

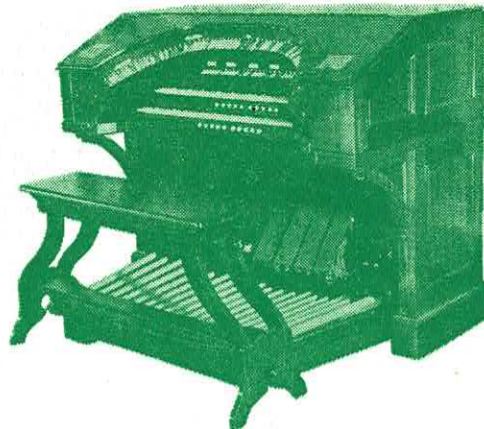
T.O.S.A. NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA IN THE DIVISIONS OF N.S.W., QUEENSLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

PATRON: REGINALD DIXON, M.B.E.

EDITOR: FRANK ELLIS

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



**PRICE
10c**



All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 108, Wentworthville, 2145, N.S.W., Australia

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 12.

1st DECEMBER 1969.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DECEMBER.

WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER AT 8pm. The Society proudly announces that a "NIGHT OF STARS" XMAS PARTY will be held in the auditorium of the Bondi Junction-Waverley R.S.L. Club on the above date. T.O.S.A. is approaching the end of its tenth year, and to honor this occasion, the Society has specially invited all our HONORARY members to be with us for this evening. Without the help of our "Honorary" members the Society could not have achieved its growth and status, and the function will give us all a chance to express our appreciation to them.

The Club's resident organist, our Honorary member IAN DAVIES, has offered to make the three manual Rodgers theatre organ available for this special night. There is no charge for admission - its a FREE NIGHT. Refreshments and supper will be available at your own expense, so you may eat and drink as much or as little as you wish. This function is for TOSA MEMBERS ONLY and will not be open to members of the RSL Club but members may bring friends - within reason, of course.

This will be a unique occasion which could possibly turn out to be the largest gathering of theatre organists yet seen in this country - a spectacular event to mark the first ten years of our Society.

A "NIGHT OF STARS" TO MAKE 1969's XMAS PARTY UNFORGETTABLE. THE SOCIETY'S TRIBUTE TO ALL OUR HONORARY MEMBERS. DON'T MISS OUT - DECIDE NOW AND MAKE IT A DATE.

For the benefit of recently joined members, here is a list of our Honorary members in alphabetical order.

<u>MANNIE AARONS</u>	-	<u>CLARENCE BLACK</u>	-	<u>CECIL CRANFIELD</u>	-	<u>IAN DAVIES</u>	-
<u>REUBERT HAYES</u>	-	<u>PETER HEILD</u>	-	<u>NOREEN HENNESSY</u>	-	<u>JEAN PENHALL</u>	-
<u>ERIC SMITH</u>	-	<u>CHARLES TUCKWELL</u>	-	<u>HARRY WELDON</u>	-		

At the time of going to press, the Society has received acceptances from over half of the above Honorary members, Miss JEAN PENHALL is overseas and Miss NOREEN HENNESSY, we understand, is interstate, so we will be unable to welcome these ladies.

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER AT 8pm. Our member, Col Tringham, will be giving a repeat screening of the slides of his recent American trip for those who were unable to attend last October. His address is 27 Arthur Street, Dee Why - if you would like to attend phone him a few days beforehand. He will also play some overseas tapes.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee are reminded that the December meeting will take place on Monday 1st December. The January meeting will be held on Monday 5th January 1970, and this will be the last meeting of the present Committee.

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY TOSA NEWS.

Would all those having copy material for the January issue of TOSA News, please note that the closing date will be Friday 12th December. Please ensure that your material reaches here by the due date which is a week earlier than usual because of our printer's Xmas holiday break.

DON'T FORGET THE 1969 XMAS PARTY ON WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER AT THE BONDI RSL CLUB.

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY.

WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY AT 8pm. The Annual General Meeting & Election Of Officers will take place at Marrickville Town Hall at 8pm on this date. Following the Business meeting we will be hearing the Society's WurliTzer organ. The name of the organist will be announced in the January issue of TOSA News.

The following Notices of Motion affecting the Society's By-Laws have been received.

- (1) That By-Law 17 be repealed.:-
- (2) That the following new By-Law 17 be inserted in the Constitution,-
A meeting of members shall be held at least once each month. The Annual Business Meeting shall be held during the month of January each year.
- (3) That the following words be added to By-Law 14:-
The Minute Secretary shall not have voting powers at any Committee Meeting.
- (4) That By-Law 26 be repealed;
- (5) That By-Law 27 be re-numbered "By-Law 26"
- (6) That the latter By-Law be amended by deleting the words "ten cents" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "forty cents", and further by deleting the figures "\$1.20" and by inserting in lieu thereof the figures "\$4.80".
- (7) That By-Law 28 be repealed and a new By-Law 27 be inserted in lieu thereof, as follows:-

Notwithstanding anything contained in By-Law 26, the annual subscription payable by country members, pensioner members, and by interstate and overseas subscribers shall be \$4.00 (Australian currency).

1970 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE.

Annual subscriptions (including subscription to "TOSA News" are as follows and should be forwarded to the Treasurer using the coupon printed on the second last page of this issue of TOSA News.

NSW METROPOLITAN MEMBERS: \$8.00
COUNTRY MEMBERS & PENSIONER MEMBERS: \$4.00
INTERSTATE SUBSCRIBERS: \$4.00
OVERSEAS SUBSCRIBERS: \$4.00 Australian currency

Please renew your subscriptions as early as possible if you will please.

LOOKING BACK AT NOVEMBER.

The organ party held at the home of our members, George & Joyce Walker on 8th of November was a WOW and the fifty odd people who attended, all voted it to be one of the best that our friends, the Walkers have yet held. It was indeed a happy and friendly crowd who were entertained at the organ by Jim Bass, Harold Duffel, Ian Griggs, Des Russell and Joyce Walker. Joyce was also a popular compere and "organ"iser and no one refused her requests to take their place at the console. Finally Joyce called on DAVID PARSONS to play, and to deafening applause, DAVID sat down at the organ, where he was to remain for a very long time, much to everyone's delight. This was his last appearance in Sydney before he left for Japan to compete in the Yamaha Organ contest, and everyone present surrounded him to express their personal best wishes for his success in Japan. DAVID played splendidly and there was so much variety in his programme that no one could have said that he didn't play their particular type of music. As usual, Joyce served a delightful supper helped by her family and some of the ladies and the sum of \$51 was added to the funds. The Society is fortunate to have such loyal and enthusiastic workers as George & Joyce and we extend our thanks to them for a wonderful evening.

Not content with an organ party in November, George and Joyce informed TOSA News that they were prepared to present another organ party in December to help swell end of year funds. However, due to their Xmas decorations, they would not be able to accomodate 50 or more this time - a limit of 30 would have to be placed on the function. Joyce then went on to say that although only 30 could attend, she would hold TWO organ parties on different nights thus enabling 60 members to attend. What a wonderfully generous gesture this is. Full details are given elsewhere in this issue. Your Editor hopes that members will give full support to these parties.

LOOKING BACK AT NOVEMBER.SUPERB BIRTHDAY CONCERT. DENIS PALMISTRA, DELIGHTFUL STYLIST.

A large audience gave a warm welcome to DENIS PALMISTRA on the 20th November last, when he played a concert to mark the first birthday of our WurliTzer in the Marrickville Town Hall. The evening was an unforgettable musical experience - brilliantly played, superbly registered and imaginatively arranged. His undoubted technical mastery was fully complimented by his polished showmanship at the console - a showmanship in which hand movements, gestures, the inclination of the head at the right moment, all played a part. His introductions and endings were spectacular in themselves, adding to each item, an entirely suitable individuality.

The programme opened with a lilting selection of Strauss Waltzes - unhurried and in deliberate tempo. Then came a more recently written piece, "You Belong To My Heart" and this was hauntingly played with a strong counter melody. Delightful counter melodies featured prominently in "Pagan Love Song", which was the next item. The next bracket of three hits of the late thirties was a real foot tapper and DENIS really lifted this group along. The three numbers were, "It All Depends On You", "On The Sunny Side Of The Street" (shades of Tommy Dorsey here) and "I Don't Know Why", ending with a reprise of "It All Depends On You". Next was the selection, "Holiday In Paris" and the Parisian atmosphere was fully captured with "C'Est Magnifique", "Autumn Leaves" (featuring Vox Humana) "Pigalle", "The Last Time I Saw Paris", "Under The Bridges of Paris", "J'et Andrai" and ending with an exciting "Can Can".

The first guest spot featured Miss Beryl Brownlee singing "Maids Of Cadiz" and "One Fine Day" from Madame Butterfly. Her glorious soprano voice won her a long ovation. She was the featured vocalist during our Convention recently. She was accompanied at the organ by Mrs Cloran, and both artists were extremely popular.

DENIS returned to the console to feature a bracket consisting of "I'll Take Romance" and Richard Rodgers, "Lover". Based on "The Autumn Concerto" the next item, "My Heart Reminds Me" was delightful and deservedly well applauded. The final item before the intermission was Ketelby's "Bells Across The Meadow" in which DENIS added a dramatic symphonic arrangement which gave a new dimension to this well loved music.

The second half of the programme opened with a bouncy "Goodbye My Love" to which DENIS added a touch of audience participation by having his audience clap in tempo. This was followed by a return to romantic themes of which he is the ultimate master. His brilliantly arranged "Beyond The Reef" was one of the most haunting pieces I have ever heard played on a WurliTzer - he painted a musical picture of a tropical paradise and magically brought to life the sounds of wind and sea. For contrast, there was an up tempo "Siboney" to follow before we were taken on a "Holiday In Italy" with a most enjoyable Italian selection which included, "Gelito Linda", "O Sole Mio", "Funiculi Funicula", "La Paloma" and "Come Back To Sorrento" - this item was as warm and sunny as an Italian summer's day and the audience response was equally warm.

Mrs Cloran then appeared at the console to accompany the St. Brigid's Ensemble in a bracket of items, the first of which was one with the theme of Xmas, and was entitled "The Three Ships". The ensemble, five charming young ladies, possessed of really beautiful voices, sang delightfully, and with close harmonies in perfect balance and pitch. They were an exciting interlude in an evening of excitement.

From the French and Italian holidays DENIS whisked us away to Hawaii for yet another interlude of atmospheric musical enjoyment. This opened with a near full organ treatment of a portion of "Bali Hai", richly chorded and building up to a dramatic climax which suddenly melted away to a lush sounding "Blue Hawaii" which in turn, modulated into the lovely "Moon Of Manakoora". Then came "Lovely Hula Hands" in which one could almost see dusky maidens performing their traditional dance with its expressive hand movements, and continuing on to a hauntingly played "Song Of The Islands". The organ then built up to its full capacity in a majestic interpretation of "Bali Hai" in which the tremulants were frequently "off" only to be brought back on for a theatrical emphasis as required as well as for the final chord. Holiday In Hawaii was indeed a memorable one. Finally the famous "Czardas" by Monte - a fast moving, beautifully registered item which fully exploited this wild gypsy music as a vehicle for the WurliTzer. In reponse to prolonged and enthusiastic applause DENIS returned to encore with some Xmas music and, as a tribute to member Maurice Carbines who came over from New Zealand for the concert, he ended with the ever popular "Maori's Farewell".

Our WurliTzer installation at Marrickville is now one year old - as it enters its second year, we can look back on an exciting first birthday concert by DENIS PALMISTRA.

ACTING SECRETARY APPOINTED.

At the Committee meeting held on 3rd November, Mrs Dunn was appointed Acting Secretary of the N.S.W. Division for the remainder of the current year. She will serve in this capacity for the months of November, December and January. TOSA News congratulates Mrs Dunn on her appointment and wishes her good luck in this rather demanding post.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

To those who have joined us this month we say "hallo" and welcome to the Society. We hope that you will join into all Society functions and parties - involve yourselves fully into the fun and games for this is the best way to get to know other members and to extract the most from your membership. We all have one common interest at heart - the organ - so with a common talking point, conversation comes easily and you will soon find yourself feeling that you belong in the Society - the rest is easy.

NSW Members:- Keith Berkman of Coogee - Vernon King of Manly - Lance Jones of Maroubra.

W.A. Members:- Miss Brunnhilde Latimer of Bentley - Mr W.J. Thomas of Floreat Park - June Glewis of Bedford - Mrs Elsie Jenkins of Kalamunda - Mr & Mrs A. E. Pley of Calista - Miss Pearl Adkins of Swanbourne - Mr Anthony Michael Foorte of Doubleview (Any relation to REGINALD????E.)

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS. (Tibia News)

The Queensland Division held their Annual General Meeting on 24th November. At the time of going to press, we have not received the list of those who have been elected for the next twelve months. The final meeting for 1969 in Queensland, will be their Smorgasbord dinner to be held on December 9th.

The Gold Coast Chapter held their first annual Dinner on 31st October at the Ski Lodge Surfers Paradise. About 40 or more attended reports Arthur Rizzo, who goes on to say that plans are already being discussed for next year's "do". Arthur apparently likes to plan well ahead, which is a jolly good idea.

There will be no December issue of the Queensland Division's News Sheet "Tibia"

VICTORIAN DIVISION NEWS. (Vox Magazine)

Vox devoted its front page entirely to an excellent photo of DAVID PARSONS winning the Australian Final of the Yamaha Organ Contest at the Dendy Cinema on Sunday 26th of October, as well as about two thirds of a page in a review of the concert.

A full write up on the TONY FENELON concert at the Dendy WurliTzer following TONY'S return from America was also given in detail, and this appears to have been a very exciting concert. It was also reported in Vox that TONY had played several organs in USA which were extra to his tour. These included the 6/66 Chicago Stadium Barton instrument, and the 4/56 Radio City Music Hall WurliTzer.

It was also learned from Vox, that the WILBUR KENTWELL concert at the Camberwell Civic Centre on the 2nd October attracted an almost full house. WILBUR played the two and three manual Conn Theatre organs - the larger instrument being complete with a large battery of electronic pipes.

ORGANIST REQUIRED BY CHURCH.

Our member, Mrs Corbett, has asked TOSA News to help her find an organist for her local church which has an electronic instrument. The organist is only required to play hymns, so that should make it a much easier chore. The church is St Phillips Anglican at Castle Cove and those interested in the position should contact the Rector - telephone 40-2377 and mention Mrs Corbett and TOSA News. Good luck Mrs C.

INVITATION TO MEMBERS. Our member Mr S.F. Spence has been appointed an authorised Yamaha franchise dealer, and has opened a spacious showroom in the Barefoot Boulevard at Avalon. On display is a full range of Yamaha organs including the big E 3 model on which DAVID PARSONS won the NSW finals of the Yamaha Organ Contest, and later went on to win the Australian Grand Finals. Mr Spence invites all interested TOSA members to call in at his showroom at any time and try out these instruments for themselves. The Barefoot Boulevard is located in Avalon Parade, Avalon. In case you are wondering about the strange name Barefoot Boulevard, Avalon being a beachside suburb, pays tribute to its "surfer's feet" by naming a shopping arcade after them.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS (Cipher News)

The Western Australian Division must be still laughing loudly over the helpful but mis-informed gentleman who rang their Secretary recently. His well meaning and kindly gesture was a real boo boo indeed. The incident is here quoted for laughs.

NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY. Our lively secretary has been leering from local newspaper pages quite a lot lately, gathering excellent publicity for TOSA W.A. In the course of his interviews, he has several times mentioned the scarcity of Wurlitzer organs. Imagine his surprise the other day to receive a phone message from a gentleman who felt he could help us out in this matter. A certain firm, he stated, held an ample stock of Wurlitzer organs. Hang on to your hats, though folks - the gentleman meant the electronic variety, and became rather less sure of catalogue listings when Ray kindly explained that we earnestly desired a genuine wind blown beast somewhat larger than could be accommodated in the average showroom.

TOSA News wonders if the gents face is still red? Imagine finding a showroom with ample stocks of genuine 'wind blown Wurlitzers' - that would have started a world-wide trek to Perth by hordes of would-be Wurlitzer owners with ready money clutched in their hot, perspiring hands.

The date and venue of the West Australian Division's December function was not given, so we regret that no further information can be published, in sufficient time.

PATRON PROBLEM PERSISTS.

Oh dear, oh dear, the confusion over our revered and beloved Patrons, of whom we are all so proud, apparently still exists. Before I too become confused, lets get the whole deal straight. I say this, not to be nasty or critical, but merely to let members - especially the new ones - know just who is Patron of which Division.

In the October issue of Queensland Division's "Tibia", Editor Tom F. Ellis noted that TONY FENELON had been appointed Patron of the West Australian Division. He went on to say he was a little confused as he thought that REGINALD DIXON was the nationwide Patron of TOSA, and asked could anyone explain. This was how it all began.

N.S.W. Division's TOSA News did explain also in October, listing each Division's Patron and ending with the hint that Queensland, being the only State without a Patron, might perhaps like to ponder the matter.

In the November "Tibia", Tom Ellis acknowledges the receipt of letters from Irene Veale of Victorian Division and Doug Miller of West Australian Division, which corrected him by advising that REGINALD DIXON was not, nor ever had been, the National Patron of TOSA. Tom then stated that it appeared that the Queensland Division did not have a legal Patron at all, as they had just "pinched" REG DIXON from we New South Welshmen. (NSW Division didn't mind at all Tom, and what's more we don't think REG would either).

I had thought the whole matter had resolved itself and we were all now aware of just who was who, but the November issue of the South Australian Division's News made mention of the confusion and their Editor, W. Johnson stated that NSW Division and Queensland elected REG DIXON as Patron several years ago. As Queensland have admitted that they "pinched" NSW Patron, this proves beyond doubt that REG was never legally elected in that State.

Finally, I hope, here's the last remaining error to clear up. November issue of West Australian Division's "Cipher" lists the Australian Patron as REGINALD DIXON and their own Patron as TONY FENELON. There is no National Patron at all. For many years, REGINALD DIXON has been Patron of the NSW Division only - one could say he was borrowed by our friends up north, unofficially. Patrons of the respective Divisions are :- West. Aust. - TONY FENELON Sth Aust. - KNIGHT BARNETT
Vict. - GEORGE BLACKMORE NSW - REGINALD DIXON Qld. - No official Patron yet

"Patrons to the right of us - Patrons to the left of us - and we love 'em all"
(With apologies)
(for pinching the quote)

I hope that the various Divisions of TOSA will long continue to have their Patrons, it adds prestige as well as being a nice way of paying tribute to a famous theatre organist, whether he be Australian, English or American. Its a fine tradition.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

Bill Schnitger, official photographer of the NSW Division regrets that owing to an appreciable quantity of photographic work on hand, he is not able to meet frequent requests by members to provide them with copy-prints from photos taken at TOSA functions. As the NSW Division owns copyright of all official photos taken, members should contact The Diaphone Editor, Rod Blackmore with their enquiries.

TWO ORGAN PARTIES IN DECEMBER.

Our members, George & Joyce Walker are holding two Xmas organ parties - the first on Saturday 6th December and the second on Saturday 13th December. There will be a limit of 30 at each party. As reported elsewhere in this issue, the last party at the Walker residence was a most enjoyable night, so there is sure to be a large roll up to both functions. If you would like to attend, phone Joyce at 86-5871 and make your reservation for one of the evenings. The functions are to aid end of year finances, and a charge of \$1 per person will be made.

HAMMOND ORGAN SOCIETY FUNCTIONS.

Iris Begley informed TOSA News that they will be holding a smorgasbord dinner-dance at the Royal Motor Yacht Club at Newport on Tuesday 9th December. This will be a real party night and a ton of fun is assured. Tickets are \$3 a head and there is a limit of 200 tickets to be sold, so its first in - first served. Ring Iris at 81-2753 if you would like to attend.

Newcastle Hammond Organ Society announces its Xmas party, to be held on 6th December at St Helena, Lochinvar. Keith Joice, Publicity officer for the Chapter assured TOSA News it would be a good night.

DAVID PARSONS IN JAPAN.

The Society is proud to announce that our member DAVID PARSONS came seventh in the World Finals of the Yamaha organ playing contest held in Japan on November 17th. TOSA News understand that there were 19 finalists in the event, so when one takes into consideration that this was an International affair, it is a very creditable performance indeed, and we are all very proud of DAVID. Whilst we would have been thrilled to see him win outright, nevertheless, he has done very well indeed against very formidable talent, and we look forward to welcoming him home. We hope to run a story on his overseas trip next month. TOSA News says, "Good on you David".

RECORD NEWS.

The latest release by Concert Recording's "organ of the Month" Club was of famed American theatre organist BILLY NALLE. This was released last month to members. Titled "BILLY NALLE THE WIZARD OF ORGAN" the record number is CR-0043. The recording comprises three segments taken from 'live' concerts by this artist described as "America's Most Exciting Theatre Organist". It would be safe to say that in this recording he does indeed generate a whole lot of excitement. The first segment was taken from a concert at the Auditorium Theatre's 4/22 WurliTzer - the second, from a concert at the Senate Theatre's 4/34 WurliTzer and the third segment from a private concert for officials of the Allen Organ Coy, was performed on an Allen Electronic instrument.

BILLY NALLE'S playing style is crisp, modern and imaginative whilst leaving little doubt, that you are listening to an artist who knows and loves the traditional theatre organ style. Registrations are impeccable, and his artistry and experience exploit each one of the organs played to its best advantage. This disc could be described as a showcase for BILLY NALLE and a showcase for each organ he played. Being recorded 'live', one hears the spontaneous applause afforded the artist and this helps tremendously for those who like to re-create the excitement of a theatre organ concert. BILLY NALLE is a member of the NSW Division of TOSA and we would look forward to the day when perhaps he will visit us here. Reports that he will visit this country have been circulating for a considerable time - even going so far as to state when and where, but in a letter to us a couple of weeks ago BILLY does not mention any Australian tour. His latest record, mentioned above, has a well varied programme of established favorites and is strongly recommended to all record collectors. It is available to all members of TOSA through the usual supplier. Write Concert Recording (Aust) Box 108 P.O. Wentworthville. TOSA News understands he is to make other recordings for the Concert Recording label soon.

THE AMERICAN SCENE (From Theatre Organ Bombarde)1970 ATOS CONVENTION IN NEW YORK CITY.

New York City!!! Where the Radio City Music Hall's famous biggest ever built Wurlitzer thrills an audience of thousands ten times a day seven days a week! Where the beautiful, world renowned Commodore Hotel welcomes ATOS Conventioneers with unbeatable bargain rates (and you're cordially invited to spend an extra vacation week either before or after the Convention at the same spectacular savings). Where you can see and hear multi-manual musical magic on the biggest and best - Wurlitzer Might and Morton Wonder! in the best remaining examples of magnificent movie palaces and in sparkling studio settings.

World famous console artists.....Great concerts.....Silent films.....Social hours.....

Shows.....Excursions.....Theatre parties.....Demonstrations.....Organ tours.....

Workshops.....Melodic mornings.....Majestic midnights. PLAN NOW for Mid-July in Manhattan at the 1970 ATOS FABULOUS 15th ANNIVERSARY.

If you think the above spiel is an advert for the American ATOS Convention in 1970, then you're only half right Any wealthy members of TOSA visiting the USA may like to arrange their trip to co-incide after reading the above. If that should happen, then I guess you'd say that TOSA News advertised the event, but your Editor after reading about all these goodies to take place next year, felt that you would all like to know just what is going on in other parts of the world. This makes it news.

It was also reported in TO-B that GEORGE WRIGHT was to play a concert on the Wurlitzer of the Oriental Theatre in Portland, Ore, on Sunday 2nd November at 2pm. All seats were announced as \$3 each with no reserved seats, and GEORGE was scheduled to play a silent film comedy in addition to the concert. This is the Wurlitzer heard on the Concert Recording label played by DON FRENCH. It has a unique sound quite unlike other Wurlitzers - it would be interesting to hear a tape of what GEORGE WRIGHT gets out of this instrument.

BILLY NALIE AT ARTS FESTIVAL (special New York news release from Arthur Zinberg)

The first theatre organ concert as an official event of an arts festival in the United States proved to be a smash hit for soloist BILLY NALIE. The concert took place on October 14 1969 to a packed house with standees at the 2000 seat Palace Theatre in Canton Ohio. Manager Ralph Russell attested to the performance being the biggest hit at the theatre since the days of stage presentations. Big publicity for the event resulted in a sold out theatre three weeks prior to the concert. Several civic organisations gave dinners in NALIE'S honor and the Mayor of Canton, Stanley Cmich, issued an official proclamation designating October 14 Theatre Organ Day.

BILLY NALIE was presented on stage with a plaque, engraved to commemorate this National First in theater organ as part of the Canton Festival of Arts. There is a possibility that this was an International First as well, says Arthur Zinberg's news release.

HOWEVER, TOSA NEWS SAYS THAT AMERICA WAS NOT THE FIRST TO PRESENT THEATRE ORGAN MUSIC AS PART OF A FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS. I BELIEVE THIS HONOR BELONGS TO THE QUEENSLAND DIVISION OF TOSA, WHO, ON SEPTEMBER 30th PRESENTED AN ORGAN SPECTACULAR FEATURING SIX ELECTRONIC ORGANS IN THE BRISBANE TOWN HALL AS PART OF THAT CITY'S WARANA FESTIVAL.

CUT ALONG HERE

(continued on next page)

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS (Continued from previous page)

TO DRAW A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND THE CLAIM I MAKE ON BEHALF OF THE BRISBANE MEMBERS, THE AMERICAN CONCERT PRESENTED THEATRE ORGAN MUSIC, ON A THEATRE ORGAN, INSTALLED IN A THEATRE. THE BRISBANE CONCERT PRESENTED THEATRE ORGAN MUSIC ON SIX ELECTRONIC ORGANS PLAYED BY SIX ORGANISTS BUT THE EVENT TOOK PLACE IN THE CITY HALL. NEVERTHELESS, BRISBANE'S CONCERT TOOK PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 30th DURING A WEEK-LONG FESTIVAL AND THE AMERICAN ONE ON OCTOBER 14th JUST TWO WEEKS LATER.

No matter who was first, both events were spectacularly successful, the American concert attracting an audience of 2,000 and the Brisbane one 1,500. It has been predicted by interested parties that both functions look like going into orbit again next year, which after all, is the most important thing.

NOTICE CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP COUPON.

The coupon printed at the foot of page 7 is drawn to your attention again. It will greatly assist the Society, and the hard-working Treasurer, if you will post these in to him as early as you can.

IMPORTANT NOTE:- Remittances should be made payable to T.O.S.A. and not to any individual personally. Money Orders should be made payable at Post Office, Campsie, NSW.

FINALLY.....This is the last issue of TOSA NEWS before the festive season, so on behalf of the President, TOM HALLORAN AND ALL THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE, we wish every member and his family,

A MERRY XMAS AND A BRIGHT AND PROPEROUS NEW YEAR.

WE HOPE YOU WILL ALL ENJOY A WELL

'ORGAN'-ISED HOLIDAY.

THE EDITOR.