Suburban hotels key to convention bids

Detroit has too few beds for delegates

By MICHAEL MATUSZEWSKI aburbia could benefit if Detroit comes either the scene of Jimmy ter's second coming or the birth of temblican usurner

Carter's second coming or the birth of a Republican usurper. By luring the Republican and Democratic National Conventions to Cobo Hall, the Metropolitan Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau will guarantee "no vacanacy" signs at many city and suburban hotels.

Dependrown Detroit's batels couldn't

to the variance's signs at many city and an arrangement of the property of the

n Trenton north to Pontiac.

"THE CONVENTION has to be a metropolitan effort. It just won't work my other way," said Carol Geis of the detropolitan Detroit Convention and

Visitors Bureau.

Mrs. Geis worked hard to put the area's best foot forward when the Republican site selection committee made their swing through the Motor

made their swing through the Motor Cryou can't go in there and pitch just one city or one subur. You can't go in there and pitch have not city or one subur. You can't go in there and pitch Hazel Park. It just won work, "she said. "When you're talking about big conventions, getting 16,000 batels rooms really like pulling teeth. No other city, with the exception of New York or Characay, can do it without talking about the metropolitan area," she said. "We need the hotels. We need the rooms. We need Okland County, where got to have western Wayne County," she added.

DOWNTOWN DETROIT'S three big notels—the Detroit Plaza in the Ren-aissnee Center, the Radisson-Cadillac and the Hotel Portichartain—for awe set aside 2,550 rooms, a little were layer end to the booked total. Together, Oakland and western Wayne hotels and models account for roore than 35 per cent of the booked rooms.

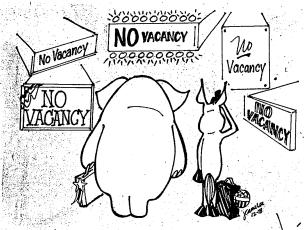
more than so per southfield and Troy, with their big botels—The Michigan Inn, the Southfield Sheraton, Stouffer's Northland Inn, Somerset Inn, the Northfield Hilton and a number of large Holiday

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Inns-boost Oakland's total to 3,700, more than 21 per cert of the rooms booked thus far.

In out-Wayne County, Dearborn's giant, 70-room Hyati Riegency leads the way. The county's hotels, outside Detroit's city limits, account for 2,765 rooms, more than 15 per cent of the total.

IF EITHER major convention picks Detroit, the influx of new money will make recession-conscious local offi-cials very happy. According to Sid Baker of the South-field-based Southeast Michigan Travel and Tourist Association, the 20,000 mid-summer visitors could spend

more than \$1 million during each day of the convention.

Most conventioners spend about \$30 of the conventioners spend about \$30 of the convention delegates spending is going to be higher than that. It might be up closer to \$30 a day.

"It's for sure going to have economic significance for the entire area," he said.

The convention bureau's estimates range much higher. Its officials estimate that the Republican delegates alone could spend \$5 million through the convention. The gaggle of reporters and television technicians accompanying the hoppic could add another

\$7 million to the local economy, they

\$7 million to the local economy, they say.

The Republican National Committee is expected to make its selection Jan. 23.

Mrs. Jo Good, convention manager for the Republican National Committee, responding to a New Orleans particle, responding to a New Orleans particle, responding to a New Orleans particle, responding to a New Orleans particle of the maning, said none of the cities of the maning, said been eliminated.

Other cities in the running are New Orleans, Dallas, Karsas City, Miami and Minneapolis-St. Paul.

The Democrats' site selection committee will not be in the area until mid-January.

Go easy on booze over the holidays

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Here are a few suggestions on drinking that might help save your life during the Yde season:

"Use the one-for-one plan. One hour before driving for each drink; no more than one drink per hour; one ounce per drink.

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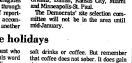
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ndrink.
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time.

•If necessary, turn on the charm and persuade a drinking guest to let someone drive him home or go home by cab.







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