



# TIC TOC

April 1969

## STORY ON COMPLAINTS IN CURRENT "TV GUIDE"

A feature story on WTIC-TV's experiences with telephone complaints appears in the current (April 26) issue of "TV Guide," which has the largest circulation of any magazine in the nation.

According to the "TV Guide" story, viewers in the southern New England area served by WTIC-TV tend to use the telephone most when they're angry about changes made in entertainment programs, even when the changes are caused by events of great magnitude. The story was written by Dick Ahles.

During 1968, for example, most of the complaints received by WTIC-TV dealt with the pre-emption of entertainment programming for such events as space flights, coverage of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert Kennedy and hearings before committees of the U.S. Senate. "TV Guide" noted that 67 viewers called to protest the cancellation of regular daytime programming for the funeral of Dr. King on April 9, 1968 while only one person called to thank the station for carrying the funeral. When Senator Kennedy's funeral was telecast, "the score was 32 to nothing in favor of complaints."

"TV Guide" also noted that WTIC-TV received more complaints during last summer's relatively calm Republican National Convention than during the raucous Democratic Convention in Chicago. There were 159 complaints from viewers who preferred summer repeats to the living history of the Republican Convention and 74 from those who objected to the coverage of the Democrats. The controversial coverage of the clash between Chicago police and demonstrators did not appear to concern the WTIC-TV

(Continued on Page 3)

## COMPANY, NABET REACH CONTRACT AGREEMENT

Terms of a contract between the Company and staff members represented by the National Association of Broadcasting Employees and Technicians were agreed upon on April 21.

The contract agreement was reached after lengthy negotiations between management and the engineering and TV studio crewmen represented by NABET.

## COMPUTER WORK AREA TO BE CONSTRUCTED

Construction of the work area adjacent to the computer room will begin within a few days.

When construction is completed, probably within a week, those involved in the computer operation will be moved to the new area.

Details will be announced as soon as plans are complete.

## DWYER, SWITAJ ACTIVE IN PHOTO ASSOCIATION

Bob Dwyer is serving on the executive board of the New England Region, National Press Photographers Association and Dennis Switaj has been named competition chairman of the Region's annual newsfilm competition.

Dwyer and Switaj also served as judges in the Rhode Island newsfilm competition sponsored by the association.

## NO SUNSHINE AT SUNRISE SERVICE

There was plenty of rain and wind and absolutely no sunshine at the Easter Sunrise Service on Constitution Plaza this year.

Yet despite the foul weather, radio and television production and engineering personnel managed to produce programs of the usual high standard.

Television encountered the greatest problems. Cameras could not be lined up and there was never an opportunity to set supplementary lighting prior to the service. President Patricelli said that the radio and TV engineers and cameramen who withstood the weather "deserve commendation for the fine results they achieved."

## LETTERS

(Beginning with this issue, a letter from a viewer listener will be selected every month for inclusion in TIC TOC. They will be selected on the basis of general interest. Some will be complimentary, like the following letter, and there will be others as well.)

General Manager  
WTIC AM-FM Radio

Dear Sir:

With this Saturday's afternoon broadcast of "Adriana Lecouvreur" from the Metropolitan Opera the end of another broadcast season is upon us.

The New Britain Opera Club wishes to express its most sincere thanks to Station WTIC for bringing us the beautiful matinee broadcasts direct from Lincoln Center each Saturday afternoon during the broadcast season. It seems that many of us just take it for granted that we will be enjoying these performances each year and just never take the time to thank those responsible for the many hours of entertainment these broadcasts bring to lovers of good music in this area.

In this fast moving world of ours it seems people just do not take the time to express thanks for something good. This letter we hope will in some way make up for all of these people who love the Met broadcasts but never take the time to say so. Our own group is made up of opera lovers, and we also know many others in this area who love the broadcasts.

Thank you again for this wonderful privilege. We hope it will continue for many years to come. Our deepest appreciation to all of you who are responsible for these fine broadcasts.

George R. Zenobi for The  
New Britain Opera Club

## NO THANKS TO KING DONORS

Those who sent contributions to the King Fund in care of WTIC Radio and Television aren't going to receive thank-you notes this year.

Instead, the cost of postage for the notes will be added to the King Fund.

The donation in lieu of thank-you notes is being made at the suggestion of one of the contributors to the Fund. The contributor, recalling a note of thanks she received from WTIC last year, suggested that they would do more good if it were used for the King Fund.

And so, the 1,289 viewers and listeners who sent King Fund contributions to WTIC and Channel 3, will receive our sincere thanks.

And the King Fund, on their behalf, will get a check for \$77.34, representing 1,289 six-cent stamps

## WTIC-FM A HIT IN SAUDI ARABIA

WTIC-FM provided entertainment for an audience in Saudi Arabia according to word just received from a retired Air Force officer.

Col. J. E. O'Halloran, now living in Stafford Springs, recently wrote Robert E. Smith a thank-you note for the fine music he provided the O'Hallorans via tape in Saudi Arabia.

The colonel said he taped a two year supply of programming while stationed at Westover Air Force Base. He made the tapes at his home in Simsbury and recorded just about every opera broadcast on WTIC-FM for three years.

"We had quite a library of operas and also a good number of hours of 'Your Box at the Opera,' symphonies and dinner music from WTIC-FM."

## GARTNER-SAXE

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gartner of 60 Magnolia Hill, West Hartford have announced the engagement of their daughter, Sheila Rita, to Mr. Philip David Saxe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Saxe, of San Francisco, California.

Miss Gartner was graduated from Conard High, and Boston University in Boston, Mass. She is currently employed by WTIC Television as a continuity writer.

Mr. Saxe is a graduate of California Polytechnic College, and is employed by Pratt and Whitney Aircraft as an Equipment Development Engineer.

A July 27 wedding is planned.

## PARCELLS IMMERSSED IN LIGHT OPERA

The Parcells are completely immersed in this years Simsbury Light Opera production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Gondoliers." Joan is on stage as a member of the chorus, and Harry, in addition to serving on the board of directors, is chairman of the lighting and sound committee. Performances were April 25 and 26, and May 2 and 3.

## SHEILA BOWE IS VALEDICTORIAN

Sheila Bowe has been named valedictorian of her graduating class at Canton High School. She is top ranking senior and has been a consistent high honors student. In addition to her scholastic endeavors she played the leading role in the senior play "Ask Any Girl."

She will attend Smith College in the fall and plans to be a drama major. The new performing arts complex at Smith provides facilities for training in theatre, television, radio, ballet and music.

## STORY IN "TV GUIDE" (Continued from Page 1)

audience, according to the article. The station's record of phone calls for August 28 shows that three people called to protest "police brutality;" three said Walter Jonkite wasn't doing a good job; five said he was doing a good job and two just wanted to say they were pleased to see the "hippies" getting "what they deserved."



## FARM YOUTH PROGRAM ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT

The WTIC Farm Youth Program has completed its 21st year and Frank Atwood prepared his annual report for our Farm Youth Program Advisory Committee at its meeting April 23.

The no-interest loans to boys and girls for the purchase of purebred dairy and beef heifer calves climbed to a total of \$173,240.18 for the 21 years of the program and the number of loans reached 1,086.

As he has done each year since the 10th anniversary of the program, Frank secured biographical information about each of the people who first came into the program 10 years earlier. There were 52 new partners of WTIC in the program that year, in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Ten of these are now dairy farmers. Ten are in the armed services. Six are in occupations related to agriculture, including two professional 4-H Club leaders, one operating farm equipment on a custom basis, one working for a farm supply cooperative, one lumberman and one man working in a supermarket chain.

There are two in college, two working as policemen. Four young women gave their occupation as housewife. There are carpenters, mechanics, one insurance company employee, one male nurse, one man in a training course for business management.

Two young men have lost their lives in automobile accidents.

Frank had to report that 1968 was a bad year for losses, all due to accident or disease. There were six of these cases and WTIC, according to our partnership contract, cancelled the loans. Losses for the entire period of 21 years and well over 1,000 loans have represented 4.1 per cent of the investment, a figure that cattle men on the committee have said repeatedly is better than they expect in their own herds.

WTIC paid the expenses for four young people, chosen for their outstanding work, to attend national conventions of the 4-H Clubs and the Future Farmers.

The Frank Atwood Trophy was awarded for the 15th consecutive year at the Eastern States Exposition to a 4-H Club member who shows a heifer from his own breeding and also has a top record in 4-H Club achievement.

The State Grange Fair, a new enterprise in 1968, held a fitting and showing contest for WTIC heifers only and will repeat that event at the fair in July, 1969.