

ject. The Haller Lake Improvement Club has decorated the entire room and the ladies have dyed the drapes to match. We are almost ready to bring the console in and hook it up. A cover was designed to fit the console with the front folding back to give access to just the key desk. It can be taken apart and removed when a concert is to be given. Genny Whitting has undertaken the job of finishing the cover to match the decor of the room. The crews have been sufficiently fed by Betty Chang and Virginia Lawrence. We all are looking forward to the day when we hear our organ play for the first time.

—Virginia Lawrence, Secretary

## ST. LOUIS

St. Louis Chapter had 9 members at the convention. All agree that for overall quality and variety this was the best convention yet!

Meeting attendance has been increasing steadily when we have announced articles for the programs. The largest group was about 120 at our May Midnite meeting at the Fox. Stan Kann, John Ferguson, and Dale Zieger were the official organists of the evening. Stan opened the program with the console DESCENDING from stage level to almost hidden in the pit. This is where most of the broken cable ends meet and most of the stops work. Many members and guests also played.

Summer activity by the Chapter consisted of more rebuilding work on our organ project (manual chests now) and planning for Fall meetings and silent movies. The next meetings are the third Sunday evenings of September, October and November. Movies are tentatively scheduled for mid-month in September and October. Details will be in our monthly bulletins.

—Donald P. Ullrich, Chairman

## Gaylord Carter Originals Published

A series of original organ compositions by famed organist Gaylord Carter are being made available in sheet music form. The first, "NOCTURNE", is a tranquilly beautiful classical composition in the key of D-flat and not difficult. The second composition in the series is Carter's great novelty "DUNCE DANCE" — four pages of fast and spritely sparkle in the key of G — a cutie! "NOCTURNE" sells for \$1.00; "DUNCE DANCE" for \$1.50. At the present time, copies may be ordered only direct from the publisher and sole distributor: JACK LOREN ORGAN STUDIOS, Post Office Box 1356, Beverly Hills, California 90213.

# DON BAKER'S PIPING THRILLS ANGELOS

by Peg Nielsen

Los Angeles — Don Baker's concerts on pipes are altogether too rare (they might be non-existent but for the liberal attitude on Don's boss, the Conn Organ Co., which doesn't mind having its products associated with pipe sounds). Not long ago, Shirley Cole, reporting in Niagara Frontier Chapter's "Silent Newsreel," told of Don's recent appearance at the North Tonawanda Riviera theatre's 3/11 Wurlitzer in terms which correctly avoided the use of superlatives. I doubt that we can be as well-disciplined as Miss Cole be-

department. We approached the theatre with some apprehension because we recalled how the heat-detuned Kimball had attempted to throw a hard-riding Millie Alexander only two weeks previously. But, to the great credit of Ross Farmer and his organ maintenance stalwarts, the beast had been tamed; rarely had it sounded better.

Don Baker has a way of mastering an unfamiliar instrument which gives the impression he has played it all his life; from the start he was completely at home before the huge horseshoe of the 4/37. His announcements were brief and they were usually tailored to underline the music. Much of the program consisted of Don's "standards," intricate and compelling arrangements of evergreen selections with which Don has thrilled audiences from New York Paramount days to the present, and whatever he played turned into the kind of magic of which Don Baker is the sole dispenser.

After a rousing encore ("Buckle Down Wynsocki"), Don held court in the huge Wiltern lobby, pumping hands, greeting old friends, making new ones, exchanging small talk, autographing records (he has a new Concert Label release of his closing day concert at the New York Paramount 4/36 Wurlitzer) and generally charming his worshipers (it's no "put on"; one of Don's most popular qualities is his sincerity). His music is good, too.

The LA Chapter presented the Don Baker show as an evening concert open to the public, with considerable media ballyhoo, thanks to the promotion acumen of Chapter publicist Diana Stoney. Attendance exceeded 1000. □



*IN THE SPOTLIGHT* — Don's highly polished and ornate arrangements were "naturals" for Kimball pipe registrations, as was another Baker trademark — a rolling pedal bass. STUFOTO

cause there is something so buoyant in the music of Don Baker on pipes that we got as carried away as when we heard Don at the DTOC-Senate 4/34 Wurlitzer during the Detroit ATOE convention.

Don's concert for the Los Angeles Chapter at the Wiltern theatre on September 9 was no exception in the "lift"

## ATOS INVITED TO ATTEND 1971 AGO CONVENTION IN HAWAII

All ATOS members are invited to attend the 1971 American Guild of Organists Regional Convention in Honolulu, July 2-8. According to Tom Norman, chairman of the '71 Convention, the 4/16 Robert Morton in the Waikiki Theatre has been totally restored and will be part of the convention activities. In addition, the 4/16 Robert Morton from the Princess Theatre has been removed and will be installed in the Hawaii Theatre hopefully in time for the July meeting.

Gaylord Carter has accepted a playing engagement so there should be much theatre organ music along with the classical programs.

For those who really love theatre organ, there will be time to attend both the AGO meeting and the ATOS Convention, currently scheduled for the following week in Seattle, Washington.

Information on the Honolulu convention may be obtained from: Tom Norman, P.O. Box 8688, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815.

The more ATOS members that are interested, the more theatre organ music could be put on the schedule so let Tom Norman know if you are interested as soon as possible.