Oakland judge fights battle of her own



Voakland County Circuit Judge Hilda Gago hopes "to spend the rest of her days" dispens-ing justice in circuit court, providing "my

Five days a week, the honorable Hilda Gage wages war against crime in Oakland County Circuit Court where ahe has dispensed justice since being elected to the judiciary

inter being effects to the junctions in 1978.

The rest of the time Gage, 49, wages war against midliple selerosis, a disease that for the past 15 years has threatened to ravage her body.

Gage, who developed an interest in the law while majoring in count tutional history at the University of Michigan, is among the first female judges in Michigan Step a labe the lirst woman to preside over the Michigan Judges Association and the National Conference of State Trial Judges.

Judges.

Another dublous first: Gage is quite possibly the only sitting judge in the country who is physically disabled as a result of multiple sclero-

sis.
"I'm not sure what drove me to pack it all in, to get it done so quickly, Maybe deep in my heart I knew," she said of the illness and her manyaccomplishments and community activities since completing law school at Wayne State University in 1971.

GAGE LEARNED she likely had multiple sclerosis in 1974, the same year her youngest child, an only son called Robbie, died from a rare con-genital disease, a neurological condi-tion called dysautonomia. (His two older sisters don't have it.)

'I'm not sure what drove me to pack it all in, to get it done so quickly. Maybe deep in my heart I knew.'

— Hilda Gage

Robble died when he was 6. Dur-ing his short life, he was hospitalized 33 times. "Most people link diagnosis with a stressful cituation. It's amazing how

streastid clusation. It's amazing how many," she said.
Gage's first symptoms included a brief boot of biurred vision and minor "tingling" in her arms and legs. The diagnosts was inconclusive because medical testing had not yet been perfected.
Gage was working as an atterney at the time. Two years later she established a private practice and was simultaneously appointed to serve on the state's Civil Rights Commission.

on the state's Civil Rights Commis-sion.

She describes the appointment as a "quasi Indicial position" that prompted a "yen for setting justice in play, not just representing your client. When the appointment exceed the property of the p

IN THE YEARS since, Gage has taught law, authored professional articles, served in numerous professional organizations, received comities awards of achievement and been an active community volunteer. Her schedule continues to be packed with social, professional and

volunteer activities, in spite of numbers on her left aide that causes a protocured limp, a hand she cannot use and play.

"I had so many good years, I concerned to the protocure of the left and so many good years, I concerned to the left and so many good years, I concerned to the left and the left and so the left and left a

BASED ON WHAT is known, Gage might again be free of all symptoms. Or she could become totally dis-abled, unable to control the slightest

abled, mable to control the slightest bodily movement or function.

"The one thing I've learned is, the normal thing is nothing is normal. Some people, you can't tell they have it. Others go directly downdill. I've known two women who were bed ridden. They had to use dispers. Three years later, you can't tell they have it. The nature of the beast is, next year, who knows?"







YOUR USED HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS AND DECOR ACCESSORIES

We are now acquiring quality furnishings . . . bedroom sets, dining room sets, sofes, tables, chairs, lamps, crystel, brass, art work etc. for resale to discriminating buyers

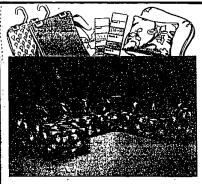
PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY and Avoid the Hessle, expense and disappointment of home sales. We do the pricing, pick-up, display and advertising to Sell Your Goods! Fast and wony free!

CALL: 478-SELL

Re-Sell-It SALES

34769 GRAND RIVER AVENUE, FARMINGTON, MI

HOURS: MON., TUES., WED., SAT. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. THURS., FRI. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., SUN. 12 - 4 p.m.



Only one person can design exactly the furniture you want.

Don't compromise.

Nobody knows what you want botter than you do. And, the design staff at Bren Furniture lets you create exactly the fashionable look you want. Without compromising on fabric or style.

500 styles; 1000 fabrics.

tyou started, we provide you with 500 styles of solas, loveseats, sleeper ontile, chairs and reclinors. Choose from traditional, contemporary, illonal, Southwest or country tooks. Then, take your lime selecting the you like. From an entire wall tilled with more than 1000 designer fabrics.

35 day delivery.

Your custom-tailored purchase will be delivered to your doorstep in just 35 days. And, you get a lifetime frame, spring and cushion warranty; as well as a two year fabric warranty.

Sensible prices.

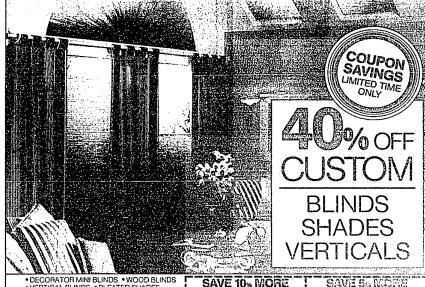
ers you the opportunity to buy line furniture that's sensibly priced, it's there even a modest decorating budget becomes an outregoous Watcome to a world of custom-made furniture at refreshingly g prices!



Open Mon & Thurs 10-9; Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 10-5:30







DECORATOR MINI BLINDS • WOOD BLINDS • VERTICAL BLINDS • PLEATED SHADES • HONEYCOMB** PLEAT SHADES

SAVE 10% MORE

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION

 Dearbom Fairlane
 593-3210
 Royal Oak Northwood
 288-3990

 Harpor Woods Eastland
 526-0200
 Stoffing Heights Lakeside
 247-0430

 Nout Twibby Oaks
 348-7825
 Southfield Northland
 569-6570

 Pontiac Summit Place
 683-1339
 Taylor Southland
 374-0525

 Troy Oakland
 583-7060

 Westland Mall
 522-3011

 Ann Arbor Briarwood
 769-1677