



MOREY AMSTERDAM tells the fine points of the Cherry County Playhouse stage to Wally Roberts, drama editor of the Observer Newspapers

Cab Strike Perils Dem Convention

CHICAGO -- Three striking unions threaten to continue striking in spite of the Democratic National Convention, if their demands are not met. First to strike were telephone company employees. Although this strike has been partially settled, the taxi drivers and bus drivers threaten to stand still during the convention unless their demands are met. The cab drivers' deadline is just a few days before the convention opens and is still pending. A week ago several bus drivers announced that they would walk off the job if the

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demands of their union leadership are not met.

WASHINGTON -- In response to the President's disfavor over the steel price hike, the two biggest companies in the industry reduced their scheduled five-per-cent increase to two and a half per cent.

Johnson had ordered the Pentagon to cancel defense contracts with companies which ignored his pleas against price increases.

NEW YORK -- Following most of its competitors, Humble Oil and Refining Co., head domestic subsidiary of Standard Oil Co. New Jersey, increased its wholesale regular-grade gasoline prices to service station owners in New York and New England.

A company spokesman said the increase is seven tenths of a cent to eight tenths of a cent a gallon.

NEW YORK -- Seven policemen and a woman were wounded in a barrage of gunfire in this Chicago suburb Wednesday during an outbreak caused by Negro youths. The area was put under tight security by police.

Mayor James Hanes of Harvey announced a curfew until dawn. On Tuesday, a jury had given a verdict of "justifiable homicide" in the fatal shooting of a Chicago youth.

WRAV, Colo. -- Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Tobkin, of Dearborn, drove 93 miles to their hotel in Colorado after a vacation, before the State Police stopped them to tell them they had forgotten one of their 11 children.

The management found the six-year-old Tobkin after the

Dessert With Morey: This Top Comic, After A Play, Relaxes Over Pie And Coffee

By WALLY ROBERTS

Not a single "yuc-a-puck" escaped during our two-hour after-the-performance visit with the cello-playing one-liner TV comic Morey Amsterdam. Amsterdam had a dignified, quiet, reserved manner throughout the session. His interest in people and the current events swirling about us seemed all too "out of character" for the gentleman who, not two hours before, had been knocking out the audience as he related his many real or imagined experiences with buffo gags.

Morey can trade gags with the best of them. In fact, he has been on TV for more years than he would care to relate. He is the only Wally used to watch him on "Broadway Open House" with Jerry Lester back in 1950.

HIS COMIC HABIT of saying "What did he say?" and repeating the leading sentences of a joke developed while on a worldwide tour in Australia.

The platform on which he was performing in Sydney, Australia moved slowly around so that all 18,000 people had a chance to see the funny American. To compensate for the loss of communication, Morey persisted in repeating himself. This was born a comic trademark that he uses to this day.

The "yuc-a-puck" vocal symbol was created as a fill-in while the cue card man straightened his TV "idiot" cable.

Morey is a devoted family man. In "Room Service," his 1968 summer theater attraction, he has the entire family playing the love interest. His wife is his sweetheart in the play. While Cathy and Ann are competent actresses, they do not divert the attention from Morey.

Morey is the whole show in "Room Service." He has been wise in selecting a strong cast of Broadway regulars to support him.

Harold Kennedy, who directed and acts the part of the director in "Room Service," is a top scene stealer. His witty comments never fail to elicit a laugh. And his topless appearance in Act II stops the show. His protruding stomach, the shorts replete with small hearts on a silver background, and the sagging male breasts keep the audience in a merry state throughout his boxer-short appearance.

RICKI COLLEY knows how to milk the audience properly. His Damon Runyon-esque way of speaking endears him to the folks. In any case, the more improbable the situation, the faster the laugh comes and when he masquerades as a do-



MRS. JUNE HADLEY

Detroit To Stage Festival Of Arts

A city-wide ten-day Festival of the Arts called Detroit Diversity is being coordinated by Detroit Adventure, Beginning Friday, Aug. 16, the Festival will continue until and through Sunday, Aug. 25. Co-sponsors with Detroit Adventure are the Detroit Society for the Advancement of Culture and Education, and the Mayor's Youth Opportunity Council.

This arts festival grew out of a request by Mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh to bring Detroit's cultural activities into focus and to acquaint Detroiters with what is happening in the arts within the City of Detroit. All of the performing arts groups consist of local professional and non-professional talent.

There will be outdoor jazz concerts on the first two evenings of the Festival on the lawn of the Detroit Public Library. The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will play five concerts during the Festival on the steps of the Rackham Building instead of at Belle Isle.

Black classical artists will appear with the Detroit Symphony. There will be folk singing and poetry readings in the Kresge Court of the Detroit Institute of Arts; choral groups on the Rackham Building steps. Folk dancing, sponsored by the International Institute, will be outdoors on the Wayne State University campus, and two evenings of rock involving four bands will be held on Cass Ave.

Art exhibitions will be held, one by children at the Society of Arts and Crafts; another exhibition by the Detroit Society of Artists.

The birdhouse had been a dream of the Faculty Wives Club of the U-M Dearborn Campus. One of the wives, Mrs. Calvin Dewitt, majored in biology at U-M in Ann Arbor and did the investigation work for the structure.

TESSMER, a former Ford engineer, built the house from a Ford Mustang picture of the original Pontchartrain and from the martins' requirements as supplied by Mrs. Dewitt. The house can be dismantled layer by layer for cleaning.

Martins are peculiar birds. They require separate apartments for their pairs.

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Veteran Precinct Worker Says Her Job Is Much Easier Today

Mrs. June Hadley is one election worker who isn't unhappy about automation.

She is chairman of Plymouth's first precinct, and can remember days when the job of a precinct worker was much harder than it is today.

Mrs. Hadley said that before the city purchased its voting machines in the early 1950's, precinct workers sometimes stayed at the voting stations "well into the next day" counting ballots and recording votes.

Today, with the machines, most of the precinct workers' job can be finished by midnight on election day.

Mrs. Hadley, who lives with her husband, Frederick, at 462 N. Harvey, has been a precinct worker longer than anyone else in the city. She commented on the changes in the voting process since she started working on elections.

"I think the machines work very well," Mrs. Hadley explained. "It's the people who jam them."

There is always a custodian on hand to repair the machines if a problem does develop, Mrs. Hadley added.

SOME OF the senior citizens who come to vote complain about the machines because they are more familiar with the paper ballots.

Mrs. Hadley said, though, it is much more difficult to make a mistake on the machine ballot since the voter can only mark a certain number of choices.

With the old paper ballots

Urge Vets To Convert Policies

More than half of the 210,000 Michigan veterans who hold \$1,557,545,000 worth of government life insurance have not yet converted these policies from term to a permanent plan, Robert Fitzgerald, Manager of the Veterans Administration Regional Office in Detroit, said today.

He pointed out that last year Michigan veterans saved \$34,753,000 in premiums to keep both term and permanent government life insurance policies in force.

Most of the term policies are held by World War II and Korean Conflict veterans, the manager said. Now at an average age of nearly 45, World War II veterans in Michigan who have not converted their government life insurance will soon find their National Service Life Insurance premiums going up as a result of advancing age.

FITZGERALD noted, for example, that the premium at age 40 for an NSLI term policy climbs 50 per cent at age 50, and becomes three times the age premium when a veteran reaches age 60.

Although permanent insurance costs more to begin with, the Detroit VA manager acknowledged, the premium rates for permanent insurance never go up. Further, he said, permanent policies have loan, cash-surrender, paid-up and extended insurance values.

Term policies do not.

In reminding Michigan veterans of the value of converting their government life insurance term policies to one of seven permanent plans available to them, Fitzgerald said that the relatively high dividends on term policies at earlier ages normally decline as policyholders grow older, thus making it even more costly to retain term insurance.

Veterans can obtain detailed information about the various government life insurance permanent plans from their nearest VA office.

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John Cassavetes

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