

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER JONAS NORDWALL AT MARRICKVILLE 2.30 P.M.

On this date the celebrated American organist Jonas Nordwall will give the first concert of his 1980 Australian Tour. Most of you will remember Jonas from his concert during the 1976 N.S.W. National convention and I am sure are eagerly awaiting his return.

THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER FREE BONUS CONCERT 6.15 P.M.

On this Thursday the Sydney City Council have given approval for Jonas to play the usual twilight recital which commences at 6.15 p.m. and runs to 7.00 p.m. I am sure those who heard him on the grand organ at Sydney Town Hall on Easter Monday 1976 will be sitting on the Town Hall steps early this time so as not to miss this wonderful experience and it is free.

SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER JONAS NORDWALL AT MARRICKVILLE 2.30 P.M.

This is the final concert of the Nordwall tour and your last chance to hear this brilliant artist.

Tickets for both concerts can be obtained from the ticket section by using the booking form at back of this issue. Cost:

Adults each \$4.00 Tosa members " \$3.00 Concession ticket " \$2.00

These prices apply to both Marrickville concerts.

FRIDAY 24th TO SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER HUNTER VALLEY TOUR

This promises to be an exciting weekend away, from the hustle and bustle of the "big smoke". If you have not booked yet contact Mrs Phyl Wilson immediately at 120 Dennis Street, Lakemba or phone 759.6050. There were just a couple of seats left and you may be lucky.

TUESDAY 28th OCTOBER MUSICAL EVENING - BONDI JUNCTION

Our Patron Jan Davies has arranged another night at the Bondi Junction-Waverley R,S.L. Club, Grey Street, Bondi Junction, commencing 7.30 p.m. This is a wonderful chance for an enjoyable andrelaxed evening where you will hear a wealth of musical talent on the "Rodgers Trio" and Grand Piano. Just to give you an idea of the music you will hear, the playing lists reads like a Who's Who of the Sydney Organ scene: - Eric Smith, David Parsons, Bill Schumacher and Ian Davies for starters with a good chance of others and this one is free also. The bar will be open for those who would like a drink during the evening. The Bondi Junction-Waverely R.S.L. Club has a snack bar which opens from 5.00 p.m. till 8.00 p.m. where anyone who is going would get a meal.

THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE 1.15 P.M.

Member Eric Smith will be heard on the Sydney Opera House organ during the lunch hour recital from 1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. on this date.

Eric will play a full Gershwin programme and as this is your first chance to hear Eric on this instrument I suggest you keep it in mind.

THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER "MUSICAL MEMORIES OF THE 20TH CENTURY" 8.00 P.M.

The touring theatre company present the above programme at Wesley Chapel, 139 Castlereagh Street, Sydney in conjunction with Eric. Smith on the organ. The company consists of international singers Leonard Lee and Valerie Hanlon with Kenneth Plant, Harold Jones, Mary Eaton, Valda Gardiner, Rex Corrigan. Hear musical highlights from Camelot, My Fair Lady, Student Prince, Showboat, West Side Story and many others.

Admission: Adults \$6.00, Pensioners & Students & Tosa Members \$3.00

LYCEUM THEATRE 3.00 P.M. SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

The usual pleasant Sunday afternoon held in the Lyceum theatre will on this date will be in the form of Musical programme in which member David Parsons will be featured.on the Christie Theatre Organ, presenting a programme of music by that famous composer Richard Rodgers.

Admission to this afternoon which is run by the Uniting Church

is free.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8.00 P.M. WEDNESDAY 19th NOVEMBER

The Annual General Meeting of N.S.W. Division will be held in Marrickville Town Hall on 19th November. At this meeting the Declaration of the poll will be announced naming officers for 1981. All financial members are invited to attend this most important meeting of the year. So roll up and take an active part in the running of your Society.

FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER CHRISTMAS CABARET MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL No details to hand as yet, except the date.

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER FINAL CONCERT OF THE YEAR AT MARRICKVILLE

What a grand finale to 1980 you are offered on this date! At 2.30 p.m. you will be entertained by that talented duo from Victoria, none other than Tony Fenelon and John Atwell, they will delight you on both the pipe organ and grand piano. I am quite sure that those of you who heard them last November

will need no introduction to the musical genius of these two gentlemen, and if any of you haven't had the pleasure of hearing

Tony and John previously let this be your big chance.

STOP PRESS

Phyl Wilson has just informed me that the balance of fare for Hunter Valley weekend has to be paid to her by 26th September. The total fare was \$76.00 less \$10.00 deposit so please send cheques for \$66.00 per person to Phyl and make cheques payable to T.O.S.A.

NOTICE

Ian Davies will play a concert of Theatre organ music on the Wurlitzer pipe organ at the Clancy residence, 10 Caloola Road, Wentworthville, on Saturday afternoon, 18th October, at 2.00 p.m. sharp. Reserved seats only, due to limited seating.
Admission: \$4.00 includes afternoon tea. (Bookings - Ring 631.6189, evenings, after 7.00 p.m.).

DIRECTORY

PATRON: Ian Davies President: Alan Misdale (5255554) Vice Presidents: Frank Ellis, (649.7011) Doug Smith (750.0917), Secretary: Ernie Vale (798.6816) Treasurer: Edna Smith (529.7379) Membership Secretary: Ron Smith (529.7379) Practise Convenor: C. Palmer Research & Archives: Ian Cameron Recording Engineer: R. Garrett (869.7247) Editor: Jack Lawson (569.3775)

This organisation acknowledges financial assistance from the N.S.W. Government through the Premier's Department - Division of Cultural Activities.

APOLOGY

To those who noticed it I dated last issue JULY 1980, when it should have been AUGUST. Just goes to show we can all make mistakes.

Copy of a letter received from Queensland Division: Dear Secretary,

You will no doubt be interested to know that the Queensland Convention Committee for 1981 has already met three times and has a very interesting programme lined up for you at the TOSA TREMENDOUS TENTH Theatre Organ Convention in Queensland.

Features will be three beautiful pipe organs and a scenic Sunshine Coast tour. A grand line-up of excellent musicians will be here to entertain you. So start planning your Easter visit to Queensland for FUN IN THE SUN IN '81!

Dates for your diary: Easter APRIL 17-20, 1981

FUN IN THE SUN IN '81 at the TOSA TREMENDOUS TENTH.

Please pass this letter on to your Editor for inclusion in your TOSA magazine. We will send more details for later editions.

Looking forward to a great convention.

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Kelly (Mrs)
Convention Secretary.

NEW MEMBERS The following new members names were submitted at the last committee meeting and we are pleased to welcome them and trust their membership will be a long and happy one.

Norman and Rhonda Day of Asquith: Cecil and Mary Edwards of Wollongong: Jim and Lyn Hyatt of Beverly Hills: Ted and Helen Lloyd of South Australia: Jean Griffin of Burwood.

CONCERT REVIE...

"THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE"

How fortunate were those who attended the free concert at Marrickville on Sunday August 3rd! A large audience were given an absolute feast of beautiful music from two very gracious (and elegently gowned) gifted ladies of considerable fame and tremendous ability.

Valda, originally a classical pianist of top academic qualification and an experienced organiste brought forth from the WurliTzer, true melody and tempo with a refreshing variety of effects in her arrangements. Her supporting artiste, Marie Tysoe, mezzo-soprano

of operatic and T.V. fame, brought a powerful dramatic voice, deep in "musical feeling" and a true professional presence to a wide range of well known songs.

This was a lesson in properly disciplined musicianship, Music as it was meant to be enjoyed, free of ostentation, clear rich melody which kept us all keenly following the delightful flow of music from all over the world.

Commencing appropriately with "With a song in my Heart", Valda Lang moved to the Strauss "Radetsky March" followed by an unusually effective "Autumn leaves" using all the versatility of the organ to paint a delicate tonal picture. Valda took us to Paris, Vienna (a lovely and quaint 'music box' Edelweiss) Spain and Italy, with a little Walt Disney, Mancini's "Moon River" and finally the beautiful Blue Danube Waltz by Strauss.

Marie Tysoe commenced with an Aria from Carmen, songs from Paris, "If I lovey You" from Carousel, "Dear Heart" (Mancini) and a bracket of Noel Coward and Ivor Novello numbers.

In a moving finale the two ladies presented the old hymn, "Amazing Grace", showing how the Wurlitzer performs as a Church organ. As an encore "I'll see you again" was a fitting expression of the pleasure of the whole performance, the real delight of two magnificent musicians in performing a joyous flow of music they love and the warm appreciation of an audience which held its keen attention, showing clearly respect and gratitude for the generosity of Valda and Marie in putting so much into this very happy afternoonconcert .. and it was all FREE!

Wilf Leeder.

HOME SOCIAL AFTERNOON.

Sunday 20th July saw a gathering of 40 or so enthusiasts at the home of John and Pat Guthrie of Hurstville.

I am pleased to say quite a few of our members all played the organ or piano and the afternoon as a whole proved very entertaining and enjoyable to all present. Mrs Pat Guthrie had gone out of her way to provide a wonderful afternoon tea, and being swelled by all the goodies the ladies had brought, the table looked like a huge Birthday party as indeed it was, for a surprise cake was suddenly displayed for Richard James' birthday.

Our sincere thanks to all persons who played, not forgetting the young lady friend of Patricia Guthrie who gave us a delightful flute solo, very enjoyable indeed, and to John and Pat Guthrie for all their effort and opening their home for the members benefit.

Doug Smith, (Hon. Vice-President)

The next monthly meeting of this division will be held at St. Anne's Church hall, Strathfield on Monday 1st September at 7.30 p.m.

'LADIES OF THE CONSOLE' Series con't. By Ian Cameron.

My 'Lady of the Console' this month has been known to her fans variously as 'Little Organ Annie', 'The Mitey Mite of the Mighty Wurlitzer' and 'The Girl Who Puts the Network to Bed'. Perhaps her most famous title, though, is 'America's First Lady of the Organ.' She is ANN LEAF.

Ann Leaf began playing the piano by ear at the age of 4; studied piano at the age of 5 and by the time she was 6 years old, was an accomplished pianist. At age 10, she performd two Mozart Concerti as featured Pianist with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, and at 16, earned a Scholarship Award to the Julliard School of Music in New York. Miss Leaf's interest inevitably turned to the theatre organ, thereby starting one of the most brilliant careers in American Popular Music.

Her first theatre position was at the 'Garrick' Theatre in Los Angeles at the style 216, 2/10 Wurlitzer. She later accepted an offer to become one of the solo organists at 'Grauman's Million Dollar' Theatre, which housed, it is believed, a Style 35 (Special) 3.15 Wurlitzer. Ann also played at the 'Metropolitan' on the Style 285 4/32 Wurlitzer. In both these engagements, she was required to accompany silent films and won a reputation for her ability to play s silent movie 'cold' - without benefit of prior run-through. 'I always managed somehow to stay one jump ahead of Mary Pickford, recalls Ann, 'but Douglas Fairbanks was a problem.'

Shortly after these engagements, Boris Morros, formidable musical director of the far-flung 'Paramount-Publix' Theatre chain, summoned Ann to New York to audition for a proposed CBS programme of organ music to be broadcast from the 'Paramount Studio Wurlitzer, a 'Special' 4M instrument. She auditioned for the great Jesse Crawford, premiere Publix organist, who was considerate but demanding. Near the end of the audition, Crawford went over to the organ console and dashed off an impromptu invention - one of his deceptively smooth, brilliantly polished gems of miniaturization - and turning to Ann, said: 'Play it.' For Ann, whose amazing musical mind had been punching out a mental player roll while the Poet of the Organ was improvising, this was not the fearsome feat it would have been for some organists, Still she had qualms. 'Should I play it exactly as he did?' she asked herself, 'Or should I do an improvisation on his improvisation in my own style?' She decided to do it Crawford style, evidently the right decision: she got the job.

Soon after, Ann was CBS's top-ranking organist and a radio star in her own right. Besides two shows of her own, 'Nocturne' and "Ann Leaf at the Organ', she was regularly featured on broadcasts with Fred Allen, Frank Parker, Ted Malone and others, and made mumerous personal appearances in theatres around the country. When, as fashions in radio programming changed, Ann slid easily from the pipe organ console to the electronic organ bench and became an ace accompanist for such soapy serials as 'Norah Drake' and "Road to Life'. A three year engagement at the famed New York Rainbow Room added more lustre to her career.

Ann Leaf's distinguished career has brought her to the consoles of probably the most outstanding pipe organs at the most celebrated theatres in the country. In Los Angeles alone, in addition to her Appearances at the theatres already mentioned, she played at the 'Tower' and 'Roosevelt' Theatres, and at the 'Boulevarde' Theatre; at the 5M Robert-Morton in the 'Criterion' Theatre, and at the 4/37 Kimball in the 'Wiltern' (now removed) the 4/26 Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo organ, which is a fine Wurlitzer.

Her impressive list also encompasses the New York 'Paramount' 4/36 Wurlitzer, Loew's 'King's' Theatre Wonder-Morton 4/23 instrument in Brooklyn, the 'Palace 4/21 Wurlitzer in Rochester, the 3/17 Link in the Robertson Centre for Arts and Sciences. She has also appeared at the 'Avenue' Theatre Wurlitzer, the Omaha 'Orpheum' 3/13 Style 240 Wurlitzer and the 4/32 Morton in the San Diego 'Fox'. Photographs of some of her most recent concerts appear with this article.

A gifted composer, Miss Leaf has been a member of ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers) since 1950 and presently spends much of her time writing and playing concerts, frequently, she includes her works in these programmes. Her multitudinous admirers have stood in drenching downpours waiting in line to hear her; bid \$50-\$75 for a single copy of her no-longer-available 'Wiltern' recordings, and travel hundreds of miles to hear her in concert. Ann has many recordings to her credit and in recent years did some discs for the Concert Recording label - CR-0083 'Concert Echoes' at the 2/10 Style 216 'Los Angeles'Theatre Wurlitzer and CR-0097 'Notes from Detroit' at the Detroit Theatre Organ Club 4/34 Wurlitzer which was formerly housed in the 'Fisher' Theatre. This particular organ was designed in Mayan styling and is one of the most sumptuous consoles ever to leave the North Tonawanda factory.

Today, she is happily married to Russ Butler, and Engineer at the NBC-TV Studios, and frequently appears in concert for theatre organ buffs. Russ is Ann's manager, press agent, stagehand and escort. More gal organists should have husbands like Russ.

Source: Notes from Ben M. Hall and Tom B'Hend

Photos: From various issues of 'The Console' and 'Theatre Organ' 'Paramount' Studio photograph from 'The Best Remaining Seats', by Ben M. Hall.

Photographs which appear over page:

1, Ann Leaf at the 'Paramount' Studio Organ

- 2. A Christmas Card to celebrate success of the 1937 programme 'Between the Bookends'
- 3. At the 3/16 Style 260 Wurlitzer-San Gabriel Civic Auditorium 4.7 Publicity Photograph and Programme from a double-concert by
- AA Ann Leaf at the 'Orpheum' Vancouver Style 240 3.13 Wurlitzer 5. Celebrated theatre organist sisters Ann Leaf and Esther Leaf pose at the console of the 'Old Town Music Hall' Wurlitzer in El Segundo
- 6. Ann Leaf's Theme was printed and sent to fans

INTERSTATE EVENTS

For the benefit of anyone who may be going interstate

VICTORIA

SUNDAY 14th September 2.00 p.m. Social Day Cinema North Reservoir Organists: - John Ferguson, Marjorie Williams, Carmel Tracy. Afternoon tea, Admission \$1.00.

WEDNESDAY 24th September 8.00 p.m. First Victorian Concert by Jonas Nerdwall - Moorabbin Town Hall

FRIDAY 10th OCTOBER 8.00 p.m. - 1.30 a.m. Moorabbin Town Hall, Victorian Division Annual Cabaret Ball. Cyril Pearl at organ. 3 course dinner and supper \$12.00 single.

SUNDAY 12th October 2.00 p.m. Dendy Cinema Brighton Second and final concert by Jonas Nordwall.

QUEENSLAND

SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER Kelvin Grove High School Jonas Nordwall concert.

WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER Kelvin Grove High School Organ Spectacular SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER Kelvin Grove High School Christmas Party.

Re the passing of Reginald Foort as mentioned in the last issue more details are now to hand and these have been copied from the May issue of Console;-

REGINALD FOORT, DESIGNER OF FAMED TRAVELING ORGAN, DIES IN FLORIDA

Reginald Foort, designer of the famous BBC/Foort Moller organ that he had built to travel with throughout the United Kingdom, suffered a heart attack Wednesday evening, May 21st and died the following day. He was 87.

The famous British organist had only recently returned from a visit to Pasandena, Calif., where he inspected and played the organ he had originally designed to tour British provinces. At the time of his departure he was invited to return with his wife as house guests of Mr and Mrs Robert Hill, in Hollywood, and see other tourist attractions as well as organs in Southern California. His trip to Pasadena was arranged by Sandy Fleet, who had also brought the organist to San Diego when the five manual organ wad dedicated in the Organ Power pizza parlor at Pacific Beach in 1975.

A Florida resident for the past 12 years, he had resided prior to that time in Chicago since his arrival in the United States in 1951. Foort also spent other years in the U.S. when he was organist at the New York Paramount Theatre.

The last organ concert he attended was one presented by Terry Charles at the Kirk of Dunedin. Foort was introduced to the audience at this program. During the last week of May, the two men were to have visited an installation of a new Baldwin Cinema III electronic organ which reportedly has a console designed similar to the British-made Compton organ consoles. It was, of course, never accomplished due to his death.

A memorial service at the Church of the Good Shepherd was followed by cremation. The noted organist is survived by his wife, a son, Michael, a daughter, Betty A. Williams, and four grandchildren.

SIMPLIFIED OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

For The Beginning Organist



(1) Turn on power, It nothing happens, check the plug. Then if nothing happens, check your fuses. Then if nothing happens, call your cheery, delightful local serviceman. Then you can be sure - Ha! - that nothing will happen.

- (2) Sit on bench. If this does not work, remove body from floor and tighten leg bolts. Take music out of bench. Do not pass "Go" (your cheery, delightful serviceman has already collected the \$200). If this does not work, cut hole in bottom of bench to remove music. Do not cut posterior epidermis. (WARNING: The Surgeon General has determined that organ playing is dangerous to your health.)
- (3) Turn on Solo Tibias 16' 8' 4'. If they begin to hum, check to see if they know the words to the song. If this doesn't work, open the top and turn knob No. 235-5R-WX23. If you hit the right knob, the Tibias will work fine. If you hit the wrong knob, it may be necessary to call a priest.
- (4) Turn to page 736 in the Owner's Manual. Read the page. If this doesn't work, put on your glasses. If this doesn't work, you are probably holding the book upside down.

(5) Play When The Saints Go Marching In, in Fox Trot rhythm, tapping your left foot along with the beat. If this doesn't work, tap your other foot. (Tap cane or stump where applicable).

(6) Set up the following registration:

Solo: Tibia 2-2/3', Tibia Percussion, Sustain, Glide, Repeat, Banjo and Harmony.

Accomp: Guitar, Violina 2'

Pedal: Noxyorsoxoff 32', Bass Guitar

Rhythm and Effects: All trems, full Reverb, Vibra-magic, Waltz, Swing, St. Vitus; Fickle Fingers, Strum and Fancy Bench. YOU ARE NOW READY TO SOUND LIKE A BEGINNING ORGANIST (although you will be pleasantly surprised to hear the same sounds that you heard during your demonstration two weeks ago).

(7) Choose a simple, beginner's song from your Owners Manual, such as The Waltz You Saved For Me, or Tico Tico. As you play, remember that the stabbing pain in your left ear is being caused by the registration (above), not by bad notes. The stabbing pain in your right ear in being caused by mistakes.

(8) It will often save you much embarrassment to practice wearing

earphones.

CAUTION: Do not plug th earphones into a wall socket, or play the organ while taking a bath. Plug the earphones into the earphone jack located underneath the organ. This can be done by lifting one end of the organ with your right hand (See Owner's Manual, page 1304 for instructions for left-handed players). After donning the earphones if nothing happens, repeat step (1) on the preceeding page. If this doesn't work, try jiggling the speaker to play the organ while testing the headphones.

(9) If your are having trouble with the organ, call your serviceman. If you can't call your teacher, If you find you are having trouble making the payments, call your banker, and if you find yourself willing to read any more of this nonsense, call your analyst.

A Concluding Word:

The joy and serenity of the world of beautiful music belongs to everyone, so ...

If you find you can't play beautiful music within a few short months, please send for our highly illustrated free booklet TEN WAYS TO TURN YOUR ORGAN INTO A PLANTER.

The above item was copies from Keyboard World February 1980 issue with the editors apology to the artist.

AUSTRALIAN CLUBHOUSE THEATRE PAYS YEAR PROFIT OF \$73,000

Gambling that they could make a success out of operating a theatre and having it as a clubhouse has paid off for the South Australia Division of the Theatre Organ Society of Australia. In its first year of operation the theatre business returned a net profit of \$73,000. This operation was explained in a feature article published about the club in the December 1979 issue of The Console. It was written by Baden Pike, editor of the club newsletter. This item copied from the March 1980 issue of The Console.

RADIO CITY OFFERS LENGTHY DAILY TOUR OF STAGE Stage-struck people, those with just plain curious natures, and those want to go where the action is around theatres are now given the opportunity to see it all in New York City at the Radio City Music Hall. Beginning Friday, April 11th the Music Hall inaugerated regular scheduled tours of the entertainment centre. Tours are two and one half hours long and cover the great stage. They are operated seven days a week from 9am to 4pm and the admission is \$5.95 per person (kids under five admitted free). Special rates and tours of variying specialties and lengths are available at special rates for groups of 15 or more. Winding over, under and across the great stage, the tours will allow the public to explore every corner of the legendery theatre, from rehearsal halls, costume and set shops, recording studios, projection booths, dressing rooms, production areas and giant multilevered stage elevators. The organ minded will have the main theatre Wurlitzer included and the 3/14 studio Wurlitzer also may be seen. During the tours visitors will be entertained with never-before heard tidbits of Music Hall history. Advance reservations are required for the tours. For information and reservations, call (212)246-4621. Out-of-towners should write direct to the theatre management, Radio City Music Hall, Rockefeller Center, New York, New York.

RAIL, PRESERVATION, ORGAN FANSPACK SAN GABRIEL HALL Steamy nostalgia packed San Gabriel Civic Auditorium, Saturday April 26th with an enthusiastic crowd of rail fans who paid \$4.00 a seat to see "Red Signal", a silent film, accompanied by Gaylord Carter at the Wurlitzer organ. Sponsored jointly by rail and preservationist groups, proceeds from the show went to the restoration fund for the Palms depot, now in Heritage Square, Los Angeles. A good representation of organ fans, led by Sandy Fleet, were noted at the performance.

Both the above items were copied from the April issue of The Console.

The celebrated organist Jonas Nordwall has aggreed to conduct a seminar for the benefit of our playing members. This seminar will embrace many aspects which would assist to improve your playing technique, ranging from registration to phrasing, and offering genuine help to any players from beginners to advanced organists. The seminar is open to T.O.S.A. members only and will be held at Marrickville Town Hall on Tuesday 7th October at 7.45pm The cost is \$5.00. per person. Any member wishing to participate please register with the Secretary Mr E.Vale 49 Boomerang St, Haberfield. The registration application must be accompanied be the fee, please make all cheques payable to T.O.S.A. not the Sec,. All registrations must reach the Secretary by Tue,31st September.

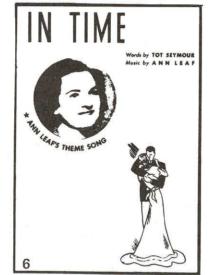
THIS OPPORTUNITY IS OPEN TO T.O.S.A. MEMBERS ONLY.

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 1981

Enclosed in this issue is a nomination form for use for the 1981 election of officers any one requiring extra forms ring me 5693775.











CONSOLE REMINISCENCES—Celebrated theatre organist sisters /nn Leaf and Esther Leaf pose at the console of the Old Town Music Hall Wurlitzer in El Segundo Calif., in what might be termed a nostalic encount

