oud? Rejoice, his is the choice voice

People listen to Mork's boss Orson

United Press International

OS ANGELES — The voice of on "Mork and Mindy," ABC's ated comedy, may be the est sound on television. Its er, Ralph James, a one-time dore, has the build for it.

e rumbles when he whispers. rson, a god-like presence on the ay planet Ork, listens to s report at the end of each h show and comments, often ssedly, sometimes crossly, across distant space.

rson is never seen. But the can vibrate your TV set, two and a sofa 10 feet away.

a restaurant interview over , an interchange in normal voices, James' Orsonian tones suddenly stopped other conversation and paralyzed several persons not used to celestial dictum with lunch.

It was just a sample, however. He continued in people-like tones.

"The show's producers were looking for a big voice and I developed the character with associate producer Jim O'Keefe. He worked with me to get the right feel," James said in a conversational tone.

"Orson is supposed to be a very large person and, although emotionless, he at times gets involved but tries not to.

"Mork can show emotions, though. He's sort of an Orkan Tom Sawyer, so he was sent to Earth to study humans."

James is thoughtful in answering questions about Orson and interjects Orkan lore not heard on the show — the supporting fantasy that helps the actor become the character.

"I don't know if Orson is great in a religious sense, a sense of omnipotence. But he is a potent force. Mork is the only person who doesn't march to his drumbeat.

"Ork, you know, is very advanced in technology in the universe," he said.

At the end of the show, the interchange between Mork and Orson often ends with the Orkan sprite referring to the celestial voice as "Your Blimpness."

"The script probably said, 'Your Immenseness.' Don't forget, Mork is a test tube creation. Something could have gone biochemically awry at his birth."

James developed the voice in radio and on the stage of the Globe Theater in San Diego, after five years asstevedore in his native San Pedro, the harbor district of Los Angeles.

He went back to the docks for a while after a stint as a medical corpsman with a Marine unit during World War II, then decided to study with a professional radio school in Hollywood.

His first on-the-air job was in a station in Bastrup, La.

"It was a small place near the Arkansas line, as desolate a place as you could imagine," he said.

"Radio in those days was like being in the minor leagues in baseball. You refined your talents until you reached bigger markets."

The bigger markets, from his launching pad in Bastrup, were Lake Charles, La., to Harlingen, Texas, to Fresno, Calif.

He was fired from his all-night disc jockey position in Fresno for letting kids come in the studio and dance to the music.

He was working as a disc jockey in San Diego in the late 1950s. "One day I woke up and decided I didn't want to be a 40-year-old disc jockey."

He went on the newside of the station, KCBQ, and the announcer's position eventually landed him a job at the ABC-owned station in Los Angeles.

In 1964 he started free-lancing as an actor, a job that's landed him in 10 movies, 41 television shows and about 5,000 voiceover commercials in radio and television, many of them in different voices and dialects.

He does about 100 vocal variations and dialects.

James is married for the second time and his wife, Suzanne, is working on a master's degree in psychology. His 20-year-old daughter, also named Suzanne but who goes by the name Charity, is in college trying to decide between a medical career and show business.

elethon cheduled Monday

United Press International

EW YORK — Burt Reynolds, e Villechaize and Lisa Minnelli oing to the same Labor Day — the fund-raiser for muscudystrophy hosted by Jerry

is year's Telethon begins 9 Eastern time) on Sept. 2 and nues until 6 p.m. (Eastern on Sept. 3. It will be picked 213 stations, and will be seen ewers from Eskimo villages in ern Alaska to the American st in Guam. Last year the au- totaled more than 88 million who pledged more than $29

s a bigger audience than d for the premier game of ay night football or sat gh the second showing of s," and it doesn't include ontinental United States and ories.

is year the Telethon reflects of the youthful involvement our activities," said Horst S. , director of the public health ation department of the Muscudystrophy Association.

all said in an interview that from the Las Vegas hotel- main event of the Telethon, ed by Ed McMahon with the f David Hartman and Chad t, there will be a simulta- disco-rock performance as

called Superdance, U.S.A.," d, "and we expect 3,000 parts at the Las Vegas Convenenter. We'll be shooting over from time to time and it will e live excitement.

ere also will be a completely ook — a different set than in years with an arena effect that make for a much more fluid

list of guests is enormous and ll call includes Ed Asner, y Davis Jr., Danny Thomas, Basie, Tony Bennett, Charo, Fitzgerald, Julius LaRosa, Luft, Eva Marie Saint, t Wagner and wife Natalie Peter Frampton, Fleetwood Kiss, Paul McCartney and the Rolling Stones, Field oft, Joey Travolta and the Vilople.

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