

# Politician-housewife enjoying hectic pace

By BARBARA UNDERWOOD

When Florence (Jo) Saltzman woke up Monday morning, her feet hurt, she started doing the "first laundry in two weeks" and she read a note from her campaign manager.

Mrs. Saltzman of Franklin is one of two Republicans nominated for the State Board of Education at the party's state convention Saturday.

She and Republican incumbent James O'Neil of Livonia will face two Democratic candidates in the November election for two vacancies on the board.

Mrs. Saltzman's campaign manager is her husband, Arthur, with whom she says she has a new relationship: "I'll handle the campaign, you just be a candidate," he has told her.

THE NOTE HE left her Monday morning when he went to work was in reply to one she left him the previous evening after he had retired.

In her note she had enumerated her unofficial vote tally from the nominations which indicated she had been the leading vote-getter among those seeking nomination in the state board contest.

Her husband replied, "Madame Candidate: That was last week's race. Here's today's schedule. Number one, clean the house; number two, meetings on campaign strategy must start next week at the latest."

"That means please find the dining room table again," Mrs. Saltzman explained.

During a frantic nine days between the Republican county convention and the state convention, family and friends used the Saltzmans' dining room table to help address 3,500 letters and flyers promoting Mrs. Saltzman's candidacy for nomination.

BECAUSE OF that and the hectic pace of the two-day convention, fatigue set in while the Saltzmans were driving home from the convention Saturday.

"On the way home from the convention I don't know whether he told me to lose 1,500 pounds and raise \$50 or vice-versa," Mrs. Saltzman said.

The dining room table also showed the results of a last-minute Saturday project by Amy, the Saltzmans' 18-year-old daughter and the only one of their three chil-

dren who was able to attend the convention Saturday.

To help promote her mother's campaign, Amy made three red-and-white gingham skirts for herself and two friends, Rita Kulesa and Laurie Steiner, which they wore during the convention with white blouses and gingham bows in their hair.

Ray, 21, and Sally, 17, the other Saltzman children, were not at the convention. Ray had left for East Lansing where he is a trainee with the Michigan State University football team.

WHEN MRS. SALTZMAN called to tell him she had won the nomination and would be making frequent trips to Lansing during the campaign and might see him occasionally, he replied, "Sorry mother, I won't have time for you during football season."

Sally had spent the summer as a camp counselor near Lexington and arrived home the day after the convention.

"This will keep her busy," Sally said of her mother Monday. "I can't see her sitting at home every day but even if she wins in November she probably will be home more than before."

After serving four years on the Birmingham Board of Education, Mrs. Saltzman doubts that the state post could be any more time consuming than the local board was.

"I don't really know the full extent of the duties," she said of the office she seeks. "But I think it would have less impact on my family than my local board involvement."

"I WAS AN observer at the Birmingham Board of Education meetings for five years and I was still unprepared for what hit me when I became a trustee," she said.

Mrs. Saltzman planned to go to Lansing Thursday (Aug. 29) for briefings with people in the State Department of Education and meetings with the Republican State Central Committee.

Her campaign will emphasize her local board of education experience.

"I believe my background as a local school board member will give an extra dimension to the state board that it doesn't have now," Mrs. Saltzman said.

She is a strong advocate of local control for public schools and has a strong commitment to public school education.

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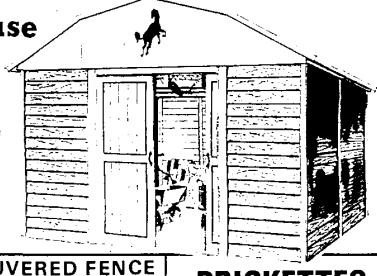
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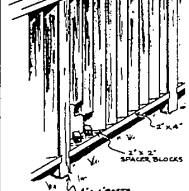
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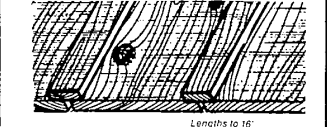
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