

Spreen charges board with playing politics

By SUSAN L. SILK

Detroit political leaders ignored his warnings, during his tenure as police commissioner, that the city was headed for crime problems.

And now as Oakland County Sheriff, Johannes F. Spreen is publicly warning that "petty partisan politicians" ignoring his requests may leave the county "in the same bind as Detroit."

Spreen's remarks came at the conclusion of a program of individual and property protection advice attended by approximately 100 people, according to the sheriff's department official estimates.

"I ASKED for help once before in Detroit. But the political leaders of the council, in their feuding with the mayor, refused to heed my warnings, and Detroit has suffered."

"It might have been otherwise. What will it be in Oakland County? Will our political leaders act less like petty partisan politicians and more like statesmen?" Spreen said. Spreen campaigned for the sheriff's

post as a Democrat. The board of commissioners is split 18-9, with the majority of members being Republican.

THE SHERIFF told the audience that his department is threatened with its "own dissolution" by the board of commissioners' reported failure to increase his "crime fighting budget" in 1974.

Any additional funds in the 1974 budget are to cover pay increases demanded by union negotiations and "other benefits," Spreen said.

SPREEN NAMED three commissioners as the targets of his wrath: former board chairman, Paul E. Kasper, R-Bloomfield Hills; Criminal Justice Coordinating Council chairman, Henry W. Hoot, R-Bloomfield Hills, and Patrick M. Nowak, R-Farmington.

Without naming him, Spreen also referred to a published statement by present board chairman Richard R. Wilcox, R-Orionville, which allegedly charged Spreen with "empire building" and "attempting to take over local police departments."

Spreen said he "intends his department to be an 'umbrella of support' to local police agencies in addition to

providing police protection to citizens not protected by a local police force.

In the past, however, the board of commissioners have told Spreen that according to state statute, the sheriff's department is only required to maintain a jail.

WILCOX AND Nowak both said the sheriff has failed to present to the board, as they reportedly asked of him, a developed long range program with future directions and objectives spelled out.

To Spreen's charge of no additional funds or support, Wilcox answered that the board has already committed

its financial support in two grant applications and is presently considering another three requests.

"He asks for something and if he gets it, fine; if he doesn't, he right away goes out and cries politics," Wilcox said.

TO SPREEN'S charge that he is refused a hearing before the full Board of Commissioners, Nowak said, "If we allowed 69 department heads to appear before a full board meeting to discuss their needs, county government would come to a halt."

Cancer Society funds solicited

During the week of April 21-28, more than 12,000 American Cancer Society volunteers will go from door to door to solicit funds for the society's Oakland County Unit education and solicitation week.

Of the funds raised this year, about 30 percent of the \$207,000 goal will be allocated to cancer research. Large percentages will also be used to support the unit's Public Education and Patient Services programs.

Although research offers to be the most promising front in the fight against cancer, public education is strongly emphasized in an attempt to make county residents more aware of how they can individually join the fight.

Thanks to research and public education, one out of every three cancer victims can now be treated and cured. According to Oakland County Unit Public Education Committee Chairman Dr. James Hannemann, however, individual concern and awareness could easily boost that ratio to two out of three persons.

"REGULAR cancer check-ups are a big part of the answer," said Dr. Hannemann. "and knowledge of cancer's seven warning signals is another." Literature, posters, films and speakers are made available, upon request, to schools, clubs, businesses,

industries, and to doctors and nurses. Dr. Hannemann explained that it would be beneficial to corporations and employees alike if workers were able to, and encouraged to, receive cancer check-ups as part of regular check-offs by the corporation as part of the local health or medical plan.

In an effort to educate high school students on the risks and hazards on cigarette smoking, Smoking Withdrawal Clinic programs were in-

troduced to two county high schools. The American Cancer Society feels that the programs were highly successful and plans to make the clinic available to all county high and junior high schools.

But for all the knowledge the society imparts, problems still exist. "Our biggest problem is that we don't have enough volunteers to fill the public education needs of the county," said Dr. Hannemann. "A little help in the schools - cooperation of the

teachers - and help from medical persons and laymen familiar with cancer is very much needed."

"ALL WE ASK is that the people of Oakland County give us the chance to give them a longer life," he added. Persons wishing to learn more about the society's public education program should call Miss Susan Weinberg, director of Public Education, at 644-0770, or write: American Cancer Society, Oakland County Unit, 295 Elm St., Birmingham, 48008.

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Jewish students honored

The League of Jewish Women Organizations and the Congregational Youth Commission will pay tribute to metropolitan Detroit's Jewish youth at 2 p.m. Sunday at Temple Beth El, Telegraph and Fourteen Mile Roads, Bloomfield Township.

Students to be honored were selected for their achievements in five areas: Scholarship, Jewish education, leadership, community service and extra-curricular activities.

Students to be honored for excellence in all categories are Louise Weckstein, Sonia Beck and Barry Lippitt, all of Southfield, and Kurt Schwartz of Bloomfield Hills.

JUDGED TO HAVE varying degrees of proficiency in the five categories were Sandy Silver, Bryant Frank, Kenneth Kroot, Brenda Goodman, Cathy Lewis and Alan Zarkin, all of Southfield; and Nancy Reinheimer, Suzanne Freedman, Jody Superstein, David Lowenthal and Alana Spivak, all of Birmingham.

Others to be honored are Eric Linden and Naomi Regins of Franklin; Lila Faudman and Rebecca Dorman of Bloomfield Hills and Ellen Wainer of Farmington. Completing the list are David Jaffee, Cindy Bittker, Howard Cooper, Julie Stoller, Julie Schubot, Michael Robbins, Larry Benton, Elana Strom and David Fine. Judges were Mrs. Abbott Schlain, assistant to the principal at Seaholm High School, Birmingham; Dr. Theodore Mandell, Mrs. George Rubin, Dr. Alfred Meyers, Emanuel Ginzler and Dr. Samuel Krohn.

The program Sunday will include a panel discussion on "Challenge and the Change" by Judge Susan Borman, Mrs. Rubin and Dr. Mandell.

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