

Pastor for president?

By The Rev.
LESTER KINSOLVING

The 37 presidents of the United States have come into the office with a variety of prior occupations: 22 attorneys, 5 soldiers, 2 teachers, a newspaper publisher, an engineer, an author-politician, a planter, a tailor and a haberdasher—but not a single minister.

But if the South Dakota prairie fire which has been



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burning up the Democratic primaries continues hot through November, the White House may have its first resident pastor, (the nearly Rev.) George McGovern.

Senator McGovern was

never ordained, although as a student at Garrett Theological Seminary he served as pastor of Diamond Lake (now Mundelein) Methodist Church, just north of Chicago.

HE MIGHT JUST AS WELL have been ordained, for his parishioners recall him having exercised all the sacramental and preaching functions of the Methodist ministry. And according to one of his successors as pastor of the church, the Rev. George Groh:

"He was very much loved by his congregation."

Parishioner Esther Mills recalls: "George was a very good preacher, with an excellent delivery. He wasn't a backslapper, although he called on people a lot. And you know he wrote us a letter on our 50th wedding anniversary."

McGovern's biographer, former Time magazine staffer Robert Sam Anson, makes brief mention of this one-year pastorate, in a book with which

McGovern cooperated, but readily agreed to make no attempt to edit. As a result, Anson claims the South Dakota senator left the ministry and switched to teaching, because: "He had long since become disillusioned of the value of organized religion."

BUT DURING AN exclusive interview, the senator told me: "I think Anson has superimposed his own views. I have talked about the limitations of the church—and of all other human institutions for that matter—but the church has played an enormous and generally uplifting role in human society."

McGovern went on to disagree with his biographer's speculations that he left the ministry because of scanty attendance at services, a greater desire to write sermons than minister to the bereaved, and disillusionment with a hierarchy which was overly concerned with money.

"That was a cheap shot," commented the senator. "The hierarchy I served under weren't at all like that. I just remember hearing one district superintendent from another area mention a \$10,000 (salary) church which I thought was a bit mercenary. As for my own congregation, the size doubled. Sure I liked to preach, but I believe I demonstrated that ministering to the bereaved was every bit as important. I left only because I didn't feel I was cut out for the ceremonial functions and administrative minutiae of the parochial ministry."

HAD HE BEEN less than sincere, the eloquent and attractive young man might easily have continued drawing his salary and residing in the church's parsonage. Instead, he and his stunning wife, Eleanor, who is one of the few who ever defeated him in South Dakota's leading sport of debating, moved into a cockroach-infested apartment near Northwestern University. And when his GI Bill of Rights check was delayed, the McGovern's existed for two weeks on soup, peanut butter and milk for the baby. (Later when he was director of the Food for Peace program, he had an audience with Pope John XXIII, who told him: "When your Maker asks if you have fed the hungry, you can answer, 'yes.'")

His ministerial experience, as well as the influence of his father (a devout clergyman who built six churches) seems destined never to leave him—and is reflected in a life style which motivated the late Robert Kennedy to describe him as "the most decent man in the Senate."

As examples of this, are the following from his speeches:

"THE 'PRACTICAL MEN' have had lining after lining. But just as long as men continue to scoff at ideals and spirituality, just so long will we continue to reap the tragic harvest of so-called practical men."

"To remain silent in the face of policies we believe to be wrong is not patriotism, it is moral cowardice—a form of treason to one's conscience and to the nation...the people of a state can easily secure a new senator, but a senator cannot easily secure a new conscience...I want to be re-elected. But I do not want the election so badly that I will ever sacrifice my conscience to achieve it."

Evangelist to speak

DEER LODGE—The Rev. Christian Hild, Sunday School evangelist, will present his Kids Crusade series Sunday through Friday in the Deer Lodge Assembly of God building.

The Sunday programs will start at 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m. and



REV. HILD

7:30 p.m. Others will be evenings from 7 to 8:30. The theme is "God's Truth for Today's Youth."

The Rev. Hild, appearing as "Uncle Chris," will lead in singing, Bible games and adventure stories, and will show filmed sermons in sound and color.

The Rev. Hild travels with 25 cases and trunks containing equipment and props used in his presentations.

Church plans anniversary

DEER LODGE—The 100th anniversary celebration of the founding of the First Presbyterian Church of Deer Lodge will be June 11, with an all-day program commemorating the establishment of the first Presbyterian mission in the Northwest. The church was founded by the Rev. Sheldon Jackson on June 9, 1872.

The Festival of Faith will begin at 11 a.m. with communion services, followed by an old fashion ice cream social, a pageant of important episodes in the church's growth, a community chorus, and a fellowship dinner will follow.

Ann Landers

LSD by needle

DEAR ANN LANDERS: Some cats who read this will think it's a phony letter but any kid who is strung out on drugs will know it's on the level. And that's the kid I want to reach.

I started with pot—a little harmless smoking. Potheads laugh when they hear the squares say grass leads to stronger stuff. I laughed too, but I must admit that's the way it was with me. The second step was "only an experiment." I wanted to see how much acid I could drop before I blew my mind or it blew me. It was cool, man, like shaping up for a moon shot. I got everything together and then I called a buddy to sit with me in case I hit a bumner. This is the

unwritten law for acid-heads. You gotta come when a buddy calls. The sitter smokes pot but he doesn't join you in needle art.

What happened in the next 24 hours I'll never know for sure but I woke up in a hospital. I got too much LSD on the second squirt. I ran out of the place onto the roof, trying to fly. Finally I crashed through a skylight. It took me three days to get it all together. Even then I wasn't sure who I was or what had happened. I made up my mind that God had given me a second chance to live. It was like coming back from the dead. I swore never to touch another needle, a cigarette, a pill, or a pipe, and to tell my story wherever I could get an audience of one. Thanks, Ann.—Reborn in Omaha

DEAR OMAHA: Your audience today is slightly larger. Would you believe 54 million? Thanks for telling your story.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: Several months ago our son married a girl we were not very fond of, but we made up our minds to accept her and we have done so. Jeff and his wife live 700 miles from here. Before they moved, Jeff promised that he or his wife would write us a short letter every week instead of spending money on the long distance telephone.

They have kept their word. I would like to know, however, why a 22-year-old college graduate would start a letter to her in-laws with "Hello" and close with "So long for now." Can you explain this, please? My husband and I are baffled.—Riverside Readers

DEAR RIV: It's obvious the girl is evading the traditional "Dear—" because you are not dear to her and she is letting you know it. Her casual close is a device for skirting the customary sentimental sign-off.

I hope the relationship improves, for your son's sake. I can feel the Arctic breezes from here.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: You sometimes change your advice when your readers convince you you've made a mistake. I hope you will reconsider your answer to the woman who asked if she should tell her best friend that her husband is cheating.

I think it's stinking for the wife to be kept in ignorance while everyone else is whispering behind her back. What kind of friendship is it to keep your eyes covered, your ears plugged and your mouth shut?

A friend of mine has been cheated on like crazy for three months. Her husband is a doctor and he is having an affair with the nurse in his



"You must be the Godfather"

New constitution easier to amend

(21st in a series)

By DENNIS E. CURRAN
Standard State Bureau

HELENA—Foes of the proposed new constitution can find solace in at least one of its provisions—it would be easier to amend.

Montana's present constitution has not been as easy to change as many would like. In fact, the cumbersome amendment procedure was a main reason for calling the Constitutional Convention.

The new constitution would make several significant changes in the amendment process.

First, the present limit of only three amendments every two years would be dropped. Any number of proposed amendments could be submitted to the voters at the general election.

Second, the voters would have a new power of initiating amendments by petition. A proposed amendment would go on the ballot if at least 10 per cent of the voters signed an initiative petition.

Third, constitutional conventions could be called much more easily. The people could call for a convention through initiative petitions, another new power, and they would be asked automatically at least every 20 years if they wanted to call a convention.

THE PROPOSED constitution also would make it easier for the legislature to propose amendments (two-thirds vote of total membership rather than each house) and would change future constitutional conventions slightly. All con-

ventions would be unlimited in scope, the legislature would determine whether delegates should run on a partisan or nonpartisan basis, and there would be no six-month limit on ratification elections.

Montana's present constitution has been amended 36 times during its 82-year history, but in recent years more amendments have been proposed than would fit on the ballot.

Some critics of portions of the proposed constitution are happy with the simplified amendment process—it would give them a better shot at quickly removing the parts they find objectionable.

If the constitution passes, the voters probably could expect quick attempt to revise the property tax and highway antidiversion sections, judging from opposition during the campaign.

Not everybody is delighted with the new amendment process, however. Some feel that a constitution, as the fundamental law of the state, should have stability and be protected from rapid change.

Children's day planned

Children's Sunday will be observed at the First Presbyterian Church this Sunday at the 10 a.m. worship service.

The church is on its summer schedule and now has only one service.

Children graduating from primary to the junior grade in church school will be presented Bibles by Ruth Johnson, children's worker. Esther Pogreba, chairman of the Christian Education Committee, will give church school teachers presents.

Library reading awards will be given by Beth Lebsack. During the worship service the Children's Choir directed by Bekki Sallee, will sing.

After the service, a fellowship hour will be in the church hall.

The Summer worship schedule will continue until the second Sunday in September.

Meet Sunday

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 400 will conduct its semi-annual meeting Sunday at 10 a.m. in Jorgenson's Holiday Inn in Helena. Information may be received by calling 723-4525.

Republicans compete in Beaverhead County

DILLON—Except for the representative from the District 21 race only Republicans appear to be interested in seeking offices in Beaverhead County in the June 6 primary election.

James Flynn is unopposed on the Democratic primary ticket for representative from District 21 (Beaverhead and Madison Counties). He is owner and operator of the Dillon Disposal Service, former administrator of Barrett Hospital, and past president of the Montana Jaycees.

Three Republicans have put in a bid for party nomination as candidates for representatives.

Tom Clemow, Grant rancher, has been Beaverhead County representative for the past two terms of the Legislature.

Paris W. Robert, Whitehall born and now a Dillon resident, is president of the Twin Bridges First National Bank and the Twin Bridges Valley Agency, Inc. He is also on the ballot for the hospital board.

Clancy R. Stalcup is a Madison County rancher and associated with the Madison Sanitation Co.

In the county and township contests Margaret S. "Midge" Dumke and Marjane Wagner are vying for the Republican candidacy for clerk of the district court.

Mrs. Dumke, unsuccessful in previous bids for public office as a Democrat, seeks the nomination as a Republican on the basis of 13 years "on the job training" as deputy clerk of the court under retiring incumbent H. E. "Toker" Conway.

Walter Brundage, owner of Brundage Funeral Home, is Republican candidate for coroner. He was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Raymond Schwartz who retired after more than 30 years.

Freshman county commissioner Earl Mooney seeks election to that post as a Republican. He was appointed commissioner to succeed Phil Lovell who died in March, 1971.

No Democrats filed for any county or township office.

The "to be or not to be" consideration deciding the fate of Barrett Hospital is of prime

interest in the Dillon and Beaverhead County area as voters are to make a yes or no choice on the formation of a county wide hospital district.

Contingent upon the acceptance of the proposal a three-man hospital board will be voted during the same election. Ten candidates have filed for these positions.

Candidates include Leonard L. Maschino, president of the new local Senior Citizens; Harold Murray, Dillon shoe and boot repairman and husband of Mary Murray who was for many years chief nurse at Barrett Hospital; Billie A. Pace, secretary-treasurer of the Beaverhead Ambulance Association; Paris W. Robert, banker, and former chairman of a similar hospital board in Roundup; Jessie I. Routledge, widow of a physician who served the people of the Dillon area for many years prior to his death in 1965; Dr. Donald K. Shaffner, veterinarian; William J. Smith, operator of the pump station just south of Dillon; Mike Swetish, Dillon fire chief and an active member of the ambulance service; Nils A. "Swede" Troedsson, Forest Service, and also active, especially in the continuing education program for the ambulance crew, and Herbert W. Wheat, Dillon rancher.

DAN W. HARRINGTON SAYS SUPPORT THE NEW CONSTITUTION



HERE'S WHY...

The 1972 Constitution calls for the state and its people to protect the environment, requires the legislature to enact enabling legislation. The old Constitution provides no environmental protection.

The new Constitution gives the people more accountable and more responsive representation through single member districts. The old Constitution does not.

VOTE YES!

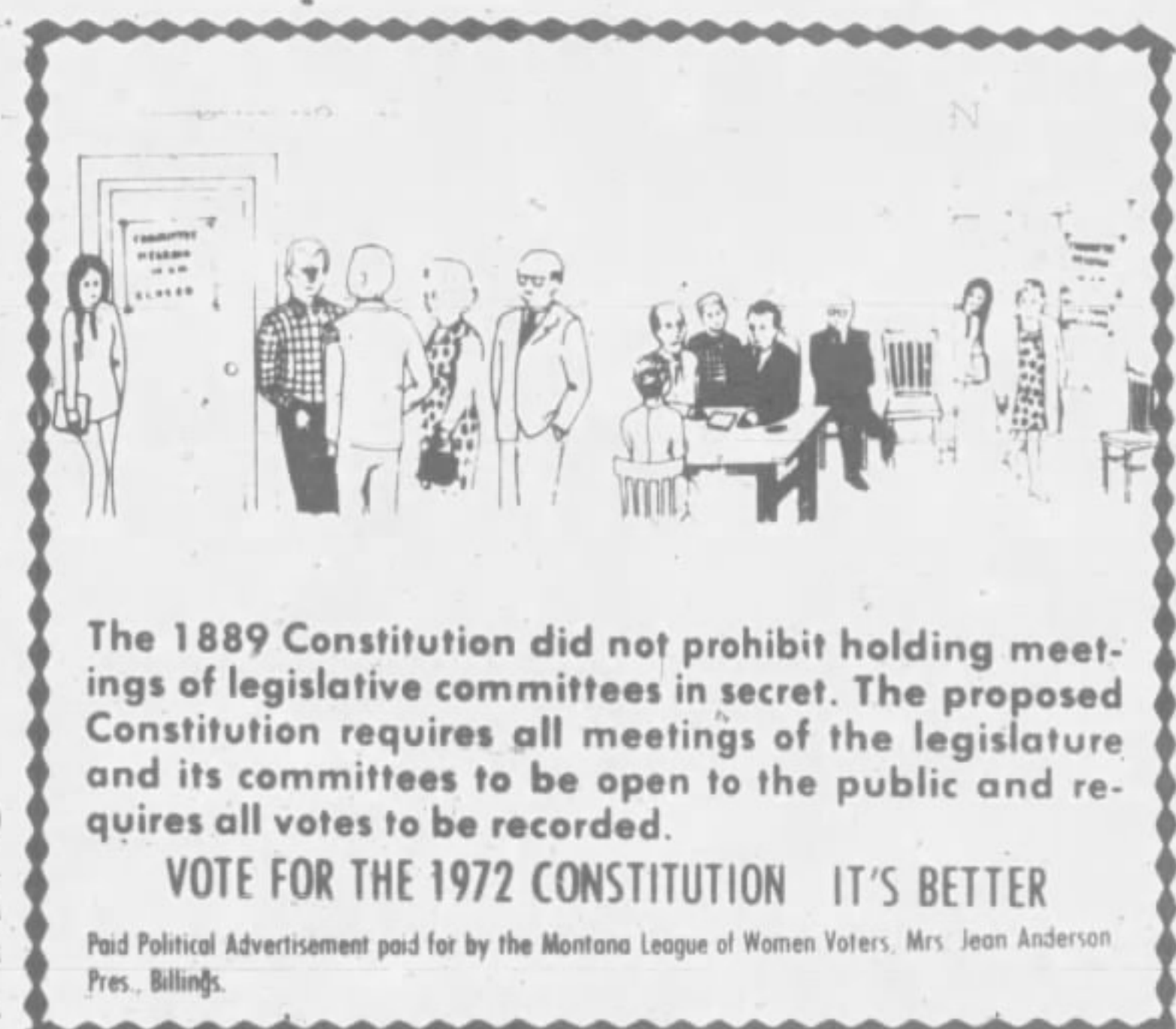
Pl. Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Citizen's Committee for Constitutional Improvement. Donna Muffick, Helena Sec.

Evaluation is planned

TWIN BRIDGES—A speech and hearing team from the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences will be in Twin Bridges Thursday to evaluate children.

The team will be at the school from 9 to noon and 1 to 4. Workers want to evaluate preschoolers from age 3 and observe speech and hearing problems of school children.

On the team will be a speech pathologist, an audiologist and a health education consultant.



The 1889 Constitution did not prohibit holding meetings of legislative committees in secret. The proposed Constitution requires all meetings of the legislature and its committees to be open to the public and requires all votes to be recorded.

VOTE FOR THE 1972 CONSTITUTION IT'S BETTER

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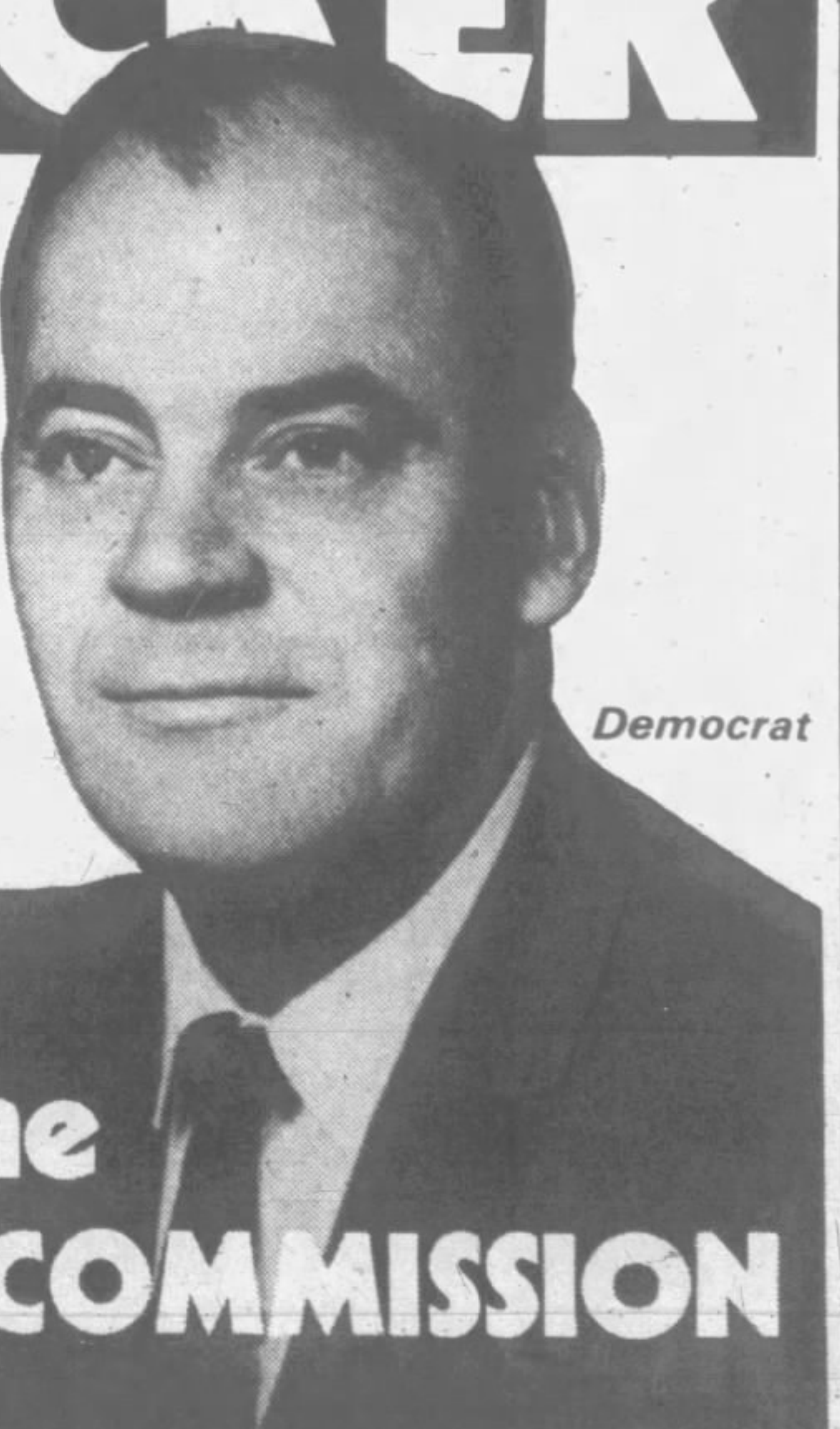
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Democrat