

Arnold Berndt Attends Meeting Of Band Directors

Arnold Berndt, coordinator of music for the Birmingham School System, attended the ninth annual convention of the American School Band Directors Association at Cleveland, Ohio, last week. He attended as an active member of the professional association for directors of elementary, junior high school and senior high school bands. The association has over 500 active members, representing all parts of the Mainland, Alaska and Hawaii, who meet annually to observe, listen, and participate in music sessions and activities.

School bandmen and women from 42 states participated in the convention which highlighted talks by nationally known educators, school and professional musicians. The Association, as well as outstanding soloists and clinicians, ensembles and bands ranging from the elementary to the professional school level, to the professional.



Joseph A. Parisi, Jr. (second from left), executive director of Michigan Townships Association, presents the case of townships before the Local Government Committee of The Constitutional Convention. Committee members are (from left) James S. Farnsworth (R., Allegan), Thomas G. Sharpe (R., Howell) and Peter L. Butack (D., Detroit). Parisi asked the committee for a higher degree of flexibility, approaching home rule, for townships and more equitable representation on county boards of supervisors.

Con-Con Report

LOOK BACK ON MILESTONES

LANSING—Officers of the Michigan Constitutional Convention look measure of Con-Con's accomplishments as the convention adjourned for a 12-day Christmas recess.

Convention President Stephen S. Nisbet (R., Fremont) said he is "highly satisfied" with Con-Con's first three months of deliberations, which have mainly included orientation, study and introduction of delegate proposals for constitutional revision.

"I think we've completed the initial phase of our work with a remarkable degree of efficiency," Nisbet said. "I hope we can proceed with similar success in the second phase."

Meantime, as the 134-man delegation headed for home, Con-Con could look back on these major milestones:

ORGANIZATION: Starting almost from scratch, the convention organized itself into nine substantive and four operational committees, adopted a \$2 million budget, recruited a 76-man staff, and swung into action.

PROPOSALS: After wrapping up organizational details, substantive committees plunged into a wide range of constitutional articles and began processing proposals for revision of the state's basic law. More than 800 such proposals were received before the Dec. 1 cutoff date.

HEARINGS: A steady parade of expert witnesses, testifying on a wide range of constitutional issues, provided delegates with additional background for their work. The views of the general public were presented at a series of public hearings in Lansing, the Upper Peninsula, Detroit and other parts of the state.

With preliminary work out of the way, committees must now hammer out the specific recommendations that will be incorporated into the new constitution,

"and this will require an intensified work schedule after we reconvene on Jan. 3," Nisbet said.

"I ANTICIPATE that we'll be holding two sessions a day by mid-January," Nisbet predicted. "If that isn't enough, we'll take whatever time is necessary."

The convention is working against a March 31 deadline for the completion of its work, "and I'm confident that we'll make it," Nisbet said.

Convention Vice President Edward Hutchinson (R., Fenwick) said he, too, is satisfied with the convention's progress, "although I'd like to see us further along in our work."

"Actually, we've simply been preparing ourselves to make decisions," Hutchinson explained. "During the next three months these decisions must be made and finalized. The pressure and workload will be pretty rough."

HUTCHINSON SAID he was

hopeful that the bipartisan atmosphere that has characterized Con-Con's first 12 weeks will prevail during the critical phase of committee reports and floor debate.

"I don't anticipate that many of our problems will be resolved along straight partisan lines," he said.

Delegate Ralph A. Liberato (D., Warren) shared Hutchinson's hopes.

"The over-all spirit of bipartisanship has been good," Liberato said. "There have, of course, been a few exceptions but for the most part delegates have risen above partisan considerations to do the job that had to be done."

But Liberato questioned whether the convention could complete its work by March 31.

"I'm not sure our problems can be resolved in such a short time," he said.

ALTHOUGH THE convention stands adjourned from Dec. 22 to Jan. 3 delegates will be hard at work in their home districts.

"Speaking engagements, correspondence and research work will be the main items on my holiday agenda," said Mrs. Katherine Cushman (D., Dearborn).

When the convention reconvenes on Jan. 3, delegates will find their work cut out for them.

The schedule calls for the completion of hearings on delegate proposals by Jan. 5 and the completion of committee reports by Jan. 31.

"By that time the broad outlines of the new document will take shape and the people will have a clearer idea of what we're doing," said Nisbet.

6-C THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC Jan. 4, 1962

Labor Leader Opposes Romney for Governor

August Scholle, president of the state AFL-CIO, announced last week he is opposed to George Romney as a possible gubernatorial nominee.

Scholle said he will not support Romney if he wins the Republican nomination for governor this year.

Romney, resident of Bloomfield Hills, is president of American Motors Corp. He is an Oakland County delegate to the Constitutional Convention, a Con-Con vice president and state chairman of Citizens for Michigan.

SUPPORT FOR the auto executive has been mounting, at least in some circles, since his announcement that he was considering candidacy.

Six Wayne County congressional district Republican chairmen have indicated they will support Romney. Mrs. decides to seek the nomination as governor this year.

Romney was reported by one source as having greater support among conservative Republicans than any candidate for governor has had in recent years.

Romney was announced last week as the Associated Press' business-industry newsmen of the year for 1961.

ROMNEY HAS said he will announce by Feb. 10 whether he intends to seek the GOP nomination.

Scholle said he believes his attitude toward Romney is shared by the bulk of the 600,000 union members affiliated with the state labor group.

He said he feels personally that Romney is "an advocate of company unionism."

Scholle claimed that Romney has been "extremely partisan" toward the Republicans through the years.

He said there is a question in his mind as to whether Romney can win the GOP nomination.

Completes Training

Paul J. Harlan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Harlan of 1275 Humphrey, Birmingham, completed two weeks of Naval Reserve recruit training, Dec. 30, at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

Birmingham Girl Completes Training At Alabama Center

Pvt. Bonnie L. Berkol, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roland J. Berkol, 1433 Henrietta, Birmingham, completed eight weeks of basic military training at the Women's Army Corps Center, Fort McClellan, Ala., on Dec. 22.

PRIVATE Berkol has received orders assigning her to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., for advanced training at the Adjutant General's School.

A 1960 graduate of Birmingham Shoshola High School, Pvt. Berkol attended Richmond (Va.) Professional Institute. She was employed by a Birmingham drug store before entering the Women's Army Corps.

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