

Jack Misuses Mail--Harris

Fred L. Harris, Democratic candidate for Congress in the 19th District has accused his opponent, incumbent Republican Jack McDonald, of using \$6,500 of taxpayers money to finance his campaign.

In a telegram to John McCormick, speaker of the House, Harris has complained that McDonald sent a piece of "campaign literature" that was mailed at government expense to the 200,000 homes in the 19th Congressional District. Harris said the cost of sending such a mailing privately would be at least \$6,500.

Harris referred to McDonald's message to his constituents, which is sent at irregular intervals to homes in the 19th District, called the "Jack McDonald Congressional Report."

The newsletter commented on a questionnaire that McDonald had sent some six or eight months previously to the homes in the district.

"McDonald has obviously taken unfair advantage of his incumbency," Harris said. "Sending out this piece of mail during the height of a congressional campaign is simply abusing his franking privilege. It is neither good campaigning

nor good judgment," Harris said. Harris has insisted that McDonald reimburse the U.S. Post Office for the cost of mailing what he called "an obvious piece of campaign literature."

HE SAID there were two other instances of lapses of good judgment on McDonald's part. He said the first was McDonald's statement that President Nixon had his permission to bomb Hanoi as long as he ended American participation in Far East conflicts by January 1977.

"Not even the most strident hawk is calling upon the President to bomb Hanoi," Harris said. "Bombing Hanoi would obviously enlarge and extend our conflict in Asia."

Harris said that McDonald's second serious lapse in judgment was to imply that there was something reprehensible about a person who serves his country in the Armed Forces Reserves as Harris does. For a congressman to criticize an opponent's service as a reserve officer is to pander to the taste of the most radical elements in American society.

"This is particularly unbecoming for a congressman who himself has no record of military service."

McDonald Cites Long Residency

Congressman and Mrs. Jack McDonald have hailed the grand opening of his campaign headquarters at 3055 Grand River, Farmington, as "the most enthusiastic grass roots support I've ever seen."

An estimated 650 persons jammed the new office Friday to kick off McDonald's campaign for re-election, to a third term. His wife Joyce is office manager of the campaign facility.

The McDonalds currently reside in Farmington and have also lived in Livonia and Redford Township, where he served three terms as Township Supervisor.

"Joyce and I were especially pleased at the gesture of support given by our friends

and neighbors," the Republican lawmaker said. "It promises a good, healthy campaign," he said.

McDonald said that his years of residency in the 19th District made him keenly aware of the issues and priorities to which he would address himself during the campaign.

"The fact that I have lived here for 20 years, the numerous replies to my annual questionnaire and the thousands of 19th District residents I have talked to in the past four years have given me the opportunity to fully understand the problems of this area," he said.

The office, located at the intersection of Grand River and Interstate 96, will be open every day but Sunday, McDonald said.

McDonald, Harris Split On Crime Bill

By DENNIS PAJOT
U. S. Rep. Jack McDonald (R-19th District) voted with the majority Wednesday that passed a bill attempting to combat organized crime and terrorist bombers.

The Senate, despite many Democratic objections to "no-knock" provisions, the same day passed, 54-0, a bill attempting to impose greater penalties on drug pushers and habitual users. The House had previously approved a similar bill.

FRED L. HARRIS, Farmington Democrat challenging McDonald's bid for a third term, was meanwhile arguing that "use of narcotics and dangerous drugs by teenagers is the number one problem" and the cause of a soaring crime rate.

"There's no evidence that any present government programs have had any impact on stemming the flow of narcotics into the state; there have been no prosecutions or convictions of major suppliers," Harris told the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce.

In the same speech, Harris said, "There's no need to have no-knock laws." He contended that present search warrant procedures and diligent police work are sufficient.

HARRIS SAID he favors preventative detention, but only for persons found to have "probably caused" a crime while on bond for a previous arrest.

Democratic senators accepted the anti-drug traffic bill only after first tacking, 62-30, a test fight against its no-knock provisions. The 26 House Democrats who voted against the organized crime bill objected most strenuously to its provision that would allow judges to add to the length of jail term after imposing the regular term for an offense, if the convicted person were a habitual offender.

HARRIS HAD expected McDonald to be facing him in debate before the Redford Chamber, instead of voting in Congress, that day. McDonald asked to be excused because of the crucial vote.

Harris, alone in McDonald's

home territory and before a predominantly Republican audience, said, "More than 900 special customs agents are needed to stop drug traffic."

"It's the government's absolute duty to investigate all

(vehicles, airplanes, ships) coming into this country, to look for narcotics," said Harris.

ON THE SAME theme, Harris said two types of government programs are needed to fully cope with drug addiction

and the resulting crime. First, he said, money must be channeled into sufficient rehabilitation facilities and care.

Second, he said, money must be channeled into better educating police and better

equipping them; with an emphasis on tools and techniques for preventing and pre-detecting crime, rather than waiting to do after-crime investigations.

"What we don't need is better guns," he stated.



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