

was an excellent orchestra in the pit, but too many broken wires in the main cable prevented use of the theatre pipes.

The Fair is long over but Harvey Whitney and his crew continue their tuning and refinement of Opus 939 to put it in as near perfect condition as humanly possible for its formal debut. On April 20, 1975, barring unforeseen difficulties, the chapter intends to formally dedicate their instrument to the memory of George A. Seaver. He had played the instrument in Larry Weid's home, in fact a TV film presentation featured both several years ago. Plans call for a 2 P.M. presentation using the same artists who had gathered in the dining room of Sacramento's Sheraton Inn at 2 P.M. on April 16, 1972, to again play the type of music George liked. (George had passed away the previous month and had previously requested no funeral, no formal services, but indicated if his friends wished to do something it should be around a theatre pipe organ with some of his favorite artists.) Clyde Derby, Sheraton Inn house organist, W. "Tiny" James and Emil Martin were the concert artists in 1972, and Jim Hodges, Sacramento radio personality, did the introductions. All ATOS members, and theatre pipe organ music lovers in general, are invited to attend in April. A word of advice is in order — be early. Capacity of the Golden Bear Playhouse is 325 persons, for fire and safety reasons. □



Joe Brite

Colorado for the past 37 years. He passed away several days after a brutal beating during an attempted holdup of the Rialto Theatre which he managed.

He was 71 years of age. He had studied theatre organ at the Chicago Musical College. He had played in several Chicago Theatres, and at some performances had played with Milton Charles. Following his move to Alamosa in 1937, he played daily radio broadcasts on the Wurlitzer in the Rialto Theatre for 28 years. He played the organ during intermissions between movies. This was one of the few theatre organs in the nation used daily. His record for continuous per-

formance was exceeded in duration perhaps only by those in Radio City Music Hall.

He was a member of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society of Denver. One of the finest home-installation concerts ever enjoyed by Chapter members was that played by Joe on Beck and Edith Maddy's Wurlitzer (formerly of the Mayan Theatre of Denver).

An article on his career, *It's Brite in the San Luis Valley*, appeared on page 13 of the April 1970 issue of THE-ATRE ORGAN.

Kenneth Tillotson

**Robert Dilworth, Mr. and Mrs.** Robert E. Dilworth's 16 year old son died suddenly on November 1, 1974. The boy had apparently been experimenting with plastic bags and accidentally suffocated.

A Memorial service was held on November 5th at the Second Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers the family suggested contributions in his name to the Rev. Malcolm MacQueen Memorial Fund of Second Baptist Church, 2800 Silverside Road, Wilmington, Del. 19810. (A perpetual scholarship fund for theological students).

Robert had spent many hours with his father working on the Dickinson Theatre Pipe Organ. The Kimball was originally installed in the Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia.

Betty J. Kouba

## Closing Chord

Ralph Trout III, staff organist for Capn's Galley Pizza Chain passed away several weeks ago following a second heart transplant. His first transplant took place in the spring of 1969. Living on borrowed time, Ralph lived an active and vigorous life. His wish was that any expression of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Stanford University Heart Cardiovascular Foundation, Palo Alto, Calif. 94305.

Joseph L. Brite passed away September 17, 1974. A former theatre organist in Chicago during the silent film era. Joe has lived in Alamosa,

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