

film's star, Lillian Gish. On October 12th, CATOE hosted over 2,100 people for an all-star revue, with five acts on stage, a 15-man band, and Lin Lunde at the console. On November 7th, the Chicago hosted the opening night program for the 16th Chicago International Film Festival. Jack Olander was at the console of the 4/29 Wurlitzer, courtesy of CATOE. During Thanksgiving weekend, Dennis James is to return to play a silent film during the CATOE sponsored "Chicago Weekender" regional convention.

Chicago Theatre Trust, Inc. has renamed its newsletter *Intermission* to indicate its interest in providing its membership with information while the Chicago Theatre is "between acts." Interested ATOS members may write for a complimentary copy of *Intermission*, now edited by Bill Benedict, to Chicago Theatre Trust, 3051 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60657. □

NEW CATALOGUE

The Organ Literature Foundation, established 30 years ago, is the largest supplier of organ books, recordings, etc., in the world and offers the most diversified stock that can be found anywhere. Their new Catalogue "N" offers more than 1,150 items. Well over 150 of these were not previously listed in the former catalogue. Catalogue "N" is available for \$1.00, refundable with the first order, from: The Organ Literature Foundation, 45 Norfolk Road, Braintree, Massachusetts 02184. Telephone: (617) 848-1388. □

WELTE ORGAN TAPES AVAILABLE

Since the article in the August/September issue concerning the Welte player organ appeared, many requests have been received for information on the availability of recordings.

Author of the article, Dr. John Landon, informs us that tapes of the Welte are available from Ken Clark and Nelson Barden.

Please address your inquiries to: Welte Recordings, 292 Shawmut Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02118.

It is suggested that the cost, \$8.00 each, be verified. □



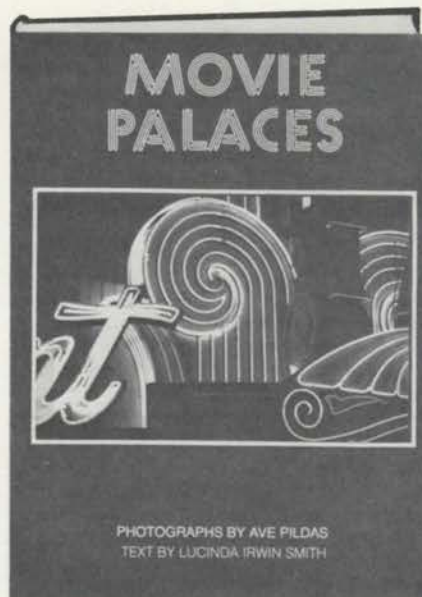
BOOK REVIEW

by Lloyd E. Klos

MOVIE PALACES, SURVIVORS OF ELEGANCE. By Ave Pildas. 128 pages. Available from Vestal Press, Box 97, Vestal, NY 13850. Price: \$17.95 plus \$1.50 shipping charge. New York State residents add 7% sales tax.

Since the late Ben Hall's *The Best Remaining Seats* was published in 1961, there have been several other efforts to capture the glory of the motion picture palace. The most recent is a 128-page, beautifully illustrated picture book whose release comes just in time for the Christmas gift season. Not only is it a must for theatre buffs, but it is a handsome subject for display on any coffee table.

The author, Ave Pildas, a well-known Los Angeles designer and photographer, has lent his talents to this treatment of movie palaces still existing. There is a forward by King Vidor in which he traces the development of the sumptuous theatres through the eyes of a great director. A majority of the book's 196 pictures show scenes of West Coast the-



The introduction, entitled "Before the Final Curtain," contains the idiom's history, the entrepreneurs, the architecture and the entertainment, each in a separate section. Then comes the main body of the book: 182 scintillating pictures in living color. Specific parts of the picture palace are treated in separate groupings: 34 views of marquees and signs, 25 of box offices, 17 of exterior terrazzos, the remainder of interiors with their specialized designs and gee-gaws.

Views of the following theatres are included: Loew's Kings, Brooklyn; Columbus' Ohio; Erie's Warner; Richmond's Byrd; Aurora, Illinois' Paramount; Atlanta's Fox; Kansas City's Midland; Pasadena's Crown (with its famous curtain advertising an automobile); Catalina's Avalon and Mann's Chinese in Hollywood (inside and out, including the famous forecourt of footprints).

If we could offer a minute criticism, it would be that more eastern Movie Palaces should have been included. Syracuse's Loew's State (Thomas Lamb-designed); Shea's Buffalo (Rapp & Rapp); Radio City Music Hall (only a facade picture was included); Birmingham's Alabama and New Orleans' Saenger, to mention a few, are examples of theatres which have been refurbished in the past decade or so and we feel should have been included.

But, our hat is off to author Pildas for his superb effort which should be on the shelf of every theatre aficionado's library. □

*We Hope Y'all Have
An Extra Nice
Holiday Season*



**NORTH
TEXAS
CHAPTER**