



TIC TOC

January 1967

STEELE APPOINTED CHIEF ANNOUNCER; EHRlich TAKES OVER SPORTS SHOWS

The appointment of Bob Steele as chief announcer of WTIC was announced Dec. 23 by President Morency.

In announcing Steele's appointment, Mr. Morency pointed out that "the title of chief announcer has been given to only three others in the 41-year history of WTIC. It is extremely fitting that the fourth should be Bob Steele, a man who has brought pleasure and delight to a vast radio and television audience for so many years." As chief announcer, Steele will supervise the 16-man announcing staff of WTIC TV-AM-FM.

In his new post, Steele continues his popular morning radio program, but he no longer broadcasts evening sports programs on WTIC Radio and TV. George Ehrlich, who has been Connecticut's "Sportscaster of the Year" by vote of state sportscasters and writers for the past two years, has succeeded Steele as host of radio's "Strictly Sports" and TV's "Close-up on Sports."

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AM TRANSMITTER WORKS BETTER THAN EVER

The AM transmitter is performing better today than when it was new--nearly 20 years ago.

That's the word from Director of Engineering Harold Dorschug at the conclusion of the annual proof of performance tests required by the FCC.

Dorschug said the transmitter's improved performance is due to the effort of people like Pat Clancy, Len Doughty, Steve Myers and John Reno and a constant drive to keep up with technological improvements.

The proof of performance tests are conducted on AM and FM transmitters each fall.

STATION BUYS 5 COLOR CAMERAS TO REPLACE 2 BOUGHT IN 1965

Five new color television cameras, valued at \$350,000, have been purchased by WTIC-TV to replace the two cameras installed by the station in 1965.

The new cameras, manufactured by General Electric, have replaced not only the station's first color cameras, but the conventional, black and white cameras located in the two television studios at Broadcast House. When installation of the new cameras is completed, every program originating in the WTIC-TV studios will be televised in color.

The new cameras have Plumbicon tubes, which enhance the sharpness of the picture, particularly in receivers equipped for only black and white pictures. Earlier color cameras often produced pictures that were somewhat "fuzzy" when seen in black and white.

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WATERBURY PICTURE PROBLEM UNCOVERED BY JOHN RENO

Some clever detective work by John Reno restored Channel 3 service to a large residential area in Waterbury earlier this month.

After receiving complaints about the poor picture in Waterbury, Director of Engineering Harold Dorschug sent Reno, armed with a

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GRANDSON FOR PATRICELLIS

The Leonard Patricellis became grandparents again Jan. 9 when a son, Thomas Reagan, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Patricelli at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C.

Young Thomas' father is now legislative counsel to U.S. Sen. Jacob Javits of New York after spending a year as a White House Fellow assigned to Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

IT MUST BE THE AIR IN THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

There must be something about sportscasting at WTIC that transforms skilled sports prognosticators into psuedo-Steeles.

George Ehrlich wasn't long on the job as host of "Strictly Sports" and "Close-Up on Sports" when he out-Steeled Steele and picked the Kansas City Chiefs to win the Super Bowl.

Steele, now doing his sports selecting on the morning radio show, picked the Packers.

CHRISTMAS WAS THE SEASON FOR PLAZA COIN TOSSING

More coins were tossed into the Constitution Plaza Fountain during the recent Christmas Festival of Light than in all the months that have passed since the Plaza was completed and dedicated in 1964.

From April 1964 to November 1966 Plaza visitors tossed \$1,703.62 into the fountain, but from November 25, 1966 to January 6, 1967, visitors to the Festival of Light tossed in an additional \$1,778.05.

The beneficiary of all this coin-tossing is the Children's Clinic at Hartford's Institute of Living, where emotionally disturbed youngsters from the Greater Hartford area receive treatment. Since 1964, the clinic has been given \$3,481.67 in coins. A bronze plaque on the fountain informs visitors that coins tossed into the fountain are used to help patients at the clinic.

The Christmas coins have just been removed from the fountain, washed, counted and presented to Dr. Francis J. Braceland, psychiatrist-in-chief at the Institute of Living. The presentation was made at Broadcast House by President Morency and Vice Chairman Roger C. Vins.

MC GUINNESS RECEIVES HARTFORD JAYCEE HONOR

Joseph P. McGuinness of the Radio Sales Staff has been named a Life Member of the Hartford Jaycees.

The official presentation will be made at the monthly meeting of the Hartford Jaycees on Jan. 25 at their dinner meeting at Valle's Steakhouse. This is the first time in the history of the Hartford chapter that a Life Membership has been awarded to a man who has not been a former President.

McGuinness is past President of the Connecticut Jaycees and was the first chairman of the board of that organization. He is also a Life Member of the Connecticut Jaycees.

He is currently secretary of the Connecticut Citizens for Better Health, an organization now actively engaged in promoting legislation to control air pollution; assistant district commissioner in East Hartford for scouting and Cubmaster of his own pack of 55 boys and district representative for the Connecticut JCI Senate.

He also holds two unusual awards received while state president: Admiral in the Navy of Nebraska by proclamation of the Governor of Nebraska and a Kentucky Colonel by appointment of the Governor of Kentucky.

MILLER GETS HEART FUND POST

Ross Miller has been named special events chairman of the 1967 Heart Fund campaign in the Greater Hartford area.

Announcement of his appointment was made by the Heart Fund Jan. 18.

FOR A DELIGHTFUL MUSICAL EVENING

Menahem Pressler will perform the Chopin's Piano Concerto #2 in F Minor with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday evening, February 15. The Liszt "Faust Symphony" is also scheduled.

The Company has a limited number of tickets for this performance which may be obtained by calling Miss Burbank.

PASSES AVAILABLE FOR ATHENEUM EVENTS

Our corporate membership in the Wadsworth Atheneum has been renewed and passes are available to staff members for special events.

Notices of special events will continue to be posted.

JEAN COLBERT WINS "SLIPPER" AWARD

Jean Colbert was one of ten runners-up in the twelfth semi-annual Golden Slipper Awards for the most comprehensive coverage of news about footwear.

The awards are made by the National Footwear Institute. Seven hundred and eleven entries were submitted from fashion editors and broadcasters.

WEST HARTFORD MAN ENDS 23 YEARS OF WONDERING THANKS TO WTIC-TV

Twenty-three years ago, Rex O'Meara of 9 Oakwood Ave., West Hartford went to see Dick Powell and Linda Darnell in a cliff hanger entitled "It Happened Tomorrow."

The picture was good, but just at the most exciting moment, the power in the theatre failed and the patrons were given rain checks and invited to come back and see the end of the movie the following day.

But O'Meara couldn't make it. He was in the Army and his outfit was shipped out the next day. He never did get back to Columbia, South Carolina and that theatre, and he often wondered how "It Happened Tomorrow" ended.

Last week, he found out. He turned to Channel 3's Homemaker's Movie and there was "It Happened Tomorrow" at just the point where the power failed in Columbia back in 1944.

Now, he hopes WTIC-TV will schedule the movie again because he discovered that after 23 years, he'd pretty well forgotten how "It Happened Tomorrow" begins.

TURLEK-MARINE

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen G. Turlek of New Britain have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Irene T. Turlek, to Joseph A. Marine, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Marine of Southington.

Miss Turlek, a graduate of New Britain High School, is secretary to Assistant Program Manager William Dwyer. Mr. Marine, a laboratory technician at the General Electric Co., Plainville, is a graduate of E. C. Goodwin Technical School.

An April 29 wedding is planned.

STATION BUYS 5 COLOR CAMERAS
TO REPLACE 2 BOUGHT IN 1965
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Since 1965, WTIC-TV has purchased or ordered color equipment valued at more than \$750,000.

In announcing the installation of the new color equipment, President Morency noted that WTIC-TV has been pioneering in color television since 1961 "when we became the first Connecticut station to install equipment to televise local color film programs." He said the station installed the first color videotape recorders in 1964 and the first color cameras a year later.

WATERBURY PICTURE PROBLEM
UNCOVERED BY JOHN RENO
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field strength meter, to find the source of the trouble. Using the meter as a directional finder, Reno first tracked the interference to an area near the WATR Radio transmitter, but discovered that the radio station was not causing the herringbone pattern that was distorting the Channel 3 picture in Waterbury.

On his next visit to Waterbury, Reno, accompanied by John Welch, backtracked a quarter of a mile from the radio station and traced the trouble to a private residence. There was nobody home and Reno returned that night to discover the owner of the offending set was a "rather large" citizen. But he was friendly and invited Reno in to look at his television set. It took practically no time for Reno to discover that the interference was caused by an improperly installed booster amplifier. Reno moved the amplifier and showed the set owner how his television picture could be improved without having to use it.

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Steele came to WTIC in 1936. A native of Kansas City, Mo., he was an amateur and professional boxer, motorcycle racer, movie extra and stunt man and stadium public address announcer before being given a six-month trial as an announcer.

In his 30 years at WTIC, Steele has become the best-known broadcasting personality and possibly the best-known public personality in Connecticut.

The sports programs, which he concluded on Dec. 30, have probably been responsible for his greatest claim to fame or notoriety--as the commentator who specializes in picking the wrong team or individual to win. Coaches and athletes have actually called him and asked him to refrain from picking them in order to give them a better chance to win.

Although he no longer does sports broadcasts, Steele continues to pick winners--as a public service"--on his morning shows.

DOUGLAS DORSCHUG
IN SOUTH VIET NAM

PFC Douglas Dorschug, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dorschug, recently arrived in South Viet Nam, where he has been assigned General William Westmoreland's Military Assistance Command.

Dorschug was graduated first in his class at the Signal Corps School, Fort Monmouth, N.J. and sent to the Strategic Communications Long Lines Detachment in Saigon as a telephone carrier equipment repairman.

WTIC NEWS SERVING
300 MORE STATIONS

The Defense Department has selected WTIC Radio to prepare and broadcast weekly Connecticut news reports on 300 Armed Forces Radio stations in 29 foreign countries.

The Defense Department is selecting a station in each state to prepare brief newscasts for broadcast overseas. WTIC's reports will be prepared under the supervision of News Director Paul Kuntz.