## Chef uses imagination to spiff up banquet menu

Supervising the preparation and serving of unconventional convention during with a dash of elegance is Richard Cregar's specialty. The 41-year-old West Bloomfield resident prides himself on seeing that ordinary business banquets, for more than 3,000 persons each week, become a memorable during experience. Cregar believes banquet fare can be more than witted salads and overdone chopped beef.

However, attending meetings is the

chopped beef.

However, attending meetings is the only way to taste Cregar's cusions. He only way to taste Cregar's cusions. He is the director of Le Gournnet, the dining facility at the Michigan State University Management Education Center in Troy. He also is director of CAV Food Services, Inc., the executive dining facility at the General Motors

Training Center in Warren.

In both of his operations, "The accent is on executive dining at competitive prices," Oregar said as he sipped coffee in Le Gournet's quiet daining ruom decorated in muted earthiness and World War Ipanitings.

"We like on make people feel like they are dining instead of eating." CREGAR'S ENTHUSIASM for the restaurant business goes beyond his colar responsibilities. In January, he was elected to the board of directors, when the control of the competition of

restaurants in educational and legisla-tive affairs.

"Life is like a bank," Cregar explained. "You can't keep making withdrawls, sometimes you have to make denosits."

The association launched an educa-tional campaign to encourage accu-

trial essection and manager as recursive to the contract of th

first in the country to to begin an accuracy-of-menu campaign, Cregar said.
THE CREGAR name has long been associated with dinning in the Detroit area. Cregar's father founded Cregar's Fickwick House that Cregar began his food career at the age of 13 washing dishes. A 1858 graduate from the Michigan State University School of Hotel, Resultant and Institutional Management, Cregar is now a guest tecturer there, when he speaks to MSI students, he does not paint a rosy picture of the restaurant business.
His advice to students is "The only place that 'success' comes before work' is in the dictionary." Catastrophes are sometimes inevitable. There is nothing like watching a table collapse into the laps' of eight or

It businessmen, vregat satu.
And, the ultimate of nightmares is having a large group turn up for lunch of which there is no prior knowledge—someone forgot to book it.

Cregar's favorite saying is "The dif-ficult we do immediatley, the impos-sible takes five minutes."

When the going gets rough, Cregar takes off his suit coat, puts on an apron and sets to work in the kitchen.

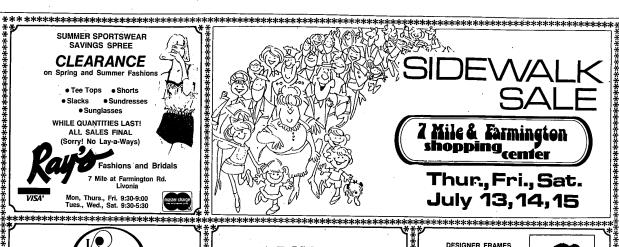
apron and sets to work in the kitchen.

In fact, he never tires of cooking. His home on Pine Lake has two kitchers. One is used as a test kitchen where he and his wife Cherill experiment on new recipies and menu combinations in their spare time.

ting in a sticky pool be next morting because the night had been warm and sticky.

"HE WORKS some long hours—often 15 or 16 a day, but that's his personality." Mrs. Oregar said.

Besides directing Le Gourmet and CAV Food Services and working with health Coregas services on four others because the control of the control





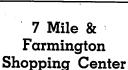
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