

GOING ON AIR-John Brent, young ATOE recording organist watches Engineer John Bartley for signal that he is on the air. Program is aired over FM station KUTE every Sunday evening in the Southern California region. Brent plays the huge 4m/61r Robert Morton organ in the Elk's building, Los Angeles, and is also refurbishing the instrument during free time.



"fabulous" Without the normally theatrical fanfare associated with such ventures, theatre pipe organ music returned to Southern California airwaves March 1st at 11 p.m. when ATOE's John Brent Ledwon presented the first in a series of half hour recitals on the massive 4m/61r Morton pipe organ installed in the Los Angeles Elks Temple 99 over the Glendale, Calif. FM Station KUTE, 102 kilocycles.

Sponsored jointly by the Elks and the Station, Ledwon, who will air his show under the name he has adopted for his recordings, "John Brent," has stated that his format for the weekly concerts will feature pop tunes, light classics and the playing of request numbers.

## **Big Christie Now** Treat For Dutch

Big British pipe organs are going "Dutch Treat," it would seem. The various radio stations in Holland have several massive English organs alreadythere is a large Compton, and the famed BBC Moller made the trek across the English Channel early this year to Hilversun. Now K.R.O. Radio Station, also in Hilversun, has just purchased the large 4m/32r Christie organ in the Odean-Regal Marble Arch Theatre. The theatre is slated to shutter March 23rd and the station has seven days to remove the organ. Purchase price was reported to be 750 pounds. This was the largest Christie commercial theatre installation ever built.

### **NEW YORK ORGANIST** COMMENDS 'BIG MO'

After playing two sessions on the great 4m/42r Moller in Atlanta's cavernous Fox Theatre, Gotham Organist and ATOE's Billy Nalle had nothing but praise for the restoration work underway and commended Joe Patton, who heads the big job, for the excellence in refurbishing the organ.

Nalle, who was in the deep south on recital and television work, noted that if things progress as they have the past year, he hopes in another year to present a formal public concert on the "Big Mo."

## **Delaware Unit Hears** Tower WurliTzer

By R. A. Pfunke

"Ace" Pancoast and Leonard "Melody Mac" MacClain were featured artists at the December meeting of Delaware Valley Chapter held in the Tower Theatre, Upper Darby, Pa. The organ, a 3m/17r WurliTzer, is the instrument made famous by the latter-named organist who has recorded several albums on it.

A January business meeting, held at the Chapter's home, the Sedjwick Theatre, saw unanimous votes given the Chapter Constitution and By-laws, and an increase in dues. The organ was then opened after meeting and turned over to

those who wished to play.

In February the club journeyed to the former Brooklyn Paramount (now Long Island University) to hear and play the 4m/26r WurliTzer. The big theatre was saved from the wrecker's ball and altered to house various university classrooms. The meeting, filmed and shown on NBC's "Sunday" program, was originally intended to show theatre organs, but instead delved more into talk of old movie palaces.

It is interesting to note how the theatre was converted for college use. Part of the main auditorium was turned into a basketball court; the lobby became a cafeteria; the upper, or main balcony, was partitioned off for lecture rooms.

Due to the rebuilding of the organ, it was not in the best of condition and many

ciphers developed.

The University issued the invitation to the chapter to attend the session.

#### CARTER TOUR ADDS DETROIT GROUP

On his midwest Flicker Fingers junket, Gaylord Carter will present a show at the Detroit Theatre Organ club and will play the big Fisher-Orbits WurliTzer for the motion picture "Mark of Zorto."

# THEATRE ORGAN QUARTERLY

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