THE ACOUSTICAL CONSULTANT

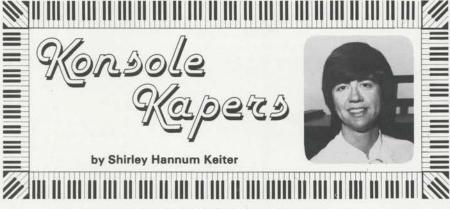
Acoustiquiz

True or False?

by R.J. Weisenberger

- 1. An organ, reinstalled from a theatre of 1,000,000 cubic feet to a pizza parlor of 50,000 cubic feet will sound louder.
- Treble pipes placed near the swell shades can be heard better in the auditorium, therefore bass offset pipes should also be placed near the swell shades.
- 3. A classical organ of 100 ranks voiced on 3" wind pressure can be duplicated in volume by a unit organ of ten ranks voiced on 30" wind pressure.
- 4. Levels near 90 db are very loud, produce pain, and should be avoided.
- Pipe organs sound like pipe organs because of the care and attention put into their construction, while electronic organs are mass-produced and don't receive this extra attention.
- High pressure instruments are not suitable for serious music.
- High pressure pipework would not be desirable in "straight" organ designs.

For the answers to this quiz turn to page 44.



BUILDING A REPERTOIRE

For many, playing organ is done by ear. For others, it means a chordal approach. But for students of theatreorgan stylings and others who read three-staff music, collections of arrangements are essential. This column does not attempt to review any of these folios, but merely attempts to help locate quality arrangements.

Folios of arrangements by theatre organists include: Genius of David Coleman (Vol. 1 & 2), Big 3 Music Corp.; World's Favorite Treasury of Musical Memories for All Organs, arranged by Porter Heaps, Ashley Publications, Inc., includes ideas on registration and playing tips; Theatre Organ Greats includes 15 arrangements

by Radio City organists and some transcriptions by Ken Rosen and Dan Bellomy, in addition to a short biographical sketch of each arranger/organist, Bradley Publications.

Some theatre-organ books to look for, all published by the Edward B. Marks Music Corp.: The Mighty Theatre Organ - published in 1969 in cooperation with ATOS, this folio includes "original organ solos in theatre organ stylings" by many familiar musicians. Edited by Lee Erwin with a foreword by Ben Hall. The Professional Touch - published in 1970 with arrangements mostly by Lee Erwin and Lew White. In Sound of the Silents, Lee Erwin put on paper many

of his silent-movie scores.

Easy Organ Series, arranged by Al Hermanns, published by United Artists Music, gives theatre-organ styled arrangements with commentary. To learn the specifics of TO styling, try Hermanns' Organ-izing Popular Music (Books 1 & 2) and its Supplemental Books.

Other books to look into: The Best of Nostalgic Music (no arranger given), published by Warner Bros., includes music from the 1890s to mid 1940s. Also, the "Read-Ease Series" (larger notes and chords, non-glare paper) with arrangements by Robert Siebert. Warner Bros., publishers.

For other styles of organ playing, look into books by Richard Bradley, Mark Laub, Michael Scott, LeRoy Davidson, and Mildred Alexander. One of Ms. Alexander's more recent publications is titled *Organ Encores* (Bradley Pub.), which includes a player's guide for each song. If you are into ragtime, *E. Power Biggs Plays Scott Joplin*, transcriptions from his harpsichord recording of the same name, contains Joplin classics arranged by Mark Laub. Hansen Publications. (Richard Bradley also has arranged a book of ragtime favorites.)

In recent years, Richard Bradley's RBR Communications, Inc., in New York has done more for the organ music industry than perhaps any other single publisher. Most recently, RBR has issued a book titled Hooked on Classics and Other Organ Greats. The title song is also available as a single sheet. This collection includes arrangements of today's contemporary organists, such as Jan Bordeleau, as well as noted classical musicians, such as Virgil Fox and Joyce Jones.

Other collections with contemporary music: Chariots of Fire and 14 Movie Greats (no arranger given), Warner Bros.; and Columbia Pictures' "Solid Gold" series.

Sheet Music Magazine, available in standard as well as simplified organ issues, gives you ten or so arrangements (including those by Debbie Culbertson and David Hegarty) as well as related articles in each issue. A one-year subscription (9 issues) for \$13.97 is available from Sheet Music Magazine, 352 Evelyn Street, Paramus, NJ 07652.

Why not visit your local music store now and expand your repertoire?