



# ORGAN-IZING

## POPULAR MUSIC

by  
**AL HERMANN'S**

Popular Christmas songs can be very useful for practicing arranging techniques and developing musical imagination. They represent many styles and degrees of difficulty from Victor Herbert's TOYLAND to Mel Torme's CHRISTMAS SONG, and after you learn them, you can use them every year.

For those who are more advanced, the slower songs — TOYLAND, WHITE CHRISTMAS, THE CHRISTMAS SONG are great for experimenting with substitute chords (see articles in Jan./Feb. and Nov./Dec. 1988).

Maybe the WOODEN SOLDIERS are tired of PARADING. Try having them do a Viennese Waltz or a Spanish Tango.

All the "fun" songs can be treated the same way. Use your ear and your imagination and play SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO VIENNA and SPAIN.

Other songs such as RUDOLPH - FROSTY - SUZY can be rearranged and will sound entirely different. The first theme of RUDOLPH is the easiest song to practice transposing to other keys. IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE CHRISTMAS will give you experience in playing in A flat. SILVER BELLS and C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S have three different themes and therefore require three contrasting registrations. WINTER WONDERLAND is probably the most arrangeable of all. All organ solos should have a suitable introduction and ending.

For best results work from the original sheet music arrangements — NOT Easy Play in the key of C. Start working on Christmas music now. Don't wait until December.

For many additional ideas, send \$8.00 for a one hour cassette "ORGAN-izing Christmas Music" (see ad on page 43).