

.. NEWS.. AND VIEWS

RECENT ATOE VISITORS to the SF Bay Area include Dick Kline, Frederick, Md., Bob Wilson, Yakima, Wash., Johnny Seng, Aurora, Ill., Andy Crow, Tacoma, Wash., Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jorgensen from Minneapolis, Minn., and Ken Hodgson of Vancouver, B.C.....Always glad to meet ATOE-ers when they are in our vicinity....RECEIVED AN APPLICATION from new member Elmer Perkins of South Berwick, Maine, with the information that he has a (quote) Small Tracker In Home, Currently Being 'Electrocuted' (unquote).... Elaine Ulman of Grimes, Iowa: The Reginald Foort LP's were released by Cook Laboratories, 101 Second Street, Stamford, Conn.....JIMMY BOYCE, talented organist at the Alexandria, Va., Arena Roller Rink,

has purchased the 4/34 WurliTzer formerly owned by Dr. Warren Phillips of Harrisburg, Pa.....Jimmy is in the process of installing this giant . . . in the roller rink . . replacing the 2/7 WurliTzer that he has been using there nightly for a number of yearsThis WurliTzer was originally installed in the Centre Theatre, N.Y.....Complete story with pics and stoplist will be in a future issue of THEATRE ORGAN....In our last issue we placed the Fisher Theatre in Chicago....Mr. R. David Brewer of Dearborn, Mich.....wants us to return it to Detroit....Thanks, Dave!....REGIONAL MEETINGS OF AGO have included visits to THEATRE ORGANS as part of their programs in at least three instances... SYRACUSE CHAPTER held a Milk-

man's Matinee at the RKO Keith (3m WurliTzer)....OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER spent some time at the Toledo Paramount's 4/20 WurliTzerSOUTHERN REGIONAL AGO had a jam session at the Malco Theatre, Memphis 3/13 WurliTzer....Nice way to top off a convention! ! !....We are trying to locate information on all the Robert Morton installations . . . Can anybody help? ? ?....Thanks to Stu Green for nice comments on our efforts....We enjoy yours too! ! !.... Our NEW mail address is P. O. Box 248, Alameda, California....Congrats to ATOE member Dr. John Klein of Muscatine, Iowa....His WurliTzer Opus 1780....received a nice spread in THE AMERICAN ORGANIST....

Seems that someone recently made the remark . . . 'Theatre Organ concerts . . . in the San Francisco area have not been sellouts' . . . This certainly does not apply . . . to two George Wright concerts at the big Fox . . . Both were sellouts . . . you have our word for it . . . we were there . . .

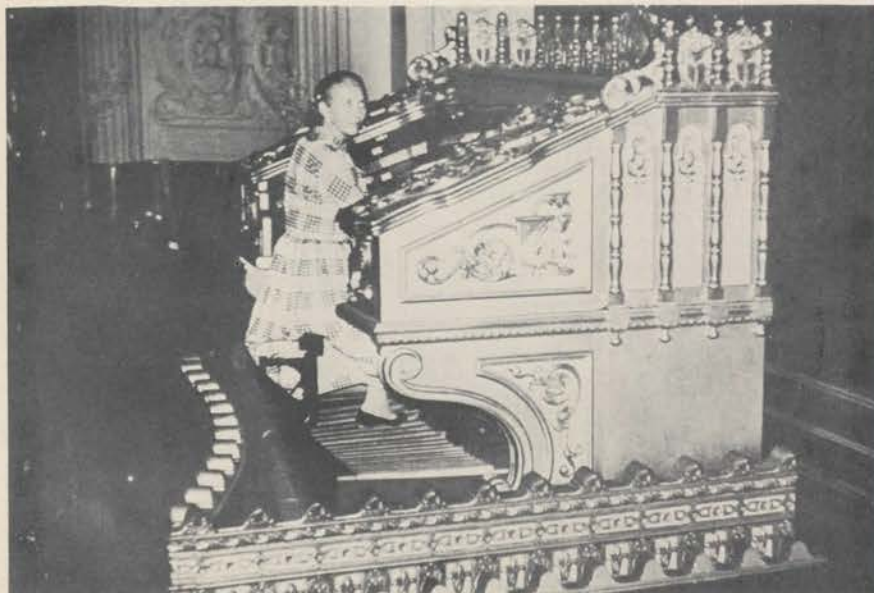
CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

NIAGARA FRONTIER

The desire of a famous organist and his wife to see Niagara Falls proved a boon to the Niagara Frontier Chapter during the month of August. The artist, Leonard MacClain -- the well remembered "Melody Mac" of radio, Epic recording artist, organ teacher, and one grand guy -- played his first concert Wednesday evening, August 23, at the 4/18 Marr & Colton in the Roosevelt Theatre in Buffalo. The second concert was held Sunday morning, August

27, at the 4/21 WurliTzer in the RKO Palace in Rochester, N.Y. One of the highlights of the Roosevelt concert was the use of song slides which brought the house down, as they harkened back to the golden days. A few mix-ups were prevalent, just like in the old days, too!

Vivacious Dottie MacClain added her talents to both programs acting as intermission performer, playing some delightful ballads, interspersed with talk about her famous husband.



Dottie MacClain at the Wonder Morton, Loew's Kings Theatre, New York.

Anyone witnessing these concerts will agree that the Niagara Frontier Chapter couldn't possibly miss. First, it had an artist of established stature who made use of every conceivable part of the organ, including all traps and toy counter. Next, two organs in tip-top condition were used. Credit must be given to Harry Radloff and Danny Schultz for keeping the Roosevelt and Palace organs, respectively, in perfect shape. Also, appreciation is given to Messrs. George and Morris Rosing of the Roosevelt Theatre, and to Jay Golden of the Palace Theatre for accommodating the members during these concerts.

An informal schedule of events was the order of the day for the chapter on July 8. First order of business was a picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thomas, treasurer and secretary respectively in Lancaster, N.Y. Following the picnic, formal ceremonies were held for the groundbreaking of a new addition to the Thomas' home. Having a Marr & Colton "Beast in the Basement", the Thomases are to build a 20' x 40' structure to house the instrument.

The assembled members then made their way to the 1500-seat Bellevue Theater in Niagara Falls for an informal hearing of that movie house's WurliTzer. This instrument, a 2-manual, 8-ranker was installed in August 1921. It is opus 442, Style 185, and situated in front of stage center. For the past several years, the organ has been kept in good condition by Chapter Member Dave Vender Hoek. The theatre at present is undergoing complete refurbishing with new seats, new paint and decor scheme, and will open under new

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theatre organ