

Moon," "Begin the Beguine," "If," "Ecstasy Tango," "Brazilian Sleighbells" and "Cotton's Theme" (from "Bless the Beasts & Children"). Each is provided a distinctive arrangement designed to present it most effectively and musically. The Rodgers organ provides the proper facilities; this time Ron doesn't have to work so hard to get the desired effects and the resulting relaxation in his performance is apparent. That doesn't mean he's taking it easy. The complexity of his musical conceptions preclude that. Rather, he's enjoying his miking sessions. The Rodgers serves him well, providing good reed and string voices, a fair Tibia, a baroque sound, a good piano and a very good pizzicato effect. Recording is good and we note that our old friend, Gladys P. Muelbach, was loaned by Lift Records to write the precise jacket notes. You'll be hearing more from Ron Walls. His music wears well. □

— PERFORATED PAPER DEPT. —
GAUDIN MELODIES, the 65-key Victory Gaudin Fair Organ. Amberlee (stereo) AFL-101X. Available at \$5.50 from Doric Records, Box 605, Alamo, Calif. 94507.

This is an 8-rank roll player built about 1914 in Paris by Gaudin Freres. It's sound is more refined than that of most outdoor orchestrations, and therefore the limited registration doesn't pall quickly. At least nineteen of the twenty-seven selections played are familiar to US fans and range from tunes by Lennon & McCartney to Rossini ("Wm. Tell Overture"). This is fun music for the automatic player fans. Recording technique is good. □



BOOK REVIEW

by F. G. Hibbard

"MR. BLACKPOOL — REGINALD DIXON M.B.E." By Peter J. Ashman, 21 Great Break, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 3EZ, England. Price including postage, \$3.00 Surface or \$5.00 Airmail.

Of all the famous theatre organists, Reginald Dixon stands out as one of the greatest, especially in his native country, England. Mr. Ashman, in this book, traces the career of Mr. Dixon from his earliest days and explores his forty year tenure at Blackpool.

The fact that Reginald Dixon held the Blackpool post for so many years is testimony to his popularity and musicianship. When one considers the great number of high quality organists produced in the British Isles during the golden era of theatre organ, it is amazing that one man could be good enough to retain the prized post for so long a period.

Mr. Ashman does a good job of shedding light on the life of Dixon which helps explain how he (Mr. Dixon) maintained his popularity over the years. Dixon comes through as a warm personality and a superb entertainer — a combination hard to beat.

Although the book has to be classed as a "paperback", the quality of paper is far superior to that usually used. Because of this, the 48 photos,

mostly candid, reproduce very well. The book of 179 pages covers the Dixon career, including his war service, anecdotes concerning Blackpool, as well as many reflections of Dixon including his command performances for Her Majesty the Queen.

It should be stated that not only did Reginald Dixon hold forth at Blackpool, but also maintained a series of radio programs and played theatre dates. This combination gave him a tremendous listening audience and ardent fans numbering in the millions.

This reviewer found Mr. Ashman's book very enlightening and well worth reading. □

Ingling Joins Newport Organs



Harry C. Ingling brings eighteen years experience in the pipe organ field to Newport Organs of Newport Beach, California. Well regarded in the San Francisco Bay Area for his rebuilding and maintenance work, Mr. Ingling will specialize in designing and constructing new and rebuilt instruments and revoicing pipes.

Newport Organs is one of the few firms specializing in custom building. Their activities include multi-rank electronic organs, small pipe units attached to electronic organs and rebuilding pipe organs. Mr. Ingling is presently restoring a 12-ranker for a Ventura, California church. □

**GET
IN THE
ACT**

THEATRE TOURS • FILMS • AWARDS
 GUEST SPEAKERS • FUN

SUNDAY — MONDAY — TUESDAY
 JULY 7 - 8 - 9, 1974

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Headquarters: Sheraton Cadillac Hotel

For Information Contact: **FRANK J. ROSSI**
 3178 Hollywood Avenue
 Dearborn, Michigan 48124

FIFTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE
THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY