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O&E Monday, January 2, 1984

Readers speak on their New Year resolves

Today's Oral Quarrel asked our read-ers what is their wish or vow for the New Year. Following are the responses:

I wish that somebody in Farmington would win one of these magazines sweepstakes and my vow is that I hope It is I.

My wish is a prayer. I pray that the person that broke into our home last week would seek God's forgiveness,

oral quarrel

mend his ways and begin doing to oth-ers as he would they to him.

Celibacy.

My wish for the coming year is we all work very hard to see the defent of Ronald Reagan as a presidential candi-date.

Quit

peeking

Every time you open the oven door to take a peek at what's baking, the temperature drops 25 degrees, according to home economists.

I wish for Farmington Hills to put up Welcome to Farmington Hills signs on roads entering the fits a like and the state of the state of

My wish is for the people in the city of Detroit that are on welfare would quit breeding like rats and then that would produce less crime.

My wish for 1954 is for the return of Willoughy Wink and Barnahy's editori-als about national and local issues.

turn to good government in Farming-ton Hills and for some good editorials in the Observer Newspaper like we used to have on national and local is-sues and Willougby Wink while you're

I hope Farmington High School's football team next year has a better record than Harrison.

I would like to see my favorite editorials return to my local newspaper.

My wish is that we continue and strengthen a free press, free from cen-sorship, alther from government or the private sector.

I have no comment to make on this matter at this time.

from our readers

Reader poses **ERA** questions

To the editor:

With another failure on their hands, advocates of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) may want to answer some questions angrily pondered by many men, including perhaps some of the tengressmen who voted against the tengressmen who voted against the ERA on Nov. 15:

Are you fighting to eliminate a male-only draft as hard as you are to stop veterans' preferences, which you say discriminate against women?

Are you pushing for a man's right to deay support for a child he doesn't want, now that you've won a woman's right to abort a child she doesn't want.

Are you fighting for legislation to insure visitation rights, while you urge legislation to insure support payments?

Are you, rather than declaring merely that women should have a right to be financially independent, telling them they should be? Have you addressed women's need to share the economic burdens in the same spirit you've demanded that men share the domestic burdens?

Do you realize that speaking only of a woman's right to be independent implies she has an option to work or stay home? So you then realize that this female prerogative not only precludes a husband's enjoyment of the same freedom, but also often imprisons him in a stressful job required to support two persons?

 Are you aware that the emphasis on that choice for women means that many women will stay home and many others will regard employment frivolously. Are you also aware that this thoice, by allowing women to earn a living for two or more, is a major cause of the income gap between the sexes — the gap from which it's derived that women are economically dispossessed and therefore are victims?

 Are you doing such things as demanding punishment for child-abusing mothers as skrilly as you demand there.

• Are you doing such things as demanding punishment for child-abusing mothers as shrilly as you demand it for rapists? Do you know that every abused child is physically and emotionally damaged and that less then 30 percent of rape victims are physically hurt? Do you realize that the message you send with your unilateral demand is that women are more important then children?

Are you as vocal about women's privileges as you are about men's? Do you reflect on men's burdens in your zeal to make known women's?

Do you realize that a refusal to listen to and empathize with males is behind the reason you believe females are victims of males. Do you further realize that this belief is the justification for an ERA campaign that focuses solely in increasing women's rights and disregarding their responsibilities?

disregarding their responsibilities?

I suspect few advocates can answer yes to any of these. But until most can, until advocates flush the males-op-press-famales mood from their ranks, and until men's rights are an equal part of the struggle (as in Sweden), the ERA probably won't make it. It's endangered by is growing resemblance to a guarantee of female privileges and male burdens. As long as that's so, many men—including some congressmen—whose different ideas about our social arrangements are shunned, will go on subverting the ERA. It's their way of keeping things from getting worse for them.

Jerry A. Boggs.

Jerry A. Boggs, member, Fathers For Equal Rights, Westland

To save energy, cook as many dishes as possi-ble at the same time, Michael Landon says: "The Hottest Buy of the Season!"

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"I you concerned about the bleeding it can

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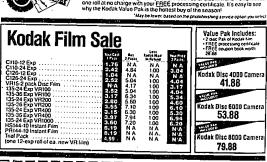
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