

Maintain Model Organ Studio

Theatre Instruments and Musicians Developed Under Experts at Fulton Studio Operated in Conjunction with Model Theatre at Chicago Headquarters



Two Kimball organs are used at the studio and school. Above a two-manual unit and at the right a two-manual straight Kimball organ.



THE importance of music in motion picture theatres was early recognized by the E. E. Fulton Company, and as part of its service to exhibitors, the Fulco Organ Studios were organized with Frank Van Dusen, director of the organ department of the American Conservatory of Music at its head. Mr. Van Dusen realized that the ultimate object, that of training students, not only as organ players but as theatre organists, made it necessary that the equipment include a theatre, screen, organ and complete projection outfit and this need was supplied through installation of a Kimball theatre organ in Fulton's model theatre, which is in daily use by students of their organ studio. In addition to this there are two study rooms, one equipped with a Kimball two manual unit and the other equipped with a Kimball two manual straight.

Teaching facilities and screen classes were started, and at present time what are believed to be the largest theatre organ classes in the country are working under Mr. Van Dusen, together with Mr. Eigenschenk, his first assistant and a staff of teachers, including Miss Emil Roberts, Miss Helen Searles Westbrook, Mrs. Gertrude Bailey, and Paul Esterly.

Van Dusen and Eigenschenk Supervise Instruction

The standing of Messrs. Van Dusen and Eigenschenk in the music world is a guarantee of successful teaching in the Fulco Organ Studios. Mr. Van Dusen early began the study of music and not only received instruction in this country, but worked under the renowned master organist, Alexandre Guilmant, in Paris, and successfully filled the position of

organist in leading Chicago churches, and is at the present time director of the organ department of the American Conservatory of Music, director of school for Motion Picture Organ Playing of American Conservatory, president of the Illinois Council of National Association of

Organists, and the director of the Society of American Musicians.

Mr. Eigenschenk is not only a prominent theatre organist, but is internationally known as a recitalist and concert organist and has appeared as soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Cooperate with Architects on Plans

IT HAS long been a recognized need in the motion picture theatre field of greater cooperation between architects and equipment specialists. Often a theatre is built with no detail overlooked nor expense spared in its perfection excepting in one department, that being the matter of equipment.

This oversight, however, is in no way due to lack of recognition given to the importance of equipment but rather to failure of cooperation between builder, architect and equipment specialist. It is encouraging to note that during the last two years a great amount of attention has been given to securing greater cooperation among the various parties responsible.

In line with this new tendency the E. E. Fulton Co. have organized an engineering staff of theatre specialists for the express purpose of offering services to theatre owners and architects. The services of this engineering organization cover the

multitude of engineering phases of theatre equipment, such as illuminating engineering, projection room design, recognitions of decorations and stage equipment, etc. C. H. Fulton, President of the E. E. Fulton Co., has given this phase of his organization particular attention, and has issued a statement in regard to the company's activities along these lines.

"In connection with our engineering services to cooperate with architects, builders and theatre owners, we have not the slightest notion of endeavoring to function as architects, but simply to lend our endeavors to secure greater efficiency from the equipment installed in theatres. We do not undertake to furnish theatre plans nor to encroach in any way upon the architects' legitimate field. These services are offered in line with our policy of being an organization fully equipped to handle all the problems dealing with equipping of a theatre in every department."