



NUGGETS from the GOLDEN DAYS

Prospected by Lloyd E. Klos

This being the Christmas season, Jason and I have been fortunate in finding some 100% pure gold nuggets in the form of items concerning the big-name organists—a gift to our readers. Sources are American Organist (AO), Diapason (D), Jacobs (J) and Melody (M).

Apr. 1921 (J) A feature of the program of the newly opened Tivoli Theatre in Chicago, are the musical numbers by organist JESSE CRAWFORD. He hails from the Pacific Coast.

Nov. 1922 (AO) ALBERT HAY MALOTTE, organist at Shea's Hippodrome, Buffalo, N. Y., recently made this statement to the Buffalo press: "When people go to the theatre, it is for amusement. They don't want 'Parsifal', and they don't want jazz. What they do want is light music — syncopated or classic, pleasingly played."

Feb. 1923 (AO) ALEXANDER RICHARDSON has been named associate organist of the Rialto on Broadway, a post recently vacated by SIGMUND KRUMGOLD.

Apr. 1923 (D) Dr. MELCHIORRE MAURO-COTTONE, organist at New York's Capitol Theatre, played a special recital there April 5. It showed an organ, worked with an orchestra, can be a feature in a picture house where popular music and novelties have their place, which will still retain the full dignity and character of the organ.

March 1924 (D) HENRY B. MURTAGH, organist at Grauman's Metropolitan Theatre in Los Angeles, recently suffered injury playing handball, striking his head on the cement floor. A successful operation prevented what was feared might be a loss of hearing.

Oct. 1924 (AO) PAUL H. FORSTER was recently named associate organist at the Piccadilly Theatre in New York, playing a 4-28 Marr & Colton. He had been playing the Liberty Theatre in Carnegie, Pa.

Dec. 1924 (AO) LEONARD MAC CLAIN acted as Chairman of the November meeting of the Philadelphia Fraternity of Theatre Organists, both Messrs ROLLO F. MAITLAND, President and CARL BONAWITZ, vice president, being absent.

July 1925 (J) DICK LEIBERT, Washington, D. C., orchestra pianist and leader, took his Sangamo Band to the Powhatan Roof on June 1. Dick's tunes are sure to keep the feet moving.

Dec. 1925 (J) LLOYD G. Del CASTILLO is organist at Boston's State Theatre, writes for several publications, and teaches theatre organ playing. A busy fellow, indeed!

Dec. 1925 (M) HENRI KEATES resigned his position at Portland's Liberty Theatre to retire from theatre playing. He'll go East to make organ records.

Dec. 1925 (AO) HERBERT HENDERSON is chief organist in Warner's Theatre (formerly the Piccadilly) on Broadway. His assistant is JOHN HAMMOND.

April 1926 (M) HENRI C. LE BEL is at the new 3,000-seat Pantages in San Francisco on a Robert Morton, the make being installed in all Pantages houses after the first in Seattle. Console is on an elevator which rises to 3 feet above stage, and can revolve at the will of the organist. Pipe chambers are under the stage.

Sept. 1926 (M) There seems to be many opinions as to the success of broadcasting pipe organ music over the radio. There are many stations in Chicago which feature organ recitals daily, but in some cases, they do neither organ nor radio any good. However, some excellent organ solos are broadcast from the Uptown Theatre where ARSENE SIEGEL plays request programs on a 4-manual Wurlitzer. His offerings are always worthwhile and interesting.

Oct. 1926 (J) AMBROSE LARSEN is solo organist in Chicago's Terminal Theatre, staff organist of WGN and WLIB, and also official demonstrator for Wurlitzer's Chicago office. Another busy fellow!

Oct. 1926 (J) RALPH WALDO EMERSON is official organist at Chicago's WLS, and was formerly affiliated with the Barton Organ Co. He is well known as instructor in classes in motion picture organ playing.

Nov. 1926 (J) OLIVER WALLACE was transferred from the Liberty Theatre in Seattle to the new Broadway Theatre in Portland. Ollie is featured on a 4-manual Wurlitzer, elevator and all.

Oct. 1928 (AO) C. SHARP MINOR, noted picture organist, is back in his old home town where he became famous, playing the Los Angeles Shrine Auditorium 4-manual Moller.

GOLD DUST: Apr. 1915: ROY L. MEDCALFE at the Empress Theatre, Missoula, Montana . . . Dec. 1919: EDWARD BENEDICT at Tacoma's Rialto Theatre at \$225 a week . . . June 1922: C. SHARP MINOR opened the 3-15 Wurlitzer in Buffalo's Lafayette Theatre . . . Aug. 1922: DEZSO D'ANTALFY and JOHN HAMMOND are named to play the 8-division Austin in Rochester's new Eastman Theatre, also teach organ at the Eastman School . . . Dec. 1922: HARRY QUINN MILLS at the Blue Mouse Photoplay Theatre, Portland, Ore. . . . Jan. 1923: HENRY FRANCIS PARKS at the Rialto, Tacoma . . . Jan. 1923: Dr. C. A. J. PARMENTIER at the Capitol, N.Y. . . . Apr. 1923 ARTHUR MARTEL at the Lafayette Theatre, Buffalo . . . June 1923: MILTON CHARLES at the Tivoli, Chicago . . . July 1923: HELEN SEARLES at the Portage Park, Chicago.

Mar. 1924: D. KENNETH WIDENOR at the 69th Street, Philadelphia, playing a 3-manual Kimball with Ampico piano . . . Dec. 1924: WILLIAM KLAISS, ROLLO F. MAITLAND and LEW WHITE at the 3-manual Kimball in the Stanley Theatre, Philadelphia, doing broadcasts on WDAR daily . . . Nov. 1925: LOUIS WEIR broadcasting over WEEI, Boston, for the Chamber of Commerce, using a 2-manual Hope-Jones Wurlitzer . . . Nov. 1925: MILTON SLOSSER at the Missouri Theatre, St. Louis . . . Feb. 1926: ARTHUR GUTOW at the 3-manual Kimball, North Center Theatre, Chicago . . . May 1926: HAROLD RAMSAY at the 4-28 Wurlitzer in Shea's Buffalo . . . May 1926: EDDIE DUNSTEDTER is premier organist in the State Theatre, Minneapolis . . . Aug. 1926: ALBERT HAY MALOTTE at the Plaza Theatre, London, England . . . Aug. 1926: CHAUNCY HAINES at the 4-manual Wurlitzer in the Norshore, Chicago.

Jason and I wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, prosperous New Year! We will be back in February with a surprise column for all the ATOE ladies. So long, sourdoughs!

Lloyd & Jason