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## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by *Judd Walton*

A.T.O.E. membership is for the fiscal year, January 1 through December 31, and includes a subscription to THEATRE ORGAN, a quarterly publication. All persons joining within any fiscal year period will receive the Volume issued for that period, i.e., 1959 members will receive Volume I, Nos. 1 through 4. A person joining late in the year will receive the back issues of the Volume for the year as well as any forthcoming issues still to be mailed to complete the series of four. If, however, you do not wish to receive the current Volume, your dues may be applied for the following year if you so designate. Billing for dues for 1960 will accompany Vol. I, No. 4. Please do not submit your dues for RENEWAL of your membership until billed. Thank you.

A.T.O.E. membership is now in excess of 600, which assures our budget requirements for the year! This is a true indication of the high level of interest that exists among theatre organ enthusiasts. Furthermore, it encourages your officers to overcome the obstacles that are strewn in the paths of inexperience and thus bring about a smoother operating organization. Aside from these rather academic aspects of the situation, two facts stand out clearly above all others. Members have indicated a desire to have information on, first, home installations of theatre pipe organs, and second, articles of a technical nature relating to all makes of theatre organs.

In response to this demand, we urge all owners of home-installed theatre organs to prepare descriptions of your installation, complete with details of chamber construction, sizes of rooms into which the organ speaks, specs, and most important of all, pictures of the installation with captions. You do not have to be a writer to do this—just send in a letter. It would be very helpful to have the letter typed, and double spaced. We'll settle for anything, however, so don't let the lack of a typewriter stop you. All material will be considered for publication by our editor, and we sincerely request your immediate response to this plea of the members.

This magazine gets its breath of life from material submitted by our readers. We need news items, however short they may be, pictures, descriptions of organs, (large or small), etc. Its continued operation will depend upon how well you as a member respond to this appeal. We do not have a tremendous backlog of material at present. A few of the "faithful" have supplied us with the material available to date. But we cannot call on them indefinitely to carry the full load. The true enjoyment of a hobby is in its sharing—let us all, each and everyone, share through the only medium we have—THEATRE ORGAN. We'll be waiting to hear from you—just address your letter to "Theatre Organ, P. O. Box 167, Vallejo, California."

An up to date report indicates that we may just about exceed 700 members for 1959. Members joining for the first time, still want to receive all of Volume I of THEATRE ORGAN! In this combined issue, which is Volume I, Nos. 3 and 4, we have started publication of the Wurlitzer Installation List, long sought after by many of our members, and unknown to others. As a companion piece to this series, we will soon start a series of articles on Wurlitzer Models, prepared for us by Gordon Kibbee who has long been interested in this theatre organ lore.

We still have been unable to locate an installation list for Robert Mortons, and anyone having such information should notify us of this fact so that we can start work on it. It now appears that we may have located a source on information on the Robert Morton models at long last! Most of this information was lost when Mr. Sartwell, who purchased the remnants of the Robert Morton Co. several years back, passed away.

We do have the Reuter installations, and the Moller installations. Any other information on Bartons, etc., will be much appreciated. Let us hear from you.