

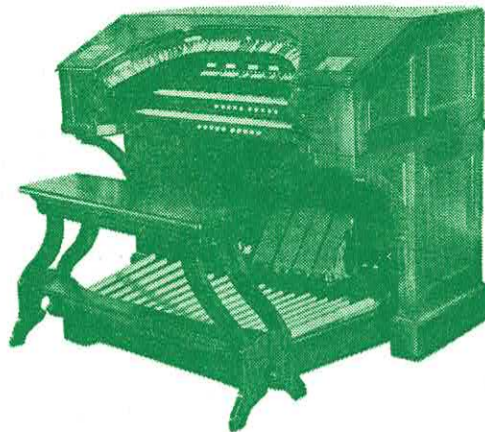
T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

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1st JULY 1969.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH.

WEDNESDAY 16th JULY AT 8pm at WESLEY CENTRE AUDITORIUM, PITT STREET SYDNEY.

The Society will present its first "SEE & HEAR" night. This will take the form of tape recordings of famous theatre organs from around the world, played on hi-fidelity equipment, accompanied by color slides of organ consoles, theatres and other interesting items. Any member who has suitable color slides is invited to bring them along for screening as part of the programme, together with those in the Society's collection. Please mark your slides for easy identification at the end of the show.

Members who specially wish to hear parts of any specific Society tape, should ring the Secretary at 631-6189 BEFORE 7th July in order to give him sufficient time for preparation of the tape. The "SEE & HEAR" programme will be preceded by the Half Yearly Business Meeting, which it is anticipated, will be quite brief. The main business item will be a discussion of the financing of the Society's electronic organ construction project.

This is a FREE night to all members, and Membership cards must be produced at the doors. It is regretted that no friends or visitors can be admitted to this function.

SATURDAY 26th JULY AT 8am AT SYDNEY'S CAPITOL THEATRE.

THE MIGHTY CAPITOL THEATRE WURLITZER TO BE HEARD AGAIN. Our Honorary Member, ERIC SMITH, will present the first concert on the Capitol Theatre's Wurlitzer for 1969. This will take place on Saturday 26th July at 8 AM SHARP. The 3/15 Wurlitzer has not been heard for over 15 months, due to extensive restoration, so this becomes something of a very special occasion. This function is for TOSA members only and is FREE. There will be NO CHARGE for admission, and membership cards MUST be produced at the doors, to comply with the management's instructions. Don't forget to rise early on Saturday 26th July, in order to be at the Capitol Theatre for 8am.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

In August it is hoped to present one of Australia's greatest theatre organists, in his first concert at the Marrickville Town Hall Wurlitzer. This is dependent on the negotiations which are now proceeding with regard to his future commitments. Full details will be given in the August issue of TOSA News.

Your Editor would also like to remind members that September is Convention month, so please try and keep the following dates free from other engagements, if you possibly can. The dates are - FRIDAY 12th - SATURDAY 13th - SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Members of the Committee please note - July meeting will be on 7th at 7.15pm. August meeting will be on Monday 4th - and the September meeting on Monday 1st September.

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST TOSA NEWS.

Please note that the deadline for news items for August TOSA News will be Friday 25th July and the issue will be prepared on 26th and 27th. Please ensure that your copy reaches us by the due date in order to appear in the August issue.

S E P T E M B E R I S C O N V E N T I O N M O N T H I N N . S . W

LOOKING BACK AT LAST MONTH.CHURCH RECITAL BY RONALD MARSTON. (Reviewed by J. Clancy)

Members who attended this recital at St. John's Church Rockdale, were given a splendid demonstration of the wide variety of music possible of performance on a rebuilt instrument using electric action and extension, and equipped with a nice modern console fitted with tab stops and pistons.

The Church Rector, Rev. J. Richards, welcomed the Society to the Church, and commented on the good work T.O.S.A. was doing in encouraging the love of organ music, then member Eric Mirovitch announced the first item, the famous Bach Toccata and Finale. This was played in bravura style, followed by a quiet interlude of the beautiful Air On The G String. A complete change of style followed with two light items, and selections from "The Sound Of Music". What was to this reviewer, the high spot of the evening followed, a Movement from the Beethoven Symphony in D. Here Ronald Marston registered faithful orchestral sounds, so that at times it seemed there was actually a choir of violins and woodwind playing.

In the second half, we heard excellent effects of bells in two carillon pieces. Here again, we had a surprise in the piece, "Dainty Miss", a hit tune of the '20's, which Ronald said reminded him of the young ladies of the choir. The programme concluded with some old favorites - Melody In F - Perfect Day and a Trumpet Voluntary which really showed off the fiery Trumpet rank.

On behalf of the Society, John Clancy thanked the Rector and the Organist, for the very enjoyable evening, and presented Ronald Marston with a neat set of engraved cuff links. The event rounded off with tea and biscuits in the Church Hall.

CLIFF BINGHAM PLAYS SOCIETY WURLITZER (Reviewed by J. Clancy)

Despite a cold and wintry day, there was a good attendance at the Marrickville Town Hall, to hear member CLIFF BINGHAM play his first concert on the Society's WurliTzer. Opening with the theme from "Bugs Bunny", CLIFF announced the Overture, Morning, Noon And Night In Vienna. This is probably the first time this Overture has been played at a TOSA Concert in NSW, and it is always good to note a musician breaking new ground. "Jealousy" was dedicated to a nameless young lady, and featured Castanets. Probably the best played item in the first half, was the SYDNEY TORCH arrangement of "When Day Is Done". This number really kicked along, and CLIFF showed us just how effective a staccato Kinura and Orch. Oboe combination can be for this type of piece. In fact, the registration of this item was first class.

The high spot of the second half was a very imaginative (and original) version of "The Clock Shop". In this CLIFF went through just about every sound effect on the WurliTzer, including the Auto horn. (How did the old soldier get loose in the Clock store??) The fine Wood Block on our WurliTzer got the clock number tickin' along allied with the Chimes.

In the pops selection, "Oobla Dee, Oobla Da" had good registration and a fast pace, and the audience appreciated this one. A contrast was the playing of the well known hymn, "How Great Thou Art", and this was one time that the full power of the organ was let go untremmed - very effective. An original set of variations on "Waltzing Matilda" ended the concert - these were somewhat long winded and would benefit from editing. Summing up then - an imaginative programme, well varied, not glued up with weird "modern chordings", the volume of the organ kept down to a nice enjoyable level, adequate use of percussion effects without too much 'glockenspiel squeal'. The policy of presenting a different organist at each Marrickville concert this year, obviously is appreciated by the audience, and we look forward to more concerts by 'first time' artists during the second half of the year.

JACK MALMSTEN CONCERT. (Reviewed by Uno Hoo)

Although it was a cold and wet night, a capacity audience were present at the Teacher's Federation Auditorium last month, for JACK MALMSTEN'S third visit to Sydney. Presented by the Thomas Organ Distributors & Winton Music Centre, who had extended invitations to TOSA members as well as the general public, the evening provided a splendid feast of organ fare presented by an organist of outstanding ability. JACK MALMSTEN, an American demonstrator for Thomas, has made many overseas concert tours, which are designed to show off the product to best advantage, and it would be true to say, that few could rival JACK in this field. His familiarity with the instrument and what it is capable of producing, enable him to do this with rare skill whilst making it all

JACK MALMSTEN CONCERT (Cont.)

appear, disarmingly simple. His talents and experience enabled him to present a programme of wide variety aimed at pleasing every member of his audience, irrespective of taste, and he introduced his items in an informal, oft times humorous manner, which had him completely 'on side' with his audience right from the start.

As it is quite obvious that a top class organist concertising around the world on a particular make of organ, is a sure fire way to build a product image, it is therefore rather surprising that other American manufacturers have not climbed on to the band wagon before now. Apart from the Thomas Company, this reviewer knows of only one other U.S.A. organ manufacturer, alive to the tremendous potential yet to be tapped in this country. Summing up - a splendid evening's entertainment by a top organist whom we look forward to hearing again in the future, and our thanks go to the Winton Music Centre for inviting the Society.

JACK MALMSTEN also presented a concert in similiar vein, at Parramatta later in the month, and here again, he delighted a large audience.

IAN DAVIES PREMIERES AGAIN AT STATE. (Reviewed by Uno Hoo)

On Thursday 12th June, members of the NSW Division of T.O.S.A. were the guests of Greater Union Theatres, for the Australian Premiere of the film "It Takes All Kinds", which starred Robert Lansing. As on previous occasions, the Society members were invited to enter the State Theatre at 6.30pm for a private recital featuring the State's Mighty 4/21 WurliTzer which is the largest in an Australian Theatre.

Honorary Member IAN DAVIES brought the console up from the pit at 6.45pm after an introduction from your Editor, and played until 7.30pm, at which hour, the general public streamed into the theatre. IAN rode the console up again at 7.45pm and played until the start of the show at 8.15pm. He also brought the console up to overture position for the personal appearances on stage of Robert Lansing, the star, Eddie Davis, the Director, and Reg Goldsworthy, the Producer. One of the female leads, Miss Penny Sugg, also graced the stage and was presented with a sheaf of flowers. Use of the organ of course added tremendously to the presentation.

Whilst it is a great thrill to see the State's WurliTzer make one of its rare appearances, it is nonetheless sad to see that its condition is much the same as at the last premiere. Organ man, Peter Rowe, had tuned the instrument, and got as much of it operable as possible, but IAN was very restricted in just what he could play, bearing in mind just what was "off". He lived up to his reputation as "the happy organist", and played a suitably "happy" programme, the highlight of which would undoubtedly have been his splendid "Sleepy Lagoon".

As at previous premieres, the organ seemed to get better as the night went on - no doubt the opportunity to fill its chests with fresh air for the first time in months brought new life and hope to the instrument, after its long sojourn down the musty depths of the deep pit.

The Society sincerely thanks IAN DAVIES for the fine job he did in the circumstances. It must surely have been a nerve-wracking experience with the organ in such a doubtful condition. Nevertheless, members did enjoy seeing the organ again.

This is the third occasion in the last few months, that the NSW Division have been invited by the Management to be their guests for an Australian Premiere, and this ready acceptance of the Society and its aims, by a movie theatre organisation, must be unique indeed. We are very grateful to them for inviting us to be a part of such an exciting and glittering occasion.

DON MCDONALD'S ORGAN PARTY.

Yessir !! He's been an' gorn and done it again !!! After attending the first organ party at the home of Committee man Don McDonald, your Editor didn't think that Don and Mrs Mac could top the arrangements for that very successful function. But I must admit that I was wrong. The organ party at the McDonald home on Saturday 21st June did outdo the other one. June 21st being the shortest day of our year, it must obviously follow that the 21st would be the longest night, but to me, the night wasn't long enough - it all went so quickly that it seemed like the shortest night of the year. The improvements carried out by Don since our last visit were all admired and enjoyed, and they contributed greatly to the success of the evening. The position of the grand piano now enables the audience to see the keyboard in

DON MCDONALD'S ORGAN PARTY (Cont)

operation whilst it is being played from the organ console - this adds a great deal of interest when, by merely turning one's head, it is possible to watch both piano and organ. A great improvement. The excellent colored lighting effects in the translucent columns each side of the screen which has its own curtains, added much in the way of atmosphere to both the musical programme as well as to the screening of the sound film. After the first musical interlude played by our host on his Lowrey theatre organ, there was no problem in finding organists ready to try out their own skills on the instrument. Amongst those who played were, Lance Wells, young Elizabeth Bird, Peter Held, Des Russell, John Clancy, Ian Russell, Cyril Haines and several others. Mrs Ward forsook the organ in order to play the grand piano for us.

Peter Held returned after a delightful supper had been served and treated us to a generous helping of his talents, soloing on both instruments, as well as featuring them together. His "Dizzy Fingers" was the dizziest ever and together with "The Whistler & His Hot Dog" were the highlights. We sincerely thank the McDonalds for a wonderful evening which added a further \$41.60 to our Pipe Organ Purchase Fund.

VICTORIAN DIVISION NEWS (From The Vox Newsletter)

The Victorian Division came out last month with a 'new look' Vox Newsletter which bears a handsome photo of the Dendy Wurlitzer console on its front page, in the same manner as TOSA News depicts our Marrickville Town Hall Wurlitzer console. This is a fine idea which your Editor is all in favour of. It shows to all country, interstate and overseas members of this Society, just what these two splendid instruments really look like, and is a permanent reminder of our Society's valuable assets. At the same time, such photos make it abundantly clear that T.O.S.A. spread across five States of this great Continent is a solid and go-ahead organisation, which is fully committed not only to the pleasures of listening to the Wurlitzer, but also to the dedicated preservation and restoration of such instruments whenever possible. The South Australian Division also owns a 2/12 Wurlitzer, at present undergoing restoration before being installed in a new location.

TOSA News Editor congratulates the Victorian Division on its tasteful 'new look' Vox, and wishes the publication every success. To its Editor we say "Good on yer Julian" ! The following items are quoted from the June Vox.

SUNDAY 20th JULY AT 2.30pm. There will be a public concert in the Dendy Cinema which will feature the Division's 3/15 Wurlitzer. The organist's name was not given.

SUNDAY 31st AUGUST AT 2.30pm. A "Farewell" concert will be given by TONY FENELON on the Dendy Wurlitzer before he leaves for his overseas tour. Further details are to be given in the July edition of Vox, and will be published in August TOSA News. TONY is to play concerts in America during a quite extensive tour of that country. He has a fairly heavy itinerary of concert engagements ranging from the Wiltern Theatre's Kimball organ to 'plug-ins' at the San Francisco Organ Festival. In between, he will appear for the Denver Theatre Organ Club, the Detroit Theatre Organ Club, San Diego Fox Theatre, Salt Lake City and the Avenue Theatre in San Francisco. In addition, he will give concerts on a number of privately owned Wurlitzers for various Chapters of Theatre Organ fans. NSW Division wishes TONY the best of luck on his tour.

Vox also reported that GORDON HAMILTON appeared in concert at the Melbourne Town Hall organ during a Sunday afternoon concert in May.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members are welcomed to the Society, and we hope that you will be able to attend as many functions as possible and enjoy your evenings with the Society. Please make yourself known to a member of the Committee, who will be wearing badges for easy recognition, the first time you attend a function. It's his duty to see that you meet other members of the Society and you are made to feel welcome.

New Members To NSW. - Allen Walker of Orange - N. Stokes of Sydney - Mr & Mrs Hagger of Sydney - James Dibble of Sydney - Mr & Mrs McKenzie of Sydney.

(We extend a special welcome to James Dibble, one of the A.B.C.'s TV personalities and possibly Australia's best known news reader - welcome aboard Jim)

New Members to West. Aust. - Vernon Kidd - Mr & Mrs W. Taylor of Perth.

It's nice to see our membership growing each month. See what you can do to introduce a new member this month. Remember, NSW members can earn a \$1 voucher for each new member they introduce. (City members only) Vouchers can be used as part payment of your Annual Membership Dues up to a maximum of \$4.

PIPE ORGAN PURCHASE FUND

We are pleased to acknowledge the addition to the above fund of \$10 from our memers in America, Dick Schrumm and Russ Evans. The \$10 is from the sale of records which were donated by Dick and Russ. The records sold were of DICK SCHRUMM at the WurliTzer of the Paramount Theatre Seattle and it is still available from the Secretary (Mono)

QUEENSLAND DIVISION NEWS (Reported by Nev. Seymour)

A meeting of the Gold Coast Chapter of T.O.S.A. was held at the home of member Arthur Rizzo at Surfers Paradise on Sunday 25th May. About 25 members and friends were present to hear and try the Rodgers three manual organ installed in Arthurs home. The usual method in the Queensland Division is to place the names of all those able to play, in a hat, and as their name is drawn, the named person then plays. This is a good idea as it makes for complete informality, and helps to overcome nerves.

Nev reports that the Queensland Division is gaining new members at a quite steady rate, which must be very gratifying to the Committee. New members announced in his report are :- Mr & Mrs A. Bell - Mrs E. Kropp - Mr Mal Stevens - Mrs M. Theodore - Mr Robin McFarlane - Mr K.A. Reedman - Mr M. Gillies.

Queensland Division had the pleasant surprise of a visit from famous classical organist SERGIO DE PIERI recently. SERGIO played several classical offerings which were very much enjoyed by the members. Member Dr. Ron Knight brought SERGIO along to the meeting.

On June 9th Queensland Division were able to hear JACK MALMSTEN play the Thomas Electra organ newly installed in the Eldorado Cinema at Indooroopilly. Nev. Seymour reports there was a full house for the occasion, and that the audience really enjoyed the playing of JACK MALMSTEN.

On September 29th there is to be an "Organ Spectacular in the City Hall as part of the city's "Warana" Festival. No less than six electronic organs will be on stage together with the City Hall Pipe organ. This promises to be an exciting event.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS.

The usual bulletin from West. Australian Secretary, Ray Clements has not arrived as we go to press. This is the first time that Ray has ever missed too, but that's how it goes sometimes.

In the absence of the news Bulletin however, TOSA News would like to announce, in case you didn't know, that West. Australian Division's Secretary, Ray Clements has left the P.M.G. department where he had been gainfully employed for some time and has become a salesman-demonstrator for Conn organ distributor, Armstrong's of Perth. We wish Ray all the success in his new career. Peddle those organs pal, for all you're worth.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION NEWS (Reported by Fran Searle)

Colin Smith, the local distributor of Thomas organs put on a very nice evening on 26th May in the Quarter Deck Restaurant at the Marion Shopping Centre, and the main presentation of course, featured that well known American personality and dynamic organist, JACK MALMSTEN. MALMSTEN commenced playing about 7.30pm whilst approximately 200 guests enjoyed an excellent chicken dinner. His programme was very varied, although as usual, he seemed to revel and excell in playing anything with rhythm and a beat. For the first time, yours truly and many others heard him play some liturgic music, using of course the Thomas reverberation, slow moving Leslie speaker (Celeste) and the chimes at the right moments. The highlight for the writer, was when he played "Serenade In Blue" as arranged by BUDDY COLE.

Although MALMSTEN may not be everyone's cup of tea, the majority of us find him a very versatile and imaginative organist and a good showman with an appropriate sense of humour, and together with TONY FENELON, the Thomas Organ Company should have a flying start "demonstration wise".

MALMSTEN also played the following evening in concert at the Rothman's Theatre, Wayville Showgrounds, for approximately two hours, once again covering a wide range of music. He asked for requests from the audience and no request appeared to get him stumped. One member of the audience was heard to remark, "He plays the tone tabs faster than I can play the keys and the band box must be about melting" ! He certainly is a worker, and must be a great asset to his employers. (Continued on page 8)

TECHNICAL LECTURE by ERIC MIROVITCH on AN ORGAN TUNING
DEVICE FOR THE TEMPERED SCALE (reported by DES RUSSELL)

On Saturday, 14th June at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Spring, the usual group of technically interested members gathered to hear the second half of the lecture and discussion on TUNING DEVICES. The lecture commenced with some statements on the acceptable pitch errors associated with the tuning of musical instruments. Richard Dorf, a notable authority (U.S.A.) for the design of electronic organs, is on record as having stated that an error of .25% was satisfactory, but he has recently reduced this figure to .1%. This latter figure would seem to be more generally accepted by the tuning fraternity, and could be readily achieved by the instrument developed by Eric. This instrument employs a number of logic circuits (as used in computers) plus a modest audio amplifier speaker assembly, and the whole unit would appear to be quite simple to construct at a cost of \$30 to \$40. Any description of the theory of operation would be rather lengthy to report here, but members will be pleased to know that there is a possibility that a detailed article may appear in "Electronics Australia" in the not too far distant future. Perhaps the only point on the debit side in this instrument is the fact that the audio output is pitched near the centre of the keyboard, and while this is of no consequence for frequency divider type organs, one member present thought that some difficulties may arise when tuning a free phase organ (one oscillator for each note) in that the ear could mistakenly accept fifths as octaves. This applies especially to the 1 ft. pitches at the upper end of the manual. However, a demonstration by Eric on some equipment (thoughtfully made available by our host) showed that Eric experienced no difficulty whatsoever, as he was able to select the correct pitch without hesitation. (Every time a coconut!) In all fairness however, it must be pointed out that Eric is not without organ tuning experience.

One very useful feature in the application of this device to pipe organ tuning is the provision for shifting the 12 reference frequencies bodily up or down in pitch while preserving their correct relationship to each other. It does not take much thought to appreciate that if any organ is being tuned during extremes of temperature, the average shift in pitch can be followed by this tuning device and perhaps only a few pipes will require touching up instead of nearly every pipe in the organ!

In reproducing table A below, it is of interest to note that the mathematical ratio column 4 was derived by Eric plus a full size modern computer.

NOTE	Hz	$12\sqrt{2}$	RATIO	f	% ERROR	f DIFF.Hz.
C	261.625	1.6817929	451	261.463	-.0623	-.163
C sharp	277.182	1.5874010	426	276.807	-.1356	-.376
D	293.664	1.4983071	402	293.333	-.1128	-.331
D sharp	311.127	1.4142136	379	311.115	+.0025	+.008
E	329.6275	1.3348399	358	329.386	-.07347	-.242
F	349.228	1.2599210	338	348.876	-.1007	-.352
F sharp	369.994	1.1892071	319	369.655	-.09162	-.339
G	391.9958	1.1224621	301	391.760	-.0602	-.236
G sharp	415.3039	1.0594631	284	415.211	-.02239	-.093
A	440.000	1.0000	268			
A sharp	466.1639	0.943874	253	466.087	-.077	-.01651
B	493.8831	0.890899	239	493.389	-.1	-.494

Judging by the level of applause at the end of the lecture, T.O.S.A. members left no doubts in their appreciation of the work that had gone into the preparation of this lecture.

Before the evening concluded, our host Arthur Spring gave the meeting a brief description and demonstration of a tuning device developed by himself and Mr. Arthur Mears. We take the liberty of reprinting their notes for the benefit of members who were not able to be present:-

"ADAM - TUNER" by ARTHUR MEARS AND ARTHUR D. SPRING.

"A COUNT, DECODE and DIVIDE SYSTEM TO GENERATE THE TEMPERED MUSICAL SCALE WITHIN 0.06 %."

From one fixed prime source of 7.040 MHz. all notes of the tempered musical scale are produced; ranging from B = 7902.1 Hz. to C = 16.3516 Hz. By using a variable signal source, an instrument may be similarly tuned by zero beat method on all notes, to international 440 Hz. pitch or any other pitch considered expedient, with (again) no greater error than shown in the following table (B).

It is not easy to put a figure on acceptable degrees of mistuning, but it has been said -- "error should be kept down to .25%. A figure worth shooting for is .1%."

TABLE B						
NOTE	Hz.	12_2	RATIO	f	% ERROR	f DIFF.Hz.
C	261.6250	1.681791	1682	261.593	-.012	-.032
C sharp	277.1828	1.587400	1587	277.252	+.025	+.070
D	293.6642	1.498310	1498	293.724	+.020	+.060
D sharp	311.1269	1.414214	1414	311.173	+.015	+.046
E	329.6275	1.334840	1335	329.588	-.012	-.039
F	349.2285	1.259920	1260	349.206	-.008	-.022
F sharp	369.9941	1.189208	1189	370.058	+.017	+.064
G	391.9958	1.122461	1122	392.156	+.04	+.160
G sharp	415.3039	1.059465	1059	415.486	+.044	+.182
A	440.000	1.0000	1000	440.000	.000	.000
A sharp	466.1639	0.943874	944	466.101	-.013	-.053
B	493.883	0.890899	891	493.827	-.011	-.056

The monophonic tuner can, by means of two switches, select one of nine octaves and any note in such octave. All outputs being modified square waves.

It becomes obvious that by a redistribution of the decoding and the addition of components for twelve channels, one can develop a system capable of driving practically any divider organ, which, gross malfunction excepted, cannot go out of tune (within itself) and yet still retain the advantage of single knob pitch adjustment for the entire instrument, regardless of power line frequency.

It should not be overlooked, that vibrator "wobulation" of the prime source oscillator may not be musically satisfactory. Quite apart from the usual compromise, which must be made between oscillator stability (or stiffness) and softness to allow wide, linear frequency modulation, we have all notes varying at precisely the same rate and proportion of frequency.

A simpler tuning instrument could be constructed based on say, 440 KHz., but this would not yield notes higher than the middle octave of the keyboard. Whilst satisfactory for divider organs, it is a disadvantage when tuning free phase organs, for we are using as a detector, the sensitivity of the ear to beats as two signals are zeroed on frequency. It is our observation, that when harmonic tuning (by octaves) around 6 or 7 KHz., the ear can be tricked into accepting 5ths! A gross mistake, which is not immediately obvious on the oscilloscope, unless the scan rate is slow enough.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS (Cont)

Our Programmes Committee are at present making arrangements for us to hold monthly meetings at the Theosophical Hall Adelaide, which will include technical lectures, discussions and advice on playing techniques, listening to organ records on hi fi equipment, and of course, organ playing by our more qualified members, and we hope, by some middle of the road types and beginners.

Fran Searle also reported that the restoration team are slowly but surely putting their Wurlitzer organ back into good shape. This is the instrument the Division purchased from the Plaza Theatre Melbourne earlier this year and is a 2/12 Wurlitzer.

QUEENSLAND NEWS-GATHERER BACK ON DUTY.

Finally, in our interstate round-up, TOSA News Editor welcomes back Queensland news reporter, Nev. Seymour following a major operation which had laid him low for some weeks. Nice to see you around and about again Nev. Back to the treadmill again.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

FOR SALE. 1965 Valiant Station Wagon. Automatic. Long registration.
28 Drummoyne Ave Drummoyne. Phone 69-1758. After hours 81-1404

FOR SALE. DECCA head SH4E as new Price \$45 Guarantee. Contact Dr John Spivey
37 Berry Street Nowra NSW. Phone Nowra 2-2444. Here's a bargain
for some hi fi enthusiast - this is about half price or less.

WANTED TO BUY. Microphones, high quality only, Hi fi, to assist in making top
quality tapes of organs etc for T.O.S.A. Ring J.S. Rowston at
69-1758 or after hours 81-1404

TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT TO TOSA MEMBERS.

Ten per cent discount is available to TOSA members on purchase or rental of the following goods from THE HOME TALKIE CO. OF AUSTRALIA, 561 ELIZABETH STREET SYDNEY (corner of Cleveland Street). Phone 69-1758 or after hours 81-1404.....

Cameras...Projectors...Films...8 & 16 mm sound and silent...Professional equipment...
screenings with operator...Hire of Caravans...Tape Recorders...Tapes...Raw Film stock...
3,000 sound films available for hire or purchase...Repairs to all associated equip...
Hi fi record and Tape Equipment also.

FOR SALE. "1,001 Tunes " Music Books. Member Cyril Haines has two copies of this
book for sale. For further details phone Cyril at 523-7751

WANTED TO BUY. A Church wishes to buy a small Pipe organ. If you know of one
for sale please phone 635-0425.

FOR SALE. TOSA Secretary still has for sale stocks of the NOREEN HENNESSY Stereo LP
Record of the Final Recital in the Prince Edward Theatre. Price \$5 which
includes postage. Also DICK SCHRUMM LP record in MONO of the Seattle
Paramount Theatre's Wurlitzer. Price \$4 including postage. This is the
first time this organ has ever been on record and is a well worth while
addition to your record library. Phone Secretary at 631-6189.

MEMBERS PRACTISE SESSIONS AT MARRICKVILLE.

Due to the fact that the ERIC SMITH concert at the Capitol Theatre on Saturday 26th
July at 8am, will clash with the Members Practise day, it has been decided to bring
the Practise Day forward one week. PLEASE NOTE that the next Practise Day at the
Marrickville Town Hall will now be held on Saturday 19th July at the usual time allotted
to you. This will make it possible for those who have early practise times to attend
ERIC'S concert without having to forego their practise on the Wurlitzer. This of
course refers to all those in Practise Group No 1.

Practise Group No 2 has been arranged for the fourth Tuesday in each month commencing
at 7pm therefore the next Group No 2 Practise night will be Tuesday 22nd July at 7pm.
Due to the excellent response by members both groups are now fully booked out.

C O N V E N T I O N T I M E I S A P P R O A C H I N G A G A I N - - 1 9 6 9 .

CHARLES TUCKWELL - MUSICAL INTERLUDE.

Members may not be aware that our Honorary member CHARLES TUCKWELL, organist at the Pitt Street Congregational Church, presents Musical Vespers on the third Sunday of each month at 5.15pm. CHARLES usually presents guest artists and the choir in a musical interlude with himself at the organ. The next one is scheduled for Sunday 20th July at 5.15pm and will have as guests, the Sydney Harp Ensemble, led by Miss June Loney who is harpist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. TOSA members welcome.

The following information appeared in the pages of the London paper, The Sunday Times, and we are indebted to CHARLES TUCKWELL for passing the article on to us.

SAVE OUR ORGANS. (From the London Paper Sunday Times of 11 May 1969)

How much should we care about our organs? Well, Mr James Ward Stuchlik from Worthing cares. He has been waging a three year battle to get more organs in the BBC. For instance, do you know that the BBC broadcasts for approximately 31,000 minutes each week and has just 30 minutes of popular organ music and only in the Western Region at that? Are you aware of the fact that in the late forties there were over 2,000 hours of light organ broadcasts? Edward Heath plays the organ and over 29,000 organists have qualified at the Royal College of Organists alone. You see, organ lovers take their organs seriously.

And what's the BBC doing about it? They've completely scrapped the seven remaining weekly organ programmes, including Harold Smart's electric rhythm organ, Sandy McPherson's Sunday show for the elderly, even Reg (I do like to be beside the seaside) Dixon's programme from Blackpool Tower's Wurlitzer for over 30,000 hours - a world record. If it wasn't for Mr Dudley Teague from the Isle of Wight, who petitioned the BBC with 43,000 signatures, Dudley Savage on his Plymouth organ would have been lost forever. As it is, Dudley - once known as The Cornish Wonder Boy Organist - is now only broadcasting only once a month. An outrage.

Thank goodness for Mr James Ward Stuchlik who'll be delivering a 30,000 strong petition to the BBC this Tuesday and another 25,000 signatures in August. Happily the BBC has already capitulated and plans to broadcast a new programme in June "The Organist Entertains". "Not enough!" says Mr Stuchlik. "We still haven't got a pipe organ which we once had for 40 years or an electric organ programme for the lighter younger set."

In a further article, mention is made of the Cinema Organ Society of England who claim that there is a vast public hunger for organ music. The article continues with:- The Society has about 1,000 members, all of them mad about organs. They're especially keen on pipe organs, and whenever a cinema's about to be demolished or remodelled there's an organ enthusiast on hand, cheque book at the ready. "Prewar" says Ian Dalgleish "a pipe organ cost around £12,000 to build. Now they're worth four times as much but sometimes there are panic sales. The one from the Plaza Cinema went for about £400. It was bought by a restaurant owner who's building a special extension on a friend's house to put it in."

EDITOR'S NOTE. In England, organ lovers are at last out to stir the BBC into giving them what they want to hear - the theatre organ. In Australia however, we are prepared to sit back and bemoan the fact that the theatre organ is never heard on Australian radio, without actually doing anything positive about it.

We can write off 75% of the commercial radio stations of this city as being quite impossible to listen to if you are over the age of 21 - their programming seems to assume that the entire population has a mental age of 14 years. But there is still that bastion of better class entertainment, the A.B.C., as well as the other 25% of commercial stations who try to reach an intelligent audience. Surely we can do something to convince them, that THERE IS an audience for the theatre organ.

We might make a start with making up our own petition to present to them. What would be wrong with a book being provided at the Marrickville Town Hall near the console at our concerts. The audience, (members and the general public) could be asked to sign. We might even campaign around a bit. It may not cause a very big splash at first, but even a small ripple continues to spread outwards until it reaches the sides. The entire population should not have to put up with a non-stop barrage of electronic guitar for 24 hours each day. I cannot accept that this is what the public really wants, despite what radio stations so called "ratings" are supposed to indicate. As far as I am concerned, the electronic guitar is about as musically acceptable as the didgeridoo - it should not occupy so much air time.

THE AMERICAN SCENE FROM THE JUNE ISSUE OF THEATRE ORGAN BOMBARDE (Official ATOE Magazine)

Bombarde carries the report on the GEORGE WRIGHT concert in Rochester which took place on April 19th last to an almost full theatre. This was despite the opposition of a Fred Waring show at the nearby Eastman Theatre on the same night. GEORGE brought the Auditorium Theatre's 4/22 Wurlitzer into the spotlight with a brassy "Hallelujah". Doing his own introduction of numbers spiced with the inimitable WRIGHT humor, he stated that he had been swimming in California the previous day in 80 degree temperature, but on arising in his Rochester hotel room, looked outside at a thin mantle of snow. This disparity of weather was reflected in "April Showers" and "Let It Snow", the latter dedicated to his old crony from his radio days on the NBC "Prudential Show", Rochesterian Eddie Dunn.

After presenting a splendid programme WRIGHT was given a standing ovation by his appreciative audience some of whom had come from Michigan, Ohio, Massachusetts and Canada. He encored with "I'll See You Again" and "Goodnight Sweetheart".

CORN, HUMOR, A TOPFLIGHT MUSICAL PERFORMANCE MARK DEL CASTILLO CONCERT FOR L.A. CHAPTER.

LLOYD brought up the L.A. Wiltern Theatre's 4/37 Kimball console to the accompaniment of a snore-wracked "Oh How I Hate To Get Up In The Morning". When the spotlight hit him, the "snooze" theme was amplified by his attire - an old fashioned nightshirt and cap. While acknowledging the applause, he shed the outward attire stripping down to a snappy grey business suit. That was the introduction to his concert played at 9.30am. He then went into "Lazy" slumped over the manuals and this degenerated into a rumble of "snores" played on the lower register of one of the Kimball's Voxes.

The final item was something of a Colossal production. Called "Scrambled Overture", it consisted of recognizable themes from such orchestral or operatic potboilers as "Poet & Peasant" "Aida", "Faust", "Light Cavalry" and "William Tell" all expertly assembled with appropriate imbrication into an overture to end all overtures, and it is characteristic of the man that he played his overture as the last item on his program - without even bothering to retitle it "finale".

FRANK LANTERMAN - ORGANIST SENATOR.

Organist Frank Lanterman is the owner of the former San Francisco Fox 4/36 Wurlitzer which he is installing at considerable expense in his La Canada, Calif. home. Frank is also an Assembly man in the California Legislature at Sacramento, where one of his jobs is as overseer of the taxpayer's dollar. As guardian of the public purse he talks tough and plays the tightwad when other legislators seek state funds to finance pet projects. Conversely, he lavishes his own money on his mighty Wurlitzer. The bachelor-lawyer mellows when he speaks of the organ. He told an L.A. Herald-Examiner reporter, "I have an appreciation of the dollar when it applies to everything but my pipe organ - its my one indulgence". Frank was a prominent theatre organist in the '20's and '30s but he's found far greater security among his satisfied constituents. They have been re-electing him without surcease for 18 years. (FRANK LANTERMAN was the American organist who opened the Melbourne State Theatre Organ)

THE FABULOUS BEER CAN ORGAN.

In a piece by Stu Green, Theatre Organ Bombarde tells a fascinating story of a man, Mr Art Stopes, who built an organ from beer cans. Incredible as it may sound it worked. It had but one rank of pipes which a wag described as a "Vox Tincanna". Over 270 beer cans were used in the making of the pipes, and each had to be made topless and bottomless first. The remaining cylinder was then rolled to the size required for the particular diameter of the pipe being fabricated.

The "beer can organ" was written up in such magazines as Etude and Popular Mechanics and Art found himself in demand in lodge halls, Ballrooms, auditoriums, clubs, schools, and even theatres.. He even appeared on a coast to coast broadcast playing "Roll Out The Barrel" The organ played its last gasp in the '50s and was stored for some years before finally being scrapped. Thus ends the saga of the "beer Can organ"..

T.O. BOMBARDE runs a resume of some of the activities of the NSW Division of TOSA, particular mention being made of the REUBERT HAYES concert in February and the DENIS PALMISTRA concert at the Clancy residence in March. As well, the closing episode of the "storm in a teacup" saga, when we were supposed to have given misleading information about theatre organs in Australian theatres to our American friends, was given prominence.

Well that's it for this month,

Till next issue - Organically yours - THE EDITOR.