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## National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities (1965-1967): News Article 20

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# What about repertory planning?

Holy Hannah! Gadzooks! *Batman and Robin* at the Albee?

Owner B. A. Dario says he is turning to the fearless crime fighters and other film fare this summer to convert the facility from a losing to a paying proposition. With the popularity of the dynamic duo on the home TV screen, he is probably playing his cards right.

Meanwhile, there is a joker in the deck in the form of the federal repertory theater for school children. Word on that is awaited from the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare. If Providence is approved as one of three cities to get a federal repertory theater, the Albee might then turn from *Batman* to Shakespeare.

All sorts of questions arise. Who

would pay the rent for the theater? The federal government would pay only the costs of the acting group. Would the theater be the Albee or the Rhode Island School of Design Auditorium or some other place? Would any theater be only temporary until Trinity Square Playhouse built its own proposed \$500,000 house? Would the Albee first be renovated? Could the program be tied to a proposed 1,000-seat theater in the downtown center development plan?

Answers have not so far been made public. If they have not yet been made privately, such meeting of minds should be taking place. The repertory theater opportunity should not be spoiled for lack of proper planning.

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