

WE MADE IT! 20 YEARS! 1979



1979-80 Harmony Queens, *THE SPIRIT OF HARMONY*, Rochester, New York, (left to right): Maggie Wells, tenor; Delores Zink, bari; Lois DeRosa, lead; Nan Muddle, bass.

ONLY THOSE who had been part of Harmony's early struggle could understand the thrill of reaching this milestone. There was heady excitement when we convened in Lake Placid as guests of the CHAMPLAIN ECHOES. The new Harmony Queens from Rochester, New York seemed to personify the feeling in both their performance and their name: *THE SPIRIT OF HARMONY*. Adding to the excitement was the topnotch performance of the VILLAGE VOCAL CHORDS, as they won the blue ribbons for the second time.

Despite all the changes that had just taken place, the Board was not resting on its laurels. The Mid-Year Meeting brought forth numerous recommendations by the Study and Review Committee, resulting in improved procedures in almost every aspect of our organization. It was almost as if Harmony, Inc. was saying, "We're adults now — let's do it right."

We had been saddened over the years by losing many chapters which

had started with high hopes, then floundered because of lack of education, lack of contact with their organization, loss of a good director or any of the reasons a chorus doesn't make it. Still, we were not prepared for the keen loss we felt when we learned the wonderful NORTHERN-AIRES were no longer with us, having been champions just five years ago.

We were heartened, however, to learn that seven new chapters had joined us and that our membership now totalled over 1,800.

Areas were becoming stronger and more cohesive. Acting as liaison between the International Board and their chapters, the Area Representatives governed their Areas with the help of Area Councils which met at least twice a year. It was hoped that this grass roots contact would provide the assistance faltering chapters might need.

The knotty problem of funding the formalized training needed by the Harmony Judges Training Program was solved in true Harmony

fashion. Members responded to a "Budget-to-Judge-It" Program by donating over \$650 to the program.

The first DAAT School had drawn over 60 members, reaffirming the need of Harmony members for Area-level education. It did not, however, replace the Internationally-sponsored educational programs, which continued to be refined and improved. Harmony, Inc. was determined to live up to the last three lines of its Creed — at all levels.



Dianne Pethick, 1979-1980 International President.



Margaret Lanoue, 1980-1982 International President.