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'Victim of capitalism' could work full time

NEW YORK (AP) — Joseph Mauri, the evicted New Yorker who was portrayed in a Soviet documentary as a victim of capitalism, is a newspaper union member who could make \$35,000 a year if he wished, his union and newspaper said.

Mauri, 57, appeared in the program, "The Man from Fifth Avenue," after newspaper reports on his eviction last year from a Manhattan apartment.

Mauri is on an expense-paid tour of the Soviet Union, where he has been featured in newspapers and on national television.

Mauri, who said he seeks to publicize the plight of America's homeless, is not homeless himself. In an interview two weeks ago, he said he moved to a small, \$112-per-month room in a residential hotel after his eviction.

At a factory in Moscow last week, he told workers: "My fate is not unusual, as this happens all over the richest country in the world, where there is an army of homeless."

Mauri said before leaving for Moscow that he worked part-time at various jobs, including a mailroom job at The New York Times.

The Times reported Monday that Mauri is 10th on its list of 400 mailroom substitutes and could work full-time if he chose to. It said he earned \$3,000 in 23 shifts this year.

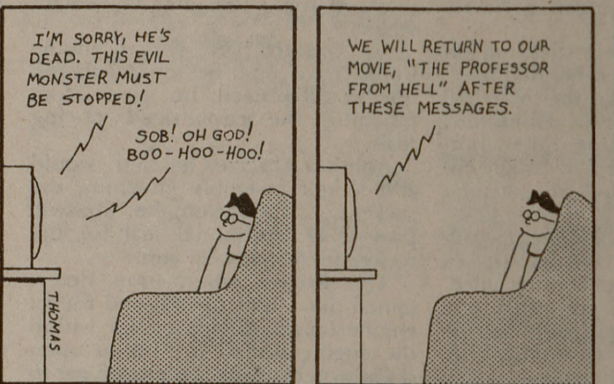
Mauri "didn't want to work," Edward J. Burke, chief shop steward for New York Local 6 of the International Typographical Union, told the Times.

Mauri, a member of the union, told the newspaper in an interview Saturday that chronic hepatitis prevented him from working regularly.

Several times, when questioned about his health and employment, he turned the discussion to his eviction or stopped to consult with a Soviet companion, then said homelessness was "the real issue," the Times reported.

The Soviet television documentary in which Mauri appeared contrasted the city's poor and homeless population with its wealthy residents and expensive shops.

Warped



Lap-only rear seat belts dangerous, study says

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal study of auto accidents in which rear-seat passengers wearing seat belts sustained serious injuries concluded Monday that the lap-only belts may do more harm than good.

The National Transportation Safety Board urged the government to require rear-seat shoulder belts — instead of the lap-only variety now on most rear seats — as soon as possible.

It said automakers, in the meantime, should install such belts voluntarily.

The NTSB study of 26 frontal crashes concluded that in many cases the rear-seat occupant was injured severely from the effects of the lap-only belt and might have been better off if one had not been worn.

The study called the overall crash performance of the lap belts "very poor."

The safety board said its study showed that among 50 accident victims wearing lap belts, 32 would have "fared substantially better" with shoulder belts.

The NTSB findings were immediately disputed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which issues auto safety regulations.

The agency issued a statement calling the study "a specific search for cases in which belts failed" and not statistically valid.

The highway safety agency added, "In numerous studies involving thousands of cases, lap belts have been found to reduce the risk of death or serious injury" and should continue to be worn.

Patricia Goldman, the NTSB's vice chairman, called the predicament "an unfortunate choice" that could be eliminated if the highway

safety agency required shoulder belts in rear seats.

Other safety advocates said while the drawbacks of the lap-only belts have been known for years, rear-seat automobile passengers still better off using them than buckling.

Auto safety specialists say that half of fatalities occur in front crashes in which the drawbacks of the lap-only belts are greatest, about one-third involve occupant ejection in which such belts present significant benefit.

The NTSB study acknowledged that its sample of accidents was statistically small.

It concluded, however, that accidents clearly showed that the belts restrain the wearer in such way as to cause serious head, spine and abdominal injuries.

De la Madrid to meet with Reagan

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Miguel de la Madrid visits Washington this week for talks with President Reagan at a time of strains in U.S.-Mexican relations, especially over drug trafficking.

But Mexican and U.S. officials here insist the talks Wednesday will be positive.

Unlike past meetings between the two presidents, most recently Jan. 3 in the border city of Mexicali, U.S.-Mexican differences on Central American policy will not be the focus.

Instead, de la Madrid and Reagan are expected to concentrate on Mexico's troubled economy, drug trafficking and immigration.

De la Madrid, in an interview with The Washington Post, said his main purpose in visiting Washington will be "to review the state of our bilateral affairs... above all to matters of economic content since the economy is in these moments the principal problem facing Mexico."

The president's office released a transcript of the interview. De la Madrid leaves today for Washington and the fourth meeting between the

two leaders since he was inaugurated in December 1982.

Relations between the two countries have been especially tense since May, when Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., started a series of hearings on Mexico. The hearings in the Senate subcommittee on Latin American affairs included charges that widespread corruption in Mexico promotes a flourishing traffic in illegal drugs.

Mexico responded with an unusually sharp protest, charging intervention in internal affairs and demanding that any allegations be backed by proof.

Mexican officials have said repeatedly that they would investigate any cases of corruption if evidence is produced.

Despite the new attention to the problems along the 2,062-mile border, Hovanec described U.S.-Mexican relations as "solid and strong."

Mexico's economic crisis is related in large part to falling international prices for its key export, petroleum, and difficulty in meeting payments on its \$97.6 billion foreign debt.

Mexico recently reached

agreement with the International Monetary Fund for \$1.6 billion in new lending over the next 18 months, in a first step that could produce as much as \$12 billion in fresh credits for a two-year period.

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico (AP) — The 66-year-old mayor of Chihuahua was hospitalized Monday for observation after ending a 40-day hunger strike in protest of alleged election fraud.

Luis Alvarez, a member of the opposition National Action Party who began a hunger strike July 1, gave up his fast Sunday.

Blanca Hernandez, floor supervisor at the Clinica del Parque, said Alvarez was undergoing medical tests.

Alvarez announced before thousands of party supporters Sunday evening that he was ending

This year will end with the third recession in five years in Mexico. As a result, an increasing number of unemployed Mexicans have headed across the border illegally in search of work.

ing the strike to join the National Democratic Movement, which is aimed at expanding the campaign of a local coalition of opposition parties to a national scale.

President Miguel de la Madrid said in an interview with the Washington Post that he would not accede to demands from the PAN to annul the elections.

Alvarez, in a letter published Monday in Mexico City newspapers, said it is "undeniable that a fundamental objective of our action — to win the respect of the citizen vote — has not been fulfilled."

Barges left 'stranded' by Southeast drought

BAINBRIDGE, Ga. (AP) — Drought in the Southeast has halted shipping on the Chattahoochee, Flint and Apalachicola rivers, and experts say farmers and industries that have grown to rely on them now face higher costs.

"If the water keeps dropping, it's going to put a heap of people out of business," said trucker Jackie Wills, picking up a load of grain that arrived at the Bainbridge State Docks before the Flint River was closed Aug. 1.

Some river workers have been laid off and some barges are stranded by low water.

Five river ports in Alabama and Georgia have become major shipping points for agricultural products.

But now the channel south of Bainbridge has dropped 4 1/2 feet below its 9-foot optimum depth for barges, said Larry Lee, executive director of the Tri-Rivers Waterway Development Association in nearby Dothan, Ala.

Lee said much of the freight normally shipped by barge on the Flint, Chattahoochee and Apalachicola rivers will have to be

moved by trains and trucks, forcing shippers to pay higher transportation costs.

The drought has been a major setback for the Tri-Rivers System, which has been working to establish barges as an inexpensive alternative to trucks and trains. Shipments increased from 627,000 tons to 1.2 million tons last year.

The system's five ports — Columbus and Bainbridge, Ga., Phoenix City and Eufala, Ala., and Sneads, Fla. — have generated 1,350 jobs and account for \$22 million in personal income and \$2 million in state and local taxes annually, Lee noted.

Bainbridge has been an important trade and transportation hub in southwestern Georgia since the first settlers arrived in 1790. Barges, 15 of which are stranded here, have replaced riverboats that used to churn the Flint.

Now the companies that operate the barges and tug boats on the river system have been forced to move operations to other waterways, such as the Mississippi and the Tennessee-Tombigbee.

PUF

(continued from page 1) come is put into funds that are spent.

Profit from security sales has been put back into the spendable principal. The Lewis plan would take that capital gain for the past five years and put it into the spendable portion.

The Permanent University Fund, now about \$2.4 billion, is divided among the University of Texas and Texas A&M systems. The Permanent School Fund, now greater than \$5 billion, is divided among all local school districts.

Cuts

(continued from page 1) Legislature — as the means for moving Texas "into the 21st century in a big way."

Scott Mann, of Austin, also an appointee to the trade council, said the state is suffering "a brain drain" of young Texans because of questions about the state's commitment to higher education.

E.L. Watson, of Dallas, a regent appointee at Midwestern State University at Wichita Falls, said, "We've got to balance research and quality of teaching... we've got to maintain the quality of education in Texas." Hobby appeared before the nomi-

Hans Mark, University of Texas System chancellor, said the move would hurt the universities by raising the cost of capital needed for construction.

"If we want to maintain the construction program now on the books, it will cost us more money," he said. "Alternatively, we can cut back the construction program. That's probably what we'll have to do. But to say it has no effect is wrong."

Lewis said opponents of his plan are "so paranoid they don't want anything to happen."

nations committee to support the appointment of Bob Marbut, of San Antonio, president of Harte-Hanks Communications, Inc., to the trade council, as well as Thomas Dunning of Dallas, and Charles Jenness of Houston to the water development board.

Dunning said the board staff would be writing every county judge in Texas to offer to meet on what the state might do to help with local water problems.

The nominees were recommended to the Senate for confirmation.