

Letters To The Editor

Sir:

I have received several ATOE publications and enjoyed them - but feel that I am not entitled to such pleasure unless I make some contribution, hence find my check for the membership dues. (Secretary's note - dues already paid, have returned check).

I am naturally a real "E", for I played for nine years in and around the Bay Area. My longest engagement was here in San Jose at the Liberty Theatre playing a very special and beautiful 3 manual Morton of 27 ranks. This was a 3 chamber installation with 7 ranks on 6 inches of wind for church effect. Also I worked at the California on a 3 manual 11 set WurliTzer.

My wife and I enjoyed to the fullest the concert at the Paramount. I played there many times as substitute, and for 'days off'. Good luck to you all.

Faithfully,

Gene Dorais
139 South 19th Street
San Jose 27, California

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I just received my summer issue of TO yesterday. . . You have done yourself proud with this, your first effort. You have kept errors to a bare minimum, and that is to be commended. Your coverage of the SF Paramount was a beaut -- good pictures, good text, everything first rate. . . There is one correction for you to make, and probably you were unaware of it. The new President of Niagara Frontier Chapter is Heino H. Olandt of 131 Wendover Avenue, Kenmore 23, N.Y. . . Again may I say More Power to you, Mr. Editor! Good luck in all future issues. It is a rough job, but from what you've shown with this issue, I have no fears.

Every best wish,

Lloyd E. Klos
104 Long Acre Road
Rochester 21, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Congratulations on the current issue -- what a magnificent coverage of the San Francisco Paramount Organ! It's like we were all there in person. Any chances of someone recording commercially on this organ? It sure must have been a labor of love for all concerned. Also glad to hear that the magazine is increasing to 20 pages. . . Now may I ask my favorite Fall, 1961

question. Maybe you could devote a whole issue to it. At least put him on the cover when it comes about. What am I asking for? Why, of course, that long promised article on JESSE CRAWFORD! I see that he is already down on your masthead as an 'honorary' member. How about making that 'honorary' really mean something?

There are so many legends concerning the 'master' that I am sure your staff could give us something. If such exists, could we have pictures of him in the theatres where he rose to fame (especially the 'Chicago' in Chicago). . . Best wishes for the continued success of your wonderful journal.

Sincerely,

Brother Benedict Meyer
Delbarton School
Morristown, N.J.

(Editor's Note - An article on Jesse Crawford is in the formative stage. This is a joint project of former president Judd Walton and former Editor Ralph Bell, who have been working on it for over a year.)

Gentlemen:

I can't tell you how very sorry I am that I have delayed sending you my dues for the coming year. I think that it would be impossible to tell you how much I enjoy THEATRE ORGAN . . .

While on vacation this summer I went to the Shea's Buffalo Theatre in New York. I really didn't go to see the movie but to look into the orchestra pit to see if the grand old WurliTzer was still there. I did not see it but it seemed that the pit was covered over by a floor. Do you know if this theatre still has its organ? I also noticed this summer that every Sunday at the Shea's Roosevelt Theatre a gentleman by the name of H. Jolles (ATOE member), performs on this theatre's Marr & Colton organ. Unfortunately I did not get over to hear this organ.

I wish you all the success in the world for the coming year and once again I think that the ATOE is a fine organization and I hope that it grows more each year, and also that more theatre managers get with the times and start using the organs that have been too long silent in their theatres.

Sincerely,

Brother William Redmond,
C.S.C.
Pius XII School
Gibson Hill Road
Chester, New York

Gentlemen:

Yes, please renew my membership - enclosed is a check for my dues \$4.00.

PS. I just got my 3 manual 10 rank Barton playing - WOW!!!!

Mark Kenning
309 Nottingham Drive
Richardson, Texas

Dear Editor:

Sorry to report one of Yakima's two theatre organs went up in flames last week when an entire block of business buildings burned, including the studios of Radio Station K I T which contained a two manual WurliTzer.

While this organ had not been used for years, Larry Langevin of Yakima, who owns the other theatre organ here, also a WurliTzer ex Liberty Theatre, Yakima, which he has installed in his home, had just bought this K I T organ to augment his own. He had it insured, but the settlement of course will only get him his money back, not the parts he wanted, as the studio was a complete loss.

Very truly,

Robert S. Wilson
708 South 9th Avenue
Yakima, Washington

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Congratulations on becoming editor of THEATRE ORGAN. I wish you every success as you undertake the responsibility of continuing the job of editing this fine magazine.

Needless to say, I was thrilled beyond words to see my name listed as the honorary member for 1961. Imagine that! Right along with Jesse Crawford and Fanny Wurlitzer! I had hardly expected to ever receive such an honor, particularly in a field that means so much to me. . . I am just old enough to have very many memories of the years that I travelled over the country and met outstanding performers of the console. . . The evening spent with Jesse Crawford in his home in L.A. was one of the highlights of my life. Best of luck.

Sincerely yours,

Mel Doner
466 Glenview Court
Winona, Minnesota