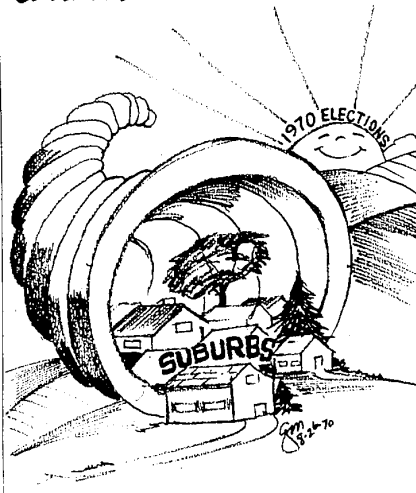


CANDIDATE'S CORNUCOPIA

By Philip H. Power
Publisher

OBSERVATION POINT

Democrats Eye The Suburbs

About two months ago, this newspaper reported that the U.S. Bureau of the Census had concluded that the suburbs were now the largest, single component of our country's population, having outstripped the cities during 1970. Michigan's Democrats certainly seem to have had this fact in mind when they met last weekend in Grand Rapids to select their state ticket for the November election.

Five key Democratic candidates this year have roots in the suburbs:

- State Sen. Sander Levin, of Berkley, whose district includes Southfield, will run for governor.
- U.S. Sen. Philip A. Hart lived in Birmingham during the early 1950's.
- Lt. Gov. nominee Edward H. McNamara is Livonia's mayor.
- Former Gov. John Swainson, one of the nominees for supreme court has lived in Redford Township and then in Plymouth.
- Annetta Miller, nominated for State Board of Education, is from Huntington Woods.

BACK IN THE 1950's, when politicians were just becoming aware of the explosive population growth in the suburbs, it was conventional wisdom to argue that Republicans stood to benefit.

People moving to the suburbs from the big cities were likely to be Democrats, the argument went. But the suburbs, because of their high income and past political history, were mainly Republicans.

So, the theorists argued, it stood to reason that the new suburban dwellers would slowly take on the characteristics of their new home and become Republicans.

Sense And Nonsense

Although it's hard to do anymore, some Americans may be shocked that our government is paying Thailand and Philippine soldiers to help fight our war in Indochina.

This turn of events seems morally wrong, even though some may point out that this practice is saving the lives of American boys.

But there must be a better way to make our dollars count, since we're bent on employing mercenaries.

Why not simply pay the North Vietnamese soldiers so much a man per month to stop waging war?

Judging from what we pay our fighting men, it wouldn't cost much. It might be mighty expensive to pick up such a tab, however, if we have to shell out the kind of wages we're presently paying the Thais and Filipinos.

On balance, this doesn't seem to be the case.

TAKE MICHIGAN'S six suburban congressional districts. Currently, two are held by Republicans and four by Democrats. Rep. Jack McDonald, Republican, of Farmington, represents the 19th District, which includes Livonia, Redford Township, Farmington and Pontiac.

GOP Rep. William Broomfield, of Royal Oak, holds the 18th District seat, which includes Southfield, Birmingham and Bloomfield Township.

The 16th District includes Dearborn and suburban communities down river, and is represented by Democratic Rep. John Dingell, of Dearborn.

Democrat William Ford, of Taylor, represents the 15th District, which includes Westland and Garden City.

R.T. Thompson writes

Bad, Bad, Bad Roads

as many autos backed up that are trying to get into the left turn lane for turns at the crossover or at Farmington Road.

Thus, Schoolcraft at that point becomes one lane going east, and plenty of sulphurous language is heard from drivers who can't move.

Then there is the westbound lane at Schoolcraft and Newburgh where a sewer was installed for the full length of the Madonna College property. The only thing is that the workers left huge piles of dirt at the corners of Levan and Newburgh, and one has to slip out into the oncoming traffic to see if the road is clear.

Construction at Beech Daly and Schoolcraft in Redford Township has blocked vision for all eastbound and westbound traffic hoping to make a left or right turn. You just can't see oncoming cars until you're almost in the lanes.

THE SAME IS TRUE of a crossover at Brady and Schoolcraft where construction crews have placed large poles in such a way that one can't get out into the fast moving traffic.

The situation in the City of Plymouth verges on the point of being pathetic. Apparently the city fathers there don't want to or don't care to recognize that Plymouth is fast becoming a city with heavy travel.

There are such intersections as Farmer and Starkweather, Main and Starkweather, Main and Fralick where it's worth one's life to try and get into the north and southbound lanes.

Traffic lights are needed in Plymouth, and we feel it's high time the city commission got off its collective duff and began to take some kind of corrective action.

Garden City has its problems at the intersections of Warren and Merriman—that's a real dead man's curve—at Middle Belt and Warren, and at Warren and Inkster. Traffic backs up in all directions, and it's only the driver with the most nerve who gets through to break the jams.

GETTING BACK to Redford Township, over the past weekend a Michigan Bell repair truck was parked at the corner of Acacia and Telegraph in such a manner that those going east on Acacia had to risk an accident and their lives, and hope for a rabbit's foot, to see if they could get out into the Telegraph Road traffic or try to get across to the northbound lane.

In Southfield, where it is well known that the city has all kinds

homogeneous upper class enclaves has not worked out.

Surveys done by this newspaper show, for example, that over two-thirds of the employed residents of Westland and Garden City are union members.

As it turned out, all kinds of people—rich and poor and in between—decided they wanted to live in the suburbs.

That means that both Republicans and Democrats wound up in the suburbs.

But whichever party they are for, there are a whale of a lot of suburbanites in this country and in this state.

And Michigan Democrats, in choosing their state for this November, seem to have decided that the large and growing suburban vote is one worth while going after in a big way.

She's Equal -- And Then Her Phone Rings

By CORINNE ABATT

No working mother with kids at home who can dial a telephone is ever totally divorced from her many roles—women's lib notwithstanding. And, honestly, most working mothers like it that way.

The telephone wire, that apron string from home to office sometimes cuts through the aura of total, womanly professional poise.

It is part of the law of family life that while a woman may be as top drawer as they come in the working world, if she has kids at home even under most competent care, she is always somebody's mother and the somebodies usually call her several times a day—only in emergencies, of course.

Daddy at the office may not be fair game, but Mom always is. MEAN, THERE is this working mother in conference with two VIP's from San Francisco in town for an hour to decide on how to spend several hundred thousand dollars when the receptionist puts an emergency call through.

"Mom?"
"Yes, honey."
"Where's the sponge to wash the kitchen floor?"

"In the usual place," she answers hoping the men will con-

tinue their conversation. They don't.

"What usual place?"
"In the basement beside the cat's litter box." It echoes through the quiet conference room.

"Listen," Mom says. "can I call you back on this?"

"Sure, except what can be put on the honey 'cause the cat keeps walking through it and wiping her feet on the new dining room carpet. See, I was fixing my toast and the jar was slippery."

And there is Mom at that inauspicious moment, knee-deep in mothering.

AND THE CALLS keep coming in at equally great moments—15 minutes from a big deadline and she hears that Charlie, whom the family thought was a male cat, had four kittens on the lower bunk bed... a food found in the flower bed disappeared in the linen closet... the pretty leaves somebody gathered turn out to be poison ivy...

As they ask for equal rights, seek more challenges, look to more areas of interest, women must be ready with mental wardrobes of stamina, flexibility and perseverance to accept the responsibility of full individualism as well as that of wives and mothers of the race.

Tim Richard writes

Bipartisan Cheers

Gov. William Milliken wins our praise for vetoing, and Atty. Gen. Frank Kelley for opposing, a bill allowing chief executives of cities, villages and townships to proclaim states of "civil emergency."

George Romney, when he was governor in 1968, vetoed a similar bill that was passed by a Legislature which over-reacted to the 1967 Detroit riot. Republican Milliken and Democrat Kelley are agreed that it's still bad legislation. Our only sorrow is that some suburban lawmakers voted in favor of it.

KELLEY PUT the case so well that Milliken quoted it in his veto message:

"I firmly believe that under almost all circumstances it would be much wiser to rely upon a full-scale response, coordinated by the state, than to permit piecemeal measures by individual communities."

"Scores of separate units of government exist in many metropolitan areas. Their reactions to emergencies could result in a

crazy-quilt response which could provide loopholes which could prove disastrous."

Milliken pointed out that the state police, "our first line of defense in the handling of all civil emergencies, has consistently urged me to veto this and similar measures."

Milliken added: "It is unrealistic to require that, in moving from one political unit to another during a time of emergency, citizens be aware of (1) the existence of different proclamations and orders as between different political units; (2) the content thereof as between such units; and (3) the jurisdictional lines of such units. Yet without such knowledge, citizens in many cases may be unjustly prosecuted and convicted for violation of such proclamations and orders."

We in Observerland know exactly what Kelley means by a "crazy-quilt" pattern of local government and what Milliken means by the citizen's inability to know which little kingdom has a curfew and which doesn't. The governor's veto was wise.

Editorial & Opinion

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS, INC.

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The Livonia Observer • The Redford Observer
The Westland Observer • The Garden City Observer
The Plymouth Mail & Observer • The Southfield News & Observer
The Farmington Enterprise & Observer



Published by Observer Newspapers, Inc.

271 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 200, Plymouth, Mich. 48170

Serving the communities of:
Livonia, Plymouth, Township, Canton Township, Farmington
Farmington Township, Redford Township, Garden City, Westland,
Southfield, Lathrup Village, Farmington, Birmingham Farms,
Village of Beverly Hills

Kids Spur The Vote

Reprinted From
Ann Arbor News

In case the young people of Michigan were watching three weeks ago, something close to two million eligibles elected not to bother to vote.

THE VOTER stay-at-homes are an interesting study. When the occasion demands, as when the 18-year-old vote proposal goes on the ballot a la 1966, they turn out in the proverbial droves and sink the 18-year-old vote by a heavy margin.

Now the vote for the 18-21 group is once again near at hand. What if it passes this time? Because they are unlike their parents and the older generation, the new young voters more than likely will protest against the privilege of not voting. They will go out and vote.

The net effect will be a galvanizing force on the older community. The stay-at-homes and occasional voters will imagine American politics dominated by long haired young congressmen, groovy state senators and far-out township officials, all of them swept into office by the new bloc of young voting voters.

At the mere suggestion of this horror, the adults and the over-30's will not allow an election to pass without their participation. They will stand in long lines for the privilege to vote. They will congratulate themselves on a close call turning out well.