

# 19th District Aspirants Present Mixed Views

Domestic concerns must take priority over foreign commitments, in the view of all four candidates for the Democratic nomination for U.S. representative in the 19th District.

All also agree that education, maximum employment, public safety and speedy processing of government measures are high among priority needs on the domestic scene.

Tuesday, three of the candidates revealed other similar stances, and some significant differences, while appearing face-to-face before about 90 Democrats.

Fred L. Harris of Farmington, Ronald Hecker and H. Patrick O'Neill, both of Livonia, participated in a candidates forum sponsored by the district Democratic organization. Franklin Zane Adell of Novi failed to appear.

IN GENERAL TERMS, the

three who placed their platforms squarely before the quizzing functionaries agreed that:

- Campus violence must be ended.
- U.S. military involvement in Indo-China must be halted faster than the current pace.
- Women deserve equal rights.

- Draft law reform is necessary.
- The American Indians deserve more government assistance and civil rights.
- The 18-year-old vote is proper.
- Narcotics laws need revision.
- The anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system is folly.
- A coalition government of Vietnam without South Vietnamese leaders Thieu and Ky would be acceptable.

Widest divergence appeared to be on draft reform. Only Hecker, a "peace now" liberal, favored unequivocal abolition of draft laws. He said he preferred to encourage a volunteer military through payment of "a living wage" to its members.

He went further. "When we get out of Indo-China, I hope we grant amnesty (formal pardon) to those who left their country to escape the draft," he stated.

A system of national health care is necessary.

ANSWERS TO audience questions and the candidates' opening statements revealed these similarities. Some responses revealed vast differences on specifics.

Persons wishing to present statements at the hearing are requested to limit their remarks to 10 minutes and to provide written copies for the record.

Anyone unable to attend may submit a written statement to the commission at the Michigan Department of Public Health, Lansing, 48914.

A second hearing is planned later to consider proposed standards for photochemical oxidants, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide.

HARRIS AND O'NEILL cautioned against expectations that abolishing the draft would be desirable.

Harris said he fears that a professional militia would lead to the same pattern of "juntas and army overthrow" of governments common in South American countries.

O'Neill said, "If we stop the draft altogether, believe me, we would be protecting our own shores."

Hecker repeated his opinion that "dissent is a right, duty

would make everyone universally susceptible to the draft, especially to get rid of loopholes allowing the affluent to gain deferments.

ON COPING with campus violence, each had a different suggestion.

O'Neill advocated that existing laws simply be strictly enforced and that college administrators be forced to exert their authority.

Hecker repeated his opinion that "dissent is a right, duty

and obligation of everyone when they see something wrong, and when the kids give up on our system, we are all in trouble."

Harris said, "Let's take the guns off the campuses and let them be heard and maybe we can get on with the educational process." He explained that he believes the violence is attributable to overreaction with vastly superior firepower to overreactions of elements in a basically just protest.

ON THE MECHANICS of ending the U.S. presence in Vietnam, O'Neill and Hecker said they would simply pull the troops out immediately and bring them home.

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Harris said, "Nobody has any magic formula to get out." He criticized the current strategy of withdrawal by numbers rather than by geographic stages and proposed:

"Let's say to those supposed to be defending their own country: you get in this foxhole and bunker, because we're leaving in one week. Then you will own title to the land you live on." Let's give title to the

land to the people who live on it."

ONE OTHER DIFFERENCE caused a noticeable stir among a liberal group in the audience.

After each advocated stepped-up monetary and program assistance to the American Indians and Negroes and poor whites, O'Neill stated, "If we don't meet our responsibilities in this area, these minorities may one day step on us."

## Pollution Hearing Slated

Tuesday, Aug. 4, is not only election day, but a day of public action on a prime issue of the decade.

Air pollution will be examined in a public hearing in the Oakland County Service Center, 1200 North Telegraph, Pontiac, from 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m.

The Michigan Air Pollution Control Commission is sponsoring the hearing on "proposed ambient air quality

standards for sulfur oxides and particulate matter."

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Hardy has joined the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) as director of communications.

Hardy was previously in a similar post with the Detroit Regional Transportation and Land Use Study (TALUS) and since December, 1969, he has been the information services executive with the Michigan Civil Rights Commission.

Prior to his TALUS position, he served in similar capacities with the Michigan Dept. of State Highways and the Michigan Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.

He is a former newspaperman, having been on the staff of the Dearborn Press in the 1930s and the Detroit Times until its closing.



ALDO JOKES - While three candidates for the Democratic nomination to run for 19th District U.S. representative listen, Aldo Vagnozzi (left) chairman of the district Democratic organization, cracks a joke. Occasion was the district candidates forum in which the three took part. From left, they are: Fred L. Harris, Ronald Hecker and H. Patrick O'Neill. (Observer photo by Dennis L. Pajot)

## SEMCOG Fills Top PR Post

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8.25-14	15.90	2.33	8.25-14	24.90	2.60	G78-14	27.49	2.67
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