



JOKES WITH ROTARY Club in Monroe.



MEETS WORKERS with State Rep. Raymond Kehres.



UNEXPECTED VISIT pleases farmer.

# Ed McNamara Sprints For Statewide Office

Story And Pictures

By DENNIS L. PAJOT

The idiom "running for office" aptly describes the campaign style of Ed McNamara, Livonia mayor hot after the state lieutenant governor's gavel.

His body loose, shoulders slightly slanted forward, thick legs whipping, he propels his way down a city street like a halfback.

He did play football at Redford High and still swings a smart golf club.

At one stop in Monroe on a recent campaign swing through Monroe County, he appeared anxious to move again almost as soon as he slumped in a chair and crossed his legs high to answer an interviewer's questions.

MINUTES LATER he and a local state representative were at the plant gates of the largest industry in the area. The state representative, well known to ex-fellow workers, hesitated to talk to a friend. Ed McNamara exchanged greetings and then stepped to the first car by.

"Hi, I'm Ed McNamara, running for lieutenant governor on the Democratic ticket with Sandy Levin," he said to the driver and poked his hefty palm into the open window. His other hand came forward with a stack of Levin-McNamara brochures and the driver had one in a flick.

This was repeated with about five workers. By then it had become apparent that the visit was too late to catch the main crowd.

"There's a union meeting tonight at seven," the plant contact told them.

"We'll be back to talk to them then," said McNamara, already striding toward the car being chauffeured by a Levin staff man.

NEXT STOP was the plant credit union where McNamara posed for a picture with the state representative's wife, the manager, and greeted office clerks.

From there they whipped down the main street of Monroe and headed for the local judge's chambers.

The reporter who had been along since 10 a.m. dropped off at this point, about 2 p.m., after remarking, "I'm bushed. I don't have prospects of a four-year state office buying me up."

## THE '70 CAMPAIGN

McNamara had been going since 7 a.m. at this point and was apparently still strong. The remainder of the day was crammed with appointments, including two teas where he expected the most avid audiences.

Already he had submitted to a five minute radio interview, addressed the Monroe Rotary Club, coffee-klatched with county Democratic personages, coffee-klatched with a library group, met a township's officer, interviewed with a weekly newspaper publisher, blitted a small town business section, helped rescue another township supervisor's daughter from her ditched car (she was unhurt) and responded to the traveling reporter's questions and camera.

A FEW philosophical statements he made during the run tell the story better:

• "The difference between campaigning for Livonia city office and statewide politicking is that usually you are talking to fellow Democrats: you're trying to motivate them to go out and do something on election day."

• "You have to concentrate on the friendly areas: bring out the vote. If the voters come out, Democrats will win."

• After greeting one or two people at each of seven stops in the small town: "You hope when they meet at the Grange, they say you've been in town."

• After it was suggested that his sports coat attire, rugged features and "down to earth" style contrasts and complements Levin's "intellectual" image: "Actually I shy from talking to people and I guess that gives the impression of humility. I didn't style it on purpose, but I do use my assets. I'm not an intellectual and don't try to be."

ABOUT THEN he stopped the car and stepped out to talk to a farmer putting up a produce sale sign in front of his home on a narrow country road. Except for the reporter's presence this was old-fashioned one-to-one campaigning.

In general, McNamara said that it's been a "quiet election year. If it weren't for parochialism, there wouldn't be any interest." (He agrees with Levin in opposition to Proposition "C".) Out of his hearing, the Bedford Township supervisor who had just met McNamara said, "He's a good man; more fire than Sandy."

In the Temperance barber shop, he barely was able to introduce himself when the loquacious barber blurted emphatically, "We've got to have law and order first. You guys are the ones going to have to do it."

Fellow Democrats in Luna Pier scarcely questioned him. "They're more interested in the sewers going in right now," McNamara explained as he departed.

Noon dinner was taken with the Monroe Rotarians, with whom McNamara had been a member until April when he became Yul-time Livonia mayor. His Monroe membership had resulted from his having that territory while a customer representative with Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

"MOST OF YOU remember me from my amateur status, before my present takeoff," he opened.

"Something strange happened to me on the way to Grand Rapids a few weeks ago. . . Now if you take Levin, you get me. If you take me, you get Levin." He quickly explained the last minute choice of him as Levin's running mate at the Democratic State Convention in August.

He said later he knows the majority of the club members are Republican.

One statement about closeness of the gubernatorial polls in that speech summed up the tenor of his whole platform: "It's not a case of Levin and McNamara being guys that everybody loves, but a reflection of the dissatisfaction with the present political situations and present leadership."

Although raised in the City of Detroit, McNamara has spent all of his adult life in Livonia. He was a Livonia city councilman for eight years and council president for two years prior to depositing the city's four-term non-partisan Republican mayor.

McNamara feels the Democratic ticket has already broken through the line of scrimmage in the state battle and he's sprinting hard now to help outdistance the secondary.



GREETES TRUCK DRIVERS at Monroe plant.



ON THE AIR for an interview by Rep. Kehres.



BEATING TRAFFIC, Livonia's Ed McNamara, Rep. Raymond Kehres and a Levin staff man head for the next stop.



ANSWERING QUESTIONS put to him by Hal Funk, who's been with the Monroe Evening News since 1931.