

"More Women In Politics" Agree Distaff Candidates

Veteran Treasurer Encourages Women In Political Life

They All Agree!

Newcomer Brings Qualifications For Job She Seeks to Fill

By MYRA COX

In an interview this week with as many women candidates as we could find—one thing they had in common, regardless of their political philosophy, office they were seeking or town they came from—THERE SHOULD BE MORE WOMEN IN POLITICS—Downriver, Republican Clerk candidate in Redford Township (unopposed), Pat Comrie and Laura Banwart also of Redford Township, agreed on this even though they are squared against each other in the Democratic race for the Clerk's office. Alice Johnson, running for the Republican Senate seat from Redford Township emphasized it. Pat said members of her Business and Professional Women's Club encouraged her to become a candidate and promised support.



Elise P. Avery



PETE PETERSON in his kitchen at Charlotte

...And Now We Come To A Top Woman Candidate's Husband

Michigan's undisputed political widower of 1964 is W. Merritt Peterson of Charlotte.

"Pete," as his friends call him, won the title simply by being the husband of Michigan's first woman candidate for the United States Senate, Elly M. Peterson. "It's not so much," says Pete modestly, describing his award, "All I had to do was marry Elly and live with her for 29 years. You might say it's sort of a bonus to a good deal."

Pete is a colonel in the Army National Guard and drives to Lansing each day to his job at state guard headquarters. He is U.S. Property and Fiscal Officer, in charge of all material and supplies for the National Guard in Michigan.

When Elly founded the state with Lenore Romney during Gov. Romney's campaign in 1962, Pete served his apprenticeship in political widowhood. With that election over, he looked forward to enjoying two years of Elly's home cooking, uninterrupted by politics.

But Pete guessed wrong. In the fall of 1963 Republican National Chairman William Miller, now the GOP Vice-Presidential nominee, tapped Elly for his Assistant Chairman, making her the top woman in the Republican Party. So Elly packed off to Washington, and Pete's widowhood began in earnest.

From Washington Elly went to California, where she deliv-

Another well qualified woman, but very new on the scene is Marie E. Miller.

Mrs. Miller is running for State Representative from the 35th District. She has many men opponents and it occurred to me, with her excellent qualifications—those men may just cut each other up and in would march Mrs. Miller with her small army of volunteer women. Of course it does take a while to organize a local caucus.

Mrs. Miller is a teacher, a former nurse and an attorney. She lives on Jeanine in Livonia and says she was stimulated to get into the political arena because of the recent nationwide stress on having qualified women participate actively in political and governmental positions.

She said "Michigan is undergoing a change because of the recent reapportionment of the state legislative districts. Rapidly growing suburban areas, such as Livonia and Northville, will now have dynamic repre-

sentation of their vital interests. I would like to be a part of this new look in the legislature and reflect your ideas for the betterment of the community."

"Because of my legal and nursing education, with 12 years employment in health and educational agencies, I would contribute a unique background in matters of health and educational legislation," she said.

The nation-wide stress is due to modern appreciation of the fact that a balance of community representation is required in daily governmental activities."

Mrs. Miller termed it a "revelation" to discover that out of 110 Michigan state representatives, only five are women.

As a state representative, Mrs. Miller pledges to work for: Progressive programs for mental health and modern health legislation. Early detection and rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents. Maintaining the quality of Michigan schools and universities. Relief of overburdened property owners in financing schools.

A graduate of the Grace Hospital School of Nursing and the Wayne State University College of Nursing, Mrs. Miller worked

as a surgical nurse in orthopedic and heart surgery at Grace Hospital.

She has taught Physiology and Anatomy to practical nurses in a Detroit Board of Education program and has served as a public health nurse for more than two years for the Detroit Department of Health, making home and school visits teaching health and disease control.

She also has taught in prenatal clinics.

Mrs. Miller did legal research for Circuit Judge John M. Wise while an honor student at Detroit College of Law.



Mrs. Marie E. Miller

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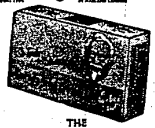
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The Fair is an annual fund-raising project of the Christ Child Society, which uses the proceeds to support its school for educable retarded children and Christ Child House for temporary care of unfortunate children.

The tea will be held Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, 11:00 - 4:00 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Paul Lepping, Chairman, 31149 Berryhill Road, Farmington, 48038. Co-chairmen will be Mrs. John A. Allen, GR 4-2583, and Mrs. Edward Balfe, EL 6-5915.

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