

several first-run houses here, having filled a number of engagements as pianist, including a six-year engagement with the B.F. Keith interests. Well known and very popular among Providence musicians, Mr. Forest has an excellent musical memory, is well informed on the newest music, and has the ability to tastefully extemporize. He also teaches a limited number of pupils.

August 22, 1926 (LP) ...

Balaban & Katz announce a grande organ concert today at their Chicago Theatre from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., featuring BASEL CRISTOL, with soprano Mable Boyer. Gloria Swanson is in the film *Fine Manners*, with the second feature *Sidewalks of New York*.

November 24, 1926 (LP) ...

Rochester, New York's, Madison Theatre opened last night. W. RAY BURROUGHS, formerly of the Regent Theatre, is organist.

December 31, 1926 (LP) ...

The Stand Theatre management in Rochester says, "We are very proud of our new four-manual Marr & Colton organ. The installation is not yet completed, but the portion now being used sounds great. The job should be finished in about two weeks."

February 18, 1928 (LP) ...

Rochester's WHEC has installed its official organ studio at the Liberty Theatre and has engaged EDWARD C. MAY, the celebrated and widely known artist, as staff organist.

The studio is equipped with a Wurlitzer organ. There will be several concerts a week, owing to repeated requests for organ music. A committee was formed to determine possibilities of the new studio: William E. Belcher, Schine Enterprises; E.V. Clark, Wurlitzer Co.; Howard B. Bloomfield, WHEC; and Mr. May as musical advisor.

Mr. Belcher will be announcer and master of ceremonies. Mr. May has become a favorite of audiences throughout western New York who have heard his brilliant performances during the past season.

December 1928 (ATT) ...

GEORGE H. FULTON is featured as solo organist at the Carmen Theatre in Philadelphia where he has played eight years. In that time, he has built a tremendous following with straight organ work.

GOLD DUST ...

7/25 JOHN HAMMOND, WGBS, Richmond Hill, New York; ARTHUR BROOKS, WNYC, New York ... 8/25 HAMLIN HUNT, WCCO, Minneapolis-St. Paul ... 10/25 UDA WALDROP, KPO in San Francisco ... 8/26 JOHANNA GROSS, WLW, Cincinnati.

That does it until next time.
So long, sourdoughs!

Jason & the Old Prospector

Closing Chords

Charles F. Cooney, 67, passed away on June 15. A long-time Chicago Area Chapter member, many ATOS members will remember Charles as the fun-loving emcee for the "Pipes Alive in '85" National Convention hosted by Chicago. Recently, he was emcee for the highly successful CATOE Aragon Ballroom (Down Memory Lane) Show on May 3. He has been an active member of Chicago Area Chapter since 1977 and has attended most conventions since that time. He was, in fact, registered for the Los Angeles conclave at the time of his passing.

Charles is survived by his wife, Dorothy, of 44 years and three children. He will be sorely missed by all of us.

Jim Koller

Sigmond (Sig) Ross, 84, passed away on June 12. Sig was a member of Motor City Chapter and an honorary member of Detroit Theatre Organ Club. His long career in music spanned both the silent film era and the modern age of theatre organ. He got his start in Buffalo, New York, at the age of 16, and during the next ten years played in 22 theatres in eight cities.

Following the arrival of the talkies, Sig refined his piano-playing skills and continued his career in supper clubs, roller rinks and theatres in the Detroit area. His many friends, both local and nationwide, will agree that, with the passing of Sigmond Ross, the organ world has lost a very special person.

Charles Baas

(A biography of Mr. Ross will appear in a forthcoming issue of THEATRE ORGAN. Ed.)

Robinson Cleaver, president of the Theatre Organ Club and long-time member of ATOS, died on July 23, at the age of 81, in Llandudno, North Wales, of cancer. He was born Harold Arthur Robinson in the small village of Eckington in Derbyshire, England, on May 25, 1906.

His interest in music, and particularly the organ, began at an early age, and he was organist at Bramley Parish Church, near Rotherham, at the age of nine. He entered the cinema world at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, and then to the Royal Manchester College of Music where, at the age of 18, he gained his A.R.C.O.

Cleaver's career commenced at the La Scala, Hyde, where the pianist was Molly Bailey, who later became his wife. Eventually he moved to the Picadilly Manchester where, it is believed, he took the additional name of Cleaver as there was at that time a chain of stores called Robinson and Cleaver.

He was appointed organist at the Lonsdale Carlisle, and in 1935 moved to the new Regal Bexleyheath in Kent, where he commenced to broadcast for the BBC from the Regal on January 7, 1936. The Bexleyheath Cinema was taken over by Union Cinemas, and Cleaver toured the circuit for them, also recording for Parlophone label. He made six 78s from the Regal.

The next move was to Granada Theatres, Ltd., early in 1938, and he made his first broadcast from their Clapham Junction theatre, but truly arrived when he opened their new Granada at Welling in Kent. He was given leave to appear at the Palladium, Copenhagen, and also recorded five more discs for Parlophone. Apart from Denmark, he also broadcast several times from AVRO Hilversum in the Netherlands. He finished with Granada in 1958, and apart from promoting concerts at Llandudno, he also started his own music publishing business in Tin Pan Alley.

He is survived by a younger brother, John, who lives close to Derby. Robinson Cleaver will be sadly missed as he has given musical pleasure to millions since 1935.

Ralph Bartlett



Magazine Problems?

If you are not receiving your magazines, write to:

Douglas C. Fisk

P.O. Box 420490

Sacramento, California 95842

For back issues and binders, write to:

ATOS Back Issues & Binders

1393 Don Carlos Court

Chula Vista, California 92010