

TIC TOC

Vol. 2, No. 2 May, 1963

LAUGHTER WAS PRIME INGREDIENT OF TESTIMONIAL DINNER HELD TO HONOR BOB STEELE; OVER 600, INCLUDING GOVERNOR, FCC COMMISSIONER, AT DINNER

Veteran sports writer and toastmaster Art McGinley of the Hartford Times, who has probably attended more testimonials than any other Connecticut citizen, said it best when he wrote: "I can't recall a dinner at which there was so much levity and so much laughter."

The dinner, of course, was the May 22 testimonial at the Statler for Bob Steele. Attended by more than 600, including Governor Dempsey, nationally syndicated columnist Red Smith and a host of other well-known persons, the dinner was arranged by Robert M. Grant and William M. Savitt.

WTIC TV-AM-FM was well represented by a delegation of 32, headed by President Morency, who told the guests how he warned Bob in 1936 that he had six months to purge himself of his Missouri twang.

Bob returned his boss' compliment by noting that: "If Paul Morency hadn't given me that job way back in the 1930s, I never would have met my wife, and, for that matter, probably would have never met my sons." Wife Shirley and sons Paul, Phil and Steven were on hand for the dinner and son Robert greeted the old man via tape, with some assistance from his wife and the new granddaughter. Another taped well-wisher was Academy Award winner and former WTIC actor Begley.

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TO THE TBSC CLERICAL STAFF

From Monday, June 24, through Friday, August 30, 1963, we will observe a four o'clock closing, thus shortening our work day. We believe with wholehearted cooperation and concentration on the tasks at hand by every member of the Staff the early closing will be possible.

Paul W. Morency, President

NARCOTICS BILL PASSED

Connecticut's legislators have heeded the "warning" in the WTIC-TV documentary "Warning: May Be Habit-forming."

Both houses of the General Assembly
(Cont. on p. 6)

FIRST TV COVERAGE OF REGATTA SET; RADIO ALSO PLANS HOUR BROADCAST

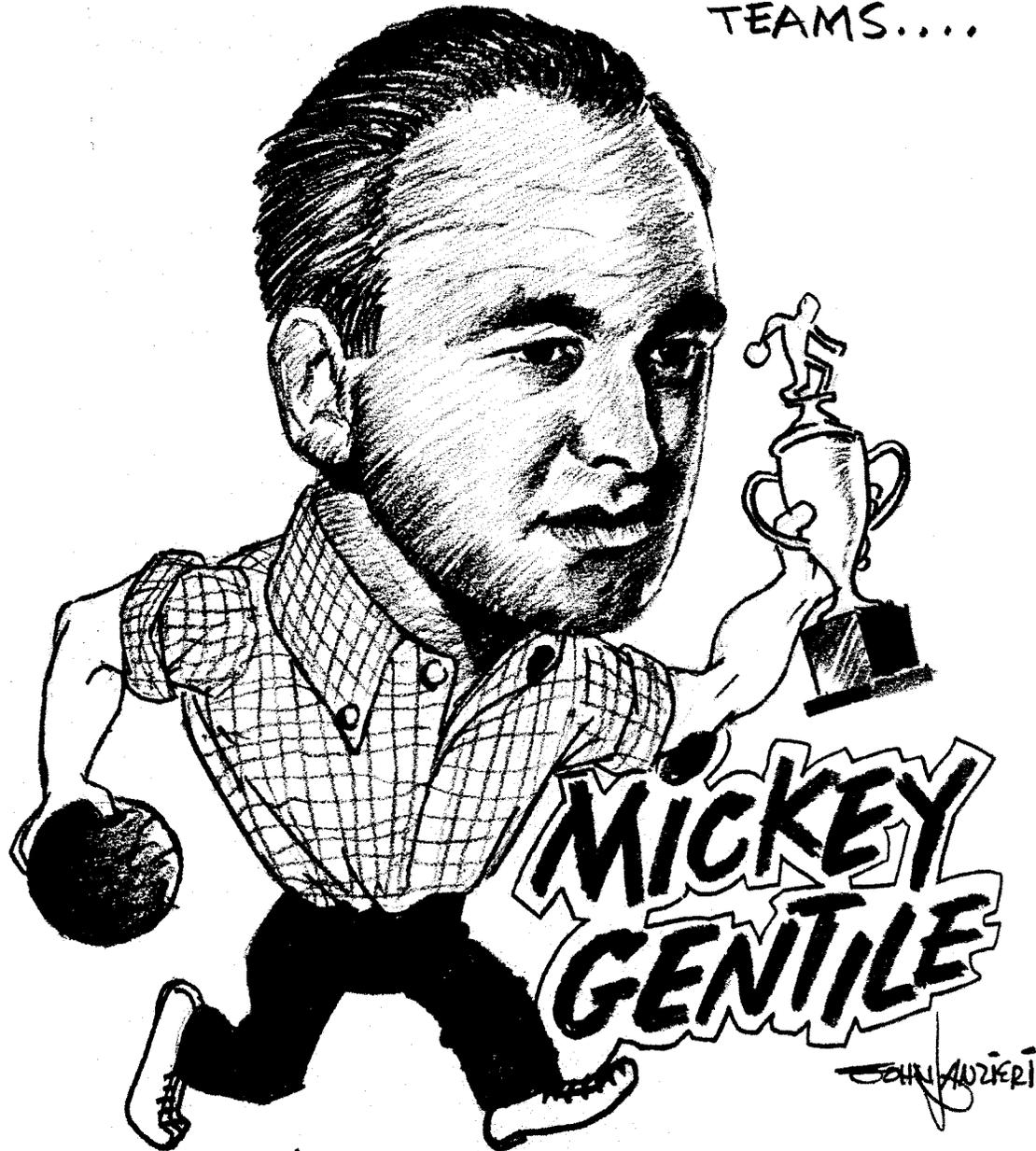
Another WTIC-TV first--the first telecast of the 111-year-old Harvard-Yale Regatta--is planned for Saturday, June 15, from 7 to 8 p.m.

And for the fourth consecutive year, WTIC Radio will provide full coverage of the event in an hour-long program. WTIC first broadcast the ragatta in 1928.

Five cameras will be stationed in strategic positions along the course and a sixth will cover the race from a Sikorsky helicopter, which will hover over the shells. The U.S. Coast Guard Academy and the Navy's Groton Submarine Base have given the station permission to place cameras on their property. The finish will be televised from a New Haven Railroad bridge, which spans the Thames.

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AFTER ITS FIRST SEASON IN THE TRAVELERS
MEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE, BROADCAST #2
ENDED THE SEASON IN FOURTH PLACE
AMONG NINE
TEAMS....



THE TEAM'S LATE SEASON'S INCENTIVE
WAS INSPIRED BY MICKEY, TV ENGINEER
MICKEY LED THE LEAGUE WITH HIS
HIGH 111-38 AVERAGE. HE WAS AWARDED
A BEAUTIFUL TROPHY FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENT.
BROADCAST #2 IS LOOKING FORWARD TO
NEXT SEASON IN WHICH THEY HOPE TO
CAPTURE FIRST PLACE, WITH LEADERSHIP
OF MICKEY.....

**BOWE, ABERT, DWYER, CALKINS,
McAULIFFE RECEIVE PROMOTIONS**

Five WTIC-TV staff members were promoted during May.

George W. Bowe, WTIC-TV production manager since 1957, was promoted to assistant program manager on May 1. At the same time, E. Paul Abert, who joined the station as assistant production manager in 1957, was promoted to production manager.

A week later, the promotions of three other staff members was announced. William P. Dwyer, a director since joining the station in 1957, was named assistant production manager; film screening director C. Davis Calkins was promoted to film booking supervisor, and Daniel G. McAuliffe, a member of the production crew, was named assistant director.

Bowe, a well-known on-the-air personality in the 1930s and '40s, joined the staff as an announcer in 1935. Born in Schenectady, N.Y., he spent much of his early life in Los Angeles, where he received his education and worked in the legitimate theatre and in the Hollywood movie studios. As an announcer, he handled many important assignments, notably those in connection with the WTIC-Hartford Courant Mile O'Dimes campaigns. During World War II, he wrote and produced "The United States Coast Guard on Parade," a weekly WTIC series from the Coast Guard Academy which was carried by NBC. He was named production manager in 1946 and TV production manager shortly before WTIC-TV went on the air in 1957. He has served as executive producer of most of the station's special programs, including the Hartford Symphony Orchestra concerts, the Insurance City Open and state political conventions.

Abert came to WTIC-TV from WPRO-TV, Providence, where he was operations manager. A native of Fayetteville, N.Y., he received his early education in Syracuse, attended the State Teachers College at Oswego, N.Y. and was graduated from the Midland Radio and Television School, Athens, Ga. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps. Before joining WPRO-TV, he was technical supervisor at WTRI, Albany and on the engineering staff at WSYR, Syracuse.

A native of Newport, R.I., Dwyer attended New York's Television Workshop and served as a senior photographer in the Air Force and as a director at WJAR-TV before joining WTIC-TV. He was director of WTIC-TV's dedication program as well as the program which marked the opening of Broadcast House in 1961.

(Cont. on p. 4)

**"RARE, EXCLUSIVE" WTIC-TV FILM
TO BE PART OF JFK DOCUMENTARY**

A television adaptation of Theodore White's best-seller, "The Making of a President," is expected to include footage taken by WTIC-TV News.

The film was recently sent to Wolper Productions, which is preparing a 90-minute program on White's book for airing next season. Wolper Productions, one of the leading producers of television documentaries, was responsible for the three special programs on the history of Hollywood this season.

A great deal of the WTIC-TV film is rare and exclusive, according to Assistant News Director Dick O'Brien. Included is film of Democratic State and National Chairman John Bailey at a "practical politics" luncheon with then-candidate John F. Kennedy in 1959; Bailey and former Governor Abraham Ribicoff, early Kennedy supporters, at a luncheon with the candidate at Hyannisport; Ribicoff flying to Kansas City after Kennedy named him his liaison with former President Truman, and Kennedy in Connecticut on the final day of the campaign.

NEWS NOTES

Robert E. Smith will be one of three judges at this year's Newington Festival of the Arts--opening on Sunday, June 16.

Last weekend, Bob had an arts festival of his own, attending three musical comedies in New York--TOVARICH with Vivien Leigh; LITTLE ME with Sid Caesar, and off Broadway's BEST FOOT FORWARD, with Lisa Minnelli, daughter of Judy Garland.

Having seen the best Broadway has to offer this season, Bob seems to think that OLIVER, a British import, is the hit.

**YOUTHFUL CORRESPONDENTS COMMENT
ON BROADCAST HOUSE TOURS**

Since Broadcast House was dedicated in November 1961, thousands of school children have toured the building on class trips and hundreds have written thank-you notes with a rare and delightful flavor.

"Thank you for showing us around," a Hartford boy wrote to WTIC-TV-AM-FM. "It was a nice trip. Next year we will go some place else."

"I would like to thank you gratefully for the whole incident," said a letter to one of the tour guides.

An "incident" worthy of note to another girl was her introduction to one of the station personalities: "The most interesting thing I saw was Brad Davis," she wrote.

Another youngster was awed by being made privy to a trade secret: was impressed with knowing that one weather man mark the maps with red pencil and then on television they mark it with heavy black." (She had been shown the thin red lines made by a meteorologist on a map to guide him during a program.)

A boy from the Rawson School in Hartford was impressed by two local phenomena: "I liked seeing Bob Steele. I never thought we would see him. I also liked seeing the next to the largest windows in the United States"--on the ground floor of Constitution Plaza's Connecticut Bank and Trust Co. building.

Some thank-you notes are a bit belated, but few carry as ingenious an explanation as this from an East Hartford boy:

"We were going to write sooner, but Miss _____ had some falls and she wasn't able to come in for a week."

**FORMER WTIC ANNOUNCER
IS WBAL GENERAL MANAGER**

Tom Carr, a WTIC announcer in the 1940's, is now vice president and manager of Radio Station WBAL, Baltimore, and Chairman of the Affiliates Committee for NBC Radio. Tom may drop in to see us early in June, en route to Marblehead, Mass., where he will play in the annual Salem Fourball Tournament. He was the first winner of the tournament twenty-five years ago. Tom says he was "young and virile then," and doesn't expect to carry off the honors this time. But then, this lad was always a bit modest about his golf -- if for no other reason than to pluck a few "pigeons" among the followers of the game on the staff...and he did!

Incidentally, former Governor of Maryland Theodore R. McKeldin has been elected Mayor of Baltimore. Tom maintains he had nothing to do with it, although he was the Governor's executive secretary for several years.

FIVE PROMOTED

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He has also been director of "What in the World" since its inception.

Calkins was a Travelers claims examiner when he joined the staff in 1957. A veteran of 29 years' service with the Travelers, he has a rich theatrical background, having served as an actor, director and producer with many area theatre groups.

McAuliffe, born in Lawrence, Mass., received a B.S. degree in television at Boston University and has studied for a Master's degree as a Lowell Institute Fellow at WGBH-TV, Boston. He also joined the staff in 1957.

**FORMER NBC SALES ASSISTANT
JOINS RADIO SALES DEPARTMENT**

Carol Ann Iantuono has joined the Radio Sales Department as a secretary.

Mrs. Iantuono comes to the station from New York, where she worked as a secretary-sales assistant at NBC and for John Blair and Co. She and her husband are living in Manchester.

Guest Relations Assistant Pat Dowd has been named co-chairman of the Bal Menuet-1963, which will be held at the Statler Ballroom Nov. 29. Pat was presented at the same ball in 1960.

PAUL GIONFRIDDO, BILL LOBB WORKED THREE MONTHS TO PRODUCE JUNE 10 DOCUMENTARY ON CONNECTICUT'S CRITICAL PROBLEM OF SCHOOL DROPOUTS

"Date With Decision," a 50-minute documentary on the high school drop-out problem, will be presented by WTIC Radio on Monday, June 10, at 7:45 p.m.

Narrated by Dick Bertel, the program will attempt to determine the reasons behind one of America's most disturbing problems: the youngsters who leave high school ill equipped to occupy any position in society. Since March, writer-producer Paul Gionfriddo has taped more than 40 hours of interviews with teachers, guidance counsellors, labor and management leaders, psychologists, government officials and dropouts themselves to provide a complete picture of this major problem.

The program will evaluate the roles played by parents, school systems, local and state government and business and industry in combatting the dropout problem. There will be discussions of primary and secondary school guidance programs--and the appalling lack of such programs in many communities. The efforts of some Connecticut cities to cope with the problem and the amazing lack of effort in other cities will be covered in full. Candid interviews with educators, social workers and the few school psychologists will provide a variety of responses and viewpoints on the problem.

"Getting an actual dropout to tell about himself is like getting a 12-year-old into a dentist's chair," according to Gionfriddo, who spoke to several dropouts. "Some of the comments were startling. We talked with youngsters who had gone through high school with high honors, and we talked to young toughs, who had to face a judge before they were old enough to shave."

The title of the broadcast was inspired by a poem entitled "Decision," composed by Donna Leavitt of East Hartford High School. Miss Leavitt will read her poem, which tells of the frustrations of classmates awaiting the legal dropout age of 16, on the program.

-The program was produced by Gionfriddo with William Lobb.

REGATTA SET
(Cont. from p. 1)

The broadcast and telecast will be the result of months of preparation by production and engineering staff members.

The race has been held 97 times since Yale first rowed against Harvard on Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire in 1852. It was moved to the Thames River near New London in 1878. Harvard currently leads the closely contested series with 50 victories to Yale's 47.

The helicopter, an S-61, is the same model being used by the U.S. Air Force in the Paris Air Show between June 6 and 16. On May 27, the helicopter left Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod for the four-day trans-Atlantic flight. The plane was scheduled to make stops in Newfoundland, the Azores, Spain and Bourget Airport, Paris.

BOB DU FOUR IS NOT THE TRAVELERS INSURANCE CO.

Bob duFour would like to remind the rest of the staff that although his phone number's the same, he isn't the Travelers Insurance Company.

Since the Travelers instituted its new direct-dialing system, Bob has been getting many of the Travelers calls made by other members of the staff.

Under the new system, the first three numbers of Travelers phones are 277. Frequently, people calling the Travelers from here forget to dial "9" to get outside and when they dial 277, duFour answers.

STEELE DINNER (Cont. from p. 1)

Seated at the head table with guest of honor Steele and Toastmaster Meade Alcorn were: Governor Dempsey; Charlie Blossfield of the Milwaukee Braves; McGinley; Kenneth Burke, Hartford Times publisher; Robert E. Lee, FCC Commissioner; Mr. Morency; Mr. Grant; Mr. Savitt; Mayor Glynn; John R. Reitemeyer, Hartford Courant publisher; Sol Taishoff, Broadcasting Magazine publisher; Ostrom Enders, Hartford National Bank and Trust Co. board chairman; Bill Newell, Courant assistant sports editor; the Rev. Keith Jones of the First Church of Christ, Wethersfield; Red Smith and George Lannom of Los Angeles, who first convinced young Robert Steele to come to Hartford.

A dramatic highlight was the first showing of a new film, "I'd Sooner Steele," a short, but moving biography prepared by a talented group which included Paul Abert, Bob duFour, Jack Guckin, Dick Heinze, George Bowe, Bill Dwyer, Roy Benjamin and Bruce Kern, to name a few, and starring--a cast of one.

"I had the banner evening of '63 and, if other such affairs would run to form, I would suggest a dinner every six months for 'Strictly Sports,'" said McGinley.

NARCOTICS BILL (Cont. from p. 1)

have passed a bill which would ban the sale of certain "tax exempt" narcotics by druggists without doctors' prescriptions. An increasing use of such narcotics "for kicks" by Connecticut residents was first revealed by the station in the February documentary, which was written and narrated by reporter Stan Simon. The documentary will be updated and rebroadcast at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5.

PROJECTS LIKE FARM YOUTH PROGRAM WOULD COST POLICE "BUSINESS"

"If other state organizations had projects like the WTIC Farm Youth Program, the State Police would go out of business," said State Police Commissioner Leo J. Mulcahy on a Connecticut Farm Forum Broadcast during the annual Farm Youth Picnic at Avon last Saturday.

The commissioner cited WTIC for "doing something about juvenile delinquency instead of just talking about it." The commissioner complimented the station's youth activities after Mr. Morency told him--and the 300 at the picnic--that more than 750 youngsters have purchased purebred calves with WTIC interest-free loans in the past 16 years.

Dean W.B. Young, director of the University of Connecticut College of Agriculture, joined Mulcahy in hailing the Farm Youth Program.

The picnic, originally scheduled for May 11, was postponed to May 25 when forecaster Mitt Barlow accurately informed Frank Atwood that the day would be cold, with a sharp wind and no sunshine. The postponement was announced on the air several times on Friday and Bob Simmons continued the announcements on the Saturday Frank Atwood Show. Frank and Mary Anne Mank called all of the suppliers, special guests and staff members involved in preparing for the picnic. Not one of the 300 expected to attend the picnic failed to get the information. Governor Dempsey, who was planning to be present May 11, was unable to fit it into his schedule after the postponement.

Commissioner Mulcahy's troopers provided an impressive safety display and demonstrated radar and other safety equipment. A most special guest was Buster, one of the bloodhounds stationed at the Bethany Barracks and credited with saving the lives of several lost persons.

More than 30 staff members attended the picnic and enjoyed the perfect day at the transmitter site. Frank would like to thank all those who assisted with the many necessary tasks which contributed to the success of the event. Staff members, said Frank, helped with everything from parking to cooking.

TIC TOC REPORTERS--Jim Aseltine, Joyce Bennett, Renata Cuff, Bill Conticello, Brad Davis, Len Doughty, Jim Glenn, Jack Guckin, Jerry Haber, Lew Krause, John Lanzieri, John Reno, Woody Sloan, Sid Stewart.