

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

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Louis R. Harrington, Editor

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FIRST EDITION - Fulfilling a longtime desire of the officers of the Michigan District, we are happy to present a new District publication which will reach all Michigan Barbershoppers through their chapter. We hope to bring to you through this medium news not otherwise recorded in either the Harmonizer or your chapter bulletins. We welcome your comments and assistance.

DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION - The annual Fall Meeting and Quartet Contest of the Michigan District will be held Saturday, October 15, 1949 at Ypsilanti. The Ypsilanti and Wayne Chapters are the hosts this year with Edwin S. Smith, past international vice-president of SFEBSQSA, as general chairman. The contest preliminaries and finals will be held at the beautiful and spacious Frederic Pease auditorium on the Michigan Normal College campus. In the afternoon the semi-annual business meeting of the District will be held. It too will be at the Frederic Pease auditorium thereby affording all visiting Barbershoppers an opportunity to sit in as observers. Each chapter should make sure that its duly appointed delegates attend.

The schedule of events arranged thus far for Saturday:

- 9:15 A.M. -- Preliminaries at Pease Auditorium
- 2:00 P.M. -- Business meeting at Pease Auditorium
- 3:00 P.M. -- Social hour and Woodshedding, Huron Hotel
- 8:00 P.M. -- Finals of District Quartet contest, Pease Auditorium

Bob Liggett of the Ypsilanti chapter who is serving with Ed Smith, assures us that other interesting functions for Barbershoppers and their Ladies are being arranged. We are positive that every visitor will be properly entertained.

Accommodations are being handled by a committee headed by Dr. M. D. Wilcox, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti, and he should be contacted at once if you plan to stay over night.

Seats for both the preliminaries and the finals are not reserved and will be available for all visitors. Prices for the early sessions are 50¢ with tickets for the finals at \$1.20, both prices include tax.

At least thirty quartets are expected to compete in the preliminaries for places in Saturday night's finals. Among the early entries are Songmasters (Lansing), Tune Vendors (Dowagiac), Pitch Pipers (Grand Rapids), Four Huron Hoarsemen (Ypsilanti), Men of Achord (Saginaw and Bay City), Four Shorties (Detroit), Note Blenders (Oakland) Harmaniacs (Holland), Tonsilblenders (Jackson), Cosmopolitans (Grand Rapids), Melody Lane 4 (Dearborn, Redford and Oakland), Esquires (Lansing) Curbstone 4 (Kalamazoo), Interludes (Midland), Melodeers (Redford), and Tulip City 4 (Holland).

Awards will be made in the Senior, Junior and Novice Divisions as in past years.

Among the added attractions on Saturday night will be the Jackson and Metropolitan Detroit choruses. The Clef Dwellers, 1948 champions, will be on hand to entertain and to crown their successors. Incidentally, this year only eight quartets will compete in the finals thereby assuring a well balanced program in the evening. Be on hand with your friends.

HUDSON CHARTER NIGHT - On Saturday, October 8th, Hudson Chapter will hold its Charter Presentation party at the Hudson High School beginning at 8:00 P.M. All Barbershoppers in lower Michigan are urged to attend. Don Wright is president and Dennis Dillon secretary of our newcomer.

LAST CALL FOR BIDS FOR 1950 REGIONAL AND DISTRICT CONTESTS: All chapters are reminded that the District Executive Board will shortly award the 1950 International Regional and 1950 District Quartet contests. The Regional is to be held either May 6 or 7, 1950. The District contest is held in the fall with the sponsoring chapter or chapters selecting the date. If your chapter is interested, be sure your bid is on file with the District Secretary's office not later than October 14th.

COMING EVENTS: - Several outstanding events are listed during the next month. These include the Bush League contest at Boyne City and the annual Parade of Quartets at Detroit. The Boyne City contest affords the quartets from the smaller chapters in Michigan an opportunity to compete on even terms. The Charlevoix County boys go all out in their hospitality and it is an affair well worth attending. The Detroit show, sponsored jointly by Detroit and Oakland County chapters, attracts a capacity audience and the program this year again includes some of the top-notch quartets.

A musical tribute to the late Al Vredevelde of the Muskegon chapter is also scheduled for this month. Several Western Michigan chapters are co-sponsoring this worthy project to raise money for the family of this Barbershopper who died after a long and costly illness.

Traverse City, Benton Harbor and Gratiot County chapters also have outstanding shows set for October.

THE SCHEDULE:

- Saturday, Oct. 8 -- Hudson Chapter Charter Presentation,
Hudson High School, 8:00 P.M.
- Saturday, Oct. 8 -- Traverse City Chapter Parade, Central High School 8 PM
- Saturday, Oct. 15 -- Michigan District Convention and Quartet Contest,
Ypsilanti - All Day
- Saturday, Oct. 22 -- Benton Harbor Parade, Benton Harbor 8:00 P.M.
- Saturday, Oct. 22 -- Al Vredevelde Musical Benefit
Central Campus Auditorium, Muskegon, 8:15 P.M.
- Saturday, Oct. 29 -- Gratiot County Parade, Alma, 8:00 P.M.
- Saturday, Oct. 29 -- Bush League Quartet Contest, Boyne City, 8:00 P.M.
- Saturday, Nov. 5 -- Detroit & Oakland County Parade,
Masonic Temple, Detroit, 8:00 P.M.