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March 1969

## BROADCAST-PLAZA UNVEILS PLANS FOR HOTEL ADDITION, NEW THEATRE

Models of a \$7 million, 200-room addition to the Hotel America and a \$1 million "twin theatre" building for Constitution Plaza were unveiled March 27 by Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. at a meeting of the Hartford Redevelopment Agency.

Schematic plans for the two buildings were presented to the Redevelopment Agency by President Patricelli, as the corporation requested designation as "tentative developer" of two tracts in the agency's Columbus Boulevard East Project. The tracts are on Columbus Boulevard, to the east of Constitution Plaza.

approved as the developer, Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. hopes to begin construction in the early summer, Mr. Patricelli said. He noted, however, that the corporation's participation in a project of this scope would require "the acceptance of the total concept and the enthusiasm and full cooperation of the city manager and every department of the City of Hartford."

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## MANY ON STAFF HAD PART IN INSTALLATION PROGRAMS

The installation of the Most Rev. John F. Whealon as archbishop of Hartford received complete radio and television coverage on March 19.

The excellence of the broadcast and telecast was the result of hours of preparation by more than 25 staff members, working under the supervision of George Bowe.

The color telecast was directed by Harry Parcell, produced by Dick Huntley and narrated by Joe Girand. Bob Beaulac did the lighting and Don Fleming supervised the crew. Working on the production crew for the telecast were Tom Lang, Bruce Murray, Ron

## WTIC-TV DOCUMENTARY WINS REGIONAL EMMY AWARD

"To Be Somebody," a WTIC-TV documentary on the problems of employment for Hartford's so-called "hard core unemployed," has been chosen a Regional Winner in the 1968-69 Emmy Award competition.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences has announced that the program was one of 10 Regional Winners selected from 140 entries. The ten vied for a Special National Citation that was won by WFIL in Philadelphia.

The awards honored television stations which developed innovative programming to enhance the lives of disadvantaged young people, motivates them to make the most of their opportunities or fosters frank dialogue and effective cooperation in the interest of community stability.

"To Be Somebody" attacked the job problem by focusing on two young men. One was taking part in a training program that led to a good job. The other was a "hustler," who made his living in the streets, pushing dope, selling stolen goods and engaging in other illegal activities. In order to determine if others would be tempted to follow the route taken by the trainee or the hustler, the program looked at what is and isn't being accomplished by the business community, government, the schools and organized labor.

"To Be Somebody" was produced by Dick Ahles, directed by Don Moore and filmed by Dennis Switaj. Allen Allsouse and Bob Barr were the film editors; Randy Scalise did the sound and Jim Stewart, the lighting. Joe Girand was the narrator. The executive producer was George Bowe.

## DEAN SELECTED TOP SPORTSCASTER

Arnold Dean has been named Connecticut's Sportscaster of the Year by vote of his sportscasting and writing colleagues in the state.

He and his wife go to Salisbury, N.C. April 1 to receive the award along with winners from the other 49 states. At Salisbury, the Deans will participate in a number of activities with a sports panel composed of Arnold Palmer, golfer Sharon Moran, bowler Billy Wela and driver Cale Yarborough, among many others.

Dean is co-host of Channel 3 Sports with Doug Webster and has done play-by-play for Hartford Knights football games and color for Hartford Caps basketball games. He was sports director at WHEN-TV, Syracuse before coming to Hartford.

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BROADCAST-PLAZA UNVEILS PLANS  
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Mr. Patricelli also said that Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. hopes at some future date to construct a pedestrian bridge between Constitution Plaza and the new theatre building, "as the first step toward the ultimate extension of the Constitution Plaza concept to the Connecticut River." He said a bridge would not be economically feasible at the present time, but provision for a future bridge is incorporated in the present theatre construction plans.

Earl Duffy, vice president and general manager of the Hotel America, said the new building will be designed by William B. Tabler of New York City, an internationally known hotel architect, who promises what Duffy describes as "the hotel of tomorrow."

The theatres, to be known as Cinema I and Cinema II, will be operated by the General Cinema Corp., a national organization with 161 theatres in 30 states. The corporation's president is Richard A. Smith of Boston. William Riseman Associates of Boston is the architect for Cinema I and II. Charles A. DuBose of Hartford is the architect for Constitution Plaza on both projects.

The hotel expansion program will increase the number of rooms in the Hotel America from 325 to 525, with 200 rooms in an addition of circular construction, surrounding and overlooking a landscaped garden and a 30 by 60-foot swimming pool designed for year round operation. Folding panels will transform the pool from outdoor to indoor use as seasons or even daily weather conditions change.

The five-story addition, directly across Columbus Boulevard from the Hotel America, will reach the second floor, "Rib Room," level of the present hotel building, leaving an unobstructed view of the Connecticut River for guests on the east side of the building. The circular addition and the present building will be connected by a bridge spanning Columbus Boulevard.

A "speed ramp" at the base of the new building will permit guests to drive on and park their cars a few steps from their rooms. Those staying in the new building will be able to check out while sitting in their cars.

The addition will also house a spacious ballroom that will seat 1,000 for dinner and more than 1,300 for meetings. A smaller ballroom will accommodate 300 for dinner and 400 for meetings. Modifications in the present building will increase the capacity of the Rib Room, the Tivoli Coffee Shop and the Rendezvous Room, which will be extended out and over the present swimming pool.

There will be seating for approximately 900 patrons in Cinema I and 500 in Cinema II. A staggered seating plan will provide an unobstructed view of the screen from any seat in the theatres and pushback seats will be installed on an inclined floor to permit patrons

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STAFF CLUB ISSUES  
FINANCIAL REPORT

The WTIC Staff Club received \$1,003.95 and disbursed \$846.94 during 1968, according to the annual financial report from chairman Harley Park.

Receipts included \$459.25 from staff contributions and \$544.70 in profits from the vending machines.

Disbursements included 15 for illness and bereavement at a cost of \$289.42; 17 for those leaving the company at a cost of \$231.76; three wedding gifts at a cost of \$95.49 and three anniversary and retirement gifts, \$230.27. Other disbursements included \$25 to the Travelers Cheer Committee and \$100 to repay a loan from the Company.

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FRANK-ZINKERMAN

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Frank of 69 South Park Ave., Longmeadow, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Isabel Beth Frank, to Bennett N. Zinkerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zinkerman of Bloomfield, Conn.

Miss Frank graduated from Longmeadow High School and Bay Path Junior College. She is employed by Package Machinery Co., East Longmeadow, Mass.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Weaver High School, Hartford and the University of Hartford. He is a member of the engineering staff of Station WTIC.

A June wedding is planned.

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ATWOOD WILL MEET  
AGRICULTURE SECRETARY

Frank Atwood will attend a Northeast Regional meeting of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters at Washington, D.C. April 13 to 15. The broadcasters will meet the new secretary of agriculture, Dr. Clifford M. Hardin.

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CHAIRMAN BUTTERWORTH

Bob Butterworth served as chairman of Manchester's successful multiple sclerosis drive recently.

## YOUTH PROGRAM ADVISORS TO ATTEND LUNCHEON

The annual luncheon for the Advisory Committee of the WTIC Farm Youth Program will be held at the Hotel America April 23.

Members of the committee from Massachusetts and Connecticut will be joined by young people who won out-of-state trips offered by WTIC in 1968 and by several dairy farmers, now in their middle twenties, who bought their first calves on WTIC loans 10 years ago when they were in their middle teens. Vice President and General Manager Tyrol will be host at the luncheon in the absence of President Patricelli, who will be out of town.

## KIDS BOUGHT 22 CALVES WITH WTIC FARM LOANS

WTIC's Farm Youth Program provided Connecticut and Massachusetts youngsters with \$3,845 in loans to purchase 22 purebred heifers at the Foundation Dairy Calf Sale in Storrs on March 15.

The loans were made to 4-H Club members and Future Farmers of America by Frank Atwood, WTIC farm programs director.

WTIC has been providing interest-free loans to Connecticut and Massachusetts youngsters interested in dairy farming for more than 20 years. WTIC and the borrower are partners in the ownership of each calf until the loan is repaid and full ownership is transferred to the youngster.

## EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULED ON PLAZA

The fourth annual Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Festival will be held on Constitution Plaza on Easter Sunday morning, April 6.

The 6 a.m. service will again be sponsored by the Commission for Ecumenical Affairs of the Archdiocese of Hartford, the Greater Hartford Council of Churches and the Orthodox Churches of Hartford.

## INSTALLATION PROGRAMS (Continued from Page 1)

Rolly, George Sulok and John Dwyer. The engineers were Dick Oeser, Mickey Gentile, Al Jankowski, Randy Scalise, Ed Walsh, Ed Derry and supervisor Fred Edwards. Frank Townsend and Joe Lorrain were the videotape engineers involved in editing the two-hour ceremony for a 30 minute summary that evening.

Bill Marks was the audio producer in the cathedral and Chuck Renaud was radio producer. Bill Kolouch and Ted Brassard were the engineers and Brad Davis was the announcer for radio.

The WTIC Radio and TV personnel received invaluable assistance from the Rev. Edmund S. Nadolny, the Rev. John Conley and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John P. Wodarski.

## BROADCAST-PLAZA UNVEILS PLANS (Continued from Page 2)

to pass between rows without requiring anyone to rise. The theatres will be equipped with the most modern projection and sound equipment currently available as well as huge screens that will literally envelop the end wall of each theatre. The theatres will be acoustically treated throughout and the air conditioning systems have been designed to change thermostatically from cooling to heating as needed. An art gallery in the lobby will provide an outlet for the display of works by local artists.

The hotel addition will be constructed on a 68,189 square foot tract, bounded by Columbus Boulevard on the west, Interstate 91 on the east, Kinsley Street on the north and State Street on the south. The theatre building, north of the hotel building site, will be constructed on a tract of 23,872 square feet bounded by Columbus Boulevard on the west, Interstate 91 on the east, Kinsley Street on the south and Barney's of Hartford on the north. Both tracts are currently occupied by parking lots.

## CHILDREN'S CLINIC GETS FOUNTAIN COINS

Constitution Plaza celebrated the arrival of spring (March 20) by turning on the Plaza fountain and presenting \$1,407 in coins from the fountain to the Children's Clinic of the Institute of Living.

The fountain was turned on after Mrs. Charlotte Sullivan, Institute of Living nursing supervisor, tossed in the new season's first coin.

Before the first waters splashed into the fountain, Roger C. Wilkins, chairman of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. and president of the Institute of Living, presented a check for \$1,407 to Dr. Francis J. Braceland, chairman of development and planning at the Institute.

Since 1964, \$6,926 in coins has been fished from the fountain and turned over to the Institute's Children's Clinic.

GAELIC PAIR HAVE FALLING OUT  
ON SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

by Joe Crowley

It happened on Saint Patrick's Day and perhaps that's why it happened to Bob Dwyer and myself. It was a strange experience and that probably explains why Dwyer was involved. Anyone who has been at WTIC for more than 24 hours knows that strange things happen to Bob Dwyer.

Bob and I were on a sound on film assignment in the Scout. We were breezing along with all the windows open enjoying the warm weather which had favored us on this day for the Irish. I was driving, as usual, and Bob was sitting in the jump seat listening to Irish music on the radio.

As we rounded the corner, moving along at a fairly reasonable speed, I looked over to make a point to Bob, only to discover he was not in the car with me. It took what seems like forever to realize what had happened and when I looked out the windshield on the passenger side I saw Bob swinging from the door. He was holding on somewhat like a monkey. Naturally, he was smiling at me.

What happened is easily explained, Bob fell out of the car. The door somehow had come ajar and as he fell he grabbed hold of the door and hung on.

As he was swinging by the cab, he looked in at me. All I could think to say was, "What the hell are you doing out there?" He answered in true Dwyer style, saying something about sunning himself. On the next pass, which seemed like minutes but was only a matter of seconds, he asked me very calmly if I would stop the vehicle. Once I had brought the car to a halt the door swung back and Bob, still swinging, came back into the cab, closed the door and we drove off. I must admit we left a few motorists looking somewhat confused.

Actually it could have been a tragedy. If Bob had not kept cool and hung on, he could have fallen from the car, but, then that's the Dwyer luck, especially on Saint Patty's Day.

