

## Yule Party Slash Asked

CHICAGO (AP) — The National Safety Council asked its 8,000 business and industrial member firms today to keep their Christmas parties dry or cut them out.

"This is no attempt to dampen the traditional Christmas spirit," the Council wrote its members.

"It is a practical attempt to eliminate a definite source of death and destruction on the highway at a time they hurt most — the Christmas season."

The Christmas party pattern in Chicago may give comfort to the Council. A survey made by the Employers' Assn. shows that 14 per cent fewer companies will allow alcoholic beverages at parties this year than in 1957.

The Council said many Christmas traffic accidents can be traced to the office party and its highball hilarity.

## It Looked Like A Check, So He Had It Cashed

JACKSON, Miss. (UPI) — It looked like a check, so Fred Johnson cashed it, according to the police report.

Officers said a finance company sent Johnson a form informing him he was \$10.81 behind in his payments.

It so resembled a check that a supermarket accepted it, investigators said, and in turn passed it along to an egg dealer.

A local bank wasn't so easily fooled, however. The "check" bounced, and today Johnson faced a charge of using false pretenses to obtain money.

## HAIRCUTS TO INCREASE

CHICAGO (AP) — It looks like the price of a haircut in barber shops in 15 downtown hotels will go up a quarter, to \$2, starting Monday. Attorneys representing the hotels and AFL-CIO journeymen barbers said the hike will result from pay raises granted 200 barbers employed in the loop shops.

Shaves also will go up a quarter, to \$1.50, the attorneys said.



THE FIRST TELEPHONE was installed in the new Kingsley Field housing facilities on Monday, November 10. Here, Harold Rush, installer, is busy hooking up a new color set and a bedroom extension in the home of S. Sgt. and Mrs. Jack F. Lair, 822A Kincheloe Avenue. Sergeant Lair is a career man in the armed services, having 12 years in the medical supply section of the Air Force. Mrs. Lair is a former telephone operator for the General Telephone Company of the Northwest at Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

## Opera Star Leaves Peace Door Open

NEW YORK (UPI) — Soprano Maria Callas, admitting her dismissal from the Metropolitan Opera had left her without a single operatic engagement this season, left the door unlatched today for a peace offering from the impresario who fired her.

Miss Callas indicated that Met General Manager Rudolf Bing would have to make the first move to soothe her ruffled feelings, and it appeared that such a step was being taken by a Chicago booking agent skilled at dealing with temperamental artists.

Harry Zelter, head of the Allied Arts Corp., said he would meet in New York today with Miss Callas, whom he termed "a little tigress."

She denied at a press conference Tuesday night that she had any plan to see Zelter, who already has conferred with her and Bing separately once before. "I feel that this is none of anybody's business except mine and Mr. Bing's," she said.

The Brooklyn-born soprano called the news conference, she said, just to "drink a toast" with reporters who have been writing about her during this difficult period.

But then she proceeded to re-gale them with a rebash of her now-celebrated battle with Bing, who fired her summarily last week while she was in Dallas.

Miss Callas began by saying she absolutely would not return to Bing's operatic family. Then she hedged.

She said she could not make any such firm commitment as stating flatly that she would not return to the Met, where Bing recently signed a new five-year con-

tract. "I'm afraid that certain statements of Mr. Bing have closed any little door to that," she first said. "He's made many statements that hurt more than the cancellation of my contract, statements that no artist deserves." When the matter was pressed, she refused to say anything flatly. "You can never tell what happens in life," she said.

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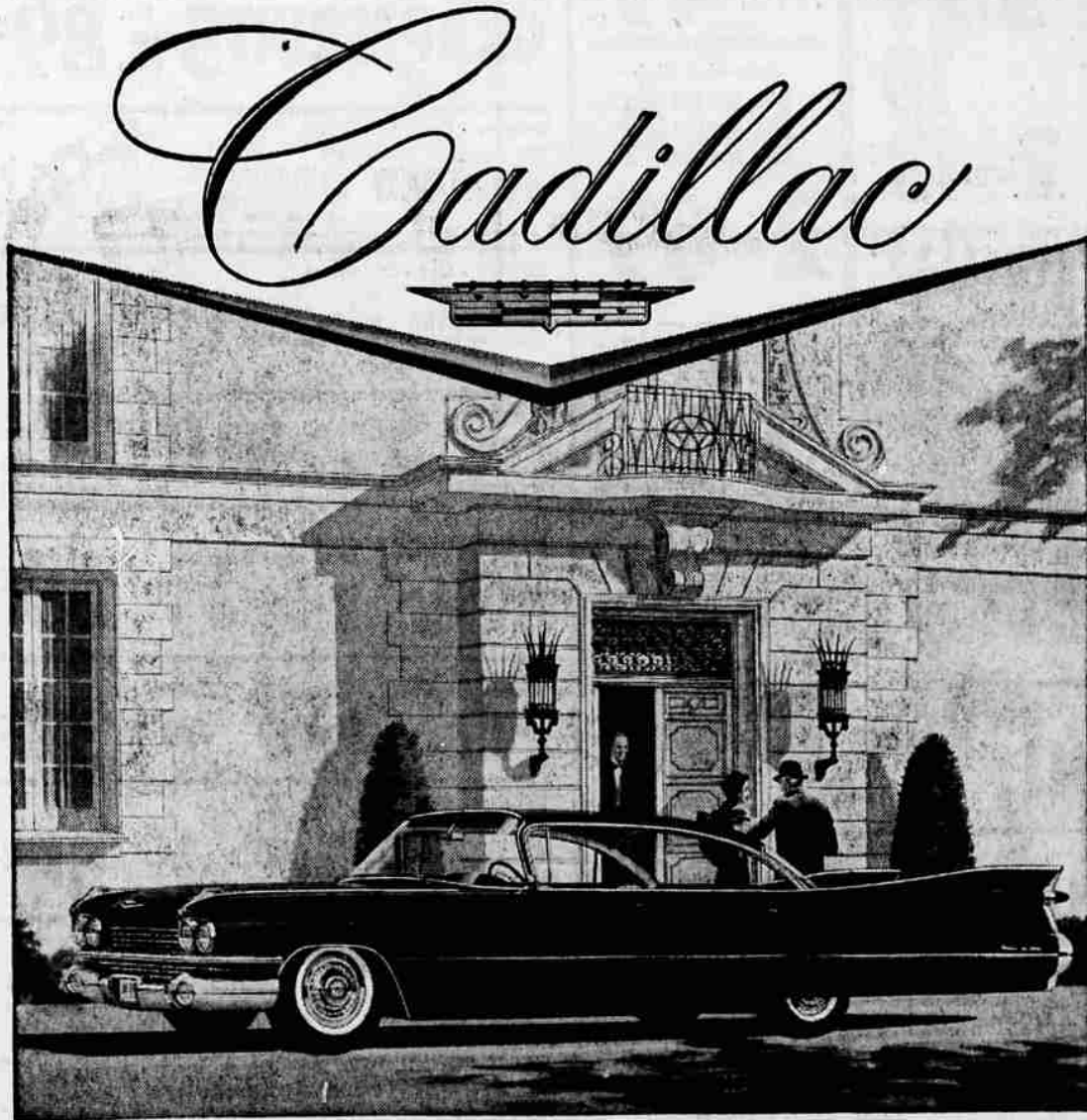
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