

C'ville Board Fighting Apathy, Seeks Turnout

By DOUG JOHNSON

Clarensville board members took their razor-thin loss of a millage vote June 10th very seriously.

So seriously, according to Supt. David McDowell, that they met before Clarensville High School's graduation ceremonies, two days after the election, in emergency session.

Only 25 votes kept the district from victory. Dr. Samuel Prisk, board president, was as disappointed as anyone:

"To say I'm disappointed is as mild a statement as can be made," he said on the eve of the defeat. "This undoubtedly is a voter reaction to the general increase in living costs and real and threatened tax increases at other levels.

"A turnout of less than 500 voters is certainly indicative of a great deal of apathy and perhaps had not this been the case this would not have happened."

PRISK at that time said he and the board "felt compelled to try again."

With this in mind, the district will go back to polls July 29 and be asked to approve four mills for operational funds. That's the exact proposal taxpayers turned down the first time. School officials, including Supt. McDowell, were shocked by the turnout, and said they would accept a "no" vote from 3500 of the district's nearly 4400 voters, but not 500.

"If THE community says no a second time--we must make a very thorough and definitive study and analysis and some im-

portant and necessary programs will have to be dropped or curtailed, but we will try in every possible way to still do the job we are now doing for our young people.

"Should we have to make severe cuts, let no one be misled--it is the children and their education that must ultimately suffer," Prisk said after the loss.

Prisk said then, and repeated this week, the need for the district to:

- (1) Meet the needs of increasing enrollment
- (2) Maintain a competitive salary schedule
- (3) Keep pace with the ever-increasing costs
- (4) Retain the high quality educational program and low teaching ratio now existing in the district.

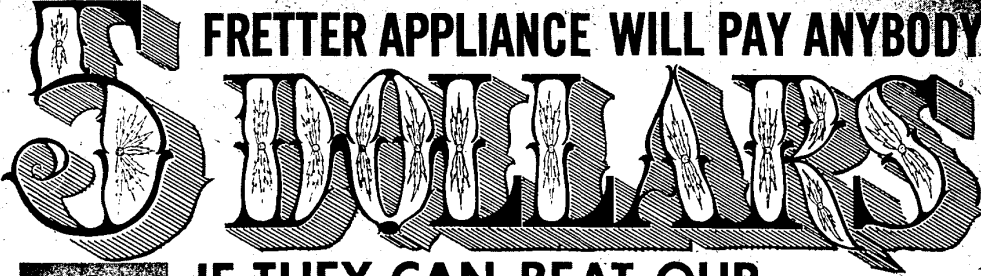
SCHOOL officials project expenditures of \$2,575,000, but revenue of only \$2,405,000--or a shortage of \$170,000. The four mills will provide \$180,000 additional money. Most of it will go to salary increases for the district's 300 employees.

"The unknown is employee negotiations," Supt. McDowell said. "Salaries make up 83 per cent of the budget and no teaching negotiations can be completed until the budgets final."

McDowell points to new teacher salary schedules in the area which start from \$6,700 to \$7,000.

"But we will levy only that portion of the money needed to run the business of the district," McDowell said.

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O'Neil Asks Kelley Opinion On Stationery

James F. O'Neil, Livonia who is a member of the State Board of Education, has asked Atty. Gen. Frank Kelley for an opinion on the use of State Board stationery for personal opinion press release.

O'Neil's request follows his assurance by the State Board for his use of official stationery for a June 11 paper on violence and the death of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Underlying O'Neil's problem is the fact that he is one of only two Republicans on the eight-member board.

IN HIS LETTER to the attorney general, O'Neil said: "I've used for the opinion in urgent as I have been held up for public ridicule by the board's public censuring of me for communicating my deep concern to other elected officials on the causes of violence (in which I believe and so stated that inadequate education had contributed) following the assassination of Sen. Robert

Kennedy."

O'Neil asked for opinions on the use of personal stationery for communication with other officials, the use of State Board of Education letterhead to publicize personal views of individual members of the board, and the use of State Board stationery to congratulate a member of the board's brother on his appointment to a federal post.

IN HIS REQUEST to Kelley, he attached sample news releases containing opinions from State Board president Dr. Edwin Novak on the death of Kennedy, as well as a letter from Novak to P.F. Dell'Quattri, new chief of the children's bureau of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

O'Neil, in his letter to Kelley, charged that the board "may be used for a double standard."

He said the use of the news release letterhead by individuals might lead people to believe the opinions expressed therein were those of the entire Board.

High School To Hold Orientation Sessions

The first of two orientation sessions for incoming students of Plymouth High School will be held Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.

A second orientation session will be conducted Aug. 14 beginning at 10 a.m. Both are scheduled to last approximately one hour.

Robert Southgate, head of the high school counseling department said, "We want to be sure new people are welcome and know the high school's rules and regulations."

the main auditorium for any questions the new students may have.

They also will be shown a film strip about what a new student can expect when first entering school, Southgate explained.

The chief counselor said that upwards of 700 new students are anticipated for the school's opening in September.

He has been involved in the school's orientation sessions for the past two years and he expressed the hope that all of this year's "new crop" would attend.

Southgate added that they are informal meetings and are held to acquaint the students with the school's facilities.

He added that in the past, the July session attendance has been low compared to the August session.

"We also want to alleviate some of the butterflies during the first few weeks of school," he commented.

The program will include a tour of the school by several older students.

Principal Carvel Bentley and Southgate will be on hand in

Milwaukee Winner

MILWAUKEE -- Dave Stockton of California appears to be "an every other week winner" on the professional golf circuit.

Two weeks ago he captured the Cleveland Open. Then he sat out the Buick Open at Flint before returning to action last weekend to win the Greater Milwaukee Open and the hoodoo's first prize of \$40,000.

Stockton shot a final-round

69 for a 275 total to up his year's earnings to \$85,159. The veteran Sam Snead, 56, placed second four strokes back while Dave Marr and Tom Weiskopf, the latter the winner at Flint, came in at 281.

Bob Goalby, the Masters champ, posted at 283, a stroke better than U.S. Open king Lee Trevino.

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