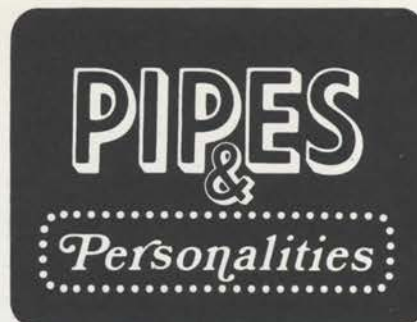


Honors which Dr. John W. Landon has received include listing in *Who's Who In the South*, *International Who's Who In Social Service*, and *Community Leaders and Noteworthy Americans*. He believes his greatest honor was his listing in *Outstanding Educators of America* in 1972. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, American Sociological Association, American Academy of Certified Social Workers, Council of Social Work Education, American Guild of Organists, and the American The-

atre Organ Society.

"You ask me when I'm going to settle down and raise a family? Lord! When would I find the time?" Good question!

*Editor's Update: This article has been awaiting publication since 1976. In late 1981, organ intermissions at the Anderson Paramount were discontinued by the new operator. Dr. Landon, because of a new university affiliation, is now (January, 1982) a resident of Cincinnati.* □



### Tenth Anniversary of Wurlitzer Pops in Wichita

The final concert for the 1981-1982 season celebrating the tenth anniversary of Wurlitzer Pops in Wichita will be a gala evening of musical excitement featuring the Wichita Wurlitzer and Billy Nalle.

The program format will be that made world famous at the organ's original home, the New York Paramount Theatre. Joining Billy and the Wurlitzer will be the conductor/percussionist once with the Stan Kenton Orchestra and now with the Wichita Symphony, J.C. Combs. Combs will head one of the most celebrated of campus orchestras, the WSU Faculty Big Band. Two other professional solo groups from WSU also will appear to provide a full theatre bill. The theme for the evening will be "New York Paramount Revisited."

The box office reports half the hall's seats sold as of February 1 for the concert scheduled for Saturday, May 22. Information and tickets (\$7.50) are obtainable from Central Ticket Agency at Century II Center, Wichita, Kansas 67202. Telephone orders via bank credit cards also are accepted: (316) 263-4717.

BILLY NALLE

\* \* \*

### Organ Power vs. Super Bowl 16

In New York City Channel 5 (WNEW-TV), the flagship station of Metromedia, decided that anything they put on the air opposite the Super Bowl would possibly not attract the audience they wanted. As a special attraction they presented twelve hours of films which premiered at the Radio City Music Hall. *Little Women*, *Mr. Roberts*, *Ninotchka*, and *Mrs. Miniver* were shown on Super Bowl Sunday. These films were introduced by Ginger Rogers, Peter Allen, Ray Bolger and Hermi-

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Proctor's Theatre, Schenectady.

(Photo by Lance Bieseke)

one Gingold. The introductions were taped in the grand foyer of the Radio City Music Hall. Paul Noble, producer of the show, contacted ATOS member Walter Brunke to find out if he had in his collection recordings of the Radio City Music Hall organ. The records were sent to WNEW and during the station breaks and introductions, these organ records were played in the background. In the twelve hours that the program was on the air, a lot of organ music was heard by listeners in the Metropolitan New York area. Channel 5 is also distributed by cable as far west as Pittsburgh and in most of New England. It was nice to hear the records played on TV.

WALTER J. BRUNKE

\* \* \*

### Schenectady's Proctor Theatre Seeking Organ

For the past several years the Proctor Theatre has been owned by Art Center Theatre (ACT), a nonprofit corporation formed to restore, manage and develop the theatre. After two years devoted to restoration and program development, last year's season attests to their success. They had a total combined audience of 242,000 people, and the theatre was utilized almost 250 days. Touring Broadway shows, major orchestras and ballet, as well as a wide variety of

civic and cultural events have provided a solid base of operations.

A key part of the restoration project yet to be tackled is the acquisition of an organ. The original organ was a 2/8 Wurlitzer, Opus 1469, which was enlarged by the factory to a 3/15 for use in pioneer radio broadcasts by WGY. A Brass Trumpet and Brass Saxophone were added in the expansion. However, the console remained a single stop rail unit even though the third manual was added. One of the local organists recalled the difficulty involved with registration, as some of the solo stops were on the fall board. The organ was sold in 1963 to Richard Rand, who lived near Boston. As far as can be determined, Mr. Rand suffered from ill health and the organ was sold, with its present whereabouts unknown. While there is little hope that it still exists intact, any information regarding its recent history would be of interest.

Left in the theatre were two very empty organ chambers. The picture shows the result of the restoration work, and the organ chambers on either side of the proscenium arch are readily seen with the curtains removed for cleaning. The chambers, each 33 feet long, had double sets of swell shutters arranged side by side. The wind line and cable are all that remain of the original installation. The executive board of ACT is very

enthusiastic about locating another instrument, and a committee has recently been formed to search for an organ. To adequately fill the volume of the 2720-seat house, and considering the size of the chambers, a three-manual instrument of about 15 ranks would be required. In the past the possibility of a donation (ACT does have tax-exempt status) has been explored. This did create some input, but to date nothing has developed from this lead.

A. MURDOCH

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### Olsen Plays for "Tasting of the Malts"

Frank Olsen, Canada's Dean of Theatre Organists, has been made an Honorary Life Member of the Niagara Frontier Theatre Organ Society. Olsen moved to Port Colborne, Ontario, in 1967 from Glasgow, Scotland. He recently played again at the Casa Loma in Toronto for a private "Tasting of the Malts" show sponsored by Hiram Walker Distillery. He played the 4/19 Wurlitzer organ, with orchestra and forty pipers playing bagpipes. "What a row," said Frank, "everybody was in Highland costume and the Lt. Governor and high society were regaled." Olsen is

Frank Olsen at console of the 4/19 Wurlitzer at Casa Loma in Toronto, Ontario.

(Photo by Bob Cunningham)





Thelma Barclay at Bellevue Pizza and Pipes with children learning about the pipe organ and playing along.

currently concertizing and presented a concert for Nor-Cal Chapter in March at Redwood City, California.

\* \* \*

### "Children's Hour" at Bellevue Pizza & Pipes

Many who were at the 1981 National Convention in Seattle will remember the little white-haired lady sitting on the organ bench at the Bellevue Pizza & Pipes 3/17 Wurlitzer. The lady was Thelma V. Barclay, now Past Chairman of the Puget Sound Chapter who was the Coordinator for that Convention.

In addition to her enthusiasm for the pipe organ itself, she is busy every Saturday afternoon helping children celebrate their birthdays and acting as hostess, while they have an opportunity to join in the music by reaching down into the "band box" and taking out an instrument to play along. They learn about the various voices, and for some it is a new and very interesting experience that continues long after the first visit. As many as 125 youngsters join in with "Twinkle Twinkle" and "It's a Small, Small World." Thus our little ones are learning firsthand in a fun way that the pipe organ is something to be treasured.

Thelma also plays regularly each noon for the "lunch bunch," which is becoming a growing interest in the Bellevue area.

A former Galesville, Wisconsin, resident, Thelma played the silent movies on an old piano when twelve years old, receiving a silver dollar for each show. Later, years after moving to the Seattle area, she has been a demonstrator for Sherman & Clay

for 29 years. She has attended the past nine National Conventions, has served the Puget Sound Chapter as Chairman for a total of four years, and has been responsible for much of its growth.

So, if you are ever up in the Bellevue, Washington, area at noon, drop in at Bellevue Pizza & Pipes, meet Jack and Betty Laffaw, the owners, and Thelma, the smiling, gracious and accommodating lady of the pipe organ.

THELMA SMITH

\* \* \*

### RCMH Organ Featured in Window Display

The Lord & Taylor department store, at Fifth Avenue and 38th Street, New York, had window displays for 1981 called "Charm of Christmas in New York." One window titled "The scene: The Christmas Show, Radio City Music Hall, 1935," featured a quarter-scale model of the right organ console. The movable mannequin organist (Dick Liebert?) played the organ as the console slid in and out of its niche while models of the Rockettes in their plumery danced. It was truly a window display to cheer theatre organ enthusiasts.

DR. EDWARD J. MULLINS

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### Carleton James, Master of the Organ

Columnist Joe Ganley of the Syracuse Herald American, in a column published on August 16, 1981, wrote briefly about Carleton James, 81, who is a resident of the Van Duyn Home and Hospital.

Mr. James began playing popular music by ear when he was ten years old. He started piano lessons when he was twelve, and two years later began playing in a theatre in Schenectady.

He played the organ at Loew's 83rd Street Theatre in New York City for the premiere of *The Sheik* starring Rudolph Valentino. Carleton went to Syracuse in 1923, where he became organist at the Strand Theatre. After a while he moved up the street to Keith's, where he stayed until 1932 when sound pictures put him out of a job.

He taught piano and played at

skating rinks, churches and other places. He was organist at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, for five years and then at Plymouth Congregational for 25 years.

Carleton played for Jimmy Van Heusen, the Syracusan who later became a famous songwriter, when Jimmy was writing his first songs in the early thirties. He played and played and played. Music was his life.

DONALD L. LOCKWOOD

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### Home-built Organ Featured on TV

On January 26, TV station WCPO of Cincinnati, Ohio, featured the small pipe organ designed and built in 1976 by ATOS member Rick Weisenberger. Also on the program was organist Jim Dickman, who played the instrument. Jim designed and built a small pipe organ of his own in 1978. The cover of the current issue of THEATRE ORGAN was shown, and mention was made of ATOS. In addition, a pipe demonstration was given which showed pipe waveforms displayed on an oscilloscope.

There are probably more of these

Weisenberger organ (Tibiaphone), voiced on 14" of wind. It is complete with regulator, tremulant, and glass-enclosed chamber with swell shades. Because of its small size and range of three octaves, it sounds somewhat like a calliope. It uses a shop vacuum for a blower, and has electric valve action.



homemade instruments around. If any reader has built one or knows of one, Weisenberger would like to hear about it.

RICK WEISENBERGER

\* \* \*

### Puppets Add to Organ Program

At a recent meeting, Sierra Chapter member Bob Longfield brought in his stringed friends for a show, aided by three young men. The "stringed friends" were some very clever puppets: a cow and five calves dancing to OPUS ONE; a couple of clucks trying to be country/western singers/musicians; Madam Hippo, an opera singer with exceedingly large lung capacity; another singer who had trouble with her Joey eating crackers in bed, smoking her "grass," inviting his girlfriend in and finally roaring out of the "house" on a motorcycle (mother was a kangaroo, and in Australia young 'roos are called Joeys); Alley Cat and his PURLITZER ORGAN; and Mr. and Mrs. Bones who come all apart when things go wrong, including the disintegration of the four-manual E. M. Skinner miniature console. In addition to the Skinner, Longfield has built faithful miniatures of a Model D Hammond, the Radio City Music Hall Wurlitzer and one reminiscent of the Birming-

ham instrument. Bob has also developed and patented a control for manipulation of the little friends.

CARROLL F. HARRIS

\* \* \*

### Lost Wurlitzer Found

For many years, it was believed that the 2/7 Wurlitzer, Opus 1584, which had been installed in Rochester's Liberty Theatre in 1927, had been junked. At least RTOS historian Lloyd Klos had thought so. Recently, he received a call from enthusiast Lincoln Pero of Hackensack, New Jersey, saying he has the instrument in storage, and was seeking information about who played it, the theatre, etc.

According to the new owner, when the organ was removed from the Liberty it was reinstalled in a theatre on the outskirts of Boston. In time, a Brockton, Massachusetts, church acquired it and de-theatreized it by removing the toy counter. When the church closed its doors last year, prior to razing, Pero bought it for his home. He's now looking for a toy counter to complete the instrument.

LLOYD E. KLOS

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### Gaylord Carter In Fine Fettle Again After Fall

During the LATOS "Showtime 1924" production at San Gabriel Civic Auditorium in mid-December, Gaylord Carter took a tumble into the orchestra pit. He was able to climb back on the bench and finish the show, but many were concerned that he might have suffered an injury not immediately apparent.

In a recent conversation he reported that he had been able to grasp the footlight trough as he fell, landing on his feet. Gaylord said that he wore a back brace for a few days, but was now "fit as a fiddle."

1982 marks the sixtieth year in show business for Carter, who says he is not yet ready to retire. Rather, in addition to his work accompanying silent films, he is anxious to help young organists experience the joy he has known in scoring and performing for silent films. He expressed regret that he will be unable to attend the ATOS Convention in Detroit, as he will be in Japan at the time.

### More Scenes from Seattle

Here are a few pictures which were not available at the time the 1981 Convention Report was prepared. □



Stage of the Temple Theatre, Tacoma, Washington. Organ chamber grilles just visible above the proscenium. (John Sharp Photo)



View of stage and organ chamber grilles, Seattle Paramount Theatre. (John Sharp Photo)



Sanctuary of Calvary Temple, Seattle. Chambers are at balcony level on either side of choir benches. Console is being inspected by interested ATOSers. (John Sharp Photo)

Auditorium of Masonic Temple, Bremerton, Washington, taken from corner near console. Organ chambers are at the rear of the balcony, on either side of the clock. (John Sharp Photo)



## Convention Note

Recording artists, authors and others who would like to have records, tapes, sheet music or books on sale at the Convention Store during the 1982 ATOS Convention in Detroit are asked to write to: Gil Francis, ATOS Convention Store, 37819 Howell, Livonia, Michigan 48154, or phone (313) 464-1314, for consignment information.