

large combinations (Peter has a liking for lots of high register most of the time, so the Piccolo, Fifteenth, Twelfth, and Tierce rarely go unused). The closing tunes are "Now is the Hour" and a martial "Goodbye" new to us.

The organ sounds Wurlitzer-good, and the tremis (Tibia, especially) have been set to the slower, sexier U.S. preference. Both artists offer representative examples of their musical abilities with Mr. Liversidge giving the more restrained performance to Mr. Jebson's bolder approach, adding up to a balanced program. Recording is good and the detailed jacket notes provide a visual stoplist, a history of the organ and biogs on both artists. □



*Letters to the Editor concerning all aspects of the theatre organ hobby are encouraged. Send them to the editor concerned. Unless it's stated clearly on the letter "not for publication," the editors feel free to reproduce it, in whole or part.*

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Dear Editor:

Some time ago I wrote to you regarding the feature, "Snippets from England" and the fact that Scotland was never mentioned.

I should imagine it was because Scotland had little to offer at that time and on a visit in 1966 to the "Odeon" in Glasgow, I was just in time to see the Compton Organ ready for moving to England; its pipes spread out on the stage and the console already on its way to New Castle on Tyne.

A round-up of other theatres proved to be fruitless. "Never knew we had an organ", said the young manager of one movie house. "Yes we have an organ, but it has not been played in 40 years", said another. Other picture

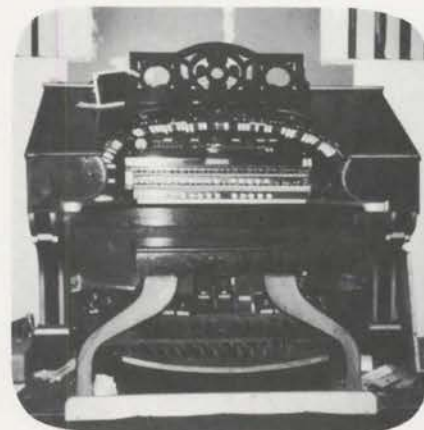
houses were locked up, out of business, or demolished.

However, this summer I found new life in the cinema organ world in Scotland. I enjoyed two wonderful



Hilsdon 3/35, Scotland.

concerts in one day, details of which are enclosed. The Playhouse organ is, of course, in its original "home" and though I am told it is a "beast" to play and sounded very much concert organ, it does have unusual tones and is used twice weekly in a theatre that seats, 3,000 which has been partly re-seated and completely redecorated — a healthy sign in the 70's.



Christie 2/10, Scotland.

The "Christie" organ installed in the auditorium of Bangour Village Hospital is a most unusual installation. This is a fair sized hall with a large stage, but the organ has been built into a recess at the opposite end of the hall. The console sits on the floor (on a small platform) under the three shutters, but the great "power of sound" comes from the fact that the organ is built beneath a domed ceiling that runs the entire length of the hall. No matter where one sits in this auditorium, the 10 ranks sound like 110.

The organ was mastered by many during the concert, but none like the guest of the evening, Hubert Selby. Hearing this artist play I could only think how worthwhile my 3,000 mile trip had been. If ever a guest organist is to be invited from Britain to play in the United States, I would say that the "organ enthusiast" will not be let down or disappointed. This gentleman and the organ are *one*.

I was welcomed to Edinburgh by two of the reconstruction crew of the Playhouse and Bangour organs, Gordon Lucas and Mike Beattie, who tell me they will be happy to show all installations in and around Edinburgh to any member of ATOS. They gave me the following list of installations available in Scotland.

#### Organs at Present in Playing Condition in Scotland

1. Paisley — 3/10 Hilsdon  
Paisley Picture House (Bingo) used Saturdays.
2. Edinburgh — 2/4 Ingram  
Astoria Cinema used during Summer.
3. Edinburgh — 3/35 Hilsdon  
Playhouse Cinema used continuously.
4. Aberdeen — 3/10 Compton  
Capitol Cinema used Saturdays.
5. Aberdeen — 3/10 Compton  
Powis School ex Astoria Cinema used continuously.
6. Bangour near Edinburgh — 2/9 Christie.  
Bangour Village Hospital ex A.B.C. Cinema Carlisle used continuously.

Note: (Sadly)

No Wurlitzers survive in Scotland in spite of a dozen or more installations.

Trusting that you will give Scotland its rightful place in publishing *some* of this information, I am

Sincerely yours,  
James C. Donald, New York Chapter

□

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