



# TIC TOC

November 1970

## ENGINEERS' COFFEE BUSINESS WILL CONCLUDE NOVEMBER 30

The engineers have decided to go out of the coffee business on Nov. 30.

The decision was prompted by the fact that construction of the Broadcast House addition is coming closer to the second floor "coffee shop."

Committee members Bill Conticello, George Dawson, Fred Edwards and Charlie Fitzgerald ran an operation --with the help of many coffee-making TV engineers--that managed to sell excellent coffee for a dime while making enough profit to contribute over \$1,000 to charity and \$369 to the WTIC Cheer Fund.

The engineers will have a going away party of business Christmas Party for the staff on Tuesday, Dec. 22, from 5 to 7 p.m. in Carleton Rooms A and B at the Sonesta. Guests will provide their own liquid refreshment, with the Coffee Committee providing solids.

## WTIC-BACKED AMENDMENT WINS DESPITE OPPOSITION

A Constitutional amendment requiring annual sessions of the Connecticut General Assembly, supported editorially by WTIC Radio and Television and opposed by nearly every daily newspaper in Connecticut, was approved by a huge margin on Election Day.

WTIC Radio and Television endorsed annual sessions in an editorial by President Leonard J. Patricelli on Oct. 30. The annual sessions amendment was opposed by The Hartford Courant, The Hartford Times, The New Haven Register, The New Haven Journal-Courier, The Bridgeport Post, The Bridgeport Telegram and other dailies.

The Hartford Courant, Connecticut's largest daily, printed several editorials in opposition to annual sessions, including one on Election Day.

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## WTIC RADIO, TELEVISION HAD BEST ELECTION COVERAGE EVER

WTIC Radio and Television were far ahead of all competition in providing swift, accurate and complete coverage of the 1970 election.

Virtually every member of the staff, working under the supervision of George Bowe and Tom Eaton, had a hand in contributing to the successful evening.

The complex new equipment purchased for the 1970 election worked perfectly--as did the 648 Jaycees who were assigned to the state's polling places.

Tom Eaton, Dick Bertel and Larrye deBear were the television reporters, with John Sablon providing special reports in Spanish. Bill Mill and Brad Davis had the radio assignment, with Spanish reports by Renya Piola.

## CONSTRUCTION TURNS UP SECOND GOOD LUCK SYMBOL

If there's anything luckier than finding a horseshoe when you're breaking ground for a new building, we can hope it's finding a second horseshoe when you're excavating for an addition to the same building.

When ground was broken at the site of what was to be Broadcast House--and Constitution Plaza--in 1960, the ceremony was greatly enhanced by the pleasant discovery of an aged and bent horseshoe.

The horseshoe was gold plated and now occupies a place of honor in the home of WTIC TV-AM-FM.

The second good luck symbol turned up in earth that had been moved for the addition now being constructed on the north side of Broadcast House.

Appropriately, for an addition to the new building, this second horseshoe once belonged to a pony.

## OPERA GUILD HONORS ROBERT E. SMITH

The 25th anniversary of Robert E. Smith's "Your Box" at the Opera" WTIC program was observed by the Connecticut Opera Association when Mr. Smith was given a silver salver on the stage of the Bushnell Memorial at the performance of "La Traviata" Nov. 17.

The Connecticut Opera Guild expressed its appreciation of the program and its 25th anniversary by presenting Robert E. Smith in a lecture titled, "The Importance of the Opera Star in the Development of the Phonograph" on Nov. 5, at which time he was given a silver brandy snifter, and a suitable accompanying bottle.

AHLES PROMOTED TO VP;  
HINCKLEY NAMED DIRECTOR

The promotion of Richard F. Ahles to vice president for public affairs of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. and the election of George Hinckley to the Broadcast-Plaza board of directors were announced Nov. 10 by President Patricelli, following a meeting of the directors.

Ahles joined WTIC in 1961 and was named information director in 1962 and director of public relations in 1969. In his new position, he will supervise the corporation's public affairs and public relations activities.

A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Ahles is a graduate of Bethany College in West Virginia. He served in the U.S. Army, was a reporter with the Wheeling, West Virginia Intelligencer and The Hartford Courant and assistant public relations director at Wesleyan University before coming to WTIC. He has written and produced a number of WTIC-TV documentaries, including "To Be Somebody," winner of a Regional Emmy Award in 1968.

Ahles lives on Mountain Road in Riverton with his wife and two sons.

Hinckley, a native of New York City and a graduate of Queens College, joined the Travelers in 1948 and served in St. Paul, Rochester, New York City and San Francisco before coming to the home office in 1960. He served as superintendent of agencies until 1966 when he was named associate director of research. Later that same year he was promoted to second vice president and associate director of research and in 1968, he was named vice president in the life, health and financial services department.

He and his wife live at 17 Sunset Terrace, West Hartford. They have three daughters.

WE GET LETTERS

Dear Mr. Patricelli:

I have received a letter from Mr. Roy Benjamin, TV Director, thanking me for cooperation offered him and his staff at Suffield High School during our tercentenary celebration.

I am pleased that he felt welcome and that we were cooperative in our treatment of him. I must, however, report to you that it was a distinct pleasure for all of us at Suffield High School to be visited by such a cooperative, hard-working and considerate group as Mr. Benjamin brought with him.

It was through the efforts of your group that we were able to send closed circuit television throughout our school for the Walter Cronkite visit and speech. We were also allowed to take and reproduce the whole program for ourselves and for neighboring schools. The cooperation and the thoughtfulness that your staff showed in exhibiting their magnificent riding studio to all concerned and their willingness to answer questions, even though rushed and harrassed, was an eye opener to myself and to the students and townspeople of Suffield. I take a dim regard of newsmen

NOTES FROM

*Nancy*

Happy Anniversary to ME!!! An entire year has breezed by since the first publication of "Notes from Nancy"... Does it seem that long to you? Parties...anniversaries...diamonds...bridal parties...babies. Cheers and tears... applause and hisses...it's been a very full year!

I'd like to introduce you to COOK E. JAR...but I can't...he's way down in Puerto Rico (and yes, that really is his name)...he's just one of the many men who brought oodles of sunshine into the lives of SUE MC GOVERN and PAULINE TRUDEAU during the first two days of their vacation...as the rains came down...see them for details.

Friday the 13th of any month surely brings bad luck...not this past month of November though...GENE MURIATY celebrated his birthday for the first time in 13 years here at 'TIC...cake and all...since we didn't notify him of the pending festivities, he wasn't able to prepare his usual poem in honor of the occasion.

It looks like the Wimbishes will be home for the holidays...their OWN home...MARY and WALTER expect to be moving in during the first or second week of December...just in time to celebrate...if they're not too exhausted...can you imagine Christmas shopping and moving taking place at the same time!

DAVE CALKINS is anxiously awaiting the arrival of his first grandchild...his daughter has everyone in the family holding its' breath for two weeks longer than expected...Speaking of great expectations...JAN RICCARDI is also waiting...her pet goldfish has just laid eggs...just think...the splash of tiny fins.

"Turkey in the Straw?"...no, Turkey in the Bag, as prepared by BRAD DAVIS...no matter how YOU cook it...enjoy it!

PETER KRUG JOINS  
NEWS DEPARTMENT

Peter Krug, formerly a newsman with stations in Chicago and Idaho, has joined the News Department.

Krug received a B.A. in political science from the University of Wisconsin and a Master's in Radio-TV Journalism from Northwestern University. He has been a newsman with KID-TV and Radio in Idaho Falls, Idaho and WFLD-TV, Chicago.

WE GET LETTERS  
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that I see on national telecasts and their apparent lack of concern for simple etiquette and consideration of other people. Your crew and your people were an example that work can go on and people can, at the same time, be considerate.

Let me thank you on behalf of the Suffield High School student body, the townspeople, and myself for being so cooperative and helpful to us during our tercentenary celebration.

Sincerely,  
Valentino Bertolini  
Principal

WTIC-BACKED AMENDMENT  
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There were 413,266 votes cast in favor of annual sessions and 126,361 opposed for a plurality of 286,905 in favor of the amendment.

In supporting annual sessions, the stations pointed out that Connecticut's Constitution requires that the legislative branch of the government be on an equal footing with the executive. Mr. Patricelli said he doubted this could be achieved under the system of biennial sessions of the legislature, with the legislative branch meeting for five months and adjourning for the next 19 months.

"The assembly considers about 5,000 bills at every session and the result is a biennial mess," Mr. Patricelli said. "Annual sessions would give the legislators more time to consider laws, more time to scrutinize budget requests with care and more time to respond to public need."

"As recently as 40 years ago, Connecticut was able to function with governors who went to the office only on Thursday and a General Assembly that met only once every two years. The governor started working a five day week back in 1930. It's time the General Assembly worked full time too."

