# THEATRE

Journal of the American Theatre Organ Society

## Volume 15, No. 1 • February 1973

ATOS National Membership is \$10.00 per calendar year, which includes a subscription to THEATRE ORGAN, the official publication of the American Theatre Organ Society. Single copies \$1.25. Make check or money order payable to ATOS, and mail to P.O. Box 1314, Salinas, California 93901.

#### Editorial Address:

THEATRE ORGAN P.O. Box 1314, Salinas, California 93901

#### Advertising Address

ATOS Advertising 2231 North Burling Street Chicago, Illinois 60614

#### **ATOS National Headquarters**

ATOS P.O. Box 1002 Middleburg, Virginia 22117 Phone (703) 554-8321

#### **ATOS National Officers**

Erwin Young, President Duane Searle, Vice President Mary Bowles, Secretary-Treasurer Nina Young, Executive Secretary

#### **ATOS National Board of Directors**

Mary Bowles Allen W. Rossiter
Gaylord Carter Dick Schrum
Al Mason Richard Simonton
Allen Miller Judd Walton
Stillman Rice, Past President

#### ATOS Librarian

Mary A. Bowles Route 2, Hopewell Road Lost Lake, Marlton, N.J. 08053 Phone: (609) 983-1535

### **ATOS Past Presidents**

| Richard Simonton | Feb. 1955 — Oct. 1958 | July 1961 | Tiny James | July 1961 — July 1964 | Carl Norvell | July 1964 — July 1966 | July 1968 — July 1968 | Al Mason | Stillman Rice | July 1970 — July 1972 | July 1970 — Ju

## **ATOS Honorary Members**

 1959—Jesse Crawford
 1966—W. "Tiny" James

 1960—Farny Wurlitzer
 1967—Erwin A. Young, Jr.

 1961—Mel Doner
 1968—Richard C. Simonton

 1962—Leonard MacClain
 1969—Judd Walton

 1963—Eddie Dunstedter
 1970—Bill Lamb

 1964—Reginald Foort
 1971—George and Vi Thompson

 1965—Dan Barton
 1972—Stu Green

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-George Thompson Associate Editors - Ray Brubacher Lloyd E. Klos Pea Nielsen

Editor-Emeritus — W. "Stu" Green Publisher—Al Mason Editorial Assistant — Don Lockwood Advertising Manager—Len Clarke Circulation Manager—Vi Thompson

THEATRE ORGAN (title registered U.S. Patent Office) is published bi-monthly by the American Theatre Organ Society, Inc., a non-profit organization, Erwin A. Young, Jr., President. All rights reserved. Entire contents copyrighted 1973 by ATOS, Inc., Office of publication is P.O. Box 2329. Livonia, Michigan 48150.

POSTMASTER: Second Class postage paid at Livonia, Michigan, IF UNDELIVERABLE, send form 3579 to ATOS Circulation Department, Box 1314, Salinas, California 93901

# cover photo...

The former San Francisco Paramount 4/32 Wurlitzer installed in the Howard Vollum studio in Portland. The instrument has been enlarged to 49 ranks and will be heard during the National Convention in July. See story on page 27.

(Claude V. Neuffer, Photo)

# in this issue...

### **FEATURES**

5 Everything You Always Wanted to Know
About Cueing a Silent Movie and How to
Get the Information . . Esther Higgins and Mary Bowles

12 The Care and Feeding of Organ Soloists . . . John Muri

13 San Sylmar . . . . . . . . . . . . . Stu Green

21 A Happening at Thurmont . . . . . . . . . . . . . Bob Mitchell

23 "Little Mother" Makes the Trip . . . . . . Bob Stratton

27 The Howard Vollum Studio Wurlitzer . . Dennis Hedberg

31 Sidney Torch, Part II . . Judd Walton and Frank Killinger

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

4 Acre of Seats
35 For the Records
11 Closing Chord
38 Letters to the Editor
11 Hollywood Cavalcade
39 Vox Pops
26 Dinny's Colyum
43 Chapter Notes
34 Nuggets from the Golden Days
55 Classified Ads

# president's message...



"Our Manners Are Showing" by John Muri, which appeared in the December 1972 issue of THEATRE ORGAN certainly is worthy of thorough study by all of us and could serve as an excellent guide in our relations with fellow ATOS members.

One point which was not covered is our association with owners or managers of buildings that house theatre organs. In the past there have been numerous occasions when a well-meaning individual has handled these relations in a manner that was thoughtless of the majority and which resulted in poor or negative relations between the

person in control of the organ and ATOS. It is well known that this coin has two sides to it; but let us always strive to act in a manner that is beneficial to all and which will guarantee that the wrong side of the coin will not carry the letters ATOS.

Envin a. Young. fr.