

Romney Issues Stinging Repudiation of John Birch Society

Gosse Pointe, Mich. —George Romney, Republican candidate for Michigan governor, Saturday issued a stinging repudiation of the John Birch Society and called for the ouster of a powerful GOP leader active in the controversial organization.

"George Romney is not prepared to become identified in any way with Welchism," Romney told a gathering of 14th District Republican leaders in a stormy session that pitted his popularity against that of Wayne County (Detroit) GOP power Richard Durant.

About 200 district leaders were present as Durant and Romney locked horns.

"If the delegates elect this man (Durant) or delegate to him the responsibility of leadership, then you will have repudiated me," Romney said.

His challenge came after he and Durant met for more than an hour in a private conference. During that time Romney, as he had done on previous occasions tried to persuade Durant to step down.

But Romney mentioned frequently as a GOP presidential darkhorse in 1964, apparently failed to win Durant over and be made his appeal to party leaders to oust Durant.

"I'm not trying to dictate," Romney said. "It's up to the delegates to elect the people they want as leaders. But I appeal to you not to elect to real or ostensible leadership such a man."

Durant ignored Romney efforts to get him to resign and read a prepared statement in which he said "it distresses me deeply to see Republicans quarrelling with one another." He added that he was "personally proud to be a party of the army of people" who will elect Romney this fall.

Although Durant is vice chairman of the district organization, there is no dispute that he is the real boss. No mention was made of District Chairman Stanley J. Baldwin, but he is a Durant supporter and presumably would step down if Durant were ousted.

Precinct Delegates
The showdown in the power struggle will come Aug. 15 when GOP precinct delegates are elected at the district party conventions. The delegates elect district officers.

Pro-Durant forces are opposed by an anti-Durant group calling itself the Republican Action Committee.

The anti-Durant forces include such prominent Michi-

gan political leaders as Paul Bagwell, two-time GOP candidate for governor; Bagwell's wife, Edith, a candidate for

precinct delegate; John Feikens, former county chairman and Federal judge; Wilbur M. Brucker, former governor and

secretary of the Army, and Charles King, dean of the Detroit College of Law and former member of President El-

senhower's Federal Communications commission.

The breakfast was arranged by 14th District residents who

oppose Durant. More than 300 precinct delegates will be elected in the 14th Congressional district and

1,765 in Wayne county. There are contests for 190 of the district delegate seats. Durant is believed to have supporters for most of the seats, while anti-Durant and non-declaring candidates provide the opposition in the 190 contests.

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Small Worlds Around Us
By LYNN M. WATKINS
(Register and Tribune Syndicate 1962)

Colony of Cankerworms Deflily Dodged Bird
As if measuring the actual distance from the trunk to the first group of tender green leaves of the fruit tree, the cankerworm looped outward along the branch. It wasn't alone; several of its fellows looped alongside, behind and before, all headed toward the edible destination.

All were back in business again. Soon comes the day when they will drop off into a deep sleep to transform themselves and later emerge as slender-bodied, gray or brown geometrid moths. The so-called "fall cankerworm," the eggs of which are laid by a wingless female, will emerge from their place in the earth in the fall. Others will emerge in the spring from eggs laid the previous fall.

A colony of cankerworms can completely defoliate a shade or fruit tree. They have been at times serious pests in fruit orchards. These were the obnoxious worms the imported English sparrow was expected to destroy.

Part of the trouble was the deceptive manner in which the worms behaved in imitating a twig or hanging by a thread. The poor bird just couldn't always find them.

Two Local Residents Get 'Joe' Awards

Two Medford residents were among recent winners of "Good Joe" awards for acts of highway courtesy on behalf of stranded motorists.

Awards were presented to S. W. Steele, route 4, box 372A, and Johnny Clark, 605 Berrydale ave., both drivers for Pierce Freight Lines.

Presentations are made by the Oregon Trucking association and Boyd's Coffee company and entitle truck drivers to 10 free cups of coffee—called "Joe" by the truckers. Drivers are nominated for recognition by motorists to whom they have given aid.

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