

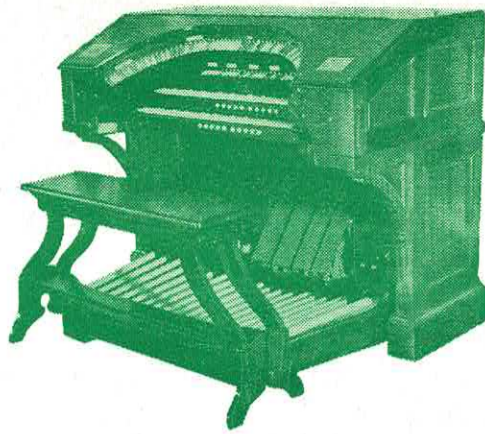
T.O.S.A. NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA, N.S.W. DIVISION

PATRON: REGINALD DIXON, M.B.E.

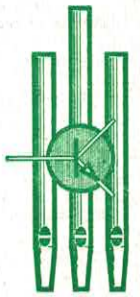
EDITOR: FRANK ELLIS

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10c



VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1.

1st January 1970.

TOSA News correspondence should be sent to F. Ellis, 16 Delhi St., Lidcombe 2141 NSW. All Society correspondence to R. Blackmore, 21 Yethonga Ave., Lane Cove 2066 NSW.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JANUARY.

WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY AT 8pm. The Annual General Meeting & Election of Officers will take place at Marrickville Town Hall on the above date. Your Editor would remind members that the Annual General Meeting of the Society is a most important one, for it is at this meeting that you will elect the Officers who will serve the Society during the 1970 term. Only financial members of the Society will be admitted to the meeting and will be able to vote. Membership dues may be paid at Marrickville Town Hall up to the start of the meeting. Following the Business meeting, our member BILL SCHUMACHER will be featured in concert at the Society's Wurlitzer organ. This will be the first concert on our Wurlitzer to be played by BILL SCHUMACHER whose many previous appearances in concert have been at either the Capitol Theatre's Wurlitzer or the console of an electronic instrument. We can look forward to a bright and entertaining programme from this popular young organist.

The following nominations for office have been received:-

PATRON - Reginald Dixon MBE
PRESIDENT - Tom Halloran
VICE-PRESIDENTS (2) - Frank Ellis & Des Russell
TREASURER - Rod Blackmore - SECRETARY - Mrs Dunn
COMMITTEE (6) Bill Schumacher - Aubrey Byrne - Bill Richards - Bill Schnitger
Ray Garrett - Malcolm Mackay - Col Tringham (The first five of those named
for Committee are presently serving)
TOSA NEWS EDITOR - Frank Ellis "THE DIAPHONE" EDITOR - Rod Blackmore
RETURNING OFFICER - open

SOCIETY HOST - Aubrey Byrne AUDITOR - Oscar Moen MINUTE SECRETARY open

The following are the nominations for the various Sub-Committees:-

CAPITOL THEATRE ORGAN SUB-COMMITTEE - Barry Tooker - Robert Gliddon - John Atkinson
John Andrews - Ian Cameron
SOCIETY P.E. ORGAN SUB-COMMITTEE - Bill Richards - Mal Mackay - Stewart McKern -
John Quinnell - Jim McKern
LADIES SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE - Mesdames Halloran - Walker and Castray
RESEARCH SUB-COMMITTEE - Vic Leon - Ian Cameron
PROMOTION & PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE - Ted Heath - Robert Gliddon - Merv Moore
ELECTRONIC ORGAN SUB-COMMITTEE - Des Russell - Ray Garrett - Arthur Spring -
Eric Mirovitch

RECORD OF ATTENDANCES BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN 1969. Twelve Committee meetings were held during 1969. Hereunder, are the attendances of each member - the number of meetings at which the member was eligible to attend is shown in brackets:-
Halloran 11 (12) - Russell 11 (12) - Ellis 11 (12) - Blackmore 9 (12) - Mrs Dunn 1 (2)
Byrne 9 (12) - Schumacher 11 (12) - Schnitger 10 (11) - Garrett 9 (11) - Richards 12 (12)

Letters or reports intended to be read out at the A.G.M. should be submitted to the Treasurer one week prior to the meeting.

A FULL ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS IS SOUGHT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS. FOLLOWING THE BUSINESS MEETING, BILL SCHUMACHER IN CONCERT AT THE WURLITZER.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee are reminded that the final meeting will take place on Monday 5th January at 7.15pm. First meeting of the new Committee will be Monday 2nd February at 7.15pm.

TOSA NEWS DEADLINE.

Would all those having material for the February issue of TOSA News, please note that the closing date will be Friday 30th January - this is a week later than usual to enable us to report the Election of Officers at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 28th January.

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY.

There will be a film night at the Wesley Centre Auditorium on Wednesday 11th February at 8pm. The main film to be screened will be the color and sound film from U.S.A. about the theatre organ. This was to have been shown at our Annual Convention held last September. Due to the fact that the film did not arrive in time, we were not able to screen it on that occasion. Other films and colored slides will be shown followed by a one hour organ concert. Further details will be given in the next issue of TOSA News.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22nd AT 2.30pm. There will be a FREE concert featuring the Society's Wurlitzer at Marrickville Town Hall on the above date. This will be open to the general public, so bring as many of your friends and neighbours as you possibly can to our first FREE concert for the 1970 season. The organist will be announced in next month's TOSA News. Keep this date free if you can and also the 11th for the film night at Wesley Auditorium.

COMING EVENTS.

In March it is expected that there will be a concert at a suburban Town Hall as well as another organ party. Details will be announced in due course.

LOOKING BACK AT DECEMBER.

There was a gratifyingly large roll up of members to the Bondi Junction R.S.L. Club's Auditorium, on 3rd December for the Society's Xmas party and "Tribute to Our Honorary Members" night, which proved to be a highly entertaining and enjoyable night of organ fare. December, of course, is a month when the demand for organists is particularly heavy, the Committee realised this when it arranged invitations for all our Honorary members, however, it hoped that we would be able to welcome at least half of our invited guests. REUBERT HAYES and CECIL CRANFIELD both were prevented from attending by last minute calls on their services and CHARLES TUCKWELL who has a permanent call for the first Wednesday in each month was unable to come later in the evening as he had hoped. The show went on however, with IAN DAVIES, PETER HELD and ERIC SMITH, all in terrific form - each one adding his own inimitable style to the success of the evening, and what a night it was too.

Opening the show was IAN DAVIES, in rollicking mood with many of the favorites he has played for us over the years. The highlight of his programme for me was his beautifully played "Quiet Village" in which he utilised the full resources of the three manual Rodgers Theatre organ installed in the auditorium.

IAN then called BILL SCHUMACHER to the console and for about fifteen minutes or so, we were entertained by his differing style. BILL was quickly at home on the Rodgers, although, as far as this reviewer knows, it was his first introduction to this make, at least in public. But few would have known that from his playing which was well up to his usual high standard.

PETER HELD was next to play the Rodgers, and he, too, was meeting this instrument for the first time. He chose to exploit the many solo voices of the instrument, and delighted his admirers with an immense variety of registration with particular emphasis on the soft stops which he blended with subtle touches and with great feeling. He received a great ovation from the audience, who very obviously appreciated his choice of programme as well as the polish of its presentation.

PETER was followed at the console by ERIC SMITH who laughingly told the audience, that he too, had not played the Rodgers before. As with the two previous artists, ERIC

very soon found his way around the console and we were able to enjoy a delightful interlude of music in the ERIC SMITH style. He chose to exploit the fast response of the instrument and gave us a selection of mainly snappy numbers which lent themselves to fairly full registrations. He ended with a request item, the famous Widor's Toccata which earned him a full measure of audience response. Table service was freely available during the evening and many members were seen enjoying a Xmas drink with their friends. A raffle for the TONY FENELON record titled "TONY" added a sizeable amount of loot to the organ fund, and was won by a visitor. To sum up, it was a specially enjoyable evening in which a wide variety of music was made even more enjoyable by the differing styles of our four main artists. President Tom Halloran's speech in which he paid tribute to the help given to the Society over the years by our "Honorary" members, was a sincere and moving tribute indeed - and one which all present were in full accord with. So ends the tenth year of the Society, and we look forward to even greater growth - even greater fellowship in the year ahead.

THE WALKER'S TWIN ORGAN PARTIES. The Xmas party at the home of our members, George & Joyce Walker on Saturday 6th December was a thoroughly delightful evening indeed. The lounge room was extensively, and tastefully decorated for the festive season, and three large Xmas trees, each distinctively different in decoration and coloring were the focal points. Festoons of colored lights adorned the trees as well as being draped along the wall, making unnecessary the use of any other ceiling lighting.

The function commenced with some spirited singing of traditional Xmas carols with young Heather Moen at the Conn organ, after which our hostess, Joyce Walker took her place at the console and played us a bracket of "oldies and goodies" - let's face it, they just don't write songs like those any more - the more's the pity. Joyce was also an excellent leader in the Xmas Carol singing. Then it was time for DAVID PARSONS to take his place and he seated himself at the organ with his back to the instrument and gave us a most enjoyable resume of his trip to Japan for the finals of the Yamaha organ playing contest. He gave a very relaxed and interesting talk about the whole thing and spent the last ten minutes or so answering members questions. Then he turned to the console and played for about an hour or so until supper time. It is very doubtful if DAVID has ever displayed a more dazzling style than he did on this occasion, and it would be safe to say that the experience he gained on this trip has added to his already very considerable talents.

A delightful supper was served by Joyce and her willing band of helpers. Very active among the helpers was Joyce's mother, Mrs Woods, who was due to be hospitalised just two days later for an operation. We are delighted to report that she is now on the way to recovery, and TOSA News, on behalf of the Society, wishes her all the best of health for the New Year, and we look forward to seeing her again real soon.

The second Xmas party at the Walker's took place one week later on December 13th and another happy band of members enjoyed themselves fully. The evening opened with a humorous sketch by host George Walker which involved song titles played on the organ. Vice-President Des Russell was next at the console followed by George Hughes who turned out to be the surprise of the evening. Few members had heard George play before, and his ability has very obviously been concealed for too long. He also played for the singing of Christmas carols. Hostess Joyce then read a Xmas poem which was very enjoyable, after which she played a series of Irish songs making use of the percussion. Member LANCE WELLS, formerly organist of the King's Theatre Gordon, then entertained members for an hour or so in his inimitable way, until supper time. The two parties added a further \$47 to the funds and the Society sincerely thanks the Walkers for their very generous hospitality. Des Russell made a formal speech of thanks to all.

COLIN TRINGHAM'S TWIN SLIDE AND TAPE NIGHTS.

TOSA News is pleased to report another "twin" function of a different nature. On Saturday 11th October, at the home of members Mr & Mrs Arthur Spring, Colin Tringham presented a Tape & Slide night covering his recent tour of America. About forty members thoroughly enjoyed his entertaining and informative show which covered all aspects of the tour. The evening commenced with a tape of Boston organist, DICK FRANK playing a small model Baldwyn organ. Later in the evening DAVID LIST was heard playing the Hammond X66 in another recording. The slide show opened with a delightful series of views of Hawaii, Vancouver, The Rocky Mountains, Montreal and ended up in Boston. Then came an extensive coverage of the 1969 ATOE Convention in Chicago showing the organists and instruments featured, after which Colin continued on to Salt Lake City and showed shots of the 5 manual Wurlitzer in the Organ Loft. The Los Angeles section of his show included slides of many installations in that area including the famous one owned by Senator FRANK LANTERMAN. (Continued on page 7)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

This month the Society is delighted to welcome Mr & Mrs W.E. Jones of Marrickville and Mr Arthur Neilson of Mosman to our numbers. Apart from our concerts, there are many other activities which you will be able to take full advantage of, and it is our wish that you do so. There are organ parties in homes at fairly regular intervals, there are also technical lectures on electronic organs from time to time. The Society owns its own Wurlitzer organ in the Marrickville Town Hall, and also maintains the Wurlitzer organ of the Capitol Theatre Sydney. Through the Society you can obtain recordings from overseas of theatre organs which cannot be purchased in record shops, and you are kept informed each month of what is happening in the organ world, through regular publication of TOSA News. Once again we welcome you - enjoy yourselves.

RECORD CLUB NEWS.

Concert Recording Company's "Organ Of The Month Club" release for this month is one featuring LEE ERWIN at the 4/19 Wurlitzer of the Beacon Theatre. Number CR-0045. Titled "The Sound Of The Silents", this is a collector's item indeed. Side one features LEE ERWIN'S score, specially written for a screening of the Rudolf Valentino silent film classic, "The Eagle" and played by him on this superb Wurlitzer organ. MR ERWIN is a master of registration and his capable handling of the organ might well be likened to the performance of an orchestra conductor leading his players through a musical score. He coaxes forth the orchestral voices of the Wurlitzer in a polished and assured manner born of long experience, and reveals that the Beacon Theatre's Wurlitzer has a wonderful range of well regulated voices available to any organist of the calibre of LEE ERWIN.

Side two features a bracket of songs written in the Valentino years - this opens with Irving Berlin's "Remember" and ends with a delightful serving of "When Day Is Done". One can live again the organ interludes of the silent movie days with this nostalgic selection, and for this reason, it should become a collector's item, for who else but LEE ERWIN has given us the Wurlitzer's accompaniment of such a silent film as "The Eagle". Recommended to you. Its available through your usual Concert Recording supplier, Box 108 Wentworthville P.O. New South Wales.

NEW APPOINTMENT FOR ERIC SMITH.

Our Honorary member ERIC SMITH, has accepted the appointment of organist at the Methodist Church In A Theatre, playing the Christie Theatre Pipe Organ of the Lyceum Theatre for the Sunday services. He is to take up his appointment on Sunday 25th of January.

On January 14th, ERIC is to play a concert for the Queensland Division of T.O.S.A. in Brisbane where he is to play a Thomas Theatre organ (Palace model). On his way up to Brisbane he will break his journey at Tamworth to play a concert on the Hammond organ, and this is scheduled for January 10th. He returns to Sydney in time to take up his appointment at the Lyceum Theatre for the Methodist Church on January 25th. It was also reported to TOSA News, that ERIC will be teaching the Yamaha organ as well as appearing in concerts for the Japanese organ company during 1970. In a telephone conversation with your Editor, ERIC confirmed the above information. TOSA News wishes him the best of luck with his new appointments for 1970 - when you have ability, who needs luck???? Seriously ERIC, all the best to you.

ORGAN BROADCASTS AGAIN ON RADIO 2KY.

Incredible as it may seem in this day and age, Radio 2KY is broadcasting an organ programme every Sunday morning at 11am until 11.30am. Thirty minutes of organ music to make your Sunday morning siesta on the patio - perfect in every way. The show is sponsored by Wadsworth Music Stores of Parramatta - and the proprietor is a member of T.O.S.A. It was reported to TOSA News that GEORGE WRIGHT and other great ones had been heard in the programme, so all members should lose no time in tuning in to 2KY for this half hour of goodies. Congratulations to Mr Wadsworth for his enterprise.

FOR SALE. Due to a lack of space, member George Hughes would like to dispose of the following:- TWO only speaker enclosures, each unit housing Goodmans Axiom Mark 11 12" loud speakers, and Trebax tweeters with cross-over network. The cabinets are folded horn loading for the speaker. Dimensions are 3' x 2' x 1½'. Price is \$170 for the two. Will sell only as a Stereo pair. Phone George after 7pm on any week night. His phone number is 80-3589.

WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY - BILL SCHUMACHER PLAYS SOCIETY WURLITZER AT MARRICKVILLE.

SIX HOURS IN TOKIO

By DAVID PARSONS (Specially written for TOSA News)

I consider myself one of the most fortunate people in Australia just considering the facts, what other person has been given a trip to Japan, looked after by two guides, stayed in the best hotels, toured the east coast for seven days, travelled on many modern forms of transport including the Monorail, the Bullet train, air-conditioned vehicular ferries, launches, even chauffeur-driven big black American hire-cars, and generally been given royal treatment.???? To be given all this at no cost to myself makes it the trip of a lifetime, and was only made possible by Rose Music (the distributors of Yamaha) running an Australia wide contest. I proved to be the lucky one to represent Australia in the world finals in Tokio.

Here are some details of the contest. There were nineteen finalists, seventeen of whom were Japanese. A Philippino girl and myself were the only representatives from other countries. Even this girl had been in Japan for nine months studying full time under a Japanese instructor prior to the contest. It was held in Yamaha's own auditorium seating 550 people situated above their main showroom in the famous Ginza main street.

We were each allotted ten minutes practise time by stop watch on the morning of the contest to get the feel of the instrument and the accoustics of the building. The contest started at 1pm and finished at 7pm with a break in the middle. The order of appearance was decided by a marble barrel, and I was given the privilege of picking the first marble which was number 4. We all in turn played the piece of our own choice and this part of the contest went on for about three hours.

We were then under strict supervision for our extemporising performance. I felt like a criminal in jail. I was taken to a room to choose one of three pieces, (these were single note melodies with nothing else). From this room I was taken to another soundproof room where I was allowed five minutes by stop watch, to try this melody on an organ. From there I was taken up in an elevator, along a cat-walk into another sound proof room, which I later worked out to be above the stage. Here I waited my turn in complete silence until another official took me down a narrow staircase and on to the stage where I had already been announced. I was allowed to hear the contestants who followed me but not those who had appeared before me. These all finished up at about 6pm, and while the thirteen judges were summing up, we were treated to a recital on the \$66,000 experimental Yamaha organ by MR OKI, Japan's number one organist. This was a real experience - to watch this man pour his heart out and put such physical effort into the organ. I didn't like what he played, but he is no doubt a master exponent of this instrument. I believe he is coming to tour Australia in the New Year on this organ.

There were six prize-winners, two equal firsts, and four place getters. Each received a heavy white painted thick wooden shield about 12" high in the shape of a "Y", plus a certificate written in Japanese characters, and a sum of money. I just missed out on all this by coming seventh. However, the judges made special mention of my extemporisation as being of high standard.

I came away from the contest at 7.30pm feeling mentally exhausted. The Japanese style is quite different to what we expect to hear in Australia. They all played a similar style of free American jazz. The effect is like a one man combo group playing loud, harsh sounding, very complicated, way-out jazz, the like of which I have never heard before.

The winner was a sixteen years old girl who played the music from "Hair" non-stop for 15 minutes and gave the organ torture. She was outstanding. And so the Sixth Yamaha Electone Grand Prix Contest was over, but not my trip. For another seven days I was treated to a sight seeing tour of the country-side as well as the Yamaha factory complex. Both of these, are tremendous stories in themselves, but sufficient to say I was most impressed. I spent two days in Hong Kong on the way home, which is also another fascinating story and I took many photos.

I would like to place on record, my grateful thanks to all those who made it possible. To Rose Music who organised the Australian part of the contest - to Japan Airlines for the flight and its smooth arrangements - and to the Yamaha Organisation, and its many employees who went out of their way to ensure my welfare and interest during my stay.

I was proud to represent Australia in Japan.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD 1st OCTOBER, 1968
to 30th SEPTEMBER, 1969

RECEIPTS

General subscriptions	987.02
TOSA News subscriptions	390.09
Diaphone subscriptions	698.40
Prince Ed. Organ Maintce. Fund.	0.50
Theatre Pipe Organ Purchase Fund	141.66
Electronic Organ Construction Fd.	66.70
Marrickville organ operations	156.80
Marrickville concerts	651.95
Other meetings & concerts	94.00
Marrickville Premiere	1221.85
1969 Convention	401.55
Noreen Hennessy records	226.50
Ledwon records (recoup expenses)	14.92
Schrum " " "	19.12
Leedom " " "	9.72
Other records	9.50
Dendy books	21.00
Badges	8.00
Bank interest	28.63
Bank interest from P.E. Mtce. Fd.	11.04
Tape copying	6.00
Insurance refund	1.93
Legal fees refund	3.00

EXPENDITURE

Postage (and P.O. Box)	183.22
TOSA News	632.16
Diaphone	1229.31
Prince Ed. Organ Mtce. Fund	0.50
Theatre Pipe Organ Purchase Fd.	141.66
Electc. Organ Construction Fund	66.70
Marrickville organ operations	40.00
Marrickville concerts	476.66
Other meetings & concerts	439.13
Marrickville Premiere	350.96
Childrens Med. Resch. Foundation	1071.10
1969 Convention	410.38
Marrickville Hospital	78.50
Noreen Hennessy records	15.00
Printing, stationery, etc.	232.16
Secretary's telephone	69.52
Capitol Wurlitzer maintenance	40.00
Overseas "Vox" subscriptions	11.00
Dendy books	4.00
Badges	1.50
Floral tributes	10.70
Tape copying, recording tape	63.30
Voluntary workers' insurance	16.60
Equipment: A.B.C. Film	27.86
Cupboards	39.05
Teapots (2)	8.90
Amplifier	20.17
Microphone	60.94
Trolley repairs	2.35

	5743.33
- Deficit	- 573.45
	<u>5169.88</u>

BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND

Accumulated funds		Funds at 30.9.69 at Commonwealth	
as at 1.10.68	834.72	Savings Bank, Campsie	275.67
Less Deficit	- 573.45	Less Unpresented cheques	- 18.79
			<u>256.88</u>
		Petty Cash on hand	4.39
			<u>261.27</u>

PRINCE EDWARD ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND (formerly Prince Edward Organ Fund)

Accumulated funds 1.10.68	362.79	Loan repayments	175.00
Income	300.50	Installation expenses	93.57
Bank interest	11.04	Marrickville Premiere	100.00
		Bank interest transferred to	
		General Fund	11.04
		Excess transferred to Theatre	
		Pipe Organ Purchase Fund	94.72
			<u>474.33</u>
		Stabilised balance - at Cwlth.	
		Savings Bank, Campsie, 30.9.69:	200.00
			<u>674.33</u>

ELECTRONIC ORGAN CONSTRUCTION FUND (formerly (Electronic) Organ Fund)

Accumulated funds 1.10.68	287.50	Funds at 30.9.69 at Commonwealth	
Income	66.70	Savings Bank, Campsie	363.89
Bank interest	9.69		
	<u>363.89</u>		<u>363.89</u>

THEATRE PIPE ORGAN PURCHASE FUND

Income	236.38	Funds at 30.9.69 at Commonwealth	
		Savings Bank, Campsie	236.38

R.D. BLACKMORE
Hon. Treasurer

TAPE & SLIDE NIGHT. (Cont. from page 3)

This large and beautifully voiced Wurlitzer is the one formerly in the opulent San Francisco Fox Theatre. Purchased by Senator Lanterman some years ago, the instrument is now installed in his large home. Views of the Simonton Wurlitzer were next to be shown followed by those of the Wiltern Theatre's well known massive Kimball organ. Colin next visited the Star Theatre, El Segundo and took shots of the organ there. Finally, came a visit to Disneyland with its many attractions for the tourist. To sum it all up - it was a very enjoyable evening. Colin repeated the show for a different group of members on Saturday 6th December at his residence.

HAVE YOU A SOCIETY BADGE?

Badges are now available from the Treasurer - \$1.00 each. Wear one with pride. It helps to attract new members and immediately establishes that you are a member of the Australia wide Society of theatre organ lovers. Also available are souvenir teaspoons featuring the Society badge. These are \$1.50 each from the Treasurer.

BACK ISSUES OF "THE DIAPHONE" AND "TOSA NEWS" AVAILABLE.

Any member interested in obtaining back issues before these are disposed of for promotional purposes should write to the Treasurer, enclosing sufficient for postage. The following are available.

TOSA NEWS December 1967 to May 1968 (inclusive)
 August 1968 to December 1969 (inclusive)

<u>DIAPHONE</u>	Volume	1	Numbers	4 & 5
	2	"	1 to	4
	3	"	1 to	4
	4	"	1 to	4
	5	"	1 &	3
	6	"	2, 3 &	4
	7	"	1 to	3

If you would like to have any of these earlier issues of either publication write to the Treasurer enclosing your remittance including postage

UKRANIAN SOCIETY HEARS THEATRE ORGAN SOUND.

On Friday 5th December at the Ukrainian Hall Lidcombe, during a concert presented by their members, CHARLES TUCKWELL appeared at the console of a Baldwyn theatre organ to give the Ukrainian people their first taste of theatre organ music. From what your Editor learned in conversation with their Officials, organs are seldom, if ever heard in their own country, not even in church services. Certainly never at all in a cinema. They showed great interest in this new (to them) type of music and instrument, and CHARLES TUCKWELL, selecting his programme as he went along showed discrimination and good taste in what he offered to them. The Society thanks CHARLES sincerely for making it possible for us to reach out and touch a potential new audience. It is intended to invite the Ukrainian Society members to attend one of our concerts at Marrickville to hear our Wurlitzer.

INTERSTATE DIVISION NEWS.

It is regretted that there are no news bulletins from any of the Interstate Divisions of the Society this month. Although it had been announced that the January Issue of TOSA News would be going to press a week earlier than usual due to our printer closing for the Xmas holidays, it is assumed that not enough time was allowed for news to arrive. The position could also have been aggravated by the pressure on the Post Office services at this time of the year. Let us hope that "no news is good news", and that the next bulletins to arrive will be full of exciting events.

ANOTHER ORGANIST REQUIRED.

An organist is required for the Roseville Methodist Church. There are two services each Sunday and the Choir practise night is Thursday. The organ is a Pipe installation which was rebuilt about five years ago by well known organ builders, Noad & Son. Any member who has the capabilities and is interested in the position should contact Mr David Lusby at Wesley Centre next to the Lyceum Theatre in Pitt Street, Sydney. You can contact Mr Lusby by telephoning 61-8741 day or evenings.

BILL SCHUMACHER APPEARS AT THE SOCIETY WURLITZER ORGAN ON WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY.

SECOND CONCERT IN FIVE MONTHSWILBUR KENTWELL RE"ORGANISES" NEWCASTLE ONCE AGAIN

A brilliant talent, allied to a technically flawless installation, made the WILBUR KENTWELL concert in Newcastle on Saturday 29th November 1969, an enchanting occasion. Despite the length of the programme, which had a number of people looking at their watches from 11.15pm on, such was the magic woven by the organist, that only a mere handful, dependent on catching a last bus, perhaps, left before the show ended around 11.50pm.

To hold an audience captive for around four hours is a rare accomplishment indeed, and WILBUR KENTWELL carried it off with ease. He was featured at the console of a three manual Conn Theatre organ equipped with a number of ranks of electronic pipes, plus a bewildering array of tone cabinets and speakers. The resultant total sound was the nearest approach to that of a theatre pipe organ that this reviewer has yet heard.

The previous concert by this artist in Newcastle took place on Saturday 3rd May last, for the local Hammond Organ Society, and was a sell-out for them. The same could be said of this concert, for your Editor could see only a few odd vacant seats in the auditorium.

Opening with a very spirited "Seventy Six Trombones" WILBUR left little doubt right from the start, that he had the potential to re-create the nearest approach to a theatre pipe organ sound yet heard in this country and that he meant to use it to the full. The addition of the electronic pipes ensured this for him. There was a 'live' presence to all the voices of the instrument not usually heard in the electronic organ and this was very apparent with the percussion side of the instrument, which had, for the most part, an uncanny realism. It was claimed that the installation was one of the largest ever undertaken in this country. It was supervised by Howell Whitehouse, the Queensland Distributor of the Conn, who came down from Brisbane specially for the concert.

The second item was the Theme from "Exodus", and this was followed by the popular novelty, "Puppet On A String". Next was a special request medley introducing "Fascination", "Somewhere My Love" and "The Sound Of Music" by Richard Rodgers. The next two items came from the pen of Jerry Herman - they were, "Mame" followed by "Hello Dolly" - they were presented with rhythmical verve and polish in true KENTWELL style. Outstanding too, were "Jalousie" and "Brazil" which followed on.

The next item, undoubtedly the longest one on the programme, would have been a severe memory test for the artist, who played without music throughout the concert. Titled "Show Stoppers", it would have run close to half an hour, yet it ended all too soon. WILBUR introduced the really big hits from no less than nine top shows of stage and screen in a marathon spectacular which brought the house down. From Brigadoon we heard "Almost Like Being In Love" - from Finian's Rainbow, "How Are Things In Glocca Morra?" - from Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, "Wonderful, Wonderful Day" - from Camelot, "If Ever I Would Leave You" from Funny Girl, "People" - from West Side Story, "Somewhere" - from Mr Wonderful, "Mr Wonderful" - from Kismet, "Stranger In Paradise" and finally from Oliver, "As Long As He Needs Me" and "Consider Yourself". The last two mentioned, in particular were delightful.

The guest artists were "The Internationals" a top class trio whose first class performances were marred by by over exuberant use of the amplifier's volume controls, resulting in a barrage of sound far beyond acceptable limits. WILBUR then returned with a hauntingly beautiful "Ebb Tide" and a Paraphrase on "I Hear A Rhapsody", followed by a tribute to Miss Show Business", Judy Garland which included The Trolley Song, You Made Me Love You, The Boy Next Door, For Me And My Gal, Stormy Weather, Its A Great Day For The Irish, Over The Rainbow, and Beyond The Blue Horizon. Keith Shakespeare's interlude "Take A Pew" from Beyond The Fringe was the second guest spot after which WILBUR demonstrated the Conn Prelude 311 model before presenting a medley of Nicholas Brodsky songs. Three religious items were next on the bill before the final item, An Eric Coates Suite which included In Town Tonight, Song Of Loyalty, Bird Songs At Eventide, I Pitch My Lonely Caravan At Night, I Heard You Singing, Today Is Ours, Sleepy Lagoon and finally The Dam Busters March. And so an exciting WILBUR KENTWELL SPECTACULAR came to an end amid wild applause.