

A BARTON SPEAKS OUT IN ILLINOIS

By Bill Bartlow

There was an air of excitement as the picture finished. The stage curtains swiftly closed and the house and stage lights came up. A murmur of expectation crept from the audience and then only the house lights dimmed . . . and out of the pit arose the beautiful white and gold console of the long-hidden and silent Grand Barton Organ of the Orpheum Theatre in Springfield, Illinois. The night was Friday, September 23, 1960, and the organist was Tom Harmon, a young Springfield artist of great promise. It was the culmination of better than a year's work.

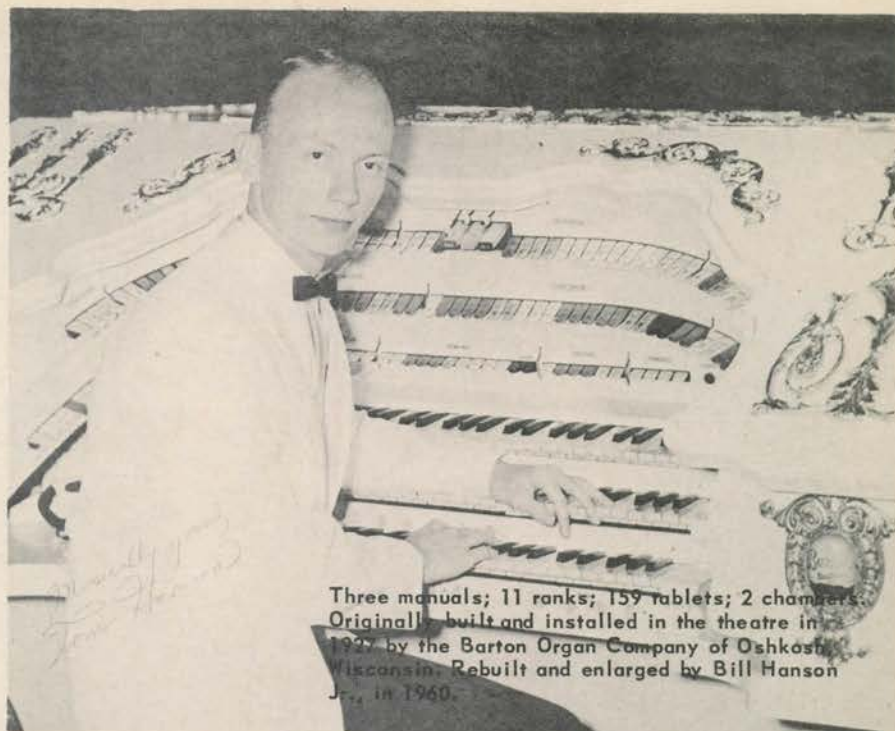
The organ is a 3m/11r Barton, installed in 1927 when the theatre was constructed. It was used continuously until 1933 - first for silent pictures, later for picture interludes and broadcasting. But as in many instances, the instrument fell into disuse and the orchestra pit was boarded over. Most people didn't even know the organ was in the theatre.

The management showed considerable interest in refurbishing the instrument, and ultimately awarded a contract to Bill Hansen Jr. of Portland, Oregon. Work commenced in June, 1960, and was nearly three months in progress.

The ravages of time, water, dirt, and moths had taken their toll. The solo chambers had sustained particularly heavy damage from a series of roof leaks. As an example, the original Tibia (15") was a total loss, as were the piano and English Horn. The balance was repairable. The main chambers had escaped undamaged except for dirt and moths. The console was indeed a sorry sight, but after cleaning and regulating was restored to its former splendor.

The 1960 rebuild included a complete renovation of the solo chambers. The original Tibia was replaced with a Brass Trumpet, and the Piano with a Wurlitzer Chrysoglott. The main chambers were cleaned and a 12 note extension of the Tuba Profunda 16' (Wurlitzer) was added. The console was completely refinished and reworked mechanically and the entire organ tonally refinished to more modern standards of solo performance and recordings.

Present plans are for using the organ regularly for solo interludes between movies. In the future, some recordings and special concerts may



Three manuals; 11 ranks; 159 tablets; 2 chambers. Originally built and installed in the theatre in 1927 by the Barton Organ Company of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Rebuilt and enlarged by Bill Hansen Jr., in 1960.

Tom Harmon and Orpheum Theatre Barton

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS, STOP LIST

MAIN CHAMBER

Tuba
Bourdon-Flute
Diapason
Clarinet
Harp

SOLO CHAMBER

Tibia Clausa
Brass Trumpet
Kinura
Vox Humana
Violin I
Violin II

PEDAL ORGAN

32 Acoustic Bass
16 Diaphone
16 Bourdon
16 Contra Bass
16 Tuba Profunda (added)
8 Diapason Phanon
8 Flute
8 Tibia Clausa

materialize. The reopening brought the first live theatre pipe organ music in more than a decade to Springfield fans. Full page ads in the papers heralded the event, and the organ was used at all performances for the opening week-end.

Editor's Note - We have just received word that Tom Harmon is now a resident of Palo Alto, California. We hope that this does not stop the use of this grand Barton organ.

ACCOMPANIMENT ORGAN

16 Bourdon
16 Contra Viole (TC)
8 Diapason Phanon
8 Concert Flute
8 Tibia Clausa
8 Vox Humana
8 Clarinet
8 Tuba
8 Violin I
8 Violin II
4 Orchestral Flute
4 Solo Piccolo

8 Vox Humana
8 Clarinet
8 Tuba
8 Cello I
8 Cello II
4 Violin I
4 Violin II
4 Cornet
8 Accomp. to Pedal
8 Orch. to Pedal
Bass Drum
Cymbal
Snare Drum Roll
Tympani

(Editor's note - The synthetic Oboe Stop must be the eleventh rank mentioned)

4 Vox Humana
4 Cornet
4 Violin I
4 Violin II
2 Piccolo
8 Chrysoglott
4 Chrysoglott
8 Harp
8 Cathedral Chimes

4 Xylophone
4 Glockenspiel
Cymbal
Tambourine
Castanets
Chinese Block Tap
Tom Tom
Snare Drum Tap
Snare Drum Roll
Muffled Drum

ORCHESTRAL ORGAN

16 Bourdon
16 Vox Humana (TC)
16 Bass Clarinet (TC)
16 Bassoon (TC)
16 Trombone (TC)
16 Bass Viole I (TC)
16 Bass Viole II (TC)
8 Diapason Phanon
8 Concert Flute

8 Tibia Clausa
8 Vox Humana
8 Clarinet
8 Brass Trumpet
8 Tuba
8 Orchestral Oboe (Synthetic)
8 Violin I
8 Violin II

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2-2/3 Nazard
2 Piccolo
1-3/5 Tierce
16 Chrysoglott
8 Chrysoglott
4 Chrysoglott
8 Marimba
4 Marimba
4 Xylophone
4 Glockenspiel
4 Orchestra Bells

8 Solo to Orchestra
4 Solo to Orchestra
4 Octave
4 Orchestral Flute
4 Solo Piccolo
4 Vox Humana
4 Cornet
4 Violin I
4 Violin II
2 Fifteenth (Viol I)

FRONT BOARD STOPS

PEDAL 2nd TOUCH

8 Cathedral Chimes
Bass drum
Tympani
Triangle
Chinese Gong Stroke

16 Bassoon (TC)
16 Tibia
2-2/3 Tibia Twelfth

TOE PISTONS

Bird Song I
Bird Song II
Triangle
Bass Drum and Cymbal

SOLO ORGAN

16 Diaphone
16 Contra Tibia Clausa
16 Vox Humana (TC)
16 Bass Clarinet (TC)
16 Bassoon (TC)
16 Kinura (TC)
16 Tuba (TC)
16 Bass Virole II (TC)
8 Diapason Phonon
8 Flute
8 Tibia Clausa
8 Vox Humana
8 Clarinet
8 Brass Trumpet
8 Kinura
8 Tuba
8 Violin II
4 Solo to Solo

4 Octave
4 Flute
4 Solo Piccolo
4 Cornet
4 Violins II
2 Fife
2-2/3 Nazard
2 Piccolo
1-3/5 Tierce
8 Chrysoglott
8 Cathedral Chimes
8 Marimba
4 Marimba
4 Xylophone
2 Xylophone
4 Glockenspiel
4 Orchestra Bells

ACCOMPANIMENT 2nd TOUCH

8 Diapason Phonon
8 Tibia Clausa
8 Tuba
8 Brass Trumpet
8 Clarinet
8 Cellos II
4 Orchestra Bells
Snare Drum Roll
Chinese Block Roll
Triangle
8 Orch to Accomp.
8 Solo to Accomp.

ORCHESTRAL 2nd TOUCH

16 Diaphone
16 Tuba
16 Bass Clarinet (TC)

TOE LEVERS

Chimes Soft
Tympani Roll
Chinese Gong Roll, 1st Touch
Chinese Gong Stroke, 2nd Touch
Tympani, 1st Touch, Bass Drum,
2nd Touch
Snare Drum Tap, 1st Touch
Snare Drum Roll, 2nd Touch
Sforzando
Crash
Muffled Drum

WURLITZER FACTORY SHIPMENT LIST

(continued from last issue)

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|---------------------------------|----------|------|-------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1735 | 190 | Kansas City, Mo. - Orpheum | 9/20/27 | 1765 | E | Mobile, Ala. - Capitol | 10/22/27 |
| 1736 | EX | Johnstown, Pa. - Majestic | 9/21/27 | 1766 | E-X | Bronx, N. Y. - Ward Ave. | 10/23/27 |
| 1737 | B | Jersey City, N. J. - Monticello | 9/21/27 | 1767 | E-X | Daytona Beach, Fla. - Florida | 10/24/27 |
| 1738 | 190 | Phoenixville, Pa. - Colonial | 9/22/27 | 1768 | F | Sheffield, Eng. - Picture H | 10/25/27 |
| 1739 | F | Cleveland, O. - Shaw Hayden | 9/23/27 | 1769 | Sp | Everett, Wash. - Granada | 10/25/27 |
| 1740 | E | Bronx, N.Y. - Castle Hill | 9/23/27 | 1770 | S 25 | Cincinnati, O. - Store | 10/26/27 |
| 1741 | 190 | Elmira, N. Y. - Regent | 9/24/27 | 1771 | 108 | Bay City, Mich. - Temple | 10/27/27 |
| 1742 | 190 | Brooklyn, N. Y. - New | 9/24/27 | 1772 | Sp B | Pittsburg, Pa. - Webb Stud. | 10/27/27 |
| 1743 | B | Niagara Falls, N. Y. - Falls | 9/24/27 | 1773 | 235 | Chicago, Ill. - State Lake | 10/28/27 |
| 1744 | F | Nottingham, Eng. - Hippodrome | 9/27/27 | 1774 | Sp B | New Bern, N. C. - Athens Show Shop | 10/28/27 |
| 1745 | H | Roanoke, Va. - American | 9/28/27 | 1775 | 3M H | Lima, O. - Schine | 10/29/27 |
| 1746 | 235 | Vancouver, B.C. - Orpheum | 9/28/27 | 1776 | 100 | Carnegie, Okla. - Liberty | 10/29/27 |
| 1747 | E | Linden, N. J. - New | 9/28/27 | 1777 | E | Kew Gardens, N. Y. - New | 10/31/27 |
| 1748 | 160 | Palmeston, N.Z. - Cozy | 9/29/27 | 1778 | 260 | Portland, Me. - Strand | 10/31/27 |
| 1749 | F | Stratford, Eng. - Broadway | 9/29/27 | 1779 | 100 | Weymouth, Mass. - Markell | 11/ 4/27 |
| 1750 | E Pl. | Dayton, O. - New | 9/29/27 | 1780 | 235 | Huntington, W. Va. - New | 11/ 5/27 |
| 1751 | 190X | Cincinnati, O. - Store | 9/30/27 | 1781 | E | Astoria, L. I. - New | 11/ 7/27 |
| 1752 | 260 | Ridgewood, N.J. - New | 9/30/27 | 1782 | B | Asuza, Cal. - Asuza | 11/10/27 |
| 1753 | E-X | Hammonton, N.J. - 3rd Ave. | 10/11/27 | 1783 | 4 M | Birmingham, Ala. - Alabama | 11/11/27 |
| 1754 | 3ME | Springfield, O. - State | 10/12/27 | 1784 | Sp B | Dayton, O. - Salem | 11/12/27 |
| 1755 | H | Chicago, Ill. - Apollo | 10/12/27 | 1785 | Sp. | Philadelphia, Pa. - B.M. Ch. | 11/17/27 |
| 1756 | E-X | Lyndhurst, N.J. - Lyndhurst | 10/13/27 | 1786 | B | New York, N. Y. - Major | 11/17/27 |
| 1757 | 260 | Richmond, Va. - Mosque | 10/15/27 | 1787 | Sp B | Troy, O. - New | 11/18/27 |
| 1758 | Sp. D | Hull, England - Picturedrome | 10/19/27 | 1788 | 4 Mn. | Pittsburg, Pa. - Stanley | 11/19/27 |
| 1759 | 235 | Sioux City, Ia. - Orpheum | 10/19/27 | 1789 | 190 | Cleveland, O. - Jennings | 11/21/27 |
| 1760 | F | Nyack, N. Y. - New | 10/20/27 | 1790 | E | Bluefield, W. Va. - Cohens | 11/22/27 |
| 1761 | E | Syracuse, N. Y. - Temple | 10/21/27 | 1791 | 3 MF | Colorado Spgs. - Opera House | 11/22/27 |
| 1762 | 108 | Fort Bragg, Cal. - New | 10/21/27 | | | | |
| 1763 | 190 | Montgomery, Fla. - Empire | 10/21/27 | | | | |
| 1764 | E | Denver, Colo. - Orpheum | 10/22/27 | | | | |

(continued in next issue)

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