



TIC TOC

Vol. 1, No. 1

April, 1962

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Paul W. Morency

I am delighted to have just a word in the first issue of our revived TIC TOC. Back in the days of the Second World War when TIC TOC was started, Grace Sapsuzian was Editor and I hope our new edition will come up to the fine traditions which she set in those war years.

I hope that we are all getting used to our new accommodations in Broadcast House, and finding that the new quarters are comfortable, practical, and all we hoped they would be when the building was planned.

The most important problem before the company now, as it has been for the past eight years, is the possible deletion of Channel 3 from its present operation in Hartford. I am very glad to be able to report that in the past few days the situation looks much brighter. The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has reported out favorably a bill which will give the Federal Communications Commission power to require that all receiving sets manufactured in this country, and imported for sale, be all-channel receivers. There is a strong probability that this bill will be passed by both the House and the Senate. President Kennedy has already indicated his support of it and the Department of Justice has issued a favorable opinion on its constitutionality.

The next procedure will be for the bill to get a "Rule" from the House Rules Committee which will permit its debate on the floor of the House. This could come in the next sixty days, or possibly sooner.

The FCC has stated that if this legislation passed it will drop the present Rule Making Procedure to delete eight VHF channels from eight different cities, of which Hartford is one.

I don't want to be too optimistic but at this moment the prospects for passage seem very good.

When you read this, several of us will be in Chicago, attending the annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters, but we'll be back in Hartford by Thursday or Friday, at which time we'll take up the various suggestions which were made at the several department meetings held last week.

FINAL AETNA CONCERT APRIL 15; SERIES MARKED BY OUTSTANDING COOPERATION BETWEEN RADIO-TV

The Hartford Symphony Orchestra concert from the Aetna Auditorium April 15 will end a season that has been highlighted by magnificent cooperation between radio and television and production and engineering personnel.

TV Production Manager George Bowe, who has had an opportunity to observe the efforts of everyone concerned with the concerts, said the "close cooperation between those in radio and television, production and engineering has been responsible for the series' success. Those who worked on these programs can be proud of a job well done."

"The skill displayed by the camera crew has been wonderful to watch," he said. "The audience in the auditorium always marvels at the speed and agility of the crewmen and it's rather unfortunate for them that they don't have the opportunity to see the equally impressive work of the TV and radio engineers."

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER STARTED STAFF SELECTED FOR NEW MONTHLY

This is Volume 1, Number 1 of TIC TOC, a new monthly newsletter devoted to and published for the entertainment and information of the WTIC-TV-AM-FM staff.

It is a direct descendant of an earlier newsletter, also known as TIC TOC, which was published for WTIC staff members in the armed forces during World War II.

TIC TOC has been founded because people like to know what's going on. When we all worked on one floor at 26 Grove St., nearly everyone ran into nearly everyone else nearly every day. But now that we're in spacious, four-story Broadcast House, people don't run into other people as frequently and as a result, news doesn't travel as rapidly as it did before. We therefore hope that TIC TOC will make it possible for nearly everyone to run into nearly everyone.

ROSS MILLER NAMED PUBLICIST IN DRIVE TO AID BURMESE LEPER COLONY

Ross Miller has been named director of a publicity campaign to raise funds for the La Salette Fathers' leper mission in Burma.

He is directing the activities of a committee that includes Arthur Hecht, program promotion director of CBS radio; Pat Reynolds, circulation manager of the New York Times, and several prominent public relations men.

The three-year-old leper mission was founded by the Rev. Raoul Pronovost, a Connecticut native, at the request of the Burmese Government. Father Pronovost's first mission consisted of a few bamboo huts, a pharmaceutical manual, two tins of medicine and 30 patients. Today, he has 2,000 patients -- and all of them are Buddhists.

The primary fund-raising event for the mission will be a benefit at the Bushnell on Sunday, May 6, at 8 p.m. Co-masters of ceremonies will be Bud Collyer and Horace MacMahon and among the many stars signed for the show are Peter Lind Hayes, Alan Roberts, Fabian, Dion, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Glee Club and European opera star Sando Cordel.

Ross will tell something about the mission and show some slides on Brad Davis' TV show May 5. Guest star on the show will be benefit performer Dion. And, Ross has said that he has a few good tickets left for anyone interested in the Bushnell show.

WE GET LETTERS

About a year ago, the Publicity Department received a letter from a Massachusetts man who wanted to know the name of a musical composition played on a "Play of the Week."

He was told that the composition was "untitled as far as we can ascertain."

A few weeks ago, the same viewer wrote to the Publicity Department again. "Can you tell me," he asked, if 'As Far As We Can Ascertain' has ever been recorded? I have been looking for it in record stores for a year -- without success."

AND PHONE CALLS

TV Engineer Dick Oeser received a call the other day from a woman who insisted that we were having transmission troubles.

When Dick told her things looked fine here and suggested that it might be her set, she told him that the set was in perfect condition. He then suggested that she check Channel 8.

She was back on the phone in a moment to tell Dick that "Channel 8 is having the same trouble you."

MCGUINNESS THROWS HAT INTO JAYCEE'S RING

Amiable Joe McGuinness of the Radio Sales Staff once again demonstrates his versatility in his bid for the Presidency of the Greater Hartford Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Besides his prodigious out-put as a hot shot radio salesman, Joe is currently serving on the J. C. Board of Directors. He also finds time to be captain of the WTIC Bowling Team, and is active in the Hartford Advertising Club. Joe, his wife, Anne, and their two children, Paul, 4, and Terry, 2, live in East Hartford.

JUDY GETS RING, TOO

Pert and pretty Judy Bennett, Radio sales secretary, will soon put an end to the young male admirers that seem to flock to the third floor sales staff offices. She and fiance Bill Riley plan to be married in October in home-town Thompsonville.

WTIC GOLF TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED FOR MAY

The arrival of spring means it's time to head for the driving range and sharpen your game for the third Annual WTIC Golf Tournament. All WTIC-TV-AM-FM staff members are eligible. Handicaps will be awarded according to each individual's average score. Entry fee is \$1 plus 50 cents for each match played, after the first. Prizes will be awarded to semi-finalists and finalists.

In last year's tournament, Fred Bernard defeated George Dawson for the championship. Fred is looking forward to defending his title. "I will follow the precedent currently being set at all supermarkets . . . double strokes on Wednesdays, if you can find me," says Fred.

Deadline for entries is May 1. Match play will begin immediately thereafter.

Entries may be Bernard.

PATRICELLIS, BACK FROM EUROPE, FOUND PEOPLE MORE INTERESTING THAN STATUES

Just back from his first trip to Europe, Leonard J. Patricelli, vice-president-television programs, says he was overwhelmed by the art treasures -- but found the people even more interesting than the statues.

Purpose of the visit was a reunion with son Bob, a Fullbright Scholar at the Institute of Political Science in Paris, and Bob's wife, who teaches English on French radio one day a week.

The multi-lingual Patricellis had little difficulty communicating on the Continent as Mrs. Patricelli is proficient in German; their son and daughter-in-law are fluent in French and the clan's patriarch knows enough Italian to "keep out of trouble in Rome."

A real test of the Patricelli Italian came in Rome when he was barred from the Rome Opera because his dark suite with a light stripe and four-in-hand tie did not suit the ticket-taker at the door.

"The occasion was the premiere performance of Richard Strauss' "Ariadne" with Connecticut's Teresa Stich-Randall," he recalls, "and dress was strictly formal. My wife was wearing a cocktail dress and a fur cape, so she had no trouble, but I was definitely out of uniform. It cost me a thousand lire -- about \$1.60 -- to purchase a nondescript black tie from the concierge of the Quirinale Hotel, which adjoins the opera house, and a few Italian hand gestures to convince the man at the door that my dark suit resembled a tuxedo."

"On another occasion, a Roman cab driver and I were discussing my slight knowledge of the language and enjoying ourselves until it was time to pay the fare. When he didn't hand over the last 500 lira in change I asked for it and got it.

"You may not know the language, but you know quite enough about the money," he said, not too happily."

The opera-loving Patricellis attended the Vienna Opera and the Paris Opera -- "without incident" -- and also saw some TV programs in Paris and Rome.

"An old movie, starring Joan Bennett, speaking fluent Italian, was delightful and both French and Italian news coverage was extremely impressive.

They devote a lot of time to news and show film clips with just about every story."

The Patricellis found Paris tense and armed to the teeth, waiting for additional terror tactics from the Secret Army Organization.

One of the most meaningful events of the trip was

Europe in Munich "where more women work on this tremendously me away from there with the see Europe deserve a great deal than it is getting now."

NEWS NOTES FROM

TV Engineers

Three TV engineers, Dick Oeser, Mickey Gentile and Bill Conticello are, with their respective mates, awaiting the stork. Bill, who will report news from the TV Engineering Department, expects to have some significant announcements to make along these lines in the next issue.

Joe Lorrain reports the birth of triplets -- by his pet poodle and adds that he has three American Kennel Club registered poodles for sale.

Golfer Steve Myers predicts: "I will hit 87 or less the first time out this year. Steve has been reading all sorts of golf books and has been practicing in his basement during the winter. Some predict that he will fold under pressure, but Steve insists he will accept any bets.

Announcers

The only living WTIC-announcer-who-is-a-member-of-the-Hartford-Power-Squadron, Floyd Richards, reports that his sailboat "DENDON-DEEII" is in the process of being fitted out for the coming boating season.

Plans at this writing point to tying up at a Marina at Old Saybrook, across from the Ferry Tavern and sailings-are scheduled whenever "FR" doesn't appear on the log. Floyd is anxious to show off his 18-footer and with this note goes an invitation to "crew" aboard whenever you have a chance.

Any thought of entering the America Cup Races this fall against the Australian sloop "Gretel" seems to have vanished because of vacation schedules, among other things.

First Lt. Bob Ellsworth, information officer of the 43rd Infantry Division, Army National Guard, is serving as a member of the Hartford Armed Forces Committee which is planning the May 19 "Operation Unity" open house.

MORE NEWS NOTES

Business Office

The newest addition to the Business Office is Cynara Taylor, who came to us from Travelers. Cyndy likes our IBM Department and we are delighted to have her.

Shirley Gonyer, the girl Cyndy replaced, is the proud mother of a three-pound, 14-ounce boy, born March 18. Bob and Shirley have named him Lawrence Stephen. Incidentally, Bob and Mary Donovan will be Godparents.

Record Library

Off to Largo, Florida for a vacation stay with friends go Bob King and wife, Annabelle. Due to leave on April 1 by train, the Kings will savor the tempid atmosphere of Largo for two weeks and return April 14.

Radio Continuity - Traffic

The quintet of Mary, Babs, Bev, Grace and Paul... report a recovery, a departure and an arrival.

On March 19, the third floor woke to the sound of a long absent but familiar voice... that of Grace Sapsuzian, TIC members were all glad to see "Gracie" who was returning to work after a long illness.

The one lonesome male in this bevy of females, Paul "G." Gionfriddo, is presently at work on an hour long radio documentary... "Hartford-All-American City." The program, which will be presented over WTIC on April 20, will include a look at Hartford through the eyes of some of its most prominent citizens... a look into its art, culture, music; its past and its future... the people and events that went into the making of this "All-American City."

On April 13, Beverly Adams leaves on her two week vacation. Stops will include Maine, Massachusetts and New York.

And, just as an after thought... that cute little brunette in the Traffic Department recently attended the going away party for Jack Paar. Must have seen quite a shindig!

FILM DEPARTMENT'S NEWEST STAFFER ARRIVED VIA ITALY, HOLLYWOOD

Although by now he is not a stranger to us, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest member of our department -- Ottavio Ferro.

Ottavio, who originally comes from Noto, Italy, arrived in this country in 1949. His first job was as an inspector at Fafnir Bearing in New Britain. In 1956 he moved to Van Nuys, Calif., where he was employed as a technician at Hollywood Film Laboratories. After soaking up the California sunshine, Ottavio came back to Connecticut to work for Rader Film Prod., also working part-time announcing Italian programs at WKNB, WMMW, WHAY and WATR-TV & radio. He later joined the WHCT-TV staff as film editor, artist and director of their bowling show. A varied career, indeed.

Ottavio lives at Washburn Drive in Plainville with his lovely wife and two children.

Film Clips

Our very versatile Dave Caulkins (who is in reality a frustrated Joshua Logan) recently wrote, produced and directed "The Corpus Christi Capers," presented at Corpus Christi Church in Wethersfield. The program consisted of satires spoofing Television programs.

Len Mirabel and his very talented wife Rachel recently spent a week at the Concord Hotel, in the Catskills.

We were all very sorry to hear about Frank Ciacchero's father's recent illness, and hope that he will soon make a speedy recover.

Preview

I hope everyone will be watching our After Dinner Movie presentation on April 16, at which time we will be showing De Mille's "The Sign Of The Cross." Produced in 1932 by Paramount, this marked a return to the film spectacle cycle, and is a fine display of decay in the Rome of Nero, during the early days of Christianity. The film stars Frederic March, Claudette Colbert, Charles Laughton (perfect in the role of Nero) and the late Elissa Landi. Being a lover of early films I waited many years to screen this one, and was not disappointed. It's held up wonderfully since it was first released 30 years ago.

GRH

READERS SENT BOTH NEWS, SOIL
TO EDITOR OF WARTIME TIC TOC

Readers contributed both news and soil to the original TIC TOC during World War II, Editor Grace Sapsuzian remembers.

The news went into the publication and the soil, from all parts of the world, went into drug store vials and then onto a relief map Grace made to keep track of her readers.

"I had lovely sand from the beach at Iwo Jima and soil from the grave of Anne Hathaway in England. We had between 25 and 30 staff members and most of them, as well as some other friends, sent me soil from all over the world. It was a very cheap hobby."

The first TIC TOC had a world-wide circulation and each issue contained news of WTIC staffers from literally every corner of the world.

"We printed the letters we received from the men in service," says Grace, "so that they could keep track of each other and we at home would know what they were doing."

Grace usually edited TIC TOC at home "between 2 and 3 in the morning. Every so often, the air raid warden would object to the light escaping from the editor's home, "but I'd tell him it was for the boys overseas and he'd let me continue."

BOWLING TEAM TAKES SECOND
IN TRAVELERS MEN'S LEAGUE

WTIC's bowling team finished second to the Printing Department keglers in a down-to-the-wire battle in the Travelers Men's Club Bowling League.

Bob King ended the season covered with glory - by rolling a 159 on the last night of competition for the season's high individual score. Bob also completed the season just one pin short of the high individual triple score.

Our representatives also took high game honors; Joe McGuinness was one of the top 10 in the scoring department for the season and Chuck Albert had the second highest triple score at season's end.

Members of the squad were: Ernie Olivieri, Fred Edwards, Al Jackson, Frank Ciacchero, ~~King McGuinness and Albert.~~ The league had nine teams.

April... that merry month of Spring...
The time when a young man's fancy...
'Specially to the eyes
of a skirted, single, sweet young thing.
wm...

FLOOR CREW MEMBER
FOUND MILITARY MATERNAL

Bill Grammas, newest member of the floor crew, comes to us from WPRO-TV. He served four years in the Air Force as a medic in a maternity ward that delivered over a thousand babies per month. He and his attractive wife, Marie, and their ten-month-old daughter, Sophia Ann are living in an apartment off Hillside Ave. Bill replaced Warner Klapprodt who went to New York City to seek his fortune. He is currently employed as a kinescope operator at Luster TV Assoc., Inc., and from all reports, is very happy at his new job. He is getting married at the "Little Church Around The Corner" in New York on June 30.

On that same day, "Mac" (better known on Wall Street as Alastair H. MacDonald) will be tying the knot in Poughkeepsie.

Dan McAuliffe, active Special Projects Chairman for the Union School PTA, has been showing a series of color films for children in the school's auditorium.

Dan engaged Jerry Haber of the Film Dept. to procure and exhibit the films.

STILL MORE NEWS NOTES

News Department

Big news here is videotape - which opens up an exciting vista of things to come. "Videotape" - meaning the News Dept. has now joined CBS news and its world-wide film coverage. Each day at 5 p.m. the network feeds ten minutes of late-breaking newscast on closed circuit. It is taped for replay at 6:30 and 11:00 pm. And with satellite TV coverage coming soon, our joining of electronic hands with CBS will mean "Instant News" practically anywhere in the world.

And, welcome aboard the electronic wave to Stan Simon, erstwhile State-desk reporter from the Hartford Courant.

TIC TOC REPORTERS:

Beverly Adams, Jim A... Toys
Bennett, Bill Cont
Len Doughty, Bill
Jerry Haber, Ba
John Lanzieri, I
Woody Sloan, S
Edi