

Debbie Boulter, a tap-dancer and the Junior High School Band.

Leo DuPlessis presided at the console, played several medleys, and accompanied the various acts. The entire program, emceed by Ronald Wood, was well put together and, with the artistry of DuPlessis, had a highly professional aura which was fully appreciated by the capacity audience.

Along with all this, Weber has also brought in stage shows from New York such as "The Subject was Roses" with Dennis O'Keefe; "Luv" with Nancy Walker; American Ballet; and Barber of Seville to name a few. On the "Barber" there were thirty performers on stage, forty-one musicians in the pit, and twenty-two stage hands at the props and fly ropes.

To quote Mr. Weber again, "Even though we're still feeling the after effects of all the dust raising, we just have to admit the frustration and nervous prostration was sure worth it. When the organ was in the house, there were always the problems of time—too little—spent with the wife and children. Nothing is worth that kind of sacrifice. Buying a theatre was the only solution in my case. Now the entire family are participants from the tuning in the lofts to the candy booth in the lobby.

"Of the many unusual experiences that we've come to live with since getting into the world of 'show biz' they include a runaway pet monkey that one of our patrons brought into the theatre tucked into his shirt, and it got up into the organ lofts where he was finally located inside the 16' Ophleclide pipe.

"We also had a packed house of kids for the Saturday matinee when tornado warnings were broadcast for the immediate area from radio and TV. All the mothers thought the theatre was the safest place in town, and so did the police. Per usual, the organ got everything into full swing with all kids in fine voice. But then all h--- broke loose. The canvas connection blew off the main blower with a mighty BOOOOM and rushing wild air came out in all directions emitting great clouds of dust . . . as fast as that let loose, so did the kids. But fortunately, and to our great surprise, the kids thought it was just another one of our surprise treatments to try to scare 'em to death and never enjoyed it more. NO PANIC but it sure will be hard to beat for a shocker."

What is even more difficult to beat is the Weber family. The *whole* story is the fact that it has been a family affair—is and will continue to be in all respects. Every program is created by Dick and Audrey Weber. The three girls play a big part, whether out selling tickets, behind the scenes on the fly ropes, or in the organ chambers during perform-

ances checking for possible ciphers. This is one family of a kind . . . endless hours devoted in converting a one-time hobby to full-time "work". They have ideas brewing all the time and with

plenty of hard labor, their aim in making a long hoped for wish and dream come true is being attained with absolutely no thought of retirement from now on. A REAL FAMILY AFFAIR!

Dick Weber's Wurlitzer is affectionately called "Winifred." Originally, she contained the following ranks.

Tibia Clausa
Tuba
Diapason
Flute
Clarinet
Orchestral Oboe
Oboe Horn
Vox Humana
Solo String
Violin
Violin Celeste
Kinura
Quintadena
Dulciana
Unda Maris



"Winifred" has the following added:

Post Horn I (15")
Post Horn II
Trumpet
Tibia II
Tibia III
Viol and Celeste
Solo String II
Vox Humana II
French Horn
Tuba Mirabilis



Leo DuPlessis, left, holds a tambourine while Richard Weber makes an adjustment.

★ LEO DUPLESSIS ★

Following in the footsteps of his godfather, who was a theatre organist during the days of the silent movie, Leo DuPlessis has dreamed of nothing but playing the organ since he was a small boy. His career started very early, for at the age of five he was able to play any hymn or ballad from memory in any key.

Leo attributes his fine musicianship to those early formative years when he studied classical music from eminent professors while attending college.

Finally, when the opportunity to play the organ presented itself, Leo was

there. For the past 19 years he has been that witty organist with a built-in sense of humor that has made him a Canadian favorite at the console of the Forum organ in Montreal.

You can also hear Leo's musical mischief at both of Montreal's horse race tracks. He'll greet a loser with *Who's Sorry Now* or *I'll Never Smile Again* which never fails to leave 'em smiling.

After a 'hard day's night', Leo, at home with his lovely wife and five children, finds complete relaxation by escaping to the basement and of all things . . . working on his true love—a pipe organ!

Leo is reputedly the only organist to set a first in his field as a recording artist.

He recorded three LP records within a twenty-four hour period.

