

Jamestown's Favorite Redhead Plays The Gracious Hostess On Warner's Set

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A visit with breezy Lucille Ball and a three-day side trip to Las Vegas, highlighted an exciting jet flight trip to California for three Jamestown women.

Miss Shirley Carlson, Miss Jerry Huber, 809 Cherry St., and Mrs. Mildred Finch, 63 Meadow Lane, began their trip May 17 at Jamestown Municipal Airport and returned last week.

The ladies were reading The Post-Journal for Friday, June 1 at the Northridge, Calif., home of Shirley's sister, Mrs. Francis Marsh, their hostess who is a former Jamestown resident, when they spotted the direct distance dialing story about this city's favorite redhead, Lucy Ball.

Realizing the star was in Hollywood, they called Warner Brothers Studio to arrange for a visit to the set. Personnel there said they would relay the message in Mrs. Ball, who would contact

them. The local women were caught completely offguard the next morning, when Lucy's secretary called at 8 a.m., and suggested they be on the set at Warner Bros. at 11.

Shirley had washed her hair just before the phone call, and Miss Huber, was in the very tourist-like act of inhaling steam from a vaporizer to check a cold.

However, they arrived at the studio up time. The party was immediately escorted to the set of "Critic's Choice," which Lucy is filming with the king of ad libs, Bob Hope. Stage hands greeted the local people and told them what genuine favorites the two stars are with everyone. They spoke of the big birthday cake Lucy had delivered to the set a few weeks before when Bob celebrated his 55th birthday and a dinner and

ranged for the 140 persons on the set a short time before. Lucy and Bob went right along on that excursion.

Mr. Hope arrived at the studio ahead of Lucy and delighted the visitors with a short conversation, punctuated with his usual witty remarks. He was then called to about a sequence for the film.

Shirley, Jerry and Millie had discussed in advance how they should refer to Jamestown's famed comedy queen and decided on "Miss Ball." When they heard a double hand clap and "Jamestown, Jamestown, rah, rah, rah," they all screamed "Lucy."

Much hand shaking and hugging followed, and Lucy's first comments were, "I read in The Post-Journal that the Pier Ballroom burned down and Harry lions died. Gosh, what's happening to Celoron?"

At that point, Bob Hope saw Lucy and broke up the set with,

ture and Miss Ball arranged for copies to be made for everyone and mailed to Mrs. Marsh's home.

During their talk, Lucy let out a big laugh when Mrs. Marsh said they didn't have any Swedish rye bread with them. This is one of the local items Miss Ball misses very much. In recalling trips back home, Lucy said she sometimes gets out her scrapbook on Jamestown and spends an entire evening looking at it.

Her closing remarks to the visitors were, "Everyone has a hometown and Jamestown is mine. I love it very much," and she sent her best to all her friends back here.

Still breathless from their hour with Lucy, the Jamestown trio then braced themselves for the champagne flight to Las Vegas, Nev., and three days in the moon city that never sleeps.

To the local gals, the flight was more a "wheelchair special," as Miss Carlson, a student of course

voice said, "Here, let me do that."

Shirley gripped Jerry's hand, and Jerry's free hand shook Shirley's shoulder as they both recognized the voice and tried to let the older know. They said "thank you," and nearly snapped their necks turning around to catch a glimpse of the good samaritan, George Raff. A doorman confirmed their identification with, "Sure, that's good old Georgie. A little grayer and a little heavier, but it's good old Georgie."

Shirley's sole comment, "Damn, this chair would be reused. I can't take it home and show everyone where George Raff touched it."

Other stars spotted by the Jamestown travelers were Pearl Bailey, Earl Grant, Della Reese, all at the Desert Inn; the McGuire Sisters, Polly Bergen and the Ink Spots.

The girls spent the remainder of their time in California touring the San Francisco Valley