

A Singing Summer

hotel's own song at dinner with the folks in the Hotel Lindenwirt. Director Joel Carter leafed through the music, hummed it once, and the next moment the Club was singing the song in German as if it was an old stand-by they'd been singing for years. The hotel owner was delighted.

On south from Rudeshiem around the Rhine, then west into France went the Glee Club. The Club toured the continent in a new West German Ovag bus that outclassed most American buses. The driver was a good-natured strong man, Helmut Bergman.

"He's a real man," appraised first tenor Jack Allison. Herr Bergman was in the German Navy in the second world war and had his boat shot out beneath him three times. Now, he is a bus driver who, like the rest of the people of Europe, is trying to forget the recent struggle.

In sunny Lyon, France, the Glee Club felt like it was home. UNC professor Fredrick Vogler welcomed the 40 men on behalf of the UNC-in-Lyon program. Former Glee Clubber Nelson McDaniel was also greeted cheerily by members of the Club.

The Club sang for the UNC-at-Lyon students who almost broke up in tears when they heard the Carolina men sing *Hark the Sound*. It's a long way from Carolina to Lyon, but the gap seemed lessened by the presence of familiar faces. A gay champagne reception after the concert was a rollicking affair with toasts and more informal singing.

In Lyon the Club also sang for the Lycee Du Parc, a large school in town where the enthusiastic turnout was unprecedented. The boys of the school clapped and cheered for more after each song. They especially enjoyed the Negro spirituals that the Glee Club sang. "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho," and "Deep Water," received repeated ovations from the French school-boys.

In turn, the Lycee Du Parc chorus sang a round of Negro Spirituals for the gathering and as a tribute to the Americans. The children sat and stared open-mouthed at the music, while the

afternoon sun streamed into the auditorium through high windows. Following the concert, another Vin d'Honneur awaited the Club. Lycee officials toasted the Club for singing and humbly thanked the University singers for coming to sing for them.

That night, the Club bussed down to the village of Saint Etienne where a crowd waited in the rain to listen to the singing of the club. Parents stood holding their children in their arms while a downpour of rain punctuated the singing. The Club sang from an old-fashioned bandshell. French and American flags were draped around the village square. Finally, the crowd had to retreat to shops and cafes around the dripping square while the Club sang into the night.

Another Vin d'Honneur hosted the club after the night concert. The First Deputy Mayor of the town told the club that he and his village was overjoyed to see another side of American culture. He remarked that always the Frenchman only saw the material side of America; he rejoiced at seeing some musical culture from America.

"We will never forget how you helped us in the last two wars," the Deputy Mayor stated proudly. "We won't forget how you helped us in our first war!" mumbled one Glee Club man quietly, remembering LaFayette.

Then, the Glee Club bus climbed into the French Alps and headed toward Switzerland. Just on the French side of the border, the Glee Club paused for a real picnic of French bread, wine and grape juice on a grassy mountainside.

Into dramatic Switzerland the Glee Club rolled. First the Club went to Berne, sister city of New Bern, North Carolina. New Bernite, Bill Reel, presented a wood sander to Mr. Paul Dubi, acting mayor of the Swiss city in commemoration of the sister-city movement.

The Club sang for the city municipal workers from the cobblestone courtyard of the city hall. Secretaries and office boys leaned out of windows, over flowery window boxes, to listen to the singing below.

Next, the Club traveled east to the lakeside city of Lucerne where the group sang for a local folk festival. They appeared on the same program with a be-wigged Dutch all-girl orchestra, a trio of Swiss Alpine-horn blowers and an entourage of local yodelers.

Above Lucern towers the 7,000 foot slab of Mount Pilatus that the Glee Club climbed the next day. Towed up by red cog railway, the 40 men of the Club marveled at the swathe of snow-peaked alps that could be seen from the summit of Pilatus. Then, the club swung down the peak by cable car. Many of the men sang on the way down through the alpine meadows where the crystal tinkling of distant cowbells sprinkled through the clear air.

Around the tip of Lake Constance, the Club rolled on around the corner of Austria into southern Germany to tour the famed Bavarian castles of Prince Ludwig II.

The rain in Munich almost seemed to last forever. For 10 days, the sky seemed to open up, sending the club scampering around the muddy city. The weather must have been heralding what was to come for the Glee Club as the bus rolled on, right up to the sinister-looking East German Border. Hours of suspense-filled waiting were rewarded by safe passage through the communist - controlled land of the German Democratic Republic.

The spooky drab cities flashed by between sad fields of the communes. The once-dazzling city of Leipzig looked like some set from a horror movie. "This is wierd," remarked Bass John Lambert of Raleigh as the bus rumbled through the unpainted city.

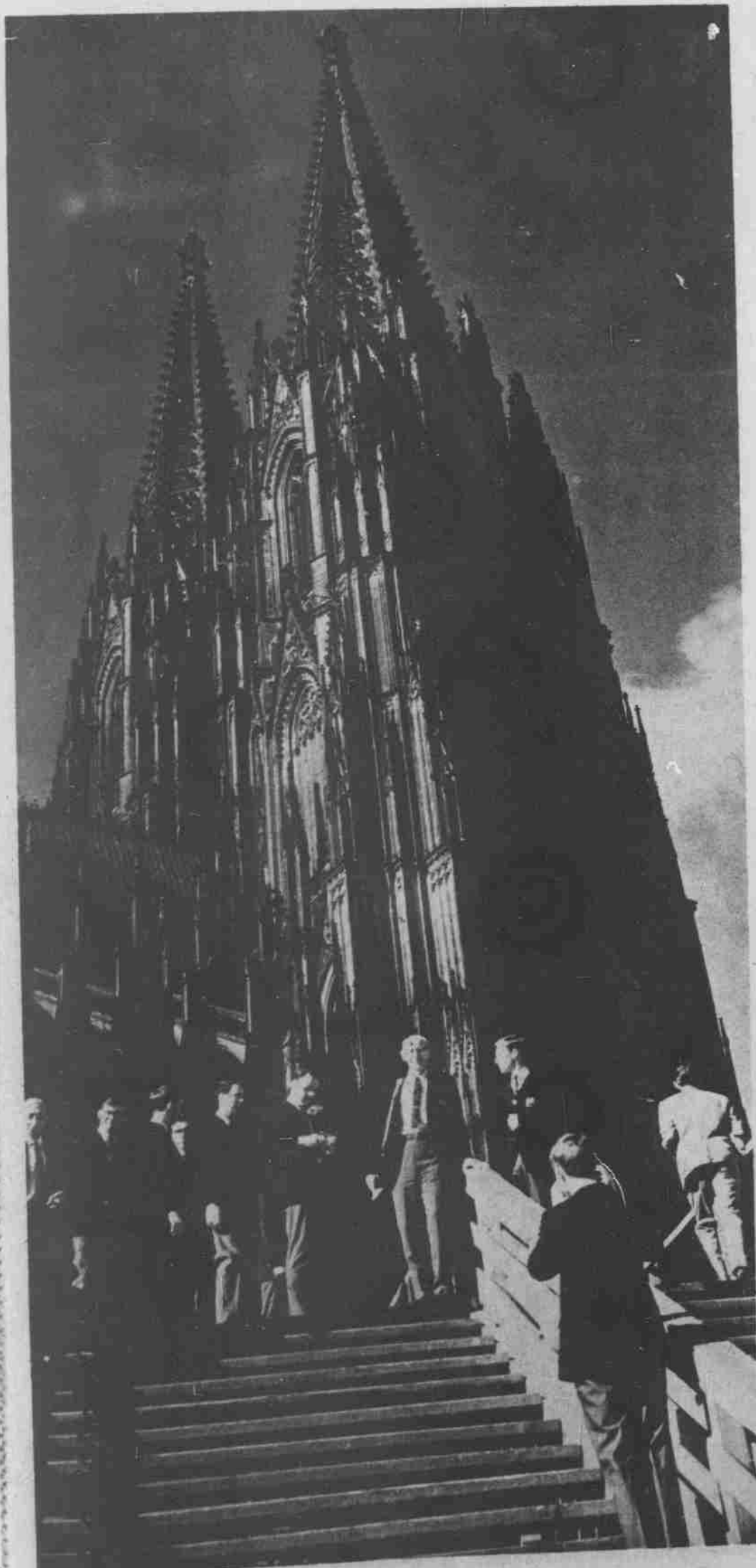
The club stayed that night in the seemingly plush state - owned Hotel Stadt Leipzig. Singing in Bach's Thomas Church, the men were saddened by



High Above The Clouds, The Club Enjoyed Switzerland



Berlin: "The Wall, You Can Step Over It"



Cologne Cathedral Was Impressive In Strength



Students At Lyon Listen, Fascinated

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