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THE COVER PHOTOS

Top row: (1) WGN Studio, (2) Chicago Stadium, (3) Indiana Theatre. Bottom row: (4) Hoosier Theatre, (5) Mont Clare Theatre, (6) Mundelein.

Convention coverage starts on page 19.

Photos 1, 3, 6 by Bill Lamb.

Photos 2, 4, 5 by Tom Yannitell.

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EDITORIAL

Friends;

CATOE has delivered again. More organs, more artists, more organization. The smoothest convention yet is a tribute to the ability of CATOE to produce interesting shows. Let us hope this will inspire more chapters to make theatre organ available to the general public.

Thanks, CATOE, for another chapter in our Theatre Organ memory book.

We are now the American Theatre Organ Society. With the S silent, we can still be called ATO(s) and we should be more enthusiastic than ever.

The change in our name and in our By-laws reflects the desire of more chapters to investigate incorporating under a broader section of the Internal Revenue Code. The National office will cooperate in every way possible if requested.

Connecticut Valley is the first chapter to receive an educational and chari-

table ruling from the IRS. The Shaskin organ has already been donated to them and word was just received that the RKO-Stanley Warner people have awarded them the Style H Wurlitzer from the State Theatre in Waterbury. I think this offers exciting prospects for the future of our King of Instruments.

With the growth of our organization to 33 chapters and five more in the throes of birth, our current membership is near 3,750 and will reach 4,000, I hope, by the close of the year. This soon will create an audience to listen to more performing artists and the organs we restore will have a happier life entertaining people instead of spiders and mice.

We have come a long way with the name our founders chose. It is like losing a child to change the name but I anticipate our new title will help us to use the opportunities our previous work has created.



Al Mason

Al Mason, President