



SELLING COASTERS for furniture are Redford Township Junior Achievement members Ken Baron, Nancy Kawalski and Jeff Clossen. JA youngsters manned booths at Westland Center last weekend to sell products their companies had made. (Observer photo)

City 'Recreation' Puzzles Suburbs

By DENNIS PAJOT

Suburban and rural Michiganders may have to carry an urban translation dictionary whenever tackling problems of a statewide scope.

From indications at a governor's conference on urban leisure Wednesday and Thursday, an ordinary Webster's or Funk & Wagnall's will do.

Those attending from suburban and outstate areas tended to think of the problem of leisure time as: "What are we going to do to improve the quality of our recreational facilities and resources?"

Urbanites, especially blacks from the inner city, said very plainly: "When are we going to get some recreational facilities?" and "First we have to have some leisure time."

During question and answer periods following presentations of national, state and city dignitaries in the leisure field, urban blacks dominated the floor with penetrating questions.

"WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH PAINT BRUSHES IN our neighborhood of 63,000?" asked one.

"We don't need swimming pools. We need community centers where we adults can cool off our youths, cause they're uptight!" said another.

The first speaker, a suburbanite, asked: "Why should the inner city get a disproportionate amount of federal and state money when it's suburbanites that provide it?"

He was answered by several black speakers. One said, "Because you people in the suburbs are coming into the city and taking all the good jobs and taking the money out with you."

Another, invoking the threat of Black Panther organization tactics, said: "If you don't find that your colored maids will be using matches."

ONE WHITE panelist had just spoken of the need for more leadership in the recreation field. Another white spoke of the need for money. A third suggested a 7-point order of priorities, the last of which made the point:

"We have moved to a knowledge society from a muscle society, yet so much of our effort is directed at the physical part of recreation."

The last panelist was a black, Charles Howell, director of the Afro-American Foundation.

He chided the previous speakers, saying, "I believe the experts in leisure and government know the answers, with a bit more imagination and courage. The dollars

Ann Arbor Has 2 RE Courses

ANN ARBOR has an advanced course in real estate which includes instruction in good procedures and in setting appraisals on investment and income properties. Prerequisite for the course is "appraisal I" or permission of the instructor.

Instructor for the course is John B. Carpenter, A.S.A., M.A.I., realtor, assistant to supervisor, U-M Real Estate Program, Ann Arbor.

Classes will meet for 11 sessions on Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 3, from 7 to 10 p.m., in Room 140 at the University of Michigan School of Business Administration.

This required course will cover such subjects as scope of property management; and the rental market; planning rehabilitation; take-over records and budget; property records control; tenant selection; relationship with landlord and tenant; repairs and maintenance; apartment buildings; office buildings; left buildings and shopping centers.

Instructor for the course will be George Egerton, C.R.M., term may be obtained from: Real Estate Program, U-M Extension Service, 412 Maynard, Ann Arbor 48104.

'Civic Paranoia' Hurts; Seek 'Regional' Clout

By TIM RICARD

Directly criticizing such political opponents as State Sen. George Kuhn and former Detroit Mayor Jerome Cavanagh, the president of Metropolitan Fund has decried an "epidemic of civic paranoia" that irritates all suspiciousness or distrust of others.

Instead, said Kent Mathewson, southeastern Michigan Council of Government (SEMCOG) president, "we should begin taking a six-county regional approach to such problems as water utilities, airport location, school financing, 'dewtowns' and the environment."

He called for strengthening the Southeastern Michigan Council of Government (SEMCOG), including voter election of a chairman who would overshadow the mayor of Detroit as the region's civic leader.

MATHEWSON DELIVERED a "state of the region" address, noted in residential and gubernatorial messages, to the trustees of Metropolitan Fund.

MF is a private, non-profit corporation devoted to research and action on urban problems in the six-county area. Its trustees include executives of auto, utility and bank companies; union leaders; university presidents; in short, the most powerful men in the metropolitan area.

Mathewson and MF have recruited personnel, and provided early financing for such agencies as New Detroit, SEMCOG, the Transportation and Land Use Study and SEMTA, the transit authority.

In the 1960s, said Mathewson, "it was no longer logical to talk about Detroit and its suburbs as two entities. The parent-offspring relationship between Detroit and the suburbs was no longer pertinent."

"But the relationship is one of older brother and younger brothers. And the suburban youngsters has reached its majority." They are now equals in the game of life.

BUT WHILE HE praised Detroit Council President Mel Ravitz as regional-minded, Mathewson had harsh words for some other politicians whom he accused of "civic paranoia."

State Sen. George Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield) who represents Farmington, Livonia

and Plymouth—"a state senator who demands that Detroit be allowed to raise its income tax only if it is legally restrained from raising the tax on his (the senator's) own constituents who work and make their very good livings in the City of Detroit."

Then-Mayor Cavanagh and his DSR chief, Robert Tooney, who jettisoned "a supposed first step in a regional transit plan by the City of Detroit, which took place while the heads of the two existing regional agencies stood next to each other in the back of the what sort of plan was to be tossed out on the table... an incredible lack of regional sensitivity" on Cavanagh's part.

"The great howl put up by suburban communities about the age now equals in the game of life that they help to pay the losses incurred by Detroit when providing DSR bus service to and from those suburban communities—a blanket indictment that would include Livonia's Mayor Harvey Mookle, who opposed the DSR subsidy idea."

AS PART OF a regional approach to problems of the '70s, Mathewson proposed that

THINK REGIONAL

THINK REGIONAL

BE REGIONAL

Southeastern Michigan Council of Government

LAPL stickers like these were passed out at last week's meeting of Metropolitan Fund trustees. It illustrates the point of MF President Kenneth Mathewson's speech.

2 Leaders Fear Fight Between City, Suburbs

Leaders of the Southeastern Michigan Council of Government were nervous Saturday over a political battle that seemed to be erupting in and around the two-year-old regional group.

One source of nervousness was a nominating committee's decision to propose not one but two candidates for the SEMCOG chairmanship—Detroit Council President Mel Ravitz and George H. Toednick, Supervisor Merle Solomon—thus pitting the central city against the suburbs.

The other was a suggestion by Kent Mathewson, president of Metropolitan Fund that SEMCOG's powers be greatly expanded and that its chairman be elected by voters in the six-county region. (See another story in this edition.)

MOST NERVOUS were E. Robert Turner, a former city manager who is SEMCOG's executive director—that is, staff chief hired full time last fall—and Mel Ravitz himself.

Both publicly dissociated themselves from Mathewson's suggestions, repeatedly saying that Mathewson was speaking only for himself and was neither part of nor a spokesman for SEMCOG.

"It's nice to make these visionary speeches—but not two days before my annual meeting," said a visibly upset Turner, who is sensitive about critics that SEMCOG is returning into a "metro" government.

"We've got cities and school districts holding back their dues now," Turner complained after Mathewson's speech. And Turner told the MF president publicly.

Another Potential Candidate for Chairman

Another potential candidate for chairman was Richard Austin, Wayne County auditor and unsuccessful candidate for mayor.

Austin told the Observer Newspapers that although he is interested in the SEMCOG, he didn't want to oppose Ravitz. "That's the main reason," he emphasized.

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by MARVIN KEMP

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CNB Net Up

City National Bank of Detroit has announced record 1969 income before securities profits or losses of \$2,350,547 or \$3.43 a common share. This is a 40.8% increase over the 1968 figure of \$1,669,484.

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