

BILLY ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

New York --- Now let it be said here and now that this argument about the three-martini luch is going just too far (gulp! gulp!). . . First Jimmy Carter gets in the (hic!) act by shaying he don't give a damn (hic!) meany martinis one can drunk (oops!) drink, as long as taxpayers don't pick up the tab. Heesh a reformer that's what he is. He thinks bartenders should put more peanuts in the bowl and lesh gin in the glass. The less gin the more olives or lemon peelge . . . peels. Carter (gulp!) makes the point that too many of ush claim too many dedukshuns on our income taxes as bizznizz eshpenshush leaving the taxes higher for working stiffs who don't take nobody to lunch even if its Dutch or on the arm. Oh, sure he don't care how many martinis Dean Martin putz away if he does it on own time and at no expense to Frank Sinatra or Sammy Davish-- Daviz --- Day -- er, Junior.

But if the priz gets away with this, look what he does to the economy. The leaders of all the unions representing theatre, restaurant and hotel workers all over the country were at a convention in Bal Harbour, Florida, when the president shaid he wanted to c-c-cut entertain expenses. Tight off, the union men started crying in their beers or was it in them dere martinis. What else would a union leader be doint at a Florida convention exceptin' to run up expense accounts. Either the business of the day was to alert all union brothers to stand four-square behind a revolution dang, --- resolution, I mean condemning the presidential order, or they were buying each other a round of -- of -- Pepsi Cola, which looks real big on the fact sh-sh-eeet they send to Uncle Sam April 15. One beer will get you three teeny-weeny martinis that they all were having a sip before lunch, a "do it again" 'fore the ff-ff-ood came and "one last r-round" before they slurped their s-s-oup on the lapel of their Palm Beach Shoots -- Suits. There is 'nother side to the Carter proposals, said mean George Meany, "How could the prez eliminate tax dedukshuns for ya-ya-jachts and dues for kuntry clubs and hunting la-la-lodges --- if you do that you gonna kill the restaurant business all over. Look what you would do to tips and to the Matter D (er, change it to Metric (oops!) -- Maitre Dee . . . and look what happens to cover charges the owner won't get if patrons entertain legs and, glory be, what would happen to the Dunes and Caesar's Palace and Balmoral. And hell, half Los Angeles would be closed to say nothing of Frasco, Frescoe, whad I mean is Frisco. Whi, why (gulp! sputter!) its gonna cost people their jobs!" rasped Meany. "Sure, sure," meenie added, "we are opposed to shum people dr-dr-drinking three Manhat--Mantinis--Martinis, and making the taskpayers pay for it" . . . Then, when the public relations advisor sought to correct Meany's statement, Meany sounded sh-sh-states what is besht for all our members, not just for some" Somebody near him ordered another round.

So there, on the highest levels, you have both sides of the glass. What remains is the opinion of the man in the street, particularly those who go to Church. Said one we interviewed at the Bowerv Mission as he left to go get a free lunch at the Skid Row Bar & Grill. "Looka here, I deteck the Prez is far off base when he tries to legislate morals. Now this guy, whats-his-name Jordon, er, the key advisor to President Carter . . . Do I tell him what kind of drink he sh-ould toss down the dress of that bimbo he tried to make in that Wash-Washing--Washington bar? Some say it was a Martini. Nuther guy says it was only vermouth. Mebbe it was only creme the month. What I'm trying to shay is that Carter can't make us dry if we're all wet.

To get back to the union convention there is one sober note we can add. It came from the mouth of Frederick O'Neal, pre-sident of the Associated Actors and Artists of America, representing more than 200,000 members. O'Neal, a true soul brother stands four-square behind what he says. And what he says is that if the presidents proposals

are enacted almost a quarter million theatre workers will be hit hard if businessmen can't deuct the price of show tickets from their tax returns. Ironically, it was O'Neal who cast the only "no" vote in the AFL-CIO's thirty-five man Executive Council where everybody else voted "yes" to the President's reform proposals.

In all seriousness, such a law would hit an already cramped industry. Nite Clubs, Disco spots and there would be more close theatres added to the already dying marquee market. The Lena Hornes, The Cab Calloways, The Gladys Knights, The Aretha Franklins, The Sammy Davis Jr., The Lou Rawls nor the The Count Basies would have no place to develop their talents. In view of this, Uncle Sam should be happy to continue this tax deduction endowment of the Arts. Other countries pay more attention same. Why not Sam?!! STAY LOOSE

TRADITIONS:

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cendants of the rebel slaves. The pair was aided by the government of Surinam, which provided an interpreter and transportation for the 250-mile trek deep into the forest.

What they found in the South American jungle was an African culture that had been preserved nearly intact for 300 years.

RITUALS & TRADITIONS

The people of the bush travel almost exclusively by dugout canoe, since streams and rivers are their only highways. Each village has a medicine man, who in addition to his curative duties performs ritual dramas that remind the people of the victory over the Dutch.

Counter and Evans were the First North American black ever seen in the bush, and it was only in their third summer there that they felt close enough to the villagers to bring in a camera crew and begin shooting.

Captured on film is a look into a shrine where the bush people maintain their most sacred relics--muskets and swords used by their forefathers against the Dutch.

Also shown are the purification ritual that the two Americans must undergo before entering a village, and an exciting funeral in which everyone in the village participates.

The funeral, and what it reveals about the society, is a highlight of the film. In the ceremony, the corpse is borne throughout the village, supposedly indicating villagers who are sufficiently remorseful. A villager so identified must contribute gifts to satisfy the spirit of the departed. This rite serves as catharsis, ventilating all the repressed ill will in the village.

A CULTURAL EXCHANGE

"Brother" also features the exchange of medical knowledge between Counter and the bush people. When Counter develops tendonitis, he is cured by a medicine man using roots and his own system of touching the sore area.

In return, Counter, with more rigorous testing and modern equipment, is able to trace hearing loss in residents of one village to the eating of the bitter manioc, a plant that contains cyanide.

In all, the Harvard pair spent five summers in the Surinam bush, and they came away with a new appreciation of the heritage of Afro-Americans.

"They are a proud and beautiful chapter of African and Afro-American history which we felt compelled to share with everyone--especially with people of African origin," Counter said.

"These pep
"These people are living proof that you can't break the spirit of people who yearn to be free. Through them, Africa lives in the New World."



Around Town

with Ed Brown

NEDCO -- Nevada Economic Development Company, Inc, an organization whose purpose is to provide management and technical assistance to existing and potential businesses owned or controlled by minorities, to help them participate more broadly in the mainstream of the free enterprise system, and open up commercial opportunities to people of ability who have not had access to these opportunities before - NEDCO, administered by WILLIAM "BOB" BAILEY, will head the MINORITY BUSINESSMAN'S DAY Awards Luncheon on April 14 at the UNION PLAZA HOTEL. Past recipients of tenure awards have been C&E CONCRETE, EMPIRE CONSTRUCTION, MON'S KITCHEN, LARRY'S SIGHT AND SOUND, CEASARS PALACE BARBER SHOP AND ANDY'S LIQUORS. New firms, established 18 months or less, which showed promise and viability, and recipients of these commendations have been WESTSIDE CHARTER SERVICES, HACIENDA BAKERY, PRESTO PRINTING, JAGCO CONSTRUCTION, LUCKY SEVEN LIMOUSINE AND BANDIDO'S RESTAURANT . . . ELLIOTT GRAY, a brother of color and assistant to the president of H & R BLOCK, spoke in the area recently and passed on this tip: Many people do not realize that there may be savings in using the long form in income tax filings even if they are not there may be savings in using the long form in income tax filings even if they are not going to itemize. He said that expenses such as alimony payments, dependent care credit and credit for the elderly can be stated on the long form without itemizing . . . The CHAMP JOE LOUIS is slowly on the mend after heart surgery and his stroke while hospitalized in Houston. JOE, the true champ, is fighting hard in the recovery ring though at times the road is rough. He currently visits CEASARS PALACE when his condition allows and it is heartwarming to see him perk up when greeted there by so many of his admirers. Frank Sinatra will be heading the big salute to JOE LOUIS at CEASEARS PALACE on June 1st . . . There are many in the area who are happy to learn that the bail has been reduced from \$100,000 to \$50,000 for Comedian GEORGE KIRBY following his conviction on heroin charges. Kirby has been sentenced to two concurrent 10-year prison terms for selling heroin to an undercover agent. He is appealing that conviction . . . All young women between the ages of 14-18 are urged to participate in the AFRO AMERICAN TEEN FESTIVAL PAGEANT to be held at the LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER on Saturday, May 6. Anyone interested should contact McCARTY at 649-3812 . . . that's it for this week and don't forget to catch my daily program on KVOV RADIO at 3:20 p.m.

The Las Vegas Voice
has IMPACT!



Answer to Puzzle

ASHES	VISTA
CHANCE	PESTER
RENTAL	ASLANE
ELDER	SANDY
LYRIC	RENDS
	SNY OLD
AFT	GRASS NEG
LIRA	UNI VEND
TRIBES	ELAPSE
	PAM IST
BOOTE	ISSUER
ORDERS	FLANGE
BOSSY	ELEGY

ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE