Cry of the city

GOP trumpets urban issues theme

By TOM LONERGAN

"If we work for the cities, the cities will vote for us."

As more Republicans gather in Detroit next week for their party's national convention, that theme — from U.S. Rep. William Green, R-New York, — may likely be repeated until it reaches a crescendo.

This week in Cobo Hall, 14 members of the Republican Platform Committee reviewed draft proposals for an until the policy that will attempt to merge the party's recognition of such and expensional control of the proposal of the party is recognition of such and transportation, without "bone good transportation" of the proposal of the propos

ber from Carbondale, III., put it.

ONE OF THE image reasons Detroit was piecked for the Republican National Convention was to show that the party could appeal to the traditionally Democratic urban voter.

"Seventy percent of the American people live in urban areas," said Stephen Danansky, a platform committee member and lawyer from Washington, D.C.

"We are not electing people in innet titles, and we could if we drafted a policy that speaks to urban needs," he said.

Platform committee members spent a large part of the week listening to videotaped testimony from Republicans across the country, including congressmen, like Green of New Yorkstel legislators and others bejong to influence the GOP platform to adopted by the full convention next week.

"WE HET DED more our possibilities."

"WE HELPED move our population to open spaces," Rep. Green said. "Now we must encourage homesteading in our energy-efficient cities." The New York Republican urged the

party's platform writers to consider giving renters, as well as homeowners,

a tax break.
"There is nothing more desperate than the housing crises that we face," said U.S. Rep. Margaret Heckler, R-Massachusetts, a platform committee

Massachusetts, a platform committee member. "The American Dream of a home you can call your own is almost impos-sible for young people across the coun-

try."

She said the country was "without a housing policy," which, she added, should be "one of the most basic areas

on Mickie

saps energy

By ARLENE FUNKE

Trying to keep up with Deborah Gaffke just might be too much activity for hot, summer days when energy conservation is a blessing. The 25-year-old MS. Gaffke — better known as Mickie — wears many hats: owner of a dance school, performer and teacher. Soon MS. Gaffke will be taking on a new task when she begins sharing her collection of 100 Hims with students and community groups. She plans to run the movies, which run the gamut from early silent films to musical comedies during registration next month for classes at her Mickies' Dance Company in Canton.

The films, protected by copyright, will be shown free of charge. The group includes both full-length early tilms and "editions" or condensed versions of later ones which could cost several hundred dollars it complete.

"MOST KIDS have never seen Fred Astaire," said Ms. Gaffke. "He's smooth, cool and precise. (Charlie) Chaplin is my favorite. He's an innova-

tor."

Why would a young woman invest up to \$1,700 in a collection of films which she orders from catalogs? Why would she spend hours Jooking at old films and pinch pennies to buy them?

Ms. Gaffke said early film stars are an inspiration. She enjoys watching the range of emotions expressed on the faces of silent screen stars and gets administration of the star of

something.
"Tm energelic," she added.
M. Gaffke's hooby developed three years ago after she read a book about the early comedy team of Laurel and Hardy. She soon began reading other books and ordering films from catalogs.
"I'd like to meet other film collectors, especially women," said Ms. Gaffke.

IN THE MEANTIME, her other activities were bubbling. A graduate of Eastern Michigan Univer-sity, Ms. Gaffke has a degree in dance and drama

education.

She has owned Mickie's Dance Studio on Lilley
and Warren for two years. She teaches contemporary dance at Schoolcraft College and is set to
teach aerobic dance through the Plymouth-Canton
school district's community education program in

Merall.

Aerobic dance uses dancing as a means of strengthening muscles, heart and lungs. In addition, she and her partner, Rick Montes of Livonia, give dance performances.

dance performances.

Ms. Gaffke's green eyes flash and her wheat-colored pigtalls bob as she discusses how she juggles

ored pigtalls bob as she discusses how she juggies hobby and career.
Forgotten are her sprained wrist and blistered toes, battle scars of a dance show which she and her wastndents performed last week at Plymouth-Canton C

By ARLENE FUNKE

Keeping tabs

of this whole platform."
Like Green, Rep. Heckler, an urban GOP moderate, urged party policy drafters to favor rehabilitation of existing bossing stock in the nation's core cities and older suburbs.
Urban transportation was among the issues the subcommittee discussed ear-

urban rehabilitation.

The GOP draft said mass transporta-tion was the "first line of responsibili-ty" of local governments. The federal role, according to the policy draft, was to provide technical and financial sup-

to provide technical and financial sup-fresh transportation was among the itsues the subcommittee discussed ear-lier this week during hearings.

THE GOP draft policy calls for sur-face transportation block grants for cities, patterned after committing the velopment block grant programs for

sector and young people."

"We have been complaining about CETA (the detral Comprehensive Employment Training Act)... that isn't working." said U.S. Rep. John Rousselot, R.Calif.

Before Congress changed the CETA act last year, cities, particularly Detroit, relied on the federal program to call back laid-off municipal workers. Republicans favor future CETA programs, according to Rousselot, that are "more towards private sector initiatives."





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Republican Platform Committee members Nancy Chase (Michigan), left, and Margaret Heckler (Massachusetts) were among those who reviewed urban policy draft proposals.

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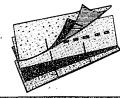
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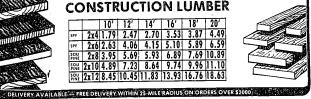
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