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Women's Role Increases In Republican Convention

BY DOUGLAS G. ASHLEY
Special Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Although this Republican National Convention of 1964 was designed with the delegates in mind, the women who are accompanying their spouses have not been left out.

Mrs. Elly M. Peterson, assistant chairman of the Republican National Committee and former vice chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Michigan, has an array of social events planned especially for the women who are attending the convention.

On Friday, Mrs. Peterson entertained at a luncheon in the Pavilion Room of the Fairmont Hotel honoring the Republican national committee-women and wives of national committeemen who have served on the 1960-64 committee.

ADDITIONAL GUESTS included wives of Republican governors, Republican women members of Congress, wives of Republican Senate and House leaders and of the major candidates, former assistant chairmen of the national committee, women appointees to the National Finance Committee and wives of leading party officials.

Attending from the Birmingham area were Mrs. Arthur Elliott, Jr., wife of the state chairman; Mrs. George W. Romney and Mrs. Allen Strom, vice chairman of the Republican Committee of Oakland County.

Leis of orchids and plumeria were flown from Hawaii for each guest. Saks Fifth Avenue presented fashions by American Designers. Receiving with Mrs. Peterson were Mrs. Patricia Reilly Hitt, national committeewoman for California and official hostess for the convention.

ON SUNDAY, Mrs. Peterson supplemented the new national committeewomen with an informal "get acquainted" brunch at the Hotel Hilton.

On Sunday afternoon a wine tasting party was held at "Green Gables," the palatial estate of Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer Fleishacker, Jr., in Woodside.

On Tuesday, the grand ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel was the scene of a fashion show luncheon planned by Mrs. Hitt, at which Paramount Pictures presented a pageant, "Glamour on Parade," showing costumes worn by stars from Clara Bow and Mae West to Martha Hyer and Carroll Baker in the new movie "Carpenter's."

GOWNS OF such other headliners as Marlene Dietrich, Ginger Rogers, Grace Kelly, Sophia Loren, Audrey Hepburn and many more presented a striking contrast to Shirley MacLaine's sensational formula from "What a Way to Go," opening this month. More than a dozen of San Francisco's leading models wore the costumes.

Miss Edith Head, seven times an Oscar winner for costume design, narrated the pageant. Diamonds, emeralds and sapphires from Tiffany and costume wigs by Max Factor were featured.

When the convention was called to order Monday, there were more women delegates seated than ever before in history. With accurate lists still incomplete at this writing, of the 1,308 official delegates



CONVENTIONAL TALK
Gov. George W. Romney (left) and Cong. Gerald Ford of Michigan, potential candidate for vice president

Job

(Continued from 3-A)

and he bled to death in the middle of Hunter Blvd.," he said.

Pepperell also vividly recalled the night in 1949 when Birmingham fireman Lee Carroll was killed while checking a building on N. Woodward for a suspected gas leak.

"MY WIFE and I and a couple of neighbors were playing cards when all of a sudden there was a terrific blast and the front door slammed open.

"I hurried down to the station and relieved the man on the desk so he could help at the scene. It was after 2 a.m. before I got home," he recalled. The explosion from a gas leak at the Mother and Son Antique Shop killed five persons and has often been called Birmingham's worst disaster.

Although he has been a career police officer, Pepperell was and still is a carpenter by trade.

Before joining the department during the depression he had worked at this trade for 16 years in the Birmingham area. During this time he also served as a volunteer fireman along with his brother Stanley who is still with the fire department.

Most of the counters, files and storage cabinets found in the police station are Pepperell's handiwork.

BORN IN Mt. Clemens, Pepperell came to Birmingham with his family in 1910.

at least 232 were women. This compares with 201 women out of 1,331 delegates in 1960. Also seated were 332 women alternates.

Courts

(Continued from 1-A)

ham-Bloomfield residents belong to a church."

THE ASSISTANCE begins in the courts.

"When children are involved in a divorce case, we ask the parents if they would like to confer briefly with Mrs. Marguerite Davis, our court marriage counselor who formerly worked with Family Service."

"After one to three initial conferences, they are referred to one of 500 priests, ministers or rabbis participating in the county program who will counsel on a long-term basis."

With a six-month program behind them, Judge Moore considers their initial steps successful.

"OUT OF 28 couples with 82 children who had applied for a divorce, 12 are actively participating in counseling sessions and three families have been reconciled."

"Those 15 couples have a total of 41 children who are already benefiting from this program, while the three reconciled couples have maintained a home for eight youngsters."

The courts are not given a detailed report of each case, only statistics.

"In this way, people won't fear telling the truth to their counselor so that it might jeopardize their case in court should they decide to go through with the divorce."

The program, which is both free and voluntary, is patterned after a similarly successful program in Los Angeles. A three-year Oakland County plan has been set up with a grant of \$20,000 from two foundations.

As executive circuit court judge, Judge Moore is currently directing the program. The service is in the process, however, of hiring a full-time director.

"WE ARE LOOKING for a community leader and an expert in family counseling who will advise the religious leaders so that they will be highly effective."

"He will also conduct personal counseling, educate teachers in family living courses and aid lawyers in understanding methods of referral to skilled counseling assistance."

Judge Moore is also hopeful the program will aid in improving education before marriage, through religious help.

"It's the immaturity of people that cause divorces. They must learn, before marriage, to put their children's interests ahead of their own interests."

THE PROGRAM began on the circuit court bench, and includes the Honorable Clark J. Adams, William J. Beer, Stanton G. Dondero,

Tiny Cobbler Packed A Big Wallop

Billy Manser was Birmingham's popular cobbler in days gone by. There probably are folks living today who remember genial Billy, his religion, his whiskers and his short legs.

Billy was exceedingly small of stature, a feature which was somewhat deceiving. He kept some boxing gloves in his shop and one day invited George Mitchell to try them on.

THE BOYS exchanged a few gentle taps when George suddenly found himself awkwardly tangled upon the floor. Billy was an enthusiastic pugilist but was somewhat secretive about his fistic ability.

Manser was the Methodist choir-leader for many years, a hard worker in the church and was said to be one of the most faithful of the flock.

To accommodate Billy's short stature, a stool was placed in the choir loft on which stood the short but fervent choir singer.

HIS SHOP was in an old frame building, located on the site now occupied by LaBelle's Book Store on W. Maple. The old building had first housed a fanning mill factory, operated by Alonzo Snow in the 1860's and later became the blacksmith shop of Horace Barnum.

After Billy Manser moved his

Philip Pratt, James S. Thorburn and Frederick C. Ziem.

"We then talked to Dr. Aaron Rutledge, director of the Merrill-Palmer Institute, who helped us form our executive committee from leading family counselors."

Advisors include Pidele F. Fauri, dean of the University of Michigan School of Social Work; Dr. Andrew S. Watson, professor of law and psychiatrist at the Children's Psychiatric Hospital at U-M; Prof. Beauford J. George, professor of family law, U-M; Rev. Msgr. Thomas Owen Martin of Grand Rapids; and Judge James R. Breaker, Jr. and Ralph M. Freeman.

Rev. Fr. James M. McDonald of Holy Name Church is Birmingham's representative on the religious executive committee.

WHAT ARE the long-term aims of the Religious Assistance Services?

"Last year, 5,412 children were involved in divorce cases in Oakland County.

"They are provided with financial aid from the county for an average of ten years, but this does not always prevent moral and emotional neglect," said Judge Moore.

"In these ten years, that's 50,000 kids that can and should be helped."

cobbler's shop to Woodward Ave. of town with the name of Smith bought the old building for \$50 and carried it away.

In 1905 Mitchell repaired and refurbished the old place and jokingly called the diminutive edifice "The Majestic."

THEN A STRANGER from out bought the old building for \$50 and carried it away.

Billy lived and worked in Birmingham until his eyesight became so impaired that he had to retire.

And away they go!

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