

Memphis convention to affect Dems

It won't nominate a presidential candidate, but there's a Democratic "mini-convention" in Memphis in December that may produce a lot of political changes in Michigan.

Jerry Raymond, Livonia councilman and 2d Congressional District replacement delegate, said it could lead to the end of Michigan's "open" presidential primary, which allows Republicans to cross over and support a George Wallace while Democrats can cross over to support a Ronald Reagan.

IT'S ONLY speculation until the Democratic National Committee sets the agenda, but Lennon and Raymond outlined these possibilities:

- A convention site could be discussed. "We'll push hard for Detroit. Detroit hasn't had a national convention as long as I can remember," said Lennon.

- The party platform could come out of the mini-convention, said Raymond. A presidential nominating convention in an election year is a bad

place and time to write a platform because it could cause the candidates problems.

- The convention could require that delegates to a national convention not be seated if they come from "open" primary states. Most states with presidential primaries require voters to register by party in order to prevent cross-overs—Michigan being an exception, Raymond said.

- The convention could ask that state presidential primaries be clustered together regionally, said Raymond. This would end the non-system whereby states two-thirds of the way across the country from each other have primaries the same day. It could also end New Hampshire's winter primary, which drags the election process out a full year.

- There could be "deleters" from Sen. Edward M. Kennedy about a presidential bid, Raymond speculated. MICHIGAN WILL send 49 delegates to that mini-convention. Eleven will be elected by the state central committee.

Thirty-eight were elected at last weekend's state convention in Lansing. Observer & Eccentric area delegates are:

2d District—John Wherry of Temperance and Jean King of Ann Arbor, delegates.

18th District—Vincent Petitpre of Westland and Helen Waino of Taylor, delegates.

17th District—Paul Massaron and Marie Weigold, both of Detroit, delegates.

gates: Allen J. Sipher of Farmington Hills and Susan Moiseev of Southfield, replacements.

18th District—Bernard Lennon of Ferndale and Bernice Stomber of Sterling Heights, delegates; John Dewan of Madison Heights and Kay Penner of Royal Oak, replacements.

19th District—Liz Giese of Milford and Eugene Kuthy of Orchard Lake, delegates; Mary Taras of Birmingham and Thomas Brookover of Walled Lake, replacements.



Whaddya say?

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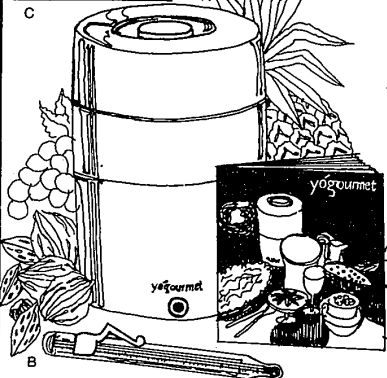
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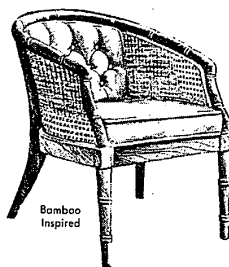
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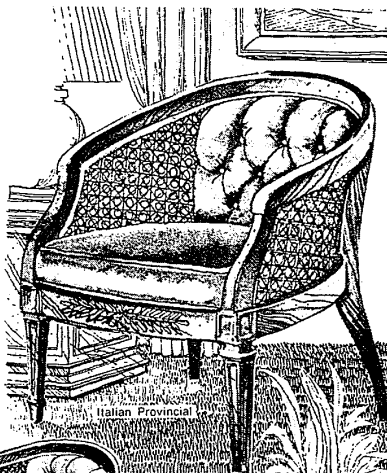
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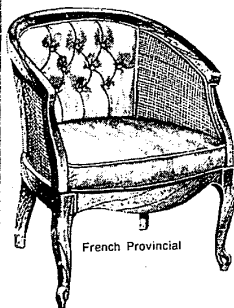
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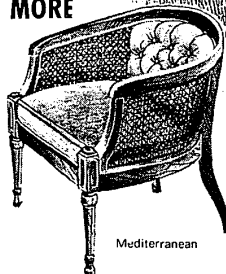
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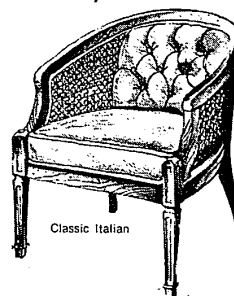
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