

# James H. Dillon, 73, Dies; Was Recreation Director

James Harold Dillon of 32 Kenwood Circle, Bloomfield, recreation director of Hartford for nearly 40 years before his retirement three years ago, died suddenly Saturday at his home. He was 73.

During his years at the helm of the city's recreation program, he earned national recognition for himself and for Hartford for his efforts in building and expanding the program. In 1956, the city placed his name on what used to be the Municipal Stadium in Colt's Park in recognition of his service.

## Hartford Native

Born in Hartford, Feb. 2, 1890, a son of the late James D. and Nellie M. Hayes Dillon, he lived in and around the city all his life.

Mr. Dillon was appointed supervisor of recreation in 1921 to assist in the planning and development of Hartford's recreation program.

During the years that followed, he compiled a never-ending list of recreation accomplishments.

He helped organize and direct the after-school recreation programs in schools, housing projects and private properties, providing a year-round leisure time program for all ages.

The same program was expanded into the city's park properties.

Mr. Dillon was responsible for city-wide grammar school championship games in baseball, basketball and track under the school district system.

## Served as Consultant

He designed playgrounds and play fields in many areas of the



JAMES H. DILLON

city and served as a consultant to the Hartford Housing Authority and the many private social agencies in the development of recreational facilities.

Swimming championships and aquacades, twilight league, life saving programs, field improvements, Little League baseball and football programs have all won his encouragement and support.

Mr. Dillon also worked for one of Hartford's most recent and unusual facilities, the Parker Memorial Community Center, which coordinates under one roof the programs of the recreation department, Board of Education, private social agencies and the Health Department in the city's North End.

He leaves his wife, Irene Keefe Dillon of Bloomfield, two brothers, Richard Dillon and Harold J. Dillon and two sisters, Mrs. Walter H. Neal and Mrs. Edward J. Turbert, all of West Hartford and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at the Dillon Funeral Home, 53 Main St. Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. with a Solemn Requiem Mass in the Church of St. Timothy in West Hartford at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Friends may call at the funeral home today from 7 to 9 p.m. and Monday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

## Alvin B. Coger Dies, Was First Selectman

NEWTOWN (AP) — Alvin B. Coger, 61, former owner of a Newtown lumber company and active

## Deaths

**BETANCOURT.** In Hartford, May 11, 1963. Miss Constance Elizabeth Betancourt of 431 O'Connell Drive, East Hartford. Funeral from the Ahern Funeral Home, 1406 Main St., East Hartford, Monday at 8:30 a.m. with a Solemn Requiem Mass in St. Christopher's Church at 9 a.m. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery, East Hartford. Friends may call at the funeral home Sunday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

**CIPARELLI.** At his home May 10, 1963. Adolph Ciparelli 74, of 29 North St., Windsor Locks. Funeral at the Thomas W. Johnson Funeral Home, 105 Oak St., Windsor Locks, Monday at 8:30 a.m. and at St. Mary's Church at 9 a.m. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery. Calling hours today 7-9 and Sunday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

**COOPER.** In Hartford, May 9, 1963. George H. Cooper Sr. of 209 Fairfield Ave., Hartford. Funeral services Monday at 2:30 p.m. at the Newkirk and Whitney Funeral Home, 776 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Interment in Cedar Hill Cemetery. There will be no calling hours prior to the service.

**DILLON.** Suddenly at his home in Bloomfield, May 11, 1963. James H. Dillon, husband of Irene (Keefe) Dillon, of 32 Kenwood Circle, Bloomfield, retired Director of Recreation, City of Hartford. Services from Dillon's Funeral Home, 53 Main St., on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. Solemn Requiem Mass in the Church of St. Timothy, West Wethersfield, at 9 a.m. Place of interment, Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery. Friends may call at Dillon's Funeral Home this evening from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Monday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.