

where a particular organ is regarded as musical co-leader with the resident symphony. (To date, there have been three Wichita Symphony concerts utilizing the organ.) Shades of the 17th and 18th centuries, when such as Sebastian Bach would have thought such a situation merely normal! No doubt he would rejoice seeing an organ concert series draw audiences at capacity!

In Century II, your radar senses that new spirit and growing adventure pervading all the arts today and you realize, suddenly, how close we are to century 21! This place should give serious pause in particular to the AGO, the ATOS and other groups allegedly in the vanguard of organ support and promotion. In Wichita, a small group of people, WTO, completely *outside* these organizations, gave themselves and their talents in a display of faith, labor and love as to shame a multitude *inside* the organ world. In Century II, the essential question about the organ as *musical instrument* in a new day has been answered with a resounding *Yea-and-Amen* by an entire city. In far too many situations the future of the organ still is questionable. Plainly, the instrument will be understood, respected, valued and supported (in that order) only to the extent which those who *talk* a great case go into their communities and invest faith and labor with determination. In Century II Center's Exhibition Hall is one answer of what *will* become reality when you have leaders who *love* music enough to *lead* . . . and when you have supporters who *love* music enough to *believe!*

Orgel Uber Alles! □

BRUBACHER ACQUIRES ROMBERG'S ORGAN

The 3/13 Aeolian residence organ which was originally in the New York residence of the well known composer Sigmund Romberg, has been acquired by Potomac Valley Chapter member Ray Brubacher. The organ, an orchestral instrument, has an Aeolian Duo-Art roll player mechanism. A large collection of rolls belonging to the composer was also acquired. Sigmund Romberg gave the organ to the Scottish Rite Temple, in Baltimore, Md. in 1946 and upon completion of the installation, came from New York to play a dedication program on the instrument. Ray is presently removing the organ from its Baltimore location. □

Hope-Jones Organ Rebuilt

by Harvey K. Elsaesser

The Schlicker Organ Co. of Tona-wanda (only a few miles away from the Wurlitzer plant) is redoing the old Hope-Jones organ in the gallery of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Buffalo. It's the second overhaul since it was installed in 1908.

It was redone by Wurlitzer in the 1920s when the new relays and console were installed. In 1952 Schlicker installed the new chancel organ.

The casework (with all dummy pipes except for a trumpet en chemade put in a few years ago by Schlicker) came down first. It's one of the finest cases in the area and will be rein-

stalled. Next came the 32' Tibias. They will be cleaned, painted and reinstalled along the walls, six on each side instead of across the front. Also being kept are the wooden Trombones, Oboe, Horn Diapason, Vox, Quint, and Quint Celeste. The Hope-Jones plaster chambers and lead lined shutters will be replaced.

The Higgins Co., hired to remove the Tibias, thinks the low CCCC weighed about 1800 pounds. Incidentally many of the original Hope-Jones magnets are still operative after 66 years, a tribute to his engineering skill. □

The second overhaul for the 1908 Hope-Jones organ in St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral.

(Photo courtesy Buffalo Evening News)

