

NUGGETS
from the
GOLDEN
DAYS



Prospected by Lloyd E. Klos

This time, Jason and I offer a "pot luck" selection of nuggets taken from all over the country. Sources were Jacobs (J), Metronome (Met.), Motion Picture Herald (MPH), local press (LP) and others.

Dec. 12, 1924 (LP) Seattle's Capitol Theatre announces the grand opening of "Our Mammoth Kimball Organ, the largest and finest west of Chicago."

1925 (Local No. 47's "Overture") The Los Angeles Theatre Organists' Club was organized in January 1921 for the mutual advancement of the theatre organist profession. The club has rapidly developed into one of the best music clubs in the city and is nationally known as the country's most progressive theatre organist club. Our new building will be equipped with special quarters for our monthly meetings. Enjoyable program-social meetings are held each month during the winter season. It is the duty of all organist members of Local 47 to affiliate with us for beneficial development. Every organist should enthusiastically contribute his share toward professional advancement. Initiation fee is \$5, annual dues \$6, which includes one year's subscription to The American Organist, the official magazine. Our object: To promote the fraternity of theatre organists... to elevate the standard of theatre organ playing... to bring about a closer cooperation between organists and managers... to secure efficient maintenance of theatre organs to encourage adequate installations. Our officers are: CLAUDE RIEMER, president; REINE BECKER, vice president; HARRY QUINN MILLS, treasurer;

MAUD FAUVER, secretary.

Dec. 26, 1925 (MPH) JAN PHILLIP SHENAHAN plays the Robert Morton at the opening of the West Portal (later, Empire) Theatre in San Francisco.

Apr. 1, 1926 (MPH) LLOYD DEL CASTILLO at Shea's Buffalo, is featuring "Pilgrim's Chorus" from "Tannhauser". Regular organists are MAURICE B. NICHOLSON and CHARLES ALLISON.

Apr. 15, 1926 (MPH) WARREN YATES at the Fabian Theatre in Paterson, N.J., was especially in fine fettle at the mammoth organ, and his solos were a real treat. Warren is one of the very best of the energetic and progressive crop of theatre organists. He is at home in all types of music, from jazz to the cream of the classics.

Oct. 1926 (J) ALBERT F. BROWN was guest organist at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago while regular organist, HENRI A. KEATES took his vacation. Mr. Brown formerly broadcast from WJJD in Moosheart, Ill. on a Geneva organ.

Nov. 1926 (Met.) Balaban & Katz celebrated the fifth anniversary of their "flagship", the great Chicago Theatre, the week of October 25 with a program showing the firm's pride in "The Wonder Theatre of the World." A tremendous stage show, a Persian pianist, JESSE CRAWFORD paying his respects to the theatre in an organ specialty, and Norma Shearer in "Upstage", featured the bill.

Jan. 1927 (J) EDDIE CLIFFORD is featured on a beautiful Wurlitzer in the new Lincoln Theatre in Mt. Vernon, Wash.

Jan. 1927 (J) SAMUEL P. TOTTEN has left the Liberty Theatre in Olympia, Wash., and is now playing a marvelous Wurlitzer in the new Capital Theatre there.

Jan. 1927 (J) Regular organist at the new Tivoli Theatre in Frederick, Md., will be ARTHUR THATCHER, formerly of the Apollo Theatre in Martinsburg, W. Va.

Feb. 1927 (D) LEO TERRY is playing the Geneva organ in theVarsity Theatre in Evanston, Ill. Both an organist and composer, he is originating solo novelties and specialties. He has a lyric tenor voice and sings some of the numbers while playing.

Feb. 1927 (D) JOHN HAMMOND has been appointed organist of the new \$2,000,000 Saenger Theatre in New Orleans and will begin work there

when the theatre is opened later this winter.

Sep. 1927 (J) TOMMY MOS-GROVE has been signed to a 3-year contract to play the Midway Theatre's Hope-Jones Wurlitzer in Montreal.

Oct. 1927 (J) EDDIE HORTON, an American organist, is playing the 3-manual Wurlitzer at the Regent Theatre in Auckland, New Zealand.

Oct. 1927 (J) HERBERT HENDERSON and HARRY SULLIVAN are playing the Strand Theatre's 4-manual Marr & Colton in Rochester. The former played in Syracuse and in New York's Piccadilly on Broadway. The latter has been at the Strand for five years.

Dec. 1927 (J) JEFF CREIG, organist at Montreal's Papineau Theatre, is convinced the Wurlitzer is the only theatre organ. His 2-manual unit has novel effects such as bass drum, snare drum, cymbal, chimes, wood block, sleigh bells, fire gong, surf effects etc. He is highly complimentary of the Wurlitzer in the Imperial Theatre, installed in 1913 and now played by MRS. HENDRICK.

GOLD DUST: 12/20 ZELEPSKI, "Wonder of the Musical World," on the Wurlitzer in the Oak Theatre and ALBERT HAY MALOTTE in the Coliseum in Seattle... 10/23 OLIVER WALLACE & ERNEST F. RUSSELL, Seattle's Liberty... 4/25 ARTHUR FLAGEL, Earle and RUTH LINN, Park in Washington... 9/25 MILTON SLOSSER, Missouri Theatre, St. Louis; MAURICE B. NICHOLSON & GEORGE BOUCHARD, Shea's Hippodrome, Buffalo... 1/26 LOVE DAVIS & MAURICE B. NICHOLSON, Shea's Hippodrome Wurlitzer, Buffalo... 9/26 PRESTON SELLERS opens Chicago's Belmont 3/15 Wurlitzer... 10/26 ARTHUR HAYES, Capitol in St. Paul, Minn... 12/26 HENRY B. MURTAGH, chief organist at Chicago Theatre... 1/27 MILTON CHARLES, Chicago's Tivoli; W. RAY. BURROUGHS, Madison's Wurlitzer, Rochester... 3/27 EDMUND FITCH opens Sheridan Wurlitzer, Chicago on Feb. 12; STANLEY ANSTETT in Hammond, Ind.; PAUL ESTERLIT, in Chicago.

That should do it until next time. So long, sourdoughs!

Jason & The Old Prospector