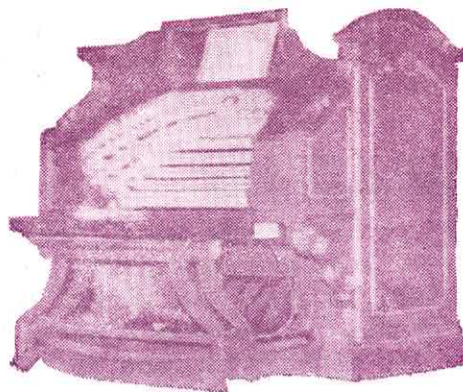


T.O.S.A. NEWS

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PATRON - REGINALD DIXON MBE.

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REGISTERED AT G.P.O. SYDNEY FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A PERIODICAL

FEBRUARY - 1968
VOLUME 6 No.2

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NEW SOUTH WALES IN FEBRUARY.

TONY FENELON TO GIVE SYDNEY CONCERT.

SATURDAY 24th FEBRUARY AT 8AM CAPITOL THEATRE. Proudly we announce the long awaited recital by the Melbourne Regent Theatre's famous organist TONY FENELON. One of Australia's most brilliant young theatre organists, he is a member of the Victorian Division of TOSA, and has been resident organist at Hoyt's Regent Theatre Melbourne for the past three or four years. He recently gave a recital in the Dendy Cinema for the Victorian Division, which was voted by many, to be one of the most outstanding recitals yet heard at the Dendy Cinema. TONY FENELON, in concert at our Capitol Theatre's MIGHTY WURLITZER will be an outstanding event that no one will want to miss. This exclusive function is for members only, and membership cards must be produced at the door. A nominal charge of fifty cents (50cents) per person will be made to cover expences, and children of members will be admitted free.

DON'T MISS THIS OUTSTANDING EVENT - TONY FENELON AT SYDNEY'S GREATEST WURLITZER.....

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee are reminded that the February meeting will be held on Monday 5th of February, and the March meeting on Monday 4th March. Meetings commence at 7.15pm.

COMING EVENTS.

In March, there will be a recital by a leading organist playing one of Sydney's largest and finest church organs. There will also be a very special recital by a famous overseas organist, who will be in Sydney for two days only. This will be a prestige event and full details of both functions will be given in next month's TOSA News.

LOOKING BACK AT LAST MONTH.

ANN HOLMES RECITAL. At the Wesley Auditorium on Friday 12th January, visiting New Zealand theatre organist ANN HOLMES, gave a dazzling display of the technique, which made her name famous in the Australian theatre organ world. She presented a programme of wide variety, which gave full rein to her ability for lightening fast changes, and these were many and varied. They were greatly in evidence in the Sound of the Tijuana Brass medley, Mexican Hat Dance, Spanish Gypsy Dance, and Desafinado, that "slightly out of tune" composition by Antonio Jobins. Two of the highlights of her programme, for this reviewer, were, Trees, and the Selection of Maori Melodies, which were presented with delightful registrations, and assured and polished playing throughout. Other numbers deserving of special mention were, Tales From The Vienna Woods, Exodus, Temptation, Come Back To Sorrento, Minstrel Days, and Czardus. An unexpected and pleasant surprise, was MISS HOLMES singing of "Climb Every Mountain" during her Sound Of Music Selections, and this was splendidly presented. This reviewer has been trying to recall if he heard her sing during her console days at the Roxy Parramatta. I think the answer is yes, but there were a number of singing organists around at the time, and I cannot be quite certain.

The organ featured by ANN HOLMES for the recital, was the new THOMAS three manual electronic theatre organ with a full complement of percussions, kindly made available to us by Bruce Myers of Stedfast Enterprises. This was the first concert for the Society on this instrument, which is a welcome addition to the range of models by Thomas now available in this city. The Society is grateful to Bruce and Stedfast Enterprises for making the instrument available to us, and for carrying out the installation.

LOOKING BACK AT LAST MONTH(Cont)

During ANN HOLMES recital, some heavy notes of the organ touched off a number of rattles in this new and very lovely auditorium. During the intermission, most of these were traced and corrected, however, one slight rattle persisted, and was later traced to the air conditioning system. Probably a metal vent etc. It is understood that this will be looked into by the management, and we anticipate no further trouble at future recitals. To sum up:- A splendid concert by a fine organist whom we hope will visit Sydney again very soon and favour us with more of the same thing.

CLARENCE BLACK RECITAL.

When a concert-pianist of repute presents a piano recital, one could reasonably assume that precise musicianship of the highest order, and in copy book style, would be the order of the day. On the other hand, a theatre organist presenting a recital, can make do with slightly less technical brilliance than the concert-pianist, by relying on good well chosen registrations, with plenty of variety, and the use of novel effects and percussions, in order to achieve the lush and exciting sounds, one expects from the theatre organ. CLARENCE BLACK, being famous, both as a concert pianist and theatre organist, was able to bring his wide experience in both fields, to bear on the programme he had chosen to play for the Society, on Tuesday 23rd January, in the Wesley Auditorium. The result was precise playing, endowed with very ear-pleasing registrations.

CLARENCE BLACK gave a superlative performance, polished, and with full feeling for the music being played. His first bracket, which consisted of Meyerbeer's "Coronation March" and "Edelweiss Glide" by Vanderbeck, firmly established him as a master organist. Then came the artist's own arrangement of Australian composer, Percy Grainger's "Molly On The Shore". The arrangement, based on two Irish Reels, "Temple Hill" and "Molly On The Shore" had a light-hearted appeal, and was warmly applauded.

From The Nutcracker Suite, we then heard specially arranged excerpts from this beloved Tchaikowsky Ballet. They were, "Minature Overture - March - Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairies - Russian Dance - Arabian Dance - Chinese Dance - Dance of The Flutes and Waltz Of The Flowers." This item, was indeed one of the highlights of the evening - they were delightfully arranged, and were splendidly played and registered.

The second half of the programme opened with David Coleman's special Hammond organ arrangement of Louis Alter's "Manhattan Serenade". Here CLARENCE BLACK displayed the theatre organ style for which he is renowned, and it was very obviously to the audience's taste. Richly chorded, and with delightful counter-melodies, it evoked warm applause. Rodgers & Hart's "I Married An Angel" followed, with the final item being a selection from the show, "The King Steps Out". The tuneful melodies of this show, composed by Fritz Kreisler, were a delight. Your Editor cannot remember any of this music being played at any of our past recitals. They came over fresh and new, and in choosing to play them, CLARENCE BLACK may perhaps, have given the lead to other organists, who will be playing for the Society this year. There are many shows such as The King Steps Out, which are full of lovely and familiar tunes that are just waiting for some organist to re-discover and exploit them.

The Society is indeed grateful to our friends at Paling's Music House, for the use of the Hammond organ and its excellent installation. Summing it all up, CLARENCE BLACK's first TOSA recital was a very memorable evening indeed, and we look forward to once again having him "in concert" for the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT.

The Annual General Meeting and Election Of Officers took place on the 23rd January, prior to the Clarence Black Recital. The list of those elected to serve the Society during 1968 will be published in the next issue of TOSA News.

During the evening, a presentation was made to our member DAVID PARSONS in appreciation of his Honorary services at the Convention held last year. A suitably inscribed plaque was presented to DAVID by President Halloran, who thanked him for his fine recital at the Capitol Theatre.

ORGAN OF THE MONTH CLUB.

Those who have not joined the "Organ Of The Month" Club are missing out on a golden opportunity to collect fabulous and exclusive theatre organ recordings, not obtainable elsewhere. Remember, it costs NOTHING to join, and you are under no compulsion to take a set number of records per year. You elect to take only the ones of your choice. JOIN NOW AND BE SURE OF RECEIVING THIS YEARS FABULOUS RELEASES. CONTACT THE SECRETARY.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

The Society extends a warm and friendly welcome to the following new members who have joined us last month. Mr C. Cooper of Homebush - Mr L. Collins of Woolooware - Mr N. Wright of Peakhurst - Mr & Mrs Cec Barker of Fivedock - Mr Tom Barker of Fivedock - Mr John Cumming of Ryde - Mr Brian Dowse of Newtown and Ann Holmes & Mr Steve Shalfoon of Auckland, New Zealand. We trust that you will all enjoy to the full the benefits of your membership. Contact any member of the Committee at the first function you attend so that you may be introduced to other members and made feel welcome.

PRINCE EDWARD ORGAN WORKING PARTY.

There will be a working party at the Marrickville Town Hall on Saturday 3rd February and Saturday 2nd March at 10am. The task of installing our own Wurlitzer organ in the Town Hall will be taken a step nearer at each working party. Members are welcome to attend.

RECORD NEWS.CONCERT RECORDING'S "ORGAN OF THE MONTH" CLUB.

LATEST RELEASE "THE GRAND ONE" Record number is CR 0014
ORGANIST CECIL CRANFIELD
THE ORGAN 5/127 CONCERT ORGAN OF SYDNEY TOWN HALL

THE PROGRAMME Now Thank We All Our God - Creations Hymn - Prelude In C (Rachmaninoff)
 Prelude In C Minor (Chopin) - Agnus Dei - Old Hundredth Hymn - Nabucco
 Overture - War March Of The Priests - Adeste Fidelis

At long last, the record that has been awaited by the members of The Organ Of The Month Club, is now to hand. Our member CECIL CRANFIELD at the console of the massive Concert organ of the Sydney Town Hall, in a programme of delightful selections from the works of great composers. The record is in full Stereo and is the only recording ever made of this magnificent instrument. The sound of the organ has been most faithfully captured and tremendous problems were overcome in order to record the sound of the famous 64' Reed. Some of the comments printed overseas concerning this record are given hereunder:-
 "No other recording could possibly be more powerful or breathtaking. Without reservation, the most spectacular recording I have ever heard with enormous dynamic range".
 "Magnificent - the quality of this recording is superb". "A fine artist and a brilliant organ". "Cecil Cranfield gives a truly marvellous performance"

The record has a beautiful full color cover with photos of the organ pipework and of course, CECIL CRANFIELD. Full notes are given on the jacket. Concert Recordings magnificent full color covers for each of the monthly releases so far, are an additional bonus to the buyer, complimenting, as they do, the excellent fare on the disc itself.

ALTERNATE RELEASE "BUCKINGHAM CONCERT" Record number is CRE 016
ORGANIST ENA BAGA
THE ORGAN 3/10 WURLITZER (Owned by the COS & installed in Buckingham Town Hall)
THE PROGRAMME Perpetual Mobile - Samum Symphonic Fox Trot - Over The Rainbow - St. Louis Blues - Somewhere My Love - That's A Plenty - Lingering Lovers - Champagne For Two - Fiddle Faddle - Cuckoo Waltz - Taboo - 18th Century Rock - Bem-Ti-Vi-A-Trivedo - Laura - Bossa Nove USA - Misty.

ENA BAGA has played many famous theatre orgzns in England, including the Blackpool Tower Ballroom Wurlitzer and the BBC Theatre Organ. A novel touch to this recording, is the use of a Hammond model C3 organ with Leslie Speaker and PR40 Tone Cabinet which was specially installed in the Buckingham Town Hall for this recording. This is featured in some numbers with the Wurlitzer and the two combine remarkably well. ENA BAGA also played the organ on the liner "Queen Mary" during many of its voyages between England and America. An interesting and unusual recording for your collection.

SOCIETY APPOINTS OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER.

The Society has appointed member Bill Schmitger as its official photographer. Bill is a perfectionist in all his work, and we can look forward to some excellent photos for future issues of the quarterly magazine, The Diaphone. It is essential that a pictorial record of the Society's activities should be made and kept for our archives, and the appointment of Bill Schmitger as our official photographer, brings this aspect of our functions more sharply into focus, if you'll pardon the pun.

FEBRUARY THE ANN HOLMES PROFILE STORY

Famous New Zealand theatre organist, ANN HOLMES was born in Australia, and when quite a young girl, was taken by her parents, on a holiday trip to England. One of the highlights of her trip, was a visit to Blackpool, where she heard REGINALD DIXON at the Wurlitzer organ of the Blackpool Tower. This "wonder of wonders" made an indelible impression on her young mind, which she never forgot. When she eventually returned to Australia, she began studying the piano under the well known teacher, Lottie Dearne at the Sydney State Conservatorium of Music. At the end of her studies, she had achieved a standard which indicated that she should embark on a career as a concert pianist. Her teacher, in fact, urged her toward this goal, and her parents endorsed Miss Dearne's good advice.

However, a dream begun in Blackpool some years previously, now came into focus, and she had to choose between the careers of Concert Pianist or Theatre Organist. The dream easily won, and she threw herself fully into the task of mastering the "awe-inspiring" theatre organ. Her teachers were two of the "great" names in Australian theatre organ, KNIGHT BARNETT and NICHOLAS ROBINS. With her sound musical background, ANN HOLMES made rapid progress under her two masters of the theatre organ technique. At the age of 18 years, she became the youngest theatre organist in Australia when she took up residency at the Roxy Theatre Parramatta. This lovely house, with its Spanish decor, had a sweet toned 3 manual Christie organ installed, and ANN remained there for about six months. The Roxy, was, at that time, controlled by Western Suburbs Cinemas, who had about nine or ten theatres with organs, as well as a similar number not possessing theatre organs.

Company policy, at that time, was to feature each organist for a season of about six months, after which all organists were rotated to another theatre in the circuit, for a similar period. During ANN's stay with the circuit, she appeared at the following theatres following her season at the Roxy. Civic Theatre Auburn (Wurlitzer), Astra Theatre Parramatta (Christie), Savoy Theatre Enfield (Christie), Strathfield Cinema (Christie), Savoy Theatre Hurstville (Wurlitzer), and the Palatial Theatre Burwood (Christie). She also appeared at the console of the Christie at the independent Victory Theatre at Kogarah.

Famous theatre organists appearing at other theatres in the circuit at the same time as ANN HOLMES were; DENIS PALMISTRA, KNIGHT BARNETT, NICHOLAS ROBINS, JEAN PENHALL, RAY CHAFFER, RUBY COULSON, BERT MYERS, JIM WILLIAMS and CHARLES TUCKWELL at the Arcadia Theatre Chatswood, so she was indeed in illustrious company.

In 1947, she accepted a 12 month contract to appear at the Civic Theatre Auckland in New Zealand. This house had a three manual Wurlitzer, which was considered by many to be one of the most interesting installations in the Southern Hemisphere, due to its brilliant percussions which were unenclosed. This organ, incidentally, is still in use. At the end of her contract, she returned to Sydney. Soon she was recalled to the Civic Theatre's Wurlitzer for a return season. However, this second visit to New Zealand was to change her life completely, for after nine months she retired from theatre organ to marry an Auckland businessman, Mr Steve Shalfoon, and so New Zealand became her new and permanent home.

One of the highlights of her days at the Civic Wurlitzer in Auckland, was when the Returned Soldiers Association took over the theatre for a spectacular welcome to Field-Marshal Montgomery. Six thousand ex-Servicemen packed the theatre and the Wintergarden, as ANN led them in a great Singalong of songs from both world wars. It was an inspiring and unforgettable moment as she brought the great console to the top after its 38 foot ride up the deep pit. The tremendous applause and the warmly appreciative remarks of the Field-Marshal are something ANN will never forget. A cherished memory.

After her marriage, she did not resume her theatre organ playing career, but having a Gulbransen "plug in" at home, she kept herself in top form. She has made many broadcasts over New Zealand Radio from the console of her Gulbransen, and has always been the recipient of many fan letters from listeners. When New Zealand TOSA member Eddie Aiken, purchased the Wurlitzer organ from the Embassy Theatre Wellington, and installed it in a workshop on his property, ANN HOLMES played recitals on the instrument, and also did a number of broadcasts from the "workshop Wurlitzer". Later on, when Mr Aiken and a band of dedicated helpers re-installed the organ in the auditorium of the Tokoroa High School she played the opening recital to a packed house of enthusiastic organ lovers. This was on the 14th October 1967. She visited Sydney in December 1967, staying over into the New Year, and gave a splendid recital to the NSW Division of TOSA. She was given an

FEBRUARY PROFILE**THE ANN HOLMES STORY**

enthusiastic reception for her brilliant playing of the three manual Thomas electronic theatre organ, which had been specially installed in the Wesley Auditorium. Whilst in Sydney, Miss HOLMES joined the NSW Division of TOSA, and there is no doubt that she will spread "the Gospel according to Wurlitzer" now that she has returned to New Zealand.

Asked which had been her favorite theatre and organ, ANN took the question a stage further by including her favorite audiences as well. She said her favorite theatre had been the ROXY, her favorite organ, the SAVOY at Hurstville, and the most appreciative audiences had been at the Strathfield Cinema, where audiences just loved the organ interludes.

Those who met ANN HOLMES during her Sydney visit, were charmed by her friendly and natural personality, and her willingness to chat with all who get near enough to her for a talk. Enormously talented, with a dazzlingly fast technique and a flair for showmanship, she has the unassuming nature of a friendly next door neighbour whom you could talk to for hours, this then is ANN HOLMES - our PROFILE FOR FEBRUARY.

FACTS AND FIGURES DEPARTMENT.

The American Magazine, "ELCTRONICS USA" (October 30th 1967) reported that in 1967, no less than 26.8 million transistors were produced there. There were 124,000 electronic organs sold with a value of 192.6 million USA dollars. Staggering isn't it? With 124,000 new owners of organs, surely there must emerge another Sydney Torch or a George Wright before many moons have passed. What odds on another top ranker rising from the bunch?????

FAMOUS THEATRE ORGANIST APPOINTED TO CITY CHURCH.

Honorary member CHARLES TUCKWELL, famous theatre organist, confirmed to TOSA News Editor, his appointment as organist at the Pitt Street Congregational Church, as from the beginning of February. He will be playing the famous three manual Hill organ which was built before the amalgamation of Hill, Norman & Beard came about. The instrument was built by Hills in 1910. A letter written at the time of the installation, was recently found, which stated that the firm of Hill considered that it was unlikely that any money would need to be spent on the instrument under fifty years. The organ was, in point of fact, first renovated in 1964 - just 54 years later. One cannot help but admire craftsmanship of such superlative quality that the builder would dare to make such a prediction on his work. He put it in writing too!!! I wish that manufacturers of tape recorders, and record players could even manage to be one fifth as daring.

WANTED.....WANTED.....WANTED. SPECIAL OFFER TO MEMBERS.

New members are wanted by our Society and you can help the Society and yourself at the same time, by introducing your friends, neighbours, workmates etc. If you introduce a new member, and he or she joins the Society, you will receive a voucher worth ONE DOLLAR \$1. You may introduce up to four new members and receive a \$1 voucher for each one. These vouchers should be kept and used as part payment of your next years membership fees. In other words you can save up to \$4 (FOUR DOLLARS) on your membership of the Society.

If you introduce a member to the Society, have them mark on their Application Form, the following:- "Introduced by....." You will then receive a voucher for \$1.

SAVE YOUR VOUCHERS AND THEN USE THEM AS PART PAYMENT OF NEXT YEARS DUES.

THIS OFFER IS ONLY OPEN TO CITY MEMBERS. It is regretted that country, interstate and overseas members will be unable to participate in this offer. As the membership of the Society goes up, the costs per head come down, thus enabling better functions, better publications, and better facilities in every way - YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF TO HELP THE SOCIETY TO OBTAIN MORE NEW MEMBERS. SUPPORT THE COMMITTEE IN THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE.

WANTED.....WANTED.

Our member Alan Peacock would like to purchase two copies of the "1001 Tunes" Music Book. If any member has a copy he would like to sell please contact Alan Peacock at 7 Alôce Street Barraba NSW. He will be delighted to hear from you.

FOR SALE OR WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS ARE FREE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY. IF YOU HAVE AN ADVERT YOU'D LIKE US TO RUN, THEN SEND IT TO THE SECRETARY BEFORE THE 20th OF THE MONTH IN ORDER TO BE SURE OF INSERTION IN THE NEXT MONTH'S TOSA NEWS.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - HELD ON JANUARY 23rd 1968

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report to you. I began my report last year, by saying, that the previous year of 1966, had been one of real achievement for TOSA in every phase of its activities, and this is equally true of 1967. During the year, we presented three concerts at the Capitol Theatre, a concert in the Roxy Theatre at Parramatta, six other recitals, three recitals and inspections of church organs, four organ parties at member's homes, six demonstrations of new electronic organs, one technical lecture, one technical organ party, a jam session, a Xmas party at the Bondi Junction Waverley R.S.L. Club, and the very important premiere of the John Clancy Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. Including our Annual Convention, this was a total of 24 functions in the twelve months, compared to 20 functions in the previous year. The organists presented last year were, Lance Wells, Peter Groves, Harry Weldon, Cecil Cranfield, Alec Britton, Don McDonald, Reubert Hayes, Ian Davies, Arnold Coleman, David Parsons, Jean Penhall, Charles Tuckwell and Noreen Hennessy, in that order. New model organs heard, were, Thomas Style 810, Rodgers 3 Manual, Schober Recital Model, Hammond H100, Wurlitzer Electronic Theatre organ, and the instrument designed and built by our member Arthur Spring.

Once again, the highlight of our year, was the Annual Convention, which received high praise from many members and also from numbers of interstate visitors.

MEMBERSHIP. During 1967, we gained many new members. Some members dropped out, but overall, there was a reasonable gain in membership for the year. Our Secretary will quote actual numbers in his report.

RECORDINGS. Under the capable management of our Secretary, the Organ Of The Month Club from Concert Recording of America, made splendid progress, and many excellent Long Play Records of theatre organs not previously heard, became available to members of the Club. The recording of our own IAN DAVIES playing the Sydney Capitol Wurlitzer Organ was a fine example of co-operation between organist Ian Davies, Recording engineer Barry Tooker, the theatre management, and our Secretary who handled all the arrangements with the President Of Concert Recording in regard to the release of this recording.

PUBLICATIONS. The standard of our two publications improved again this year. The Diaphone continued its policy of a pictorial record of the Australian Theatre organ scene past and present, whilst TOSA News was improved with the purchase of an electric typewriter by the Society, for the use of the Editor. This has resulted in a great improvement to the News and the quality of its presentation.

CAPITOL THEATRE WURLITZER MAINTAINENCE SUB COMMITTEE. This Sub Committee under Barry Tooker's leadership, have continued their efforts toward restoring the organ to the best possible condition within the limits of the finance available. Their work has been carried out despite great difficulties, and the condition of the instrument now is much better than at this period last year.

PRINCE EDWARD ORGAN INSTALLATION SUB COMMITTEE. A very small but intensely dedicated band of workers continued to devote most of their leisure time to the task of installing our own Wurlitzer in the Marrickville Town Hall, and great progress has been made in this mammoth undertaking. Progress would have been much more spectacular had there been more members willing to share the load.

LADIES SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE. This Sub Committee have all worked splendidly when called upon by the Society and have done excellent work. Among the many tasks undertaken by the ladies was the provision of the buffet lunch at the 1967 Convention, and this was a very great credit to them.

RESEARCH SUB COMMITTEE. The Research Sub Committee, have, during the year, unearthed many facts concerning theatre organ history in this country, and have collected many valuable photographs for publication in the Society's Diaphone magazine.

IN GENERAL. Throughout Australia TOSA is making great strides forward, and this year will bring Western Australia into focus with the formation of a Division of our Society in that State. This will then make five Divisions of TOSA. Queensland and South Australia continue to make good progress too, with substantial gains in membership. The Victorian Division has had a record year in every way with the opening of their own Wurlitzer in the Dendy Cinema. Among the many benefits of owning their own organ, has been that greater interest by the public has gained many new members to the Society. It is anticipated that an increase in membership for the NSW Division will follow the opening of our Wurlitzer later this year. I would like to pay tribute to our Secretary who once again last year, carried out his many duties loyally and most efficiently. His tasks continue to grow each year, and I am grateful for his loyal help.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued from page 6)

The Treasurer too, has done a splendid job in controlling our financial affairs during the last twelve months, and the present Balance Sheet is a highly satisfactory one, when the full ramifications of our Society are taken into account. I would like to thank him most sincerely for his efforts on our behalf. The members of the Society have been well served by a capable and loyal Committee, most of whom, having served the previous year, are widely experienced in the Society's organisation. They brought this experience to bear in the organising of last year's 24 functions and have been a very able and loyal Committee.

With the support and help of each and every one of you all, there is no reason why 1968 should not be a bigger and better year than 1967. With the opening of our own organ at Marrickville Town Hall later this year, it will require a loyal and determined effort from every one of us to publicize this opening among the general public in order to create interest in our Wurlitzer, as was so successfully done in Melbourne by the Victorian Division. What they have done, we too, can do, and every one of us can, and should do his utmost to see that neighbours and friends are made aware of this big event. Its up to us all to work together to turn 1968 into a spectacular year of progress for our Society. I thank you very much for your attention.

AMERICAN REPORTDIRECT FROM LAURA THOMAS - TOSA's SPECIAL AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.

Much has happened in the Niagara Frontier area, music-wise since last May. LOWELL AYARS concert at the Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda on June 26th, N.F. Chapter Annual Picnic at the Thomas residence in Lancaster on August 27th, EDDIE WEAVER concert at the Riviera Theatre on September 25th, OLLIE HOUCK at the Thomas Studio on October 25th, ALLEN MILLS at the Auditorium Theatre in Rochester on October 23rd, COLIN CORBETT at the Hollywood Theatre, Gowanda, NY. October 29th and HARVEY ELSAESSER at the Historical Building Auditorium Buffalo on November 26th.

LOWELL AYARS played to an almost packed house and received a standing ovation for his performance, which included accompanying the silent movie "Poor Fish" featuring Charlie Chase, sing-along with slides as well as a vocal solo by Lowell. The 3/11 Wurlitzer was in better than mint condition due to the efforts of Bill Hatzenbuhler (present Acting Chairman of the Chapter) and his helpers.

After the concert, a jam-session was held at the Thomas studio and Lowell was heard again at the 3/7 Wurli-Marr & Colton.

On Sunday August 27th, 87 members of the Chapter arrived at the Thomas residence for the Annual Chapter picnic. The first guests arrived about 1.30pm and the last guest leaving around 2am Monday morning.

Sunday afternoon September 24th a group of Chapter members including our correspondent, Laura Thomas and her husband greeted EDDIE and Marion Weaver at the Buffalo International Airport. That evening there was a get together with the WEAVERS at the Thomas Studio, and the 3/7 was put through its paces. Eddie was given a preview of the Silent movie he would be accompanying at the Riviera Theatre the following evening. The next night found the Riviera Theatre filled to capacity. WEAVER is not only a truly great musician, he also is a real showman - injecting bits of humour between sets. WEAVER's own slides were used and these included hilarious parodies, which had the audience literally "in stitches". October 23rd was ALLEN MILLS night at the Auditorium Theatre in Rochester, sponsored by the Rochester Theatre Organ Society. The addition of a Posthorn and piano to the 4/21 Wurlitzer truly makes this instrument an outstanding installation, and ALLEN gave a superb performance, playing many of the tunes he had recorded on this instrument just week before. These were offered for sale after the concert and the artist was kept busy autographing the records for a solid hour.

The Hollywood Theatre, Gowanda N.Y., which boasts the "Biggest Little Wurlitzer In The East" was the next function on October 29th. COLIN CORBETT, house organist at the Odeon-Carlton Theatre in Toronto gave a memorable performance on the Hollywood Theatre's 2/6 Wurlitzer. November 26th HARVEY ELSAESSER was featured at the 2/18 Aeolian organ (with player) in the Buffalo Historical Society Auditorium. At one point the organist apologized for being unable to remember the rest of a number he was playing, and said he would have to get the music from his brief case. As he took his hands from the keys - the organ kept playing to everyone's surprise. This was where the player had taken over and carried on. An excellent gimmick. (Laura Thomas).