

# Sky Masters Are District Champs At Kearney Meet

Sixteen quartets showed up for the District Quartet contest at Kearney, Neb., Oct. 2. The Sky Masters of Omaha, Neb. were named the District Champions, The Royal Aires of Kansas City were the second place winners, and the Crow Bars of Eldorado, Kans. won third position. The Chordhuskers of Ft. Dodge, Iowa, and the Timberliners of Boulder, Colo. were placed in the fourth and fifth positions.

Twenty-one quartets had entered the contest, but five of the foursomes were not able to get to Kearney because of inclement weather.

Five choruses were entered in the contest but there were only three to compete. The Kearney chapter chorus, under the direction of Willys Neustrom, was named District Champion.

The Orphans quartet of Wichita, Kans., 1953 CSA District Champs and current International rulers, were on hand to present the huge CSA trophy to the Sky Masters. The Gamboliers quartet of Kansas City, 1952 District Champs, were at the contest also and both quartets sang well to the audience during the afternoon competitions.

## 10 Quartets

The 10 quartets selected in the preliminary competition were as follows: The Sky Masters of Omaha, Neb.; the Royal

Aires of Kansas City, Mo.; the Four Nubbins of Spencer, Iowa; the Chordhuskers of Ft. Dodge, Iowa; the Crow Bars of Eldorado, Kans.; The Silver Harmonizers of Denver, Colo.; the Melotones of Abilene, Kans.; the Mid West Fortissimos of Holdrege, Neb.; The London Aires of Kansas City, Mo., and the Timberliners of Boulder, Colo. All the quartets sang well and got a big hand from an audience largely composed of barbershoppers.

The Champion Orphans sang "I Believe," in honor of the memory of Fred Taylor of Lyons, Kans., and CSA prexy Williams spoke briefly in eulogy of the former Vice President, who died recently as a result of an accident.

The judges were headed by C. E. Wilson of Omaha, Neb. Wilson's specialty is voice expression. The other judges and their categories are as follows: Joe Wodicka of St. Louis, Mo., balance and blend; Floyd Strong of Topeka, Kans., stage appearance; Don Stephens, Kansas City, Mo., harmony accuracy. Edw. Fahnestock of Wichita, Kans., was secretary of the judges and Austin Thames and Ray Koenig of Kansas City, Mo., were the timers. Wodicka was grounded by weather at Kansas City and was not able to get to the contest on time. His place

in the preliminaries was taken by Bob Groom of the Orphans.

## Wichita in 1955

Bob Groom, delegate of the Wichita, Kans., chapter, presented a bid for the 1955 District quartet contest. The motion to award the contest to Wichita followed and was carried unanimously.

Geo. H. Williams and Heeb Wall, CSA District President and secretary respectively, were the emcees for the contest.

The work involved in a District or Regional contest is tremendous. Gil Carver and his many assistants of the Kearney Chapter left but few, if any stones, unturned. The contest and the two parades that were held in the evening were well managed and accepted.

## Des Moines Gives \$800 to Boys Home

A check for \$800 was presented last month to the YMCA Boys Home of Iowa by the Des Moines chapter.

The money, net proceeds from the group's barbershop show last spring was a gift from the chapter to the home near Johnston, Iowa. Presentation was made at a picnic supper given by chapter members and their wives for the boys. Chapter members then entertained with songs.



# Central States SERENADE

OCTOBER, 1954

SPENCER, IOWA

VOL. 1—NO. 8

## AP Story Lauds Simner and 25,000 Barbershop Singers

(EDITOR'S NOTE — The following Associated Press story concerning our society and International President Berney Simner was published in the Sept. 5 issue of the Kansas City Star. A picture of Simner, Dr. Norman F. Rathert, Victor Scholz and Don Haase doing a little "woodshedding" was also printed along with the story).

By PETER WYDEN

ST. LOUIS, (AP) — Berney Simner is no crow. He loves to woodshed, but more than anything else he dreams of someday getting together with a lead, a tenor and a bari to blend his bass into a barbershop quartet he can call his own.

Unhappily, this dream is at least another year away because Berney, an almost embarrassingly cordial, sonorous-voiced St. Louis businessman, has just been elected international president of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America. And as boss of America's barbershoppers, he

is too busy with their collective well-being to give way to his singing urges.

"Some of our most successful failures as presidents have been guys who just wanted to sing," he says.

For more than ten years Berney has been in tune with the mellow world of the barbershoppers where a crow is a man who can't hold a tune ("some of our most active members are crows," says Simner), woodshedding refers to the harmonizing of a strictly impromptu quartet and nobody would think of calling a baritone anything but a bari.

He has watched the society grow from a handful of fellows clustered around a piano here and there into a well-knit organization of 25,000 members of 615 chapters. The society has a permanent office in Detroit with a staff of sixteen and an annual budget of \$138,000. It even has its own code of ethics.

"We shall refrain from forcing our songs on unsympathetic ears," says one of its planks.



### Newly-Crowned Sky Masters Accept Champion Trophy—

Four Happy Sky Masters accept the large district championship trophy from Bud Bigham. Bigham is doing the honors for the Orphans who won the CSA crown last year and went on to cop the International top spot in 1954. Elements of the Gamboliers who won the crown in 1952 watch the ceremony. Quartet Singers from left to right are Eddie Schliebs and Orval Wilson of the Gamboliers, Bob Groom of the Orphans, Jim Baird, Joe Zwirn, Bob Schneider, and Pappy Sterling of the Sky Masters, Bud Bigham, and Pete Tyree of the Orphans. Warren Bond of the Orphans is hidden from the camera. He is standing behind Bigham.

# THE SERENADE

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From the

## President's Typewriter

By Geo. H. Williams

9-8-54

MR. BERNEY SIMNER  
TOWER ROOM,  
CONGRESS HOTEL  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI  
CONGRATULATIONS ON  
THE NATIONAL HONORS  
AWARDED YOU AS PRESI-  
DENT OF SPEBSQSA. HOW-  
EVER, I KNOW NO HONOR  
IS MORE APPRECIATED  
THAN THE ONE YOU ARE  
RECEIVING TONIGHT, BE-  
STOWED AS IT IS BY  
THOSE WHO LOVE AND  
KNOW YOU BEST.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS  
FOR CENTRAL STATES  
ASSOCIATION

The above wire was never delivered to Berney Simner. Clayton, Mo., Berney's home chapter, gave a reception in his honor and I was invited to attend. The Clayton chapter was assisted by the St. Louis and Ye Old Tymers chapters. Conditions made it impossible for me to attend, so I sent the wire. Western Union delivered the message to the Congress hotel in time, but somebody loused up and the Barbershoppers around the St. Louis area probably think I'm a social moron.

I thought Western Union was going to write an explanatory letter to Berney but that fell through and I hope this explains the situation. Western Union billed me for the message.

Anyway, congrats, Berney, and a pat on the back to the Clayton, St. Louis and Ye Old Tymers chapters.

### Novice Contest?

Dick Curzon writes an interesting letter in this issue of The Serenade. His letter is in our "Bitter and Sweet" column.

Friend Curzon would like to see a novice contest held along with the regular district quartet affair. He even gives some good examples of how the contest can be worked.

Actually the district quartet contest committee had instructions to work out a novice contest in connection with the recent affair at Kearney, Neb. The committee report showed that they simply did not have time to have the novice contest and do all the other things that were planned.

I would like to see a chapter

undertake such a contest and make it entirely separate from official society functions. You know the society does not say we cannot have more contests, but simply states that there will be a regional contest to pick the competitors for the international contest, and a district contest to see which foursome can score the highest. I will send what information I have to any chapter that is interested.

### ODE TO AN SPEBSQSA WIFE

St. Peter opened wide  
the pearly gate  
And joyously rang  
the bell  
And said, "Come in, my dear,  
you are welcome here,  
"You've had your share  
of hell."

—Anonymous.

Many of you eagle-eye readers of the Harmonizer probably noticed that the CSA chartered one-third of all the new chapters in the society between April 29 and Harmonizer press time. The percentage may be even higher for the three months following that date. CSA is on its way.

I understand that action has been taken by the executive committee of the International board to correct the shocking situation shown in the financial statement of the society for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954. The statement was published on page 55 of the September Harmonizer.

Outdoor parades do not seem to please audiences as well as indoor affairs. Much of the intimacy is lost. The Spencer Parade of Quartets at the Clay County Fairgrounds will not be repeated.

### Clinic Is Popular

The judges did not look quite so stern when the quartets faced them on Sunday morning for the whys and hows of winning or not winning.

The clinic began at 9:30 a. m. and continued through the noon hour as the judges reported mistakes to each quartet and made suggestions. Actually the judges do a great amount of hard work and their sincerity in helping quartets to improve has resulted in a general improvement in the quality of all society four-somes.

## Wyoming Chapter Receives Charter

Don Bean has been named president of the newly-chartered Cheyenne, Wyo., chapter of the SPEBSQSA. Secretary of the chapter is Dave Lloyd.

Laramie, Wyo., was the sponsoring chapter with helping hands from Lon Coughlin of the Rip Chords and Area Counselor Ward Husted

## Denver Practicing For Annual Parade

Denver, Colo. Chapter is practicing each Monday night for their Parade Nov. 6 and 7. They have visited and been visited by Boulder, Longmont and the new Colorado Chapter, Aurora. These chapters are practicing for an all-state Chorus that will sing at the Longmont Parade on October 16.



### Abilene, Kans., Float in Parade—

Boosting Barbershop singing before a parade crowd estimated at 25,000 during the Central Kansas Free Fair parade Sept. 23 at Abilene, Kans., is this float entered by the Abilene chapter. The Kansas group received a great deal of favorable publicity and a big hand all along the parade route. Men on the float are Albert Benignus, barber; Robert Scott, customer; and singers Dr. E. F. Stark, Larry Shetter, Bill Clark, John Roggendorf, Henry Ewart, Vern Witwer, Wayne Karl, Mort Smith and Herman Kready.

# Fishin' and Barbershoppin

By HERB WALL  
CSA Secretary

Some fellows like to fish and some like to sing barbershop, but when some of them like to do both and you put a group of barbershoppers out on a fishing trip it's almost more than a guy can stand.

For several years, due to their close proximity to Upper White River and the best float fishing in the world, Springfield, Mo., Barbershoppers have been blessed with just such nostalgic combinations of pleasures. Of course, all barbershoppers know what holding your own in a good close chord does to you, but only a few know what White River float fishing and singing at the same time does to you.

Float fishing is different from most fishing in that you float down the center of the river and cast with plugs or flies to the most likely looking spots along the river bank. Most of the time you go two in a boat with a guide, but sometimes four barbershoppers will go in one boat so as to sing a little more often and conveniently. Because of the close quarters with four in a boat you all have to be friendly like and it's a little dangerous what with sharp hooks flying past your ear.

### Woodshedding

Usually, you try to get four of the best Barbershoppers you can find, especially good woodshedders with all four in the proper voice so you don't wear out a bass singer singing baritone or a lead singer singing tenor. If you can't get four you settle for three and you've got a trio.

Somebody gets the cokes and ice, somebody gets the grub and one guy takes his car. Usually you get going about 4:30 in the morning and wend your way south to Kimberling Bridge and El Rogers' camp a few miles

south of Reeds Spring, Missouri. In the hour and fifteen minutes it takes to get there, in spite of the fact that it is 5:00 in the morning, after singing all the way you get to be right sharp by the time you get there and ready to sing for your breakfast. And what a breakfast!

Genial Bill Rogers greets you at his fishing camp and that swell cook, his wife, Adie, sets out one of the finest breakfasts you ever ate with eggs, ham, gravy, jam and biscuits that have a tendency to float off the plate. After you have eaten all you can hold, including seven or eight of those wonderful biscuits, you are ready to start the day-right. By this time Bill has the boat on the trailer and you load the truck down with all your fishing gear, along with grub and an icebox, chairs and other equipment, and you set off for that put-in spot some sixteen to twenty miles up the river.

### Odd Man Out

Usually the boat goes in the river a little before 7:00 somewhere around Indian Creek and you are on your way for one of the finest kinds of outings a man could ask for. Usually we odd man out to see who paddles the boat the first half-hour and take turns the balance of the day. There is nothing like floating down the river with three other good guys without a soul to bother you, every once-in-a-while busting into a good barbershop song, throwing the plug and being entranced by the ever changing panorama of beauty as the hills and trees and the stream unfolds before you.

It's hot sometimes and sometimes it rains and you think you will freeze to death, but it's more fun than anything I know of and sometimes we even catch some fish.

On one trip I remember very vividly, it just happened to be

the day when everyone was in good voice and in fine fettle and after singing all the way down, singing all day long and singing all the way back home, by the time we arrived at Keith's house we were so good that even the Buffalo Bills couldn't have beat us. Try it sometime if you want some kicks.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Emmetsburg Parade Slated Oct. 23-24

Emmetsburg, Iowa, will stage its annual parade Oct. 23 and 24 with five quartets from the Central States Association district.

The two-show parade of quartets will feature the Orphans of Wichita, Kans., current International champions; the Skymasters of Omaha, Neb., newly-crowned district champions; the BMA Gamboliers of Kansas City, Mo., the Hawkeye Four of Des Moines, Iowa, and the Chord Huskers of Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The first program will be staged at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, with a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are priced at \$1.75 and all reserved. Tickets may be had by contacting Joe McNamara at Emmetsburg.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## 100-Voice Chorus On Longmont Show

A 100-voice "all-state" chorus will be featured in the seventh annual "Roundup of Barbershop Quartets" Saturday, Oct. 16, in Longmont, Colo.

Quartets on the show will be the Keynoters of Newton, Kans., and the Rip Chords of Cheyenne, Wyo.

Reservations may be obtained by writing Dr. R. A. Barnes, Longmont, Colo.

# Loyal Order of Moose Founded 65 Years Ago

(EDITOR'S NOTE — The following story is the second in a series of articles on various fraternal and civic organizations which help make our communities a better place in which to live. Last month's article dealt with the Shrine and this month's piece is concerned with the Moose lodge. Others will be saluted in each issue of The Serenade).

During the year 1953, the Loyal Order of Moose celebrated three anniversaries it was the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Order, the 40th anniversary of the founding of Mooseheart the "Child City", and the 30th anniversary of the founding of Moosehaven, the "City of Contentment".

## 65 Years Old

The Loyal Order of Moose began quietly 65 years ago on a spring day in Louisville, Kentucky, apparently for no more reason than that Dr. John Henry Wilson, a fifty-two-year-old physician, wanted to organize a group of his friends into a fraternal order. Wilson was a devoted member of the Knights of Pythias and had viewed with interest the organization in Louisville of a lodge of the recently founded Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The Elks had reintroduced into fraternalism the long-absent spirit of play and had given it a cachet that it never had before. While he was devoted to the Pythians, Wilson also liked what he had seen of the Elks. It was his idea in organizing the Moose to create a fraternity which would combine the features he liked best in both.

For a while the fraternity prospered and member lodges in the adjoining states of Illinois and Indiana were established. But the attributes of this young fraternity were not enough to nurture its growth and it did not have the leadership which would have added the necessary "know how" to make it prosper, and the Order began to fade until in 1906 there were only two lodges with a total membership of 246.

## A 'Dreamer'

Then a "dreamer", James J. Davis, an iron puddler from the blast furnaces of Pennsylvania and Indiana, was introduced to the fraternity. Immediately he saw the possibilities of building up this crumbling structure by adding something that would be an incentive for working men to join. He "dreamed up" the idea of Mooseheart, a "Child City" where the sons and daughters of deceased members might be cared for, educated and trained in a profession. He reasoned that fellowship meant much more than fraternizing with your fellow man. It meant, he said, helping your fellow man in time of need, to assist him over the rougher spots of life's road. He argued that one of the fundamental purposes of the Loyal Order of Moose should be to bring together men who would be espoused to the teaching of service. His ideas caught fire and soon member lodges were springing up all over the nation. Membership grew apace as he travelled far and wide propounding his "dream", until in 1913 Mooseheart's cornerstone was laid.

Mooseheart that day, four decades ago, was not the beautiful community of 150 charming buildings set deep amid green lawns that one sees today. Mooseheart on that day was a circus tent pitched in a barren field. Thomas R. Marshall, then Vice President of the United States, dedicated the community with these words: "Thank God that here on this most sacred day, humanity has again proved its rights to be called the children of the Most High, has reached out its hand in love and loyalty to the needy broth-



## Pittsburg's Se Kans Quartet—

A popular quartet in the Jayhawk state of Kansas is the Se Kans of the Pittsburg, Kans., Barbershopper chapter. Members of the quartet tacked on the trimming used on the chapter's float (pictured on another page in this issue) and have been exceedingly active in chapter affairs. Members of the quartet are (top) A. B. York, bari and Carl Blackwell, bass; (bottom) Anton Baima, lead, and Pete Stuckey, tenor.

er and has disclosed not only the right but the duty of this great Order to exist."

## Moosehaven

Nine years later, 30 years ago, when Mooseheart had flowered from the prairie into a beautiful and ever-growing community, the Moose founded its home for the aged, Moosehaven, in sun-kissed Florida on the banks of the sparkling St. John's River at Orange Park, 14 miles south of Jacksonville. The Moosehaven property, which includes an eighty-acre dairy farm, covers about two hundred acres but most of the buildings form a spacious little community near the water's edge. There are magnificent buildings, low and meandering according to plan, almost luxurious. What money can buy and provide the Moose have bought and provided for their "City of Contentment".

In recent years, the Moose has launched a nation-wide program of civic affairs. Believing that man can attain no higher destiny than service to his fellowman, the Moose has developed an extensive program of activities for the betterment of local communities throughout the nation. Special emphasis has been placed on youth activities in providing broad and wholesome avenues of recreation for the future "Citizens of Tomorrow". The Golden Rule has become the axiom of the Moose fraternity.

## Long Road

It is a long, long road from Louisville, 1888, to Mooseheart of the present day. Those who set out upon the journey in Louisville could never have it has been a highway of miracles. Mooseheart is a miracle; Moosehaven is no less a one—

both miracles wrought by men and women of good will with the help and guidance of God.

As the Moose celebrated these anniversaries they became conscious of the fact that they now have seniority, but they do not intend to get along in the future merely upon this seniority. Today the Moose fraternity enjoys a membership of over one and one-quarter million men and women. These men and women are cognizant of the fact that the world will expect more accomplishments and greater achievements in the future. There is not much point in growing older unless they can grow better as they go along. Each anniversary will be a milestone along their highway of growth, progress and achievement. It was in this spirit that the Moose celebrated its three anniversaries, and it is in this spirit that the Moose will gain confidence from the past to undertake even more difficult and inspiring projects in the future.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Cedar Rapids Show Planned Nov. 13

Five quartets will appear on the fifth annual parade of quartets scheduled by the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, chapter Nov. 13. The program will be held in the Memorial Coliseum starting at 8:15 p.m.

Appearing on the show will be the champion Orphans; the Schmitts, past International champs; the Big Four, Sweet Adeline champions; the comic Gay Nineties, and the Melo-D Men of Cedar Rapids.

For tickets write to Bob Davis, 330-29 Street Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## Annual Family Picnic a Big Affair for Wichita Chapter

Nearby neighbors of Wichita's Joyland Park probably wonder what will happen next. The Central States Antique Thresher and Tractor Association had just finished their annual meeting, the smoke from the coal, wood and straw burners had just cleared away and perhaps the chugging and whistling of the old time tractors was just an echo when the strange harmonious sounds of barbershop chords began to ricochet among the trees. The Wichita SPEBS chapter was having its annual family picnic.

Hampered only slightly by the spasmodic Sunday showers, (you can't dampen our spirits) the festivities took place under one of the large pavilions, the metal roofs of which reverberated during the group song fest led by Wayne (lead and clear) Hubbard.

Special and honored guests of the day were the Orphans and their wives, and Mr. S. K. Grundy of Springfield, Mo., who has been scoring the special song arrangements for the Orphans. Arlo Moore, of the well known Kansas City "Royales" was also present. Seems he was out this way on business and held over a day to be with us. A guest quartet from Eldorado, Kansas, was on hand and displayed some real fine singing. Keep your eye on these boys, they call themselves the "Crow-Bars". Bar nothing, they're not crows, they are good.

Due to the showers the picnic

got off to a late start but due to a lighted pavilion, no one left until their tonsils were sore and their mouths were full of bugs. But who cares about bugs when there is singing to be sung, and heard, especially if it is barber-shopping.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Russell Chapter Plans Minstrel

The evenings of Nov. 8 and 9 will be minstrel show nights in Russell, Kan., as the Russell County chapter of SPEBSQSA presents their 1954 fall show. The "Jubilee" minstrel show will have a cast of 35 members of the Russell chapter.

Presenting a minstrel show every other year, this will be the third such performance by the Russell chapter since its organization in 1950. The first two minstrel shows were complete sell-outs and hopes are that this one will be no different.

In addition to the members of the Russell chapter, a visiting quartet, "The Chordsmen," of the Ellis, Kans. chapter, have been invited to appear on the program.

The Russell chapter chorus, directed by R. L. Welch, has also accepted an invitation to appear on the Salina, Kans. Parade of Quartets to be held in Salina on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 14.

# BITTER & SWEET

## Novice Contest

Dear George:

When, oh, when, are the "big guns" going to wise up and separate the two big factions of our wonderful Society? Let's face the facts—90% of the total membership of SPEBSQSA are not Vikings, Bills or Orphans or interested in becoming same. The "old quartet" is dead; no one can deny that George, no—not even you. Those four lovable old guys who like to meet once or twice a month, to do a little woodshedding. They sing in the church choir every Sunday, and time allowing, show up for choir practice every Friday night. Their voices aren't exceptionally "great" and they have a hard time reaching the high ones, but to them it sounds good. Maybe, on the back road we have lost them among the "champs." I don't believe, and never will I believe, we can maintain a national organization of "champs." We have to have some men along with the "boys."

In a District contest such as ours—with less than 20 quartets (approx) there are about two outstanding quartets—about six average foursomes and the rest—well you know the rest. The thought occurs to me—as it has to others before me—why not have this so called "novice" class. Certainly there must be a "novice" champ—certainly there must be two or three runner-ups somewhere in this district. George, I think it's brutal to put the "unnamed four" up against the top two or three in the district contest. Now don't tell me they need experience—I won't buy that. All the "experience" in the world won't help some of our gang. We need something to "shoot at" but not the "champs." This International movement was a success because of one reason—participation, and not enough "fours" have the "guts" to participate. George, we're throwing the flyweights against the heavyweights. Is that right? If you could put some thought on this subject, as I'm sure you have, I think you will come to the same conclusion. Perhaps the morning show could determine the novice champs (newcomers), the afternoon show the regular top 10 (or finalists), 10 quartets to each classification.

Entry in any of two contests, regional or district, puts a quartet entry in the finalists contest. All quartets must enter at least two contests to become eligible for the finalists, all others are "novices." There are many ways this can be handled as you can see . . . We had better do something, George, before it's too late. Let's give them a real incentive to get going again, a novice or beginners quartet circle. This could put the Central States on the map—the first District to have an organized program for the "novice class" competing in actual competition. This would also be a wonderful proving ground for new judges candidates.

"From little acorns, big oaks grow—if they are planted at the right time.

Sincerely yours,  
Dick Curzon  
Omaha Chapter, SPEBSQSA

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Early Phone Call

. . . I want to compliment you on the September issue of The Serenade. I am sure it will prove to be the best in the entire barbershopdom.

I do note, however, the photo of the Past President's Club has the names reading from left to right rather than from right to left as to point of service.

I appreciate your running the "Honorary Membership" certificate in the issue. I have received some of the most wonderful letters from members throughout the country who were presented with the honor. One

member called me at three o'clock in the morning after he had returned from a barbershop boat ride and had just received his mail.

If you have about five extra copies of the September issue of The Serenade would you mail them to me? I have several places I want to forward them and I would appreciate having them before your supply is depleted.

HY POWER-ingly yours,  
Bert F. Phelps  
Kansas City, Mo.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Two Ads, Please

Please enter our order for two quarter page ads to appear in the October and November issues of The Serenade.

. . . I'm mighty pleased to see that The Serenade is going to an every month publication. It does a terrific public relations job for CSA and you are to be congratulated on taking the step. Know that it takes not only money but a lot of hard work.

We will have some pictures for the December issue and I'll send along some editorial matter later for our parade . . .

Bob Davis  
Secretary  
Cedar Rapids (Ia) Chapter

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Certified Judge

The Sept. 1 issue of The Serenade is certainly a fine publication. I especially appreciated the picture of the Kansas City, Mo., Past Presidents.

Under the story on page 2 about certified judges was interesting, but you evidently were not advised that I was certified as an official stage presence judge in Washington last June.

Thanks for picking up my story on page 6 on "12 Easy Ways to Kill Your Chapter."

All in all, George, you are doing a grand job in publishing this fine district bulletin. I am going to do all I can to get the Kansas City chapter to advertise.

Russ Gentzler  
Past-President, CSA  
Kansas City, Mo.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Likes Forum

The Serenade is a splendid district publication and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in keeping me on the mailing list.

I like your "Bitter and Sweet" forum and the frankness with which problems are discussed. Certainly we don't have all the answers in our society as yet—but if we keep searching for them with an open mind we'll come out all right. Seems to me that we are off to a good start in all districts.

I do wish we could add something to our total membership. Your publication of membership data on page 1 adds emphasis to this.

Dean Snyder  
Chairman, Int'l Committee  
On Armed Forces Collaboration  
Alexandria, Va.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

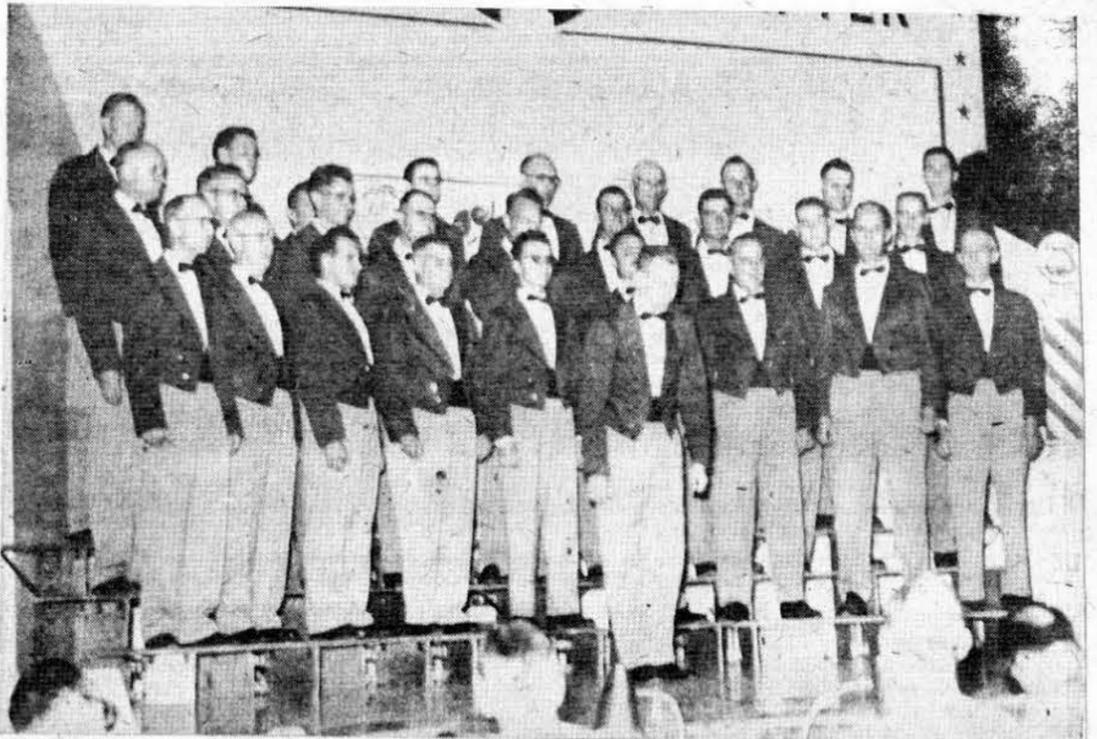
## Articles of Incorporation

FIFTH: This Corporation is organized NOT for profit and the objects and purposes to be transacted and carried on are:

(a) To perpetuate the old American institution, the barbershop quartet, and to promote and encourage vocal harmony and good fellowship among its members.

(b) To encourage and promote the education of the public in music appreciation, in the form of barbershop quartet singing.

(c) To Foster, Encourage, Promote or participate in, private or public musical entertainment programs for the support and benefit of civic, religious, educational or charitable organizations and to render all possible community service through the medium of song.



## District Chorus Champions—

Host chorus and newly-crowned district chorus champions of the Central States Association is the Kearney, Neb., group directed by Willys E. Neustrom. The Kearney chapter also played host to the district quartet and chorus contest held Oct. 2.

# Quartet Chatter

The Sky Masters had all the barbershoppers hanging on the hook with their fine singing at Kearney, Nebr. They really put on a polished performance to win the District laurels.

The Crow Bars caught everyone's fancy with their singing in the finals. One barbershopper said the Crow Bars blew their songs right by the judges. Anyway the Bars are on their way and they have good stage appearance as well as singing ability.

### Community Sing

The Royal Aires seem to get better each year and they are fine crowd pleasers. I was emceeing the Parade at the college. I asked Arlo Moore if the quartet would lead the audience in community singing. I had never seen it done before. The crowd loved it and I think the Royal Aires liked it too.

Every Barbershopper was pleased to see the number of young quartets entered in the recent contest at Kearney. The Page Boys of the Omaha chapter, the Silver Harmonizers of Denver and the Spring Singers of Colorado are all young foursomes, and we may well hear of one of the groups winning the top honors some time.

The Orphans are singing better than they did when they won in Washington. Each of the fellows will sing with anyone anywhere. They are a credit to the society, and they have some brand new numbers, I believe. Do my eyes deceive me or are one or two of our Orphans getting plump? Everybody loves a fat man.

The Four Nubbins of Spencer racked up severe time penalties at Kearney, Nebr. The talk was to "watch those Nubbins" in the coming years.

Several quartets and various other parties traveling to Kearney were stopped by the Nebraska state patrol. Several of those stopped were fined. No one squawked. Barbershoppers do not do much woofing.

Berney Simmer wrote the other day and reminded me that several of the chapters in the CSA were in danger of losing their charters. One of the chapters mentioned was Holdrege, Nebr. Apparently Holdrege rebounded in fine shape for they had three quartets and a chorus entered in the contest at Kearney and here is my heart and my hand on the splendid showing the chapter made.

### Two Songs

The Timberliners are a fine quartet and they are mighty personable gents. Yes sir, mighty personable. They won fifth place at the contest and might have gone better, if . . . it happened in the finals of the con-

test. The pitch was blown and apparently sounded okay for they took off on the song. The only difficulty was that two of the fellows were singing "Mother Machree" and the other two were singing something else. They took it in stride, though, and I believe they had a good time at the contest. I would like to know the foursome better.

The Chordhuskers won fourth place at the contest and they are singing at the Emmetsburg Parade soon. They wanted me to make up a cut from the picture The Serenade photographer took of the foursome at Kearney. You guessed it, or have you looked at their pix elsewhere in The Serenade. Theirs was the only one that did not come out good. Incidentally any chorus or quartet can get 8X10 prints from The Serenade for one dollar each.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Storm Lake Holds 'Kick-Off' Party

Buena Vista county, Storm Lake, Iowa, just held their fall kick-off party and activities are starting. They hope to have several new quartets to report soon. Two quartets sang for the Smorgasbord Dagen of Albert City, Iowa, and one for the Amvets, at Storm Lake.

## The CSA Is on Its Way!

The term, "CSA is on its way," is proving more and more appropriate as time bears out the prediction that 1954 was to be a banner year for the Central States association of chapters of the SPEBSQSA.

While no official figures for the month of September had reached the editor's desk by press time, our own unofficial tabulation, shows our membership to be approximately 2,400. The CSA has only two chapters that are in danger of losing charters and things generally are looking up. The two chapters are at Oskaloosa, Iowa, and Kiowa, Kans. The rest are apparently all in the fold.

In order for us to hit an all-time high in the district and bring Barbershopping enjoyment to more people, I want each and every CSA Barbershopper to get one new member for the society during the month of October. Just ask a few fellows who you think would make good members. You know, of course, if everyone would get one new member, we would double our membership in one month. It is as simple as that.

CSA is on its way!

# EMMETSBURG, IOWA PARADE

## TWO BIG SHOWS OCT. 23 AND 24

Featuring the Following Quartets:

The Orphans, Wichita, Kans.  
1954 International Champs

The B.M.A. Gamboliers, Kansas City, Mo.

The Hawkeye Four, Des Moines, Iowa

The Skymasters, Omaha, Nebr.  
1954 District Champs

The Chord Huskers, Fort Dodge, Iowa

Saturday 8:00 P.M.

Sunday 2:00 P.M.

All Seats Reserved

TICKETS \$1.75

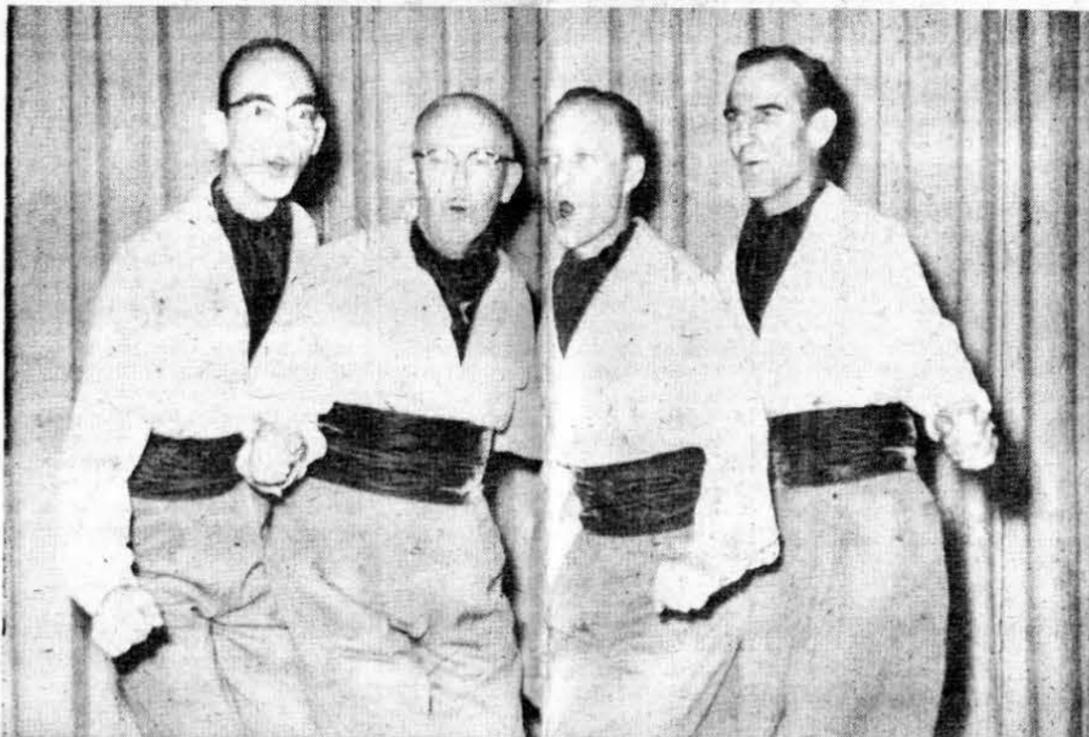
Contact—Joe McNamara, Emmetsburg, Iowa

## Top Three Quartets in District



### District Champions—

Crowned champions of the Central States Association district at the Oct. 2 contest in Kearney, Neb., were the popular Sky Masters of Omaha, Neb. From left to right in this photo taken at the contest by The Serenade photographer are Jim Baird, Joe Swirn, Bob Schneider and Harold Sterling.



### Royalaires—

Selected as the No. 2 quartet in the district contest at Kearney were the Royalaires of Kansas City, Mo. Pictured above in their colorful costumes (left to right) are Bob White, Don Thorne, Allen Brandon and Arlo Moore.



### The Crow Bars—

Placing third in the Central States Association district quartet competition this month were the Crow Bars of Eldorado, Kans. Members of the quartet (not in order of appearance) are Paul Graham, Jack Pittman, Gene McClure and George Bacon.

### Con-Chords New Chapter Quartet

A new quartet, the Con-Chords, has been organized in the Cloud county, Concordia,

Kans., chapter. Contact man is Boyd Bainter, 513 Washington, Concordia.

Robert Collins, director of the Cloud county chorus, is working with three groups and believes

that all three will develop into singing quartets.

They have been busy practicing for their fall parade on Nov. 11. The BMA Gambollers will be the featured quartet.

## Fred C. Taylor, CSA District Vice-President, Dies at 69

Fred L. Taylor, vice-president of the Central States district, died Sept. 21 in the Lyons, Kans., hospital. He was 69 years old.

A brief memorial service for Mr. Taylor was held during the CSA district contest at Kearney with the International Cham-



FRED L. TAYLOR  
CSA loses official.

### Dear Mr. President:

The white callas and bronze mums that came the day of Fred's funeral were beautiful and we appreciate deeply your kindness to us.

It hardly seems possible that I shall never hear his loved voice again or see the flash of his eyes, but I'm trying to believe I will again some day be with him.

Sincerely,  
Opal Taylor

ptionship Orphans singing "I Believe" in his memory. The audience stood and observed a minute of silence.

CSA President George H. Williams, by virtue of his office, sent Mrs. Taylor a floral tribute for the funeral.

### Lumber Executive

Mr. Taylor was president of the Taylor Lumber and Implement company in Lyons. He was the oldest active businessman in the city in terms of consecutive years in business, having been associated with the lumber business there 50 years.

He was active not only in business, but also in church, civic matters and organizations. He was well known for his song-leading abilities and his intense interest in Barbershop singing.

He was a member of the Methodist church, Kiwanis club and a 32nd degree mason. He was a member of the Methodist church choir 55 years and for 35 years served as director. He also served 35 years as a trustee of the church and was a Sunday school teacher many years.

Mr. Taylor was president of the Western Retail Implement and Hardware association in 1929 and he had been active in that organization for 30 years. He was also a past-president of the Lyons board of education.

### Former Teacher

Born March 12, 1885, he attended Lyons schools and began teaching in grade schools there at the age of 17. After three years of teaching in and near Lyons, he joined his father, the late H. C. Taylor, in the lumber company business.

He is survived by his wife, Opal; five daughters, three brothers and seven grandchildren.

## Orphans to Appear On Ellis Parade

The Orphans, International champions from Wichita, Kans., will headline a parade of quartets Saturday, Nov. 6 at Ellis, Kans.

Also scheduled to appear on the parade are the Delinquents of Mulvane, Kans., the Ellis Chordsmen and chorus and other quartets.

The program will be staged at 7:30 p. m. in the Ellis Memorial Hall with admission set at \$1. An afterglow will be held following the parade.

For tickets write: SPEBSQSA, Box A, Ellis, Kans.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

## Joplin to Stage 2nd Annual Show

The Joplin, Mo., chapter will stage its second annual parade of quartets Nov. 20 in the Memorial Hall at Joplin.

Featured on the program will be the Vikings of Rock Island, Ill., the Four Hearsemans of Amarillo, Texas, the Hy-Powers of Kansas City, Mo., and a host of other quartets. The Joplin chorus will headline the show.

The show will start at 8 p. m. and ticket information may be had by writing to Walter Pickering, 215 Gray, Joplin, Mo.

Seventh Annual Roundup of

## BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

Longmont, Colorado St. Vrain Memorial Bldg.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

8:00 P.M.

Featuring

"Keynoters" from Newton, Kansas

"Rip Chords" from Cheyenne, Wyoming

100-Voice All-State Chorus

For Reservations write:

Dr. R. A. Barnes

Longmont, Colo.



**The Chord Huskers—**  
Fourth-place winners at the district quartet contest at Kearney, Neb., were the Chord Huskers of Fort Dodge, Iowa. From left to right in this Serenade photo taken during the contest are Dick Johnson, Louis Gargano, Max Hooley and Louis Bohn.



**The Timberliners—**  
Ranking fifth in the CSA district quartet contest Oct. 2 were the Timberliners from Boulder, Colo. Members of the quartet include (not in order of appearance above) Larry Clark, Bud Flinn, Swede Martinson and Ed Mantooth.

## Directory of DISTRICT QUARTETS

(Advertisement)

**The Orphans**  
International Champs 1954  
Contact Bud Bigham.  
1923 Wassall,  
Wichita 16, Kansas.

**The Skymasters**  
District Champions  
Contact: James S. Baird  
5502 St. 76th St., Ralston, Nebr.

**Mid-States Four**  
Past International Champs.  
Contact Martin S. Mendro,  
621 Wissing Lane,  
Glenview, Ill.

**The B.M.A. Gamboliers**  
International Semi-finalists,  
'47-52-53.  
Central States Champs, '52-53.  
Contact Orval H. Wilson,  
3646 E. 61st St.  
Kansas City, Mo.

**The Atomic Bums**  
International Finalists Four  
Times, '48, '50, '52 and '53.  
Contact Maynard Sace,  
3437 Girard Ave., South,  
Mpls., Minn.

**Hawkeye Four**  
International Semi-finalists. 5  
times.  
Contact Fred Owens  
West Des Moines State Bank  
West Des Moines, Iowa

**George H. Williams**  
CSA District President.  
Available for limited number  
of emceeing engagements.  
1520 Grand avenue,  
Spencer, Iowa.

**Lyle DeMoss,**  
Radio-TV Station WOW  
Omaha, Nebr.

**The Vikings**  
International Champs 1953.  
Contact Robert Maurus  
3427 9½ Ave., Rock Island, Ill.

**The Four Nubbins**  
Contact Harold Krille,  
1321 Second Avenue East,  
Spencer, Iowa.

**The Prospectors**  
Contact E. B. Zabriskie  
2033 Albion Street,  
Denver, Colo.

**The Rudy Fick Royalties**  
Contact Arlo Moore  
3015 South 28th,  
Kansas City, Kans.

**The Chord Huskers**  
Contact Louis Gargano  
853 So. 15th  
Fort Dodge, Iowa

**The Timberliners**  
Contact: Swede Martinson  
3116 8th St., Boulder, Colo

### Newton Chapter Sings at Fair

Four quartets and the Newton, Kans., Chapter, chorus of 38 members sang at the Harvey County Fair on Aug. 25. The audience, which was estimated at 10,000, was very enthusiastic in their applause and as usual when the time came around to quit the crowd still wanted more singing.

The quartets that assisted were the Crow Bars, Eldorado, Kans.; the Coca Cola Four from Hutchinson; the Swingin' Door Four from Wichita and the Chordinators, a Sweet Adeline quartet from Wichita.

About two years ago the Newton Chorus sang at all Newton churches that invited them to sing. Each Sunday morning for 11 straight Sundays the Chorus took the place of the regular church choir and sang two hymns. Starting in October they plan on making the rounds again and they already have four invitations. The two songs that they plan on using this fall are, Flemming's Integer Vitae (The Man of Upright Life) and Fred Waring's arrangement of Onward Christian Soldiers.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

### Buying Uniforms For Student Quartet

Smith county, Kan. reports they have not been active in summer, but that they are buying uniforms for the high school boys quartet

### COMING EVENTS

- Oct. 9 — Pittsburg, Kan., parade.
- Oct. 16 — Columbia, S. D., charter night.
- Oct. 16—Longmont, Colo., parade.
- Oct. 16 — Clinton, Iowa, parade.
- Oct. 23 & 24 — Emmetsburg, parade.
- Nov. 3 — Harlan, Iowa, parade.
- Nov. 5 — Elkader, Iowa, parade.
- Nov. 6 — Denver, Colo., parade.
- Nov. 6 — Ellis, Kansas, parade.
- Nov. 8 & 9 — Russell Co., Kans., minstrel show.
- Nov. 11 — Concordia, Kans., parade.
- Nov. 13 — Cedar Rapids, Iowa, parade.
- Nov. 14 — Salina, Kans., parade.
- Nov. 19 — Herman, Mo., parade.
- Nov. 20 — Joplin, Mo., parade.
- JAN. 21, 22 & 23—LOUISVILLE, KY., MID-WINTER MEETING.
- Feb. 27 — Ft. Madison, Ia., parade.
- March 5 — Topeka, Kans., parade.
- March 26 — Springfield, Mo., parade.
- April 1 — Eldorado, Kans., parade.
- April 2 — Wichita, Kans., parade.
- April 15 — Newton, Kans., parade.
- April 23 — Des Moines, Iowa, parade.
- April 23 & 24 — Kansas City, Mo., parade.
- MAY 7 — DAVENPORT, IOWA, REGIONAL CONTEST.
- May 14 — Neosho, Mo., parade.
- JUNE 15 thru 19—MIAMI, FLORIDA, 1955 CONVENTION.

## Singers Take Float Trip Down River

Back towards the last of August three guys had a wonderful time for a couple of days. Herb Wall and Bud Jackson were honored with the presence of International President, Berney Sinner, on one of those famous Ozark float trips, described in another article in this publication "I Hope". Impeccable, lovable, barbershopper Berney is a great guy to be out with. Ready and willing to do his share of the work that's attached to fishing and always ready to discuss that thing that's closest to our hearts, barbershopping, from every angle of the society.

We tried hard to get a fourth (actually needing a "hard-to-get" tenor), but not a soul was able to get away so we settled for a right pleasurable trio. Bass singer Berney (who says he always has to) sang lead. Wall sang an ersatz Bari and Jackson screwed his voice up and sang tenor. We regaled the multitudes (Chickadees — Fish — Chipmunks — Squirrels — even Mink) and four people, in the two swell days, TWERENT TOO GOOD BUT TWAS SURE ENJOYABLE.

The evening before the trip several Springfield Chapter Members stopped by the house to chin a little and get some inspiration and enthusiasm for future Chapter activities. Berney didn't disappoint us. He's full of Barbershopping.

After two days of throwing the plugs, getting our share of back lashes, good wholesome arguments and discussions and just being out there close to God, Berney went home, considerably rested and relaxed, with fond memories of a grand time and with 30 lbs. of fish in 20 lbs. of ice. Berney said it cost him \$6 to get em home, but anybody knows fish cost \$10 a pound when you catch em yourself.

You can't beat fishing and Barbershopping, especially when it's with Berney.

—The CSA Is on Its Way—

### Cedar Rapids Gives To Health Camp

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, contributed \$112.09 to wind up the 1954 This is the second donation for budget for Camp Good Health. The 1954 camp. The Mello-D Men sang at the Municipal Band Concert, and the Anamosa Chapter members were guests at Cedar Rapids on Sept. 9th. Twenty members and wives attended the Davenport Parade on September 25th. Cedar Rapids are trying to find some tenors! Long on other three parts but short on tenors!

### Anamosa Chorus in Two Appearances

The newly-organized chapter at Anamosa, Iowa, made two appearances during September. On Sept. 8 they sang at the Teachers' Welcome Party and on Sept. 16 at a county-wide meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The chapter has two newly organized quartets that are as yet unnamed. They hope to have two more quartets in a short time.

## PARADE OF QUARTETS

At ELLIS, KANSAS—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

Featuring—

### THE ORPHANS

International SPEBSQSA Champions—1954

THE DELINQUENTS—Mulvane, Kansas

THE ELLIS CHORDSMEN and CHORUS

and OTHER QUARTETS

7:30 P.M. — MEMORIAL HALL — ADM. \$1.00

AFTERGLOW FOLLOWING PROGRAM

For Tickets—Write SPEBSQSA—Box A, Ellis, Kansas

# Careful Publicity Planning is 'Must' for Chapters

(EDITOR'S NOTE — The following article is the last of two on newspaper and radio hints prepared by Dean Palmer of Wichita, Kans. The first article appeared in last month's issue of The Serenade).

by DEAN PALMER

Continuity writers are usually found on most radio station staffs and they may wish to write their own announcements taken from the data you give them. However, if your co-chairmen are capable of doing this themselves, it would no doubt be appreciated by the radio station manager. A good thing to remember is that standard station breaks are 20, 30, and 60 seconds long. It would be well to give them several different announcements in each time.

Till now, I have assumed that newspaper space and radio time would be gratis. Whether you will need paid space and time will depend entirely on how much each will allow you for free. If they can be sold on the honor and benefit this function will bring your city, I dare say you will have little trouble getting all you need. However, you should definitely keep in mind that if both have given you free time and space and you find out at the last minute that you need paid space and/or time, to put your ticket sale over, both should have equal consideration. To do otherwise would be bad public relations for us and particularly for your chapter and would definitely jeopardize your future relations with these people. I KNOW!

In Wichita, where we have put on 17 annual shows plus one district contest, our reputation is sufficiently established that we need little or no publicity to put a show across. When we were getting started, our problems were quite complicated by having two local daily newspapers and four radio stations. Keeping everyone happy has been no small trick . . . because some give us more time than others which gives those others the impression that the former are 'sponsoring' us. Even we now do not need the publicity that we used to, we still have quite a time keeping everyone happy.

Window cards have plenty of merit as a publicity medium but generally run into a bit of money. You might determine how many you could use, get a price on same, and present it in your expense budget for consideration. Again, the value or necessity of these will depend on the newspaper and radio publicity.

## Other Gimmicks

There are other gimmicks too! Attached is a print each of a couple of ideas used by our Longmont, Colo., chapter when they hosted the Regional contest last May. Longmont has quite an active chapter and they did an excellent job of selling their town on greeting the barbershoppers. When we arrived, every window in stores on the main street had either a 'Welcome' sign or a picture of a quartet stencilled thereon. At every intersection, as well as several at the auditorium, they had barberpoles in the sidewalk sockets usually used for flags. It was a clever idea, we thought, and we asked them how they did it. Hence the two drawings with instructions. You may be able to make use of these, and again you may not. I see from their expense report that the total cost of this project ran to \$56.38.

A good example of planning, particularly radio time, is shown in attached copy of program schedule as set up by Bud Jackson at Springfield, Mo. Twenty-eight, 15 minute broadcasts in a period of about three weeks is quite a record in itself. Of greater importance, however,



Pittsburg's 'Harvest of Harmony' Float—

Selected as one of the two "outstanding floats" in Pittsburg's (Kansas) homecoming Labor Day parade was the float entered by the Pittsburg chapter of the Central States Association. The Barbershopper floats calls attention to the annual production of the Barbershoppers' Harvest of Harmony" presented Saturday, Oct. 9.

is the **planning** as evidenced by this list.

In closing, let me assure you, and Messrs Neustrom and Carlin, that this publicity business isn't half as hard a job as it may look. A lot of people **make** work out of it and it is generally because they don't plan properly. Unfortunately, publicity just doesn't happen! You've got to plan it no less meticulously than planning any program or other function connected with the contest.

Oh yes! For future use throughout the CSA District, would you see that we get a clipping of all material published between now and C-Day.

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Geo. Williams. Although I know that he will probably grin to himself regarding any remarks I may have made relative to newspaper editors etc., (him being one), I am sure that he can fill in where I have left off because he is the expert. In the two-year contests that we have had in this district since it was organized, we have seen the very high and low of publicity. No doubt the ultimate in barbershop publicity comes out of Spencer, Iowa where George is not only District President, but also editor of the local paper. No doubt the low for publicity activity is Kansas City. Those poor guys up there have the hardest job in the world getting **anything** in the Kansas City Star . . . much less a well planned publicity program. No one argues with the fact that our regional contest held in Springfield, Mo., was one of the best publicized affairs ever held in this or anyone else's district. The publicity chairman was one Bud Jackson, a non-barbershopper (but very willing), who, by trade, was a professional magazine writer. It simply amazed the Detroit office. I have many of his clippings in my files and will pass them on to you as soon as I can dig them out. You no doubt will find them helpful.

P.S. — Seems like I should have written enough without this P.S. However, after reading over the foregoing, I recall something I wanted to mention . . . and failed to.

## News Releases

Obviously, I do not know Neustrom's or Carlin's experi-

ence in matters of this nature or whether or not they have had experience at writing news releases. In case they know all about it, I then must apologize for wasting your's and their time. However, I don't want to let this discussion go by without a word from past endeavors at this sort of thing . . . and I hope that my poor use of our well known English will not be too confusing.

Experts at building up a publicity campaign will tell you that some few items need to be repeated time and time again whereas others should be stated but once, or twice at the most. In commenting on his campaign at Springfield, Mo., the one main thing that I remember Bud Jackson as saying was ". . . don't put all of your eggs in one basket . . .". By this he meant that although you might repeat a few vital statistics in the week to week news items, you have so much to tell that any well organized publicity plan should be so planned as to tell a little bit at a time, and generally, something new and different in each item. This is why it is so vital to have your overall set-up pretty well worked out with the newspaper in order to determine how much space you can rely on, and roughly when and how often.

With this in mind, your job then is to figure out what you want to cover, and possibly what in each 'installment' so that when C-Day arrives you have covered the whole picture in easy steps . . . all of which makes for more interesting reading on the part of the general public.

Each article, of course should carry the name of our society and district, what the function is, and the date and place of the contest or contests. Not until a couple of weeks prior to the contest would I worry about such small details as exact time of the activities or price of admission.

Along with each article, in addition to the vital statistics mentioned, you should piece-meal the most interesting of the supporting facts about our society, the district, the district officers, either collectively or individually, a history of your local chapter, what it has done in past years, how any man can

join, when you meet, etc. There is a world of such interesting material so much so that what and how much you use will depend on how much space your editor will give you. It is not hard to see therefore, why detailed planning is so important.

## Make a List

Were I doing the planning, I'd sit down and make a list of individual subjects that could be used for the basis of a newspaper item . . . not a whole lot unlike your wife writing up her weekly grocery list. Once you have this list, you can then number the subjects in their order of importance. If you then find that newspaper space (and frequency of items) is at a premium, you can use the most important subjects to the best advantage . . . possibly combining them with some of the lesser important items. If you, on the otherhand find that you have more space available than you anticipated, you can spread out accordingly, possibly make use of more pictures than you nor-

mally would have otherwise.

In contacting your editor, some opinion from him should be obtained regarding use of pictures and whether or not he is equipped to make his cuts locally. I think that pictures tell more of a story, many times, than mere wordage and would especially suggest that you carry at least one or two chorus pictures, one of the Orphans, one of Dist. Pres. Geo. Williams, and above all means a picture and feature story about your local chapter. If more picture space is available, I'd then reserve the space for actual quartets or dignitaries who will definitely be in attendance . . . such as Berney Simmer, if he comes, and pictures of the judges if those selected have any news value . . . and quite often they do. You will, of course, know about the available space by the time you get word of who is coming and if pictures can be used, you can write them immediately for whatever you want in the way of a glossy print.

## JOPLIN MISSOURI CHAPTER

# Second Annual PARADE OF QUARTETS

featuring

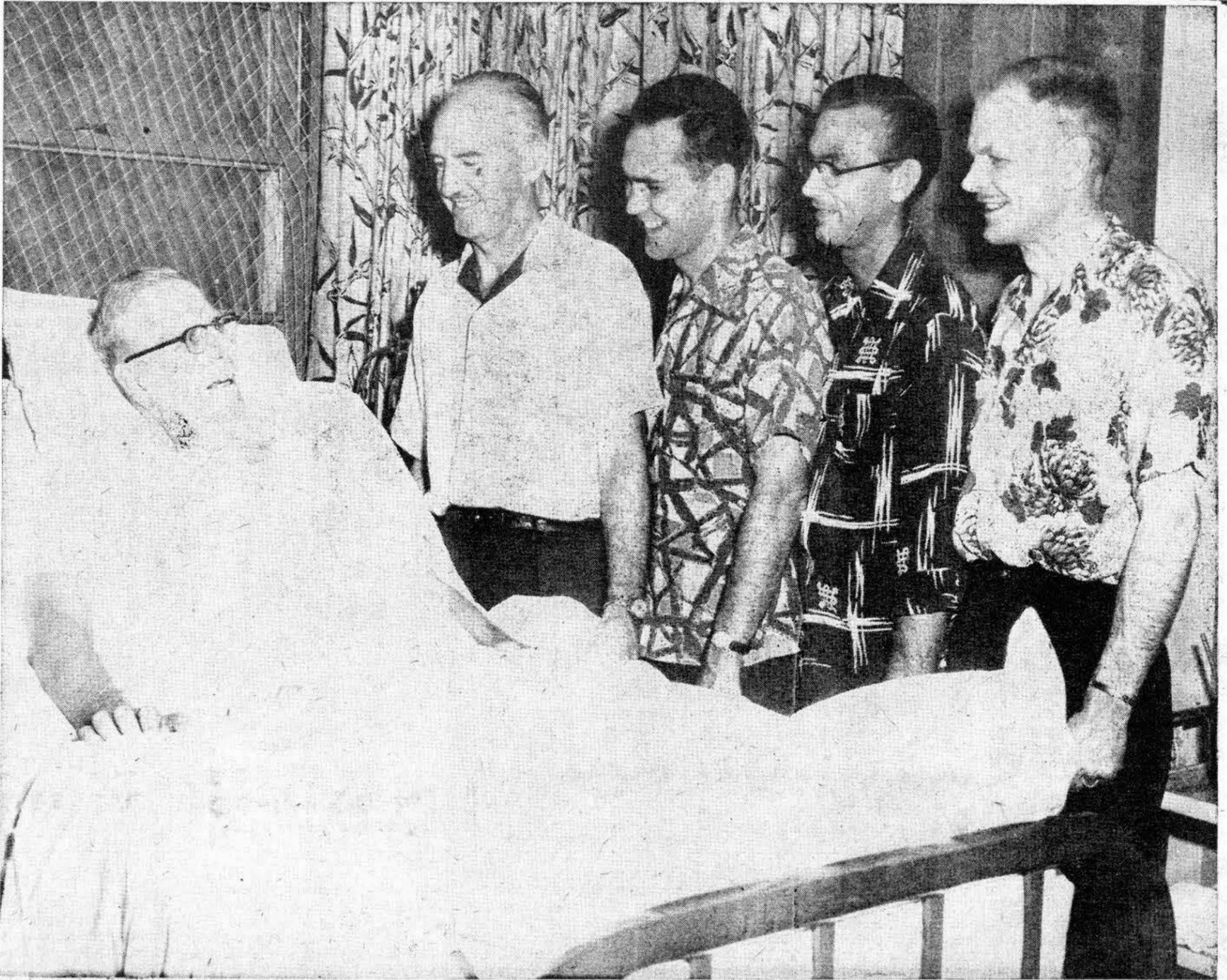
The VIKINGS                      Rock Island, Illinois  
The FOUR HEARSEMEN              Amarillo, Texas  
The HY-POWERS                      Kansas City, Missouri

and a host of other quartets

plus the Joplin Chorus

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1954**  
**MEMORIAL HALL, 8 P.M.**

For ticket information, write to:  
**Walter Pickering**  
215 Gray  
Joplin, Missouri



**Enginairs Cheer Up Ailing Barbershopper Fan—**

Helping to cheer up an ailing Barbershopper fan hospitalized in Wichita, Kans., were the Enginairs, an all-Boeing Airplane company quartet. The Wichita chorus also staged a show for the patient. Pictured at the bedside of Lloyd Jenkins, a victim of lateral sclerosis, are (left to right) N. D. Showalter, baritone and chief engineer for Boeing; Ralph Sheridan, lead in place of Dick Perkuhn who was out of town on company business; Earl Eastman, tenor and Boeing engineer, and Wayne Dalrymple, bass and project engineer for the B-47 Boeing bomber. Mr. Jenkins died several days after and one of his sons expressed his gratitude for the great pleasure his father derived from the visit.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Bedfast Fan  
Cheered Up  
By Wichitans**

Wichita barbershoppers proved how easy it is to be a "good neighbor" on a recent Friday evening when the chapter chorus and the "Enginairs", an all-Boeing Airplane Co., engineering quartet, sang in behalf of a bedfast fan.

The recipient of this good singing for a good cause was one Lloyd Jenkins, who although he had never been a member of the local SPEBSQSA chapter, was an avid barber-shop fan. Jenkins, a former employee of the Boeing Airplane Co., became the victim of Lateral Sclerosis (a form of Muscular Dystrophy) and had to take an extended leave of absence after approximately ten years of service. Shortly after leaving the company he contracted Pneumonia which necessitated his being hospitalized. Conquering the Pneumonia left him bedfast although he lived at home.

The Wichita chapter, hearing of his illness and knowing of his interest in barbershopping, decided to "put on a show" for a one-man audience. Using the Jenkin's back lawn for a stage, 34 members of the chorus, directed by Virgil Chambers, sang several numbers. The "Enginairs", being a smaller group sang at the stricken man's bedside. Mr. Jenkins, his family, and the neighbors were very pleased with the performance.

**Here's How to  
Qualify Quota  
For Int'l Meet**

By DONALD I. DOBSON  
Associate Int'l Secretary

After studying the Society's membership status for several hours, it was surprising to me to learn that at least four Districts will find their quota of quartets qualifying for the International Contest in 1955 different from that of the Washington Convention if the present trend of membership continues.

Starting this year, because of the changeover to a January 1st fiscal year, the quota of quartets for the '55 International Contest will be based on the Society's membership as of **December 31, 1954**. The best way to insure the qualified quartets in your District the possibility of being selected to represent your District at Miami Beach next June is through maximum membership renewals, re-enrollment of desirable former members, and the organization of new chapters in your District should also not be overlooked.

One look at the last Membership Report will quickly show the weak spots in your District with delinquent chapters whose charters are subject to suspension. As matters stand right now, it's possible for some Districts to qualify as many as five quartets, mainly because the District officers have organized a plan of membership promotion while other Districts stand to drop to three, two, or one qualifying quartet.

A good Area Counselor can help to remove the threat of losing one qualifying quartet. Let these men know what you expect of them and they'll produce the results you want.

**FIFTH ANNUAL PARADE**

**CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA NOV. 13, 1954**

**Memorial Coliseum**

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