

public affairs

To 2nd District Dems, Big Issue Is The War

By DOUG JOHNSON

National politics and the drive for the presidential nomination are often reflected locally.

The war in Vietnam has produced a three-way race for the Democratic nomination for the Second Congressional District, which includes Plymouth. The war also produced a three-way race for the Democratic presidential nomination — until an assassin's bullet ended Robert Kennedy's life.

The choices in the Second reflect the national split in the Democratic party. Last week, two of the three candidates spoke before the Michigan Conference of Concerned Democrats at the Ann Arbor Library.

One, Jerome Dupont, a young attorney supported by the MCCD, supports Eugene McCarthy and calls for an end to the "immoral" war.

A second, Weston E. Vivian, who held the congressional seat in 1964-66, wavers between Humphrey and McCarthy, and said that it may be Humphrey who can serve all Democratic interests.

John McDermott clearly supports Humphrey, and disagrees with Dupont's claim that the war is immoral.

DUPONT opened the MCCD meeting with colorful allusions to President Johnson.

"The TET offensive was a potent convincer. We hoped then to prove that no president could lead his country into such a series of domestic and international disasters and win re-election. We hardly had a chance to breach the subject before the old prevaricator himself was back in his robes and still retreat back to the Pedernales."

Dupont called for a re-evaluation of foreign policy.

"The lesson is that we must



WESTON E. VIVIAN
Position is Detailed



Jerome Dupont
War 'Immoral'

remake a foreign policy that sends our military might rushing to the brink of disaster at the will of our heads of state, that we must re-evaluate and remake a foreign policy that ignores the potential and usurps the role of the United Nations and other international organizations.

Dupont said it was obvious that a policy change could not come as long as the country waged an "immoral war in Vietnam."

Dupont said that the United States should "stop all search and destroy missions, begin phase withdrawal of troops, and negotiate in Paris for a compromise coalition government in South Vietnam."

On other issues, Dupont said the Kerner Commission report had been ignored.

"The United States has put a priority on killing that is six times greater than the priority we place on healing. Of their trillion dollar budget for this year, 69 per cent is going to military purposes."

VIVIAN takes a different stand, and calls for "convinc-

Suburban Dems Join Fight On Romney's Riot Bill Veto

By TIM RICHARD

The Michigan Legislature faces a fight from suburbanites over Gov. Romney's veto of a bill that would have allowed local government officials to declare states of emergency.

The bill was one of many anti-riot proposals made in the Legislature following Detroit's week of civil disorder in July of 1967.

Rep. James Tierney, D-Garden City, was the latest to announce he will join the fight to override Romney's veto when the Legislature meets July 23 for two days.

Tierney, a former Garden City mayor, was one of the bill's co-sponsors. Declaring that Romney had "given in to the pressures of misguided groups" in vetoing the bill, Tierney said:

"HOUSE BILL 3302 would have given our citizens at least some measure of security in knowing that local county, city or township officials would have the immediate authority to act in the case of a riot or civil disorder, thus avoiding any future confusion such as that generated last summer when the governor delayed and postponed any effective action during Detroit's unforgettable riot."

Tierney said 22 suburban Democrats from Wayne, Macomb and Monroe counties are part of a group that will attempt to override the veto.

Among the 22 Democrats are Richard Young of Dearborn Heights, John D. Bennett of Redford, and Vincent J. Pettipiece of Westland.

The bill would authorize county officials, city mayors and township supervisors to impose curfews and forbid the sales of firearms, flammable liquids and alcoholic beverages for up to 48 hours.

Proponents said the bill simply extended the governor's authority to the chief elected officers at the local level.

State Sen. George Kuhn, R-West Bloomfield, whose district includes Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth, announced that officials in 23 cities and townships have agreed they will back legislative efforts to override the Romney veto.

The only Observerland unit in his list was Farmington Township. Among the larger cities to back the bill, he said, are Lansing, Southfield, Warren, Taylor and Mt. Clemens.

THE ESSENCE of Romney's criticism, contained in his veto message, was that state officials can best make determinations about what are riot conditions, and that suburban governments—such as those in Observerland—are too split up and small for the law to operate well.

Said the governor:

"Experience has shown that normally, at the first sign of any civil disorder which might get beyond the control of local officials, contact has been made with state officials for assistance."

"Usually, however, when a major civil disturbance is threatened or takes place, the problem exceeds the confines of any one locality."

"Cities do not exist in isolated areas. The tri-county metropolitan area in southeast Michigan, for example, is a checkerboard of local units of government," Romney said.

ROMNEY NOTED that the bill allows local officials to declare a state of emergency "in the event of a threat of civil order," but failed to set up standards as to what constitutes a civil disorder.

"There have been numerous instances," Romney said,

"when urgent demands for National Guard have been made by local officials, and yet when the situation has been objectively surveyed by those trained for such emergencies, such requests have proven to be unfounded."

Romney also visualized a confusing effect on the public if, for example, one little municipality should declare an emergency and fail to tell surrounding areas:

"Innocent people traveling through such a community could be unaware that local officials had proclaimed any state of emergency."

"It is essential in times of public crisis and civil disorders that a uniform plan of action be established, not just within a particular city or township, but throughout the entire area. To do less would be ineffective, even dangerous."

"THUS," ROMNEY went on, "because when such disorders occur they involve the assistance of state personnel and because broad uniform action is needed, it is my opinion that the authority which this type of legislation attempts to invest in local officials is unsound and should be retained by state officials."

Romney concluded: "I realize the importance which has been attached to this particular piece of legislation, and I know further that local officials have been desirous of this type of authority. But in considering the over-all good of the people of this state and the need for maintaining the highest degree of law enforcement possible in emergency situations, I cannot approve this legislation."

Endorsing Frink Farnum Home In 19th District

Billie S. Farnum is coming back home from the national political wars.

He will clean up his desk in Washington after the National Democratic Convention and head for Oakland County.

"My future is back with the people here," he said.

Farnum, former Congressman, state auditor general and a top-echelon toiler in the Democratic hierarchy for years, has never really been away.

As vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee for two years, Farnum kept in touch with Michigan while flying about the nation as a party troubleshooter and voter registration evangelist.

Farnum—named for Evangelist Billie Sunday—in an old line follower of the truism: "Good government makes good politics."

Now for the first time publicly, Farnum has endorsed a Democrat in a primary race. He has plumped sled-length for Congressional Candidate Gary R. Frink against Ron Mardiros.

WHY would an old party dis-



BILLIE S. FARNUM
Where The Folks Are

the letter he sent out. But that isn't the only reason I'm endorsing Frink for my old job."

Farnum cited Frink's experience in Washington as a congressional aide, as general counsel to subcommittees and in other positions of trust and confidence.

"He (Frink) already knows his way around," Farnum said. "I think today, with the physical requirements of the job, that we've got to start looking toward these young men coming up."

"Frink has a good sense of balance, integrity, ambition and the eagerness to do a good job. I think he'll make a great congressman for the 19th."

Frink and Mardiros will meet head-on in the Aug. 6 Democratic primary. The winner will go against Republican Rep. Jack H. McDonald in the Nov. 5 general election.

The Frink-Mardiros hassle is the latest in the political benchmarks that have enervated Farnum during his long career in Michigan politics.

HE WAS once the bodyguard for UAW President Walter P. Reuther. He came to state government as a top aide to Secretary of State James M. Harbo and became a party strategist.

Party leaders locally and nationally never forgot and they've been Farnum's counsel since that time.

Together with Sidney H. Woolner, Farnum helped swing the Michigan delegation to Adlai Stevenson one year minutes before the bandwagon started to roll in the national convention.

Farnum was the last of Michigan's elective auditors general. He left to run for congress in the 19th district and won in 1964.

He served a two-year term and was defeated in 1966 by McDonald during the statewide sweep by Gov. Romney.

Since that time, Farnum has been laboring in the vineyards of the National Democratic Committee.

Now it's time to come back home.

"I'll be back," Farnum said.

Wayne County Voters Asked To Renew Tax

Wayne County voters will be asked Aug. 6 to renew a one-mill property tax to operate their county government.

It will appear as "County Proposition No. 1" on the primary ballot in Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth city and township, Redford Township, Westland and other Wayne County municipalities.

Taxpayers won't go up if the proposition is passed. Rather, the proposal is merely to continue the one mill authorized in 1964 until 1974.

THE ONE MILL (\$1 per \$1,000 of state equalized property valuation) means only about 50 cents a month to the average homeowner, according to the Wayne County Board of Supervisors.

But it produces more than \$9 million annually to meet pressing human needs, they said.

The board stated, "Approval is essential to maintain adequate public services for Wayne County's 2.7 million citizens."

Particularly needful of the continued funding are the fields of juvenile delinquency, hospital care, public health, child care, mental health, law enforcement, justice, education, libraries and parks, according to the board.

"RISING COSTS of goods and services, coupled with tremen-

dous population growth, has forced Wayne County government to reduce programs to the point where further cutbacks would imperil the health and safety of all citizens," stated the board.

Population increases have been heaviest in suburban areas outside the City of Detroit, amounting to a 31 per cent increase.

One measurable factor requiring the one-mill renewal is that at present the county per 75,000 residents. The American Public Health Association recommends one per 5,000.

"Many preventable deaths are occurring now in Wayne County," said the county board.

"Many juvenile delinquents capable of serious crimes are roaming our streets, unsupervised, because of this court's lack of staff and space," stated a juvenile court judge James H. Lincoln, who is chairman of the Citizens for County Proposition No. 1 campaign committee.

ALSO, SAID THE county board, "In 1964, the lack of funds forced closing of a 60-bed bed at Wayne County General Hospital, which annually serves more than 100,000 patients from every community. This could happen again."

Mental health care needs con-

tinued funding to maintain even an adequate level, the sheriff's road patrol has only two traffic safety cars patrolling 280 square miles where there should be at least eight, added the board.

Court costs, the county child development center, the foster home program, library services and park patrolling and maintenance would also suffer without the continued one mill, according to the board.

County Board Moves To Limit Own Pay

The present Wayne County Board of Supervisors is moving to limit the pay of the new 26-member Board of Supervisors, which is due to take office next Jan. 1.

A recently-enacted state law gives the new 26-member board total discretion in setting its own compensation. There has been speculation that the new board might declare itself a full-time legislative body and match for itself the \$15,000 annual pay of state legislators.

The top policy body of the present board, the Committee of Chairmen of Standing Committees, has acted to head off such a move.

Those present unanimously adopted a resolution recommending that the present Board of Supervisors limit the compensation for new board members in adopting the budget for the county's next fiscal year, beginning Dec. 1.

It was recommended that board members receive \$25 per meeting, with an annual total salary maximum of \$2,500. Members of the present board receive \$15 per meeting, with an annual maximum.

The committee recommended that the board chairman receive \$30 per meeting, with an annual maximum of \$3,000. The present chairman receives \$20 per meeting, with an annual maximum.

Who says no News is good news.

Oakland Dems To Test Presidential Preference

George Gogastan, chairman of the Oakland County Democratic Committee, has announced that the Democratic Committee will make a Presidential preference survey in Oakland County late in July.

The survey will be conducted by mail among all the dues-paying members of the Democratic State Central Committee residing in the county, according to Gogastan.

"It has often been difficult for the rank and file membership of the Democratic Party to effectively convey their opinions to the delegates representing them at the National Convention. I am hopeful, however,

that this survey will provide an opportunity for Oakland Democrats to communicate their preferences to the Michigan Democratic delegation," Gogastan said.

The results of the survey will be forwarded to the Michigan Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the National Convention in Chicago in addition to being published in "The Oakland County Democrat" newsletter.

Gogastan urged those who wish to participate in the poll to contact the Oakland County Democratic Committee in Pontiac for additional information, 334-0971.

Ladies Dinner Aids Mardiros

Ladies only are being invited to a dinner for Ron Mardiros, of Livonia, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Congress in the 19th District.

The dinner is scheduled for Thursday, July 25, beginning with cocktails at 7:30 p.m. in the Raleigh House, Southfield.

Tickets at \$5 can be obtained from Mrs. Rose Patchett, dinner chairman, 532-3251; Mrs. Adrienne Becker, Livonia, 474-5335; Mrs. Ann Sipher, Farmington, 681-3786, and Mrs. Naomi Davidson, Redford 533-8086.

Master of ceremonies will be State Sen. Roger Craig, D-DeARBORN.