

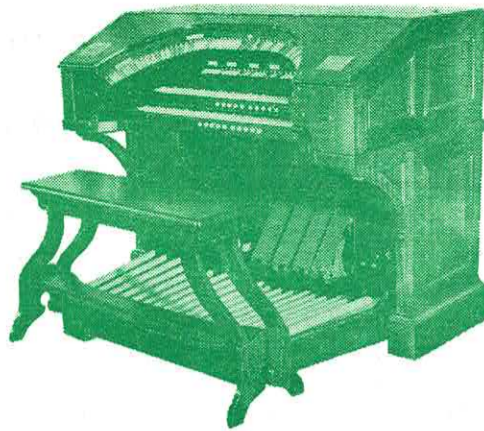
T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

PATRON: REGINALD DIXON, M.B.E.

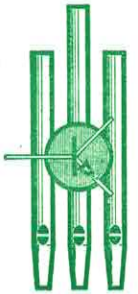
EDITOR: FRANK ELLIS

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

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ??

To be sure of inclusion on the new mailing list now being compiled (and which will be used for March and future issues) rush your subscription now to the Hon. Treasurer, 21 Yethonga Avenue, Lane Cove 2066. Metropolitan members: \$8.00 Country, Interstate and pensioner members: \$4.00 Overseas subscribers: \$4.00 Australian currency. Be sure that you are financial for 1970. WHY NOT DO IT NOW?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1970.

At the Annual General Meeting & Election Of Officers which was held on Wednesday 28th of January in the Marrickville Town Hall, the following were elected to serve the Society for the ensuing twelve months.

PATRON	-	REGINALD DIXON	MBE.
PRESIDENT	-	Tom Halloran	
VICE-PRESIDENTS	-	Frank Ellis & Des Russell	
TREASURER	-	Rod Blackmore	
SECRETARY	-	Mrs Dunn	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: W. Schumacher - A. Byrne - W. Schmitger - R. Garrett
W. Richards and M. Mackay

TOSA NEWS EDITOR - Frank Ellis

THE DIAPHONE EDITOR - Rod Blackmore

AUDITOR - Oscar Moen

SOCIETY HOST - Aubrey Byrne

CAPITOL THEATRE ORGAN SUB COMMITTEE:

B. Tooker	R. Gliddon	J. Andrews
J. Atkinson	Ian Cameron	Ian Somerville
Ron Reed	W. Schumacher	

SOCIETY P.E. ORGAN SUB COMMITTEE:

W. Richards	M. Mackay	S. McKern
J. McKern	J. Quinnell	D. Parsons
Peter Held	R. Mapstone	

LADIES SOCIAL SUB COMMITTEE:

Mesdames Halloran, Walker, Wells, Castray, Mackay and Richards

RESEARCH SUB COMMITTEE: Vic Leon and Ian Cameron

PROMOTIONS & PUBLICITY SUB COMMITTEE: Ted Heath and Robert Gliddon

ELECTRONIC ORGAN CONSTRUCTION SUB COMMITTEE:

Des Russell	Ray Garrett	Arthur Spring
George Hughes	George Walker	Eric Mirovitch

HONORARY MEMBERS:

MANNIE AARONS	CLARENCE BLACK	CECIL CRANFIELD
IAN DAVIES	REUBERT HAYES	PETER HELD
NOREEN HENNESSY	JEAN PENHALL	ERIC SMITH
CHARLES TUCKWELL	HARRY WELDON	

The Returning Officer for the election was Stan Holland and the Scrutineers were, Mr Somerville and Mr Lawson. The Society thanks these gentlemen for the way in which they carried out their duties.

THE SOCIETY LOOKS FORWARD TO A YEAR OF PROGRESS AND GROWTH DURING THIS TERM OF OFFICE.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY.

WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY AT 8pm. At the Wesley Centre Auditorium, Pitt Street, Sydney, there will be a film night and organ concert. The film is a full color and sound one about theatre organs. It was professionally produced in America, and was to have been shown at the 1969 Convention. However, the film arrived too late for use at the Convention, and has been held over for this occasion. There will also be some colored slides screened prior to the organ concert which will feature four organists whose identities have not been revealed. Two of the organists will be from the Hammond Organ Society and two from our own organisation. The Hammond Society have been invited to share this function with us, and we are delighted to welcome their members to this joint evening. Admission will be \$1 per person. Your Editor, having previewed this film, thinks that you will find it both fascinating as well as amusing. Don't miss this night of films, slides, and four surprise organists.

SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY AT 2.30pm. The first of our 1970 series of FREE PUBLIC concerts will take place at Marrickville Town Hall on this date, and will feature our Honorary member PETER HELD at the console of our 2/10 Wurlitzer organ. It has been quite some time since we heard PETER at a theatre pipe organ, so this will be an event to look forward to. Bring as many of your friends and neighbors as you possibly can to hear PETER at our Wurlitzer - who knows, you may possibly help the Society to gain some new members at the same time. Remember the time - 2.30pm sharp for this first FREE Sunday afternoon concert for 1970 - PETER HELD IN CONCERT AT THE WURLITZER.

COMING EVENTS.

SATURDAY 7th MARCH. There will be an organ party at the home of our members, John and Marjorie Whitehouse on this night. It is intended that this will be a night where all members who can play will be given the opportunity to do so. If you intend to "have a go" don't forget to bring your music with you and make it a real "fun" night. There will be the usual charge of \$1 per person in aid of the organ fund and it would be appreciated if you would telephone the Whitehouse family a few days beforehand if you would like to be present. Their address is 10 Levy Street, Putney. Levy Street is a cul-de-sac off Frances Road if you happen to be using an older type street directory. Their phone number is 80-3142 - don't forget to ring a few days beforehand and ensure your reservation.

Also in March there will be an organ concert at a suburban Town Hall, and full details will be given in the March TOSA News. So keep Wednesday 18th March free if you can for this event, which will feature a well known and popular organist.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee are advised that the March meeting will be held at the Latvian Hall Parnell Street, Strathfield on Monday 2nd March at 7.15pm sharp. The April meeting will be on Monday 6th April also at 7.15pm.

TOSA NEWS DEADLINE FOR MARCH.

Would all those having material for publication in the March issue of TOSA News, please note that the closing date will be Friday 20th February. Please ensure that your copy reaches here by that date.

LOOKING BACK AT JANUARY.BILL SCHUMACHER IN CONCERT.

Our member, BILL SCHUMACHER was scheduled to play a concert of about one hour duration after the Annual General Meeting held on January 28th. However, due to the meeting lasting much longer than anticipated, BILL'S concert did not get under way until about 10.30pm, and this shortened his programme to less than half of its original length. This was very unfortunate, for I have never heard BILL sounding better than he did on this occasion. He delighted his audience with some beautiful solo voices, exploited the percussion section for smooth rhythm of the foot-tapping kind, and generally used the organ in a most orchestral manner. It all added up to the best ever performance by this artist. There is little doubt that members would like to hear BILL SCHUMACHER in a full length performance in the near future. To sum up - a MAXI performance in a MINI length concert. It was unfortunate for BILL and the audience, that the A.G.M. was so interesting that time got away from us.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

The Society is delighted to welcome the following new members and wish them a long and happy association with Australia's largest organ Society which has Divisions in five States and is closely linked with similar organisations overseas. We say a "hello" to the following:- Arthur & Betty Stacey of Smithfield - Lawrence Dunk of Carlingford - Sydney Foster of Bexley - Peter Barton of Canley Vale - Colin Crawford of Sandy Bay, Tasmania.

OLD FRIENDS. Some of our members who have been with us for some years will be interested to know that Miss Jeanette Cumming, who was a member from 1962 when she was assistant organist at St. Mark's Church, Darling Point and helped by giving enjoyable recitals for the Society, has been residing in England since 1966. She is now Mrs Batten and had a daughter (Melanie) last December. Congratulations and happy memories to Jeanette. (From member Vic Leon)

For the purposes of our records, each member upon joining TOSA is given a membership number - we are now in the six hundreds. Many members, of course, haven't lasted the distance, but we are pleased to renew membership numbers 2 and 5 into their 11th year with TOSA: Cec Taylor and Norm Stinson. Both these gentlemen were present at the inaugural meeting of the Society in January 1960; Cec Taylor served as President in 1960 and 1961 and later as a Committee member; Norm Stinson served as Vice-President from 1960 to 1963. Only other remaining enthusiasts from that year are Tom Halloran, Rod Blackmore & Des Russell.

RECORD REVIEWS.

TITLE & NUMBER. "WILBUR KENTWELL AT THE CONN THEATRE ORGAN" RCA CAMDEN Stereo
CAMS-1145

Here is the latest in a long line of releases by WILBUR KENTWELL, who, over the years has had so many records on the market, that there can be no doubt that he is the most recorded organist in Australia - your Editor would have at least 10 or 12 L.P. discs by this artist, and I do not claim to have all of his records in my library. This would undoubtedly be one of his best, both in artistry and in so far as the quality of the recorded sound. Surprisingly, it is the least expensive KENTWELL record ever, being on the popular priced CAMDEN label which retails at \$1.99 only. Programme content is such that few people would have cause for disappointment and the treatment of each number represents KENTWELL at his very smoothest. "The Donkey Serenade" - "Somewhere My Love" - "Exodus" - "Fascination" - "Dream A Little Dream Of Me" - "Almost Like Being In Love" - "Jealousy" - "Hello Dolly" - "If Ever I Would Leave You" and "Seventy Six Trombones" are all there splendidly played and imaginatively registered. To sum up - WILBUR KENTWELL'S first record using his Conn Theatre organ, is his best ever recording, and wonderful value for money.

EXCITING RECORD OFFER FROM BBC LONDON.

Here is a "collector's item" indeed, and one which every theatre organ fan will want to add to his collection. Produced by the BBC, the recording was taken from an actual broadcast of the BBC programme "As Prescribed" by famous English theatre organist DUDLEY SAVAGE playing the three manual Compton organ of the ABC Theatre in Plymouth England. As the disc is made from the actual "on air" programme, it is in Mono only, but the quality is so good, you'll never miss the stereo sound. "As Prescribed" is a hospital request programme which probably is of one hour duration - as the record plays for about 45 minutes approx., this means that most of the hour's programme is on the record. DUDLEY SAVAGE is a master of the organ in every sense - he is also a fine master of ceremonies as the record reveals, and his compering of the show is warm and friendly. Being a request programme, the disc brings you a mixed bag of music which ranges from a beautifully played "Smiling Through" to four hymn tunes. In between, there's everything from "Love Is Here To Stay" - "Moulin Rouge" - "Trumpet Voluntary" - melodies by Ivor Novello and Franz Lehar - Tunes from the Thirties and Forties - Music from France etc. The ABC Theatre's Compton is a beautiful example of this firm's fine product and is very obviously, maintained in mint condition if its glorious sound is any criterion. To receive your copy write to BBC Radio Enterprises, The British Broadcasting Corporation, Villiers House, Haven Green, London W5, England and enclose your remittance. Price of the record is 28/9 (Sterling) and this includes surface mail. The record will be well packed - my own copy arrived in perfect condition. The record cover carries a beautiful photo of DUDLEY SAVAGE at the console of the three manual Compton in the ABC Theatre Plymouth exactly "as prescribed". It is to be hoped that the BBC will come out with some more of the same mixture. Its just what the doctor ordered.

NEWS FROM AMERICA. (Direct exclusive bulletin)

Members of A.T.O.E., Grant Whitcomb and Dottie MacClain recently appeared before a Las Vegas justice of the peace and committed matrimony in plain view of a score of relatives and DON BAKER, who naturally, played the appropriate march (No, not the "Entry Of The Gladiators")

In Stockton, Calif. organist Fred Tulan, fed up with the trend of guitars replacing organs for church services, decided to let the congregation have it -- both barrels. With the battle cry, "Anything those stupid guitars can do an organ can do better", Dr. Tulan attracted an audience of over 1000 to the Stockton Cathedral with an offering first of traditional organ music. The all hell broke loose in the Cathedral! With especially added Tibia, Vox, and what is described as a "State Serpent", Fred cut loose with a Winchester-Cathedral type programme (Fred has actually played there) which included "Quiet Village" (with birds), BILLY NALLIE'S Bach treatment of "All The Things You Are", an original "Gargoyles of Notre Dame" (with taped Moog Synthesizer obligato), and closed with "Up, Up and Away" sung by a rock group known as "The Vatican IV". To Fred's consternation, the congregation liked it and wants more.

There were 98 companies building theatre organs in 1927, according to former Robert Morton factory employee Lee Haggart, who made his count that same year.

Ex A.T.O.E. President, DICK SCHRUMM reports that chapterites were wildly enthusiastic at the unveiling of Seattle Chapter's 3/7 Wurli-Colton, with visitor TONY FENELON beating out the tunes.

The Rochester Theatre Organ Society has a membership of 565, plus a gorgeous 4/22 WurliTzer organ.

In a recent biographical sketch in LIFE magazine, the great violinist Jascha Heifetz, expressed his opinion of stereo, "Hystereo... I don't need it" (Amen)

An insider at RCA Records in Camden, N.J. informs us that the Company has been receiving mail demanding the re-release of BILLY NALLIE'S "Swinging Pipe Organ" (LPM 1521) an unforgettable organ-jazz romp BILLY recorded 12 years ago on the New York Paramount 4/36 WurliTzer. Perhaps a few more letters would do the trick???

Its only a rumour, but, the story is abroad that Bob Carson has bought the 3/26 BUDDY COLE "Wurlimorton" from Dick Simonton for a sum in the neighborhood of \$4800. It's known that Carson has been up to here in litigation regarding the ownership of the 3/26 Carson-Kearns WurliTzer. Therefore, the purchase may be indicative. Bob's not talking at the moment.

REGINALD DIXON'S LAST BLACKPOOL CONCERT.

TOSA News has learned that REGINALD DIXON'S last concert at the Blackpool Tower's world famous WurliTzer organ, will take place on Sunday 29th March. REGGIE, the NSW Division's Patron for many years was re-elected again at our Annual General Meeting held a few days ago, we are pleased to announce. Gary Vanderwerp, a member of the South Australian Division, who is at present in Holland, will be going over to England for the event, and has offered to personally represent the NSW Division at the concert. As well, it is intended to send a letter to our Patron on this very sad occasion. It is certain that, after a lifetime spent at this WurliTzer, his name will forever be remembered - and that his final concert there will end in a triumphant blaze of glory. There will be many in the audience who will have a nostalgic lump in their throats before that memorable concert ends.

TO OUR PATRON, EVERY MEMBER OF THE NSW DIVISION, WOULD HAVE TOSA NEWS WISH REGGIE A WONDERFUL RETIREMENT, GOOD HEALTH AND THE BEST OF EVERYTHING. CONGRATULATIONS ON THE WONDERFUL JOB YOU HAVE DONE TO MAKE AND KEEP THE THEATRE ORGAN BEFORE THE PUBLIC AS A MEANS OF POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT. BLACKPOOL WILL NEVER SEEM THE SAME AGAIN. WE SALUTE YOU --- REGINALD DIXON MBE.

It is interesting to note that there was a "Conn Cascade of Organ Music" at the Odeon Cinema in Bolton, Lancashire on November 23rd last. The organist was none other than our Patron, REGINALD DIXON. Member Frank Thornley, informed TOSA News, that when the Odeon Cinema was first built, it had a Compton Theare pipe organ installed complete with illuminated console. I wonder what became of it???

MUSIC MAGAZINE REVIEWS PALMISTRA CONCERT.

Australia's leading music magazine, "Music Maker" in its January issue gave a two page review of the DENIS PALMISTRA concert at Marrickville Town Hall last November. Complete with a half page picture of DENIS at our WurliTzer, the review is in the "rave" category giving high praise to the artist, our organ and its installation, and even pays tribute to the Society for its bold and courageous move in re-installing the organ in its present location. The reviewer was John Gardiner, who says of DENIS, that he could make a "honky tonk piano sound like a Steinway Concert Grand". The article is a fine souvenir of our first birthday concert, and as such, is well worth the modest 20¢ that the magazine costs, but you'll have to be quick as we are now into February, and the article did appear in the January issue.

T.F. & C.B. TO CONCERTIZE FOR THOMAS.

It has been announced that TONY FENELON and CLIFF BINGHAM will team together for a concert on the 14th February at 7.45pm in the Conservatorium auditorium. They will be heard solo as well as in duets using organs and piano. Presented by Winton Music Centre the proceeds of the concert will go towards furnishings for the Tara Senior Citizens Centre at Newcastle. Tickets are obtainable from Winton Music Centre at 83 York Street Sydney and cost \$1.50 for adults with children under 16 years at 75¢. The concert will have a surprise which your Editor has promised not to reveal at this stage, so I regret that I must blam up and keep my word. Saturday 14th Feb. it is.

SYDNEY HOSTS MANY VISITORS TO CITY.

Sydney has been the Mecca for a number of interstate and overseas visitors recently, and the NSW Division has been pleased to welcome them all and to show them around. First to arrive was our New Zealand member Maurice Carbines who flew over especially to attend the first birthday concert of our WurliTzer played by DENIS PALMISTRA on November 20th last. Maurice and a friend were entertained by President Tom and Mrs Halloran one evening - they were also entertained by your Editor. Maurice described the PALMISTRA concert as "fabulous" and well worth coming over for.

A few days before Xmas, we were able to welcome Queensland Division's News Editor, Tom F. Ellis and Mrs Ellis. They were taken to Marrickville Town Hall by your Editor and were able to inspect and try our organ. They were also taken to the Capitol Theatre where official photographer Bill Schnitger secured a few shots of two TOSA Editors with the same surname deep in a news conference in the Capitol's foyer. Member Robert Gliddon then conducted us to St. Columbs at Ryde to see and hear the Christie theatre pipe organ installed there. A brief listen to the DENIS PALMISTRA tape over a late morning tea at your Editor's home and they were away after a very enjoyable and fruitful visit, the results of which will undoubtedly mean closer liason between Queensland's "Tibia" and NSW's "TOSA News".

A few days later, I received a phone call from the Queensland Division's President, Howell Whitehouse, who, with Mrs Whitehouse and the family, had arrived in Sydney for a brief and hurriedly planned couple of days. Howell and Doris were guests of NSW Division at the January Committee meeting where we were able to have an interchange of ideas and a great deal of beneficial discussions with these friendly folk. The following night they were taken to inspect our organ at Marrickville. Also we were able to welcome John Fergusson of the Victorian Division who had rung Tom Halloran to see if an inspection could be arranged and we were glad to be able to have them all on the one night when the visitors could meet each other. John also paid a visit to the Capitol Theatre a couple of days later by invitation. During the visit to Marrickville they were able to hear PETER HELD rehearsing his programme for his forthcoming concert and had the opportunity to meet him. Howell's young daughter, Sue then tried her hand at the console and showed a great deal of ability especially when one considered that she was sitting at a theatre pipe organ for the first time. Both Howell and Doris asked TOSA News to extend to all members of the NSW Division, their best wishes for 1970 on behalf of all Queensland members.

Next visitors to arrive on January 8th, were from Western Australia. Ray Clements, Secretary of the W.A. Division accompanied by John Fuhrman, Doug Miller and John Green checked into their Coogee Bay hotel after driving over from Perth. Your Editor contacted them about five minutes after they arrived, and a visit to the Capitol Theatre was arranged for 8am Saturday 10th followed by a visit to the Bondi Junction R.S.L. Club where our Honorary member IAN DAVIES took them under his wing. The following Tuesday at 8am they were taken to inspect the State Theatre and its 4/21 WurliTzer by your Editor, and later that day after having dinner with them, as

their guest too, I might add, I took them to Marrickville to our Wurlitzer. John Fuhrman is the resident organist at the Perth Metro Theatre and Ray Clements of course, is a professional organist, so they lost no time in trying out the organ. And very enjoyable it was too - its a great pity that both of these guys were not able to concertize for us whilst they were here. They were both willing to play for the Society, but, with the Society in the midst of its Xmas recess, it was just not possible to organise anything of this nature for that time of the year.

Also present at Marrickville that night was Major Ben Bailey of the United States Air Force who was down in Sydney on a few days R & R leave from Vietnam. The Major arrived in town that day about noon, and within a couple of hours he had settled himself into a hotel, and set off to find out if there was any theatre organ activity in our fair city. A few minutes later he had tracked me down in less time than the average person would take to find out where the Town Hall was located. Ben is a former member of the L.A. Chapter of ATOS, and after two years in Vietnam, his pleasure at seeing a real live Wurlitzer once again had to be seen to be believed. He displayed a nice style of playing - smooth and with the emphasis on rhythm. Arrangements were quickly made to ensure that his stay in Sydney was well'organised' and members Robert Gliddon, Colin Tringham and several other members showing him around or offering hospitality. Colin took over on the Friday night, and after a few drinks and a meal took Ben to the home of Ian Choy who made his Thomas 311 available to our visitor. Saturday, Ben had a ferry trip to Manly, where he was met by Colin and visited Spence's Music store to see the Yamaha E3, then on to the Palm Beach residence of Mr & Mrs Jim Bass who has a Conn transistor model theatre organ. After lunch they visited Lance and Mrs Wells and played the Conn with electronic pipes. The next stop was at the Bondi RSL Club where IAN DAVIES invited the Major to play the organ, which he did to a long round of applause.

Today, TOSA News received a most appreciative letter from the Major, now back in Vietnam, thanking the NSW Division and all the individuals who made his stay in Sydney so enjoyable. In his own words, "one of the most enjoyable weeks I have ever spent" "I am just now starting to get over the depression that I felt at having to leave" His letter ended with a request as to whether he could become a subscriber to TOSA News to keep in touch with us. He most certainly can, and we welcome the chance to keep in touch with a very friendly and charming guy.

Our four friends from West Australia also enjoyed their visit and were most appreciative of what little we had been able to do for them, and suddenly it was very quiet again - all visitors had left and we were back to normal again. Or so I thought, when suddenly, a few days later my old friend, WILBUR KENTWELL rang to say he'd be arriving at my place within hours. And arrive he did, (on his birthday too) (its January 20th - sshh ! keep it dark). He too was taken to Marrickville and spent a couple of hours happily playing the Wurlitzer, after which he returned home with me for supper which went on to the wee small hours of the morning. The most important thing I discussed with him was in reference to a concert for us, and I'm very pleased to be able to report that arrangements are now in hand for this event.

It sure is nice to meet nice people interested in the same hobby as ourselves, and we have, over the last couple of months, met a heck of a lot of nice people.

FOR SALE.

Member Colin Tringham has just discovered that among the books he recently brought back from the U.S.A. he has two copies of "The world of Music - Volumes 14 to 16". These books contain almost 350 pieces from the latest shows, hit parades etc. If you would like to own a copy of this book Colin will sell it for \$17.50. If you are interested telephone him at 98-7947.

NEXT MEMBERS PRACTISE SESSIONS AT MARRICKVILLE.

The February practise session times will be as follows:

- Group 1. Saturday 28th February
- Group 2. Tuesday 24th February

Members should attend punctually at the hour appointed to them. This will avoid any dead time and ensures that a smoothly running practise session can be enjoyed by those who follow on after you. Thank you for your co-operation.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS (From the "Cipher")

The January issue of "Cipher" carries a full report on the three State tour of four of their members. They were obviously very impressed with the enthusiasm they found in the various Divisions. Such visits by members of interstate Divisions is doing much to cement relations and foster a brotherhood of all of us who love the "king of instruments". Long may they continue - they bring benefits to all members of the Society, even to those who may never make in interstate tour.

TO ALL LOCAL, INTERSTATE & OVERSEAS ORGAN HUNTERS. There seems to be a wide-spread rumour spreading in the Eastern States which I must contradict. The METRO Theatre WurliTzer organ is definitely NOT for sale, now or in the future. This, the management of M.G.M. has firmly stated, and unlike some theatre managements with whom TOSA has elsewhere had dealings, statements made by M.G.M. are adhered to strictly. Since some \$3000 has been spent on the organ in the last three years, and a baby grand piano purchased for it, it should be obvious to the instigator of the rumour that the organ could not be considered for sale.

I must assure would be poachers that M.G.M. policy incorporates use of the organ (one of the few possessed by them in the world). NO correspondence whatever on the subject will be answered by the manager. I request all Editors of TOSA journals to reprint this statement.

John Fuhrmann.

The above statement by John Fuhrmann, the resident organist, should give the lie to those spreading this false and malicious rumour and NSW TOSA News welcomes the chance to help put an end to it. It is wonderful indeed to hear that M.G.M. are firmly committed to an organ policy for the Metro Theatre - they show a mature and sensible approach for while it is not possible for managements to install a theatre pipe organ these days, those that still have one installed could be making use of them. With the right presentation methods, they could be a drawcard to give an advantage over the competitor not possessed of a mighty WurliTzer.

West. Aust. Patron TONY FENELON is to appear at the Metro Theatre WurliTzer on Thursday 19th February at 7.45pm in a concert to be followed by the film "Flare Up" after interval.

VICTORIAN DIVISION NEWS. (From Vox)HILL NORMAN & BEARD WIN CONTRACT.

The Melbourne Organ Builders, Hill Norman & Beard won the contract for the voicing, regulating and tuning to concert standard of the Moorabbin Town Hall 4/21 WurliTzer currently undergoing finishing touches by members of this Society. The organ tuners will be commencing work sometime thismonth, and members are asked not to "drop in" on their work times, as this skilled work must be done without any distractions or interference.

DENDY WURLITZER FLOODED AGAIN.

During the recent torrential rain at the beginning of this year when 3 inches poured down on us, the Dendy WurliTzer chambers were flooded to a depth of four or five inches. No serious damage seemed to result, although a number of faults appeared in the organ, possibly due to several cables being submerged. Fortunately, the flood waters subsided fairly quickly and serious damage was not done. The maintenance crew were quickly on the scene and fixed up what they could. As this is the third time serious flooding has been reported, the Society is investigating the installation of pumps in the chambers and console pit to take care of any water should it ever occur again.

Footnote: It is almost exactly three years since the last two episodes of flooding occurred - they say things happen in 3's !

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS. (From "Tibia")

January issue of Tibia announces the appointment of a Patron to the Queensland Division. He is Mr Robert Boughen F.T.C.L., L.R.S.M., A MUS A. Mr Boughen is the City Hall organist in Brisbane and is well known as one of the judges on Australia's New Faces T.V. show. The distinguished musician will be a most able as well as popular choice for the position and we congratulate them on their

choice. Hooray ! at last each Division has its own Patron and we are all proud and happy over the situation.

NSW Honorary member ERIC SMITH appeared in concert for the Queensland Division in January. TOSA News was informed that ERIC played a great concert to a large and enthusiastic audience who fully enjoyed a very varied programme. A guest vocalist, Miss Margaret Stanford, sang delightfully and a young Brisbane organist, Michael Lynch played incidental music prior to the main recital. ERIC was very impressed with Michael's playing.

ERIC and his wife were overwhelmed with Queensland member's hospitality and were loud in their praises of the kindness and friendship displayed in the "sunny State". They have asked TOSA News to pass on their sincere appreciation and thanks for all that was done for them during their stay.

January TIBIA also carried a full report by its Editor, Tom Ellis, of his recent trip to Sydney. He very obviously enjoyed himself and had some very nice things to say about NSW Division hospitality. Yours truly received several honorable "mentioned in despatches" from Tom. Thank you Sir - you're very welcome.

Another NSW Honorary member PETER HELD also appeared in a concert for the Queensland Division during January, but no report has come to hand of this show as yet.

ORGANIST DONATES FEE TO ORGAN FUND.

Our member BILL SCHUMACHER who gave a short concert following the Annual General Meeting on January 28th very generously donated his fee to the Pipe Organ Purchase Fund, and the Society sincerely thanks BILL for this warm gesture.

A record raffle at the same meeting raised a further \$12.20 to the organ fund and we are indebted to our American member, Mr Ledwon Senior for the donation of the record which was raffled. It was of his son JOHN LEDWON at the organ.

ADDITIONAL NEW MEMBERS TO TOSA.

Since we printed the list of new members on page 3, a few more names have been received by phone. We therefore welcome the following new members: Ernest Vale, Mr & Mrs H. Allen and Norman Read. We look forward to seeing you soon.

RECORD SALE.

Our Treasurer, Rod Blackmore, announces a Record Sale to clear some of the records in stock. He has supplied TOSA News with a long list of the discs available, however, his fully detailed list is too long for publication this month, so we suggest you study the names of the organists given hereunder, and if you are interested in securing any of them, ring Rod Blackmore at 42-2421. Some of the records listed are in single copies only, and a few of them are not guaranteed new although they appear to be in new condition. The artists are: Dick Schrumm - Noreen Hennessy - John Brent Ledwon - Jack Loren - Al Bollington - Jim Melander - Gerald Shaw - Don French - George Blackmore - Buddy Nolan - Dalton McAlpin - Don Knights - Wendell Kennedy - John Kiley - Jesse Crawford - The Roy-Cliffs - Chris Christian - Ken Downey John Gart etc. Rod Blackmore has full details of the organs featured, the price, and whether the disc is definitely new or not.

USA MAG SALUTES EDITOR "STU" GREEN.

The December issue of Theatre Organ Bombarde is the last issue to be made under the present title. As of February, it will be known simply as "Theatre Organ". Over the years its Editor, Stu Green has done a magnificent job, and in a leading article, G.F. Thompsnagel pays tribute to the genial Stu and pokes a little fun at happy Stu's expanxe (sorry, that should be "expenxe" Ed.) Now who's poking fun? A few quotes from the article are well worth repeating. "In our attempts to get some background material for a biography on Stu Green, we interviewed many of his friends and acquaintances. Comments from some of these people follow : EDDIE DUNSTEDTER "If we must discuss him I'll have another bourbon please - a double" LAUREL HAGGART "I think he's kind of cute in a pudgy sort of way" It is very obvious that Stu is a well loved and popular figure among organ fans - a man with the ability to laugh at himself, and TOSA News joins with our American friends in paying tribute to Theatre Organ Bombarde's EDITOR EMERITUS - W "STU" GREEN.

That's all for this month. The Editor.