

**AUGUST 1967**

## **MAPC Educational Committee**



Our State Educational Committee, pictured above, is composed of the following members: Seated left to right are Dave Cuvrell, Lynn Briggs, Hector Bourrie, chairman. Standing left to right are Edward Glanz, MAPC Director; Francis Kurrie and John Davis. Arthur Young, Jr. is also a member of this hard-working committee.

Committee plans for this fall will be an MAPC and Michigan Health & Safety Institute Hydronic Education series, to be held with the co-operation of each MAPC local association. More on this program in our September Master Plumber. Our committee is delighted to tell you that the Famous Business Management Institute of Bertram York Kinzey will be brought to Michigan on November 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 1967.

The North Central Michigan Association has scheduled Bert Kinzey for November 2, 3 and 4, 1967 and the Metro-Detroit Plumbing Contractors Association has scheduled him for November 6 & 7 for plumbing contractors from the Port Huron, Pontiac, South Macomb, Western Wayne and the Thumb Area associations. The North Central Association will invite plumbing contractors from the Traverse City, Grayling, Alpena, Clare, Midland, Gaylord, Petoskey, Rodgers City area. Special announcements will be mailed soon. Also, watch for our September Master Plumber.

**SEPTEMBER 1967**

## **Introducing Tom Storey, Jr. New Assistant Executive Secretary for M.D.P.C.A.**



Tom J. Storey graduated from Marlette High School in 1955 and the University of Michigan with a Business Administration Degree in 1961: He has done graduate work in psychology, sociology and business administration at U. of M. and Wayne State University. Summers and week- ends from 1950 to 1961 he helped his father, Tom Storey, Sr. operate their family business - Storey Quality Plumbing and Heating in Marlette. In his spare time over the last couple of years, Tom,

Jr. has helped his father organize and develop the Thumb Area Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors. This group of about 20 Master Plumbers, with Tom, Sr. as it's president, is a rapidly growing member of our Michigan Association of Plumbing Contractors. One of their most outstanding achievements has been their Adult Education Program. Twelve of their students have gotten Masters and 17 Journeyman's license.

From 1961 through July 31, 1967 Tom, Jr. had been employed by the Michigan Employment Security Commission involved in job placement and training activities with unemployed and under-employed applicants. At the time of joining Metropolitan Detroit Plumbing Contractors Association, Inc. as its assistant executive secretary to John Davis, he was supervisor of the training section at the Youth Opportunity Center in Detroit responsible for referrals to the Job Corp, Neighborhood Youth Corp, and various Manpower Development Training Programs. He also worked closely with the Apprenticeship Information Center and Y.O.C. regarding referral of applicants to all the skilled trades.

He and his wife, Sue Ann and their two daughters, Tamara Kathleen, age 3 years and Terri Ann age 2 years, are eagerly looking forward to another addition to the family about September 17. Tom's got his fingers crossed for a boy this time. Possibly carry on the family tradition as a future member of MDP,CA and MAPC!

## NOVEMBER 1967

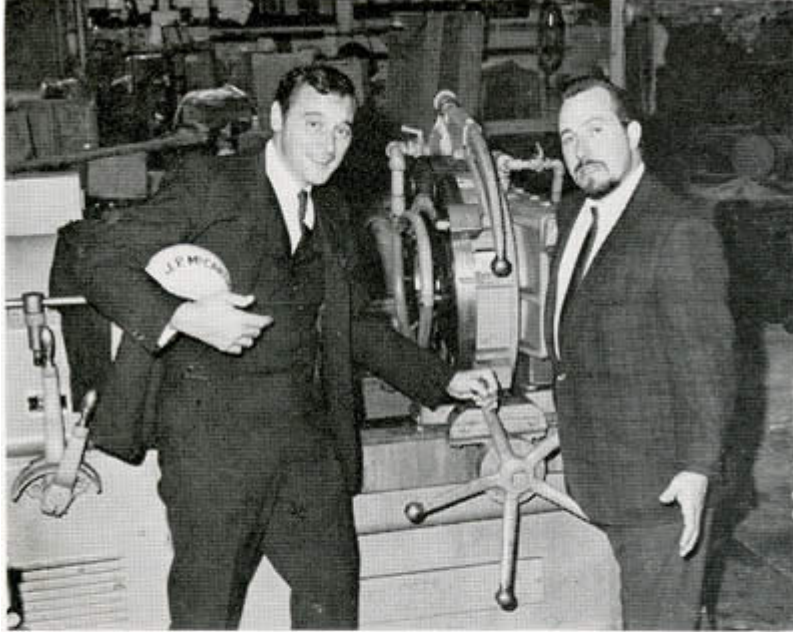
### A Plumber in Show Biz!



*Fat Bob, Jerry and Beverly Geisler and J. P. McCarthy make up the happy quartet here.*

The hottest thing on Detroit radio these days is a plumber. ...a bearded, opera-singing, joke-telling plumber who makes his on-the-air appearances by telephone from a construction site. He's billed as "Fat Bob, the Singing Plumber from Ann Arbor," and he's a regular guest on J. P. McCarthy's morning Music Hall program on radio station WJR.

His act consists of topical comments (often in the voice of an old lady, a German scientist, or whatever else comes to mind), jokes, and opera arias. And his fan mail is voluminous. In real life, he's Bob Taylor, a 36-year old plumber with four children, who works for J. A. Geisler and Associates mechanical contractors in Ann Arbor.



*The singing plumber gives the radio man an inside look at the plumbing business in J. A. Geisler and Associates' shop, Ann Arbor.*

But that's only half the real life Bob Taylor. The other half is a great baritone who won the 1966 Metropolitan Opera competition in Cleveland.

His rise to stardom in Detroit began one morning in mid-summer. J. P. McCarthy played a record by an operatic tenor, announcing it as his own "latest recording." When it ended, he asked the audience, rhetorically, what they thought about that, and Fat Bob called to tell him he was a little bit flat.

McCarthy asked him if he thought he could do any better - and he promptly did!

The call was repeated a few days later, and fan mail started coming into the station for Fat Bob the Singing Plumber. Before long he was an every morning feature.

After a few weeks, he appeared on "Focus," a mid-day WJR variety-interview show. "He did three numbers," says McCarthy, "and when he was finished there wasn't a dry eye in the studio."

Within a week he had appeared on a Detroit television program, and preliminary arrangements were being made for a national TV appearance with Mike Douglas, who began to get scores of telegrams from Fat Bob's fans.

Fat Bob has since taped a Mike Douglas show which will appear on channel 2 in Detroit some time in the near future. Also on that show will be Mrs. Lenore Romney, wife of Michigan's governor.

Fat Bob (who isn't really fat, by the way, but calls himself that anyway) was a plumber long before he became an opera singer, however. And he hasn't given it up for show business, yet.

He was in the plumbing supply business in Michigan for several years before joining Geisler and Associates a little less than three years ago. His boss, company president Jerry Geisler, says he's as good with a wrench as he is with a song.

Fat Bob gives Geisler and his union business manager, Jack Wheatley, much of the credit for his development as a singer. He's always had a good voice, and he had been singing informally for years. But until he came to Ann Arbor, he had never had any professional training.

There, with the encouragement and cooperation of Geisler and Wheatley, he started taking voice lessons at the University of Michigan School of Music. He sang the lead in "The King and I" with the Ann Arbor Civic Theater. And after about a year of voice lessons, his professor, Millard H. Cates, urged him to enter the Metropolitan Opera auditions. He did, placing second in Grinnell competition and winning the national contest in Cleveland. Out of this victory came the offer of a

job with tile Met. He decided he wasn't ready to move his family to New York right then, however, so it was back to Fat Bob's first love-the wrench and the hard hat. He was about to try New York again this fall when he suddenly became a radio personality. Right now his plans are uncertain. But there isn't a doubt in the mind of anyone who's seen him perform-as either a singer or a plumber-that Fat Bob's future is a bright one.

## DECEMBER 1967

### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SEMINAR-NOV. 2 and 3, 1967 STATLER HILTON INN, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN



ROBERT CARTER

JOHN MOLLOY

ROBERT PETRILLO



(Left to Right) DR. JOHN DUNLOP,  
KEN ESTABROOK and LEON KROMER

The intense concentration on the participants faces indicates their vital interest in the program.

Robert Carter, president of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Detroit, opened the seminar by explaining that the purpose of the seminar was to assist plumbing and heating industry employers in developing realistic collective bargaining plans and attitudes. "This requires much work, foresight and continuous communication among contractors. Not only in Detroit, or even in Michigan, but throughout the surrounding states. Today we have a total of 69 contractors here. Thirty-nine from Michigan and 30 from out of state, including one from Ontario, Canada. It is my hope that this seminar will lay the foundation for many productive developments in the years to come among plumbing and heating contractors in our region."

John Molloy, negotiating chairman, M. C. A. of Detroit, and Robert Petrillo, assistant negotiating chairman, M. C. A. of Detroit, gave president Carter able assistance in the planning and conducting of the seminar.

Dr. John Dunlop, professor of Economics at Harvard University, Kenneth Estabrook, an attorney who specializes in labor-management relations on behalf of management at the national level in building construction and industrial areas; and Leon Kromer, MCAA executive vice president, put on an outstanding program. Among the points they elaborated on for two days were:

1. Exactly how to plan for and carry out collective bargaining.
2. Need for and how to develop and maintain more effective, continuous communication between contractors.
3. The enormous implications, impact and compliment requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act.



## 25 Contractors Visit Kohler



Twenty-five plumbing contractors from southeastern Michigan visited the Kohler Co. factories at Kohler, Wis., to see how the plumbing fixtures they install are made. Accompanying the contractors were representatives of the Nelson Company, of Royal Oak and Ann Arbor, distributors of Kohler plumbing fixtures and fittings, and A. J. Mickus, manager of the Detroit branch sales office of Kohler Co. The group-33 men in all-made the trip by bus, traveling to Kohler on Thursday and returning on Saturday. Shown in Kohler's huge pottery examining fixtures freshly-cast from clay in plaster of Paris molds are, from left, Tom McDonald of Universal Plumbing & Heating, Ann Arbor; Richard Laflan of Towlar & Notar Inc., Ypsilanti; Vern Smith, Young and Ost, Milan; John Darr of Boone & Darr Inc., Ann Arbor; Les Davis of Nelson Company; Gene Cummins, Hutzler Plumbing Co., Ann Arbor; Richard Wedge, University of Michigan Engineering Department, Ann Arbor; Don Darr, branch manager at Ann Arbor for Nelson Company; Don Young of Robert G. Young Plumbing, Detroit; and Ray Striegel, Kohler Co.