

SANGERFEST
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
AUGUST 16TH • 17TH • 18TH
1951



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Saga

AND IN THE OLDEN DAYS it was customary for those men whose souls yearned for musical expression to attune their ears to the voices of the sea and earth and record in their eager minds the music of wind and wave—the rustling and soughing of forest trees and mountain meadow grasses, or the wild tumbling laughter of streams and waterfalls mingled with the calls of the creatures of the forest. And with voice and instrument they would fashion the melodies of nature into songs which they sang whenever people gathered together for wedding or for burial, or merely for the pleasure of being together; and as the others listened, their heads would nod in recognition of Nature's music which they too had heard, and soon their voices also would be joined in the singing.

Thus it came to be that whenever the folk would tell of inspirational things, be it a great victory of their sea-faring Vikings or an act of unusual love or devotion, or an exciting encounter with one of the strange trolls or elves that everyone knew dwelt in mountain cave or in dark and secret forest glen; the musical ones would be inspired to relate in song that which they had seen or heard—and the melodies were sung by all through generation after generation.

Later came those who studied the writing of music and were inspired by the folk melodies, as well as by the song they too discovered in Nature's instruments, to write the great a cappella compositions for which the north countries became so well known.

SO IT WAS that group singing became the favorite means for musical expression in those countries of the north—and in every city, town and village, choruses were formed; and often these groups would leave their own homes and travel great distances to hold sangerfests with other choruses, so that sometimes a thousand or more voices would be raised together in song. And the songs had a greatness because they were written for the common man and were of things close to his heart.

Now when these men migrated to a new land, they brought with them many traditions of the old, and soon male chorus singing became as much a part of their lives as it had ever been in their native land. Sangerfests began on our own Pacific Coast forty-nine years ago, after the formation of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association the year previous. Singers journeyed from far and near by boat, train or carriage to the little city of Everett where the first of these gatherings was held. Now, for the forty-second time the choruses have come many miles to sing together, three hundred strong. Certainly much credit is due the many fine musicians who unselfishly have given years of their lives in composing and arranging music, and in teaching and directing the songs so that the tradition of male chorus singing should not wither, but wax ever stronger and stronger.

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FORTY-SECOND SANGERFEST — SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

August 16-17-18, 1951

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Normanna Glee Club.....	Oakland, Calif.
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The Norwegian Glee Club.....	Portland, Oregon
Bellingham Male Chorus.....	Bellingham, Wash.
Sons of Norway Male Chorus.....	Spokane, Wash.
Normanna Male Chorus.....	Tacoma, Wash.
Norwegian Male Chorus.....	Everett, Wash.
The Norwegian Male Chorus.....	Seattle, Wash.

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Decorated for Attendance at Thirty Sangerfests

M. H. Clausen, Everett.....	1946
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Albert Satrum, Everett.....	1949

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Carlo A. Sperati.....	1902-1916
Rudolph Moller.....	1916-1935
George S. Johnson.....	1935-1937
Monrad Malmin.....	1937-1939

RECORD OF SANGERFESTS

1—Everett	1903	22—Vancouver	1927
2—Seattle	1904	23—San Francisco	1928
3—Portland	1905	24—Astoria	1929
4—Tacoma	1906	25—Grays Harbor	1931
5—Astoria	1907	26—Everett	1933
6—Seattle	1909	27—Vancouver	1934
7—Eureka	1910	28—Bellingham	1935
8—Everett	1912	29—Seattle	1936
9—Spokane	1913	30—Portland	1937
10—San Francisco	1915	31—San Francisco	1939
11—Bellingham	1916	32—Tacoma	1940
12—Seattle	1917	33—Grays Harbor	1941
13—Portland	1918	34—Everett	1942
14—Tacoma	1919	35—Seattle	1944
15—Grays Harbor	1920	36—Tacoma	1945
16—Astoria	1921	37—Portland	1946
17—Everett	1922	38—Vancouver	1947
18—Edison-Bellingham	1923	39—Los Angeles	1948
19—Seattle	1924	40—Everett	1949
20—Portland	1925	41—Oakland	1950
21—Tacoma	1926	42—Seattle	1951

George Johnson.....	1939-1940
August Werner	1940-1946
Henry W. Ringman.....	1947-1950
Gunnar J. Malmin.....	1950-1951

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Sangerfest Schedule

SANGERFEST HEADQUARTERS NORWAY CENTER

Thursday, August 16

- Registration—all day, Lodge Hall
- 8:00 p.m.—Welcome Reception, Auditorium
Program and Dancing
- 9:30 p.m.—Refreshments, Banquet Hall

Friday, August 17

- 10:00 a.m.—Rehearsal, Auditorium
- 12:00 noon—Singers' Luncheon, Banquet Hall
- 12:30 p.m.—Reception and Luncheon for Visiting Ladies
Spanish Ball Room, Olympic Hotel
- 2:00 p.m.—Rehearsal, Aqua Theatre Green Lake
- 8:30 p.m.—Grand Concert, Aqua Theatre Green Lake
- 10:30 p.m.—Dancing and Refreshments
Headquarters. Norway Center

Saturday, August 18

- 9:00 a.m.—Business Meeting, Lodge Hall
- 12:00 noon—Scenic Lake and Sound Tour
- 6:30 p.m.—Banquet, Auditorium, Norway Center
- 9:30 p.m.—Grand Ball, Auditorium, Norway Center

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The Singers' Helpmates organized in 1909 to form a Ladies' auxiliary of The Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle.

Meetings are held in Norway Center the first Monday evening of each month. A joint social hour with the members of the Chorus is held after their respective meetings, to which a cordial welcome is extended to visiting Singers and their Ladies.

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Greetings!

It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the people of the State of Washington to extend a warm welcome to the artists assembled at the 42nd Sangerfest of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association.

Your fine organization has become one of the leaders in the cultural development of the West and a true example of musical excellence.

Music has been an inspiration through the ages. It has embodied the expressions of patriotism, courage, victory and peace and is the medium through which the richest experiences in life are told. Nowhere can there be a stronger union of brotherly good will than in a group that knows the meaning and appreciates the beauty of full harmony.

May your time spent in Seattle be as great a pleasure as that which is ours in having you here.

Most sincerely,

ARTHUR B. LANGLIE,
Governor

July 9, 1951



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To Mr. G. W. Tollefsen, President, and
The Officers and Members of the
Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association:

May I extend the cordial greetings of the people of Seattle to the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association, as they gather here for their Forty-second Sangerfest.

This splendid organization has performed a great service in helping to preserve the magnificent music of Norway in our American culture. They are particularly welcome in Seattle, where so many of our citizens hale from Scandinavian backgrounds.

I am very sure our people will enjoy this unique opportunity to enjoy Norwegian music.

Best regards.

Cordially yours,
WM. F. DEVIN,
Mayor



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Greetings

Once again it is our pleasure and privilege to welcome members and friends of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association to the City of Seattle and this, the forty-second Sangerfest.

To the members who have taken part in many Sangerfests in the past, may this be another golden link in your chain of memories and may your songs be heard for many years to come. To the newer members, may this Sangerfest be an inspiration to carry on our heritage of music. Guard this heritage well, that the future of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association will be assured as time goes on.

We hope that you will enjoy the atmosphere and spaciousness of our Sangerfest Headquarters. Seattle is justly proud of its new Norway Center.

The members of The Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle and our Ladies, The Singers Helpmates, join with me in expressing the wish that your visit to Seattle and attendance at the Sangerfest will be most enjoyable and long remembered.

GUSTOF W. TOLLEFSEN, President,
Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association



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JEROME L. SANDVIG

Brother Singers

On behalf of the Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle
I bid you welcome to our 42nd Sangerfest.

May our convention program inspire you to lift
your voices in song to your respective choruses for
years to come, carrying on our traditional Norwegian
culture to the American public.

JEROME L. SANDVIG,
President,

The Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle

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☆ ☆ ☆ **Program Notes** ☆ ☆ ☆

HAV (The Sea). By the beloved composer, Oscar Borg, the hundredth anniversary of whose birth is being observed in Norway this year. The boisterous yet sentimental soul of the sailor yearns to follow the sea gull's graceful flight over the boundless blue.

☆ ☆ ☆

BAADN-LAAT. This humorous piece is a little Norwegian Folk Song. The setting is by Grieg in his own inimitable style and shows his mastery in male chorus arrangement. The cat is drumming and the four mice are dancing, so the whole earth is shaking. The cat sits on the roof speaking to its daughters: "How shall we keep our feet dry, our paws are freezing? We shall travel to Denmark and buy shoes and corn and ginger-snaps."

☆ ☆ ☆

NAAR FJORDENE BLAANER. It is striking that this lovely song, a favorite with Norwegian singers in the homeland as well as in our country, is the work of an American citizen, Alfred Paulsen, who was active in Norwegian singing circles in Chicago a generation or so ago. The song reaches a solemn climax in the prayer "God bless thee, dear Norway, my beloved Land."

☆ ☆ ☆

DEN STORE HVIDE FLOK, "THE GREAT WHITE HOST." Behold a Host arrayed in white, like thousand snow-clad mountains

bright. Their voices they in worship raise, before the throne of God, "mid Angels" song of praise! This religious poem is from the prolific pen of the Bishop H. A. Brorson (1694-1722). The music, a Norwegian folk song arranged by Grieg, is one of the finest examples of Norwegian sacred music.

☆ ☆ ☆

SANGER POLKA. (Singers Polka) This lively little number is a composition of the late Rudolph Moller, for twenty-nine years director of the Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle and director-in-chief of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singing Association from 1916 to 1935.

☆ ☆ ☆

LANDJENDING (Land-Sighting) The poem is by Norway's great writer Bjornson and the music by the immortal Grieg. It is one of the most popular male chorus songs in the world, depicting the young Hero-King Olav Trygvason's return to his native Norway and the first impression of land he and his followers got from the gleaming mountain peaks and thundering waterfalls as they sailed in through the deep blue fjords in the shimmering sunlit air. In the solo the King gives profound expression for his belief, that here was home and here he would raise the Cross which should lift his spirit high and strong like the mighty mountains! His men intone the prayer, carrying the song to a grand soul stirring finish.

GUNNAR J. MALMIN
Director-in-Chief
HENRY W. RINGMAN
Assistant Director
AUGUST WERNER
Director, Seattle Chorus

FESTIVAL PROGRAM GRAND CONCERT

Friday Evening, August 17, 1951
at 8:30 o'clock

LAURITZ MELCHIOR
Guest Artist
ARVILLE BELSTAD
Accompanist
EMIL HANSEN
Concert Orchestra Conductor

Entry of the Bojars.....Joh. Halvorsen
Rustle of Spring.....Ch. Sinding
Norwegian DanceEdv. Grieg
Triumphal March (From Sigurd
Jorsalfar)Edv. Grieg
Orchestra, Emil Hansen, Conductor

The Star Spangled Banner.....Stafford-Smith
O Canada.....Arr. by Monrad Malmin
Ja, Vi Elsker Dette Landet (Norwegian
National Anthem)Nordraak
Fremad (Forward)Edvard Grieg
Grand Chorus and Orchestra

Tonens Magt (The Power of Music).....Reissiger
Grand Chorus, a cappella
Gunnar J. Malmin, Conductor

Narrative from Lohengrin.....Richard Wagner
Prize Song from Die Meistersinger..Richard Wagner
LAURITZ MELCHIOR
Arville Belstad, Accompanist

Hav (The Sea)Oscar Borg
Autumn Sea.....W. Gericke
Norge, Mit Norge (Norway,
My Norway).....Alfred Paulsen
LAURITZ MELCHIOR, Soloist

Baadn-Laad (Norwegian Folk Song).....Edvard Grieg
Incidental Solo, Jens Hansen
Grand Chorus, a cappella
Henry W. Ringman, Conductor

Intermission

Orchestral Selections.....Edvard Grieg
Emil Hansen, Conductor

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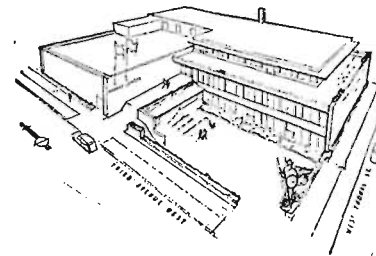
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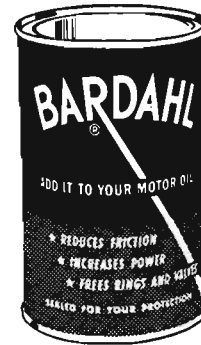
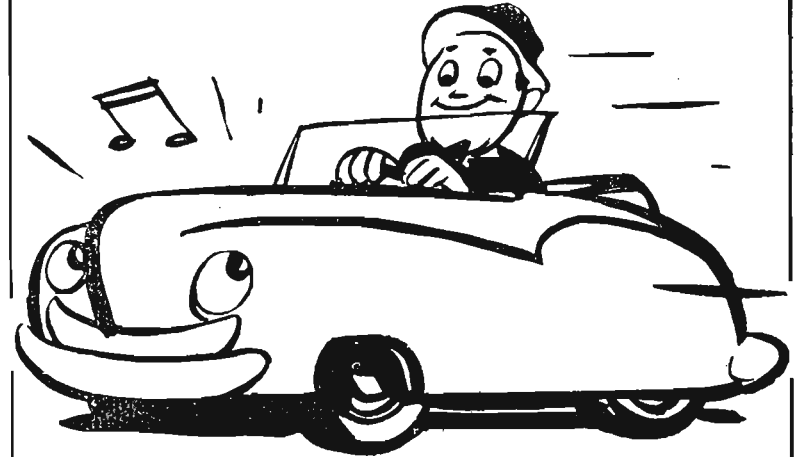
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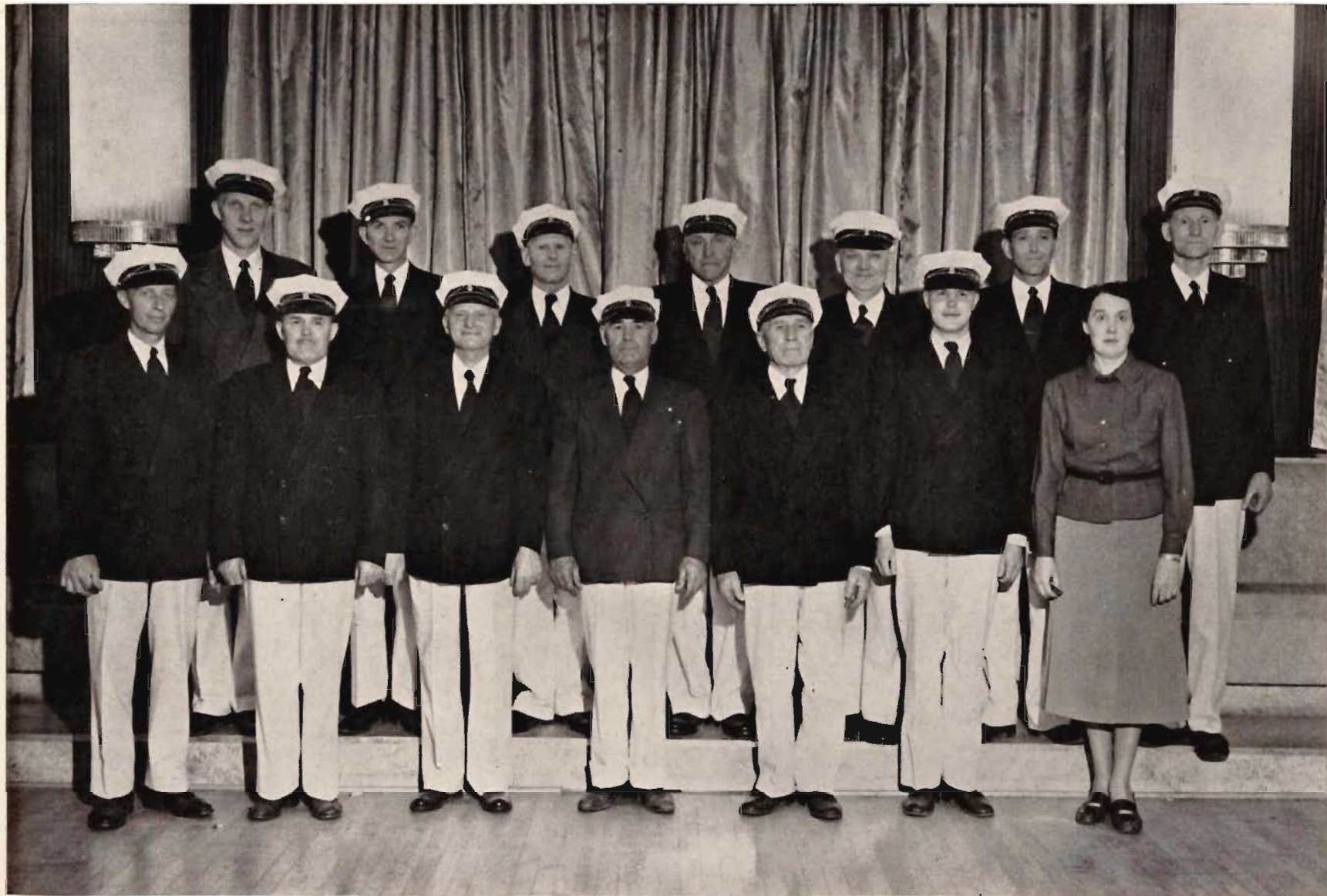
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Concerning the Front Cover

We have attempted in the design of our front cover to incorporate those points of vital interest to our 1951 Sangerfest. First of all, our new Norway Center, recently dedicated to the public, as headquarters becomes the focal point of all Sangerfest activities. Secondly, the Green Lake Aqua Theatre, constructed as part of the program in preparation for Seattle's Centennial Celebration, becomes the setting for the Grand Concert. As a fitting background, dominated by Mt. Rainier looming in the distance, is the skyline of Seattle, largest city of its age in the world. We are pleased that our Sangerfest has been incorporated in the Greater Seattle Jubilee Celebration program which is now in full swing.



We wish to express our appreciation for the good will and support of friends, societies and business firms in making this program possible. This cooperation is necessary for a successful Sangerfest, and we are grateful for their assistance. Kindly help us show our appreciation by patronizing the firms which have given their support.



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