

Our National Endorsements

It is normal before an election for this paper to endorse candidates for public office. Last week we took positions on the court races and the only state issue, the "Massachusetts Ballot."

In looking at the national races we are, frankly, in a dilemma. We have not had the opportunity to sit down face-to-face with either the President or Sen. Barry Goldwater.

Our knowledge of these candidates comes from a digestion of their speeches and their past performances in their respective offices.

WE KNOW THAT under Johnson the country has not gone to the dogs. We also know that since Sen. Goldwater at one time was selected the most popular senator by his colleagues that he is by no means a "raving demagogue."

We have fought long and hard against the drift of power to Washington, which is Goldwater's theme.

These are not the only things that concern us.

What also concerns us is that both candidates have exhibited poor judgment. Examples of this would be the President's accumulation of wealth in a government-controlled industry, and Goldwater's acceptance speech in San Francisco which ruthlessly wrote the moderates out of the Republican Party.

WE SUPPOSEDLY HAVE a choice this year; but that choice — as former Vice President Richard Nixon said in Detroit — is, do you vote for someone you disagree with 25 per cent of the time or someone you disagree with 75 per cent of the time?

We, as a newspaper, are part of that segment of voters which has great reservations about each of the candidates. Under such circumstances it becomes difficult for us to choose either one with any degree of conviction.

However, to suggest and urge our readers to examine their own emotional and intellectual reaction to the factual and fantasy reporting of the candidates' qualifications and come to their own decision would not be reasonable without evidence of our having done the same thing. We have done this, and we find ourselves giving the choice to Johnson.

Our State Preferences

The state races will dominate the ballot next Tuesday. Not only will we have to select a governor and legislature, but we will have to choose people to administer Michigan State and Wayne State Universities and the new State Board of Education which was created by the Constitution in 1963.

For governor we prefer local resident George W. Romney. He is opposed by a man who can challenge the governor neither in experience nor accomplishment.

The complexion of this state has changed radically in the two years of Romney's tenure.

WE HAVE MOVED from a second-rate, insolvent status back to a position of stability and importance in this nation.

Neil Staebler can promise us only more of the same thing we had under G. Mennen Williams and John Swainson: Special interest control and poor fiscal management.

In his only recent political office, Staebler has in no way stood out and been marked as outstanding. Romney has.

As part of his team, State Senate majority leader Wm. Milliken will be grouped with Romney as lieutenant governor. This is the best team that has been presented to Michigan voters in many decades.

THE VOTERS this year will have fewer people to select for the administrative board. The new Constitution made the positions of auditor general, state highway commissioner, superintendent of public instruction and state treasurer appointive, leaving only attorney general and secretary of state to the voters.

It is important to a governor to have men working with him as a team and this factor has played a major part in our selection for attorney general and secretary of state.

We have no trouble in endorsing the Republican nominee for attorney general, Meyer Warshawsky, who has proved himself as an able prosecutor in Muskegon County. Incumbent Frank Kelley, on the other hand, has proved time and time again that he is a politician first and a lawyer second. He has caused more turmoil in the government of our state in the last two years than any other single individual.

IN SO DOING, we can anticipate the disagreement and possible displeasure of many of our readers. To them we reply: We respect those who may disagree with us and commend them to vote as they see the issues and the candidates' qualifications. All we are doing here is reporting our choice.

The important thing is that every voter visit the polls this coming Tuesday and pull down one of the two levers under the presidential heading. Not to do this is an inexcusable abdication of their electoral responsibility. We urge the undecided to face up to their dilemma and test their courage. We further urge them to select the man they hope is best qualified rather than voting for the party they have tended to identify themselves with in the past.

Unfortunately, this November seems to be a choice of personalities almost exclusively, rather than one of party principles and candidate qualifications.

As to the Senate race we presume that Philip A. Hart will be re-elected. However, in our opinion Sen. Hart has been one of the most disappointing figures on the Michigan political scene.

A former resident of this area with an outstanding background, he has gone to Washington and voted the labor line 100 per cent.

WHILE REPUBLICAN candidate Elly Peterson does not bring to this high office the experience one would normally desire of a candidate, we feel the time has come for a change and support her.

In our two congressional races we back incumbent William S. Broomfield and former Con-Con delegate Richard Kuhn.

While Broomfield is challenged by a very able person, former assistant secretary of state Frank Sierawski, Broomfield's experience and political philosophy make him more representative of this area.

While we didn't endorse Kuhn in the primary we feel that his philosophy of more government closer to home is sounder than the philosophy of auditor general Billie S. Farnum's "let Washington take care of all the problems."

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE in the past we have endorsed incumbent James Hare. He has done an outstanding and relatively nonpartisan job.

He, however, is part of the administrative board that has on many occasions in the last two years frustrated the orderly process of government for the state because of political bickering.

With this in mind we recommend that the voters of this area support the Romney team and therefore endorse Allison Green for secretary of state.

FOR THE STATE BOARD OF Education, whose job under the new Constitution will be to provide leadership and supervision over all public education, including general planning and financial recommendations for institutions of higher learning, and selection of a superintendent of public instruction, we recommend the Republican slate.

This is a very important election, because it will be the only time in history that the entire board will be elected at one time.

We have selected the Republican slate because man-for-man they are better qualified. The Michigan Education Association, a nonpartisan school teachers organization, has for the first time in history endorsed seven of the eight Republican candidates.

WE THINK PAUL Bagwell and John Pingel should be retained on the Michigan State Board of Trustees and Wilber Brucker, Jr., and Charles Gershenson should be elected to the Wayne Board of Governors.

In the legislative races we feel that Mayor Robert Huber of Troy better represents our area and is more experienced than his Democratic counterpart in the senatorial race.

In the House races we think young Wm. Hampton can develop into an outstanding legislator once he gets his feet wet in Lansing.

In the Troy area we feel that James Carey is much more experienced than his opponent and should be sent to the state capital.

In other areas, we feel incumbents Ray Baker and Bill Huffman have both earned re-election to the House.

Still With Us



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Mom Driven to Poetry Leaves as Cause By Crush of Activities

To the Editor:

Enclosed please find a piece of poetry (?) that I sat and wrote a few nights ago, after having a week of tea etc. etc.

The rat race of meetings and activities that the community and schools expect you to keep up with, and still produce children who are respectable citizens, is almost overwhelming.

Where is this race of human machines going to really wind up? When are we all going to take a day to really analyze what we are all racing around for and what in the world are we really looking for in life?

WHERE ARE YOU?

Who's waiting there when the door swings wide and no one inside?

When the kids get home at days end with all the tales they have to spin.

"Hey, Mom," they call, "where are you today playing bridge and over-stayed?"

Gone to golf with the Mom next door? Another note, be home around four.

In she flies, all out of wind, No time to listen to the tales they'll spin.

She hurries thru dinner, and is on her way

to the monthly meeting of the P.T.A. Next night she's off to do her part for the annual drive on cancer or heart.

Then the day after she has to be over to school for the teachers' tea the months fly by and she tries to recall.

When Johnnie lost all the weight and grew so tall.

She thinks to herself, "I must really try to find some time for the Scouts' fish fry."

But dawn awakens and she looks with dismay; that's the night she works at the Y.M.C.A.

So Johnnie goes off to scouts alone, while Susie sets home with the telephone.

Does this Mom realize the price she'll pay, when she's not there at the end of the day?

To hear all the tales her kids have to spin, when the door opens wide and they all rush in?

Or will she continue to use her days to attend Town Hall and the P.T.A.s?

While the kids search in vain for someone who, might be interested in what THEY do.

WRITTEN BY A MOM

See Yesterday's Happenings in Section BB

Raps Burning Of Air Pollution

To the Editor:

In many respects I think fall is the most glorious time of the year.

About the only thing I dislike about this season is the almost constant pollution of the air from leaf-burning. Now I realize that most people are not informed about, or lack the inclination to make valuable compost humus from the leaves, and therefore must burn their leaves.

So, burn if you must, but let's use a little intelligence and reduce the smoke.

IF THEY'RE wet — let them dry. Otherwise, remember that smoke results from poor combustion—usually lack of air. So, pay attention to your fire.

Don't run off and leave it; it's dangerous, anyway, to do that. Keep your fire poked up. Let the air get to the leaves and they will smoke much less.

Don't pollute the air! And see that your fire is out by the hours of early darkness; don't let it smoulder all night long.

FOR CLEAN AIR

Policy of the Birmingham Eccentric prevents the publishing of letters to the editor concerning political candidates in the last issue before an election. Several letters were received in the past week which are not printed here for that reason.

Our County Choices

In the Oakland County races we feel the incumbents should be returned to office.

Sheriff Frank Irons, as a career policeman, has served our county well and is eminently more qualified than his opponent.

Treasurer Charles A. Sparks has served in this post since 1933, and his investment policies are the reason that our county's fiscal reputation stands as high as it does.

His opponent offers little experience in financial matters. However, with Mr. Sparks in declining health, we hope that he brooms a successor to that office in time for the next election.

Incumbent Clerk and Register of Deeds David R. Calhoun has done a fine job since his appointment. His opponent, John D. Murphy, offers no prior political or occupational experience to make him particularly suited for this job.

COUNTY DRAIN Commissioner Daniel W. Berry should have little challenge from his opponent this year.

In the prosecutor's race, we prefer Robert L. Templin. His opponent, S. Jerome Bronson, is a well-reputed attorney that has run for this office previously.

Mr. Templin is presently an assistant prosecuting attorney and has done a good job. Mr. Bronson has had no experience as a prosecutor.

Mr. Bronson has raised many issues in the campaign. All of these should be directed against the present or former prosecutor, not against Mr. Templin. As to his favorite charge of too much crime in the streets, we feel that the prosecutor has little to do with the problem. This is a problem for the local police. The prosecutor's job only starts after a person has been arrested.

Eccentricities

By HANK HOGAN



Next Tuesday is election day.

Many people in our area have indicated a disillusionment with some of the candidates for national office; some even to the point of saying that they will stay home on election day.

If a sufficient number of people did this, it would be a catastrophe for our country and for democracy.

Our country was built on the principle of a majority of the people rule, not rule by a few. This can only happen if all of the people voice their preferences.

If a sufficient number of people in Michigan stayed home, it would be a great blow to our state.

WE ALL KNOW that Michigan for many years was known as a bankrupt state. We all know that Michigan for many years was losing industry and jobs to other states.

It seems like a long time ago, but this was Michigan just two short years ago. We were 86 million dollars in debt then and the future promised more of the same.

Two short years ago a man on a white charger said to the people of this state, special interest whether it be BIG labor or BIG business is wrecking our state. The people trusted him and elected him governor.

HE IS NOW UP for re-election. Labor is lacking his opponent. Big business is lukewarm about him. Why? Because neither now controls our state.

Yet in the two short years that state has wiped out its deficit and now has about a 60-million-dollar surplus. There are more people employed in this state today than ever before in history. And there are fewer unemployed.

I've traveled throughout this nation and our state is the tonic of conversation. It is well known that Michigan is on the move again.

WHY HAS THIS HAPPENED? Because there is new faith in the administration of this state. Employers and employees know they will get a fair shake.

The opponents of the governor will say that all these things are true but he shouldn't get the credit. It was a national trend, or it happened in spite of the governor.

To be perfectly realistic, it is hard to say exactly what happened. But we do know that if the state continued muddling the governor would be blamed; conceivably, he should bear credit for improvement.

It is also obvious that it is not due to a national trend because we in Michigan are far outstripping the nation in economic gain.

WE ALSO KNOW that it is not an accident because we have had three good car years but Michigan didn't move in the first good car year under a different administration.

This is why I say it would be a great blow to Michigan if thinking citizens stayed home on Tuesday.

We must get out and vote. And we must see that George W. Romney is returned to office.

When we have a man of honesty, integrity and conviction who is willing to bear the slings and arrows of public office, we cannot afford to let him be ousted by people sitting at home.



City Beat

By KEN WEAVER

Everybody has his problems, even in suburbia. A friend of mine was telling me about one of his at lunch the other day. It is, I believe, typical of this community.

It seems that despite strict instructions to the contrary, the man's wife telephoned him at the office. A conversation along these lines ensued:

"But I told you not to call me at work unless there's an emergency!"

"I know, but this is an emergency. Something terrible has happened."

"Lucky was caught breaking into a garage in Westchester Village and he's being arrested. A deputy from the sheriff's department is here right now with some sort of summons. I'm terribly upset!"

WELL, YES; this is an emergency, a serious one. By now, both my anonymous friend and his wife were upset. What to do?

"Why don't you ask the sheriff what we're to do?" he told his wife.

After a brief lapse, the answer came back:

"He says that Lucky has to be taken to 1200 Telegraph Road—that's the county courthouse?—and that we will not be able to bail him out until after 4 o'clock this afternoon."

A bad situation, indeed.

"FURTHERMORE, the officer just gave me a summons to appear before justice of the Peace (Alice) Gilbert next week. I'm so scared!"

My luncheon companion mused that similar situations have occurred previously, that domestic crises are born daily. He assured his wife that in the long run everything would turn out all right.

"Don't worry," he declared, "I'll rush over to the courthouse and meet you there promptly at 4. Everything will be fine, you'll see."

AT THE prescribed time, they arrived at 1200 Telegraph to bail out their Lucky.

"Sorry," said a deputy, "they haven't brought him in yet; but it shouldn't be long now. We sure have been having a lot of problems in that Westchester area."

A half-hour later, the officer arrived with Lucky.

"You'll have to come in here and sign the release papers," he said as they entered another office. "And then, too, you'll have to pay a \$3.65 fee now. The justice will set the fine at the hearing next week."

They signed the papers, paid the fee, Lucky was released from the grip of the law—and you never saw a happier Irish setter.

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