

# How Probe Of Patronage Was Punctured By Pros

By DON HOENSHILL

Political people serenaded each other with snickers today after saving for both parties the last vestiges of patronage available to reward the faithful.

Rep. Albert Horrigan (D-Ft.) conducted the autopsy on two resolutions to investigate the distribution of non-civil service jobs.

"They backed up against the old maestro," he said. Horrigan, whose flamboyant speech obscures two decades of off-floor maneuvering in the Legislature, is chairman of the House Policy Committee. He presided at the execution of the resolutions.

HERE'S THE STORY behind the story:

Reps. Dale Klidde and Edward Suski, also First Democrats, proposed that the House investigate the patronage dispensed by Atty. Gen. Frank J. Kelley, and Secretary of State James M. Hare.

Kelley names court administrators -- lawyers who handle estates of people who die without a will -- and Hare has more than 200 branch managers, who sell insurance policies in local offices. Both are in a position to award other favors.

At this point, it stopped being a squabble among Democrats. Republicans figured this would be a peachy way to embarrass Hare, the Democratic office-holder with the longest tenure, and Kelley, a bright Democratic political package who seeks higher office -- governor or U.S. Senate.

DEMOCRATS SIDING with Klidde and Suski figured the investigation to be a device to force Hare and Kelley to use more care in patronage matters, perhaps even to consult more often with legislators.

The whole business was pushed along briskly by the bipartisan element and the voices of righteousness in the land.

Klidde said he was interested only in assuring that patronage did not detract from the public

service. Suski agreed the probe should be wider.

Speaker William A. Ryan said the study as proposed was unnecessary -- that if one were to be made, it should encompass more territory. That was the key.

RYAN'S OFFICE prepared a second resolution, including the governor's office, which makes hundreds of appointments; the Civil Service Commission; the State Treasury; the State Highway Department and others.

The original resolution by Klidde was voted down in Horrigan's committee. The second was used as the lethal weapon.

"The House, of course is controlled by Democrats," said one leader. "Thus the chairman of any such investigating committee would be a Democrat. He would be in a position to establish priorities."

And it is a certainty that he would start with the governor's office -- and might not finish until shortly before the 1970

election with that part of the investigation.

With THE FIRST resolution enroute to the morgue, Horrigan's committee turned to consideration of the second.

"I don't want to go around the state witch-hunting for corruption which doesn't exist," said Rep. Roy Spencer (R-Attica).

"If you're talking about corruption, let's see the charges."

There was talk of investigating contributions of lobbyists to political parties and candidates, news media backing of major advertisers, the influence of wealth on political party positions.

The future of any investigation was getting to be more than any loyal Democrat or Republican could contemplate with serenity. Seven of the 10 committee members voted to kill the second one, too.

"I CAN'T understand the hesitancy," said Rep. William Hampton (R-Birmingham).

"The House Policy Committee has put out 16 resolutions, including one to investigate noise."

"I personally think the public administrator system is fine, but I have no objection to a study."

Klidde added an epithet: "I

have no personal vendetta."

And, Horrigan said, neither does he or Ryan. It was a question in the majority views

of both parties of how to save themselves from themselves.

"They backed up against the old maestro," Horrigan said.

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TRIPLE-A...Where YOU Can Lead the Way

## Public May Balk At Snoopy Census, McDonald Warns

WASHINGTON Rep. Jack McDonald (R-Livonia) warned Tuesday that many Americans may refuse to answer the 1970 census "and challenge the government to prosecute them."

McDonald, who is the sponsor of a bill that would sharply curtail census questions requiring mandatory answers, said that "to make criminals out of a large number of otherwise law-abiding citizens seems to be misguided and unwarranted."

In a speech to the annual convention of the American Management Association in New York, McDonald said the public "has become so subjected to requests for data of question-

able relevancy and of a highly personal nature that people are losing control over the flow of information about themselves."

CONGRESSIONAL sponsors of census-limitation legislation, he said, are trying to establish "a balance between the individual's constitutional right to be left alone which Supreme Court Justice Douglas calls 'the beginning of all freedom' and the government's need for information."

McDonald told AMA that 50 per cent of the 1970 census questionnaires will be distributed on a mail-out/mail-back basis and that long forms involving from 66 to 89 questions will be asked of 20 per cent of the population.

In light of the indignant mood of the nation's populace, many citizens may refuse to cooperate by failing to respond and challenge the government to prosecute them."



Invite Matson To Round Table Talks

Charles R. Matson, who represents New York Life Insurance Company, is attending the annual meeting of the Million Dollar Round Table at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, Fla. This is the life insurance industry's foremost educational conference.

More than 2,000 members of the 7,000-member Round Table, representing nearly 350 life insurance companies, are participating in a week-long exchange of information and ideas, often called the industry's "forum par excellence."

## Play Excerpts At Clarenceville

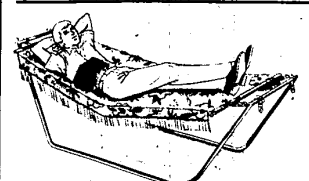
The Clarenceville Summer Theater Players, with a group including many CHS students, will present excerpts from dramas by Shakespeare, Beagle, Chekhov and Beiser in the Louis Schmidt auditorium Sunday at 8 p.m.

The auditorium is part of the Clarenceville High campus located on Middle Bell south of the intersection of Eight Mile Road.

The four performances are student-directed with students portraying most of the parts. The program includes: "Much Ado About Nothing" by Shakespeare, "Come Lady Death" by Beagle, "Uncle Vanya" by Chekhov and "Barrets of Wimpole Street" by Beiser.

Robert Gregory, director of the Summer Theater, said donations of 50 cents each will be taken at the door.

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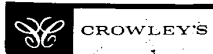
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