

Altamont Hotel  
 Americus Hotel  
 Arlington Hotel  
 Commonwealth Telephone Co.  
 Hamilton Hotel  
 Harveys Lake Light Co.  
 Montrose Inn

# SORDONI ENTERPRISES

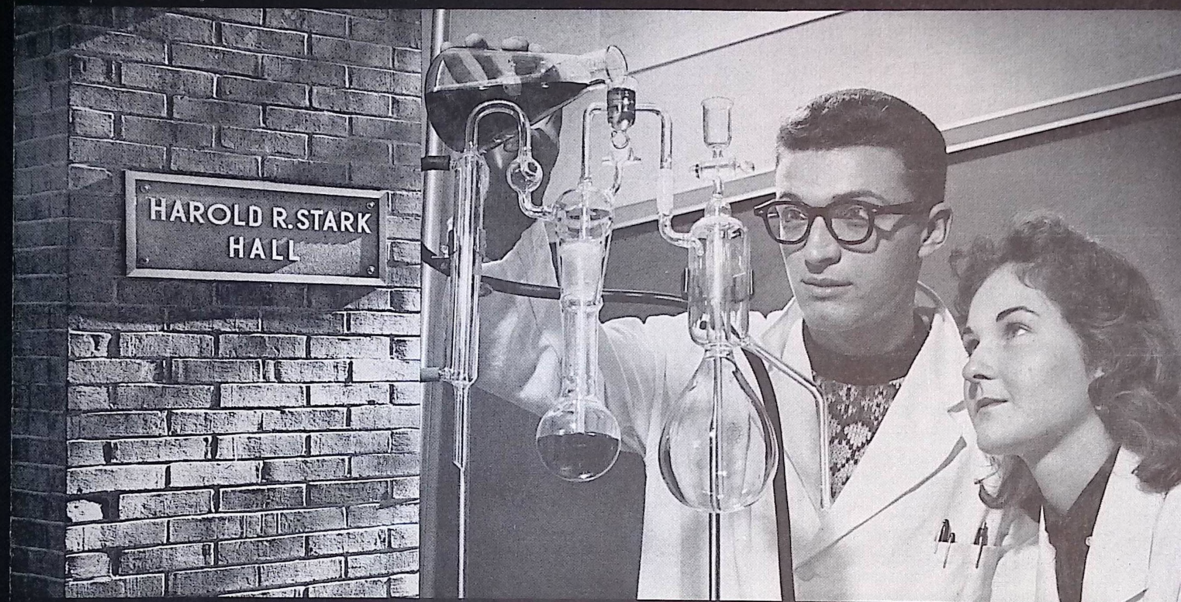
National Tree Surgeons  
 Public Service of Pa.  
 Sordoni Construction Co.  
 Sordoni Foundation  
 Sterling Eng. & Mfg. Co.  
 Sterling Farms  
 Sterling Hotel

VOL. XIII.

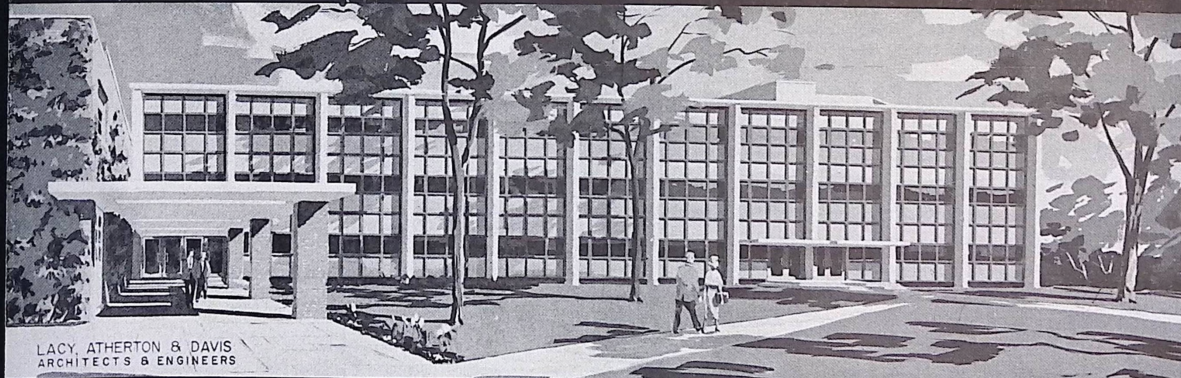
An Ounce of Loyalty Is Worth A Pound of Cleverness

OCTOBER 1957 — No. 168

## YOUTH'S PURSUIT OF TOMORROW THROUGH SCIENCE

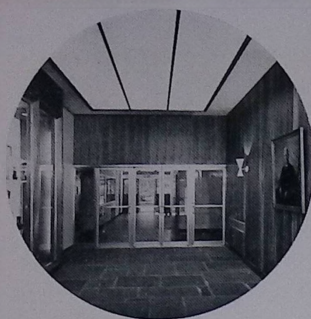


STARK SCIENCE BUILDING, WILKES COLLEGE, WILKES-BARRE, PA.



LACY, ATHERTON & DAVIS  
 ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS

SORDONI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - GENERAL CONTRACTOR



Entrance to Wilkes College's new \$1,050,000 Harold R. Stark Science Hall. Stark Hall will serve mankind nobly as did the man for whom it is named.

A country's greatest resource is its youth — upon them are based the hopes, the progress and the direction of its future development. Nothing portrays more graphically the full appreciation of this, as we enter the threshold of an atomic age full with the promise of a brighter civilization, than has today's dynamic leadership which, in less than a



● A frontal view of Stark Hall. Though limited by its setting and surrounding undisturbed trees, this view shows well its basic design and construction. The three-story and basement building is 60' x 210' and encompasses some 56,460 sq. ft. Of reinforced concrete construction, white Colonial brick piers set off the enameled steel supports and porcelain steel panels with alternating bands of clear glass and blue textured heat-absorbing glass.



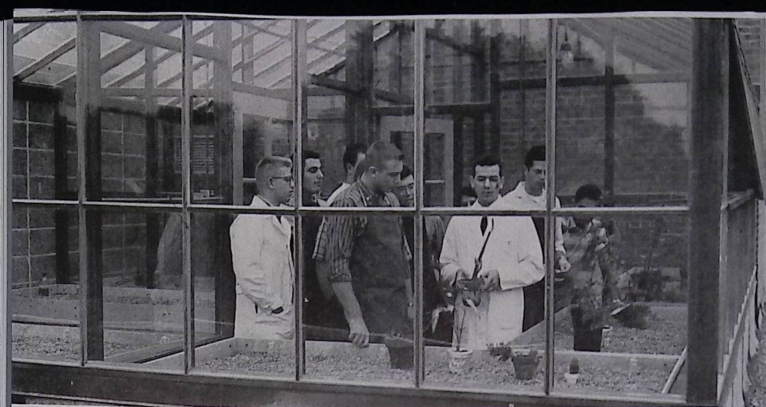
## A country's greatest resource is its youth...

quarter of century, has given us Wilkes College of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

The fashioning of Wilkes College in this brief span of time to assume a position in the forefront of our nation's higher educational institutions has been nothing less than phenomenal. Young in heart and years, Wilkes College, on September 27th, dedicated to the service of future generations its Admiral Harold R. Stark Science Hall, a completely equipped science building made possible by the \$1,050,000 gift from anonymous donors.

Stark Hall, as designed by Lacy, Atherton & Davis and constructed by Sordoni Construction Co., is completely modern in concept and execution. Within it are housed the college's physics, chemistry and biology departments capable of accommodating five hundred working students and a science faculty of thirteen or more. Its facilities have been geared to modern educational requisites keeping student laboratories small enough to provide thorough supervision and instruction; thirty-six is the maximum number of students a laboratory will accommodate and some are limited to eighteen or twenty.

Admiral Ben Moreell, ret., former Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks and Chief of Civil Engineers, now president and board chairman of Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp., gave the dedicatory address on September 27 before 1000 guests assembled in the quad fronting Stark Hall. Following the dedicatory exercises, the new science building was open for public inspection. William S. Lawrence, science editor of The New York Times, at the dedication dinner stirringly keyed the future of today's youth, "A new era has come to man. Our future potentialities are so great imagination is incapable of conceiving them".



● A unique feature of the science building is its rooftop botanical and research greenhouse. Shown inspecting plant growth with a group of biology students is Dr. Francis J. Michelini, assistant professor of the Biology Dept. In addition to student research, faculty research projects are also advanced with the aid of grants from national bodies. Here in this greenhouse, where the temperature is electronically controlled by preset thermostats, Dr. Michelini is engaged in a study of plant pathology in cancer related research.



● Aside from the design and construction of Stark Hall itself, the laboratory equipment is the finest. For example, above is one of two balance rooms. Dr. A. W. Bastress, chairman of the Chemistry Dept., looks on as students calibrate Ainsworth balances. Windowless rooms offer minimum temperature and atmospheric changes for these sensitive scales used in accurate quantitative analysis.

Emphasis on scientific research has been incorporated in the design with thirteen faculty office-research laboratories being provided on the three main floors as well as a research laboratory and greenhouse in the rooftop penthouse. In such manner, in addition to that of the students, faculty research, presently attuned to allergy surveys and cancer related studies, is being conducted with the aid of grants from national bodies.

In brief, composition of the building is easily subdivided as to the three sciences it accommodates. The basement area serves principally as separate storage areas for all departments and houses a large electrical transformer vault and heating facilities. The entire first floor is devoted to physics, the second to

chemistry and the third to biology. Two lecture halls, seating 200 and 96 respectively, serve the three departments. A rooftop penthouse with its botanical and research greenhouse, research lab and physics room completes the picture. Its design by L.A. & D. was achieved with the close cooperation of the professors in charge of the departments, Dr. V. B. Hall, Physics; Dr. Alfred Bastress, Chemistry, and Dr. Charles B. Reif, Biology. Such cooperation manifests itself now in the actual utilization of its well integrated facilities.

Named for Admiral Harold R. Stark, Ret., native son, former Chief of Naval Operations and Wilkes Trustee, Stark Science Hall is the gift of members of this generation to

those who follow. As Dr. Eugene Farley, Wilkes College's dynamic and inspired president, would say — to those who hold in their hands the future of all mankind in tomorrow's better world.

### SORDONI ENTERPRISES

Devoted to the interests of the Sordoni Enterprises, its Employees, and its Associates

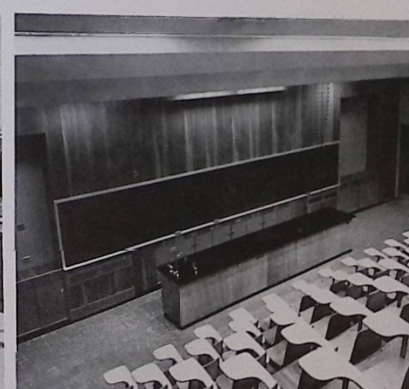
ROBERT T. KRUSE, Editor  
Hotel Sterling, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Governing Committee  
GEORGE BALCOMB, Chairman  
HELEN HAYES

A typical laboratory — here, Dr. Charles B. Reif, chairman of the Biology Dept., conducts a class in the Zoology & Comparative Anatomy lab. Study of the three sciences is divided so that the first floor is devoted to Physics, the second to Chemistry and the third to Biology. Each department has its newly equipped laboratories, class rooms and faculty office research labs. Emphasis on research in the organization plan of Stark Hall is in keeping with the desires of the anonymous donors who made its construction possible.



Two lecture halls serve the building. The one, seating 200, is connected to Stark Hall and, the other, shown below, accommodates 96. Adjoining the drop gallery are basement preparation rooms utilized for preparing experiments in conjunction with lecture subjects. In every detail of the building's construction and equipment, the finest obtainable has been given Wilkes that youth may contribute to tomorrow's bright promise through science.



**Dorr-Oliver Construction, Hazleton, Nears Completion**

**ALVIN C. MAUSER**

District Manager  
Elizabethville



In mid-August, the appointment of Alvin C. Mauser as manager of Commonwealth Telephone's Elizabethville District was announced by Colonel H. H. Butler, vice-president and general manager.

A native of the Elizabethville area, Al is well versed in Commonwealth's local telephone operations having been associated with the former Pennsylvania Community Telephone system since February 1946. At the time of Pennsylvania Community's acquisition by Commonwealth in August 1954, Al continued with the new management.

Beginning as a groundman, he worked up through successive posts of responsibility with the Company and was central office senior switchman at Elizabethville prior to assuming his new position.

In May 1951 he entered the U.S. Air Force seeing two years of duty in Newfoundland and two years at Sampson, N.Y.

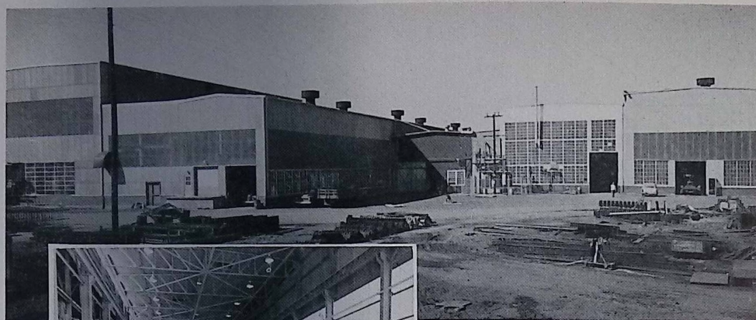
A graduate of Elizabethville High School, Al also attended several technological and equipment manufacturers' schools associated with the telephone industry. He and his wife, Lena, make their home at 130 North Street, Elizabethville.

**ALONG THE CIRCUITS**

With Jack Simmons, superintendent, Reading Division, Harold Gabel's crew is re-conducting 13.2 and 4.6 KV lines near Rehersburg while, out of Lebanon, Liston Bellow's men are digging and setting poles with Sterling Earth Borer. Leo Runge is rerouting lines on a highway project near Newsmithville. In the York District with John Levisky, gen. foreman, Laverne Palmer is starting construction of two miles of 115 KV H-frame line out of Hanover. Fred Appler's crew is re-completing three phase feeder between Jefferson and Seven Valleys while Ben Berwager and Gene Lambert are relocating lines at Violet Hill.

Other York District work includes that of Ed Wise's men who are relocating lines due to new highway construction and Frank Gessor's who are setting poles and stringing wire on new feeder lines out of Smith St. Sub. Ken Reeve is kept busy with air compressor digging rock holes while Don Sweitzer continues hauling poles and material to the job sites.

On York Telephone property, Bob Jansen and Chandler Moore continue on new line extensions throughout the county while Charles Brown with Digger digs holes and sets anchors ahead of the crews.



Shown here in two October photographs is an over-all view of Dor-Oliver's Hazleton, Pa. Plant and an interior of a portion of the new Structural

Shop Addition. In an extensive construction program approximating \$1 million, the Sordoni Construction Co. has made numerous additions to its plant facilities in the past year. These additions have included the 280' x 52' Structural Shop, a 400' x 35' Storage Bay, a 150' Assembly Shop, and a 31' x 226' Pattern and Storage Shop. Construction also included the erection of six interior and one exterior crane runways. Work will be completed by mid-October and open house for viewing Dor-Oliver's greatly expanded facilities is planned for October 18 and 19th. Dor-Oliver is a leader in the manufacture of huge filter and waste disposal plants. Alfred Glahn was superintendent of construction for the Sordoni Construction Co.

**CONSTRUCTION NOTES**

Demolition of the existing buildings have been completed and foundations are now underway for construction of The First-Second National Bank's Kingston Branch at the corner of W. Union St. and Wyoming Ave., Kingston, Pa. To be erected at a cost of \$149,336, the branch, as designed by The Cunnec Co. of Philadelphia, will modernly depict the new concept in banking institutional construction. Ed Bonham is supt. for

Sordoni Construction Co., general contractor. Work is well advanced on the erection of the four-story, 370' x 115' addition to International Business Machines Corporation's Education Building, Endicott, N.Y. To be completed next spring, this addition was designed by Moore & Hutchins of New York City, Mike Bizub is supt. for Sordoni Construction Co.

**Vanadium Corp. of America Construction, Steubenville, Ohio**



This September aerial view of construction of the multi-million dollar Jefferson County Plants of the Vanadium Corp. of America at Steubenville, Ohio, excellently shows the immensity of the project. At right is Plant No. 1 with the Products Preparation and Shipping Bldg. in foreground. Directly behind is the Furnace and Casting building. On the upper level are the Raw Material Storage Bins which feed into the Material Storage Silos directly beneath. To the left is Plant No. 2 which is similar to No. 1 and whose construction, though begun at a later date, is proceeding rapidly. Jackson and Moreland of Boston are the Engineers and Lacy, Atherton & Davis have assisted in designing a portion of the work. Sordoni Construction Co. is general contractor with Ralph Edwards, Sr. and Paul Gabel, supts.; William Thorton and Bernie O'Brien, engineers, and Art Simmers, project manager.



*Have You Heard?*

Indian Summer daze or what have you, are beautiful indeed. For these columns their main advantage rests in the fact that for one last fling before winter sets in Mandy and Madge have had a chance to glean all the latest gossip over the ol' back fence before being shut in for the wintry duration. Judging by a preview of these lines you'll agree that scalping can't be attributed to Indians alone. M. and M., in a months time gather quite a few scalps themselves. — Ah, well...

Our first hunting story of the season is a daisy indeed! It concerns none other than our own Frances Kocher, Sterling Hotel audit. Somehow with all the talk Shirley Brew managed about the number of eligible young men at the local Moose Lodge, she really aroused Frances' interest. A couple of nights later with a party enroute to the Lodge what does Frances show up with but an actual Moose mating call horn. From all reports our modern Pied Piper has conjured up a pretty tune but, as yet, nary a Moose! Then, on the other hand, there's Barbara Dotter who goes along her merry way simply blowing her own horn.

And, though it presages the approach of winter, Abe Daniels, Jr., Nick Pericci and "Duke" Krogulski are getting that glint in their eyes as hunting season approaches. If we're to judge by last year's performance, they might take Frances' example and develop a few calls of their own.

While we're on the subject of our forest friends, we've been told that since Walter Arnold's write-up last month concerning his adoption as Chief by the Indians he has had several TV offers, the latest being as lead in Broken Arrow. Always the salesman, Walter propositioned the network to bring a Sterling Digger along so they could bury all the good (dead TV) Indians standing facing the setting sun. The Chief's not one to miss an opportunity.

Westerns suggest horses and that brings up the story of Almeda Thomas, Tunkhannock co. Just the other week down Clarks Summit way, Almeda's equine champions took a couple of Blue Ribbons at the Ackerly Fair. Now, Almeda strolls about for all the world like a cereal package prize sporting the blue ribbons on each lapel.

These columns have been a bit remiss lately in foregoing the life and adventures of Myron Baker, Dallas. Most recent episode concerns the precautionary measure he took in getting a shot against the Asiatic Flu. We saw him a couple of days ago and what a cold he had! Medical tests to date indicate the strain he contracted is not of this world. Seems he picked up the Planet Venus type after seeing one of the current science-fiction movies. These days, you can't win.

In the FF Shop we've come across several who are expert in automotive antique repair. Felix Hizynski, Elmer Burgess and Fred Glahn are more at home on old Model T's than on the current versions. They had a big hand in reconstructing Jack's ancient station wagon and all you can hear them say is, "they don't build them today like that".

Now the newer version is exemplified by that swept-wing red and white comet Stanley Davis is sporting at FF. Stan was taken in by the Welk program and, while happy with the new model, was keenly disappointed the blonde commercial wasn't included. On the other hand, Janet Hontz, Tunk., finds her coral colored convertible has just the right pick-up.

We're glad to report Leon Borkowski, Sterling bellman, is out of the hospital and well on the road to recovery — seems like Adam all his trouble evolved over an apple only in Leon's case he had a nasty fall from a tree.

Wedding bells rang out on September 7 when Marilyn Traver, Dallas rev. acct., became Mrs. Jack Swire.

Then, on Sept. 14, Merlin Parsons, Bangor linenman, was married to Joyce Beagle.

Storking Along... Again, Dallas leads the way!

Garwin Tough, Eng. Dept., welcomed daughter, Pamela Jane, on Sept. 8th — their first child.

That same day, Ronald Carruthers, equip. eng., excitedly announced the arrival of daughter, Dianne Lynn. The Carruthers have two other little girls, Debby and Jill.

On Sept. 2, Jack Krogulski, Bangor combinationman, passed cigars heralding the arrival of son, Kenneth. The Krogulskis also have a daughter, Judith, 5.

Jack Simmons proudly assumed a leading role in the Grandparents' Club when, on Sept. 2, he was presented with his eighth grandchild by son, Al, elec. eng. for Phila. Electric.

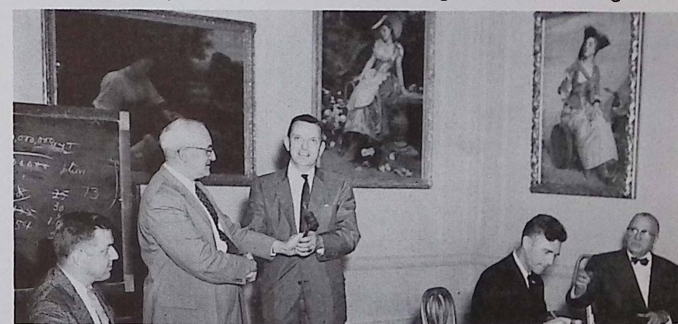
We welcome to the Bangor Exchange Velma Martin and Iona Wagner, former Pen Argyl operators. Seems this fascinating telephone business has an appeal all its own.

Margaret Lewis is that new smile in FF's IBM Dept. Welcome.

We've had a lot of World Series pool winners — Margaret Kane, Sterling Hotel, leads the group and it couldn't happen to a nicer person. George McGee, Sterling Eng., remains the most mystified — seems his secretary, Joan Engel, won several times and each time she picked the numbers for both of them. Truly a case for Alfred Hitchcock.

Then there's the saga of Salesman Sam, to you, Warren Myers, Sterling audit. If you want to buy a ticket, no matter for what, Warren's got them for sale. Right now, he's sparking W-B Kiwanis-Wilkes College winter theatrical productions.

**Sordoni Enterprises' Junior Executives Inaugurate Winter Program**



First meeting of the Sordoni Enterprises Junior Executive Committee was held on September 20th at Hotel Sterling. The new term was begun with the transfer of the gavel and chairmanship from L. F. Kingsley, vice-president and general manager, Harveys Lake Light Co., to Col. H. H. Butler, vice-president and general manager, Commonwealth Telephone. An innovation on the Committee agenda was the introduction of Dr. Samuel Rosenberg, chairman of Wilkes College's Economic & Business Administration Dept. Dr. Rosenberg, in brief sessions at each meeting, will conduct open forums on the economic complex of our nation. Members of the Enterprises' Senior Group will participate as well in the new program.

Directing the opening meeting are J. J. Jarzenbowicz, committee secretary; L. F. Kingsley, Col. H. H. Butler, Dr. Samuel Rosenberg and Senator A. J. Sordoni.



THE "NEW"  
ARLINGTON

On September 16th, the Arlington Hotel presented to the public its distinctly "new look" achieved upon the completion of a \$350,000 reconstruction and improvement program. Most evident has been the complete reconstruction of its private dining rooms, Cocktail Lounge and Bar and lobby. The Arlington Board of Directors entertained at a luncheon for the Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Directors shown above.

Following an evening cocktail hour, officers of Binghamton's social and civic groups joined in a buffet in the newly renovated Grand Ballroom. Evidencing the pleasure of the occasion are Harry Miller, Chamber president; Mrs. Andrew J. Sordoni, Jr., Sterling System interior decorator; A. J. Sordoni, Jr., System vice-president, and Senator Sordoni, president of the chain.

#### Advertising Club President

We gratefully acknowledge the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader Editorial of September 23rd. It is reprinted here to exemplify not an individual but all of the men and women of Sordoni Enterprises who, through their interest and effort in community endeavors, bring to all of our organizations added public respect.

Among civic boosters, functioning largely behind the scenes in Greater Wilkes-Barre during the past decade, is Robert Kruse of Kingston.

As public relations representative for the Sordoni Enterprises and the Wyoming Valley Motor Club, secretary-treasurer of the Luzerne County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and member of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary. Mr. Kruse has been a busy young man, contributing importantly to the betterment of the community.

Now he takes on added responsibilities in the presidency of the Advertising Club of Wilkes-Barre. It is a post that calls for experience and initiative, both of which Mr. Kruse possesses in abundance.

It is reassuring to know young men like Mr. Kruse are available when a vacancy occurs and there is a job to be done.

#### Quarter Century Club

The annual dinner of the Sordoni Enterprises' Quarter Century Club was held on Saturday, October 12th, in the Crystal Ballroom, Hotel Sterling.

With the addition of ten new members who have been associated twenty-five years with the Enterprises, this group's membership now totals 194 employees representative of more than 5700 years of service to the Sordoni Organizations.



#### CONSTRUCTION NOTES

The Sheraton Corporation has announced the awarding of a contract for construction of the new Sheraton-Binghamton Hotel to Sordoni Construction Co. Groundbreaking will be held early next week.

The hotel will be located on Front Street, Binghamton, N.Y. with a large parking lot at the rear facing the Chenango River. The building will consist of a first floor, basement and sub-basement approximately 230' long x 120' wide. Rising out of this area will be a five story shaft, 50' x 230', in which are located the rooms. The shaft will have brick ends and panel wall construction on front and rear.

R. C. RATH

Manager  
Altamont Hotel



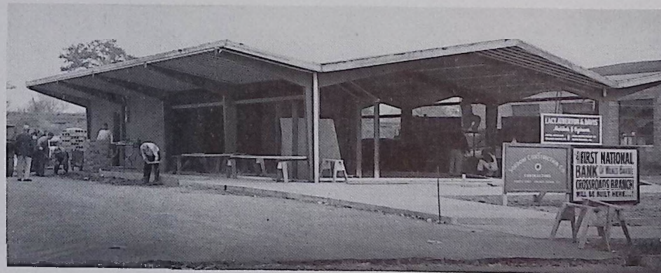
The appointment last month of R. C. Rath as manager of the Altamont Hotel has been announced by Harry W. Clark, vice-president and general manager of the Sterling Hotels System.

Rudy is well experienced in hotel business having been actively engaged in the industry for some seventeen years. Coupled with this background, he has been active in allied endeavors including country club management and service with steamship lines for many years.

The last eight years he has spent in the tropics managing the El Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, the Jaraqua, Dominican Republic, and El Embassador, D. R. Two tropical years found Rudy managing the Aquire Country Club, Puerto Rico. Prior to 1933, he served for three years as purser with the Panama Mail Steamship Co. on vessels sailing the west coast of Mexico and Central America. His associations in the States have included the Hotel Thayer at West Point, the Molly Pitcher at Red Bank, N.J. and the Pease House, Saybrook, Conn.

Rudy's wife, Gladys, and son, Charles, 12, live in Peakville, N.Y. With the beginning of the second school term, they hope to be together again in Hazleton. Both father and son are avid baseball and football fans with Chuck actively participating. Rudy now confines active sports to a good card game and, by all reports, should be excellent competition for a few of our fellows.

#### First-Second National Bank's Crossroads Branch Nears Completion



As shown in this early October photograph construction of the Crossroads Branch of the First-Second National Bank of Wilkes-Barre is well advanced as it approaches a completion date scheduled for early next month. Designed by Lacy, Atherton & Davis, the structure is in keeping with the more personal approach that modern banking has assumed. Open planning is the dominant theme — 31' wide x 76' long, the building is one large open area achieving in its design an inviting spaciousness. Large areas of glass and the open steel structural system further advance this theme. Entrance to the bank will be at left while the upper side features two-angled drive-in teller windows. A spacious parking area nearly encircles the building.

Sordoni Construction Co. is general contractor with Jasper Kocher, superintendent of construction.