

Romney, Riegle Boomed; Brennan, O'Neil Trailing

By DENNIS PAJOT

six in an informal test of "preferred."

While Michigan Senator Philip Hart swings through the state drumming up grass roots support for his Democratic party candidacy for reelection next year, Republicans are casting around for a sure-fire moving machine.

Not unexpectedly, former Gov. George Romney, now a member of President Nixon's cabinet, is being touted as the best bet.

BUT NOT all the chips are going on his number.

Congressman Marvin Eise (R-2nd District), who represents Plymouth and Kalamazoo, told a meeting of the GOP State Central Committee Saturday Romney is the man to do it.

Thirteen of 19 of the state's district chairmen assembled a youngster, Congressman Donald W. Riegle Jr., of Flint, almost equally with Romney, however.

In a secret caucus, they gave Romney seven votes and Riegle

MRS. DELORES KORY, of Redford, a member of the GOP state central committee, said State Supreme Court Justice Thomas E. Brennan was third choice.



MRS. DELORES KORY

This left out one semi-announced candidate, Livonian James F. O'Neil, a member of the State Board of Education.

It also did nothing to help the chances of conservative State Sen. Robert Huber of Troy, an unannounced but known aspirant.

Both O'Neil and Huber fared Republican leaders in hospital suites at the Ann Arbor meeting.

Predictions are entirely speculative that a consensus will be reached—and a primary battle averted—by the Jan. 31 meeting of the State Central Committee, Mrs. Kory told Observer Newspapers.

She said: "We may very well vote not to have a consensus determination."

SOME BELIEVE Romney will not decide until late summer, if at all. They believe he won't run unless it looks necessary to achieve a majority of the Senate seats for the Republican Party.

Mrs. Kory said sentiment is running strong to attack the party's resources carefully to achieve strength all across the political spectrum.

Dr. Leroy Augenstein, the late State Board of Education

member, had been counted upon by many Republicans to put up the strongest Senate battle. Nor the question becomes whether or not Riegle, a 31-year-old second term congressman, can command the stature to beat Hart.

"He is quite dynamic and has the youthful vibrancy to bring into the picture," said Mrs. Kory, "but he still has some things to do. He needs to build support with other congressmen, for one thing."

FIRST PRIORITY in the State Central Committee campaign strategy, according to Mrs. Kory, who is on the campaign committee, has been election of Republicans to the State Supreme Court.

"What is paramount," she said, "is that apportionment of state legislative districts after the 1970 census will go before the State Supreme Court for final decision."

This, like congressional decisions on congressional district apportionment, will determine constituency makeup for candidates at all levels for the following 10 years.



WANT TO SAY "HI"? -- Henry Even, president, and Melinda McKernan of Communications Workers of America Local 4015 examine entries from mothers, wives and sweethearts of troops overseas who want to talk long-distance with them at Christmas. Fifteen names will

be drawn. Names should be sent to CWA Local 4015, P. O. Box 141, Plymouth, 48170. Deadline for entries is Dec. 15, and winners will be announced Dec. 19. All readers are eligible. (Observer photo)

How Blind Can Read

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announced its campership award for a blind senior citizen to go to summer camp with the parks and recreation group.

A COMMON MYTH that ought to be dispelled, said Mrs. Cook, is that blindness means no sight at all and no light perception. Legally blindness occurs when the better eye is 20/200 or less after correction. That means the person cannot see the large E on the eye chart at 20 feet.

Limited vision that may be legal blindness is probably more common than records indicate, both Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Blair estimate.

Middle-aged persons, especially women, who hold reading matter at arm's length and squint to read, should be persuaded to get help with their vision before it deteriorates further, both urged.

Another agency, the Metropolitan Society for the Prevention of Blindness, concentrates on educational programs directed to preventing eye injury.

The problems created by blindness are complex. So prevention focuses on health programs such as early detection and treatment of diabetes, a prime factor in sight loss in older people.

The three other main causes of blindness -- glaucoma, cataracts and vascular (circulatory) disease -- are all treatable, according to officials of all the community agencies concerned. But they emphasize early treatment for prevention.

For persons already blind, it is good to know of the constantly improving and expanding services to help them navigate life's mainstream.

There's even a Christmas card for folks who would like to send Braille messages via the Wayne County Library's special division for blind and handicapped patrons. You send

them your written message in a stamped addressed envelope for them to mail out the Braille transcription of your greeting. A Christmas card already printed in bulk orders is available from the Cleveland Society For the Blind, 1909 E. 101, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. It uses the New Testament verse: "... blessed are those who have not seen and yet still believed."

Area Easter Seal Leaders Picked

Area chairmen for the 1970 Easter Seal Campaign for funds in Western Wayne County were named by Charles A. Smith, of Northville, who will serve as general chairman for this region. Planning and organization of the campaign will be headed by the local area chairmen, including:

IN GARDEN CITY: Glenn Heavenridge of the Garden City Rotary Club, 28832 Marquette.

In Livonia: Bill Lube of the Livonia Rotary, whose location will be the Livonia National Bank.

In Plymouth: Carl Lampton, Plymouth Rotary, 395 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

In Redford Township: J.L. Flesher, Redford Rotary, 24567 Northwestern; and Jack Armbruster, Lola Valley Kiwanis, 18668 Salem.

In Westland: David Smith, Westland Rotary, J.L. Hudson Westland Center.

In Northville: Lee M. Eaton, Northville Rotary, 365 Eaton Drive.

THE EASTER SEAL Campaign provides the major source of support for the Easter Seal Society of Western Wayne County, which last year provided 1,192 services to 659 handicapped children and adults.

These services are handled through its Easter Seal Center near Middle Belt and Michigan in Inkster.

The nationwide campaign runs from Feb. 23 through March 29, 1970.

Television personality Ed Sullivan is national chairman.

Ragweed Prolific

In one season a single ragweed plant, the main culprit in hay fever, may bear up to eight billion pollen grains. A square mile of the weed can send up as much as 16 tons of pollen into the air.

FARMINGTON

Three existing elementary schools will receive the first building funds available in the Farmington School District.

The school board, at its regular meeting Monday night, gave top priority to additions to Shawanee Elementary at 30415 Shawanee, Longacre Elementary at 34850 Arundel and Larkshire Elementary at 23800 Tuck Rd.

THE TENTATIVE approval of the projects calls for instructional media centers or libraries at all three schools. In addition, six classrooms will be added to Shawanee and two each to Longacre and Larkshire.

The motion, made by Trustee Ken Ferris, included authorization to select architects for the additions at the earliest opportunity.

Added to the motion were two more projects which board members said will be undertaken if funds permit, instructional media centers at Wooddale Elementary at 28600 Peppercorn Dr. and Gill Elementary at 21195 Gill Rd. received second priority in the motion.

BOARD MEMBERS said final

Symphony Sets Open Rehearsal

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will hold its second Open Rehearsal of the season, Wednesday, Dec. 17, in Ford Auditorium at 2 p.m.

Scottish conductor Alexander Gibson will conduct, and the 15-year-old cellist Lawrence Foster will be the featured artist.

These rehearsals (there are four each year) allow the audience to see the orchestra, conductor and soloist put together in actual performance. A microphone is placed on stage so that the audience can also hear the exchanges between the performers.

Admission to an Open Rehearsal is \$1.50, or \$1 for students in groups through advance arrangements with the symphony.

Proceeds go to the orchestra musicians' supplemental pension fund.

Set 'Amahl' For Dec. 18

SOUTHFIELD The Overture to Opera company will appear in a special Christmas presentation of "Amahl and the Night Visitors" at 8:30 p.m., Dec. 18 in Southfield High School.

The performance is sponsored by the Friends of the Southfield Public Library. Written by Gian Carlo Menotti, the opera tells the story of the three kings who, following the star to the newborn Christ, stop overnight with a poor woman and her crippled son, Amahl.

Directed by Robert Cowden, the production is produced by David DiChiera, chairman of the Oakland University Music Department.

Featured in leading roles are Roma Riddell, Steve Thomas, Edward Kingings, Russell Smith and Robert Danison.

Tickets at \$2.50 may be purchased at the Southfield Library, Grinnell's or Hudson's.

Elementary Needs Rising

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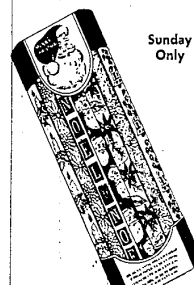
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NOW YOU CAN "CHARGE IT"



EVERYBODY'S HAPPY -- New unity in the Wayne 19th Democratic convention was forged by these members of the convention committee posed with a surprised district Chairman Aldo Vagozzi. From left are former Wayne 19th Chairman Jerry Raymond, convention parliamentarian, Marilyn Scott, a member of the New Democratic Coalition and convention secretary;

Ron Mardiros, current Wayne 19th chairman and convention chairman; Joe Patchett, executive board treasurer and Mardiros supporter; Vagozzi; Ron Hecker, convention rules committeeman; Paul Kadish, credentials committeeman and Joe Dempsey, credentials committeeman. (Observer photo)