

National Association of Teachers of Singing



The NATS Seal

THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF NATS WAS THE CREATION of its second president, Leon Carson who succeeded Homer Mowe as Editor of *The Bulletin*. It first appeared in the May-June 1946 issue. Carson described it in the February-March 1951 issue to acquaint the membership with its symbolism. "The official seal, circular in form, is encircled with two continuous rings or bands, the smaller representing the local and the other component units of the organization which serve to make up the national body, while the larger and outer circle is representative of the all-embracing unity and protectiveness of the national organization as an entity. In the small field between the inner and outer circles is found the honored name of the association. Also within this space is the date of organization inception. The stars are indicative of the three teacher organizations, the members of which were instrumental in the forming of NATS, namely, the American Academy of Teachers of Singing, the Chicago Singing Teachers Guild, and the New York Singing Teachers Association. Serving as a broken background in the large inside field of the seal is the traditional lyre, the symbol so closely allied with the singing profession. Implanted is the general map of the United States, reflecting the national scope of the association's membership and its wide-spread endeavors. This miniature map contains the outline of the eight large regional districts into which the country is divided for organization purposes. The tiny white dot in the lower southeastern corner of the Central District indicates the spot where the National Association was born, to be exact, the city of Cincinnati."

At the December 1981 business meeting of the association a revision to the seal was approved replacing the U. S. map with "nats" in lower case. The lower case form had appeared first fourteen years earlier on the October 1968 issue of *The NATS Bulletin*. This change recognized the organization's growing international status.

