

Williams calls for federal balanced budget

Theo Williams, candidate for the Democratic nomination to Congress in the 2nd District, called for a more balanced federal budget while speaking recently in the Monroe Bank & Trust Co. Community Hall in Monroe.

He charged the Nixon Administration with stimulating inflation by needless deficit spending. "With 12 per cent interest rates, two digit inflation this year, and the lowest stock market in four years, the Nixon people plainly and obviously do not know how to handle this nation's economic problems."

Williams urged a cut in taxes bal-

anced by a cut in federal spending — especially a large cut in the arms hardware budget. Such action, he stated, would stimulate the economy by the percolate-up method by putting money in circulation at the bottom immediately.

Williams described the trickle-down method as unworkable because the money, in practice, doesn't usually trickle down but stays at the top in the "hands of the special interests."

WILLIAMS ALSO stated the urgent need for a comprehensive, compulsory healthcare plan for all ages. He noted a recent statement from a U.S. senator that in 1980 the nation may see a \$1,000 per day charge for

hospital costs if current trends continue.

He also talked about lack of ethics in government and invasion of privacy at all levels of government.

Williams noted Nixon's plan in 1971 to give some 1,000 government employees a lie detector test because of news leaks. Williams asked why Nixon himself doesn't take a lie detector test with regard to the Watergate affair and others.

Williams also raised the question as to "just who is being represented in this district, considering the reports of the incumbent Republican congressman's two \$100 a plate dinner parties held so far in the district with some \$30,000 being taken in from just those two parties."

More doctors needed - Lansing

Congress must do something to end the critical shortage of doctors for family care in parts of the 2nd District, says Marjorie Lansing who is a contender for the Democratic nomination to Congress in that district.

Speaking at a meeting of the Monroe County Democratic Party, she said: "I see massive increases in aid to education at all levels as a top priority."

"Congress must allocate specific funds for new medical schools and provide financial assistance for students, particularly those interested in primary care."

She added that she agrees with the

Michigan Education Association (MEA) that 33 per cent of local school budgets should come from federal sources.

"Now local schools get only three per cent from federal funds. If the MEA goal is achieved, private property taxes could be reduced."

"I favor cuts in military spending, rather than increases in personal income taxes to produce the extra money needed to solve the many financial crises in education."

Vote reform bill out of committee

The House Administration Committee has finally agreed on an election reform bill and will be reporting that legislation to the floor of the House sometime in the next two weeks," according to Congressman Marvin L. Esch (R-Ann Arbor).

The bill, which has been in committee for over a year, will provide guidelines for candidates during election.

Reuther defines pension reform

John Reuther nailed down the four pillars of good pension reform legislation while speaking recently to a group of supporters at a Livonia house party.

Reuther, candidate for the Democratic congressional nomination in the 2nd District which includes Livonia and Plymouth, told listeners that in 1972 alone, some 20,000 retired workers had been cheated out of their pensions.

"It has been estimated that half of all workers supposedly covered by private pension plans will lose their hard-earned income through fraud and mismanagement."

REUTHER SAID the following provisions are a must in any piece of pension reform legislation:

Portability — each worker must be allowed to transfer his accumulated rights from one pension plan to another;

Vesting — each worker must be guaranteed part of his pension if he switches jobs;

Maximum funding — all pension plans must maintain sufficient assets to cover all present and future benefits; and,

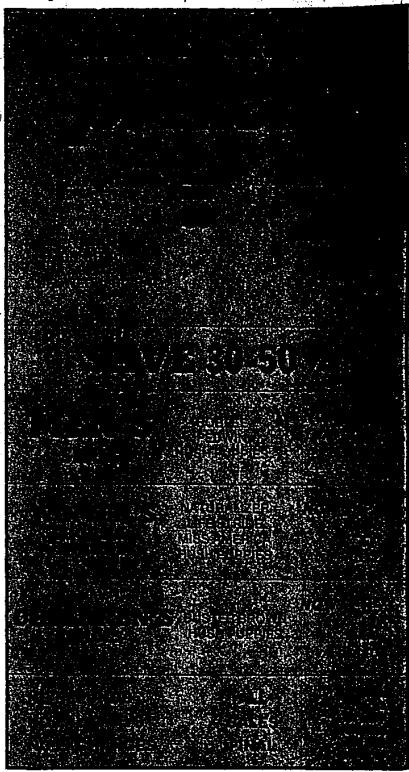
Plan termination insurance — employers must be required to purchase pension insurance from a federally-sponsored program to cover benefit claims if companies go bankrupt.

WITHOUT THESE fundamental measures, Reuther said, pension legislation would be crippled.

Reuther also touched on the tragic dilemma faced by workers and their families when the plant where they work is closed.

He said he strongly backed the Ford-Mondale bill which would permit investigation of plant closings involving 50 or more workers if 10 per cent of the workers or their collective bargaining agent request it.

The bill would also provide adjustment assistance to affected workers plus grants and loans to communities suffering from heavy unemployment due to a plant closing.



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