

## Record of craftsmanship

# Large Keates console created for Brooklyn, N.Y. church

An Acton company has created and is shipping the largest organ console ever built in Ontario to a historic Brooklyn, New York, church this week.

Keates Organ Company Ltd., Frederick St. completed a five manual organ console, four to five times the size of a regular sized console, for the Diocesan Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn. This Episcopal church has a tradition of distinguished organists and the new console, one of the largest installed in Metropolitan New York in recent years, will complement restoration work and additions to their present large organ.

and they wanted a complete custom job.

"We are a small enough company to give them what they want," Mr. Clark said.

Pretty well everyone in the Acton plant has been involved in building the console which weighs in at a deceptive 1500 pounds, approximately. All employees are highly skilled with a real pride in their workmanship.

"This is no assembly line construction," Mr. Geissler relates.

He rhymed off some of the materials that went into construction, including over 20 miles of copper wire, 13,000 electrical contacts, 112 thumb controls and 158 foot controls.

In spite of the instrument's complexity, one man can play it. "The flexibility of the console is practically limitless," Mr. Geissler, a German-trained craftsman declared. There is also enormous combination action.

### English imports

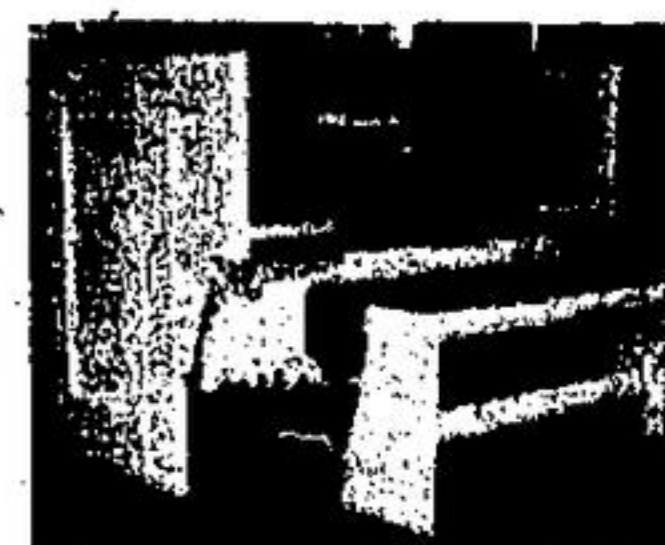
The company has stuck with proven and tested methods of construction on the console which attest completely to its reliability. Much of the wiring is Solid State (no moving parts) but not to the extent you would expect. Electrical parts were imported from England where the hand engraving was also done.

The gleaming console with its intricate keyboards and complicated mechanism is to be shipped by transport today in pieces. It will be reassembled when it reaches the Brooklyn church. One of the first recitals will be at the church's annual Christmas pageant on December 13.

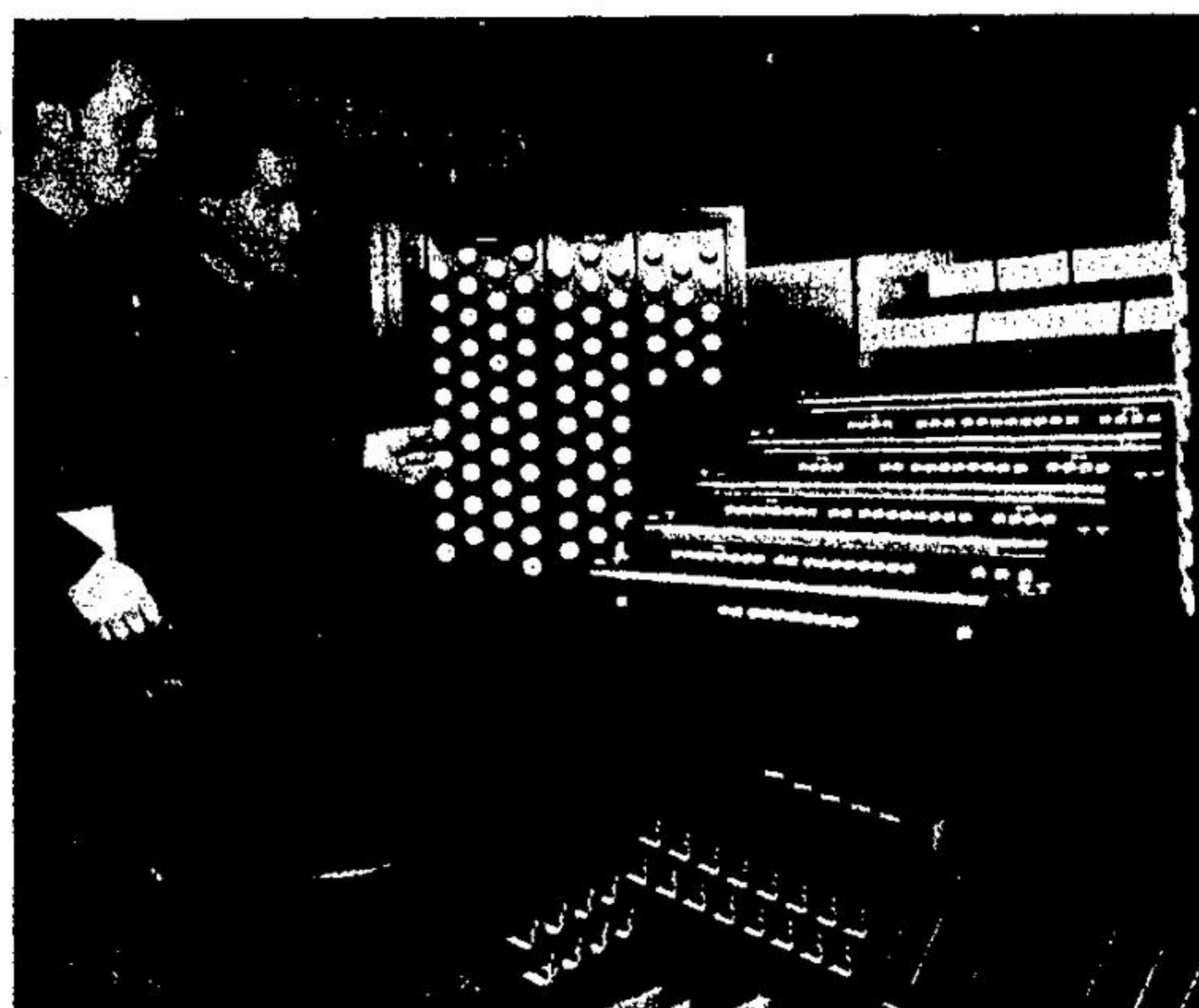
### Special glow

Watching it go with a special glow of pride as well as Mr. Clark and Mr. Geissler, will be company employees Ian McGugan, Ben Saulnier, Lloyd Anger, Dirk Van Stralen, Martin Rist, Mrs. Eileen Frank and Mrs. June McHugh. They all had a hand in making this fine instrument on which some of the finest organists in the world will play.

Asked, Mr. Clark hesitated



Regular sized console



FINISHING TOUCHES TO the largest organ ever built at the Keates Organ Co. in Acton are applied by foreman Dieter Geissler and Ian McGugan. The five manual console with its banks of keys,

slopes, foot pedals and couplers can be played by one man. There is more than 20 miles of copper wiring in the console and the cabinet is solid walnut.—(Staff Photo)

about declaring this was the largest organ console ever produced in Canada, but had no compunction about saying it is the largest built in this country in the last decade.

But in the tradition of skilled workmen around the globe, it is not the size the Acton company is most proud of, but the special brand of Keates craftsmanship that went into the instrument.

Keates Organ Co. Ltd., came to Acton from Lucan over eight years ago and is located in the industrial centre at the south end of Frederick Street.



SOME IDEA OF the number of notes you can hit on this newest Keates organ console can be gained by a view of labelled circuits.—(Staff Photo)

## Cubs tour plants Sat.

Cub leader Forbes Cole took five Cubs on a tour of the

### Investigate

Halt County Council learned last week the Ontario Human Rights Commission is investigating a complaint of discrimination. The complaint has been filed by a member of the nursing staff of the Halton County Health Unit who claims she has been discriminated against because of color.

The personnel committee passed a resolution instructing the personnel officer to consult with the county solicitor to see if the procedures followed by the inspectors from the Ontario Human Rights Commission were in accordance with the legislation.

## Caretaker strike settled after all day session

With only one hour before deadline, remaining, CUPE Local 1011 and the Halton County Board of Education came to a settlement at 11 p.m. Saturday night and a threatened strike of Halton school caretakers was averted.

Originally the union had asked for a \$1 an hour raise over two years but later cut their demands to 44 cents now and 30 cents an hour on July 1. After the day long session Saturday both sides agreed to an increase of 59 cents an hour.

Three raises  
A raise of 30 cents retroactive to the date of expiry, 10 cents on Jan. 11 and an additional 19 cents on July 1 were approved.

Going into the final day of bargaining, the Board was offering at 35 cents and the union dropped to 69 cents an hour.

The Board maintained the right

to hire contracted caretakers and agreed to have one head caretaker in schools where two or more caretakers were required.

Had the strike not been averted, 93 schools and 4,800 students would have been affected by the move. While the legal date was Sunday morning for a strike the effect would not have been noticed until Monday.

Cancel night classes  
The Board had planned to keep the schools open during the day, using administrative and supervisory personnel. Notices had appeared in some newspapers warning night classes would be suspended if the strike materialized.

The base rate for caretakers will rise from \$2.61 to \$3.20 by July 1 while the base rate for a head caretaker will jump from \$3.58 to \$4.17 after the July raise.



Vote to elect . . .  
**LEN COXE**  
COUNCILLOR  
FOR ESQUESING

John Salmon  
**Country TV Centre**  
SALES & SERVICES  
Highway 24, Rockwood Line  
Specializing in TV Service to all makes  
Rockwood (519) 856-9825 RR 1, Guelph, Ont.



LLOYD ANGER AND BEN Saulnier finish up some of the intricate wiring at the back of the large organ console before the instrument is shipped.—(Staff Photo)

## Don't waste money on insurance

It's a fact: some businesses are over-insured . . . with overlapping insurance policies. Others are dangerously under-insured.

Because your business involves customers and suppliers, inventory and equipment, bad debts, liability, taxes, employees, etc., etc., you need a business insurance expert.

We know how to plan your business coverage so you have just the insurance you need and no more.

**DENNY'S**  
INSURANCE AGENCY  
ACTON  
PHONE 853-0150



Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
After Hours: Milt Bell—853-2243 Harold Denny—853-2565

**Fox visits**  
Virgil Fox, probably the best known recital organist in North America, visited the Acton plant about three weeks ago to view progress on the console. This distinguished virtuoso is very impressed with the work the Keates company turns out at its plant in Acton and especially interested in the newest creation.

The organ console was designed and built there for major recital work in the church. It took almost six months to complete the final stages of the assembly. Design started months before.

Plant foreman Dieter Geissler, of 82 Longfield Road, Acton, said everything is special in the instrument. Keys are solid ivory, as well as knobs, Stop jams are of walnut with a rosewood trim. Electrical contacts are made of

silver, one of the best electrical conductors.

Compared to a regular sized church organ, this console is really complex. It has 223 stops and couplers on five manuals while an average-sized organ would have approximately 52 stops and couplers on three manuals.

### Custom craftsmanship

It is the craftsmanship in Keates organs that influenced the decision to have the console made in Canada.

It is unusual for a large church in the United States to order an organ console in Canada. Keates vice-president Ken Clark told The Free Press, but the Brooklyn church officials were very impressed with the record of craftsmanship by the Keates firm

## Pre-Christmas Draw EACH WEEK FOR THE NEXT 4 WEEKS

With the Purchase of any Item \$2.00 or more at either Jewellery or Photo Departments, You Become Eligible for a Chance on our Weekly Draw. Winners announced Each Week.

Drop in Now and See Our Fine Selection of Clocks, Watches, Jewellery and Giftware

LAST WEEK'S WINNER  
Doris Mainprize  
Roll Film & Pkg. Flashbulbs  
Vaule \$4.40

Do Your Christmas Shopping Early  
"Use Our Free Lay-Away Plan"

**DAVIS JEWELLERS**

3 Elgin St., Acton — 853-0450

## DOLLAR DADDY THE TOY STORE FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

6 - Piece  
**VANITY SET** \$3.49  
Picture Back Mirror, Comb, Nylon Brush, 2 Trinket Jars and Trinket Box.

**COLONIAL DOLL HOUSE** \$9.99  
Comes Completely Furnished. Metal Doll House, Plastic Furniture

**CRISSY DOLL** \$9.99  
17 1/2" Doll with Hair that can be combed

**KISMET GAME** \$2.99  
Combines the Fast Action of Dice with the Strategy of Poker

**BEAR POP'S BALL** \$1.99  
A Real Action Toy. Bound To Please

**INFLATED SANTA and SNOWMAN** 99¢  
Inflated Roly Poly with Jingle Bells inside.

**PHONY BALONEY** \$1.17  
Made of Plastic and a real puzzle to put together.

THESE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE LARGE SELECTION OF CHRISTMAS TOYS IN STOCK  
CHECK OUR CATALOGUE

• SKATING • SLEIGH RIDING •  
*Get with it...* 'SKI' CORWHIN  
• RUSTIC CHALET • ROUND HEARTH • SKI RENTALS • SNOWMOBILE AREA FOR MEMBERS • NEW TOBOGGAN HILL •  
**REGISTER NOW AND SAVE 10% UNTIL DEC. 1st**  
**'NEW' T-BAR LIFT**  
(Limited Membership)  
REGISTER NOW AT  
**BROWNS of GUELPH**  
"Specialists in Sports"  
51 Cork St. E. — 824-6500  
or Write Corwhin Ski Area, Box 203, Guelph  
have fun this winter . . .  
**SKI CORWHIN**  
YOUTH PROGRAM • RENTALS •