



# TIC TOC

October 1970

## NON-NEWSMEN GET PRESIDENT NIXON TO COMMENT ON NEWSWORTHY ISSUES

President Nixon didn't speak in public during his visit to Hartford earlier this month, but WTIC Radio and Television managed to pick up some news from the President first thanks to the persistence and news sense of three non-newsmen.

Announcer Brad Davis got to the President first shortly after his arrival at the airport. Secret Service men and others in the President's party were trying to get the President to his car and neither they nor the President responded as Davis shouted "Mr. President" about a dozen times. Others stopped trying but

is shouted "Tricia looked lovely at Danbury" and the President stopped. He turned, smiled and told Davis how proud he was of his daughter and gave Davis a chance to interview him briefly for WTIC Radio.

The second break for the stations came when President Patricelli joined other newspaper and broadcast executives for a briefing on foreign affairs and lunch with the President at the Hartford Hilton.

While the newspapermen were making small talk with the President, Mr. Patricelli asked if he would mind

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## COFFEE COMMITTEE PLANS YULE PARTY

The TV Coffee Committee will sponsor a staff Christmas Party on Monday, Dec. 22, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Sonesta.

The Committee will provide the solid food from the profits made in their successful coffee operation and the guests will provide their own liquids.

If you would like to attend, please complete the coupon on Page 3 and send it to TV Master Control by Nov. 15.

## 648 ELECTION REPORTERS, COMPUTER TO SPEED RETURNS

WTIC-TV and Radio will provide complete and accurate election reports from Connecticut and the other 49 states beginning at 7 p.m. on Election Night.

For the Connecticut returns, the stations will have an election reporter in each one of the 648 polling places in the state. In past elections, the stations had a reporter stationed in each one of the state's 169 towns, but this time, there will be reporters at every polling place. Following the close of the polls across the state at 8 p.m. on election day, the 648 reporters, members of the Jaycees, will telephone results from their assigned voting districts to the WTIC Election Studio at Broadcast House in Hartford. The incoming calls will be handled by a team of 25 telephone operators at the studio.

Voting results will be fed into a Honeywell computer to provide WTIC viewers and listeners frequent cumulative voting district totals, the speediest method of determining the trend of the state vote and final winners. Individual town returns will also be aired. Key state towns have been pre-selected for vote trend analysis.

To handle the expanded reporting assignment, WTIC has engaged the services of the Connecticut Jaycees who are staffed and organized to cover all 648 polling places. The Jaycees boast previous election reporting experience, having performed for a national election service.

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## ROBERT E. SMITH TO MARK 25TH YEAR

Robert E. Smith celebrates his 25th anniversary as host of WTIC Radio's "Your Box at the Opera" on Nov. 1 with a special program at 7 p.m.

The selections featured on the anniversary edition of "Your Box at the Opera" will include Czardas from "Die Fledermaus" (Strauss) sung by Elisabeth Rethberg; Final Duet from "Carmen" (Bizet) sung by Maria Gay and Giovanni Zenatello; "Dancing Virgins of Delphi" (Debussy) played by Ignace Jan Paderewski; the Trio from "I Lombardi" (Verdi) sung by Elisabeth Rethberg, Beniamino Gigli and Ezio Pinza; and "Donzelle, Fuggite" (Cavalli) sung by Ezio Pinza.

Each selection is significant from the standpoint of the artist performing it. All are immortals of the music world Smith knew during his years with the Victor Record Company.

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CLAY HILL PROGRAM  
COMMENDED BY COUNCIL

A WTIC-TV special program on the controversy surrounding the Clay Hill Middle School in Hartford has been commended in a resolution passed by the Hartford City Council. The text of the resolution is as follows:

"WHEREAS, the question of the Clay Hill Middle School in the City of Hartford has aroused a great deal of interest, rhetoric, and bitterly opposed parties; and

"WHEREAS, the issue of the Clay Hill Middle School needed a great deal of clarification by way of information, facts, and opinions of the parties vitally concerned; and

"WHEREAS, the public had a vital interest and concern about this school, the boundary lines associated therewith, and the question of bussing of pupils into the area of the school; and

"WHEREAS, Channel 3 TV devoted one hour of prime time from 8:00 to 9:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 21, 1970, and purchased advertising in both of the local newspapers to inform the public of said presentation; and

"WHEREAS, said TV Station invited members of the school board and parties on both sides of the issue, those for and against the new Middle School, to present their points of view to the general public; and

"WHEREAS, the program was presented in fair and impartial fashion, allowing all sides to present their points of view under a fair and impartial moderator in the person of Dick Bertel, who did an admirable job in handling such a controversial program;

"NOW, THEREFORE, the Court of Common Council hereby extends its congratulations and gratitude to Channel 3 TV and its commentator, Dick Bertel, who moderated the program on Wednesday evening, October 21, 1970 from 8:00 to 9:00 P.M., for presenting this controversial issue so that the public might be aware of the facts and opinions in regard thereto, since such a presentation was truly in the tradition of public service."

KILLIAN TO COVER  
WASHINGTON NEWS

Robert F. Killian, Jr. has been named Washington correspondent for WTIC AM-FM-TV.

A graduate of Union College, Killian has been employed as a management trainee at WCBS in New York and as a newsman and announcer with WGY, Schenectady, WTRY, Troy, and other stations.

He was with the WTIC news department in Hartford during the past summer before returning to Washington to continue law studies at Georgetown University.

Killian's Washington assignment for WTIC Radio and Television will include the Connecticut and western Massachusetts Congressional delegation and the activities of other government agencies and departments affecting the Massachusetts area served by the stations.

NOTES FROM

*Nancy*

Raindrops were falling on our heads... but the Hilton was dry, warm and sparkled with good food, good drink, beautiful flowers and beautiful, beautiful people...

Girls will be girls...even when they are wearing pants! Climbing the stairway to the party, we were greeted by MRS. PATRICELLI wearing a dress in traditional elegant brocade and MRS. TYROL, who surprised everyone by stepping out with the new wave in an absolutely gorgeous coral pants outfit...Their husbands were dressed in conservative New England businessman gear, as were most of the men that evening... it appears the new wave in men's extremist wear hasn't hit Hartford yet...but then, most women like their men just the way they are...

Pretty people were everywhere...GRACE PETRO, Oriental in a very Indian inspired purple print, GINNY JESIONKA and MARY WIMBISH were both wearing figure-hugging black, cat-like jumpsuits and PAULINE CUNNINGHAM glittered even when the lights were turned out, her dress was a maze of silver sequins. If you took a quick look, you probably thought we had a star from the silver screen with us, actually it was MARILYN HINSON wearing the longest, whitest, slinkiest gown and earrings down to there...WOW!!

After the ball was over...people partied on at private homes...some until breakfast...it was one of the greatest bashes in years!

Following the sun this year? JIM STEWART is...he flew to the land of palm trees, orange juice and bronzed bodies to finish up his vacation time...piloting the plane was the very capable "Capt." HAL SCHNERR, you may remember Hal as part of the TV Engineering Dept. a few years ago. He's now head of Air Kaman flight school.

The girls on the top floor waited for things to quiet down and then scattered in all directions for their vacations...FRAN MULCAHY traveled up to the north country before the snow fell for a look around Canada...OLIVE JOHNSON to Florida and EILEEN O'LEARY just lazing around and relaxing!

See you in the pumpkin patch...the day of the Great Pumpkin is upon us...  
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

## EDITORIALS USED IN CLASSROOMS

When WTIC Radio and Television published a collection of editorials broadcast by President Leonard J. Patricelli last summer, the stations didn't realize they were publishing a textbook as well.

Among those requesting the 12,000 copies of the collection distributed to date have been faculty members from a number of public and private schools and colleges in Hartford and several suburban communities.

Requests have come from instructors at Central Connecticut State College and the Greater Hartford Community College and from teachers in Hartford, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Mansfield and Newington. The editorials are being used in English, social studies and civics classes.

One college instructor has used both Mr. Patricelli's editorials and the editorial replies broadcast on WTIC Radio and Television as a basis for the discussion of controversial issues.

## MEXICAN JOURNALIST VISITING STATIONS

Eugenia Chellet-Diaz, a journalist from Mexico City, has been WTIC's guest since mid-October.

Miss Diaz is taking part in the 1970-71 Multinational Foreign Journalists Project sponsored by the U.S. State Department. She is on the staff of Novedades, a newspaper and director of Teens magazine.

## YOUNG ROSS A GRANDFATHER

Young Ross Miller, Program Manager for WTIC Radio, became a grandfather for the second time on Monday, Oct. 5.

Ross's oldest daughter, Mrs. Michael Quish, presented the family with a little girl, Alison Shelleen. Baby Allison was welcome with jealous glances by her brother Christopher.

\_\_\_\_\_ will attend |  
Christmas Party, Dec. 22, at |  
Sonesta. |

## THREE STAFF MEMBERS OUT OF HOSPITAL

Three members of the WTIC staff are spending these crisp autumn days recuperating from accidents and illnesses.

Bob King of the music library literally got off on the wrong foot while washing the outside windows of his West Hartford home. King climbed up there with the agility of a mountain climber, washed the windows and started back down. He dropped down from the house roof to the garage roof, and started to climb down the ladder connecting the roof to the ground. As he started off on his left foot, he missed a rung and pitched over backwards. Injuries included a broken elbow, compound fracture of the wrist, and a gash over his eye requiring 24 stitches--all on King's left side. King is now at home to mend at 19 Greenhurst Road.

Artist John Lanzieri was seized with an angina attack last Friday. Joe Turkowski braved Hartford traffic to rush him to Manchester Community Hospital. John is resting comfortably at his home at 44 Susan Drive, Vernon.

Norm Morrow of the Transmitter Staff, who suffered a heart attack while visiting Poughkeepsie, New York and was hospitalized there for two weeks, is back home and making a fine recovery.

The staff wishes the trio a speedy recovery.

## DAUGHTER BORN TO NILS JOHNSON

Mr. and Mrs. Nils Johnson are the parents of a daughter, Kristin Marie, born Oct. 9. Nils is the newest member of the Transmitter Staff.

## TURKEY ORDERS

Staff members wishing to purchase Grey Ledge Farm turkeys for Thanksgiving should contact Don Tuttle for details. Orders must be placed by Nov. 13.

## TARRS ADD PITTER PATTER

When new proud parents speak of the "pitter-patter" of little feet, they refer to a year or more in the future when baby learns to walk. But Jan and Sherm Tarr didn't have to wait at all with their new arrival, Suzanne Patricia, adopted Oct. 24. Year-old Suzanne came to the Tarr's South Windsor home walking and nearly talking...and with an appetite that outpaced her three-and-one-half year old brother, David. Suzanne's walking ability has given her an edge over other new arrivals in exploring her new home and getting acquainted with David and the two household cats.

ROBERT E. SMITH  
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In those days (1928-1931) it was known as the Victor Talking Machine Company," Smith said. "I started out by organizing their library, and worked my way up to supervising repertory and recording sessions.

"Rethberg, Gigli, Pinza, Paderewski--many of the most important names in the music world passed through our doors. Those were the days of the great operatic recordings, and I feel honored to have been there watching these artists perform while supervising the making of musical history."

Smith's first interest in records began when he was only four years old. He discovered an old Edison cylinder phonograph in the attic of his Germantown, Pa., home and spent many a glorious hour breaking the records by forcing the cylinder onto the machine.

The first record Smith ever bought was "O Sole Mio" by the Great Caruso, when he was 10-years-old. It has a place of honor in his extensive record collection of over 30,000 records which lines the walls at "Woodwind Hollow", his Bloomfield home.

"I had a paper route to earn money for records," Smith said. "I earned about \$6 a week selling the 'Philadelphia Bulletin' and bought the new releases as they came out. By the time I graduated from high school, I had hundreds of records."

Smith's knowledge of music, artists and recordings has enabled him to turn his life-long hobby into a profitable and fulfilling career, a claim few of us can make.

After the Victor Company, he went to NBC as director of auditions. It was here that Leonard J. Patricelli, then program manager of WTIC and now president of WTIC Radio and Television, invited him to become host of "Your Box at the Opera," a program devoted to recordings by the world's greatest opera stars, many of whom Smith had personally worked with.

"I had met Mr. Patricelli many times at NBC because he frequently came to New York to hear young singers and engage them for 'Encores,' a program produced by WTIC and carried nationally on NBC. On one occasion, I invited him to hear some of my recordings and after we played some and talked about the artists, he said, 'you've just given me an audition,' and asked me to become host of the new opera program on WTIC."

During his first two years on the air, Smith commuted to Hartford every Sunday and returned to New York in the afternoon. When WTIC added the daily "Theatre of Melody," Smith decided to reverse the process by moving to Hartford and spending weekends in New York.

In the past 25 years, the Smith collection of rare outstanding opera recordings has provided hundreds of hours of fine music for WTIC listeners on "Your Box at the Opera." Smith's prodigious knowledge of music, composers and artists furnishes a rich background upon which he draws for interesting commentary.

648 ELECTION REPORTERS  
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The latest in computer-driven electronic displays will clearly show election results on home television receivers. WTIC-TV's newly-acquired computer system will feed information to videograph display equipment which will superimpose figure tabulations on the television screen. For auxiliary display use, digital units, such as those used on major networks, will be constantly updated and available as needed. The Hartford Courant will provide results from races for the General Assembly and State Offices other than Governor.

Tom Eaton and Dick Bertel will cover the Connecticut races and Larrye de Bear will report returns from neighboring states for WTIC-TV. Bill Mill and Brad Davis will be the radio reporters. Newsmen and announcers will also be assigned to the headquarters or homes of the candidates for Governor and U.S. Senator.

State coverage is scheduled to begin at 8 PM. National coverage, from CBS on Channel 3 and NBC on WTIC Radio, will begin an hour earlier.

NON-NEWSMEN  
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answering a question on a local controversy. The President said he would try and Mr. Patricelli asked him why he decided to forego a planned visit to Suffield. The President looked surprised and said he hadn't been aware that he was supposed to visit Suffield. The news picked up by Mr. Patricelli was broadcast first on the stations and made newspapers headlines for the next two days.

Director of Photography Dick Heinze also managed a conversation with the President as he was leaving the Hartford Hilton. He asked Mr. Nixon if he enjoyed his visit and the President replied that he liked Connecticut and hoped to visit the state again on a non-political tour.

Heinze said he thought the present tour was non-political--as it had been billed. Mr. Nixon replied that no visit can be termed non-political three weeks before an election.