

An Important Message from Vice-President Walton

A.T.O.E., INCORPORATED!

THE NEW LOOK!!!

From its inception, the officers of A.T.O.E. have recognized the importance of providing a sound structure for the organization. Taken into consideration were many factors: protection for the individual members, tax exemption, the responsibility of the officers, finances, and so on. After a study of the relative merits of various forms of organization, and taking into account these important factors, it was unanimously decided that incorporation would provide the strongest and most protective base onto which A.T.O.E. could be strongly built.

After much correspondence and many changes, final incorporation papers were drawn by our friend and attorney, Walter Weir, Jr. of the firm of Dobbins and Weir in Vacaville, California. Walter is a personal friend of Everett Nourse, the well known S. F. Bay area organist and an enthusiast and A.T.O.E. member in his own right. Besides, we paid him for the job! On April 12, 1956, Corporation #319022, The American Association of Theatre Organ Enthusiasts was certified by the Secretary of the State of California!

Incorporation protects the member from any possible financial obligation due to liability arising from a judgment in a court of law (this could come from any of several causes) and from other possible embarrassing situations. Furthermore, we have been certified as a tax-exempt organization by the State of California, and application for this status has been forwarded to the Internal Revenue Department, with which department most of our readers are familiar.

In the beginning, it was decided that A.T.O.E. would be an organization formed solely for pleasure purposes—there would be no formalities, no critical comments about any artist's efforts, no critical references regarding organ recordings. Rather, our efforts were to be constructive, and in the case of a record review, to approach the subject on an informative basis, pointing out the use of certain registrations, effects, unusual pipe sets, etc. In other words, all who attended the organization meeting on Feb. 8, 1955 agreed that we should organize for the fun and enjoyment of our mutual hobby, the Theatre Organ and its music, both live and recorded. We who are the officers shall do our utmost to proceed along these lines.

In any group, however, there are certain minimum requirements that must be met. Financial records are in the able hands of our member, Paul Pease, who is comptroller for Walt Disney Enterprises. Correspondence for the corporation is handled by the writer. Attention is called to the necessary, but simple, requirements for the organization of local Chapters. There are at present three officially Chartered Chapters: No. 1, the Massachusetts Chapter; No. 2, The Delaware Valley Chapter; and No. 3, the Los Angeles Chapter. The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter will be the fourth to be officially Chartered.

We urge our members to join a nearby Chapter, or to help organize one in their vicinity to further strengthen the bond of fun and fellowship among enthusiasts everywhere. Please refer to the by-laws for rules governing Chapters when considering this matter for your area. Applications for a Charter should be directed to our National Headquarters, 6906 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood 28, California.

Now that we have our organization work all attended to, let's all join forces through our Chapters and enjoy our mutual hobby, the tremendous Theatre Organ and our official journal, *THE TIBIA*!!

Judd Walton, Vice President.