

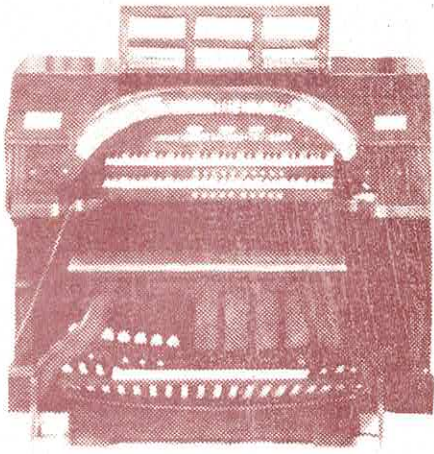
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T.O.S.A. NEWS.

*The Official Publication of the Theatre Organ Society
of Australia, N.S.W. Division.*

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TOM HAZLETON
Wednesday 3rd.8pm.
Sunday 28th.August
at 2pm.

MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL

Printed by TOSA Press

2...

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ADDRESS: T.O.S.A. Box A584 P.O. Sydney South 2000.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

A sincere welcome is extended to the following new members,
Dorothy Macdonald, Laurel Chuter, The Rev. Ian Tweddel, Herb Smith,
Barrie & Sue Bowden.

Please make every effort to attend our concerts and particularly our
Home Parties, where you can meet other members and join in with our common
appreciation of the organ and dont hesitate to contact the Practice Convenor
if your are desirous of having a play on the Wurlitzer. A practice time will
be arranged as soon as availability permits. There is a Club Night at
Marrickville on August 10th when you can have your first go! Please come.

NOTICE....NOTICE....NOTICE....NOTICE

THE SELWYN THEATRE ..MORTDALE. Ph.57 3581.

CONCERT DATE CHANGED

NEIL JENSEN'S CONCERT LISTED FOR SUNDAY 21st AUGUST HAS NOW BEEN ALTERED
TO SATURDAY 20th AUGUST, at 8pm.

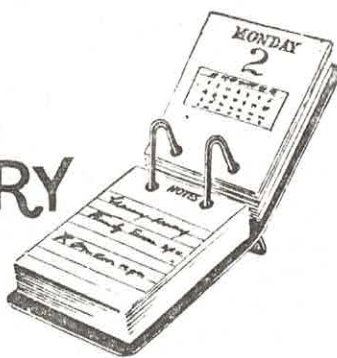
This has been an unavoidable change due to flight problems. ALL bookings are
still concrete, but if you haven't booked yet..do so immediately!

FOR SALE

REMINGTON ROTAPRINT MODEL R70 OFFSET PRINTING MACHINE - in good working
order and with many spares. This machine has been used by T.O.S.A. (N.S.W.)
to print T.O.S.A. NEWS for the last 8 - 10 years.

Price: \$250.00 o.n.o. Enquiries please phone 759-6050.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



August

WEDNESDAY 3rd at 8pm

TOM HAZLETON FROM THE USA 1st Concert.
at the Marrickville Town Hall Wurlitzer.
Admission: Adults \$6, Members \$5, Concession \$3.

WEDNESDAY 10th at 7.30pm

CLUB NIGHT at Marrickville.
Please bring your music and have a play on
the Wurlitzer.

SUNDAY 28th at 2pm

TOM HAZLETON 2nd concert at Marrickville.
Booking forms in this issue.

September

MONDAY 5th at 7.30pm

COMMITTEE MEETING at 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba.
Members are most welcome to attend.

SUNDAY 11th at 2.30pm

HOME ORGAN PARTY at Cec and Norm Paddy's residence
58 George Street, Penshurst. Please bring your
music for a fun afternoon. Ring 570 7525 for a
booking. Gents:\$2, Ladies \$1.50 plus a plate please
towards afternoon tea.

SUNDAY 25th at 2pm

FREE CONCERT at the Marrickville Town Hall Wurlitzer.
Featuring TOSA Patron: IAN DAVIES.

FRIDAY 30th at 7.30pm

Special Invitation Night to attend the Bondi-Waverly
RSL from our Patron Ian Davies, to enjoy a night with
the Rogers Organ.
This is always a relaxing evening with good music and
perhaps you might like to have a play..if so bring
your music. Club facilities are available to visitors.

ANSWERS TO THE MUSICAL QUIZ. (Note: NO correspondence will be entered into!)

1. Violin (vile inn)
2. Saxophone
3. Guitar (catarrh)
4. Banjo (?)
5. Harp (top marks for this one!)
6. Flute (flew it)
7. Bassoon
8. Bagpipes (!)
9. Sitar (Sit-Ahh)
10. Triangle
11. Oboe
12. Drum
13. Cymbal
14. Double Bass
15. Trumpet (trump it)
16. Lyre.

(Doubtless you've guessed it was Valda Lang's clairaudence that got
you all thinking....How many did you get?)

ELECTION TIME AGAIN SOON.

Well, it's hard to believe that another year has already slipped past since this point in our activities in 1982, and members will soon have to choose who will control the NSW Division of TOSA for the year of 1984. The closing date for nominations is Wednesday 5th October 1983 at 5pm, so it is well for everyone to be prepared for voting day on the Annual General Meeting Night of Wednesday 16th November this year.

After looking back at what has been accomplished this year, I was quite amazed at the list. We have had one Dinner Dance, seven Home Parties, one Bus Trip, three Club Nights, one Workshop Night, one Visit, six Paid Concerts and three Free Concerts. The concerts were presented by no less than nine local or inter-state artists and one artist from the USA. The average attendance over the nine concerts was 470 people and this alone speaks for the effort provided by the existing Executive and Committee with the help of course from many generous and hard working members.

Our TOSA NEWS Magazine has been a big highlight towards the success of this year's activities and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Committee Member Ron Wilson and his wife Phil, for the endless hours of preparation and design work required for the various articles including publicity forms and tickets etc. New equipment purchased this year has been a great help in getting us out of a somewhat archaic method of printing and designing and this has required the continual attention of a responsible and dedicated person and Ron Wilson has been the man 'behind the scenes' doing all this most necessary work.

Once again, I cant stress too much the need of having a well founded policy interest in the Society if you decide to be nominated for the Executive or Committee. A hive of activity is foreseen in the next two years and this includes the National Convention to be held in Sydney in 1985. Preparation for this event alone will need to commence at 12 months beforehand. A big effort will also be needed when we swap our consoles and the solid stating of the action takes place. Additional pipes are planned with a major re-location of effects to be carried out particularly in the Solo chamber. I hope you can gather from all this that the Officials in our Society will be doing a lot more than just keeping a seat warm! I sincerely hope that you can plan to give your time and plenty of your qualified assistance when the time comes in the near future for all these planned events to eventuate to completion. With a big effort from all, we could be the proud owners of one of the best instruments in this country, yes! even better than the one we have now. There is no doubt it will take place.. the question is..are you going to help or just keep out of the way and watch everyone else and hope for the best, I hope not.

My undying thanks goes to all those people who have sub-mitted articles for TOSA NEWS over the past year, but dont forget..we are always looking for more. People who cant attend concerts are catered for with our concert revues, which we keep to a general description of what took place on the day, and these revues have been carried out by several generous people. My thanks also to these revuers for their fine efforts for Concert Revuers are so HARD to find!

Nomination forms are included in this issue and will be found again in the next issue. Dont hesitate to advise us if you wish to be nominated and plan to help our NSW Division for the coming year. Be in it!

FOR SALE

Lowrey Lincolnwood 25 Deluxe Model Console Organ.
25 Speaking stops, 25 note pedalboard, full size manuals. Liturgical Voicing,
Walnut Cabinet, Excellent working order, Ideal for a Church or practise enthusiast.
2 seperate speaker boxes including Leslie speaker.
Asking Price: \$1500 Available from October from St.Andrews Anglican Church
Abbotsford. Please contact the Rector: 713 8059 or the organist: 712 1037.

LOGANS PIANOS – ORGANS

PROUDLY PRESENTS

RAY THORNLEY

IN CONCERT

PERFORMING ON THE NEW

YAMAHA ELECTONE ORGANS

FRIDAY 12TH AUGUST AT 7.30PM.

CONCORD R.S.L. CLUB

"AUDITORIUM"

NIRRANDA ST. CONCORD

TICKETS BY BOOKINGS ONLY ADULTS \$2.00

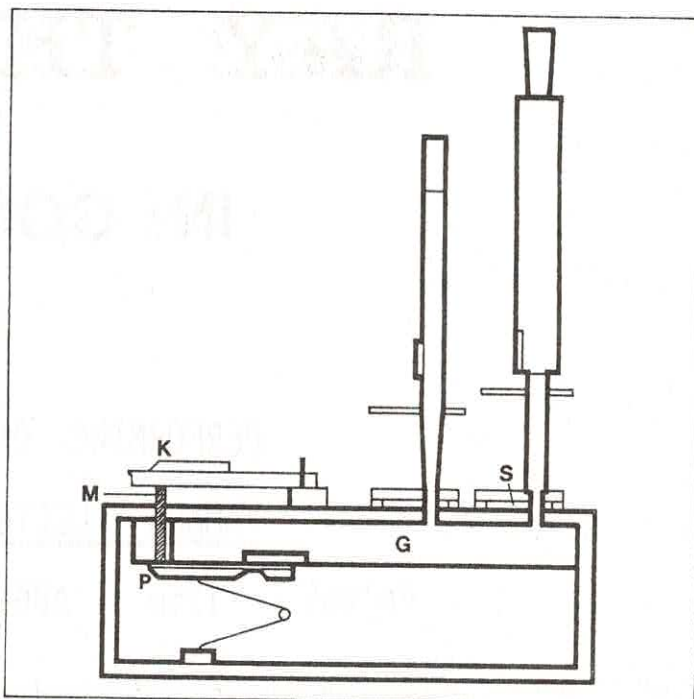
CHILDREN \$1.00

AVAILABLE AT LOGANS PIANOS & ORGANS

250 BURWOOD RD;

BURWOOD 74 2400

Before the invention of the stop mechanism the large organs were very loud and difficult to play, whereas the positives were far more versatile. Organists therefore often placed a small positive organ near the great organ, so that they could play either at will. Often this was placed behind the player who simply had to swing round on his stool to play this 'chayre' organ or 'choir' organ as it became to be known in England. In Germany it was called a 'Ruckpositiv' or back positive, and organs are still seen in this position producing a fine architectural feature. From this it was a short step to place the second keyboard below that of the great organ, and to arrange for the mechanism to pass under the floor, beneath the player. With further development larger and larger pipes were used and 16ft stops and even 32ft stops were incorporated. The effort of opening the large pallet valves for these large pipes was too much for the fingers and was relegated to a separate keyboard or pedal board played by the feet.



4 Side elevation of 4 ft positive organ showing action

USE OF SEVERAL ORGANS.

Often as time went on a further manual organ was added giving three manual organs and a pedal organ, all of which were separate organs in their own right. There are several advantages in having this multiplicity of manuals and pedals. First it is easier to change hands quickly from one manual to another and so achieve a sudden change of tone and volume. Also a solo stop played on one manual can be accompanied by a softer combination of stops on another with the other hand. Furthermore, J S Bach and other composers wrote trios in which one part would be played by one hand on one manual, another part by the other hand on another manual, whilst the third part would be played by the feet on the pedal organ. Needless to say the maintenance of three independent parts by a single player is a supreme test of skill and musicianship.

On the Continent the organ was steadily improved during the sixteenth century, culminating in the since unsurpassed magnificent instruments of the High Baroque period. The two great schools of organ building were the French, and the German and Dutch. French organs were highly standardised often with many reed stops. The German and Dutch organs were more developed and complete tonally and more varied. It was for these instruments that J S Bach and Buxtehude composed, and a full appreciation of their music and the influence it has since had, can only be achieved by a study of these organs, many of which fortunately still survive. Some of them have been the subject of a number of British radio programmes in the last few years.

SEPARATE BRITISH DEVELOPMENT.

On the other hand the history of the British organ is one of complete insularity, and not until 1950 was much continental influence felt. In the sixteenth century most English organs were small with one manual, no pedals, few stops and little tonal variety. Nevertheless, much good organ music was written, notably by composers such as Tallis, Byrd and Bull. It is interesting to note that even so a considerable sophistication had been achieved in organ building in England by the beginning of the seventeenth century. A notable instrument is that in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, the main case of which was built by Thomas Dallam in 1605-1606. The small chayre case in front was probably built by Pease in 1661. The organ inside the case has since been rebuilt several times. However, apart from one or two such survivors, there followed an almost complete destruction of organs in England during the Commonwealth. Even afterwoods in spite of such brilliant organ builders as 'Father' Bernard Smith and Renatus Harris we lagged behind the Continent. Pedals were only introduced in the 18th century, although even in the second decade of the 19th century, only nine out of thirty-three cathedral and abbey organs in Britain had pedals. Bach's 'pedal fugues' were unknown in Britain for over a hundred years until the second half of the last century when they were played by S S Wesley and Mendelssohn, although they often had difficulty in finding an organ with a full pedal board or even with one at all.

The real British contribution was to the romantic organ. The swell organ mechanism was invented by Abraham Jordan in 1712 when he made an organ with one for the church of St. Magnus the Martyr at London Bridge. Before then quiet effects were achieved using an echo organ, which consisted of ranks of pipes placed in a box to give the effect of distance. Jordan made a sliding shutter to the front of the box worked by a foot pedal enabling a 'swelling' effect to be achieved. Alternatively, the lid of the box was raised and lowered.

Subsequently the balanced Venetian fronts were used and have survived to this day. It was undoubtedly useful to be able to give expression to the organ, but it easily led to abuse, and 'pimping' the swell pedal gives rise to sloppy sentimental type of playing. Furthermore, the virulent, brilliant baroque organ was as percussive as a harpsicord. It was clear, bright and ringing, achieving remarkable clarity of sound with no great loudness. Burying the pipes in a box destroyed almost all its excellent qualities. Baroque music too relies on clear cut contrasts, and the writing itself produces all the expression needed without resort to artificial devices. However, expression is the essence of romantic music, and the English contribution to the romantic organ culminated in the organs of 'Father' Henry Willis, whose fine reed-based swell organs have never been surpassed. One of his unaltered organs built in 1892 is in the long library of Blenheim Palace at Woodstock, and it has sparkling front pipes made from pure tin. Recordings of music played on this organ by Nicholas Danby, the University Organist, are available. Much fine organ music was written by Cesar Franck, Liszt, Reger, Widor, etc, for this type of organ. The other great strength of the romantic organ is that it is an ideal instrument to accompany the Church liturgy.

At the end of the nineteenth century, the British organ entered upon a period of decadence. Organs became too big, too loud, and lacking in clarity. They were all together unmanageable and had no proper choruses. The true organ principle of harmonic synthesis of tone by the addition of ranks of small pipes of different pitch was forgotten. The baroque builders could not anyway use too many large ponderous and heavy sounding pipes, because the 'wind' was generated by human 'blowers' and it had to be used sparingly.

to be continued....

TOSATOOUR of the U.S.A.

by Peter Bidencepe.

MONDAY, 6th JUNE.

Seventeen excited T.O.S.A. (N.S.W.) members arrived at Sydney International Airport to begin the long awaited TOSATOOUR of the United States. Our QANTAS Boeing 747SP aircraft departing precisely on schedule at 8.15 p.m.

Next morning (still 16th June, as we had crossed the International Date Line) we arrived in Honolulu at approximately 9.10 a.m. to a traditional Lei Welcome. A short bus ride to the Waikiki area brought us to our hotel - the Hilton Hawaiian Village. We were then free to settle in until meeting together for the evening meal at the "Jolly Roger" restaurant in Waikiki's main shopping area.

After dinner we walked around the area with Rob showing us some of the local sights including the International Market Place which looked fantastic with masses of coloured lights festooned among the tropical trees. Most of the group were able to resist buying the many tempting little odds and ends with which the stall were stocked.

TUESDAY, 7th JUNE.

Our first conducted tour by bus around the City included Diamond Head which is that prominent hill which is seen in most photographs of the Waikiki area. Our coach took us into the Diamond Head crater (the hill is an extinct volcano) where there are extensive military installations. The nearby residential area has many impressive homes with spectacular ocean views, Honolulu's wealthiest citizens live around this location. Several miles on further down the road we inspected the Punch Bowl and War Memorial Cemetery, this was followed by a visit to the former home of Robert Louis Stevenson which is now an historic attraction adjacent to a tourist tea room and chapel where many Japanese couples are married as part of a package deal purchased prior to their departure from Japan. Other sights in the morning tour included the Iolani Palace, the impressive University of Hawaii buildings and the State Capitol buildings.

In the evening we were invited to the home of the City Cathedral Organist John McCreary, also a devotee of theatre organs, to hear his fine residence installation and to meet other local A.T.O.S. members. His instrument a 3 manual 8 rank hybrid is made up of assorted pipework located in two chambers at the end of the lounge room. Its swell shutters blend unobtrusively in two archways beside the Steinway grand piano.

Several local personalities including John enjoyed playing the organ as did our two organists Neil Palmer and Bill Schumacher. Later Bill and John Shaw tried out the Steinway and organ in some duets. Mrs. McCreary accompanied by her husband gave us some beautiful vocal renditions. Two other local A.T.O.S. members Betty and Charlie (their surnames escaped us) sang several lovely duets which added to the evening's entertainment. Betty is organist on an electronic organ at the Pearl Gardens Japanese restaurant. Those present who were interested were able to inspect the organ chambers behind the archways. Our A.T.O.S. friends of the Aloha Chapter provided a generous supper which we all enjoyed.



Hilton Hawaiian Village



Vi Dalglish



John McCreary at home.



Waikiki beach with Diamond Head in the background

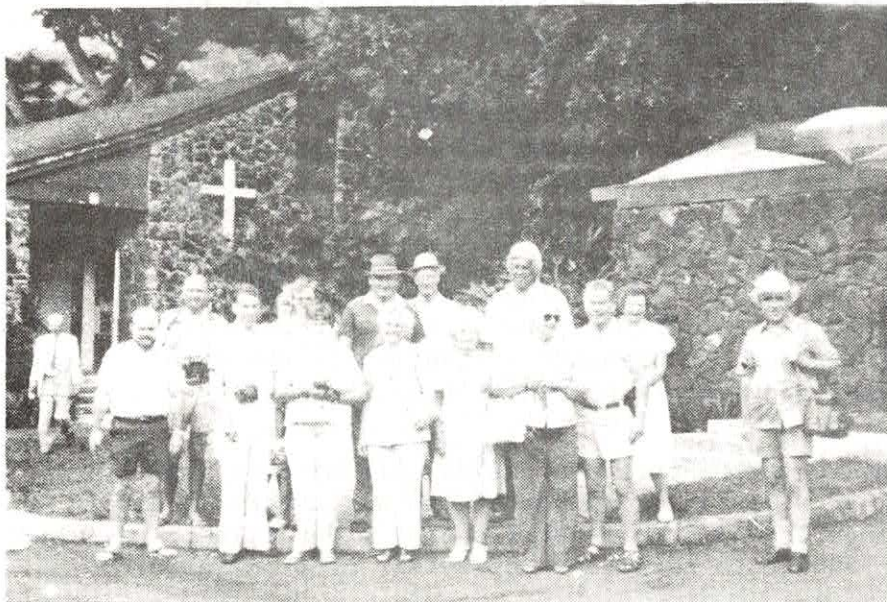
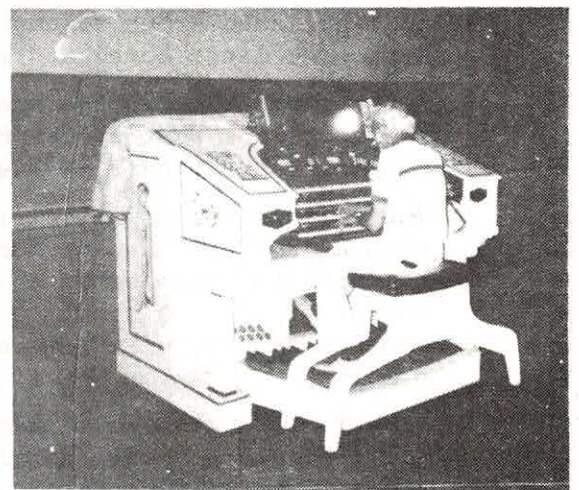


Photo taken during Island Tour



4 manual - 16 rank Robert - Morton in the Hawaii Theatre

WEDNESDAY, 8th JUNE.

The greater portion of the day was filled with a tour around the island of Oahu, made in two small buses. There were many interesting sights - picturesque mountains, coastal flats and beaches, (some World famous for surf riding, although the waves were almost non-existent during our visit.) Our drivers, one of whom hardly took time to draw breath between sentences for the duration of the drive, filled us in with all manner of local customs and general information.

In the evening our friends from the local A.T.O.S. Chapter again collected us from the Hotel and drove us this time to the down town area of Honolulu to inspect the Hawaii Theatre and its 1922 vintage 4 manual 16 rank Robert-Morton organ which has been restored by the group and continues to be maintained in excellent playing condition by them. Despite the fact that some of the plaster had fallen from the top of the proscenium due to a leaking roof and that the theatre was generally in need of renovation, the organ was a pleasure to listen to and many of those present tried their hand at the console. After a small presentation of Koala souvenirs, with special thanks to Claire Watson, Secretary of Aloha Chapter of A.T.O.S. for arranging the two evenings, we bade a reluctant farewell to our hosts.

THURSDAY, 9th JUNE.

We departed by QANTAS Boeing 747 for Los Angeles. On arrival some of us were a little overwhelmed by the size of the Airport, which was made somewhat more confusing as it is being extensively reconstructed in readiness for the forthcoming Olympic Games in 1984. Shortly after leaving the Airport we were soon driving along one of the famous American freeways where it is possible to travel virtually anywhere within or between cities without stopping.

FRIDAY, 10th JUNE.

It was an early morning start for the drive across Los Angeles in peak hour traffic to the northern suburb of Sylmar, where we visited San Sylmar - a private museum adjacent to the offices of Merle Norman Cosmetics. This museum with its unbelievably extensive collection of perfectly restored motor cars and mechanically operated musical instruments defies imagination in so many ways. Firstly the perfection of the exhibits, not to mention their rarity in most instances, then there is the overall concept of the literal palatial surroundings with extensive areas of marble flooring and tall polished stone columns in the car display areas, not to mention the lavish ceilings somewhat reminiscent of the foyer of Sydney's State Theatre.

All the vehicles in the museum are in full working order and with current registrations so they can be, and are, sometimes driven on the road for special functions or rallies.

The collection of musical instruments is equally impressive and is climaxed with a 4 manual 35 rank Wurlitzer which can be played normally or from computerized tapes which 'capture' the performances of artists fortunate enough to play this unique instrument. Subsequent activation of the tape mechanism faithfully re-creates the performance exactly as it was played originally.

Many T.O.S.A. visitors purchased comprehensive books describing this unique collection in graphic detail as well as recordings of the Wurlitzer. If any other T.O.S.A. members are interested in more details they might like to enquire from those fortunate enough to have seen San Sylmar at first hand.

FRIDAY, 10th JUNE. (P.M.)

The early part of the afternoon was devoted to a tour of the Universal Film Studios where we were shown behind the scenes in the art of film making, including false buildings, whole streetscapes, houses on fire, (provided when required by gas burners), the original Jaws, floods, a collapsing bridge, a collision with a locomotive, an ice storm and avalanche, etc. Apart from the special scenery we were also shown the use of models in filming, the huge sound stages and so on. As a result of this tour, the movies and some T.V. shows will never seem quite the same again.

During our drives around Los Angeles we soon noticed many Australian Eucalypt trees as well as Jacarandas, Oleanders etc. which thrive in the California climate. Apparently the Eucalypts were originally despatched to California in error as another species had been ordered.

Late in the afternoon we were picked up outside the Universal Studios by several of our A.T.O.S. hosts for the drive to the Lanterman residence, currently the home of Mr. Lloyd Lanterman. His brother and former California Senator, the late Frank Lanterman had been quite a devotee of the theatre organ during his lifetime and was also a friend of Ronald Reagan. Installed in the home is the huge 4 manual 36 rank Fox Special Wurlitzer which had originally been installed in the Fox Theatre, San Francisco. This powerful instrument was played very forthrightly and proficiently for us by organist Candi Carley, a vivacious young lady who unfortunately has been blind since birth. It was truly amazing to watch her flashing fingers accurately and rapidly moving over the keys of the four manuals, not to mention the expert selection of the required stops from the many spread out around the horseshoe. We were further surprised later to learn it was only the second time Candi had played the instrument. It was then time for a period of open console, as well as a tour 'behind the scenes' to the 'works' for those with technical leanings.

Following a stopover in a local restaurant for our evening meal, we were treated to yet another highlight this same day, a visit to the home of the late Dick Simonton, the man who founded the Muzac Corporation. His wife, Helena still lives there but unfortunately was away at this time visiting her son and daughter-in-law in Florida. This delightful home overlooks Toluca Lake and is close to homes of many other famous Hollywood personalities including the late Walt Disney and Bob Hope.

In the Simonton home there is not simply a pipe organ, but two of them: an Aeolian-Skinner 4/61 Straight Classical Organ (custom built for the house) in the main lounge area, whilst in the basement 'Bijou Theatre' there is a studio 4/36 Wurlitzer with much softer and more delicate voicing than a normal instrument as used in a large theatre. (The stop list for the Wurlitzer was prepared by the late Jesse Crawford, probably America's most famous theatre organist of the 1920's, and several recordings were released of him playing this instrument prior to his death in the 1960's)

The evening's performance commenced with organist Chris Elliott playing several classical pieces on the Aeolian-Skinner which would surely satisfy any discerning classical organ lover. At this time Chris commented he had estimated at this stage after our first twenty-four hours in Los Angeles, we would have heard 16 manuals and 170 ranks of pipes(!) Following the relatively brief classical recital we descended the small spiral staircase to the basement theatre where we spent the remainder of the evening listening to the Wurlitzer. Chris Elliott played a varied selection of compositions and in addition also accompanied an old Laurel and Hardy film, providing some very effective background music indeed. He appeared, and later confirmed, he is equally at home on both theatre and classical instruments. The evening concluded with a period of open console, with the most notable volunteer being veteran professional Lloyd del Castillo who put up a

FRIDAY, 10th JUNE ... cont.

most creditable performance despite his 90 years. Supper was served in a very pleasant atrium area between the entrance and the lounge.

SATURDAY, 11th JUNE.

Another memorable day, but this time without pipe organs, as we visited Disneyland. As Robert and Bill had stressed during their slide evening a year or so earlier, Disneyland was indeed fascinating to visit with the whole place being so immaculate in detail and everywhere so spotlessly clean. Such is the excellent maintenance it appears virtually new after all these years. Most of us spent the whole day there inspecting the many features and participating in many of the rides. Prior to visiting Disneyland one imagines it to be mainly an entertainment and recreation park for children. However, it is far more than that, as it caters for interests of all ages with its great variety not only in its rides and features, but also in its varied historic settings with authentic American period architecture from many parts of the United States. There is also a working vintage steam railway operating around the whole Disneyland site as well as an elevated monorail right out of the space age - it seems to go on almost for ever there is so much to see. It is a photographer's paradise. Close to midnight many weary but contented T.O.S.A. members were still making their way back to our hotel - the Sheraton, Anaheim. Some of the many Disneyland features we visited included:- Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln; Cable Car Ride over the Park; Submarine Ride; Pirates of the Caribbean; The Haunted House; Enchanted Tiki House; Space Mountain; Paddle Wheel Steamer "Mark Twain"; People Mover; Matterhorn Bob Sled Ride; America Sings; America the Beautiful (a 360° Cinerama type film); and the spectacular Electric Light Parade.

SUNDAY, 12th JUNE.

Despite the late night it was an early start as Los Angeles Theatre Organ Society members were waiting to take us straight after breakfast for a private visit to the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Los Angeles. This large old theatre still has its original 3/13 Wurlitzer which is being very effectively maintained by volunteer members of L.A.T.O.S. Clive Morehead, an expatriate Australian musician from Brisbane, gave us a short recital and this was followed by a period of open console. It was indeed a wonderful experience to hear such a well maintained organ in its original setting and with the acoustics of the theatre greatly enhancing the sound. Once again, those interested, were able to inspect the workings up in the chambers. All too soon it was time to leave the theatre as they were about to commence screening Mexican films for a local ethnic audience.

Following lunch in a local restaurant we were driven to the Ralph Sargent/ Alan Stark home in the Hollywood Hills area to enjoy hospitality and refreshments around the pool in their back garden. There followed a very pleasing recital by Ty Woodward on the 2/18 Wurlitzer, which spoke into the lounge through a pair of carved wooden screen with red fabric backing. Unless one knew their purpose, they could easily be mistaken for a bright feature wall. Clive Morehead was also encouraged to play the instrument and those with a special purpose only were shown the chambers as access and space was very limited. We were also fascinated to see a brand new 4 manual console in the hall-way looking as though it had just come off the assembly line at the Wurlitzer factory. We were informed this was shortly to be installed in place of the present 2-manual console. It had been built to special order by organ builder Ken Crome who with his wife was present also.

SUNDAY, 12th JUNE ... cont.

We were especially grateful for all the work our hosts Gene Davis, Bob Hill, Bob & Hilda Pasalich and Harold Donze had done in arranging such an interesting time in Los Angeles in addition to their untiring efforts in transporting us in their cars over the long distances involved across Los Angeles.

MONDAY, 13 JUNE.

After a relatively short flight by Western Airlines Boeing 727 we arrived in Las Vegas, Nevada. Here they even have poker machines at the airport for travellers anxious to try their luck. It is hard in mere words to adequately describe this unique desert city as it has to be experienced to be in any way understood. There are numerous large and elaborate hotels and restaurants - all with their casinos and ubiquitous poker machines and gambling tables. The extent of these would somewhat be like walking through Wynyard Station concourse and platform areas with all available floor space, except walking areas, covered with machines and tables in active use. If the whole of Hyde Park were covered with poker machines and gambling tables, there would in all probability, still not be as many as in Las Vegas casinos, restaurants and hotels. The City and its main hotels are also famous for their lavishly presented floor shows. The stage-craft, lighting, scenery and special effects are astounding. They are far in excess of anything one usually sees in the average professional theatre. All this relatively cheap accomodation, catering and entertainment is subsidised by gambling activities in an endeavour to encourage greater patronage. Outdoor illuminated signs are of immense proportions and located almost everywhere throughout the main city strip. Energy conservationists would have heart attacks if they could see the amount of electricity consumed in outdoor illuminations, especially the signs not to mention air conditioning. No T.O.S.A. visitors made or lost fortunes during our stay and our main reason for going there was as the base for tourist flights over the Grand Canyon.

TUESDAY, 14th JUNE.

Following an early start and short bus ride we were at the secondary airport terminal building and being very carefully weighed-in prior to boarding several small twin-engined aircraft for our one and a half hour flight over the Grand Canyon. Despite the numerous films and photographs we had seen of the area over the years we were little prepared for the enormity of this natural wonder which we were now seeing at first hand. Flying in a small aircraft in the Grand Canyon area is somewhat rougher than normal airliner flight, due to greater air turbulence. The majestic grandeur of the scenery was certainly all we could have hoped for and in many instances superior. During the scenic part of the flight over the main Canyon area we were also able to listen to a recorded commentary through headphones. Following our arrivial at Grand Canyon Airport we were met by a tourist coach and driven to several vantage points around the rim of the canyon, all with exceptional views after the style of the lookout at Echo Point at Katoomba. Cameras at this stage were being given a pretty active workout by most of the people in our party. As part of the visit we were also provided with a delicious buffet lunch, then there was just a little time for souvenir shopping before boarding the light plane for our flight back to Las Vegas by the most direct route, a flight of some 60 minutes duration.

TUESDAY, 14th JUNE ... cont.

In the evening we all attended a performance of "Jubilee", an extravaganza summarising 25 years of M.G.M. shows with a huge cast, dazzling costumes, numerous special effects with countless changes of scenery, some of which was lowered from the ceiling directly over the audience. This whole show was performed twice each evening at the M.G.M. Grand Hotel. Strangely enough the musical accompaniment was provided by a very sophisticated tape and mixer system and not a live orchestra as might have been expected.

WEDNESDAY, 15th JUNE.

For those who wanted or needed to, this was one of the few mornings when one could catch up on some sleep as there were no scheduled activities prior to departure. Following lunch we boarded a Western Airlines Boeing 737 aircraft for Salt Lake City, Utah where we were to change flights for Portland. Whilst on the ground at Salt Lake City during our short stopover, some of us wondered what it would have been like had we been able to visit the Mormon Tabernacle with its World renowned choir and pipe organ. About the only features we were able to see apart from the Airport were the Lake and several surrounding snow capped mountains.

After our all too brief stay in Salt Lake City we completed our journey to Portland, Oregon by Western Airlines Boeing 727. On arrival we were met by Nancy Nordwall and her two children Gennie and Chris in the absence of Jonas who was away on a playing engagement in Denver, Colorado.

Most of the T.O.S.A. members were very impressed with Portland, its very appealing appearance with river setting and attractive trees and gardens. Most of the surrounding hills and mountains are fairly heavily timbered and as a consequence Portland is one of the main timber producing areas of the U.S., as well as one of the largest seaports on the West Coast. This relatively young city also has a very evident civic pride which is most pronounced in the central city area with its fine buildings, liberal parklands and gardens which flourish in the somewhat wet climate.

NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF T.O.S.A. NEWS SEES THE CONCLUSION
OF THIS ARTICLE WHEN OUR MEMBERS COMPLETE THEIR VISIT
TO PORTLAND AND MOVE ON TO SEATTLE AND SAN FRANCISCO.

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A MESSAGE FROM U.S.A.

*To friends we met from far away,
We're glad that we could spend the day
With you, but then we learned a lot
About your far off worldly spot,
Some day God willing, we'll see it too,
For now we'll say Good Luck to you.*

*Hilda Passalich.
L.A. U.S.A.*

INTERSTATE CONCERT NEWS.

AUGUST.

- Wednesday 3rd : 8pm Moorabbin Town Hall, Vic. Club Night.
- Sunday 7th : 2pm Memorial Theatre, Ballarat, Vic,
NEIL JENSEN at the Compton plus Orchestra and Ballet.
- Thursday 11th : 8pm Moorabbin Town Hall Vic,
TOM HAZLETON
- Saturday 13th : 8pm Wyatt Hall, Adelaide
TOM HAZLETON
- Wednesday 17th : Capri Theatre, Adelaide, Film Morning
9.45am Coffee, 10.30am the film "Annie"
- Thursday 18th : 8pm Moorabbin Town Hall Vic,
NEIL JENSEN- final concert prior to overseas tour.
- Sunday 21st : 2pm Cinema North, Reservoir, Vic,
TOM HAZLETON
- Sunday 28th : Hollywood Theatre, Avondale Auckland
NEIL JENSEN (first concert on overseas tour)

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Following the recent increase in charges of commercial postage and stationery etc. the Notice of Motion listed below has been presented for your careful perusal. Ratification or otherwise will be decided upon by your vote at the Annual General Meeting to held at Marrickville Town Hall on Wednesday 16th November 1983 at 7.30pm.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

The cost for Country, Interstate, Pensioner and Overseas members be raised to \$6.00, commencing with the 1984 membership. By-Law 21 be amended to '\$6.00 Country, Interstate, Pensioner and Overseas members.

Ernest W. Vale
Hon.Secretary.

TOSA TAPE LIBRARY.

(Strictly for members only)

Our Concert Tape Library is now ready and will commence on Wednesday 3rd August at the first of the Tom Hazleton concerts.

The Library will be controlled by Committee member Neil Palmer who will bring the library of tapes to each concert held at Marrickville Town Hall and distribute the tapes to financial members who apply for their loan. HIRING FEE will be \$10 Deposit (refundable upon return) and a charge of \$2 for each tape hired. Damaged tapes must be paid for.

Country members who require tapes can apply by post and postage costs will be added for each tape hired.

Address to apply (for Country members only) is:-
TOSA NSW DIVISION
304 Parramatta Road,
ASHFIELD. NSW. 2131.

NOTE Library tapes MUST be returned within one calender month.

Phone enquiries 798 6742

LIBRARY TAPES ALWAYS REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF TOSA NSW DIVISION.



Overseas News

AVENUE THEATRE CONSOLE OUT FOR MAJOR OVERHAULING.

Replacement of the Avenue Theatre three-manual Wurlitzer console with a two-manual keydesk was made this month. The removal is temporary to facilitate a major overhaul of the big console prior to the A.T.O.S. National Convention in July in San Francisco. Bert Robinson, Salinas A.T.O.S. member loaned the two decker to the theatre.

MILITARY ACADEMY TO DEDICATE ORGAN.

New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell will hold a dedication concert for the organ that is now under installation on Thursday, October 27, 1983. Lyn Larsen will play the dedicatory programme on the 3/19 mostly Wurlitzer instrument which replaces the Academy's Hillgreen-Lane theatre pipe organ. The original was donated to the school by a theatre owner after the advent of sound films.

Some components of the Hillgreen-Lane organ have been retained, but the instrument basically has Wurlitzer pipework. The school has also purchased a console elevator and will install it in time for the dedication show. Console for the new organ was formerly the Sandy Fleet three decker for his Style 260 Wurlitzer.

After the organ has been officially opened, it is planned to hold concerts every two months, it was reported.

KIBBEE TRIES OUT LODERHOSE WURLITZER.

Seal Beach, California. May 2 - Gordon Kibbee, well-known West Coast organist, visited Dick Loderhose' Bay Theatre to-day and spent nearly two hours on the Wurlitzer bench putting the former New York City Paramount Theatre studio organ through its paces. He expressed satisfaction with the sound and action of the instrument. Owner Loderhose was ecstatic and noted that Kibbee "brought out sounds that I haven't heard."

The installation is almost completed and plans are now underway to present a series of concerts and other programmes in the theatre.

NEW BRITISH BOOK OUT ON CINEMAS.

As everywhere else, once flourishing cinemas in the United Kingdom have closed one by one, and in Sunderland there were 30 or so which existed. These are described and pictured in a 76-page book published by the Mercia Cinema Society under the title "The Dream Palaces of Sunderland." There are diagrams, plans and around 60 photographs. These include views of organ consoles in some of the houses.

The book is available from Joe Marsh, "Tibia Villa", Wallsend Boundary, Tyne and Wear, U.K. NE28.8QH. Price of the volume in the U.K. is 1.95 pounds sterling plus postage.

OHIO MORTON TO HAVE 300 TABLETS.

In the extensive respecification of the Ohio Theatre Robert-Morton organ console layout and unification, 100 additional stop tablets will be added on another stop-rail, giving the four decker three full rows around the horseshoe. The multiple memories - 16 are planned at present - will allow several organist to have independent settings plus some remaining for specialty uses.

OVERSEAS NEWS ... cont.STRONY SMASH HIT IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

"Strony was sensational!" This was a majority concensus for Walt Strony at the Byrd Theatre on 25th March when he was presented in a brief concert and accompanied two silent films - 'Paleface', starring Buster Keaton, and 'Son of the Sheik', the Rudolph Valentino classic. Sponsored by the Virginia Theatre Organ Society, the show was an outstanding success in every way, it was noted by one of the Society officials.

TRAINS ON TIME: CARTER DELAYED.

Railroaders saw their trains running on schedule, April 16th, at San Gabriel Civic Auditorium, but their organist, Gaylord Carter was a bit late hoving into view - the organ console elevator put on a 'prima donna' act and had to be urged to bring the music maker up. A relay failed to energize and the organ lift had to be operated by the organ crew manually pushing buttons to raise and lower it.

Otherwise the evening was a steaming, screaming success and the coffers filled well to help preserve railroader's old Palm Station now in Los Angeles' Heritage Square. The house was sold out, as it usually is for this annual choo-choo night.

Carter OK's Organ. In recent weeks the San Gabriel Wurlitzer has undergone refurbishing by the new crew attending to her. Organist Carter had nothing but beautiful words for the men who did the job - "It's the best sound I've ever heard from it," he said. And he should know, he plays it frequently.

Player At Switchboard. Installation of the automatic roll player mechanism will soon be made, it was announced by L.A.T.O.S. Organ Technical Director Peter Crotty. Auditorium Manager Bill Shaw has requested the unit be installed adjacent to the stage switchboard so that it can be operated by stagehands without having to leave the area to put on rolls.

SAX SAILS IN MAY 6th - SET SOUNDS GREAT.

San Gabriel Civic Wurlitzer's Brass Saxophone rank arrived in time to be installed and tuned for the George Wright Concert. The set was shipped from Baltimore, Maryland, and picked up by Civic Auditorium employees at United Air Lines freight terminal at 1 p.m. May 6. By 3 p.m. the same day it was in place, tuned and the chamber door locked - and 'sounds gorgeous', the L.A.T.O.S. organ crew collectively agreed.

BROWN SHUTTERS TUCSON PARLOR.

Tucson Organ Stop Pizza Parlor will definitely close for good on April 30th, it was announced by Bill Brown, owner of the organ-equipped chain of Pizza Houses in Arizona. "We have tried twice to operate this outlet profitably, but the response has been poor and doesn't warrant keeping it open," he said in a telephone conversation with "The Console" early this month.

Sell or Break Up Organ. The 4/27 Wurlitzer installed in the parlor will be offered for sale at \$125,000 complete. If it is not sold Brown intends to break it up and use components in his other organs. "It is really a clean instrument," Brown noted, "and has an excellent Z-Tronics relay, the console has 278 stops and 16 combinations."

OUR JULY CONCERT... WITH CLIFF BINGHAM & THE CONGRESS HALL BAND OF THE
SALVATION ARMY. (Review by John Clark)

It's a bit difficult trying to build an extra room on the house at weekends, what with bad weather and other interruptions, as "The Boss" calls them, and only very special events are allowed to interrupt the work, so my leave pass to attend the July concert was in doubt until I explained to "The Boss" that I had written to the committee a couple of years ago suggesting that it would be good to hear a Brass Band with our beautiful Wurlitzer, it would be a poor show if the possible "cause" didn't turn up to hear the probably great effect....so I was allowed to go.

Our clarion voiced, dapper Master of Ceremonies, Frank Ellis was there, bright as ever, to introduce the proceedings. In articles I've written in the past, Frank may have had passing mention, but it occurred to me, and I've checked my facts, that Frank is no casual acquaintance to T.O.S.A. but a man who is always on hand and doing his very best... he M.C'd the second concert ever given at M.T.H. and has so continued, with very few exceptions, ever since, and with the usual twinkle in his eye he brought out Cliff Bingham who, right from the jump played items I hadn't heard at Marrickville either at all before or at least for a long while... I wont attempt to list them but those that come readily to mind were his opener, The ATOS march, Jesu, Son of Mans Rejoicing and for his wife after 12 years of marriage, Perhaps Love... suffice it to say that Cliff played a widely varied programme and did it very well making very good use of the instrument as is his forte. He also made mention of his unmentionables... said his underwear was of the Red Injun type....the type that sneaks up on you!!!!

Cliff yielded the floor and as Frank introduced them The Congress Hall Band of the Salvation Army quietly filed in... after Franks introduction and the fact that the Bandsmen were so smartly turned out in their scarlet jackets and black trousers I was filled with great expectation... the band surpassed any expectations I had.

We often refer to Wurlitzers as "MIGHTY", and in search of an apt adjective for The Congress Hall Band (though not wanting to sound sacreligeous) you couldn't blame a bloke for wanting to use the word "ALMIGHTY".

In 1978, Tom Hazleton alluded to the "Cathedral Like" reverberation at Marrickville Town Hall and said it really suited classical music very well... the first few notes of Handels Watermusic Suite (the Allegro) brought Tom's observation to mind... the power, grandeur and the beautiful tones of this magnificent band sounded superb in Marrickville Town Hall.

I had been to the Opera house the previous Thursday night and had thoroughly enjoyed a concert featuring a thirty piece orchestra, but the sounds on that night weren't a poor patch on the glorious presence of the thirty nine dedicated musicians that comprise the Congress Hall Band... they brought to mind a slogan that related to a fund the Rev. Leyland Parsons (David's father) had started to raise money for a spire at All Souls Church at Leichardt, and it read "Aspire to a Spire to Inspire".

This band is an inspired group whose music inspires those who hear it, and, who can be surprised when Bandmaster Barry Gott explains, "We do this because it's what God wants us to do"... and from the sounds they make, they're doing it just the way He'd want them to.

The entire content of the concert was to my liking, especially Rimsky Korsakov's Trombone Concerto, featuring Ron Prussing, who is co-principal trombonist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and To Music by Schubert which featured John Wiseman on cornet. Cliff warned us during his second segment that the band had so much oomph that when they played together he really couldn't hear what he was playing during the loud passages and he wasn't kidding... as their joint finale Cliff and the Band combined to give us Sibelius Finlandia and for an encore Jesus Christ Superstar, and though the organ was not held back I could not hear it as a distinct sound, but the amalgamation was breath taking. A second encore was insisted upon after long loud applause and cries of Amazing Grace from the crowd caused that old favourite to be the appropriate last for the day. The Congress Hall Bands next concert is on the 30th July at the Congress Hall featuring Donald Shanks, the Band and a Choir and I wouldn't miss it for quids.

The letter I wrote to the Committee with a few suggestions was received by the Committee members who told me that many of their actions could be likened to throwing a pebble into a pond without having any ripples comeback... they get no reaction from members, so if like me you enjoyed this concert or have any comments to make, write to the Committee and tell them, I did, and I already have done so again to thank them for this concert, and to say that I hope we have more like them.

P.S. Yes....the spire has since been built!