



LECTURER, WILLEM OLTMANS met informally in the Plymouth Meeting House with some officers and guests of the Northville Town Hall (from left): Mrs. Duane Butler, luncheon reservations chairman; Mrs. George Murwin, transportation; Mrs. Robert Brueck, chairman, and Mrs. Joseph Riorilli, recording secretary.

Dutch Journalist Gives Eye-Popping News 'Focus'

Members of the Northville Town Hall had their eyes opened about current events Thursday by Willem Oltmans, the Dutch foreign correspondent who addressed the group in the morning at the P & A Theater in Northville.

In his speech, "Trouble Spots in Focus," and later in his answers to questions at a lunch at the Mayflower Meeting House in Plymouth, Oltmans drew on his experience as a newspaper, radio and television reporter around the world to give a free-wheeling analysis of a group of world trouble spots.

SOME EXAMPLES:
• Presidential Special Assistant for Foreign Policy Walt Whitman Rostow, identified as the key architect of the administration's policy in Vietnam was characterized as "a fool. He doesn't know a darn thing about Asia. The way this man talks about Asia makes no sense."

• "The worst trouble spot is your own country," Oltmans said, "because you can't believe your own government." The journalist cited the U.S. government reports which claimed that 68 per cent of Vietnam was under control, only to be followed four weeks later by a Viet Cong offensive which took over 37 South Vietnamese cities.

• The head of the nationalized oil company in Indonesia, a general and a supporter of Acting President Suharto's government, was described as "the filthiest crook in Indonesia."

OLTSMANS declared that American policy of supporting corrupt regimes was in the long run the surest way to promote Communist expansion, "since Communism feeds on corruption and misery like nothing else in the world."

Kuhn Asks Cutback

State Sen. George W. Kuhn, R-West Bloomfield, has introduced a bill to provide property tax relief by reducing from 50 to 40 per cent of true cash value the rate at which property must be assessed.

"When a previous Legislature required that property be assessed at 50 per cent of its true cash value, many taxpayers—especially the aged and the poor—were dealt a serious blow. I feel very strongly that this was an extremely unfortunate move and that it should be corrected," said Sen. Kuhn. "In these days of rising prices, people with low incomes and retired persons find themselves hard-pressed to make ends meet. The greater the tax load on property, the more people are forced to get rid of their homes."

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