

NUGGETS
from the
GOLDEN
DAYS



Nuggets prospected by Lloyd E. Klos

With Detroit's serving as host to the 19th ATOS Convention next month, Jason and I found nuggets from the Motor City area and nearby states. References were American Organist (AO), Diapason (D), Jacobs (J), Metronome (Met.), Motion Picture Herald (MPH) magazines and local press (LP).

April 1925 (AO) ROBERT GORDON CLARKE and C. D. BOOMHOWER alternate at the 3-manual Hilgreen-Lane in Detroit's Capitol Theatre.

Jan. 1927 (J) HENRY FRANCIS PARKS recently had a 2-week engagement at the Racine, Wis. State Theatre. The Barton organ, "though small, was exquisitely sweet and very responsive."

Jan. 1927 (J) WALTER F. LINGMANN of Chicago, Duluth, Louisville and points west, is featured organist at the Rialto Theatre in Racine. He is a former demonstrator for Wurlitzer.

Feb. 1927 (AO) CIDNEE HAMILTON and ERNEST HUNT played a duet on November 17, using the organs in the Allen and State Theatres in Cleveland, over WTAM.

Mar. 1927 (J) ARTHUR RICHTER and LES HOADLEY are solo organists at the twin-console Barton in Milwaukee's Wisconsin Theatre.

Mar. 1927 (AO) A. W. TOBIAS is at the Wurlitzer in the Indiana Theatre in Washington, Ind.

July 1927 (Met.) F. DONALD MILLER is the solo organist at the State Theatre in Detroit.

Aug. 1927 (AO) FRANCIS T. YORK directs the department of theatre organ instruction in the Detroit Conservatory of Music.

Sep. 1927 (LP) ROBERT G. CLARKE opened the 4/21 Barton in Detroit's Hollywood Theatre.

Sep. 1927 (LP) Advertisement: CHARLES BOOMHOWER "On the Golden-Voiced Barton" at Detroit's Oriental Theatre. The Oriental is a co-operative theatre. Patrons may participate in the earnings. It is our aim to have every person who enters, receive a check for his share of the profits.

Sep. 1927 (LP) Detroit's Fisher Theatre opens. Musical number "Rainbow Rhapsody" features the Fisher 4/33 Wurlitzer Cathedral-Cinema Organ.

Sep. 1927 (J) OLIVER ERICKSON presides at the Wurlitzer in the State Theatre, while JACK PINGEL plays the Smith unit organ at the Wisconsin Theatre in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Sep. 1927 (D) FREDERICK MARRIOTT is playing the 3-manual Kilgen in the Palace Theatre in Gary, Indiana.

Sep. 1927 (J) ARTHUR GUTOW is at the Wurlitzer in Detroit's Michigan Theatre. Among the stars featured recently were Gilda Grey, the shimmy queen; long-distance swimmer, Gertrude Ederle; and the bands of Ben Bernie, Ted Lewis, Vincent Lopez, Paul Whiteman and John Phillip Sousa.

Aug. 1928 (D) The 3-manual Barton organ in the Al Ringling Theatre in Baraboo, Wisconsin was heard for the first time by the public on July 15.

Oct. 1928 (AO) HAROLD KRELL is playing the 3-manual Kimball in Cleveland's Variety Theatre.

Jan. 17, 1931 (MPH) DALE YOUNG, organist in the Publix Circle Theatre in Indianapolis, presents the second of a series of variety concerts this week. Dale's name is flashed on the screen and is billed as "The Wonder Organist". He turns to the audience and tells them the idea he has is to play every type of music so as to suit the taste of all. First, the "Finale" from "Orpheus in Hades Overture" is dedicated to the classic lovers. Then Dale announces his next number "When the Organ Played at Twilight". He next tells about the surprise he has and introduces The Varsity Three: Seward Baker, Ruell Moore and Vergil Herbert who appear in tuxedos, and stand near the organ console to sing "Sing Something Simple", "Nobody's Sweetheart" and for the finale "Sweet Jennie Lee". Solo went over big as usual.

May 1, 1931 (MPH) STEVEN BEAUCLAIR opens the 3/28 Kimball in the Warner Theatre in Milwaukee.

Feb. 13, 1932 (MPH) ARSENE SIEGEL at the Detroit Fisher Theatre, once more proves he is not limited to any one type of organ presentation. As his specialty this week, Siegel features a dramatic rendition of Suppe's "Light Cavalry Overture". His playing is superb and the coloring which his nimble fingers give to the stirring selection, raise it far above the usual. A tasteful set of slides gives the audience a word picture of each of the different moods of the overture.

Feb. 13, 1932 (MPH) ARTHUR GUTOW at Detroit's Michigan Theatre, substitutes for Dorothy Dix or Beatrice Fairfax in a musical skit called "Leap Year Lovelorn". A special set of illustrated slides helps out the comedy angle with special lyrics. The songs played include "Hoosier Little Sweetheart", "Good Night, Sweetheart", "You Call It Madness" and "All Of Me."

GOLD DUST: 4/26 CLARA GIESE & TOM PARRY, Allen Theatre, Cleveland; DESSA BYRD, Indianapolis' Circle... 11/26 PAUL BENNETT at the Delft Theatre in Munising, Mich.; CHARLES VOGEL, Capitol in Whiting, Ind.; GEORGE CEIGA, Gary's Orpheus; EVA BENNETT, Hollywood in Petosky, Mich.; HARRY LEE in the new theatre, Negaunee, Mich.; ERNEST BUSHONG, Ligonier (Ind.) Theatre; ROBERT G. CLARKE, Detroit's Capitol... 1/27 ARTHUR GUTOW, Detroit's Michigan... 2/27 C. SHARPE MINOR, Regent in Grand Rapids, Mich.

That should do it until next time. So long, sourdoughs!

Jason & The Old Prospector

DETROIT
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Crank up the ol' horseless,
pack the little woman and
the kids in the back, and
take that cruise to the 1974 con-
vention. This is Detroit—you can
leave the nag behind.