a thousand miles away in Pennsylvania, afflicted with car trouble. The *Barber Q Four*, also of Q Suburban, was on the program too. Bari Bob Haeger volunteered to sing, put on the clown's make up, and tenored five songs with the *Masqueraders*, returning 10 minutes later at the baritone spot with the *Barber Q's*.

● In a contest for chapter bulletin names, Honolulu would be pretty well out in front—The Hawaiianizer.

● This appeared in the Minneapolis Chord-inator.

Word has been received by the Board of Directors of your chapter that it is run by a clique. Upon investigation we find this statement is true. Furthermore, we find the clique is composed of faithful members who are present at every meeting, who accept appointments to committees, who give willingly of their time, energies and efforts and who sincerely believe that the more one puts into his chapter, the more he will get out of it. There is no question that the enthusiasm, responsibility, and efforts of these members are of inestimable value to your chapter. We would, therefore, suggest that you join this clique. It is not a difficult matter to do so—in fact, it is very easy. Begin by attending meetings regularly; take a more lively interest in chapter activities; make helpful, constructive suggestions and accept responsibilities to serve on committees. Show a continual interest in all affairs pertaining to your chapter. Before you realize it, you will become a member of the clique and you'll be surprised to find how anxious they are to have you.

THE PUPULE FOUR



What does "Pupule" mean? There wasn't time to inquire when this picture came in from Honolulu Chapter Secretary Al Kaneta. The picture was snapped at a Special Services Show in Schofield Barracks. L to R—A. P. Medeiros, tenor; Ken Leong, lead; Al Kaneta, bari; Foster Hiltz, bass.

● Postage is a major item in the budget of the Fall River, Mass. Chapter—postage for mailing in the Chapter Quarterly Report. It's always a weighty affair, loaded with newspaper clippings of the chapter's charitable and civic activities; reports of chapter and interchapter functions; four, that's four, 8½x14, single spaced typewritten pages listing the appearances of the chapter's *Fall River Liners Chorus* and two quartets, the *Spindle City Four* and the *Belmont Four*. Hats off to Chapter Secretary Joe McGrath!

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goose pimples*
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THE MIAMI BEACH JUDGING PANEL



(Left to right)—seated—Sam Breedon, Tampa, Fla.; Maurie Reagan, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Aylett Fitzhugh, Dallas, Texas; Jerry Beeler, Evansville, Ind.; Int'l Pres. Simner, St. Louis; Marty Mendro, Chicago, Chairman; Fred Welti, Luncheon Chairman, Miami; Harley Miller, Tampa, Fla.; Roy Harvey, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Floyd Connatt, Peoria, Ill. 2nd row (left to right)—Int'l Sec'y Bob Hafer, Joe Wodicka, St. Louis; Dick Common, Dayton, Ohio; Ed Hackett, Louisville, Ky. Pete DePaolis, Rochester, N. Y.; Welsh Pierce, Coral Gables, Fla.; Jiggs Ward, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Ernie Dick, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Howard Tubbs, Detroit,

Mich.; Paul Kernan, Ithaca, Mich.; John Salin, New York City; Glenn Thomas, Miami (Adding Machine Operator); Mark Roberts, Detroit, Mich.; Luther Chandler, Miami, (Judges' Aide); Pete Bailey, Miami (Chairman Auditorium Comm.); Chuck Schmid, Bellevue, Ohio; F. Stirling Wilson, Washington, D. C.; R. George Adams, Oak Park, Ill. 3rd row—(left to right)—L. A. Pomeroy, New York City; George Chamblin, Columbus, Ohio; Harold Rusk, Dallas, Texas; Joe Lewis, Dallas, Texas; Henry Foth, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Homer Aspy, Pasadena, Calif.; Jim Ewin, Washington, D. C.; Bill Hinckley, Reading, Massachusetts.

O. C. CASH

Two years ago, O. C. Cash, Founder and Permanent Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman of SPEBSQSA, died. In turning over to his successor some of his files, Int'l First Vice-president Dean Snyder came across this hitherto unpublished letter, written by O. C. in January of 1953.

"I haven't had time to digest all the material you sent me concerning long range planning for our Society. Three things occur to me that should be emphasized in any plan for the future.

"We should continue the campaign for absolute cleanness in our shows and parades. I have been embarrassed on a number of occasions by corny exhibitionists, both quartets and MC's. However, I have noticed quite an improvement in the last year. If the Society is to make a substantial growth in the future, it must stand upon the reputation and impression, built to a large extent by our public entertainment.

"Another project in which I have become interested is the Building Fund. It may be that enthusiasm for this project would be an inspiration for future growth and development.

"I think establishment of chapters in smaller towns should have our attention. I know many small communities have chapters and some of the difficulties of maintaining chapters occur in the

smaller towns. We should find some way to keep these groups alive. I think one of the best ways is to encourage an area chorus to be made up of members of a number of small town chapters, meeting for general rehearsal at a centrally located town."



B&B SLIDEFILM RECEIVES AWARD

The Society's Balance and Blend Slidefilm received this award for excellence in the field of educational slidefilms. If your chapter has not yet seen and heard the Slidefilm, get in touch with Hq. Slidefilm costs \$25.00. Then all you need is to rent a sound projector and a very interesting chapter program is assured. This project is undoubtedly one of the most successful the Society has ever tackled. The money received from sales of the Slidefilm, both within and without the Society, goes into a separate fund which will be used to pay for the next Slidefilm in the series, that on Voice Expression,

which it is hoped will be ready in '56.

JUDGES STUDY

The format for the Judges School at the Miami Beach Convention followed a pattern of education. After a few opening remarks on the importance of judging in the Society, with emphasis on integrity and dignity, the meeting was turned over to the Category Specialists. With Bud Arberg getting in just under the wire, and Berney Simner sitting in for Joe Hermesen, the panel was complete. Joe Jones took over for Marty Mendro, who was busy shooting pictures for the absent Bill Hall. Floyd Connatt, Specialist in Voice Expression, used passages from his treatise to elaborate on the generalities of his category. Pete DePaolis followed in Harmony Accuracy, then in turn, Bud Arberg (Arrangements) and Berney Simner (Stage Presence) stressed the high points of their respective categories. After Joe Jones laid the ground work in the Balance & Blend Category the Sound-slide film was shown.

An announcement was made concerning the fact that the film-strip had won an Award of Merit in a recent Nation-wide competition. The Specialists then took their Candidates and Judges aside and discussed at great length and in great detail various aspects of their categories. Attendance was good, and the results will be shown in the forthcoming Contests.

ELECTED TO THE
INTERNATIONAL BOARD
AT MIAMI BEACH



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Miami,
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JOHN
SALIN
New York



LUTHER
SLETTEN
Minneapolis,
Minnesota

Talking vs. Singing

In one of our District bulletins a few months ago appeared this interesting comment: "Our Chapters think the quartets from the---- District *talk* too much in between their songs."

A couple who recently saw an SPEBSQSA Parade for the first time summarized their impression by the comment: "The quartets were wonderful and so was the Chorus, but why does the Master of Ceremonies *talk* so much? We can hear Bob Hope and Georgie Gobel on radio and television."

In many instances these opinions are justified, and we should do all we can to avoid such criticism.

Sure the quartet must say something between its numbers, but for Pete's sake make it snappy. You like



"And now, ladies and gentlemen, just one more word. It seems there were two Irishmen..."

to sing, the Chapter engaged you to sing, and the audience wants to hear you sing. Our audiences are polite and they'll dutifully laugh, even at an old joke; but if you take too much time at it you're imposing on them.

Masters of Ceremony are frequently chosen for their ability to tell stories—and there's always a possibility of their doing that, ad infinitum, unless you give them specific instructions how much talk you want from them. Unless you *know* your M.C. (and maybe if you do), make it plain to him that the chorus and the quartets are the attraction of the show and his function is to get them on and off the stage with no more talking than is necessary to give proper introductions. Efficiency should be the chief qualification of our M.C.'s, although they should, of course, have a pleasing and positive personality to go with it. The manner in which Past Presi-

dent Johnny Means handles the M.C. assignment is an excellent example of the combination of these qualities.

In the past couple of years there is an increasing tendency to appropriate stories used by another quartet or M.C. This is not only undesirable. It can be bad. Even the audience is embarrassed when you tell the same story which was told by the first quartet on the show, which you failed to catch!

While we're talking about "talking," we've got to reiterate the old maxim "Keep it clean." Some of our fellows are prone to rely on audience applause as a basis for judging whether a story is in good taste. We can't afford to do that. Also, we can't rely on the standards followed by radio or television. A "tainted" story is like bad breath in that your best friends won't tell you. They do tell others, however, for instance our International Officers, whence it comes back to our Committee. We are always sorry to hear any reports of questionable stories, particularly on the part of our quartets—because we're so proud of them all.

Bob Irvine, Chairman
International Committee
on Ethics

SOUTHERN PAPERS, PLEASE IGNORE



The pictures show Ralph Baines, of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada Chapter posing in a sweater his wife made for him. The Society crest is done in just about the official colors which unfortunately don't show up in the black and white photo. Mrs. Baines is willing to make graph charts of the sweater for anyone who is interested in knitting one. Send one dollar to Mrs. Ralph Baines, 2101 9th Ave. B., South Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

District and Chapter Officers Meet to Discuss Problems of Administration



Chapter and District Officers Luncheon

Under a plan suggested by the District Presidents' Conference at Louisville, District and chapter officers conferred on their common problems at a luncheon meeting in the Shelburne Hotel at Miami Beach June 16.

Glen Reid, Logansport, Ind., immediate past president of the Indiana-Kentucky District and International Board Member, was moderator. His District won the attendance prize with 14 present. Fred Goodrich, Glen's successor as Ind-Ky president, therefore was awarded a pitch pipe.

Rudy Hart, Michigan City, Ind., directed singing and there was much spontaneous group woodshedding. Arthur A. Merrill, International President, was introduced.

Members of the panel were Dwight Calkins, Spokane, Wash., Evergreen president and International Board Member, *leadership*; Ed Stetson, New Bedford, Mass., Northeastern president and International Board Member, *planned chapter programs*; Herb Wall, Springfield, Mo., Central States president, *chapter finances*; Louie Laurel, El Paso, Texas, Southwestern president, *district finances*; Calmer Browy, LOL president and International Board Member, *extension*; and R. Tracy Evans, Parkersburg, W. Va., immediate past president of Johnny Appleseed District and International Board Member, *retention*.

Stetson distributed copies of the Northeastern District's prize-winning "How to Improve Chapter Meetings and Promote More Quartetting," written by Don Flom, Ed

Goodale, Dick Miller, Roger Dewes, and Bill Morton of Schenectady chapter. Dean Snyder urged that the article be printed and distributed as a chapter manual.

The article suggests that chapters:

1. Have an active group of assistant directors taken from the chorus membership.
2. Have varied meetings well-planned by a rotating program committee and based on a plan of one hour chorus rehearsal, a 5-minute business meeting (let officers and committees handle the business and reduce announcements by using a portable bulletin board at meetings), a short intermission, a quartet session, informal woodshedding to start not later than 10 p. m., and, for those who want to stay, an afterglow at a place where there is no juke box, there are enough corners for woodshedding quartets, and refreshments are served.
3. Get prospective members to visit the chapter, see that they have a good time—including a chance to sing in a quartet, and if they are interested, take their applications.
4. Make frequent chorus appearances in community service under policies laid down by the chapter administration.
5. Encourage participation of members in quartets by use of octets, a quartet in front of the chorus with the chorus dropping out on signal, or division of the chorus into three or four smaller groups under assistant directors. Organized quartets cannot be legislated into existence and must be

formed voluntarily. Most organized quartets get started in woodshedding sessions or afterglows.

Calkins suggested that a hunt be made for leaders, that they be recruited, helped to develop, and promoted to jobs of increasingly greater responsibility.

Wall urged chapters not to donate money, but rather their singing services, to have adequate dues and reasonable show prices, to avoid hiring too many, or too expensive, quartets, and to encourage newer quartets by using them on shows.

Laurel advised Districts to determine what their total revenues will be and to hold expenses within those revenues. He outlined the chapter assessment method used in his District to raise \$3,000 a year. He asserted that without the Districts the Society would fold.

Extension material recommended by Browy includes the Society's pamphlet "How to Organize a Chapter," Dwight Calkins' and Stuttgart, Ark. chapter's "How to Do It" and Salt Lake City's excellent "How to Organize a New Chapter" submitted at Louisville and available from the Detroit office.

Evans, discussing retention, proposed that chapters (1) eliminate "joiners" from prospective members, (2) put the new member to work, (3) have a chapter bulletin and give it a catchy name, (4) keep the chorus active and uniform it smartly because "clothes make the man" and a snappy uniform gives confidence, and (5) get the woodshedding going early in the evening.

Move Over Opera Here Comes Barbershop

"Chautauqua" is a name that means something to millions and millions of people. For 82 years, the Chautauqua Institution, on Lake

Perhaps the best way to tell the story is to quote Past Int'l Pres. Phil Embury, "If anybody told you it was a terrific event in SPEBSQSA



Chautauqua Amphitheatre

Chautauqua way down in the western corner of New York State, has been conducting a summer series of cultural activities. Opera, concert soloists, drama, lectures, educational functions are the usual fare.

Last year, Pat McPhillips of Olean, former President of Seneca

history, it was. Originally, the President of Chautauqua Institution turned thumbs down in the belief that barbershop was not their kind of dish and their members would not turn out for it. The capacity audience demonstrated that nobody but everybody can enjoy an evening of barbershop harmony. It was



The Note Crackers, Rochester (Genesee), New York. L to R—Wayne Foor, lead; Clayt DeLong, tenor; Bob Gale, bari; Earl Parr, bass.

ca Land District, approached the Chautauqua management with the idea of presenting an all-barbershop concert. With barely concealed misgivings, the authorities agreed to schedule the program in the 8,000 seat outdoor amphitheatre last July 8th.

Past Int'l Pres. Phil Embury, Warsaw, N. Y. and Pat McPhillips shared the job of enecceing, presenting the choruses of Olean and Rochester (Genesee) Chapters, the 1950 Champion *Buffalo Bills*, the Rochester (Genesee) *Note Crackers*, the Painted Post, N. Y. *Compress-Aires* and the *Chord Cadets*, Warren, Pa. Floyd Newburg, Olean Chorus Director, led the audience participation singing.



The Chord Cadets, Warren Pa. L to R—Bob Dietsch, tenor; Boyd Sanden, lead; Earl Ericson, bari; Jim Cruickshank, bass.

a proud moment for SPEBSQSA and we can all be grateful to Pat McPhillips and the Seneca Land quartets and choruses for their gratuitous participation."

According to Pat McPhillips, Chautauqua has already requested a 1956 repeat.

NEW F. W. PRESIDENT

As a result of the resignation of Far Western District President Howard Cooper, George E. Dohn, Riverside, California, has been selected to fill out the unexpired term.





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CATALOGS • BOOKLETS
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SALES PRESENTATIONS
COMPANY HOUSE ORGANS

ANACORTES "AN-O-CHORDS,"
WASHINGTON . . . Chartered
 May 9, 1955 . . . sponsored by
 Everett, Washington . . . 25 mem-
 bers . . . Donald J. Coughlin, 1406
 8th Street, Anacortes, Washing-
 ton, Secretary.

PHILLIPS COUNTY, KANSAS . . .
 Chartered May 9, 1955 . . . spon-
 sored by Smith County Barber-
 shoppers, Smith Center, Kansas
 . . . 28 members . . . Leo Bean-
 blossom, 572 Park Avenue, Phil-
 lipsburg, Kansas, Secretary.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA
 . . . Chartered May 14, 1955 . . .
 sponsored by Edmonton, Alberta,
 Canada . . . 38 members . . . Alan
 J. Fraser, 3234 - 14th Street, S.W.,
 Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Sec'y.

**GREATER LITTLE ROCK, LIT-
 TLE ROCK, ARKANSAS . . .**
 Chartered May 17, 1955 . . . spon-
 sored by Stuttgart, Arkansas . . .
 21 members . . . and 4 transfers
 . . . Ray Lowry, 221 Main Street,
 N. Little Rock, Ark., Sec'y.



HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS . . .
 Chartered May 18, 1955 . . . spon-
 sored by Arkadelphia, Arkansas
 . . . 20 members . . . Louis A.
 Davis, 700 Prospect St., Hot
 Springs, Arkansas, Secretary.

**ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH
 CAROLINA . . .** May 19, 1955 . . .
 sponsored by Hampton Roads,
 Virginia . . . 22 members . . .
 Marvin G. Herron, 1103 Parson-
 age Street, Elizabeth, North
 Carolina, Secretary.

HUDSON, NEW YORK . . . Char-
 tered June 9, 1955 . . . sponsored
 by Schenectady, New York,
 Gloversville-Johnstown, New
 York . . . 21 members . . . G.
 Frederic Helbig, 8 South 4th St.,
 Hudson, New York, Secretary.

DANVILLE, KENTUCKY . . .
 Chartered June 10, 1955 . . . spon-
 sored by Versailles, Kentucky,
 . . . 21 members . . . O. C. Scevers,
 325 Harding St., Danville, Ken-
 tucky, Secretary.

TUPPER LAKE, NEW YORK . . .
 Chartered June 15, 1955 . . . spon-
 sored by Burlington, Vermont . . .
 20 members . . . Stephan J. Ryan,
 Box 110, Sunmount, New York,
 Secretary.

**PEPPERELL, MASSACHU-
 SETTS . . .** Chartered July 11,
 1955 . . . sponsored by Arca No. 9,
 Northeastern District . . . 22 mem-
 bers . . . James Fitzpatrick, Hollis
 Street, East Pepperell, Massachu-
 setts, Secretary.

*(All events are parades unless otherwise
 specified. Persons planning to attend these
 events should reconfirm dates with the
 sponsoring chapter or district.)*

- September 4—Christiana Lake (Near
 Adamsville, Mich.) Michiana Bar-B-Q.
 3-4-5—Venice, Fla. Jamboree.
 10—Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.; Port Wash-
 ington, Wis.; Madison, Wis.; Dallas,
 Texas; Mishawaka, Ind.; Fort Wayne,
 Ind.; Pepperell, Mass.
 11—Chippewa Lake, Ohio, Johnny Apple-
 seed District Chorus Contest; South
 Cook, Ill. Area No. 8 Contest.
 17—Fond Du Lac, Wis.; South Haven,
 Mich.; Janesville, Wis.; Alma, Mich.
 (Gratiot County); Anacortes, Wash.;
 Alamo Heights, Texas; Ruidoso, N.
 M.; Derry, N. H. Area No. 14—Inter-
 Area Jamboree.
 17-18—Orillia, Ont. Fern Cottage Jam-
 boree.
 23—Charles Town, W. Va.; Westchester
 County, N. Y.
 24—Sheboygan, Wis.; Bloomsburg, Pa.;
 Eau Claire, Wis.; Housatonic, (Der-
 by) Conn.; Gowanda, N. Y.; Nashua,
 N. H.; Lethbridge, Alberta; Nashville,
 Tenn.
 30—Franklin-Oil City, Pa.

October 1—Wichita, Kan. Central States
 District Contest.

- 1—Beaver Dam, Wis.; Butler, Pa.; Traver-
 se City, Mich.; Osawa, Ont.; Sey-
 mour-Black Creek, Wis.; Jackson,
 Miss.
 1-2—Gardner, Mass. Northeastern District
 Quartet Contest and Meeting; Bloom-
 ington, Ill. Illinois District Quartet
 and Chorus Contest.
 7-8—San Gabriel, Calif.
 8—Olean, N. Y.; Portage Wis.; Hazelton,
 Pa.; Saegertown, Pa.; Windsor, Vt.;
 Fairmont, Minn.; Lansing, Mich.; Big



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 DATES MUST BE CLEARED

- Spring, Texas; Danville, Va.; Plain-
 field, N. J.; Zanesville, Ohio.
 8-9—Indianapolis, Ind. Indiana-Kentucky
 District Quartet and Chorus Contest.
 14—Evanston, Ill.
 15—New Castle, Pa. Johnny Appleseed
 District Quartet Contest; Escanaba,
 Mich.; Kiel, Wis.; Rochester, N. Y.;
 Amarillo, Tex.; Tomah, Wis.; Wase-
 ca, Minn.; Port Angeles, Wash.; Fall-
 brook, Calif.; Joliet, Ill.; New Haven,
 Conn.; Northampton, Mass.; Seattle,
 Wash.; New Orleans, La.; Delco, Pa.
 21—Elizabeth, N. J. Northern Section
 Chorus Contest.
 21-22—London, Ont.; Oak Park, Ill.
 22—Albuquerque, N. M.; West Bend,
 Wis.; North Olmsted, Ohio; Lan-
 caster, Pa.; Stockton, Calif.; Ashland,
 Wis.; New Britain, Conn.; Parkers-
 burg-Marietta, W. Va.; Columbia,
 S. D.; Aurora, Colo.; Newark, Ohio;
 Penn Yan, N. Y.; Derry, N. H.; Mem-
 phis, Tenn.

- 21-22-23—Jackson, Mich. Michigan District
 Meeting, Quartet and Chorus Contest.
 26—Baraboo, Wis.
 28—Winston-Salem, N. C.; San Jose, Calif.
 29—St. Catharines, Ont. Ontario District
 Quartet and Chorus Contest; Norwich,
 Conn.; Kaukauna-Little Chute, Wis.;
 Charlotte, N. C.; Fort Worth, Texas;
 Springfield, Ore.; Brockton, Mass.;
 Auburn, N. Y.; Keene, N. H.; South
 Cook, Ill.; Calais, Me.; Marin Co.
 Cal. No. Div. Chorus Contest.
 30—Kankakee, Ill.
 November 4—Versailles, Ky.
 4-5—Owatonna, Minn. Land O'Lakes Dis-
 trict Meeting and Quartet Contest.

- 5—Portland, Ore. Evergreen District
 Quartet and Chorus Contest; Corning,
 N. Y. Seneca Land Quartet and Chorus
 Contest; El Paso, Tex. Southwestern
 District Quartet and Chorus Contest;
 Longmont, Colo.; Naugatuck, Conn.;
 Portland, Me.; Freeport, Ill.; La
 Grange, Ill.; Ventura County, Calif.;
 Detroit, No. 1, Mich.; Owensboro,
 Ky.; Elkhart, Ind.
 6—Muncie, Ind.; Princeton, Ill.; Con-
 nersville, Ind.; Decatur, Ill.
 11—Concordia, Kan.; Mt. Horeb, Wis.;
 Schenectady, N. Y.
 12—Jacksonville, Fla. Dixie District Quar-
 tet and Chorus Contest; Phoenix,
 Ariz. Far Western District Quartet and
 Chorus Contest; Kenosha, Wis.; Stur-
 geon Bay, Wis.; Worcester, Mass.;
 Pampa, Tex.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa;
 Linden, N. J.; Lancaster, Ohio; Ken-
 newick, Wash.; Hudson, Mich.; Balti-
 more, Md.; Palos Park, Ill.; Meno-
 monie, Wis.
 12-13—Indiana-Kentucky Outing at Ken-
 tucky Lake Village, Kentucky Dam.
 13—Arcadia, Calif.
 18-19-20—Harrisburg, Pa. Mid-Atlantic Dis-
 trict Quartet Contest.

DIVIDED CHORUS CONTEST

The Madison, Wis., chorus, for the sixth time Land O'Lakes District Champion, will represent the host District in the International Chorus Contest at Minneapolis next June. Fargo-Moorhead placed second and Eau Claire, Wis., third.

In a record-breaking 10th annual contest, with 28 of LOL's 63 choruses competing, Madison under direction of Joseph L. Ripp scored 870 and was 29 points ahead of the field. The chorus used two John Hill arrangements. "Riding a Rainbow" from Songs for Men No. VIII and "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes" from book No. VI.

As an experiment to reduce chorus travel and encourage more entries, this year's LOL chorus contest was divided and the same panel of judges scored the eastern division at Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., on June 26 and the western division at Detroit Lakes, Minn., on July 17. Scores of the two contests were compared to select the District Champion. At Wisconsin Rapids alone, 21 choruses competed to break the 1954 total of 20 entries in the single contest at Wausau, Wis.

The nine general District officers all attended the Detroit Lakes contest, and seven traveled more than 1,000 miles round trip and took time from their work to do so.

Cecil F. Brantner, Minneapolis, is chorus contest chairman. Chairman at Wisconsin Rapids with that chapter as host was Darrell Dewitt, LOL historian. At Detroit Lakes, Loehle Gast, Fargo-Moorhead president and North Dakota AC, was chairman. His chapter was host.

Division winners were: Eastern—Class A, (1) Madison, (2) Eau Claire, (3) Sheboygan; class B, (1) Appleton, (2) Wausau, and (3) Marinette.

Western—Class A, (1) Fargo-Moorhead, (2) Minneapolis, (3) Winnipeg, No Class B contest.

The Madison chorus represented LOL at Washington, D. C. in 1954 and was 11th among the 23 entries. It was second in stage presence, a favorite category of the *Cardinals* quartet with whom Director Ripp sings bari.

REUNION



First champion of the Society, the Bartlesville Barflies won their title June 3, 1939 in Tulsa, Okla. This picture was made recently by Tulsa's prexy Bob Jones on the occasion of a joint meeting of the Tulsa and Bartlesville Chapters. L to R—Harry Hall, lead; George McCaslin, tenor; Bob Durand, bari; Herman Kaiser, bass.

In 1947 when Madison competed for the first time in the LOL chorus contest (the first was in 1946), the chorus placed fourth. Since then Madison has won first in class A every year the chorus was eligible to compete—1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1953, and 1955—under direction of Joe Ripp. LOL rules since 1951 have required the class A champion to drop out one year.

Janesville, Wis., present International chorus champion and 1954 LOL champion, and Madison are both in LOL's area No. 2 whose chapters have held the District chorus and quartet championships for three years. D. Schuyler "Skid" Davies, Janesville director, is a former member of the *Cardinals*, 1947 District champions and sings lead in the *Delavan Whipchords*, 1953 District winners.

BARBERSHOP CRAFT

Dick Svanoe was away on vacation and otherwise tied up so that he was unable to complete the material for the Barbershop Craft page in time for this issue. Dick has accepted the chairmanship of the Committee again this year so there are sure to be some interesting things in future issues.

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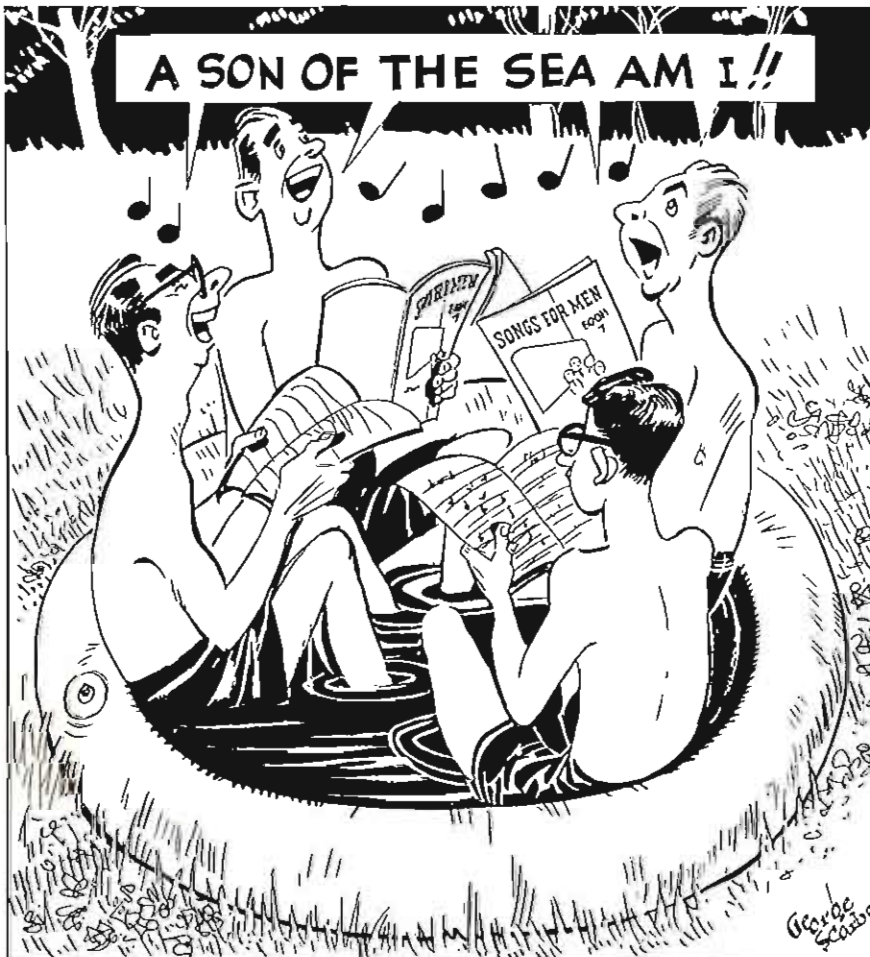
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"TAG" LINES

In the June *Harmonizer*, this column mentioned the Montgomery, Ala. prison inmate who refused a parole so he could sing with his prison quartet. In July, while returning from a singing engagement, the quartet overpowered guards and escaped. There's now an opening in the Montgomery jail for a quartet to sing a *limited* engagement. Uniforms will be furnished, as well as board and keep. Address all inquiries c/o this column *A Son of the Sea* was sung only six times by competing quartets at Miami Beach. That's pretty good considering the 41 quartets had 122 chances to use it Howard Preston, columnist for the Cleveland News, devoted his space July 1st to a suggestion that somebody start a Hall of Fame for quartets. Over the years, Preston has heard just about all the SPEBSQSA "greats." Sounds like a project for that Society Hq. Building, if it ever gets built This one appeared in Seeman &

Peters monthly house organ, attributed to Henry Ford—"The question 'Who ought to be boss?' is like asking 'Who ought to be the tenor in the quartet?'" Obviously, the man who can sing tenor." . . . In May Land O' Lakes Harmony News, Minneapolis Chapter is listed as having fifteen quartets. Is that a record? . . . Clinton, Iowa Chapter boasts of a 17 year old member, Duane Moore, who can "sing lead like a lark, play sax, trumpet, and clarinet better than practically anybody"—finished second on Ted Mack Amateur Show in New York last winter. . . . Glendale-Burbank, Calif. Chapter, not to be outdone, claims a former Nebraska State Horseshoe Pitching Champion, Glen Myers. . . . Anybody else? . . . Mark Beltaire, in his Town Crier column, Detroit Free Press, wrote recently that the Society is not the longest named outfit in existence. He cited, "The Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of

North America and Other Jurisdictions, Inc." Int'l Sec'y Bob Hafer promptly called to his attention the Society's Past Int'l Board Members' organization whose initials are ADDPMSPEBSQSABDWVWP, not Inc. We haven't space in this magazine to spell it out. . . . This makes sense. Northeastern District Sec'y George Almond points out in one of his bulletins that Easter falls on April 1 next year so that chapters will avoid that date in scheduling events. . . . We go on for years thinking we'd like to do a certain thing and somebody up and does it. Muskegon, Mich. Chapter awarded a door prize at its June 23rd meeting held at a country club. Member Bud VanOveren won it—a heavy oak door. . . . Without SPEBSQSA, Packard Electric Co., Warren, Ohio, would be in trouble. No less than thirteen Warren members spend their spare time from barbershopping helping Packard out. The company is so grateful that it devoted a full page in its house organ "Cablegram" to pictures of quartets and the full Warren Chorus. . . . N. R. Howard, editor of the Cleveland News, can play from memory practically any popular song written in the last 50 years. He probably knows the lyrics as well. In our book that makes him somebody to listen to with respect. After attending a barbershop show, he wrote a column about it in which he said in part, "The . . . got an impressive reception on their first appearance, but in their second they slid a piano into the act. Around where I was sitting there fell something of a chill. People sing well with a piano, but it was the original hooptedo of the SPEBSQSA, Inc. that all barbershop singing was done in barber shops and not in music stores, that is, without instrumental help." . . . George B. Cochran, member of Buckeye Capital (Columbus, Ohio) Chapter, is also a member of SPMSLMWRT—The Society for the Preservation of the Memory of Steam Locomotives and the Men Who Run Them. George has a run on the Pennsylvania between Columbus and Logansport, Ind.



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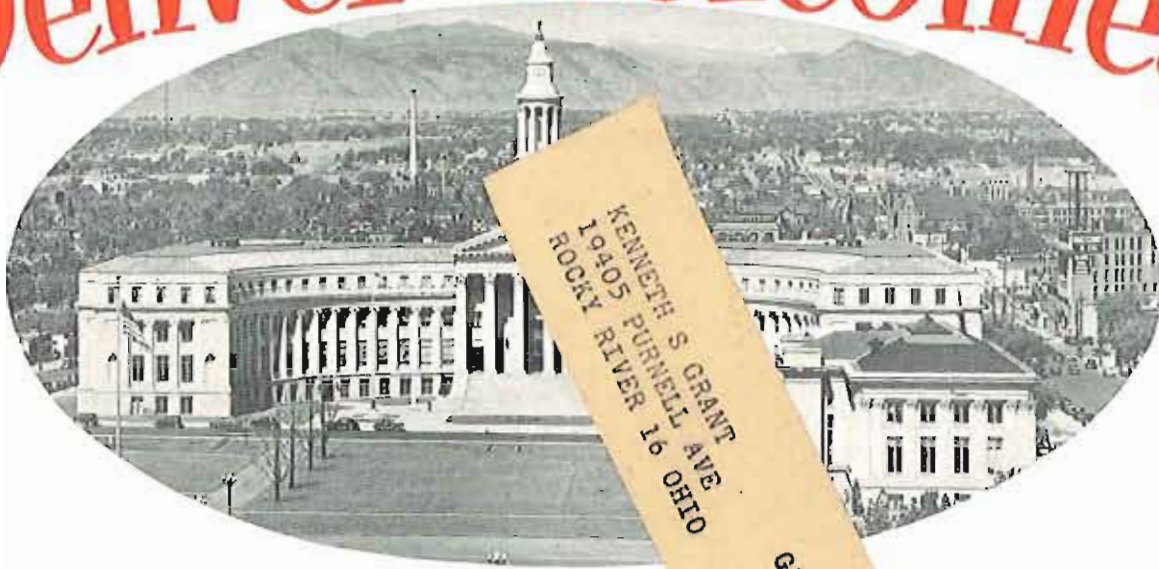
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