

Dem is 'non-politician'.

Lawyer aims for senate

By ALICE COLLINS

Jim Elman calls himself "non-politician" and "independent politician." When he's referring to his race for the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate seat of Phil Hart, it's "my underdog candidacy."

The sober-faced Birmingham lawyer who has had a long-time love affair with international law tried before and lost. But, he says, "The public is going to see that our government and its attempt to solve our problems." He also says the voters will reject the politicians associated with it—like Sen. Steve Rich and Austin and Reps. Don Riegle and James Oberstar, the better-known candidates in his race.

It was quiet last week in Elman's law office near downtown Birmingham where he's directing his campaign.

"In this whole campaign there's been no indication of what our policies are," he says. "Something I can't quite understand," said the candidate, who at 38, bears a slight physical resemblance to U.S. Sen. George McGovern.

"THE SENATE IS the area where foreign policy is all important. And that's really the expertise I would bring to the job," said Elman.

The biggest problem of all mankind is war, he believes it was a problem that could not be solved. And why not? It's on the international level the same way we do within our own country?"

In 1968 Jim Elman sat down with the United Nations Charter and worked over its parts, including the World Constitution which would reform the international body and take away the unilateral right of member states to wage war.

ELMAN'S WORLD Constitution provides for executive, legislative and judicial branches of government for the United Nations.

"The United Nations is not workable because one state has one vote, regardless of its size." He believes setting it up more like the United States government will make it work.

His proposed constitution, which has attracted the attention of international lawyers, received only token responses from former President Richard Nixon and the Department of State.

Under Elman's plan, the United Nations would be structured in tiers. There would be four countries in the top tier—the United States, Russia, India and China, each with 40 votes.

Four more tiers of countries would be layered under that, according to population.

The decisions of the United Nations would be backed up by an international police force and a military force, composed of a "worldwide World Court."

"I SENT THREE off to Nixon, in a token sense, as leader of the country and got a token response. I think it was for work with the Secretary of State."

He published about 740 copies. "Lawyers all over the world have shown an interest in it."

"Litigation is my bread and butter," said Elman. "My love is international law."

In 1964, after working with the legal department of Chrysler Corp., he formed the firm of Elman, Young, O'Rourke, Bruno and Burn.

He's chairman of the Detroit Bar's international law committee and past chairman of the Michigan International law committee.

"I don't want to give the impression that I'm against the United Nations," he continues. "At least it's a place to talk, but reform is needed to make it work."

ELMAN IS RUNNING on a 10-point platform that calls for stopping big government and forced school busing.

"What I am supportive of is non-reciprocal immigration laws," he says. "Other countries are free to let in the guys to stay that, especially in the suburbs," he said.

He's also calling for the reconsideration of abortion-on-demand. "It's a dangerous trend," he said. "It's a dangerous trend."

American military power should be without challenge at this crucial time.

It should be used to conduct a foreign policy that leads the world toward better institutions of peace.

Elman is against Gorbachev, "a military and political threat to us," he says.

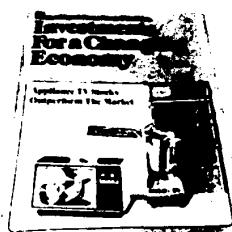
He's also supporting the nomination of Walter Mondale for the U.S. Senate.

In 1970, he lost the Democratic nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives in the 18th District.

JANICE ELMAN managed her husband's earlier campaign. "She can't do it this time," said Elman.

She has to stay non-political as the head

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