

## 'Santa Claus Is Coming' --- And Does At Wonderland



CROWD (Above) looks into the skies for the arrival of Santa Claus at the Wonderland Shopping Center annual event. (Center) The Old Gent and some of his reindeer make a colorful view in this scene atop one of the roofs. (Below) These three youngsters were among the first to get close to Santa and make known their desires for delivery on Christmas Day. (Observer photos by Evert)

## Hank Sladek Departs In Cloud of Mystery

By DENNIS PAJOT

Cloaked in mystery that only American politics can produce, two-term Wayne County Republican Party Chairman Henry ("Hank") Sladek is leaving the county.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that he and his politically active wife Gloria will take up residence in the Ypsilanti-Arbor area of Washtenaw County, "to be near the airport and expressways."

SLADEK TOLD Observer Newspapers he could not divulge his new residence nor his future political activities, "because it would be usurping prerogative of the governor."

He did confirm that he closed a sale on his home at 17410 Loveland in Livonia last week, having put it up for sale Oct. 5. Adding to the mystery was Sladek's comment that "new party leadership is involved and coordination of various party activities."

He elaborated only that the party is studying a new role for the Wayne County chairmanship, which during Sladek's tenure has been a non-statutory position.

WITHOUT LEGAL power to enforce coordinating efforts of supervised congressional district party chairmen, Sladek has had difficulty with such conservatives as 14th District Chairman Richard Durant and

15th District Chairman Dwight Vincent. Sladek's terms have coincided with emergence of moderate Republican strength fostered by former Governor George M. Romney.

In the absence of specific statements, speculation about Sladek's future role in the party is rampant, ranging all the way from "ousting" to "nigger things."

Asked if his endorsement of black candidate Richard Austin for mayor of Detroit in a non-partisan race played any part in his move, Sladek said, "No, I sold my house before that... No, I didn't endorse Austin because I knew I was moving."

HE ALSO SAID he had backing of some party leaders before making the endorsement "as an individual," and that gave encouragement and that the only criticism from within the party has come from non-authoritative persons.

He said northwest Detroit State Rep. Weldon Yeager "was lying" when he criticized Sladek's relations with Detroit politicians on the endorsement. "He's a liar," said Sladek.

Asked if he was intending to serve on the election campaign staff of Gov. William Milliken or other mayor GOP candidates, Sladek said, "No, that requires full time attention. My participation in politics has to be on a volunteer basis."



HENRY R. SLADEK, pictured with his son Steven and daughter Marion, is leaving his post as Wayne County Republican Party chairman.

"I HAVE NO foreseeable plans to run for any office," he said, also.

"If somebody thinks I'm in trouble in politics, they don't know the score. I was in a high level party conference in Washington last week. I've never been in a better position in politics," said Sladek.

Sladek and his wife were toasted at a farewell party by GOP associates and friends last week, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. John Siviter of Livonia.

Livonian David Leathley, Wayne 15th District GOP chairman, delivered a farewell address in which he expressed:

"Our district and local GOP politics are suffering a great loss with the departure of Hank and Gloria Sladek."

RECALLING that Sladek's involvement in party politics fol-

lowed Gloria's, Leathley said, "No other man has done so much to build a GOP party and keep it growing. He is in his second term as WACO chairman and was a delegate at large to the 1968 convention in Miami."

"Gloria is presently president of the Republican Women's Club, third vice president of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan, on the board of directors of the 12th Wayne Republican Committee and secretary of the Livonia Youth, Inc."

Sixty to 100 guests attended the party at the Holiday Inn. Mrs. Sladek was presented with a bouquet of flowers and Sladek got a boutonniere.

Sladek reportedly didn't let on to anyone where they are going—to live or to politics. Apparently every one will have to wait for an announcement by Gov. Milliken, which Sladek said is being prepared.

## Mrs. Moehle On SEMCOG Executive Unit

Mrs. Jane Moehle, Schoolcraft Board of Trustees chairman from Plymouth, has been elected to the executive committee of the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

She will serve as one of two representatives of the schools bloc.

She was elected by members of the General Assembly in a mail ballot.

The SEMCOG executive committee conducts business between quarterly sessions of the policy-making general assembly and has certain powers independent of the general assembly.

MRS. MOEHLE is the second Observerland educator to gain prominence in SEMCOG. Former Livonia Schools Supt. Benton Yates is staff education director.

Presently a Ph D candidate at Wayne State University in college administration, Mrs. Moehle is a former assistant dean of women at the University of Illinois and a masters degree holder in education.

She has served on the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees since 1961, serving as vice chairman and chairman.

SHE SERVED on the SEMCOG regional planning advisory council and is a past national president of the Western Board, past president of the American Association of University Women, Plymouth branch; past vice president, board of directors of the Plymouth Symphony Society; past secretary, Cincinnati vocational guidance association; long range planning committee of Huron Valley Girl Scout Council and chairman of the Plymouth Antique Mart.

Mrs. Moehle lives at 1279 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, with her husband John and children Bill and Mary Elizabeth.



JANE MOEHLE

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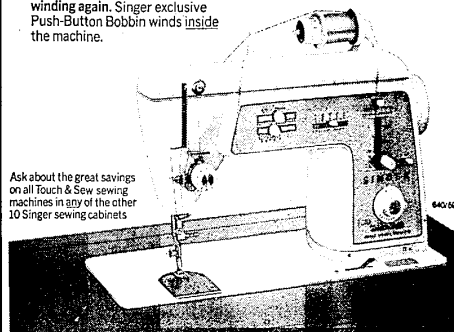
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#### CIRCULATION DATA

NEWSPAPER	Current Pub. Run	Certified Audit Corp. Audited Circulation as of 3-30-68
The Livonia Observer	29,500	29,024
The Redford Observer	20,700	20,261
The Farmington Enterprise & Observer	16,400	14,139
The Plymouth Mail & Observer	9,700	8,887
The Westland Observer (Wed. only)	10,000	9,658
The Garden City Observer (Wed. only)	11,000	11,842

Total Wednesday 105,200 92,198  
Total Sunday 75,800 71,668  
Fred Wright, Circulation Director — 261-3800

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