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# Souvenir Program

## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SANGERFEST AND CONVENTION

Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers' Association

AUGUST 30—SEPTEMBER 2  
1918

PORTLAND, OREGON

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## Brief Historical Sketch of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers' Association

From down of history in the Northern Lands, the Norwegian people have cultivated music, and the folklores and songs of Norway are poetic and rhythmic, colored with melodious strains, akin to the people living in the beautiful fjords, among the high mountains in Norway. The originality of many of these melodies, springing like brooks from the hearts of the people, and like treasures, have been preserved down through the generations, have in later centuries been enriched in varieties, giving color to the quaint life of the free and liberty-loving peasants in Norway. These lyric treasures of the Norwegian people have in more modern times, given the impetus to song- and music writers among the Norwegian people and produced musicians and composers such as Ole Bull, Grieg, Kjerulf, Ole Olsen, Svendsen, Sinding and many others, who have been accorded ranking places among the world's great musicians. Their compositions, based on the quaint folkmelodies of their native country, have gradually, the world over, become favorites, wherever "music swells the breeze."

In almost every city or town, also in the country districts, in Norway can be found organized Singing Societies, which contribute towards keeping the high standard of patriotism and love for their country. Everybody takes part, and people of all classes have their singing societies. There is, for instance, the society of the university students (Studenternes Sangforening), the merchants (Handelstandens), the mechanics (Haandverkernes), the workmen (Arbeidersmafundet), and so on. Then there are a great many mixed choirs in connection with the different churches and temperance societies, and even a number of children's singing societies have been organized. Many of these singing societies are united in district associations, and Sangerfests or singing festivals are held every year in different parts of the country.

The Norwegian sons and daughters who have emigrated to this country have brought with them this great love for song and music, as a treasure to be cherished and maintained. They have for years had singing societies on the Pacific Coast, and in 1902, through the efforts of Mr. F. A. Tomte, of Portland, the Pacific Coast Norwegian Sangerforbund was organized at Seattle, with the following officers: John Norman, Everett, President; A. J. Thuland, Seattle, Secretary; Dr. A. O. Loe, Seattle, Treasurer, and Prof. Carlo A. Sperati, Musical Director. The first Sangerfest was held at Everett, Washington, in August, 1903, and met with great success. Since then singing festivals have been held every year in the different cities on the coast, until the Norwegian Singing Society of Portland at the convention in Bellingham in 1916 invited the convention to Portland in 1918, and at the Seattle convention last year affirmed their invitation of the year before.

This is the second sangerfest held in this city. The last sangerfest held in Portland during the World's Exposition period here, in 1905, is still fresh in the memory of the Portland people, and by many, among both the singers and their friends, that sangerfest will never be forgotten. With the extraordinary conditions existing at the present time, this year's sangerfest will be a song festival of a patriotic character. With many of "our boys" in the service of Uncle Sam, it is with a mingled feeling of pride and joy that the singers again assemble and remembering the absent ones, will mingle in our programs, the cheery songs that steel the hearts that beats for the rights, through our entire country and bringing the echo of our cheers across the waters to the sacred soil of France where the Stars and Stripes is moving onward for liberty and rights.

To all singers and friends a hearty welcome to the thirteenth annual Sangerfest and Convention.

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## General Festival Program

**Friday Evening, August 30**

Reception for Singers at the Auditorium

**Saturday, August 31**

9:00 A. M.—Reception at the Auditorium.

Address of Welcome in behalf of the  
Sangerfest Committee, A. O. Bjelland.

Address of Welcome in behalf of the City  
of Portland, George L. Baker, Mayor.

10:00 A. M.—Rehearsal at Auditorium

12:30 A. M.—Luncheon at Auditorium

2:00 P. M.—Rehearsal at Auditorium

2:00 P. M.—Reception at Auditorium for visiting  
ladies. Arrangement by the "Hustlers"  
Committee.

8:15 P. M.—Grand Concert at Auditorium

**Sunday, September 1**

12:00 M.—Automobile trip on the Columbia High-  
way to Multnomah Falls. Luncheon  
en route at the Automobile Club.

8:15 P. M.—Grand Concert at Auditorium.

**Monday, September 2**

10:00 A. M.—Business Meeting at Auditorium

12:00 M.—Hot Dinner Served at Auditorium

5:45 P. M.—Banquet at the Multnomah Hotel.

## GREETINGS AND A HEARTY WELCOME

IS HEREBY EXTENDED TO THE NORWEGIAN SINGERS' ASSOCIATION  
OF THE PACIFIC COAST AND THE VISITORS TO THE CONVENTION AND CONCERTS  
AT PORTLAND, OREGON, AUGUST 31ST, SEPTEMBER 1ST, AND 2ND, 1918. MAY WE  
ALL FEEL LIKE OUR GREAT POET LONGFELLOW, THAT:

*"God sent his singers upon earth,  
With songs of sadness and of mirth,  
That they might touch the hearts of men  
And bring them back to heaven again."*

MOST SINCERELY,

ANDRES O. BJELLAND.



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## Program Notes

(Synopsis edited by H. J. Langoe)

**VIKINGSØNNER**—A masterly composition interpreting the hereditary pride of the Norse race, wherein the old mother Norway, through its rugged domes, speaks to every descendant of the sturdy Viking in an appeal to carry with him to all climes the unsullied fame for integrity, that through centuries has been the most sacred inheritance of the Norwegians.

**"ULABRAND"**—The only name left written on the page of history of that of a Norwegian pilot who spent his life at one of the most hazardous pilot stations on the western shores of Norway, dedicating his life to the perilous task of rescuing sailors in danger of their lives in the stormy nights along the rocky shores, guiding them through the breakers to safe harbors. Always unafraid and dauntless, he bore a reputation to which his Christian name was a mere incident. At last he gave his life in the service of saving others. Words and composition blend harmoniously about the themes.

**"SOLEND OG SANGEN"** (Sunshine and Song)—A lyric composition woven around a poem of Rev. W. Pettersen, and dedicated to the Norwegian Male Chorus of Portland, dealing with the beautiful nature on the Pacific shores and the glorious sunsets which crystalizes every perfect day. The composer, Prof. Charles Swenson, who is director of the Norwegian Male Chorus of Portland, has intercepted the writer's theme with a perfect accord and set to music the very thought of the writer, giving them the radiant hue of the golden sun sinking in the west.

**OLAF TRYGVASON**—Composition by F. A. Reissiger, covers a historical chapter from around year 1000. Olaf was born in Norway in 963. That year his father died and to avoid conspirators, his mother fled to Svithiod (Sweden), with the child, which later came to a mother's brother in Gardarike (Russia). After having attained his manhood Olaf starts in 982 on a Viking Voyage to Denmark, Vinland and England, where after four years, he became converted to the Christian faith by a priest on the Scilly Isles off the western English coast. For evil purposes, Thorar Klakke, a messenger of Earl Hakon (Haakon Jarl) in Norway went to England to induce Olaf to return to his native land. In the absence of Klakke, the peasants (Bønder) of Norway had risen against the Earl. Olaf came like a Godsend and gained their favor. The Earl fled but was betrayed and beheaded by his thrall (træl) Kark, after which the Bonde Thing in Thronhjem, declared Olaf King of all Norway. After having Christianized almost the entire country and having sent Leif Erickson on a voyage to Greenland to proclaim Christianity, he equipped an army and built a number of ships to go to Vinland to claim estates belonging to his wife Thyra, a Danish princess and sister of the reigning Danish King Svein. Sixty ships set sail towards the coast of Denmark then proceeding through the

Sounds to Vinland where he was well received. News of Olaf Trygvason's expedition had reached Denmark where the king had become married to a Swedish queen Sigrid, who some years before had been jilted by Olaf. She now induced King Svein to give battle on Olaf's fleet when he should return. He sought the assistance of the Swedish King also named Olaf, and Earl Eirik. They assembled a great fleet and anchored at the Svold Island. A spy of the Danish king had been able to delay Olaf in Vinland until the forces were gathered. He piloted Olaf's fleet to the enemy's lair. Instead of taking his friend's council to flee, Olaf gave battle. His men were overcome by superior force and when King Olaf was surrounded on deck of his ship he jumped overboard followed by his staunch friend, Marshall Kolbjørn. They tried to seize him in the water but he threw his shield over his head and sank beneath the waters. And so the Long Serpent, the greatest warship and largest built vessel of that time, never returned to Norway. The composition "Olaf Trygvason" deals with this fatal voyage of the fair king and the legends of centuries that have been told, that over the waters at Svold, Norwegian merchantmen in the moonlight nights hear a constant moaning over the waters: "The Long Serpent has been captured—Fallen is Olaf Trygvason"!

**LEIF ERIKSON**—A young and trusted Viking among King Olaf Trygvason's men—was about the year 1000 commissioned by his King to sail to Greenland to proclaim Christianity. He sailed away in a small ship with 35 men. After having carried out the King's command he started westward in quest of a new land. After a long but safe journey he landed on the coast of the Atlantic and called the place (Vinland) Wineland. The music for male chorus to this historical sketch is composed by one of Norway's foremost bandleaders. It deals in a dramatical way with the life and incidents aboard the boat during its cruise.

**"DEN STORE HVITE FLOK"** (The Mighty Whiterobed Host) we see like thousand mountain crags of snow—there now their God they worship may in one eternal Sabbathday; in organ swell—where God doth dwell—in tunes to Angels' songs. This chorus, arranged by Edv. Grieg, is an old Folk tune well adapted to religious services, and the masters arrangement has made it very popular with Scandinavian Singing clubs.

**"LANDKJENDING"** (Recognition of Land) Olaf Trygvason in exile from early childhood, returns from Ireland, where he had been christened, back to Norway to take charge of his kingdom and overthrow the pagans. The inspiring sights and the voices of the Northern nature enraptured him, and his thoughts are crystalized into a fervent prayer for strength, wisdom and faith in the great Creator.



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# Program (First Concert)

Saturday, August 31st, 1918, 8:15 P. M.

## Overture

Festival Orchestra  
Andrew P. Nelsen, Director

- a) America .....
- b) Vikingsønner (Sons of the Vikings) .... Rud. Møller
- c) Ulabrand (The Pilot)..... Wendelborg

Grand Chorus  
Rudolph Møller, Director

- a) Jeg vil ud (I want to gain a wider sphere).... Elling
- b) Jeg længter mot Sol og Sommer (I long toward Sun and Summer)..... Rudolph Møller

Alfred Halvorsen, Baritone  
Edgar Coursen, Accompanist

## Aftenrøster (Evening Voices)..... Borg

"Grieg" Male Chorus, Hoquiam  
Gerard Tønning, Director

- a) Keep the Home Fires Burning..... Novello
- b) Olav Trygvason ..... Reissiger

Grand Chorus

## Lo, Hear the Gentle Lark..... Henry Bishop

Cora Hansen-Olsen, Coloratura Soprano  
Edgar Coursen, Accompanist  
Flute Obligato by Harry Knight

March Up and Away..... Adam Geibel  
Norwegian Male Chorus, Seattle  
Rudolph Møller, Director

## INTERMISSION

- a) Morning..... }
  - b) Anitras Dance } (From Peer Gynt Suite).... Grieg
- Orchestra

- a) Dixie Land ..... Ehrgott
  - b) My Old Kentucky Home..... Smith-Foster
  - c) Solen og Sangen (Sunshine and Song) . . C. Swenson
- Grand Chorus

Organ Solo—Fantasia in C Minor..... Berns  
Charles Swenson

The Heart Bowed Down..... Balfe  
Alfred Halvorsen

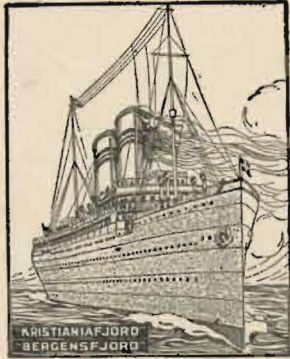
Leif Eriksson ..... Borg  
Grand Chorus

Ah, Nella Calma (Romeo and Juliet waltz song) . Gounod  
Cora Hansen-Olsen

Landkjending (Landsighting) ..... Grieg  
Grand Chorus and Orchestra  
Solo by Alfred Halvorsen

The Star Spangled Banner.....  
Grand Chorus

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# Program (Second Concert)

Sunday, September 1st, 1918, 8:15 P. M.

## Overture

Festival Orchestra  
Andrew P. Nelsen, Director

- a) America .....
- b) In Liberty's Name..... Parks-Gounod
- c) Olav Trygvason ..... Reissiger

Grand Chorus  
Rudolph Møller, Director

- Solveigs Song (from Peer Gynt Suite)..... Grieg  
Cora Hansen-Olsen, Coloratura Soprano  
Edgar Coursen, Accompanist

- a) Ulabrand (The Pilot)..... Wendelborg
- b) My Old Kentucky Home..... Smith-Foster  
Grand Chorus  
Solo by Cora Hansen-Olsen

- a) Norge mit Norge (Norway, My Native  
Land) ..... Lindthner
- b) Mor (To Mother) ..... Martens  
Alfred Halvorsen, Baritone  
Edgar Coursen, Accompanist

- a) Come Where the Lillies Bloom.... Hilton-Thompson
- b) Keep the Home Fires Burning..... Novello
- c) Den Store Hvide Flok (the Great White Host).Grieg  
Grand Chorus  
Solo by Cora Hansen-Olsen

## INTERMISSION

- Triumphal March (from Sigurd Jorsalfar)..... Grieg  
Orchestra

- Swiss Echo Song..... Eckert  
Cora Hansen-Olsen

- Leif Eriksson ..... Borg  
Grand Chorus

- Piano Solo—American Fantasie\*..... Emil Enna  
Dr. Emil Enna  
Charles Swenson at the organ

- Barndomsminne Fraa Nordland (Childhood  
Memories from Northland)..... Thomsen  
Norwegian Male Chorus, Portland  
Charles Swenson, Director

- Venetian Song ..... Tosti  
Alfred Halvorsen

- Landkjending (Landsighting) ..... Grieg  
Grand Chorus and Orchestra  
Solo by Alfred Halvorsen

- The Star Spangled Banner.....  
Grand Chorus

\*First public rendition of this composition

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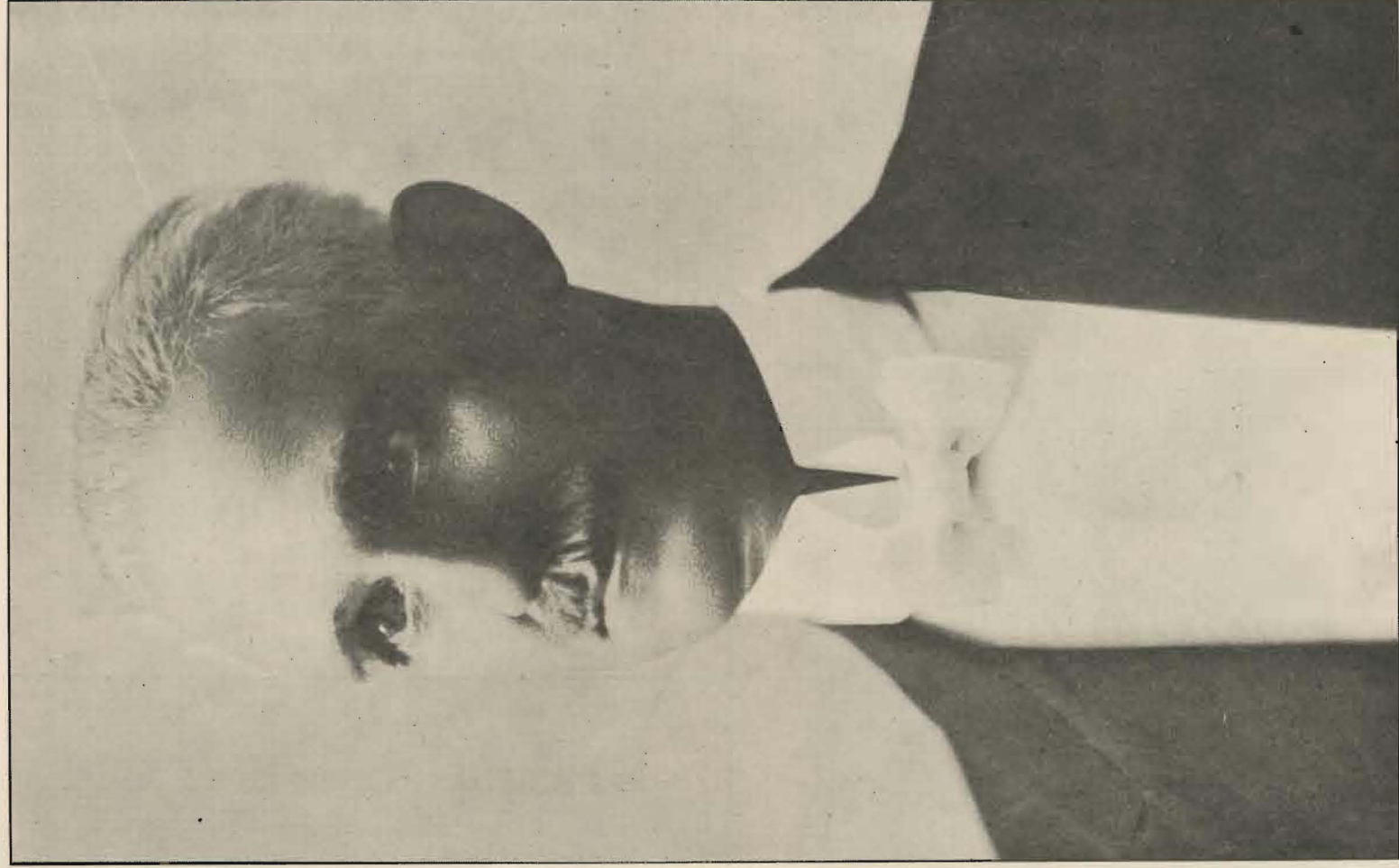
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*We Are Doing Ours*

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Our 120 piece band will furnish music during the afternoon and for the dancing  
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**\$1.00 per couple** will admit you to the Oaks and dancing in the skating rink

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SEPTEMBER 28—1918—OCTOBER 19

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H. J. LANGOE, Editor and Publisher

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Norwegian Singing Society "Grieg"  
Hoquiam, Wash.



TH. NESTE, Director  
Norwegian Singing Society "Lærken"  
Astoria, Oregon

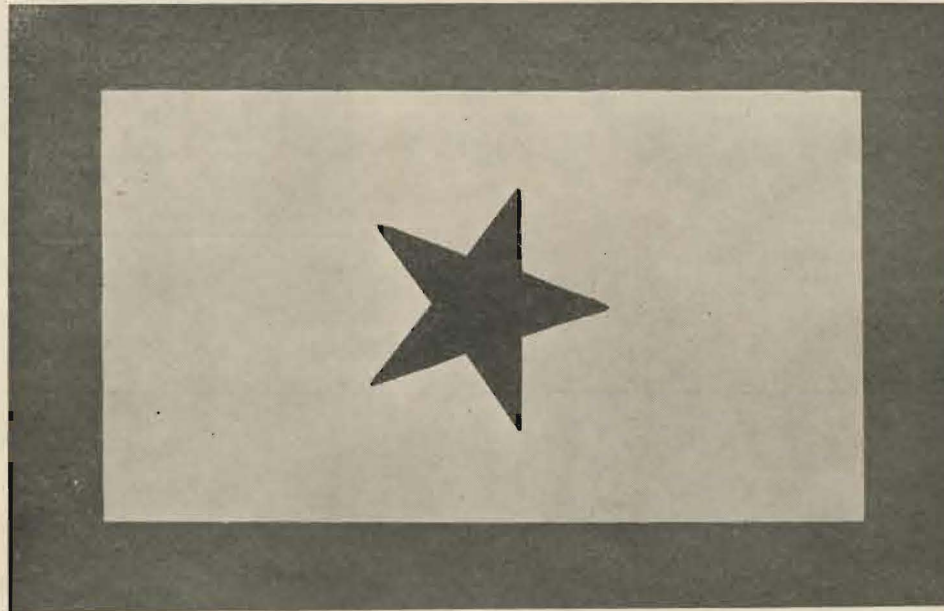


PEDER O. WOLD, Director  
Norwegian Singing Society  
Stanwood, Wash.



S. LINDBORG, Director  
Norwegian Singing Society "Norrøna"  
Bellingham, Wash.

**FOR LIBERTY AND RIGHT**



**SIXTY**

Members of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association are now in active service of Uncle Sam. One has fallen for the cause





NORWEGIAN MALE CHORUS  
SEATTLE, WASH.



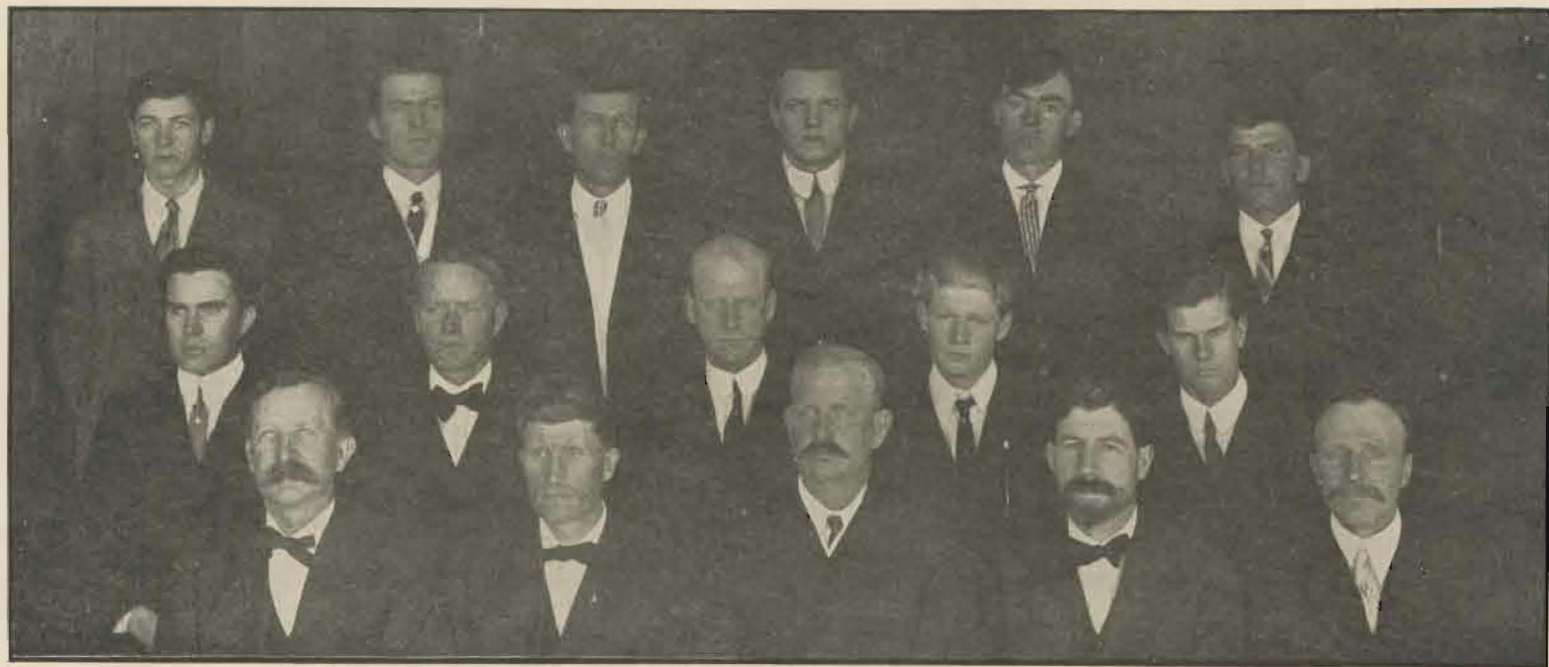
NORWEGIAN SINGING SOCIETY "LÆRKEN"  
ASTORIA, ORE.



NORWEGIAN SINGING SOCIETY "GRIEG"  
HOQUIAM, WASH.



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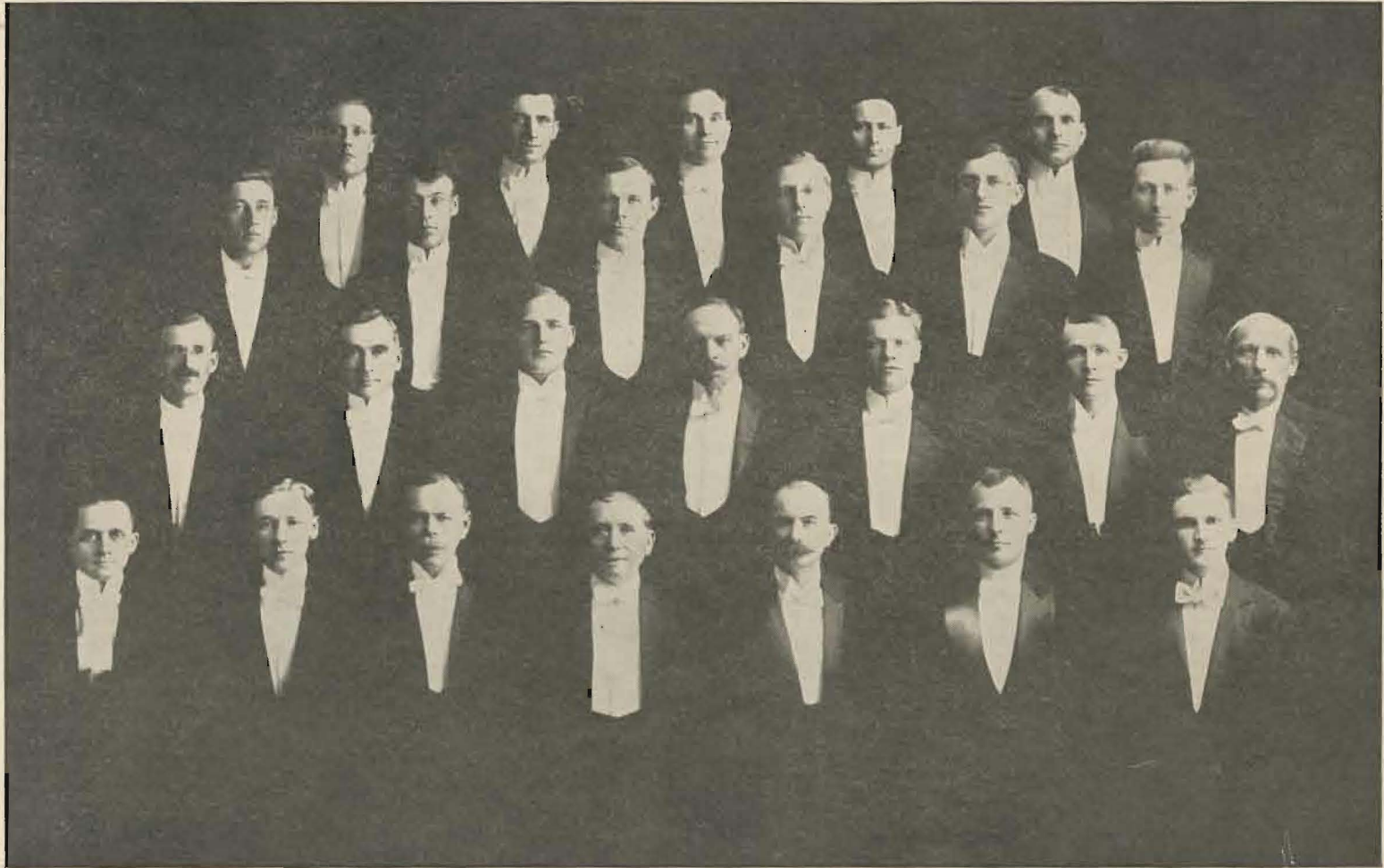
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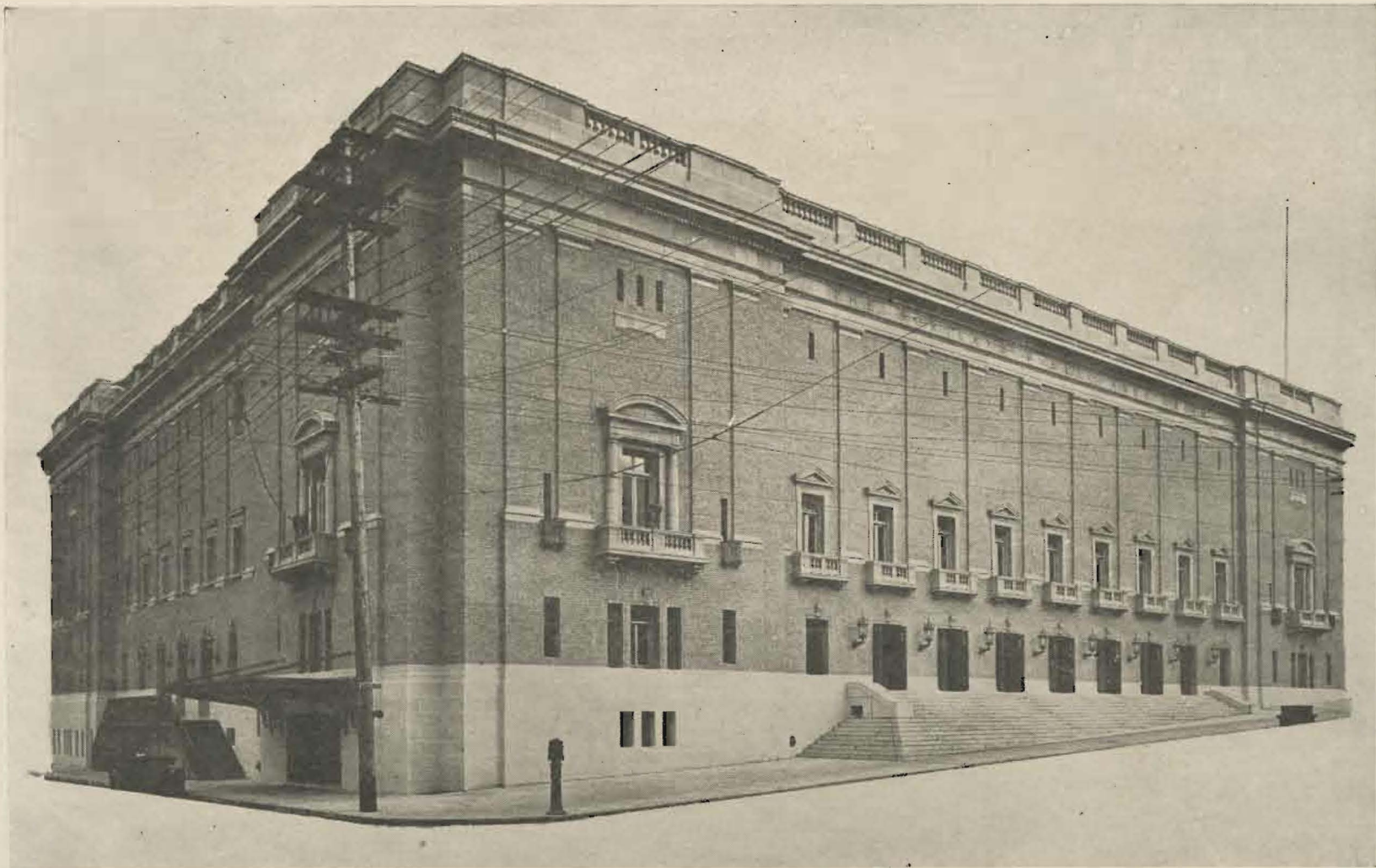


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NORWEGIAN MALE CHORUS  
PORTLAND, ORE.





**MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM**  
Headquarters of Convention, Concerts and Luncheons  
Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers' Association

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