



Tom Gnaster. His fingers sometimes itch for the 88.

about 8,000 notes in just over 8 minutes.

Do organ-oriented audiences like the piano interludes? Apparently they do; Tom Gnaster let his audience decide which instrument he should play on for the encore during a recent concert for the Keyboard Concert Club at Laguna Hills, California. The show of hands was for the piano and Tom complied, despite those protruding, straight-sided black keys, and not one "clam" resulted.



The Radio City Music Hall continues to function successfully with top-notch stage entertainment. Following the return of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* by popular demand, from January 11th to March 13th, the *Easter Show* with the Vienna Boys Choir took over on March 18th. The *Rockettes' Spectacular* is

## BOOK REVIEW

by Lloyd E. Klos

**KIMBALL ORGANS, FROM A TECHNICAL STANDPOINT.** Text plus 69 photos, numerous sketches and drawings, 70 pages. Vestal Press, Box 97, Vestal, N.Y. 13850. Price: \$6.95 plus 50 cents for shipping. (New York state residents must add 7% for New York state sales tax.)

THEATRE ORGAN readers are familiar with the excellent reproductions which Harvey Roehl's presses have produced through the years. His latest is an 8½" x 11" slick-

in for May 2nd through the 26th; *Manhattan Showboat* will play from June 6th to September 14th. The *Christmas Show* will return on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th. The 4/58 Wurlitzer is heard during all performances, played by Tim Stella and David Messineo, using both consoles.



Paul Haggard, OKC Chapter, reports that the 4/15 Kilgen installed in the Oklahoma City's Civic Center Music Hall is getting plenty of exposure to the public. He recalled that the late U.S. Senator Robert S. Kerr had donated generously toward the restoration of the Kilgen which had gone to seed since being moved to the Center from a local TV station's studios.

It was in fine shape for the 1979 Christmas party of the Kerr-McGee Corporation when 3000 employees crowded into the auditorium to hear radio commentator Paul Harvey and the Christy Minstrels. The crowd had been "softened" by an hour of organ music played by talented chapter member Dorothy Hamilton. The program closed with an engaging "White Christmas" with participants being "snowed on" via the magic of stage manager Richard Charnay, who is interested in the ATOS organ concerts presented there, according to Haggard.

Getting a stage manager on one's side is a mighty advantage. □

paper booklet, combined from two original catalogues, one dated 1938. Churches, municipal auditoria and educational institutions were advertising targets.

There are topics on building a Kimball pipe organ: console, wind supply, action, controls, wiring, magnets, pneumatics, pipes, voicing, testing and purchasing. There is also a page of endorsements by some of the country's foremost classical organists of that time.

We regret that reference to Kimball theatre organs is nonexistent; the firm was out of that business by the late thirties. The publication can, however, offer an education to those whose knowledge is minimal concerning the building of a pipe organ, classical or otherwise. □



## NEW GADGET FOR ORGANISTS

Pianists, organists and other instrumentalists have long been plagued by the problem of music albums that won't stay open to the wanted pages. To try and overcome this, it has been customary to "crack" the spine of the album or bend the pages backwards, resulting in damaged books. Yet, in spite of such drastic measures, pages would still insist on flopping back.

Presto-HOLD solves the problem. It holds any music album flat at any page, no matter how thick the album or how stiff the binding, without mistreating the binding. The beautifully finished walnut base mounts on the music rack of any piano or organ with pressure sensitive tape provided. No tools are needed. The notes on the pages are clearly visible through the clear Plexiglass spring-activated holder when it is in vertical position.

When a new page is wanted, the holder is flipped down and back up to vertical after turning the page.

The price of Presto-HOLD is \$15.95 postpaid, from HGR Co., Division of Gibson Holders, Inc., 529 South 7th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415, or see your local music dealer. □