

Delegates Consider Reapportionment Plan

"I will back it all the way. It is a good plan, a great deal better than the people of Michigan have been led to believe."

With this declaration, Dr. John A. Hannah (R-East Lansing), chairman of the Committee on Legislative Organization, swung to the defense of the reapportionment proposal approved by a majority of his committee.

Almost all delegates agree reapportionment is the most important, most difficult and most critical factor to confront the Constitutional Convention.

"THE MICHIGAN House of Representatives would rank first among all of the states in the United States

in giving fullest representation to population in House apportionment under our proposal," explained Hannah. "I am informed that Michigan's state senate, which is to be elected on an 80 per cent population, 20 per cent area plan, would rank 12th among all state senates on the basis of representation of population."

President of Michigan State University and Chairman of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, Dr. Hannah is one of the most influential, as well as one of the most recent, of delegates.

"I've been saving my words for what they made me responsible for here—apportionment," he explained with a smile. "Since I have not said

much so far, I am hoping the Convention—now that I may have much to say—will be willing to listen."

THIS HOPE IS a vital one. Hannah's committee, plagued with greatly divergent ideas from the beginning, has studied more than 40 separate plans; members of the majority as well as the minority had expressed preference for their own favorites. Hannah himself had submitted plans for apportionment of the House and Senate; both were passed over by his committee.

Apportionment, a subject of debate and argument for years, has been cited over and over from the opening day of the Convention as

the one factor which can and does affect decisions on other proposals ranging from executive appointments to local government.

Democrats who have fought some proposals with tremendous vigor and bitterness have promised to make their hardest attack on what they brand as their largest and most vital target—the Republican majority report on reapportionment.

UNDER THIS PLAN, the 110 member House of Representatives would be elected from basic areas, each containing one or more counties and not less than 7 per cent of the state's population. Under the 1960 census there would be 40

districts. After each district is given its own representative, the remaining 70 seats would be awarded on the basis of the "equal proportions" formula used in the U.S. Congress.

The House apportionment, a compromise of several plans, became doubly important last week when it was revealed that George Romney, of Bloomfield Hills, Republican candidate for governor, as a part of the most publicized compromise with Republican conservatives, had agreed to back the committee plan, surrendering his own which had called for straight population representation in the House.

Led by Melvin Nord (D-Detroit), Ph.D., attorney, engineer, and teacher of law, the Democrats have charged the proposal only cut from ten to five seats "the bias favoring rural Republicans in the present House," adding there should be no favoritism whatever.

TO THIS, Dr. Hannah, as well as associates of Romney, replied that the House plan was about as close to population equality as possible so long as voting areas are based on county lines. "Both parties favor keeping county lines," he said, "of originally unbalanced house districts of equal population regardless of county lines, but I was overruled."

The senate plan, target of even sharper attacks because it involves the power of appointment, also calls for four additional senators—one each for Oakland, Wayne, Genesee and Macomb counties—immediately.

The plan sets up an eight-man bipartisan commission to apportion the state after the census of 1970. Each county is to be assigned a factor computed by taking its percentage of the state's population, multiplying this by four and adding the result to its percentage of the state's total area. These figures would, under the 1960 census figures, range from a high of 1.88 for Wayne County to 1.06 for Keweenaw, northernmost county in the state.

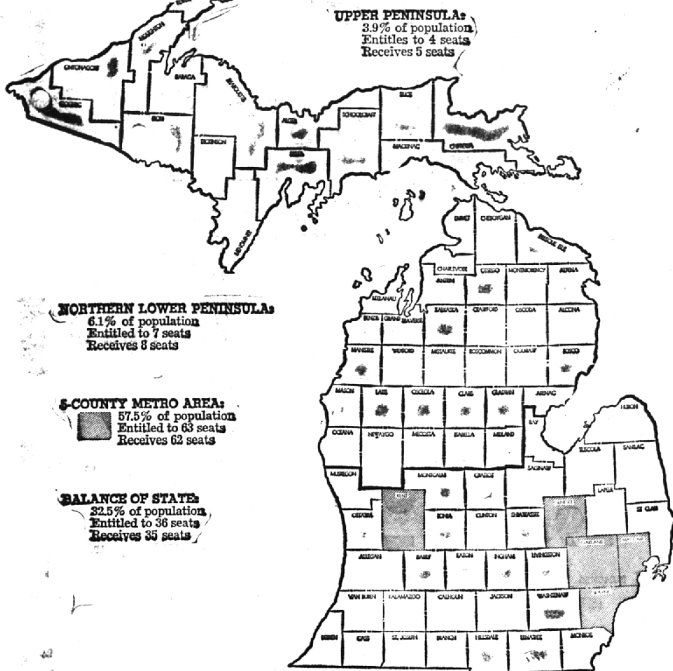
COUNTIES NOT entitled to one or more senate seats would be combined to form senatorial districts which are to contain, as nearly as possible, 13 factor points for one senator. A minimum of two is required for two. This would permit the retention of two senators in Kent County if it retains its present percentage of population.

Dr. Nord, who in the minority report charged the present senate is malapportioned 12 to 1 in favor of rural Republicans, wrote: "In the committee plan the bias against the metropolitan voter is made the basis of a monstrous formula equating people with square miles . . . (It is) an expression of contempt for people to equate them with dirt."

In its supporting reasons, the committee wrote, "the plan is responsive to population shifts . . . and achieves precisely what it is designed to accomplish, a blend of population and area factors in an effective way. The committee was impressed by testimony at public hearings that the senate should reflect area as well as population."

ALL SENATORS and Representatives are elected from single districts. The Supreme Court is given power to force action by the apportionment commission and may review final districting plans under certain conditions and circumstances.

Con-Con Committee Proposal for House Membership



DISTRIBUTION OF 110 LEGISLATORS—The proposed House apportionment plan drawn up by Con-Con's committee on legislative organization is simply illustrated above. The proposal appears to have substantial support among delegates from the majority party at the convention. Based primarily on population, it gives 62 of the proposed 110 House seats to the five largest counties—Kent, Genesee, Oakland, Wayne and Macomb. The upper peninsula is awarded five, instead of the four seats to which it is entitled by population. The 32 counties in the northern lower peninsula are given eight, instead of the seven seats which their population dictates. The remainder of the outstate

area in the southern lower peninsula would have 35 seats. The problem of setting up the 110 single representative districts would be left to a bipartisan commission which would be named by the state's major political parties. Apportionment of the state senate, proposed by the committee, would immediately give four additional senators to the metropolitan area—one each to Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Genesee. Outstate senate districts would continue as presently constituted until 1970 when a re-apportionment would be authorized based on a formula which gives 80 per cent weight to population and 20 per cent weight to area.

Nancy Palms Given Divorce

Mrs. Nancy Dormer Palms of Bloomfield Hills last Thursday was granted a divorce from her husband, Jerome, a descendant of the socially prominent Palms family, Detroit builders and financiers.

Mrs. Palms, 37, of 2800 E. Ways, was granted 90 per cent of the couple's net assets by Circuit Judge Nathan J. Kaufman. In addition, she will receive \$15 a week for each of their six children ranging in age from three to 14 and \$25 a week for herself.

The assets, totaling about \$135,000, involve a \$75,000 home and \$35,000 in stocks which must be liquidated, according to Judge Kaufman.

MRS. PALMS contended that her 36-year-old husband, of Detroit, no longer loved her, absented himself from their home, consorted with other women and squandered his money.

Palms' crossbill was denied.

Campaign Launched

The April Campaign for Community Support for The Merrill-Palmer Institute will be officially

launched the end of this week by the Institute's trustees and campaign volunteers.

Mrs. Daniel Goodenough is the chairman of the group of com-

munity women who will contact residents of the Metropolitan Detroit area. They will attend training sessions April 4 and 10 at the institute.

now the official piano of THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

Baldwin

and the personal choice of EUGENE ORMANDY

In ever increasing numbers Artists and Music Students turn to Baldwin for their piano . . . because it sounds best . . . plays more easily and has greater durability. \$3095 to \$7645

- Arrau • Backhaus • Bernstein • Hollander • Iturbi
- Moseiwitsch • Munch • Stravinsky
- Schippers • Whittenore & Lowe

A few of the many artists who request Baldwin exclusively

Smiley Bros. BIRMINGHAM 318 S. WOODWARD BL. 7-1177

DETROIT 4810 Woodward TR 3-6800 OPEN EVENINGS SATURDAY TILL 5 DETROIT OPEN SUN. 1-5

bill williams presents THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL PERSONALITY CHILD CONTEST AND PORTRAIT SALE

CONTEST OPENS MARCH 14 CLOSING DATE APRIL 13 FOR EVERY CHILD UNDER 6 YEARS OLD-A PORTRAIT YOU'LL CHERISH FOREVER ONLY \$295

Here's an opportunity to purchase a "Bill Williams" 8 x 10 silver-tone portrait, which becomes yours after impartial judging.

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW STUDIO CONTEST HOURS 9A.M. to 5P.M. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

WIN ONE OF 3 GRAND PRIZES

1st PRIZE \$100 U.S. SAVINGS BOND
2nd PRIZE \$50 U.S. SAVINGS BOND
3rd PRIZE \$25 U.S. SAVINGS BOND

bill williams studios, INC. 1107 CROOKS RD. • ROYAL OAK • PHONE 543-7660

"Quality is our business"

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER!

FREE WATER REPELLENT SERVICE

of Your

RAIN WEAR

We will make your Rain Wear water repellent

FREE of CHARGE

when you bring them in to be Professionally Dry Cleaned and Finished. Our treatment will restore that New Look & Sparkle to your garments.

- ★ Drapes and household articles expertly cleaned and finished.
- ★ If you should be in a hurry, we offer you 3-hour service on shirts and dry cleaning.

chase cleaners

TELEGRAPH & MAPLE RDS. In Bloomfield Plaza MA 6-7200

Charge Accounts Invited

615 E. Maple, Birmingham (Just East of Hunter Blvd.) MI 6-8733

Arriving this week!

BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL'S FIRST QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

On March 30th savers at Birmingham Federal Savings and Loan Association will receive their first quarterly dividend compounded and paid at the new increased current rate of 4%.

To make your savings earn more open an insured savings account here. Remember, savings received by the 10th of April will earn a full 3 months dividend on June 29th.

Make it a point to open your savings account at Birmingham Federal. If you wish use the handy coupon below or drop in. Any one of our savings account officers will be happy to assist you.

CLIP THIS COUPON — SEND TO BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL SAVINGS 99 W. MAPLE, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

I enclose \$ (minimum \$1.00) to open my savings account. Mail me my Birmingham Federal Savings passbook and a savings 1% certificate (postpaid save-to-mail envelope). I understand that my savings earn 4% current rate, and that I have regular withdrawal privileges.

MRS. MR. MISS (FIRST NAME) (MIDDLE INITIAL) (LAST NAME)

ADDRESS _____ PHONE NO. _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

If you wish to open a joint account with husband, wife, or any other person, please give name with middle initial.

Relationship _____

4% CURRENT RATE

COMPOUNDED AND PAID QUARTERLY

Birmingham FEDERAL SAVINGS

EACH SAVINGS ACCOUNT INSURED TO \$10,000 BY FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN INSURANCE CORPORATION

MI 4-1711 LI 5-7610

"Instituted for Local People . . . By Local People"