

VOLUME 21

ISSUE 6

PRICE 40¢

JUNE 1982

# T.O.S.A. NEWS

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

ADDRESS: BOX A 584 P.O. SYDNEY SOUTH, 2000

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST - PUBLICATION No. N.B.H. 1038

## FREE CONCERT

*Featuring*

## IAN DAVIES



**SUNDAY 6th  
JUNE at 2pm  
Marrickville Town Hall  
Marrickville**

PRINTED BY TOSA PRESS

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DIRECTORY  
=====

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\*\*\*\*\*

A CORDIAL WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS.

Sue McLoughlin,Forster: Bill Morrill,Gynea Bay: Lindsay  
McFadyen,Mortdale: Hedley & Glad Rose,Belrose: Clive & Patricia  
Boyd,Orange: Gordon & Thea Gurr,Hamilton: Inis Dalgarno,Dulwich  
Hill: Val Page,Taree: H.W.Bentley,Sylvania: Fred & Elenor  
McGuinness (Freddie Mack) Sylvania; Peter Groves,Berowra.

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→ URGENT \_ URGENT \_ URGENT \_ URGENT\_ URGENT ←

(- S-P-A-C-E- ) IS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED FOR WORKING ON THE  
CAPITOL ORGAN..DO YOU HAVE A SPARE GARAGE AREA WITH GOOD LIGHTING  
OR SIMILAR PLEASE...

PLEASE CONTACT PRESIDENT ALAN MISDALE AT ONCE IF YOU CAN  
POSSIBLY PROVIDE SUCH AN AREA. 525 5554.

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HOME PARTY VENUES....

We are always in need of new venues for our  
popular Home Parties. If you would like to have a Home Party at  
your home, please call Phil Wilson (759 6050) and discuss it with  
her. The Society can assist with supper utensils etc and will help  
in every way possible to make your night a success.

We have had a good number of Home Parties this year which  
have been well attended and a new home is always popular and helps  
very much in the social side of our Society. Please call soon,  
and talk about it.

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CAPITOL CONSOLE. (Colour preference vote)

108 members out of a total 436 took the trouble to vote  
and the results were as follows:-

Polished:52            White and Gold:56

\*\*\*\*\*

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

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## JUNE ====

Sunday 6th at 2pm

FREE CONCERT at Marrickville.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Featuring our Patron IAN DAVIES in concert.

With an outstanding background from the Regent, State and Capitol Theatres in Melbourne plus the Plaza and Regent in Sydney, IAN DAVIES is a true Theatre Organist you simply cant miss!!

Wednesday 16th at 7.30pm

CLUB NIGHT at Marrickville.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Well known member and veteran Theatre Organist, LANCE WELLS will be featured during the evening. Bring your music and play your Wurlitzer Organ. Supper will be served.

Sunday 20th at 2pm

HOME PARTY  
\*\*\*\*\*

Mr.&Mrs.Maennl of 31 Tenth Avenue, Oyster Bay invite you to attend an afternoon of music and merriment and there is a Hammond Elegante plus piano just waiting to be played! Admission is Gents \$2, Ladies \$1.50 plus a plate towards afternoon tea...A great afternoon in a beautiful setting awaits you so book your place IMMEDIATELY on 528 6383.

## JULY ====

Sunday 18th at 2pm

PAID CONCERT at Marrickville.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Featuring BILL SCHUMACHER and RICHARD JAMES

The creative easy listening style of both of these well known artists should provide an excellent afternoon of pleasant entertainment on our Wurlitzer Organ.

Book NOW! on the booking form inside this issue.

Sunday 25th at 2.30pm

HOME PARTY at the SELWYN THEATRE.  
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Special Guest Artiste...BEVERLY KENNEDY on a JVC organ.

Ritchie Willis & Norm Read are promoting this afternoon for TOSA and we can enjoy once again the superb talents of Miss Beverly Kennedy at the console.

Admission is Gents \$2, Ladies \$1.50 plus a plate for afternoon tea. This should be a very popular afternoon so I advise you to BOOK NOW on 57 3581.

The Selwyn is at 13 Rosemont Avenue, Mortdale.

JUNE...Committee Meeting is on Monday 7th at 7.30pm.

JULY... " " " Monday 5th at 7.30pm.

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# HOME ORGAN PARTY REVEIW

TAHMOOR  
SUNDAY 18th  
APRIL



HOME ORGAN PARTY AT THE SIM'S, TAHMOOR. (by John Clarke)

The weather was kind, which made for very pleasant driving.. our Host and Hostess Arthur and Ruth Sims were genial, the attendance was good as were the proceeds of the day (71 dollars) towards organ maintainance funds.

The barbecue was finger lickin' good, the organ, (an Eminent 2000) was unknown to many of us but it made some terrific sounds in the hands of many and some absolutely beautiful music in the hands of Bill Schumacher as those who attended will agree.

Ruth our Hostess, made some delicious fair-dinkum home made bread from which I (I hate to say it!) deserved to get indigestion but didn't, and a piece of unsolicited advise from one member was humourously satirised as a result of which we all learned that one should sit directly in front of middle C if only for a good giggle.

We had about a 40 minute walk in some bush on the property and upon returning to the house, sang the appropriate songs to our Host Arthur on the occasion of his birthday, then rounded off the day by breathing in the crisp late afternoon air around the milking shed as Ruth attended to those chores that just dont wait for socialising...a real treat for us city folk.

To Arthur and Ruth Sims, (and our President said it on the day) many thanks for an exceptionally enjoyable and different day.. you cant beat country hospitality!!



Arthur Sims telling us how NOT to get lost down by the river walk.

A STORY OF TOSA, NSW DIVISION AND ITS ORGANS,  
FOR MEMBERS OLD AND NEW...THAT'S YOUR SOCIETY!

(by Doug Smith)

Late in the fifties, a group of enthusiasts known as THE THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA was formed. These keen admirers of the theatre organ started with nothing, but dreamed of one day owning a theatre pipe organ and actually promoting concerts on it for the public! A vague chance perhaps, but this dream had already been fulfilled by similar groups in the U.S., so they had inspiration at its best. The group had their first get-togethers in homes, dealer's showrooms, Church halls or anywhere they could get in for free! Small electronic organs for background music were begged or borrowed from dealers, friends, or anyone who was interested. Finally, during 1964, word came that the famous Prince Edward Theatre was to be sold for commercial reasons and that its rich sounding Wurlitzer could be available for sale.

This news stirred a wave of excitement in the hearts of the group, and an offer was made for the purchase and was accepted. Then came the frantic time of scrounging enough funds 'overnight', as a time limit had been set for the organ's removal or, face the wreckers hammer. After many anxious moments, the funds were raised and the group assembled to dismantle the organ. For beginners, this was accomplished in a remarkably short time and the organ was transported away to be stored in various member's homes around Sydney. Next came the giant task of finding a home for this huge instrument, where it could be installed properly and heard without being effected by any offending building obstructions etc. and where ready access could be obtained for its continual use and maintainance.

After many places had been inspected and classed as unsuitable, the Marrickville Council was approached with the request that it could be installed in the local Town Hall, which was ideal accoustically, had a small balcony, and could seat approximately 600 people. The Council approved in principle and after lengthy discussions, an agreement was reached to go ahead. The Council created two large openings at the end of the auditorium for the shutters, behind which the pipe chambers were built. Two decorative grills were fitted to conceal the shutters and the Council provided the podium for the organ console, and this could be moved to wherever desired.

Installation began in earnest, but conflicting ideas as to how it should be assembled and placed arose, and these had to be sorted out with the best results only, being the foremost objective. Several years of constant work followed, all carried out by dedicated members. Qualified artisans in their various fields played their part, providing expertise for wiring, wind trunking and many delicate parts, and the re-assembly gradually took place. The dream of the group finally came true during 1968 when the organ came back to life with its opening concert, under the hands of veteran theatre organist, Ian Davies. The Town Hall was packed to the doors and proved beyond doubt that the massive sound of the Theatre Pipe Organ had not been forgotten.

During the early seventies, the opportunity came to purchase another of these huge instruments from the Capitol Theatre, Sydney. This purchase was made and the organ dismantled and again stored around the various member's homes. The second instrument had been too good to miss, as it was larger than the first and had a tonal colour of exceptional range.

As the years have gone by, thousands of people have now heard the first organ in concert at Marrickville, and the organ has been brought up to a very good standard with extra pipes and complete re-voicing taking place. This organ has received wide acclaim from local, interstate and overseas artists as being one of the best sounding instruments they have performed on. Although great plans were discussed for the second instrument, the location of a suitable venue for it (to be heard properly) has been almost impossible to find.

cnt'd

With the economy tightening up, Government and Local bodies are reluctant to spend money and the organ has now unfortunately been idle and in pieces for eight years.

However, with new and promising artists emerging from the ranks, a new interest has stemmed in the theatre organ, and audiences during recent years have begun to increase steadily. Perhaps the advent of small electronic organs in homes these days has had an effect on the owners, and after hearing the 'real' thing once, they have become regular concert goers to hear their musical delights played on the pipes. This of course will be a discussion point for years to come, but I am prepared to accept that it could be true in a lot of instances.

With the introduction of new electronic technology, many of the pipe organs in the U.S. have been up-dated in their electric and pneumatic action. In the early days of design, an additional room or space was needed to house the large 'relay chests', as these were the work horse between the console and the pipes. These days, solid stating of the instrument has done away with these large and cumbersome chests, and the whole control system can now be contained in a metal cabinet mounted on a wall.

This system has proven to be an enormous improvement in the action of the organ, which becomes quicker in response to the player, and does away with hours of tiring maintainance on the old relay chests. There is absolutely NO difference in the sound of the instrument, but far greater reliability and more pleasure to play is achieved. Greater unification is also an added advantage and the addition of extra pipes can be made with a minimum of effort.

The question is now, whatever happened to the second Wurlitzer purchased by the NSW Society?..Well, it is still safe and sound in storage, and countless hours of re-furbishing has been carried out by dedicated members over the years.

The BIG news is that the Executive and Committee have decided on a PROPOSAL for the organ to be partially consolidated with the existing one at Marrickville Town Hall on a temporary basis. The Society Constitution states that our aims are 'To preserve the tradition of the Theatre Organ as a means of entertainment' and the only way to preserve a pipe organ is to get it working. Unless a fairy godfather appears very soon, the organ could be sitting in pieces for yet another eight years.

To explain in detail, the beautiful three manual antique white and gold console of the second organ would be brought back to 'as new' condition, and then swapped for the existing one, whilst the Marrickville console is rebuilt. The original Prince Edward pipe work would not be changed but added to, with genuine Wurlitzer pipes from the second organ.

The whole system would be solid-stated and the old relay chests retained for historic purposes. A lot of work is involved, but there are many people like myself who would be anxious to get started, and who DON'T want to see our second organ sitting around for another eight years collecting dust. Adding even only a proposed four ranks of pipes to the existing organ would give it a much more thrilling sound range than at present. The sound from our existing organ at present is just great, but with extra pipes it would be just that much greater!!

Remember, it's only a proposal at the moment and we would like to know your thoughts on the idea...so far opinions sought have been all for it.. but we would like to know yours very soon!

PLEASE WRITE AT ONCE TO:-

THE SECRETARY  
TOSA NSW DIVISION  
BOX A 584 P.O. SYDNEY SOUTH 2000

INTERSTATE NEWS.

The Memorial Theatre, Ballarat, should be aglow from top to bottom on the week-end of June 12/13th, and a large crowd of local and interstate visitors on hand to help the Ballarat Chapter of the Theatre Organ Society, commence its opening festival of their Compton Theatre Pipe Organ.

Following a Social 'get-together' with afternoon tea, visitors will be treated to a Buffet Dinner and the Opening Concert will begin at 8pm.

Four artists will take part during the week-end and the Compton should be well and truly put through its paces. I hope to hear from our visitors when they return and will report accordingly.

Despite a search through the various magazines, this seems to be the ONLY event worthy of note for June 1982. Perhaps everyone is going to Ballarat..I hope so!

VISITING U.S. ARTIST SOON.

We are all looking forward to the arrival soon of that famous musician ASHLEY MILLER from New York City who will be doing a complete concert tour of Australia.

ASHLEY MILLER is known world wide for his conducting, composing and arrangements, and his superb talent at the organ. He was the star at the Theatre Organ Convention in Brisbane in 1981 where he proved beyond doubt his supreme playing ability.

ASHLEY MILLER will be presented in concert at the Marrickville Wurlitzer on Sunday 8th August 1982, by the N.S.W. Division and this will be your one chance to hear the master in action! Booking Forms for his concert are available already in this issue.

DAVID PARSONS at Sydney Town Hall (Courtesy of Valda Lang)

On Monday evening the 3rd of May, an enthusiastic audience of about 600 heard TOSA member David Parsons perform on the Baldwin Cathedral Organ in the Sydney Town Hall. The sound of the instrument was enhanced by the use of Electro-Acoustic Pipes with 15 channel external amplification.

David's enthusiasm for the sound of this instrument in the Town Hall spontaneously rubbed off on the audience. With great skill and musicianship he explored the many variations of sound on this grand instrument. His programme included music by Handel and Tchaikovsky, the beautiful Gothic Suite by Boellmann, the inspiring Toccata and Fugue in D minor by Bach and the ever popular Toccata from the Widor Symphony No.5. The organ is equipped with a simulated 64ft pedal rank which sounded thrilling. The more delicate solo voices of the organ including the violin and celeste were demonstrated very artistically by David. To fully demonstrate the scope of the instrument he also played a delightful arrangement of the Elizabethan Serenade and a very silky Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.

The purpose of the concert was to promote the Baldwin 640 organ provided by The Organ Stop, Burwood. Joh and Jill Congert described the organ and introduced the performer to the audience. They must have been delighted to hear this grand instrument so expertly demonstrated and so enthusiastically received.



23/24 October  
1982

# COACH TOUR

23/24 October  
1982

## MUDGEE AND GULGONG

DAY 1 We depart MARRICKVILLE TOWN HALL at 8.00am travelling through Sydney's Western suburbs crossing the Nepean River at Penrith and beginning our ascent to the scenic Blue Mountains follow the steps of explorers Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

After a morning tea stop at Katoomba, we descend Mt. Victoria to the western slopes and Lithgow. Skirt Lithgow and continue on through Cullen Bullen and Capertee to Mudgee.

Mudgee is the centre of a flourishing wine producing area so we visit one of the local wineries for winetasting, allowing ample time to purchase if you wish.

Honey is the other product Mudgee has become known for and we visit the honey company to watch processing and packing before "Kinloch-leven" where mead is produced from honey. Overnight is spent in the picturesque Cudgegong Valley at Mudgee.

DAY 2 Our day begins with a short journey to Gulgong - The Town depicted in the Ten Dollar note - to wander in streets of by-gone days and visit the pioneer museum which houses the most comprehensive collection of goldrush and pioneering days.

In the afternoon, we return to Sydney via Mudgee, Lithgow and Bells Line of Road, to Bilpin and Windsor arriving in Sydney at approximately 6.00 pm. at Marrickville Town Hall.

COST \$69 per person.

The cost includes all travel, dinner, bed and breakfast twin share accommodation at the New Mudgee Motel, the winery and honey factory visits and the entry to the Pioneer Museum.

A deposit of \$20 for each person is required when making your bookings and payment of the final balance must be made by the end of SEPTEMBER.

Please make cheques payable to T.O.S.A.

People interested in this tour, please contact Mrs. Wilson, 120 Dennis Street, LAKEMBA 2195 or by phoning 759 6050.



## BYRD THEATRE SELLING PRICE: - \$300,000.

Sale of the Byrd Theatre in Richmond, Virginia, U.S.A. brought the former owners \$300,000. The house originally cost \$900,000 to build, it was reported in a news story published. The new owners, Samuel P. and Irma B. Warren of Arlington, Virginia, purchased the famed Wurlitzer-equipped house "for its beauty", they told newspaper reporters.

Anxious for it to continue as a movie theatre, the new owners are currently negotiating a contract with the present operators, Neighborhood Theatres Inc., to retain the lease on the house. The chain operated the theatre continuously since 1937.

The Byrd figured prominently in several A.T.O.S. Conventions, and the organ has been recorded by such stars as Ann Leaf and the late Dick Leibert. Organist Eddie Weaver plays at the theatre each week.

## WHITNEY MORTON STILL USED IN RECORDING WORK.

Once figuring prominently in longplay record album releases, when it was recorded by many famous stars, the MCA/Whitney 4/34 Robert-Morton theatre pipe organ in the Whitney Recording Studio in Glendale, California, now owned by the Music Corporation of America is still very much in use. Most recently it has been played by Fred Bock, head of the Fred Bock Music Company for the Disney interests. During the last two weeks of March Bock recorded three items for the film company.

A broken-down calliope is inhabited by a devilish demon which causes it to go awry and make awful sounds in the new Ray Bradbury film for Walt Disney Studios, "Something Wicked This Way Comes". Bock did the calliope music, 'actually about four minutes worth which is a lot for this new feature-length, live-action film.' Music was composed by Georges Delerue, who wrote the music for "Rich and Famous", "The Deep", "A Man for all Seasons", etc. The film is scheduled for Christmas 1982 release. Bock's next assignment was providing background music on the Morton and an exhibit area at the EPCOT centre at DisneyWorld, Florida. His last job in the present sessions was playing a 40-second eerie-music for a horror ride at the soon-to-be-opened Tokyo Disneyland. Actor Vincent Price narrated the segment.

## KINGSTON KIMBALL PLAYING TO NEAR SELL-OUT HOUSES.

Ever since it was opened by Ashley Miller last Sept. 17th, the Kimball theatre pipe organ installed in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, Church of the Redeemer has been attracting good concert crowds. According to John Robson, President of the Kingston Theatre Organ Society, "Our houses have been sold out every time. This coming show was sold out one month before the concert date, and Kay McAbee did such a fine job that over 100 tickets were sold after his concert for the next one." The Society mails 900 bulletins to announce their concert dates. Walt Strony was the last artist to play there on 1st. and 2nd April.

## OAKLAND PARAMOUNT ANNOUNCES THREE ARTISTS FOR POPS SERIES.

George Wright, John Seng and Bob Ralston will be the three organists in the first Paramount Organ Pops Series, it has been announced by the Paramount Theatre of the Arts in Oakland, California.

George Wright will play the first show Saturday, November 13th at 8.30 p.m. John Seng presides at the Wurlitzer console next March 5th, 1983, and Bob Ralston will appear May 8th, 1983. Tickets for the series are priced from \$11 to \$30. Prices for single concert events range from \$5.50 to \$15.00

LORAIN PALACE WAS SAVED BY CITIZENS.

Once slated for demolition, the Lorain (Ohio) Palace Theatre has been enjoying a rebirth of interest in the past few years after it had been saved through the efforts of a local group of citizens. Seating 2,200, the house has but a single orchestra floor (stalls) and no balcony. A crystal chandelier, measuring 15 feet in circumference is the main ceiling fixture. Some new seating has been installed and restoration work continues as funds become available.

The 3/10 Wurlitzer, Model 220, Opus 1858, was installed on March 14, 1928 for the opening of the theatre. Over the past four years the organ has been undergoing restoration by members of Western Reserve Theatre Organ Society.

The console has been releathered and its original mahogany finish covered with white and gold to match the bright theatre interior.

Ranks in the main chamber: Bourdon-Flute, Diaphone-Diapason, Violin, Celeste, and Clarinet plus Chrysoglott; the solo side has: Tuba Horn, Tibia Clausa, Vox Humana, Orchestral Oboe and Kinura plus Toy counter and tuned percussions.

----- News source - "The Console" Magazine.

**FOR SALE**

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FOR SALE One only HAMMOND CADETTE in good working order, an excellent learner's instrument with two keyboards and very pleasant tone.

PRICE: \$475 O.N.O.

Please contact: Helen Hooke,  
94 Greville Street, Chatswood 2067  
Phone: 419 2568.

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PRIVATE SALE CONN 580 three manual spinet Theatre Organ.

All condition....\$5500 or nearest offer.

Ring: Pat O'Malley..

Phone..297222

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ORGAN FOR SALE HAMMOND COLINADE...current model..near new, perfect condition..Price: \$9500 (save \$3000)

Phone Mrs. Shore on 451 2329

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# "Coming Events"

## SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Friday 4th June will see well known organist, CLIFF BINGHAM in a lunch time recital at the Opera House Organ. Commences at 1.10pm to 1.50pm.

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## YAMAHA STATE FINAL

### HURSTVILLE CIVIC CENTRE

Saturday June 19th at 7.30pm....

This should be a great night and you will hear the various heat finalists as they compete for top place. Several well known names will be appearing and some 'unheard of' newcomers who will surprise you with their abilities at the organ.

Tickets are available from all Yamaha dealers.

Admission is \$2 and \$1 for children.

All proceeds go to Disabilities Unlimited.

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## == HURSTVILLE CIVIC CENTRE ==

ORGAN CONCERT.....FEATURING..RICHARD JAMES...

SATURDAY 3RD JULY 1982 AT 8PM

RICHARD WILL BE FEATURING THE FABULOUS "KAWAI" DIGITAL DX900 ORGAN..BY COURTESY OF R.H.ELVY PTY LTD OF:

205 CLARENCE ST.  
SYDNEY.

AND 8 CROFTS AVENUE,  
HURSTVILLE.

ADMISSION IS: ADULTS \$4  
CHILDREN & PENSIONERS \$2...

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE GOING TO THE KYLE BAY ROTARY CLUB FOR DISTRIBUTION TO LOCAL CHARITIES.

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## SPECIAL NOTICE FOR MEMBERS

### WURLITZER ORGAN PRACTICE.

For those members who desire to practise on our 2/11 Wurlitzer at Marrickville, several vacancies exist at the moment to practise on a regular basis. If you are interested please contact:-

JIM CROMBIE ( Practise Convenor) on 750 4294, Now!

Jim will do his best to arrange a suitable spot for you as soon as possible. Practise charge is \$2 per hour and your name must be entered in the Practise Book in the Console and fees put into the practise box slot in the Solo Chamber Door at the top of the stairs.

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GET WELL SOON to Coletta Misdale and Mary Hall, who are both on the sick list at the moment.

OBITUARY NOTICE Sincere condolences to the family of Frank Wills who passed away during March this year. Frank joined the Society in 1980 and lived at Newtown.



REPORT ON A SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 1 DENHAM STREET  
RHODES, ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY, 1982.

INTRODUCTION:- This meeting was convened to discuss the feasibility of replacing the electro-pneumatic relay action of the Marrickville Wurlitzer with a solid-state switching unit. As discussions progressed it was realised that other factors needed to be taken into account along with the main objective:- i.e. the changeover to solid-state switching should be undertaken in conjunction with other major maintenance to ensure the greatest reliability from the new system.

REQUIREMENT FOR SOLID-STATE SWITCHING:- In order to allow room for foreseeable expansion in the organ it was decided to widen the specification to encompass a 3-manual, 16-rank (+ percussions) instrument. This would also allow a changeover to the ex-Capitol console while essential maintenance was carried out on the 2-manual console; the object being to keep the organ operational and hence revenue-producing during this period. A solid-state switching unit would considerably reduce the amount of cabling required and hence dramatically reduce the failure rate associated with the present main cable so the increase in flexibility would not entail a corresponding increase in maintenance time.

PRIORITIES:- During discussions a priority list emerged as follows:-

1. Formulate a schedule to guide the work envisaged.
2. Renovate 3-manual console including existing piston action.
3. Build/rebuild dias to accommodate the larger console.
4. Replace the 2-manual console with the 3-manual console.
5. Incorporate the solid-state switching system into the exchange.
6. Possibly eventually replace the organ with the ex-Capitol 15-ranks.

DETAILS:- (2) Renovation of 3-manual console -

- a) Manuals - an offer has been received to renovate the keydesks and this should be accepted.
- b) Combination action - renovate existing system leaving lead tubing intact where possible.
- c) Key/stop contact blocks - these have already been purchased.
- d) Console finish - decision to be made by full committee.
- e) Renovation should be complete by the end of 1982.

(3) Console Dias - Several designs are being considered - provision of a hoist would be a major financial outlay but a definite advantage aesthetically.

/...

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT - continued -

(5) Solid-State Switching - three types of system available:-

- a) Discrete component type - usually means diode matrix with transistor drivers. Wiring between console and organ must still consist of many wires although not as many as at present. Simple to fault-find but time-consuming due to quantity of parts involved. Almost parallels existing concept (electro-pneumatic).
- b) Full multiplexing/demultiplexing (MUX/DEMUX) - only one signal wire pair plus power between console and organ. One MUX device in console and one DEMUX device per chamber. More expertise required to fault-find due to limited opportunity for modularising. Usually more reliable due to low parts count and low power consumption but one fault could mean no concert unless expensive back-up units available.
- c) Scanner/Decoder System - Brains in console with one signal wire set to each rank/percussion, plus master clock. One Decoder for each rank/percussion. Provides the most modular concept and allows for common modules (i.e. one type of module can be used many ways) making provision of back-up modules less costly - only one or two types needed). Probably a better consideration for our application. Should provide the best cost-vs-effectiveness compromise.

CONCLUSION:- The meeting brought out a great number of constructive ideas and discussion flowed freely. The concept of solid-state switching was endorsed as a valid part in the preservation of the Theatre Pipe Organ sound. The need for a set of guidelines was recognised and, with these, a list of priorities for restoration work was formed, paving the way for prompt positive action.

J. A. Weismantel -  
(J.A. Weismantel)