



TIC TOC

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VIET NAM HOSPITAL NEARS COMPLETION; SURPLUS WILL BUY NEEDED SUPPLIES

The hospital building at An Khe, being constructed with funds contributed by the staff and audience of WTIC TV-AM-FM, is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in June.

And on the day the 60-bed ward opens, it will be "filled to capacity," according to Capt. Larry McKinstry, the Army doctor in charge. The stream of refugees seeking the protection of the U. S. Army is increasing every day and causing a correspondingly large increase in the need for medical facilities.

The hospital building, in Viet Cong-controlled territory, is being constructed with \$4,000 raised earlier this year. Some donations are still being made and a surplus of \$2,400 or more will be used to purchase some of the many supplies McKinstry needs for the hospital.

The hospital's basic needs were listed by McKinstry in his last letter to Kuntz. They range from a refrigerator and washing machine to a microscope and incubator.

There are only two incubators in all of Viet Nam—one in Saigon and the other in Hue, cities more than 300 miles from An Khe. All premature babies born at the hospital in An Khe now die.

The lack of a sterilizer means that all instruments, syringes, needles and the like must be sent to the Division Hospital to be sterilized and the lack of a microscope makes diagnosis extremely difficult.

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WTIC-TV'S REGATTA TELECAST TO REACH NEW YORK, BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA VIEWERS

WTIC-TV's coverage of the one hundred and first Harvard-Yale Regatta June 18 will be available to millions of television viewers in the New York City, Philadelphia and Boston areas as well as southern New England. The audience could be the largest ever reached by a WTIC-TV program.

The hour-long WTIC-TV telecast of the Regatta, held each June on the Thames River in New London, will be broadcast simultaneously on WPIX-TV in New York City, WFIL in Philadelphia and WBZ-TV, Boston.

The telecast, produced each year since 1963 by WTIC-TV, has always been carried simultaneously by WBZ-TV, but the June 18 telecast will be the first to reach audiences in New York and Philadelphia. George Bowe is in charge of all phases of the telecast.

Air time for the Regatta will be 6:30 p.m., with the varsity race scheduled to begin at 7. Coverage of the varsity race will be preceded by videotaped coverage of the freshman and junior varsity races held earlier in the day and film of the varsity crews in action in other competitions.

George Ehrlich, WTIC-TV's two-time winner of the "Connecticut Sportscaster of the Year" award, will be anchor man, assisted by Arnold Dean.

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ROBERT E. SMITH ELECTED BY TWO MUSIC ASSOCIATIONS

Robert E. Smith has been re-elected president of the Civic Music Assn. of Greater Hartford and elected to his first three-year term as an active trustee of the Connecticut Opera Assn.

He is the first president to be elected to more than two terms in the Civic Music Associations's 12-year history and he formerly served the Opera Association as an honorary trustee.

WTIC TOURNAMENT ATTRACTS RECORD NUMBER OF GOLFERS

Twenty-three golfers, a record number, are entered in the 1966 WTIC Golf Tournament.

Co-chairmen George Dawson and Dick Oeser have announced three play dates--June 21, July 13 and on a date to be announced in late August. The site will be selected soon.

Those entered in the tournament can play on any of the three or all three dates. The winners of each of the three rounds will participate in the play-off for the championship in September.

The Callaway System of automatic handicapping will be used in the tournament to eliminate the necessity of turning in three 18-hole scores to establish a handicap. With the Callaway System, handicaps are decided on the day of play.

LINDA LAWTON COMPETES IN CANADIAN SONGFEST

Linda Lu Lawton recently traveled to Kingston, Ontario, Canada, with the Mountain Laurel Chapter of Sweet Adelines, Inc., where the barbershop chorus entered their fifth Regional Competition.

Directed by Vincent A. Zito of Hartford, the Mountain Laurel Chorus placed first in the competition with 16 other choruses from the Northeastern Region No. 1, which includes all of the New England states, eastern New York State and eastern Canada.

Miss Lawton, immediate past president of the Mountain Laurel Chapter, is Convention Chairman for the 1967 Regional Convention to be held in Hartford next spring.

The Village Charmers, one of the quartets in the local chorus, placed third in the Regional Quartet Competition on Friday, April 29, in Kingston. They are now eligible to enter the International Quartet Competition to be held in October in Huston, Texas.

FRED EDWARDS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PTA

Fred Edwards has been elected president of the Highland Park School PTA in Manchester.

He previously served as vice president and chairman of the PTA's Ways and Means Committee.

MC GUINNESS HEADS M-S DRIVE IN EAST HARTFORD

Joe McGuinness served as chairman of the multiple sclerosis fund drive in East Hartford May 1 to 7.

The fund drive chairman ship was just one of many civic enterprises that have occupied McGuinness in recent months. He is also currently chairman of the board of the Connecticut Junior Chamber of Commerce and a former state president. He is also a Cub Scoutmaster and recently acted as coordinating chairman of a \$175,000 fund drive to build a 4-H Outdoor Center for Hartford County.

WTIC-TV'S REGATTA TELECAST (Continued from page 1)

Eight cameras will be used to cover the only four-mile crew race in the United States. The cameras will be placed to provide viewers with precise shell positions at the course's one, two and three-mile markers. Two starting line cameras, four along the course and two at the finish line will provide continuous stroke-by-stroke coverage of the race. One of the course cameras will be aboard the yacht, "Delphine," and another will be on a smaller boat, "Stroller IV," following the racing shells.

Harvard first raced Yale on Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H., in 1852. The Regatta, held 100 times in the last 113 years, was shifted from New Hampshire to New London in 1878. Harvard has 53 victories in the closely-contested series to Yale's 47.

WILKINSON TO SPEAK IN SOUTH GLASTONBURY

Dave Wilkinson will be the featured speaker at South Glastonbury's Memorial Day program. The program will be held at the Still Hill Cemetery at the conclusion of the annual Memorial Day Parade on Saturday evening May 28.

VIET NAM HOSPITAL NEAR COMPLETION
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A refrigerator would enable the hospital to store penicillin, blood and vaccines for plague, cholera, phoid, diptheria and other diseases. Patients now have to be sent 10 miles by helicopter to get one shot.

The hospital laundry is done by hand and this time-consuming job could be accomplished more efficiently with a washing machine.

The hospital has a great need for fans to keep the patients as cool as possible in a climate where the temperature frequently reaches 120 degrees in the shade, and for ice machines to be used to combat the high fevers that accompany most of the diseases suffered by children.

Officials at Hartford Hospital have agreed to provide advice on how to stretch the available funds to purchase as much of the needed equipment as possible. None of the items listed above can be bought in Vietnam.

A plaque, noting that the building was constructed with funds donated by the WTIC staff and audience, will be placed on the hospital building by the Army.

Among the donations recently received was one for \$50 from the sixth grade at the Avery Street School in Wapping. The money, according to student Robin Sandenburgh, was raised at a fair. "We had a popcorn stand, sidewalk cafe, fortune telling booth, wishing well, a magic show and a lot of games. We invited the whole school...and everyone bought something. They all had fun except that the popcorn and lemonade ran out before the fair was half over."

This money, raised by children in a small Connecticut town, will help buy a sterilizer or an incubator that will save the lives of infants in a hospital deep in Viet Cong territory.

"RFD 3," "PERCEPTION"
ADDED TO COLOR ROSTER

Two more local programs were televised in color for the first time this month.

Frank Atwood's "RFD 3" and Dick Bertel's "Perception" had colorful subjects for their first color programs May 7 and 8. Atwood presented a fashion show, featuring 24 4-H girls modeling dresses they designed and made for 4-H clothing projects, and Bertel presented a ballet "Nowhere a Go Go," created and produced by the Hartford School of Ballet.

"RFD 3" and "Perception" join "Ranger Andy," "What in the World" and "The Brad Davis Show" on the roster of color programs presented on Connecticut's only all-color station.

UN DELEGATES, BANK PRESIDENTS,
BUSINESSMEN, KIDS TAKE TOURS

United Nations delegates from three continents, 75 mutual savings bank presidents from 15 nations, businessmen from Maine, Arkansas, and Texas and hundreds of school children were among those recently touring Broadcast House and Constitution Plaza.

Visitors also included the national chairman of the Children of the American Revolution, the granddaughter of the late WTIC band leader, Norman Cloutier, and Channel 30 weather forecaster, Cavelle Jobert, who was given a tour after competing in the annual "clean-up, fix-up" race on Market Street.

Dozens of schools have selected Broadcast House and the Plaza for springtime class trips and other youngsters have toured with 4-H clubs and Scout troupes.

In addition to the tours that have kept Pat Dowd, Eileen Berube and Dianne Thomas busy during normal business hours, Frank Atwood conducted a tour at 7:30 one morning for a group of 4-H Club girls from Litchfield County, who dropped by at 5:30 to appear on his program.

COOL ADVICE

To keep cool and benefit from the air conditioning, you should keep all windows closed and close the vertical blinds when the sun is shining directly on your side of the building.

More than 50 percent of the sun's heat rays are reflected when the blinds are closed and the result is worth the effort.

FIBBER MC GEE VISITS BROADCAST HOUSE, RECALLS COLORFUL CAREER WITH BERTEL

"Fibber McGee" dropped by earlier this month to visit the radio station that broadcast his program every Tuesday night at 9:30 for 18 years.

Jim Jordan, who was "Fibber McGee" to his late wife Marian's "Molly" from 1935 to 1953, was in Connecticut to visit some old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Andrews, before flying to Europe for a vacation.

While at Broadcast House, Jordan taped an interview with Dick Bertel for "Americana" and appeared on the "Ranger Andy Show."

Jim and Marian Jordan were a vaudeville piano-singing act when they made their radio debut in "radio's no-dough era," Jordan said. "We had known each other as kids and were married in 1917, just after I went into the Army. When the war ended, we played in vaudeville for a few years and appeared on radio for the first time in Chicago in 1926. We were to remain on radio until Marian became ill in 1960."

Glenn Rowell, a member of the popular WTIC "Gene and Glenn" team in the late 1930s and early '40s, "was one of the first people to be paid to perform on radio and Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll were next. Gosden and Correll, radio's famous 'Amos 'n' Andy,' were known as 'Sam and Henry' then, when they beat out Marian and me for a paying job on radio."

Jordan said the "Fibber McGee and Molly" characters evolved from others he and his wife did on early radio shows as "The Smith Family" and on "The Smack Out Show." The latter show was named for a store owner, played by Jordan, who constantly explained he was "smack out of that, but I'll have it first thing in the morning."

"Fibber McGee and Molly" were born after the Jordans teamed with a talented comedy writer named Don Quinn, "who stayed with us throughout our radio career, right up to our days on 'Monitor'" in the late 1950s.

"By the time Don was writing for us, we were earning \$200 a week. Marian, a union pianist, was making \$140 and I was paying Quinn \$40 of the \$60 I was getting. In those days, if you didn't write your own material, you kept it quiet."

Quinn arranged for the Jordans to "sneak an audition" with the Johnson Wax Co., which was to be their sponsor for practically their entire radio career, and the company representative wanted a more imaginative name than the Smith Family. "Don came up with 'Fibber McGee.'"

"We had the best people in the world working on that show," said Jordan. "Remember Bill Thompson, who played 'Wallace Whimple,' the fellow who'd talk about 'Sweetie Puss,' his big, old wife? And there was the Old Timer and Doc Gamble, played for years by the late Arthur Q. Bryan.

"Gale Gordon, who's still a star with Lucille Ball, was Mayor LaTrivia, of course, and people sometimes forget that Hal Peary introduced 'The Great Gildersleeve' on our show."

"And," said Jordan, "there was a fellow out of Hartford" (and WTIC) "named Ed Begley, who was 'Kramer, the druggist.' The druggist was an offstage character, who never spoke, until we got Begley and he was really great.

"It's funny," said Jordan, "but people tend to forget some of the characters, but they never forget the closet. We didn't use a door, but we had a man who piled a lot of junk on the top of a step ladder. He'd stand on the ladder and on cue, he'd knock the stuff off. In our last 10 years on the air, we did the closet only a couple of times a year because we didn't want to wear it thin, but people still remember it."