

GOP Swings To Speeches, Music

By DENNIS FAJOT

"The challenge of the '70s will only be met as we fashion the proper goals, and as people get involved in fashioning those goals into reality."

An audience of more than 1,000 persons attending the Republican Lincoln Day Dinner Thursday in the Raleigh House, Southfield, has those words to ponder going into the long stretch of campaigning in this biennial election year.

ILLINOIS CONGRESSMAN John B. Anderson, third ranking Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives, concluded his speech with those words.

Soon afterward many of the people were swinging to the music of the Southfield High School dance band, a first in the history of the Lincoln Day Dinners sponsored for 81 consecutive years by the Oakland County Lincoln Republican Club.

Barry Grant, dinner chairman, said the largest crowd ever at such an event was in attendance. They witnessed another first: State Republican Party Chairman William McLaughlin of Northville served as toastmaster.

"NOTHING REALLY HAPPENED. Nothing significant happened," he told Observer Newspapers, confirming (almost) reporters' first-hand observations.

The dinner didn't even swell party campaign funds. "We never make any money on these," said Grant.

Home state Congressman William S. Broomfield (R-18th District), in whose home district the event was held, and Jack H. McDonald (R-19th District), of western Oakland County and northwest Wayne County, preceded Anderson at the rostrum.

They gave brief, typical 'campaign encouragement' remarks.

Everyone who is anyone (it seemed) in county and the two districts, including one Democratic office holder, was in the audience. In contrast to Wayne County, most Oakland County offices are held by Republicans. McLaughlin's introductions of audience members was thus lengthy.

ONE WAYNE COUNTY Republican was venturing into Oakland County rank and file with a mission. Carl Pursell, Wayne County Supervisor for Plymouth, Livonia and Northville, made a foray into home territory of State Sen. George Kuhn (R-14th District) in preparation for a primary challenge against the Birmingham conservative.

Asked if he'd finally come out in the open in opposition to Kuhn, Pursell said, "It's official." Pursell opposed Kuhn unsuccessfully in 1966 and everyone has anticipated a rematch. The younger Pursell, whose liberal stance on most issues has boosted his Wayne County stature, blasted Kuhn recently.

Broomfield's very brief remarks before he introduced Anderson concentrated on the conservative issue. He said the "decade of the '60s saw the dollar decline more than 25% in value."

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McDonald called upon the 'grass roots,' reciting two poems. In the first he made the point that when you criticize your town, you're criticizing yourself. "It isn't your town, it's you."

Anderson, whom Broomfield noted is "one of several GOP Congressional Leaders who meet weekly with the president for policy discussions," said:

"THERE IS CLEAR evi-

dence there is a new way and we are charting a new course."

He then recited the litany of inflation, which he blamed on the previous

He called the decade's prev-

alent economic policy - reliance on monetary expansion of the gross national product - an escape from reality."

"All we have been doing," he said, "is letting inflation determine which demands are

going to be met and which unfilled."

He said the Nixon policy is "for the first time willing to tell the public the limitations on what government can and cannot do."

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