Pennsylvania, The Keystone State

By EUGENE M. McCracken

The Swedes were worshipping God along the Delaware six years before William Penn was born. Some sixty years later, on November 24, 1703, Kelpius and his band of musicians, with Jonas at the little organ, took part, at Gloria Dei Church, Philadelphia, in the consecration of the first Protestant Bishop in North America. This service, which was held in what is now the oldest public building in Pennsylvania (July 1700), records the first use of the pipe organ in a Protestant church on this continent. (The writings of Kelpius make frequent mention to organs and their construction by Witt and Zimmerman, who were members of this German Pietist Sect. Christopher Witt, noted doctor, biologist, mystic and amateur musician, was an English convert to the Pietists, and had an organ in his Germantown home as early as 1708.)

Shortly after the building's construction, Pastor Rudman of Gloria Dei Church petitioned the King of Sweden for, among other things, a small organ. In 1711 Gustavus Hesselius, a Swedish portrait painter and musician, arrived in Philadelphia. It is thought he may have erected the first organ in Christ Church, purchased from Ludwig C. Sproggell in 1728. In 1740 Gloria Dei Church purchased a new organ, and this, too, is attributed to Hesselius. (To my knowledge there is no indication by a primary source that Hesselius ever built an organ. It is true that he was quite musical and was a builder and dealer of virginals and other instruments, but proof of organ building has not been established. Ed.)

During 1737 Johann G. Klemm erected the first three-manual organ in America in Trinity Church, New York. Later, in 1746, this same Klemm erected a small positif organ for the Moravians in Bethlehem. Klemm chose to stay in that city, and was later joined by a helper, David Tannenberg, in the organ business at Nazareth Hall, Nazareth, Pennsylvania.

On September 29, 1750, among others to debark from the ship "Osgood" was Gottlieb Mittleberger, with four small German organs for Lutheran churches in the Colonies. Herr Mittleberger, a wagon-builder by trade, became the first organist at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, where one of the small organs was installed.

A few years later young Philip Feyring migrated from Germany to Philadelphia as an organ builder, where he became a member of the new Zion Lutheran Church. Between 1762 and 1767, when he died, he built organs for St. Paul's, St. Peter's and Christ Episcopal Churches, and it is believed he built Zion's first organ.

Shortly after this John Diffenbach visited Philadelphia from his home in Upper Berks County, Pennsylvania. The knowledge he acquired of organs while in Philadelphia he took home with him and, in 1776, he started an organ business.

(Please turn to page 3)
THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A happy New Year to you all! 1960 marks the fourth year of the existence of the Organ Historical Society, and those of us who have been members from the very beginning realize what an eventful four years these have been. Each year has seen an increase in membership, bigger and better June conventions, and the expansion of THE TRACKER from a simple mimeographed newsletter to a full-fledged printed magazine containing a wide coverage of organ history.

But this should not prove any temptation to rest on our laurels. Much work remains to be done. Since this is the beginning of a new year, may we suggest some resolutions that might be made, the carrying out of which will help to make our Society even stronger.

1. Resolve that in 1960 you will bring in one new member. If you really believe in the OHS and what it stands for, this shouldn't be a hard resolution to keep, as numerous people are interested in the organ and its history and often need only to be invited. Several members have brought the OHS to the attention of their local AGO chapters by giving lectures or recitals involving old organs, or including some of the better local old instruments on the itinerary of the ever-popular organ tours. More members mean better conventions, a larger magazine, and a stronger organization.

2. Resolve that in 1960 you will look for opportunities to place good old organs in churches which might otherwise have to accept a cheap substitute for an organ. Does your local AGO chapter and Council of Churches know that the OHS keeps a list of organs for sale? Do you know of any churches in your locality which presently have no real organ? Also, we hope you will continue to report to us, with full details, all organs for sale or about to be removed or replaced.

3. Resolve that you will very soon send a complete list of old organs in your area to Donald Paterson (Dept. of Music, Stephens College, Columbia, Mo.) if you have not already done so. A number of people have sent extensive lists, but there are still areas from which little or nothing has been heard. We want to make our list as complete as possible.

4. Resolve that you will attend our next convention in Philadelphia, June 20, 21, 22, to hear another wide selection of organs and players, and to meet other members who share your interests. Also resolve that if you have any material which would interest other members such as pictures, nameplates, scrapbooks, old magazines, dedication programs, etc., you will bring these along. But remember the most important thing to bring is YOURSELF! Remember, too, that non-members are always welcome to OHS conventions.

Again, a happy and successful 1960 to you! BARRBARA J. OWEN

EDITORIAL

We are now half way through the fourth volume of THE TRACKER. Looking backward it is easy to see that we have come a long way and accomplished much. The early volumes were mimeographed. Volume III was the first to be printed. The current tome has been enlarged with pictures included in the copy.

In review one will find a number of pieces of tremendous value to the organ historian which are not available in print at any other source. For instance, the original specifications and dedication programs of eminent organs long since passed from the scene (for example the Tannenberg at Zion Lutheran in this issue) are to be found only in THE TRACKER. I dare say that a greater wealth of accurate biographical data has appeared on our pages than elsewhere.

Looking ahead we hope to continue the improvement of our magazine with information gathered from primary sources. We want THE TRACKER to more completely represent the Organ Historical Society by keeping everyone up to date on the society's activities.

THE TRACKER and the Organ Historical Society are both dependent upon you, the reader. We look to you to spread the "word" concerning our work. The membership of the society has been built primarily by interest created by the members in telling others about us. THE TRACKER is dependent upon OHS dues to pay the costs of publication. (No one receives any personal remuneration.) The material to be published must come from you who would share the results of your research.

So let us all do what we can to perpetuate OHS and THE TRACKER.

Please heed the following suggestions reprinted from THE TRACKER Volume I Number 3 when preparing material for publication.

1. Let us take time to check for authenticity. No one knows all there is to know about any builder or his works. In the past, careless errors have been made which, since, have been repeated as fact. In all cases try to get your material from the primary source or as near as possible. Check and re-check anything that can not be proved by the organ or source itself. Some articles that have been sent in for publication has been withheld because I knew them to be in error. Other slight inaccuracies have crept in regarding data for which I did not have a personal check.

2. Let us take time for accuracy. Let us be

(Please turn to page 4)
Pennsylvania, The Keystone State

(From page 1)

which was to last through four generations, to 1900.

At about the same time another German organ builder, Alexander Schlottmann, was visiting in Philadelphia and overheard news of Tannenberg's forthcoming organ for a church in New Holland, Pennsylvania. He hired out to that gentleman, which was to last through four generations, to builder, Alexander Schlottmann, was visiting in Fourage, who was organist at St. Mary's for almost forty years, is buried in the little yard behind the church.

During these years both St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Catholic Churches in Philadelphia had organs. It is recorded of St. Joseph's Church that they had a very fine organ, and that one, Stephen Fourage, who was organist at St. Mary's for almost forty years, is buried in the little yard behind the church.

After the Revolutionary War St. Michael's Church hired David Tannenberg to rebuild the old organ, which had been destroyed by the British. The elder Tannenberg was commissioned by Zion Church to build them a complete new organ.

The organ he built for Zion Church was the 'piece de resistance' to all that had been built before it. In its day it was the largest and most complete of all American organs.

When the new organ had been inspected, the secretary of the Church wrote in his minutes:

"In pursuance of a request to us made, We the subscribers have examined the organ, built by David Tannenberg, placed in German Lutheran Church, called Zion Church, in the City of Philadelphia, and found the same is executed with respect to the mechanical parts in a masterly manner; That it contains all the stops and registers so contracted to be done in the articles made between the Ministers, Vestrymen and Churchwardens of the said church and said Tannenberg, saving and excepting in two stops or registers, which he has substituted in lieu of those contracted for; which alternation in our opinion, is not to the prejudice of the instrument. That according to the contract laid before us, a set of bells were to be introduced, but they, not having yet provided by the Ministers, Vestrymen and Churchwardens, that part remains yet to be executed by Mr. Tannenberg."

signed by: John C. Moller
M. Hillegas
Peter Kurtz
Jacob Anthony
Godfrey Wetzel

The organ was consecrated in a service on October 10, 1790. We are indebted for the knowledge of what took place at this service and the specification of the organ to two young "hay-seeds" from Lehigh County, who came down to Philadelphia to hear the new Tannenberg organ. Not only did John and Andrew Krauss, ages 20 and 21 respectively, take home with them the program of this service, but they took with them the seed for another family organ business which lasted thru three long generations to 1929. Their program, along with other personal effects and John's diary, ended in the Schwenkfelder Library at Pennsburg, Pennsylvania, where it was only recently re-discovered by one of our members, Robert B. Whiting.

The program is devoted to hymns, prayers and responses, with two brief organ solos, one a "Vox humana Prauludirt". We do not know who wrote them nor who played them, though a John C. Moller was organist of the church. The description of the organ at the back of the program is translated from very archaic German.

"This is the largest, as well as the most beautiful organ in the whole of America, therefore a description will be a pleasure to our friends here and abroad.

"The housing (case) of the organ is 24 feet in front, 8 feet deep and 27 feet high. It is divided into 5 round towers and 4 flat panels. It is 2 floors high, except the two side towers, which were made only one story high.

"The work of the housing is a masterpiece, which makes the builder, George Vorbach, truly honored.

"In the front of the organ, there are over 100 tin pipes, the largest one 16 feet high. The complete works contain nearly 2000 pipes. The organ has three claviers.

"Beside the registers, there are the symbol star, tremolo, stop valve, and two couplings. The whole organ is fed by five large bellows.

"Experts assure that the workmanship is exceptional and that David Tannenberg, the builder of the organ, can show that the new America has artists which are equal to the best in the world, and will not have to stand a foot behind anyone.

"Herr Tannenberg has started to build organs in America and by studying and reading has brought it to such a standard of precision and art that not even the most experienced organ builder can criticize his work.

"Foreign readers of this description will not be put out if we do a short description of the building in which the organ was constructed.

"The name of the Church is Zion Church, which was dedicated in 1769, and is erected on Fourth Street on the east side of Philadelphia. (Fourth and Cherry Streets). The Church is constructed of blocks and is the length of 108 feet, the width of 80 feet, and a proportional height. (According to Hogan's Prospective of 1795, Zion Church was 44 feet to the eaves.) On the inside are eight high columns in the Doric order. The whole building is illuminated by beautiful windows which are very decorative. Building experts consider it one of the best and most beautiful buildings erected for Holy services. On the east side of the building is the organ."

A description of the organ:

"To the Main manual belong the following registers:"

1. Principal 8 ft. 6. Trumpete 8 ft.
2. Quintaden 16 ft. 7. Octave 4 ft.
5. Gedackt 8 ft. 10. Flute 4 ft.
11. Mixtur 4 & 6 Ranks

PAGE 3
Later, on January 8, 1791, the dedication recital was held on this organ. We have no program of this affair, but from the diary of one of the church's members we know that: "The President of the United States, George Washington, his Lady, and Members of Congress were in attendance." This is the only known instance in our history in which a President of the United States attended an organ dedication.

The Tannenberg organ was, of course, short-lived. It was partially destroyed by a fire which originated in the tower on December 26, 1794. Some of the salvaged pipes were stored in the church schoolhouse till such time as they could be used. (The school building still stands across from the site of the old Zion Church, on Cherry Street near Fourth Street.)

For a short time the Church rented an organ from another Philadelphia builder named Charles Taws, until, as the records state: "The Committee was asked to get in touch with Charles Taws, and have him remove his organ from the church by next Sunday." (January 1804)

The Church had had several bids, after the fire, to rebuild the old organ, but all were turned down. (The phrase "rebuild the old organ" appears frequently thru the records of this church during these years after the fire.)

One builder (un-named) told them that an organ of twenty-four registers, twenty feet wide, and twenty-five feet high would cost $4,000.00. After much deliberation John Lowe of Philadelphia was chosen to rebuild the old organ. (John Lowe had, in 1804, built an organ for Peale's Museum in the old State House-Independence Hall.)

The organ Lowe built for Zion Church was called the "Grande Organ" and, like its predecessor, was the largest organ in the United States upon its completion. Its physical displacement was exactly that of the Tannenberg organ: only in architecture did it differ.

John Lowe finished the Zion organ in 1811, and a few years later he left Philadelphia. By 1820 the German organ builders had also left Philadelphia, and for the next fifty years the Quaker City's organ business was seasoned by such names as: Hall, Corrie, Ware, Standbridge, Hunter, Robert, La Grassa, and the one exception, Henry Knauff.

After the Civil War the sons of many of these builders carried on the work; W. A. Corrie, John and George Standbridge, Edward A. B. Roberts, and Theodore Knauff. The German influence was again revived during the seventies by such men as: J. C. Burner, Cornelius Bachman, Felix Barckoff, and Bernard Mulder, but it was not the same influence that pervaded Tannenberg's day.

The Roosevelt branch, and later C. S. Haskell, represented the last concentrated efforts in Philadelphia at artistic organ building. Roosevelt's Philadelphia plant was the training ground for such later firms as C. S. Haskell, (1896-1920) Bates, and Culley, Beaufort Anchor, and Bartholomay. Philadelphia ceased to be an organ-building city in 1954, when Frederick Bartholomay (the son) closed his doors in favor of retirement.

we here in the Quaker City hope this historical sketch will whet your appetite to visit us during the 1960 OHS Convention. You will see and hear examples of many of these works, plus those of New York and New England builders. In the "Dutch Country" you will see how family-organ-building firms retained antiquated mechanical designs right up to the end.

In Pennsylvania, more than in any other colony, the early organ industry was predominately by the German influences of Bach's day.

Come to Pennsylvania this year. The dates are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; June 20, 21, and 22, 1960. Join hands with Jonas, Witt, Kelpius, Pyrlaeus, Ritz, Vanyleck, Bremner, Mittleberger, Hopkinson, Fourage, Kurz, Moller, Ritter, Carr, Cross, Taylor, Reinagle, Schetky, Standbridge, the Darleys, Knauff, Emmerick, Thunder; Geibel, Wood, and a host of other church musicians who helped make our country's history. Want to know more? We hope so, and pertinent details will appear in the April, 1960 TRACKER. Plan now to join us. Then prove for yourself that Pennsylvania is still "The Keystone State."

EDITORIAL
(From page 2)
certain that we use the stop-names as did the builder. Anything that we describe should be accurate. Check it yourself if at all possible.

3. Let us take time to be complete. There is considerably more to an organ than the stop list. Find out as much as possible regarding what is behind the stop knob. Check scales, wind pressure, outstanding characteristics, and anything else that can be used to identify a builder's craft. It is not only important to discover what was done, but also why, how, and the results.

4. A final word of caution. Do not spread yourself too thin. It is far better to choose a specific builder, period, area, or organ, than to try to cover all of everything. When you have taken Point, then dig until there is nothing more to be unearthed on the subject. Those who try to cover too much seldom uncover anything.

5. Remember in describing your findings that too frequent use of a superlative robs your data of its value.

Kenneth F. Simmons
OLD TRACKER ORGANS OF THE WEST

Part III of the Series by Eugene M. Nye

Coming south down the western coast of the United States we take up the tracker action organs as they occur on the map. The map shows the town of Lynden, Washington, not large in area but surrounded by many prosperous farming districts. The prevailing religion here seems to be the Christian Reformed Church, one of the few places in the west where this is so.

In First Church is a Hinners organ built in 1904, electrified two years ago by a Seattle firm. The stoplist, as it was with mechanical action, reads:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN</th>
<th>SWELL ORGAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
<td>Violin Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 4'</td>
<td>Salicional 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal 4'</td>
<td>Flute 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola da Gamba 8'</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PEDAL ORGAN

Bourdon 16' 16' 16'

A new Celeste, Trumpet and unit Flute were added when the organ was electrified.

Before proceeding into the state of Washington proper, it might be of interest to sidetrack and include a few old organs from the states of Idaho and Montana. So far as is known, the only tracker organ remaining in Idaho is the old Presbyterian Church at Caldwell. It is now used by Grace Lutheran (Missouri Synod) congregation. In spite of several attempts the writer has thus far been unsuccessful in gaining entry to the church.

In Trinity Episcopal Church, Pocatello, there was built and electrified in 1949 by the Kilgen Organ Co., and the original details have been lost. The only other tracker presumably still existing in Butte is at St. Patrick's R.C. Church, a 2-25 Hook & Hastings built in 1901, but the stoplist is not at hand.

In Missoula, Montana, there was formerly a 2-22 Hook & Hastings built in 1905 at St. Francis Xavier, R.C. Church. This was rebuilt in 1939 and is now electrified. Also at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Livingston there is reputed to have been an ancient instrument of tracker variety, but this may well have been an Estey reed organ, with which the state of Montana is well supplied, particularly in isolated areas.

Much remains for those interested in historical organs in the state of Washington. Immediately across the Georgia Strait from Victoria, B.C., on Vancouver Island, is the small town of Port Townsend. The tracker organ in the Presbyterian Church is the only pipe organ in the vicinity. There is no nameplate, but the initials "R & G" are plainly visible on the expression pedal far to the right. Tradition tells us that it was built by the partners of Whalley & Genung in Oakland, California, and was one of those built in 1872 or 1884 or 1889, but no one is certain. The stoplist follows:

<table>
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<th>GREAT ORGAN</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
<td>Flute 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 4'</td>
<td>Oboe tc 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Baptist Church in Helena also has had a tracker organ, but no data on it is available, nor is it known whether this instrument still stands in the church. Many of these have been replaced.

In Helena, Montana, is the picturesque mining town. It has had a number of old organs, but not many have survived. One of the largest, that of St. John's Episcopal Church, was moved in 1946 to St. Martin's College in Lacey, Washington. It is a Hook & Hastings, opus 1690, built in 1895. The organ is now electrified, but we shall give the original stoplist:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN</th>
<th>SWELL ORGAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxor Flute 4'</td>
<td>Oboe tc 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PEDAL ORGAN - 32n

Bourdon 16' 16' 16' 16' (now) 16' 16' 16' 16' (Usual 3 tracker couplers) Gt to Ped Reversible

In the Mountain View Methodist Church, Butte, there existed a 12-stop, 2-manual tracker organ built by the Feltmaker Co. This was rebuilt and electrified in 1949 by the Kilgen Organ Co., and the original details have been lost. The only other tracker presumably still existing in Butte is at St. Patrick's R.C. Church, a 2-25 Hook & Hastings built in 1901, but the stoplist is not at hand.

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The ensemble is rather thin, but the instrument, installed in a gumwood case behind display pipes, is carefully preserved. It was originally hand-pumped; then in 1911 electric feeders were attached, and in 1947 a new 1-hp Kinetic blower was added by Charles W. Allen. At the same time a new tremolo was added by Organ Supply Corp. The wind pressure is 2 3/4", and present organist is Mrs. Ralph Marriott.

On the coast itself there is nothing further of tracker action until we reach Seattle (pop. 600,000), one hundred miles south. The former Kilmball representative, Arthur D. Longmore, did well represent his company throughout the state, but these organs are all of tubular and electric action. At present there are two tracker action organs functioning in the Seattle area, however:

One, built by the Kilgen company, bears the following stoplist:

**GREAT ORGAN - 58n**

Open Diapason 8
Melodia tc 8
Dulciana tc 8
Octave 4
Twelfth (3') 2 2/3'
Fifteenth 2

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**PEDAL ORGAN - 27n**

Open Diapason 16
Bourdon 16

(No couplers.)

This organ was originally built for the old First Presbyterian Church, and historians more-or-less agree to the date of 1890. It was in continuous use until 1907 when the present large building was erected at 7th Avenue and Spring Street. At that time it was moved from the old church (which was torn down) and erected in the basement Sunday School of the new church. It stayed in this location until about 1940 when it was removed to West Seattle where it was erected in the old Hillcrest Presbyterian Church by Charles J. Whittaker. When the new Hillcrest church was finished, about 1950, the members themselves disassembled the organ and moved it next door to the new building. It still is located there. However, a large edifice is needed and the fate of the old organ is undecided at this writing. While it has some good tonal qualities (such as the flutes), the diapason stops are thin and somewhat lacking in character. Inside the organ is found frequently the number 14. According to some authorities early Kilgen organs, this may not be the actual opus number since Kilgen built many organs before 1890.

The other tracker instrument in Seattle, partly tubular and partly tracker, is located in St. Anne's R.C. Church on Queen Anne Hill. It is a single manual built in 1908 with a flat pedal board by the Hinnors Company of Pekin, Illinois. There are 7 divided ranks, and the specifications read: Pedal BOURDON 16' 12p; Bourdon Treble 49p; PRINCIPAL BASS 4' 12p, Principal Treble 49p; OPEN DIAPASON Bass t; (bass from Bourdon) 8'; Open Diapason Treble 8' (Diapason and Principal unenclosed), Lieblich Gedackt Bass 8' 12p stw; LIEBLICH GEDACKT Treble 49p 8'; Viol D'Gamba Bass 8' tc (bass from Gedackt); VIOL D'GAMBA Treble 8' 49p; Flute Bass 4'; FLUTE TREBLE 4', 49p; Tremolo; Bellows Signal; Mechanical Swell pedal; 2 pedal combinations. It originally had a very unsteady wind supply with 3 feeders, but in 1947 a new 1/2hp blower was added by Charles W. Allen. Wind pressure is 23/4'.

Probably the most traveled tracker organ in the area was built in 1892 for the old Plymouth Congregational Church at 3rd Avenue and University Street where the Palomar Theatre now stands. It was opus 1519 of the Hook & Hastings Co and bore the following stoplist:

**GREAT ORGAN - 58n**

Bourdon 16
Diapason 8
Doppelflote 8
Octave 4
Twelfth 3
Fifteenth 2
Fifteenth Bass 8
Violin 4
Violin 4
Viola 2
Clarinet 2
Tremolo 4

---

**CHOIR ORGAN 58n**

Geigen Principal tc 8
Melodia tc 8
Dulciana tc 8
Octave 4
Twelfth 3
Fifteenth 2
Violoncello Bass 8
Violoncello Bass 8
Violoncello Bass 8
Violoncello Bass 8
Violoncello Bass 8

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**PEDAL ORGAN 27n**

Open Diapason (Metal) 6
Bourdon 16
Geigen Principal tc 8
Dulciana tc 8
Octave 4
Twelfth 3
Tremolant 4
Clarinets tc 8

For this stoplist I am indebted to William Saunders, a Guild member and an accurate historian of this area. He came to Seattle in 1906 and was well acquainted with this organ which served in the old church until 1911 when a new church was built. The organ was moved (with its tracker action) to University Congregational Church where it served until 1935, at which time it was rebuilt with new chests and new console into a large 2-manual by the Kimball Company. In 1954 the University congregation moved into its new church, and the old building was taken over by University Center Southern Baptist Church. On March 12, 1956, after a series of other misfortunes, fire broke out in the baptistry under the organ chamber, damaging part of the organ including the new Kimball pedal metal Violone. This stop had been chosen as needed in place of a third manual at the time of rebuilding, and cost $700. Most of the organ was in tact, however, but the congregation employed an electronic instrument until February, 1957, when the entire church was demolished. The pipe organ was removed, stored, and has recently been resold and will soon be re-erected in the new Manitou Presbyterian Church in Spokane.

There was another 3-manual Hook & Hastings tracker organ in Seattle, built in 1903 for the First Universalist Church, now called Pilgrim Congregational. It remained a tracker until 1946 when it was electrified by a local firm. The specifications
are the same except for modern couplers. No pipe work was changed, and the reeds are in need of work:

GREAT ORGAN
Diapason (tc now) 16' Bourdon Bass 16'
Diapason 8' Bourdon Treble 16'
Gamba 8' Diapason 8'
Clarabell 8' Viola 8'
Doppel Flute 8' Gedeckt 8'
Octave 4' Solicional 8'
Fifteenth 2' Vox Celeste 8'
Trumpet 8' Flute 4'
CHOIR ORGAN
Diapason 8' Violine 4'
Dole 8' Oboe 8'
Melodia 8' Trumpet 8'
Flute 4' Cornopean 8'
Piccolo 2' Viola 8'
Clarinet 8' Trumpet 8'

This organ was purchased in 1951 by Stanley E. Haddon of Vancouver, B.C., for $500. It was moved to St. Helen's Anglican Church, Vancouver, and electrified.

In Bethany Green Lake Lutheran Church is supposed to have been a 2-8 organ which probably was tracker. Bought in 1915 from Rockford, Illinois, and used until 1933, there is some reason to believe that it had tubular action.

In the Charles Frye residence on First Hill there existed a very interesting organ made by Welte in Germany and shipped to Seattle in 1892. It was an automatic roll organ with no console attached, and had the following ranks: Bourdon 16', Violin 8', Aeoline 8', Horn 8', Clarinet 8', Oboe 8', Prinzipal 4', Flute 4', Flute 12th 2 2/3', also a Harp and Drum. It was blown by a feeder system and contained very odd pipes. The Clarinet had paper resonators. Wind pressure was about 2", and part of the action worked on vacuum. It was removed in July, 1941, and its pipes have been placed in various other organs. Several of the ranks are in a small organ in Calvary Free Lutheran Church in Everett, which the author dedicated in 1948.

The history of Tacoma contains much of interest. For example, Luther Memorial Church once housed a single manual organ built by Phillip Bachman in 1819, originally for Freiden's Lutheran Church in Myerstown, Pa. Bachmann was brought from Germany by David Tannenberg. The latter passed away in 1804 and Bachmann took over his shop. This organ was moved to Tacoma in 1904 and served until 1933. The only pipes saved were those of the Dulciana, and possibly the 15th rank, and these are probably the oldest pipes in the area today. (This data is from the Moravian Institute, reported complete in THE AMERICAN ORGANIST for May, 1933.) The specifications were:

Manuel - 54n
Open Diapason 8'
Stopped Diapason 8'
Quintadena 8'
Octave 4'
Harmonic Flute 4'
Twelfth 2 2/3'
Fifteenth 2'
Mixture III

One of the most outstanding tracker organs in Tacoma was the 1893 Hook & Hastings, Opus 1561, installed in the G Street Tabernacle. The building later became the First Methodist Church. The stoplist read:

GREAT ORGAN 58n
Open Diapason 16'
Dulciana 8'
Salicional 8'
Melodia 8'
Octave 4'
Flute d'Amour 4'
Twelfth 2 2/3'
Fifteenth 2'
Mixture III
Trumpet 8'

PEDAL ORGAN 27n
Open Diapason 16'
Bourdon 16'
Violoncello 8'

Some of the pipes bore the name A. Schopp, and the original cost was $5,000. Its installation was highly successful, but it was removed in 1953 by Balcom & Vaughan, a local firm, and the pipes were used for their new organ being built for Trinity Methodist Church in Seattle. It has turned out very well with new reeds and console.

An even larger tracker organ was, until recently, at Central Lutheran Church, Tacoma. Built by the Moline Company about 1885, its specifications read:

GREAT ORGAN 58n
D'Bl Open Diapason 16'
Open Diapason 8'
Viol da Gamba 8'
Dulciana 8'
Melodia 8'
Octave 4'
Flute d'Amour 4'
Twelfth 2 2/3'
Fifteenth 2'
Mixture III
Trumpet 8'

PEDAL ORGAN 27n
Open Diapason 16'
Bourdon 16'
Violoncello 8'

Some of the pipes bore the name A. Schopp, and the original cost was $5,000. Its installation was highly successful, but it was removed in 1953 by Balcom & Vaughan, a local firm, and the pipes were used for their new organ being built for Trinity Methodist Church in Seattle. It has turned out very well with new reeds and console.
This instrument stood in the church until it was torn down in 1955. The organ was then stored, re-erected and electrified in the new church by Balcom & Vaughn with nine new stops and a Reuter console.

In St. Patrick’s R.C. Church, Tacoma, stood a home-built tracker organ until recently. It bore the following stoplist:

GREAT ORGAN - 61n
Open Diapason 8’
Melodia 8’
Dulciana 8’
Octave 4’
Fifteenth 2’

PEDAL ORGAN
Bourdon 16’
Violoncello 8’

The author played this organ once and found it very acceptable. It disappeared with no trace whatever when the new Moller organ was installed.

There were two organs built by the Roosevelts in Tacoma. The larger one was only rebuilt in 1951, located in First Congregational Church. The original stoplist read:

GREAT ORGAN
Open Diapason 8’
Salicional 8’
Doppel Flute 8’
Gemshorn 4’
Trumpet 8’

PEDAL ORGAN
Open Diapason 16’
Bourdon 16’

The nameplate contained the following information: "Frank Roosevelt, successor to Hilborne L. Roosevelt, Opus 502, 1891." The organ contained a solid cherry case of excellent workmanship. The tone was excellent, including the old reeds which added much to the ensemble. In 1951 it was moved, completely electrified and rebuilt with a new Reuter console.

The other Roosevelt was built in 1889, opus 122, for St. Luke’s Memorial Episcopal Church. It was a model 18 design, and, from the files of F. R. Webber, we learn the stoplist read:

GREAT ORGAN - 58n
Open Diapason 8’
Dulciana 8’
Gemshorn 4’

PEDAL ORGAN - 27n
Bourdon 16’

There was a total of 363 pipes, and the Violin Diapason was grooved to the Stopped Diapason. The church was completely torn down in 1924, and the organ has disappeared. A long-time rector recalls that the organ was carried to a back alley and that vandals destroyed all of the pipework. The writer carefully examined the present Moller installed in the new church and found no trace or mark of Roosevelt’s work.

In 1953 the writer inspected a gem of a small tracker organ at Visitation Villa R.C. Chapel. This is located at a Convent in Lakewood, a suburb of Tacoma. It was a single manual with 25 pedal pulldowns, built by the Jardine Company originally for an R.C. Church in Huntington, Pa. Seventy years ago it was moved to Paris, Kentucky, and then to Lakewood in 1891. The five ranks were as follows: Stopped Diapason (Bass) 8’ 16p; Dulciana 8’ (from middle C); Flute (to middle C, a metal Rohrfliote) 8’; Principal 4’, and Fifteenth 2’ (from tenor G). The organ had exquisite tone, but the entire area was taken over in 1956 for a shopping center and the fate of the little instrument is still unsolved.

Also in Tacoma, at St. Leo’s R.C. Church, there was evidently a tracker organ made by the Pfeffer Company at one time. The Orgoblo firm lists a 3hp blower supplied to this organ in 1907, their opus 810. This organ disappeared years ago.

In the capital city of Olympia two tracker organs are of interest. The first is the 1891 Pilcher instrument installed in old St. John's Episcopal Church. Its stoplist runs:

GREAT ORGAN
Open Diapason 8’
Dulciana 8’
Gemshorn 4’

PEDAL ORGAN
Bourdon 16’

This organ had amazingly fine tone. In 1943 it was altered slightly by Charles McManis while he was passing through the state. He moved the Keraulophon to the Great at 4’, and the Gemshorn to the Swell at 8’. The organ served very successfully until 1955 when the church was torn down and a new one erected. The old organ was purchased by Philip Raboin, a local organ enthusiast. He had planned to combine it with another interesting tracker organ which he already owns, presently set up in his garage. This instrument bears the following stoplist:

MANUAL - 58n
Open Diapason (slotted) 8’
Stopped Diapason (rohr) 8’
Viola da Gamba 8’
Dulciana (English) 8’
Principal (1750) 4’
Rohrfliote 4’
Twelfth 2 2/3’
Fifteenth 2’
Trumpet 8’

This instrument was built by Hinners in 1871 originally. However it has had some changes and additions. The Trumpet has been replaced by an Oboe, and later a Gamba (French) was added in 1909. The set of Principal pipes, which is said to date back to 1750, was secured in Europe. It has a good tone throughout. It is hoped that both instruments will be used in the rebuilding, and that the present mechanical action may also be retained.

In Aberdeen, Washington, on the Pacific coast not far from the ocean, was located one tracker organ. It was built by Hook & Hastings and, although the opus number is missing, some accurate facts tell us it was made in Boston in 1878 for a church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Later it was
shipped to Sacramento, California, and then, by boat, to Aberdeen. It was installed by the father of the present organist, Mrs. Street. The stoplist as it was up until 1947 ran:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN - 6'n</th>
<th>SWELL ORGAN - 6'n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason Bass 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
<td>Stopped Diapason Treble 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 8'</td>
<td>Viola 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemshorn 8'</td>
<td>Harmonic Flute 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
<td>Oboe (tenor C) 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifteenth 2'</td>
<td>Bassoon 8'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P-EDAL ORGAN - 30n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bourdon 16'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There was a flat pedalboard, an expression-crescendo pedal, and five toe-stud combination pedals. This organ was rebuilt by Charles W. Allen in 1947 with a new Moller console. In moving the old pipework out into the church the movers allowed the pedal wood diapason to fall, splitting most of the low octave up lengthwise on the pipes, making it unusable. The compass of the manuals and pedals do not agree with the story. The writer was told, in 1942, that the organ was nearly 100 years old at that time. However, the original Hook list shows no organ being built for Minneapolis in 1878 and any close year.

In Spokane two tracker organs are still traceable, but no accurate data is available. The 1891 Pilcher organ, now at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, was originally the old Cathedral organ. Until 1948 a Hinnors tracker stood in St. Paul's Methodist Church, then given to the College of Puget Sound in Tacoma for use as a practice organ. It has never been re-erected, however, and many of the trackers have been broken or lost. The stoplist is not available at this writing.

Probably the most interesting organ of tracker origin is located at Walla Walla, the small city located in the extreme southeastern corner of the state. First the stoplist:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN - 58n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double Open Diapason 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doppel Flute 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola d'Gamba 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemshorn 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flute Harmonique 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave Quint 2 2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Octave 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixture III &amp; IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpet 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHOIR ORGAN - 58n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geigen Principal 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concert Flute 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohr Flute 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fugara 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmonic Piccolo 2'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremulant 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEDAL ORGAN - 30n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason (display) 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contre Bass Resultant 32'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bourdon 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violoncello 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oboe 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viol d'Gamba 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flute 8'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the state of Oregon we shall take up in turn the smaller cities and town before going into the large city of Portland. In Albany there were once two tracker organs, both of which have been personally inspected. In the First Baptist Church until 1944 there stood a two-manual Felgemaker with the following specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason (display) 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viol d'Gamba 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulciana 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEDAL ORGAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub Bass 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieblich Gedehkt 16'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violoncello 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flute 8'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Good Help stood a two-manual tracker organ built by George N. Andrews of Oakland, California. It contained the following stops:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT ORGAN - 6ln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Diapason (display) 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melodia 8'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octave 4'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEDAL ORGAN - 30n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bourdon 16'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEDAL ORGAN - 30n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(usual couplers)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This organ was inspected about 1938 and has long since been replaced with an electronic instrument. No information about the disposal of the pipe organ has been found.

In Salem, the capital city, two tracker instruments were played as late as 1937. The larger of these was in the then American Central Lutheran Church and bore the following stoplist:
This organ was built by Emmons Howard of Westfield, Mass., but the year of installation is unknown. It is now called St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the instrument was electrified and rebuilt into a three-manual in 1952 by Balcom & Vaughan of Seattle.

In St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Salem, stood an old 8-rank tracker with no nameplate, but bearing the following stoplist:

**GREAT ORGAN - 61n**
- Open Diapason 8'
- Melodia 8'
- Dulciana 8'
- Octave 4'
- Flute d'Amour 4'

**PEDAL ORGAN - 30n**
- Bourdon 16'
- Lieblich Gedackt 16'

Couplers: Gt-Ped, Sw-Ped, Sw-Gt 16-8-4', Gt 4'

After much searching the nameplate was finally located and again the builder was Emmons Howard of Westfield, Mass. However, the old organ has since disappeared and is now replaced by an electronic instrument.

In Mount Angel, home of a large Roman Catholic monastery and retreat house, there was an interesting tracker organ in St. Mary's Church with the following specifications:

**GREAT ORGAN - 61n**
- Open Diapason 8'
- Melodia 8'
- Dulciana 8'
- Octave 4'

**PEDAL ORGAN - 30n**
- Bourdon 16'

The organ was installed in a handsome case in the gallery of the church. Its original date is unknown, but it is said to have been of European make and stood in the Cathedral in Portland (having been shipped around Cape Horn). However, there is now almost certain proof that it was built by George S. Hutchings. It was once rebuilt by Schuelke and later repaired by Guenther Organ Company with certain additions. All of the pipes are now being used in a Guenther organ at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Portland, on electric-action chests.

In the southern town of Roseburg there is reputedly a small tracker organ at St. George's Episcopal Church, but no data is available at this writing.

Portland has had some interesting tracker organs, parts of which are still in service, and a few actual Instruments still remain intact. One of the most interesting existed until recently in the White Temple, First Baptist Church. It was installed in July, 1894, by Ernest M. Skinner when he was working for the Hutchings Company. It was of tubular action with some tracker couplers. It contained 42 ranks and was given to the maintenance man for disposal.

**First Methodist Church, Portland, has had three organs. The original tracker was built by George S. Ryder, Opus 151, in 1889, and the stoplist read:**

**GREAT ORGAN**
- Bourdon 16'
- Viola da Gamba 8'
- Doppel Flute 8'
- Octave 4'
- Sw-Gt 16-8-4', Gt 4'
- Trumpet 8'
- Fifteenth 2 2/3'
- Violin 4'
- Echo Mixture (12-15) II
- Pedal 16' Bourdon
- Pedal Melodia 8'
- Pedal Dulciana 4'
- Pedal Flute Celeste 4'
- Pedal Piccolino 2'
- Salicional (soft) 8'
- Cornopean
- Page 10

This organ was removed in 1942 when the second organ, was purchased. It was divided up into sections. The Great now is in use in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bremerton, Washington. The Swell and part of the Choir were played for a time with electric pull-down actions in the residence organ of William J. Bunch in Seattle, but this was removed in 1955 and the pipes scattered and chests given away.

There was a much larger Ryder tracker organ in First Presbyterian Church, Portland, but it was removed in 1929 to make way for a four-manual instrument and never rebuilt in its entirety. Some of the pipes are now being used in a Guenther organ at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Portland, on electric-action chests.

In St. David's Episcopal Church, Portland, stands what is left of the old Hook & Hastings tracker organ from old Trinity Church organ, Opus 652, dated 1872. The original stoplist ran:

**GREAT ORGAN**
- First Diapason 8'
- Second Diapason 8'
- Melodia 8'
- Gamba 8'
- Gemshorn 8'
- Octave 4'
- Flute Harmonic 4'
- Fifteenth 2 2/3'
- Trumpet 8'
- Bourdon 16'
- Melodia 8'
- Dulciana 8'
- Flute Celeste 4'
- Pedal Bourdon 16'
- Pedal Melodia 8'
- Pedal Dulciana 8'
- Pedal Flute Celeste 4'
- Pedal Piccolino 2'
- Salicional (soft) 8'
- Cornopean

This organ has been recently electrified by the Guenther Organ Company with certain additions and changes.

In the present First Southern Baptist Church, Portland, stands a mint-condition tracker organ built by the Hook & Hastings Company. This was (Please turn to page 12)
NOTES, QUOTES and COMMENTS

Old North Church in Boston, Mass., presented a series of four services of music in November and December commemorating the 200th anniversary of the building of the Thomas Johnston organ in 1759, the case of which houses the present instrument. Featured performers included William MacGowan and Preston Rockholt, organists, Joyce Ellen Mangler, harpist, the Boston Chamber Trio, and the Robert Gould Shaw House Chorus.

An interesting chamber organ built by J. D. Nutter in the 1830's and owned by Tom Eader was displayed by Tom's mother at an antique show sponsored by St. Alban's Church, Glen Burnie, Md., in November.

Restoration was completed September 1st on the 1867 William Johnson organ in St. John's Episcopal Church, Cleveland, Ohio, by the Adams Organ Co. The church building is the oldest in Cuyahoga County.

The Simmons organ of about 1865 in Hopkinton, N. H., Congregational Church, after several years of disuse, has been overhauled and restored to good condition by Robert K. Hale of Short Falls, N. H.

The 1853 August Pompilz organ in the Presbyterian Church of Krentz Creek, Pa., has been restored and was rededicated on Nov. 29th. The work was done by Fred Furst, who also recently completely restored the 1804 Tannenberg in York County Historical Society, York, Pa.

The old Snetzler organ of 1762 has been returned to the Congregational Church of South Dennis, Mass., after extensive restoration. Examination proves this organ to have been altered several times by unknown American builders. We look forward to an article on this interesting instrument by the restorers, the Andover Organ Co. of Methuen, Mass.

Tom Eader gave an illustrated lecture and recital at the Berks County Historical Society, Reading, Pa., December 13th. The organ was the 1776 Ditfenbach which is one of the many instruments owned by the Society. It was gratifying to see the room filled to capacity for this program.

Other Recitals of Note

By Berkeley Peabody, October 27 - Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., 1827 George Hook, thought to be the first Hook organ, recently restored.

By Melville Smith, October 30 - Sturbridge Village Church, Sturbridge, Mass., c1815 2-rank Eben Goodrich, donated to the village by the recitalist, recently restored.


Vice-president Don Paterson reports that a few very excellent replies to the new OHS project launched with the last issue of THE TRACKER have reached him thus far. He is looking forward to hearing from many more members with lists and descriptions of organs built prior to 1900. Have you surveyed the area in which you live?

DUCK SOUP

By EUGENE M. McCracken

(From last Issue)

This same year the vestry noted in their minutes that: "The pipes on the organ case were noted as ornamental and not speaking." The organ had 1202 pipes. The Feyring case has remained pretty much an ornament to this day, and it is believed many of its display pipes are from Corrie's 1829 instrument, it being the last one to have speaking display pipes.

In 1886 Roosevelt rebuilt and enlarged the Standbridge organ, it is believed, to a three-manual instrument, though the records do not state.

During 1892 the records note: "The keyboard was moved to the ground-floor; and $8,000.00 was estimated as necessary for rebuilding and re-arranging the organ. Haskell of Philadelphia was awarded the contract, and the instrument was enlarged to four-manuals. It was the first electric action organ in this church.

A subscription was also taken up "to preserve the fine old carved case."

Shortly after World I St. Peter's Church ran into difficulty with the Haskell firm over repairs to the organ. As noted from the minutes of the vestry of April 5, 1920: "The vestry threatens to sue Mr. C. S. Haskell (Haskell) unless he proceeds at once to execute his contract with the church."

February 4, 1921: "Mr. Brinton reports, 'In 1919 Haskell agreed to take down and repair the choir organ for $350.00. Haskell took it down, but removed many of its parts. Great inconvenience to the choir. Mr. Haskell kept on doing nothing! Mr. Gilbert said for $650.00 Mr. Burness would do it. He would also charge $250.00 per year for its care'."

March 8, 1921: "Hashell refuses to return the organ parts. No action by the vestry. What next? Mrs. Burrens was to get the parts from Hashell - referred to committee."

It might be well to explain the choir division of this organ was located under the choir stalls, in pits dug for that purpose, there being no cellar under the building. It was this division of the organ over which the trouble started, for every tim
there was a heavy rain the water eventually seeped into the organ pit.

Tradition has it that one Sunday during this row, workmen had been down in the pit between services trying to get the division to play: When they left they forgot to replace the floor grill in one of the choir stalls. As the first choirboy stepped up into the stall, during the processional, his hymnal before his eyes, he disappeared swiftly from sight, down among the pipes. It is said the organist, who had seen this from the console (on the other side of the church) broke the decorum of the service as he rushed frantically across the church and rescued the boy, who was hanging by his armpits to the "trap".

- In 1932 the Haskell was replaced by a three-manual Skinner, four ranks of the older organ being retained as an echo division in the back of the church. A description of the Skinner organ is hardly within the scope of the Organ Historical Society at this early age.

### A Record Review

"NOEL" - 17th and 18th Century French Noels composed by Louis Couperin, Pierre Dandrieu, Nicolas Lebregue, and Claude Daquin, performed, by Melville Smith on the Silbermann organ at Marmoutier Abbey. (CRS-505 Cambridge records.)

This recording by Mr. Smith, who is a member of OHS and so ably demonstrated some of the old organs at our 1959 New England convention, is a worthwhile addition to the record library of all interested in the history of the organ.

The organ was built by Andreas Silbermann in 1710 and enlarged by his son, Jean-Andre in 1746. It was restored in 1955 by Muhleisen 'of Strauburg, who endeavored to preserve the organ in its original form.

It is indeed refreshing to find a recording of an organ of this period by a performer who is not afraid to use its resources to the utmost. Mr. Smith is not bound to a single registration but uses the organ's many facets with fine judgment and variety in order that the listener may be come aware of the flexibility of an 18th Century organ built by a master. K.S.