



ATLANTA

1978

Y'ALL COME

by James K. Jobson

Once upon a time we had some expressions about Atlanta and the South in general: "The Journal Covers Dixie like the Dew" for one; and there was "Welcome South, Brother" (stands for WSB, Bob Van Camp's old stand at 750 KH). But you can readily see these are now passe. The cliches may be gone, but the latch string is still out (you youngsters ask an elder to explain). Atlanta is cleaning the red carpet and will have it glistening in the July sun for you on the 9th.

You know more or less what to expect at an ATOS convention, but this one will be a bit different, so we're going to tempt you a little. Early temptation gives you time to plan a little and scheme a lot during the cold winter months on how you can arrange to be here and enjoy the fun. If you are prompt in making reservations, you may stay at the famous Sheraton-Biltmore, the official convention hotel. It is the last of Atlanta's old *grand* hotels with a tradition of southern grace and charm. But it's fully modern and is in easy walking distance of the Fabulous Fox Theatre and a host of large churches with interesting classic pipe organs. There's another, more modern Sheraton just up West Peachtree Street to take the overflow. No farther to walk, but more modern in design, the Biltmore will be the official hotel and its management is going all-out for ATOS. You won't be disappointed.

Two days are tentatively scheduled away from the Fox, but only one of those will be out of town . . . a jaunt to Birmingham to hear Alabama Chapter's Mighty Wurlitzer in the Alabama Theatre. The other side trip will be a divided affair — the East Point Moller in the morning and the Music Grinder Wurlitzer in the afternoon — or vice versa.

Otherwise, you will have a chance to sample some of the excellent church organs in Atlanta's churches on Sunday morning, and arrangements are under way to provide other opportunities for you to visit other outstanding pipe installations while you are in our city. However, the balance of the scheduled concerts are planned to be on the 4/42 Fox Moller to give you an opportunity to experience the many moods of that

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instrument as it performs for a variety of top-notch concert artists. Their identities will be made known later after all arrangements are complete.

As I said, you pretty well know what to expect from an ATOS convention, but what do you expect of the host city? Well, quite frankly, it is difficult for a native to tell you, because — for one thing, we don't even stay in hotels in our own home town! There are a number of attractions to the city, however, which make it the fastest growing convention site in the nation.

You will not want to miss Stone Mountain State Park which exhibits the largest piece of exposed granite in the world — and hear the magnificent carillon there. The famous painting of the Battle of Atlanta, the Cyclorama at Grant Park, is undergoing restoration and is not expected to be open during your visit, but Grant Park has other interests — Fort Walker for the Civil War buffs and a zoo for the kiddies. About 20 miles north is Kennesaw National Battlefield and park where there's a modest Civil War museum and the "General" locomotive that figured in the great chase.

Callanwolde, home of Charles Howard Candler (brother of the Coca Cola founder) will be of interest to some who would like to see how the other half lived back in the opulent days — and to sample the Aeolian residence organ.

Underground Atlanta will give you another taste of 19th century city life in an authentic view downtown that lay forgotten after being built-over for nearly a hundred years.

Shopping for the ladies includes Nieman-Marcus, Rich's, Saks

Fifth Avenue, Davison's Lord and Taylor and a host of other fine stores and shops and shopping malls.

The metropolitan area houses some 2,000,000 people who are caught up in a swirl of activity in a dynamic city where one can do literally anything that can be done anywhere in the world! Some of the best dining and entertainment are available. We'll be keeping you up to date in future issues about availabilities, and the convention packet will have some well-considered recommendations and reviews to keep you from making a mistake in choice.

One thing is for sure — every member of Atlanta Chapter will feel personally responsible for your enjoyment of your visit to our city. Feel free at any time to accost anyone with an AC badge and ask for information. If he doesn't have the answer, he will get it for you.

By the time you read this, international flights will be landing and taking off at Hartsfield International Airport. There are non-stop flights from almost every major city in the nation, so it is easy to get here with little fuss and bother. Limousines run regularly from the airport to the Biltmore and back, and the rates are comparable to other similar services.

If you drive, however, you have a wider choice of rooming accommodations and will have more mobility while here. Recommendations of motor facilities will be made available in advance of time for your reservations. Remember, though, Atlanta is a growing convention city. There are one or more conventions going on here each day of the week. It will be wise to get your rooming accommodations made as far in advance as possible to assure your first choice.

Remember the dates — July 9-13, 1978. Y'all Come!!



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