



PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Volume 31, Nos. 1 – 2 • Jan. –Feb. 2020

www.pstos.org • www.facebook.com/pstos



Say "Welcome to Spring!" with PIPES and PIE at Haller Lake Community Club

Enjoy an old fashioned Pie Fest with several choices of pie a la mode, great music from the 1930s '40s and '50s, and a fun singalong of old time favorites.



PSTOS 3/10 Wurlitzer

Featuring...



JO ANN EVANS, Wurlitzer



JAMIE SNELL, piano, Wurlitzer



ESTELLE McMASTER Vocals

Sunday, March 15, 1:30 PM

Haller Lake Community Club

12579 Densmore Ave N, Seattle 98133

A fun afternoon of music with pie!

- Choose from several pie varieties
- Add ice cream
- Sip your afternoon coffee or tea
- Enjoy your favorite tunes from yesteryear
- Old fashioned singalong

ADMISSION – \$10 per person
Age 16 and under free w/adult



RESERVATIONS, PLEASE, TO ENSURE PIE FOR ALL!

Please reserve by Wednesday, March 11 • Email: joann@pstos.org

Phone: 425-485-5465, leave message • Please provide your name and the number in your party.

Drive directions

Northbound I-5: Use Exit 174 onto NE 130th St., turn left over freeway one long block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south) one block to 128th. Right on N.E. 128th a few blocks to Densmore. Left on Densmore, clubhouse is on the right. Parking both front and rear. Handicapped entry with parking and an elevator at rear of building.

Southbound I-5: Use Exit 175 onto N.E. 145th, turn right one block to 1st Ave. N.E. Turn left (south) continuing through N.E. 130th to N.E. 128th. Right on N.E. 128th a few blocks to Densmore. Left on Densmore, clubhouse is on the right. Parking both front and rear. Handicapped entry with parking and an elevator at rear of building.

PUGET SOUND PIPELINE

Vol. 31, Nos. 1-2, Jan. - Feb. 2020

Published by
Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
 10002 Aurora Ave N, Suite 36 #516
 Seattle, WA 98133-9329

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization furthering the appreciation, restoration, and use of the historic Theatre Pipe Organs of the 1920s, through education.

OFFICERS

President—Bob Zat, bob@pstos.org
Past Pres.—Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org
Vice President—Russ Evans, russ@pstos.org
Secretary—Jo Ann Evans, joann@pstos.org
Treasurer—Jon Beveridge, jon@pstos.org

DIRECTORS

Fred Rowe, fred@pstos.org • Ellen Sullivan, ellen@pstos.org
 Phil Hargiss, phil@pstos.org • Jacob Buys, jacob@pstos.org

COMMITTEES

Organ Restoration & Maintenance—Bob Zat
Program Planning Team—Jo Ann Evans, Barb Graham, Jamie Snell, Ellen Sullivan, Bob Zat
Educational Outreach Committee—Fred Rowe, fred@pstos.org
Paramount Crew Chief—Phil Hargiss, phil@pstos.org
Membership Coordinator—Jeff Snyder, jeff@pstos.org
Hospitality HLCC—Ellen Sullivan
Facebook—Jeff Snyder

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Pipeline Co-Editors—Jamie Snell, jamie@pstos.org
 Jo Ann Evans, joann@pstos.org
Pipeline distribution—Terry Perdue
Pipeline Online Website—Tom Blackwell, tom@pstos.org

LIAISONS

AMICA, POF, and AGO—Carl Dodrill
Haller Lake Community Club—Bob Zat
Paramount Theatre—Phil Hargiss
Calvary Christian Assembly—Jeff Snyder

JOINING PUGET SOUND THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY IS FAST AND EASY!

Simply click on the link below and select your preferred level of membership.

- Secure!
- No checks!
- No stamps!
- A few clicks and it's done!

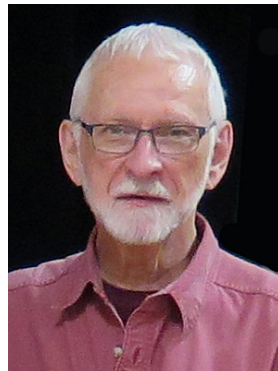
<http://www.pstos.org/membership/new-member.htm>



PRESIDENT'S Message

Happy New Year to our PSTOS members and friends.

I hope everyone had a spectacular holiday season.



Due to unforeseen circumstances we were unable to host the annual holiday party at Haller Lake Community Club, home of the chapter's Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ. As we head into 2020 I want to let you know why we canceled the event and bring you some news on the damage and repair work being done to the HLCC building.

Due to an overflowing sink in one of the main floor restrooms, (not the roof, as previously reported) water flooded the entire upstairs entry way and caused floor damage to other parts of the main floor. Water also found its way into the lower level storage area and basement furnace room. The main floor auditorium was untouched including organ parts that sit on the floor under left and right sides of the stage. Whew!

Before any repair work could begin, all affected areas needed to be dried out using dehumidifiers and fans. Also, due to the age of the building, asbestos flooring concerns needed to be addressed. Access to the building was restricted to the back of the building either by the stairs or elevator. Neither main floor restroom was usable, and with the only available restroom located downstairs, "Honey Buckets" were placed outside behind the building. The main floor kitchen area was also affected, making this a poor situation for our party. The board agreed.

Repairs are in progress and should be completed soon.

The December party includes the annual meeting at which we discuss the past year's events, committee reports and financials. These reports and financials are included in this issue for your information.

If you have not renewed your annual membership to PSTOS please do so now at this link: <http://www.pstos.org/membership/renewal.htm>

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm.

Bob Zat, President

PSTOS Coming Events

2020 THEATRE ORGAN POPS

At Calvary Christian Assembly
 6801 Roosevelt Way NE • Seattle



JUSTIN STAHL
 From Indianapolis
 Sat., April 25



SIMON GLEDHILL
 From London, U.K.
 Sat., June 27



CLARK WILSON
 From Ohio
 Sat., October 24

<http://www.pstos.org/events>

Plus...

Fun social events to add to your 2020 calendar!



BRETT VALLIANT
 Returns to the Pacific NW to play Merlyn Johnson's Tacoma Residence
 3/30 Wurlitzer-Morton
 Sun., Sept. 13



Annual PSTOS Christmas celebration

Sun., Dec. 6, 1:30 PM
 Haller Lake Community Club

<http://www.pstos.org/events>

AGO Programs

Sunday January 12, 6:15 PM

Four Hands, Four Feet. Epiphany's own dynamic duo will offer a recital on both the Pasi Organ in the Chapel and the Noack Organ in the Church. Zach Hemenway and Wyatt Smith will each perform on both instruments, separately and together! Free to the public. Epiphany Parish 1805 38th Avenue Seattle, WA 98122.

Friday, January 17, 12:10 PM

Wyatt Smith, organist, plays this month's Third Fridays at Noon recital. Join us for 40 minutes of delightful music! Donation at the door. Christ Episcopal Church, 310 North K Street, Tacoma.

Monday January 20, 7:00 PM

Presentation on Louis Vierne by Joseph Adam. Lagerquist Concert Hall, campus of PLU, Tacoma. Sponsored by the Tacoma Chapter of the AGO. Seattle members and others are most welcome to attend. No charge.

Saturday January 25, 7:00 pm

Dr. William F. Bryant will be performing the complete organ works of Johannes Brahms at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church. A freewill offering will be taken to support the artists and recital series. 3605 84th Ave SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Saturday January 25, 7:30 PM

Organist Johann Vexo presents a concert on the combined Hutchings-Votey and Rosales organs at St. James Cathedral, 804 Ninth Ave Seattle, 98104. Vexo is the Organiste de Choeur at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. \$18 suggested donation.

Sunday January 26, 5:00 PM

Evensong for the Feast of Sts. Timothy & Titus at Epiphany Parish 1805 38th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122. The Epiphany Choir will sing in the Chapel, led by Zach Hemenway and Wyatt Smith. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

February 2, 2:00 PM

Annual Schneebeck Organ Recital: Wyatt Smith will perform this free program on the Fritts organ in Kilworth Chapel at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA. The program features music Bach, Buxtehude, Rheinberger, Sandresky, and more. Free event.

Sunday February 9, 4 PM

Paul Thornock, Director of Music at the Cathedral of John the Baptist in Savannah, Georgia, presents a recital on the two manual Fritts organ Op 6 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church for Music at 911 Stewart St, Seattle. Tickets \$18 General, \$10 seniors and students, free for kids 12 and younger.

Friday February 21, 7:30 pm

Cathedral organist Joseph Adam presents music of Louis Vierne on the combined Hutchings-Votey and Rosales organs at St. James Cathedral, 804 Ninth Ave Seattle, 98104. \$18 suggested donation.

Sunday February 23, 7:00 pm

Organist Norma Aamodt-Nelson will be joined by a trumpeter and three string players for a program of festive music for instruments and organ using the 30 stop Pasi organ at Trinity Lutheran Church 6215 196th St SW Lynnwood WA. Suggested donation \$15/\$10.

Sunday March 1, 3:00 pm

Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series on the Fritts organ at Lagerquist Hall, PLU Campus, Tacoma, WA. Erica Johnson (from Boston area) presents an organ solo recital. She was recently appointed College Organist of Wellesley College. Tickets: \$17, \$10, \$5.

2020 THEATRE ORGAN POPS

SAVE \$\$! Order your 3-concert series tickets now at

<http://www.pstos.org/TOP>

Or order by mail. Send check with your name, contact info, and number of tickets to
PSTOS, 10002 Aurora Ave N Suite 36, #516, Seattle WA 98133-9329
 Your tickets will be at the WILL CALL DESK in the lobby on the concert date.

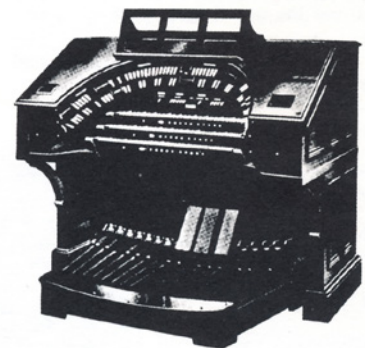
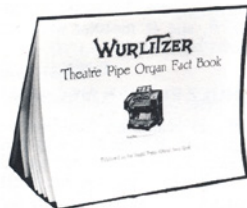
PSTOS Member – Subscription to all three concerts \$50

PSTOS Member – Justin Stahl	Apr 25	\$20
PSTOS member – Simon Gledhill	June 27	\$20
PSTOS Member – Clark Wilson	Oct. 24	\$20

Non-Member – Subscription to all three concerts \$65

Non-Member – Justin Stahl	Apr 25	\$25
Non-Member – Simon Gledhill	June 27	\$25
Non-Member – Clark Wilson	Oct. 24	\$25

Vestal Press published fascinating reprints of music box, player piano, pipe organ, and automatic musical instrument catalogs, repair manuals, and musical trivia. Founded by Harvey Roehl, the company operated from 1961 until it was sold in 1988. It closed in 1997. Below are just a few of the offerings in Catalog #15. Read the company's history at <https://www.mechanicalmusicpress.com/history/articles/vpr.htm>



WURLITZER UNIT ORGANS

A beautiful 64-page sales brochure, originally printed by Wurlitzer in 1926. Large 9 x 12 size; nicely illustrated with pictures of consoles and theatre installations. **A-18 \$5.00**

WURLITZER HOPE-JONES UNIT ORCHESTRAS

A magnificent 1916 60-page sales brochure on the World's most famous theatre pipe organs. Beautifully printed on heavy slick paper; jammed with illustrations and testimonials. This book has been proclaimed a "must" for the library of every theatre organ enthusiast by many authorities in this field. **A-13 \$4.50**

DEL CASTILLO'S ALPHABETICAL PRIMER OF ORGAN STOPS

This interesting little booklet, 24 pages, describes in a humorous manner the characteristics of the various voices of the theatre pipe organ.

Mr. DelCastillo's many years of experience as a featured organist enables him to give you real authoritative information on the subject. **A-73 \$2.00**



LINK C-SHARPE MINOR UNIT PIPE ORGANS

A very rare catalog describing "Sixteen points of Superiority" of the LINK instruments. 10 pages, illustrations of 3 consoles. Included is a fine glossary of pipe organ stops prepared by Mr. Minor. **A-17 \$2.25**

2019 Program Team report

Jo Ann Evans, Chair

The 2019 Program Planning Team included Bob & Susan Buchholz, Barb Graham, Jamie Snell, Ellen Sullivan and Bob Zat. The group met nearly monthly throughout the year for a potluck supper and planning session at various homes.

2019 included a variety of programs:

- Jonas Nordwall at CCA in March;
- A variety show with our PSTOS talent at HLCC in June;
- David Gray at CCA in July;
- Brett Valliant at the Evans residence in August;
- Martin Ellis at CCA in October.

Sadly, the Christmas party at HLCC had to be canceled due to water problems in the building.

We hope you agree it was a great year for theatre organ enthusiasts, as well as getting together for fun social events.

2020 programs are all in place:

- A Pie Fest and Pipes at Haller Lake in March;
- Justin Stahl at CCA in April;
- Simon Gledhill at CCA in June;
- Brett Valliant will return to the Tacoma home of Merlyn Johnson in September;
- Clark Wilson at CCA in October;
- The annual holiday party at Haller Lake in December.

Sadly, Bob & Susan Buchholz have left our team due to their move to Everett and their busy lives. We appreciate their contribution to the team over the past several years. What assets they have been! We wish them much happiness as they move on.

2019 Membership report

Jeff Snyder

PSTOS membership is at 123 individuals/families. Several years ago we changed from collecting dues during the month in which each member had joined to collecting dues once a year during December. Every member should have received an email reminder in December. Those whose Pipeline comes via regular mail should have received a notice with their Pipeline.

So far, 43 members have renewed for 2020 while 71 have yet to do so. (The balance of the 123 members are "lifetime" members.)

If you have already renewed your membership, thank you. If you have not yet renewed, please do so today at

<http://pstos.org/membership/renewal.htm>

or mail a check to

Puget Sound Theatre Organ Society
 10002 Aurora Ave N, Suite 36 #516
 Seattle, WA 98133-9329

Your support of this fascinating hobby is appreciated!

2019 Educational Outreach Report

Fred Rowe, Chair

The Committee continues to support Braeden Cavelti in his quest to study the Theatre Pipe Organ. He is now scheduled to take lessons from Jonas Nordwall in the coming year.

Last summer Jamie Snell in conjunction with the AGO held an introduction to the theatre organ event at CCA for the 24 students attending the AGO's Pipe Organ Encounter for teenagers. Four of the students expressed a desire to learn more about the theatre organ; the following week three played the Seattle Paramount Wurlitzer, thanks to arrangements by Phil Hargiss; and one has been taking weekly lessons with Jo Ann Evans.

The committee is currently in the process of securing grants, scholarships, and funding needed to send two aspiring local teenage organists to the ATOS Summer Youth Adventure in Detroit.

PSTOS financial report, December 29, 2019

Jon Beveridge, Treasurer

2019 INCOME & EXPENSES

INCOME	
Membership dues	3,075
Donations (see note 1)	2,010
Program income	5,680
Sale of assets	358
Interest	14
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,137
EXPENSE	
Nonprofit operations	1,781
Occupancy (HLCC organ)	658
Program expense	6,190
NET CURRENT EXPENSE	8,629
2019 write-down of CCA upgrade expense (see note 2)	9,013
TOTAL EXPENSE	17,049
TOTAL NET INCOME	-5,926

NOTES

- 1) \$1,500 of donations were sponsorships for the 2019 Pops Series
- 2) The annual write-down item is an apportioned expense for the CCA organ over the life of our agreement.

BALANCE SHEET

CURRENT ASSETS

Checking & Savings 48,327

FIXED ASSETS

HLCC Organ 50,600

Computer & Software 1,463

LESS Depreciation -50,569

NET FIXED ASSETS 1,494

OTHER ASSETS

Organ Parts 6,722

CCA Organ, Restoration/Upgrades 45,067

NET OTHER ASSETS 51,789

TOTAL ASSETS

101,610

CURRENT LIABILITIES (Key Deposit)

25

EQUITY

Media Fund 59

Organ Maintenance (for HLCC) Fund 724

Paramount Pubix Fund 6,207

Scholarship Fund 6,208

TOTAL FUND BALANCES 13,198

Retained Earnings 75,083

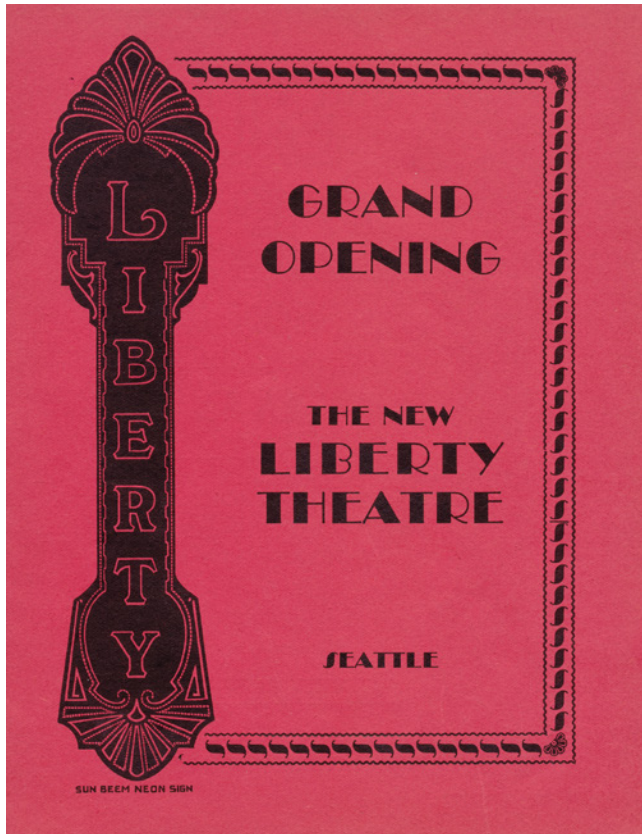
Transfers to Restricted Funds 19,230

Total Net Income -5,926

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

101,610

PAGES FROM THE PAST... 1930



The Seattle Liberty Theatre first opened in 1914 to huge crowds. After featuring silent films for 15 years, it closed in 1929 to be outfitted for 'talkie films.' A grand reopening was held January 4, 1930. Several pages from the program are reproduced here.

Grand Opening Program

NEW LIBERTY THEATRE

2 P.M., January 4th, 1930

UNDER DIRECTION JENSEN & VON HERBERG



ALL TALKING PROGRAM

*Projected on Our
MAMMOTH CELLULAR SCREEN
By the Latest Type
SUPER PROJECTORS*



UNIT NO. 1

LIBERTY ALL TALKING NEWS
A Compilation of World Events in Sight and Sound



UNIT NO. 2

CHARLIE CHASE
in
THE REAL McCOY
An Hilarious All-Talking Comedy



UNIT NO. 3

A FANTASY IN COLOR
A Specially Selected Offering in Natural Hues

ALL TALKING PROGRAM

(Continued)



UNIT NO. 4

WEST POINT MANEUVERS

*A Thrilling Episode from the Life of a
West Point Cadet*



UNIT NO. 5

FEATURING

CONSTANCE BENNETT

and
REGIS TOOMEY

in

"RICH PEOPLE"

*All Talking Feature with Whispers of Love
and Giggles of Mirth*

PRICES

Matinee—Adults, till 6 P.M. 25¢
Evenings—Adults ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ 35¢
Children—A Dime Any Time

PAGES FROM THE PAST... *Continued*

The New Liberty Theatre

Deeply embedded in the heart of Seattle theatre-goers is the name

LIBERTY

IN THE PAST it stood for the finest in silent drama entertainment. Hundreds of thousands of people have found here a release from their daily cares.

NOW the drama is no longer silent! Modern scientific genius has made the motion picture a vital, living thing. The murmuring of the mountain brook blends with the roar of metropolitan traffic. The screen actor no longer depends upon pantomime, but carries to his audience the power of his personality through the medium of his voice.

REALIZING the great need that existed in Seattle for a theatre devoted solely to the speaking screen . . . where superior attractions could be shown at a nominal admission charge, we have equipped this theatre with the latest and most improved type of voice reproducing equipment . . . and have spared no expense in arranging perfect entertainment.

TO our many new friends we extend the same warm WELCOME with which we greet our thousands of old friends . . . returning to THE LIBERTY with best wishes to each and every one of you for a

HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS 1930

Sincerely,

C. S. JENSEN

J. VON HERBERG



C. S. JENSEN



J. VON HERBERG

The Seattle Liberty Theatre opened to huge lines of patrons in 1914, at which time the Seattle Times reported, "Direct from the Vitagraph Theatre in New York City, Henry Bernard Murtagh arrived in Seattle today and will immediately take charge of the mammoth Wurlitzer pipe organ now being installed in the Liberty Theatre.

"Mr. Murtagh is a graduate of the Hope-Jones Unit Orchestra School of New York, enrollment in which is limited to six members only."

"He is especially qualified to operate an instrument of this character on account of an unlimited experience in orchestral work, which began at the age of 13." In commenting on the new Liberty, Mr. Murtagh said, "I am very enthusiastic about the Unit Orchestra recently shipped from the factory.

"Its position in the theatre is not only unique, but it will probably produce results superior to those in the Vitagraph Theatre in New York or the famous Pitt Theatre in Pittsburgh. Patrons of photoplays little realize the wonderful possibilities of this extraordinary instrument, which is capable of producing a perfect imitation of every known instrument as well as the human voice, the exhaust from a locomotive or automobile, and various other sounds and noises."

"The Wurlitzer Unit Orchestra, when properly operated, simply carries the listener away with its remarkable reproductions. It is particularly adaptable to photoplay work on account of its being subject to the will and under the absolute direction of one sole operator."

After 15 years of operation, the theatre closed for silent films in 1929 and reopened with "all talking programs" on January 4, 1930. Several pages from the grand reopening program are reproduced here.

Depression-era attendance was still good as management bucked Hollywood's price policy with its own "New Declaration of Independence" announcing reduced ticket prices.

While planning to widen the screen for Cinema-Scope in 1955, management changed its mind and razed the Liberty instead, complaining that there were "not enough good films" but plenty of cars needing to be parked. The Wurlitzer was saved by the music department at Pacific Lutheran University. Now it is in Spokane's First Nazarene church, where it has its own chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society.

The New Liberty Theatre

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF JENSEN & VON HERBERG

LEROY V. JOHNSON, for seven years prominently connected with successful downtown amusement enterprises, is a personality well known to Seattle business men and the local theatre-going public.

Mr. Johnson prior to his connection with Jensen & von Herberg as manager of their Liberty Theatre in this city, owned and operated extensive theatre holdings of his own in the state of Montana.

After disposing of his interests there he accepted the management of the Liberty Theatre, Portland, Oregon, a few months later being transferred to the Liberty, Seattle.

Under his direction this theatre became Seattle's leading amusement institution and was held in high esteem by local as well as out of town show-goers who looked forward to seeing the biggest motion picture productions of the day, at the Liberty.

Mr. Johnson was the first to introduce the elaborate stage prologue to Seattle audiences and many a famous stage and talking screen star of today began his march to fame at the local Liberty under guidance of Leroy Johnson. Foremost among the group were the famous colored baritone, George Dewey Washington, now a nationally known Movietone and stage favorite and "Red" Corcoran, the Southland's popular master of ceremonies and Vitaphone recording artist.

Mr. Johnson was instrumental in bringing to Seattle music lovers, Oliver Wallace, who presided at the console of the giant Liberty organ for many years and who was perhaps the most popular concert organist to ever appear in a local showhouse. Wallace's Sunday morning organ recitals and song contests were famously known throughout the city and state.

Mr. Johnson remained in the capacity of manager at the Liberty for several months after Jensen & von Herberg disposed of their interests to West Coast Theatres.

When Jensen & von Herberg later became interested in Seattle suburban theatres, Mr. Johnson again joined the firm as vice-president and general manager of the new organization, operating the Bagdad, Venetian, Roxy and now the New Liberty Theatre.

J. WM. HOUCK, manager of Jensen & von Herberg's new Liberty Theatre, has had a great deal of experience as a manager both in the Northwest and in the East. He opened Carl Laemele's beautiful Kenosha Theatre, at Kenosha, Wisconsin, and was managing director of that house until he came West. Previous to that time he was manager of The State Theatre, Minneapolis, the largest theatre of the F. & R. circuit.



LEROY V. JOHNSON
Gen. Mgr. Jensen-von Herberg Theatres



J. WM. HOUCK
Manager New Liberty Theatre