Fuel crunch to force cut in summer travel

United Press International

For many American families, Summer 1980 looks like a repeat of Summer 1974, when millions spent their holidays and vacations in their backyards or within 200 miles of the old homestead.

The reasons are basically the same: concern over the gas crunch, the threat of higher prices for fuel and the increasing costs of long-distance travel at home and abroad.

"Personal mobility is a precious thing," said Patrick R. Sheridan, president of Gray Line Sight-Seeing Assn., which conducts tours in 167 United States cities and around the world. "People refuse to give it up, but they'll surely modify it based on their needs and wants, and the willingness to accept a temporary moratorium on their 'round-the-world' dream vacation."

Sheridan feels even the short excursion — from 200 to 750 miles — is getting too costly to handle. In 1974, he said the average expenditure per person for a short vacation was about $100, with 40 percent going to transportation, 25 percent to lodging and food and the remaining 35 percent to other expenses.

"In 1980, that figure will be closer to $225, with transportation and lodging up sharply. The travel industry is close to the point of no-return. It will be priced out; home entertainment centers, giant TV sets and screns, with videocassette recording equipment and the like will become the primary focus of consumer discretionary dollars," Sheridan said.

The energy challenge will be the biggest obstacle against carefree travel spending in 1980, according to Sheridan. Consumer reaction to the fuel problem already has resulted in a drop of 25 billion automobile pssenger miles in 1979, down 2.5 percent from 1978. 1979 also saw automobile travel drop 3 percentage points to 81 percent of all intercity travel.

placement is from cars to buses."

"Millions of Americans are either driving to a location and sightseeing via motorcoach, or simply taking all-inclusive vacations via a motorcoach package. That's largely because of the lower expenses and the feeling of patriotism involved in mass transportation in these days of tighter supplies."

He said Gray Line is expecting major new business in 1980 in a number of "sleeper" cities — places like Charleston, S.C., Chattanooga, Tenn.; Sante Fe, N.M.; Tulsa, Okla.; Sacramento, Calif.; Corpus Christi; and Jackson Hole, Why. — "where there's plenty of tradition and attractions, but not a tourist saturation."

Gray Line has introduced new tours in these cities and expects destinations likes these to be discovered in 1980 by residents living within 200 miles of them.

"Instead of someone from San Francisco splitting for Mexico or the Caribbean, a short trip in the 'neighborhood' will be in order," Sheridan said. "The big, luxury holiday will be stored for the future — 1980 is the year of the shortshort vacation."

Gray Lines has been leading tours since 1910 when a young Washington, D.C., restaurateur converted a Mack Truck into an open air sightseeing coach for visitors to the national capital. Gray Line today is the largest sightseeing and related services complex in the world, with 10,000 motorcoaches offering 1490 daily sightseeing excursions in 167 cities in 55 countries.

Sheridan suggests plenty of surprises might be in store for tourists in their own range. "Did you know, for example, that Eureka Springs (Arkansas) is listed in Ripley's 'Believe it or Not' as one of the 10 most unusual towns in America. Street formations show 'S' 16 times, 'V' 51 times. There are 232 streets with no cross streets or stop signs; over 54 miles of retaining walls; 63 springs within the city limits, one million trees within one mile of the post office, including 115 species of foliage and 254 species of wild flowers. It's an almost incredible collection of sightseeing statistics."

Sheridan said he doubted the automobile will lose its dominance in the American way of life, but it will, as surveys suggest, become a less vital force in travel and transportation.

"With an undeniable and unyielding escalation in fuel prices, there aren't many options," he said. "The American predilection for the good times is vigorous but the pragmatics of our economy — and our own survival — are far more influential in deciding what pleasures. '80 will be a year of short-term and near-home pleasures."

what's up

MONDAY

VETERANS' BENEFITS: The deadline for filing for Veterans Administration benefits for the summer term is today. Applications will be taken at Ramp B Hart Hall between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

ASC/AIA: Associate Dean Gordon Echols will drop a plaster of Paris Q from the roof of the Architecture Bldg. at 5 p.m. to celebrate the last day to Q-drop classes.

ALPHA LAMDA DELTA: Will meet to elect new officers at 8 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

BIBLE STUDY: The Student Y-sponsored study will meet at 9 p.m. in the Meditation Room of the All Faiths Chapel.

Q-DROP: Today is the deadline for dropping courses with no penalty.

TUESDAY

STUDENT Y: The Concession Committee will meet at 5 p.m. in 308 Rudder.

WINGS AND SABRES: Will have a mandatory meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 109 Heldenfels. The Elephant Bowl will be discussed and committees will be formed.

RANGE CLUB: Will meet to elect officers at 7 p.m. in 112 Oceanography and Meteorology Building.

TAMU FLYING CLUB: Will have a film and guest speakers on FAA Accident Prevention at 7 p.m. in 226 MSC. The public is invited.

IEEE: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Zachry Engineering Center. A Texas Instruments representative will speak on industry in College Station.

CLASS OF '80: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 140 MSC.

CEPHEID VARIABLE: Will meet at 7:15 in 308 MSC. Lisa Tuttle will speak at 8 p.m. as part of the spring speaker series.

Yarbrough's appeal in wor

United Press International

AUSTIN — Two years ago this month, former Texas Supreme Court Justice Donald B. Yarbrough stood solemnly before a Travis County district judge and was sentenced to two to five years in prison for lying to a grand jury investigating allegations against him of theft and forgery.

He is free on bond, and his appeal has been waiting for a hearing before the Court of Criminal Appeals for a year. Clerks of the court say it will be another eight to nine months before arguments are heard, then perhaps several more months before the court decides on Yarbrough's appeal.

"He's still in Houston, writing a book I think and taking it easy," said Dallas attorney Tom McCorkle when asked about Yarbrough's whereabouts. McCorkle and former Attorney General Waggoner Carr defended Yarbrough in the case.

"He still lives there at the same place," McCorkle said. "He can't sell his house because they've got a judgment against him. I don't believe he's employed anywhere other than working on the book. He never told me precisely what he's doing. I never asked."

Yarbrough, who ran unsuccessfully for state treasurer in 1974, shocked Texas political leaders in 1976 by defeating highly respected Civil Appeals Court Judge Charles W. Barrow for the Democratic nomination for the Supreme Court.

Within three months of his nomination, a Houston Grievance Committee of the State Bar began hearings on whether it should recommend disbarment of Yarbrough, and in September of 1976 a disbarment suit was filed.

Newspaper reports indicated Yarbrough conspired with William Rothkopf, later to become the chief witness against him, to hire the murder of a business associate.

The Travis County gr which was investigating forgery allegations ag brough and had tapes graphs of a May 16, 197 between Rothkopf and asked Yarbrough to app the grand jury to defend

He told the grand jury met with Rothkopf on M days later was indicted vated perjury.

He resigned from the Court July 15, 1977, whi islature was opening pro remove him from office.

At his trial in January jury took only 15 minutes him, then sentenced years in prison — the ence given any Texas recent years.

His attorneys claime concerning the forger mobile title and foul lan brough used in his convers Rothkopf should not admitted at his trial.

"What he was convicte forgery and foul langu activity at the meeting the perjury charge on wh being tried," Carr said.

Yarbrough's appeal co trial court was wrong in the evidence concerning and theft, and in adm brough's grand jury testi attorneys also objected before the jury of a vide interview of Yarbrough television reporter Don which Yarbrough said Rothkopf's whereabouts advise him to come forw the truth about the against Yarbrough. Othe showed Yarbrough not Rothkopf's whereabouts helping him remain in

Chicago conductor is quiet, proud of music

United Press International

CHICAGO — However closely his name has become associated with Chicago and its symphony, Sir Georg Solti remains a visitor.

Solti occupies a suite in the Drake Hotel each year for weeks on end, but leaves no mark — on the room or on the city, beyond the confines of Orchestra Hall.

"I'm not coming (to Chicago) for the climate," he says. "I have a wonderful love relationship with this orchestra. But that is the only reason I am here."

For a conductor, it is reason enough. The Chicago Symphony stands preeminent in the United States and is recognized worldwide as one of the great ensembles of our time.

"I have spent time, much time, working with the Chicago Symphony," Solti says. "And I am very happy about it. Because, you know, (the Symphony) is recognized as one of the major groups in the world, probably one of the two in the world, this is what it has come to."

The 67-year-old Solti, born in Hungary, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 1972. He makes his home in London and last year became conductor and music director of the London Symphony in addition to signing a new four-year contract in Chicago.

The 1979-80 season is Solti's tenth as conductor and music director of the Symphony. In that time there have been few personnel changes, yet the orchestra has been transformed.

In 1969, the Symphony was suffering from years of sloppy management in the front office, mediocrity on the podium, confusion and near-revolt in the orchestra itself. Solti's arrival brought immediate change; as an artist and as a man, he commands respect.

Draft issue is k to stopping ER

United Press International

ALTON, Ill. - Phyllis Schlafly, the loudest voice in the United States against what she calls "radical feminists," is readying an attack on registering women for the military draft.

Schlafly said, "The purpose of the armed forces is not to engage in social experimentation; it's to defend the United States.

"There's no evidence in all history that you win battles with female troops. I think it shows he (President Carter) doesn't have the backbone to stand up to women's lib and it was just a cowardly attempt to get back the support of the radical feminists in this election year.

"Nobody wants to draft women except the radical women's libbers. It's more unpopular than raising taxes, and you don't hear anybody moving to raise taxes."

For eight years, Schlafly has been the self-appointed leader of Stop ERA.

"I have not grown tired of the subject because the subject touches every aspect of social life," she said. "The more I work with it the worse I think it is and the more disastrous it would be for our country if it was ratified."

Schlafly, lawyer and wife of a lawyer, thought she had the battle against the ERA won last year. The constitutional deadline to ratify the proposed amendment pas 35 states — three short quired two-thirds ma approving the amendment

Then Congress exten deadline until 1982. The plus the question of whet can rescind its ratification states have done — are the a U.S. District Court figh

"I still think we've won not going to let it slip aw Schlafly said. "It was defe three states that brought year — Georgia, Missouri nia — and I think the draft responsible for killing ERA those states.

"I'd like to move on issues, but we have to figh issue anyway. If the ERA there would be no draft issu because we'd be locked in

Part of Schlafly's oppos drafting of women is she won't be taken as anything a joke by the rest of the wo cularly in the Soviet Union

She insists there is "just easy, perfect way" for the States to respond: go into of the B-1 bomber.

Schlafly says the anti-dra ment may add new life attempt to kill ERA. She lishing a coalition of cong military, religious and orga leaders to fight Carter's p

She says she has m 100,000 signatures on pe says more responses are ing" into her home.

There are many visible Schlafly's eight-year fight ERA in her home, every red throw pillows and emblazoned with "Stop gans on the family room stone American eagles s the sidewalk.

"There's not an awful lot who want to take my plac I'm not sure there are any

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