



#### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This has been an exciting and eventful year for all of us and as we look forward to even greater activity in the area of special programs, the New Year promises great variety. 1963 was a year in which we worked together with great harmony in many areas, and it is my sincere hope that the same harmony will attend our efforts in the new year.

Our energies must constantly be directed toward the enhancement of our product - programming - to entertain and inform our audience and produce results for our clients. Only constant improvement will keep us in our proper place in the community.

The meaning of the spirit of Christmas which began long ago will know no end if we keep in mind that our highest endeavor is to serve our fellow men.

I wish all of you and your loved ones great happiness this wonderful season, and in the year ahead, the joy of accomplishment.

#### SPECIAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE CREATED

A committee on special programs and projects has been created to serve as a catalyst for the development of program ideas and as a clearing house for ideas suggested by staff members.

Members of the committee are  
(Cont. on p. 3)

#### 1963 — A YEAR OF CHANGE

1963 was a year of change for WTIC TV-AM-FM.

The sudden death of Vice President and General Manager Walter C. Johnson and the appointment of Leonard J. Patricelli as his successor were the events of greatest significance to the company and staff.

During 1963, many key staff members undertook new duties. Vice President - Radio Programs Bernard L. Mullins retired and a Special Programs Division for Radio and Television was created.

Each month had its major events:

January: Ken Smith was promoted to television program manager. The station produced its first "instant documentary," in the words of Tom Eaton, when Stan Simon and Dick Heinze returned from a news assignment in Middletown with material for a 30-minute program on the late Robert Frost. What began as a news assignment on the morning of Robert Frost's death became a documentary after Simon and Heinze completed an interview with Frost's old friend, former Governor Wilbert Snow. The program was filmed, edited and telecast in a single day.

February: "Warning: May Be Habit-Forming," a documentary on the use of narcotics-based cough preparations by those seeking "kicks" was aired Feb. 5. The documentary warned that use of such cough preparations was increasing steadily and revealed that a start on drug addiction was easy to obtain at any corner drug store.

March: Vice President - Television Programs Leonard Patricelli and Vice President - Radio Sales Robert Tyrol testified before committees of the General Assembly on pending legislation. Tyrol urged adoption of a stronger "right to know" law to plug loopholes in existing legislation. Patricelli, testifying on a movie censorship bill, urged the bill's defeat, saying "there is no such thing as a little censorship." The bill did not become law.

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YEAR OF CHANGE  
(Cont. from p. 1)

April: Walter C. Johnson, vice president and general manager, died suddenly on April 16. On April 23, President Morency announced the appointment of Leonard J. Patricelli as vice president and general manager, and Robert S. Tyrol as secretary of the corporation, a post previously held by Mr. Johnson.

Regional Sales Manager Ernie Peterson marked his twenty-fifth anniversary with the company on April 10. Also in April.... Ed Begley became the first WTIC alumnus to win an Oscar... "Hartford, All-America," a WTIC Radio documentary, won an honorable mention in the annual BMI History Contest, and Bob Steele became a grandfather.

May: More than 600 persons attended a testimonial in honor of Bob Steele at the Statler on May 22. Governor Dempsey, Columnist Red Smith and a host of other well-known persons attended the dinner.

TV Production Manager George Bowe was promoted to assistant program manager; Paul Abert was named production manager; Bill Dwyer succeeded Abert as assistant production manager; Dave Calkins was named film booking supervisor and Dan McAuliffe was promoted to assistant director.

June: WTIC-TV televised the Harvard-Yale Regatta for the first time in the 111-year history of the country's oldest college sports event. The coverage was a success, even though the Regatta was postponed by rain for the first time in 28 years and the project was extended from one to two days.

Governor Dempsey signed a bill that makes it impossible to purchase narcotics-based cough medicines without prescriptions. The Governor credited the WTIC-TV documentary, "Warning: May Be Habit-Forming" for its contribution to passage of the bill by making the public and legislators aware of the problems caused by easily obtained narcotics.

Brad Davis received the VFW Distinguished Citizenship Award for Outstanding Service to Youth.

July: Governor Dempsey appointed President Morency to the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. The governor's other appointees were Miss Marian Anderson, the famous contralto, and Charles Cunningham, curator of Hartford's Wadsworth Atheneum. The commission will recommend "appropriate methods to encourage participation in and appreciation of the arts" to the Governor and the General Assembly in January 1965.

August: The radio and television stations provided the best coverage ever of the Insurance City Open at Wethersfield.

President Morency announced plans for a staff party at the Statler in October.

September: A Special Programs Division for Radio and Television was created to coordinate and oversee the production of radio and television documentaries and other public affairs programs. George Bowe was named manager of the new division and Bob duFour was named assistant TV program manager. Olga Lampard, who had assisted duFour in the Continuity Department, was named continuity director.

October: Bernard L. Mullins, vice president - radio programs and a member of the staff since 1935, retired on Oct. 31. Sixty-two colleagues attended a dinner in Mr. Mullins' honor at the Hartford Golf Club on the eve of his retirement.

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MILLER, WILKINSON GET  
PROGRAM DEPT. POSTS

The appointment of Ross Miller as program manager of WTIC Radio to succeed the retired Bernard L. Mullins and the appointment of David T. Wilkinson to succeed Miller as assistant program manager were announced in November.

A native of Boston and a graduate of the Leland Powers School of the Theatre, Miller joined WTIC as an announcer in 1945. He was the host of a number of popular record programs from 1948 to December 1962, when he was promoted to assistant program manager.

Active in many civic and religious organizations, Miller has served as special events chairman of the Greater Hartford Heart Fund Drive and is a member of the Serra Club of Hartford, the Knights of Columbus and the New England Committee of the National Liturgical Conference.

He and his wife live at 374 North Quaker Lane, West Hartford. They have four children.

A Hartford native, Wilkinson attended the Wethersfield schools and is a 1958 graduate of Syracuse University. Before joining WTIC as a radio producer in 1959, he was production manager of WCCC in Hartford.

He and his wife live at 68 High Street, Glastonbury. They have one child.

BRINKLEY ON ICE

Radio and TV are having their impact on childhood classics. A youngster walked into the Hartford Public Library the other day and asked for "Hans Brinkley and His Silver Skates."

YEAR OF CHANGE  
(Cont. from p. 2)

More than 300 staff members and guests attended the WTIC dinner-dance at the Statler on Oct. 8.

WTIC-TV obtained the nation's first film of Bobby Doyle of Hartford, a figure in the Valachi Hearings on activities of the underworld's Cosa Nostra.

November: The radio and television stations participated in the historic coverage of the assassination of President Kennedy and the sad days that followed. WTIC Radio and Television were the only state stations to cover Connecticut people in Washington on the day of the President's funeral.

WTIC-TV pre-empted the first 16 minutes of "The Judy Garland Show" on Nov. 17 to present the first news conference of Professor Frederick Barghoorn of Yale on his return to the United States from a Russian prison. President Morency reacted to 75 complaints out of 76 calls by saying we'd do it again.

Ross Miller was named radio program manager, succeeding Bernard L. Mullins and Producer Dave Wilkinson was promoted to assistant program manager.

December: A committee on special programs and special projects was created to serve as a catalyst for the development of program ideas and as a clearing house for ideas suggested by staff members. The committee consists of Messrs. Morency, Patricelli, Eaton, Smith, Miller and Bowe.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS  
(Cont. from p. 1)

Messrs. Morency, Patricelli, Eaton, Smith, Miller and Bowe.

The committee was formed in order to give full consideration to all ideas for radio and/or television and to avoid duplication of effort in the two media.

As in the past, staff members are encouraged to submit program ideas to the radio or television program managers. These suggestions will be presented to the committee by the program managers.

The committee will hold regular meetings on the first Friday of each month.

#### FORMER STATION GUEST FROM HOLLAND WRITES OF PRESIDENT'S DEATH

In 1960 a young man from Holland, here on a Farm Youth Exchange program, was a guest on RFD 3. He is remembered by Emcee Frank Atwood, former TV Director Bob duFour and others who met him, not only for his big wooden shoes, but his quick smile and eagerness to learn all he could about the USA.

Frank Atwood received a remarkable letter from the young man, Wilhelm deVrieze, written on Monday, Nov. 25, the day of President Kennedy's funeral:

"While I turned from the fields where I had been plowing the last weeks, my thoughts were especially now in America, with the people, whom I got to know, with my host families, who loved their president so dearly. While I look south and west of me I see over the dyke in the little harbor the Dutch flag which hangs at half mast... and far away and yet so close to us there is a man laying in a dark spot with his eyes closed and heart not beating anymore. More to the northwest in back of our farm is our village and in the village is one big windmill, and way on the top, it is easy to see for everybody, flutters our three-color at half mast -- it is because of the man far away.

"It is a sad day in Holland where people love freedom, it is a sad day, in all the nations who love freedom, because he was one of them. He was their leader."

#### SIMMONS ENJOYS NEWS WORK IN CALIFORNIA, NEVADA

On Hand in the Newsroom, a dispatch from one who signs himself only as "Simmons." This presumably is a former Newsroom worker who migrated to California a few months ago.

Bob is covering the State Capitol at Sacramento for KNXT, a CBS TV station in Hollywood. He likes his work, which includes San Francisco two or three days a week, Reno now and then and occasionally the north country for human interest stories. Long, long hours, says Bob but a lot of independence and a chance for enterprise.

The Simmons' have already purchased a ranch-type home but Bob says the lots out there are lots, lots smaller than in Connecticut. The Simmons home address is 2208 Amanda Way, Sacramento, California.

#### WTIC DELAYS SIGN-OFF TO GET STRIKE WORD

WTIC Radio remained on the air 40 minutes later than usual on the morning of Dec. 10 in order to report the settlement of a threatened bus drivers' strike in Hartford, New Haven and Stamford.

At the usual 1 a.m. sign-off time, labor and management representatives were meeting with Connecticut Governor John N. Dempsey and the mayors of the three cities in the Governor's office here. A strike that would have crippled the cities was scheduled to begin at 3:30 a.m.

The decision to remain on the air after the usual sign-off time paid off at 1:23 when the Governor announced the strike settlement--on WTIC Radio. The station signed off 17 minutes later after WTIC reporters interviewed the Governor, the three mayors and other participants in the successful negotiations.

As a result, thousands of Connecticut residents, who expected to have difficulty getting to work, learned from WTIC that buses would be available.

#### STAFF MEMBERS ENTERTAIN UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

On December 15 the Women's Day Care Center of Hartford was the scene of a Christmas Party for 50 underprivileged children.

Floyd Richards and Bob Ellsworth provided the entertainment and Bill Hennessey played Santa Claus. Arrangments for the party, sponsored by the Cotillion Club of Hartford, were made by Betty Lange and Elise Sirman.

## BROADCAST #1 BOWLS 'EM OVER

Boasting 12 victories in its last 15 encounters, including a consecutive win skein of ten, Broadcast #1 has opened a slim, but important two-game lead in the Travelers Men's Club Bowling League.

Headed by Ernie Olivieri's 397 triple, last week, and impressive performances by captain Fred Edwards and Bob (Crazy Ball) King, the Broadcasters broke a two-way first place tie which had existed for three consecutive weeks.

Olivieri's kegglng prowess raised his average over the 109 mark and vaulted him into third place in the individual scoring race. Edwards pulled up over 105 and claims the league's tenth best individual average. Olivieri's 397, for three games, fell just three pins short of the "400" circle but left him with the season's high triple mark.

The holiday schedule break finds the Broadcasters two games ahead of Casualty Fire Claim and four in front of a Tabulating team that is considered the greatest threat to #1's title hopes. The two teams clash on January 8 in three games that will have important bearing on the season's final standings. Tabulating led the league for a number of weeks until the Broadcasters embarked on their ten game winning streak.

Broadcast #1 currently boasts a record of 26 wins and 13 losses for .667. The team's overall average stands at 505.

## WARDROBE FOR MY LADY

If you lost a black fur stole, a pair of glasses, a bead necklace, a pair of women's gloves, a right-hand leather glove, a black kerchief or a black jersey jacket and belt, you can claim them in the Business Office.

## FRANK ATWOOD ATTENDED FARM DIRECTORS' MEETING

Farm Program Director Frank Atwood attended the 20th annual meeting of the National Association of Television and Radio Farm Directors at Chicago at the end of November. He reports that of the 19 former presidents of NATRFD, 16 were present and recognized at the annual banquet. Frank was president of the organization in 1955.

Attendance at the NATRFD meeting was about 500. Of top interest to our man in Chicago were a debate on shipment of US wheat to Russia, a visit to a corn products refining plant outside Chicago that grinds 50 carloads of corn a day to make starch, corn oil and a variety of other products, and the chance to renew acquaintances with friends from all over the U.S. whom he had not seen for two years. Frank covered the convention and the opening of the National 4-H Club Congress, immediately following, by beeper phone. Ed Anderson sat in on the Frank Atwood Show for four mornings.

## STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY PLANNED FOR SHOREHAM

More than eighty staff members and guests are expected to attend the WTIC Christmas party from 5:15 to 7 this evening in the Executive Suite of the Shoreham Hotel.

Pat Budarz, Jim Glenn, Lew Krause, Betty Lange, Joe Lorrain and Dennis Switaj are in charge of arrangements.

## ROLLY DIRECTS PLAY AT WATERBURY THEATRE

Ronald Rolly was director of the first production of the season for the Waterbury Civic Theatre. The play was "Fifth Season," a comedy about the garment district and was staged November 8 and 9.

Rolly had been associated with the Theatre for nearly 10 years but this was the first major production ever given him to direct. He has directed scores of members for various "Perception" shows, the latest being a condensation of the famed melodrama, "The Drunkard."

