

First Congressional race: men and issues

by John Dvorak and Julie Morris
Nebraskan Staff Writers

The race for the First District Congressional seat, the closest local contest in this campaign, matches Congressmen Robert V. Denney, Republican, Democrat Clair A. Callan and New Party candidate Harry Bruce Hamilton.

Three political opinion polls taken during the campaign showed Denney and Callan within one to two per cent of each other and Hamilton with one to two per cent of the vote. Nearly one-third of the voters polled in the samples were undecided about the race.

CALLAN, 48, is an Odell livestock feeder and rancher. He won the First District seat in 1964 and then lost a reelection bid to Denney by a few thousand votes. Callan has two children.

Denney, 52, is a lawyer and former FBI agent. He lives in Fairbury, has four children, two sons who are serving in the Armed Forces.

Hamilton, 26, is a University of Nebraska law

school senior and edits the Nebraska Law Review. A past member of the Innocents society, he served two years in the Peace Corps. Hamilton lives in Lincoln, and has one son.

Vietnam

CALLAN: The bombing of North Vietnam should be suspended immediately to see if Hanoi is sincere in their quest for peace.

Formerly, Callan was against a bombing pause because it would jeopardize American troops. But now, during the monsoon when targets are difficult to locate, the bombing should be unconditionally ceased.

Callan labelled the possibilities for peace as "good" if the United States keeps its word and stops bombing.

The only way to ultimately halt the Vietnam War is by negotiation. In such negotiations, all people involved, including the National Liberation Front, would have to be recognized.

Of primary importance before any negotiation,

according to Callan, is the safety of American soldiers in the war zone.

DENNEY: "I am not in favor of escalating while the Paris Peace talks are going on and I am not in favor of stopping the bombing until the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese stop some of their activities also."

"War is being fought with North Vietnam, unless the Viet Cong establishes that they are the controlling party in North Vietnam they should not be included in negotiations."

Denney presents a three-point plan to end the war:

-block the harbors in North Vietnam

-flood the North Vietnamese rice fields by opening the dikes.

He says if the administration will not enact a plan like this it should call a summit meeting of all the Southeast Asian nations and make an agreement with them that they will gradually take over the fighting in Vietnam as the U.S. pulls

its troops out.

HAMILTON: United States involvement in Vietnam was "a mistake." The United States should stop not only all bombing, but all offensive operations at once.

"Negotiations should be undertaken at once and should include all political factions in Vietnam—the North Vietnamese, the National Liberation front and the South Vietnamese."

Elections should be under scheduled as soon as possible throughout both North and South Vietnam. The Vietnams are artificially divided, he explained. They are one country, one people.

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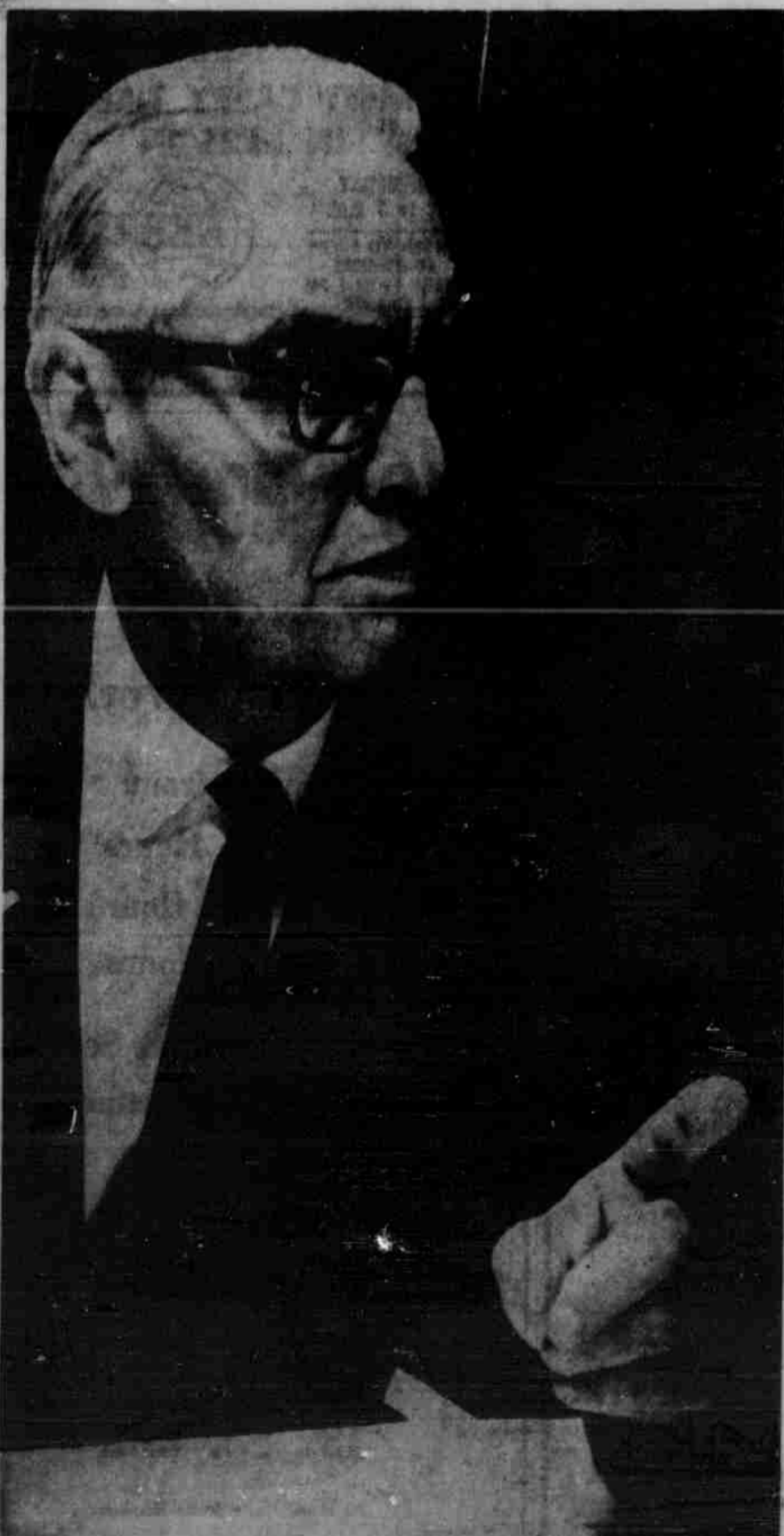
Hamilton acknowledged that Ho Chi Minh and the Communists would probably win the elections.



Three point plan to end war.



Vietnam involvement . . . "a mistake."



Poverty: Private enterprise must become more involved.

Editor's Note: In this campaign issue of the Daily Nebraskan five staff members have prepared a study of the candidates in the first Congressional District and their views on today's issues.

Offer poverty proposals

Poverty

CALLAN: "We have a particular segment of society which is not participating in the benefits of all society."

That is the problem. It is a difficult one, not easily solved, he continued. There are no simple answers.

All society must become involved in improving the economic situation on poor people. This will require far reaching proposals. No one has a pat answer to the problems of the underprivileged. Many different approaches must be tried.

Housing programs, rent supplements, job training, more education and other things must be implemented, he said.

Some of these programs are already being implemented under the present war-on poverty. Some have been less than successful. "There has been graft and excessive cost," Callan said. "But to say the Great Society is a complete failure is grossly unfair."

Private enterprise must become more involved in the fight against poverty. The negative income is a possibility, also.

DENNEY: The riots and unrest in the nation are a manifestation of a government that is too far from the people. A secondary cause is that the present administration has "promised immediate relief" to the ghetto residents and "has been unable to fulfill the promises."

The solution to the urban crisis, Denney says, is to "relieve the impacted areas through a human renewal program" that would combine federal

money, and private industry programs to relocate ghetto dwellers in rural areas.

"Pouring billions of dollars into the cities is not going to solve the problems, we have to reverse the migration from the rural areas to the cities."

HAMILTON: "America must confront the problems of racism and poverty and that means money."

Lots of reports have been written, but little has been done to attack these problems on massive scales. Welfare, as it is presently operated, is a mass failure.

More and different programs must be tried, in all areas — housing, health, job training, education, the candidate insisted. The Kerner Report on violence purposed many new ideas, but these have been shuffled aside by the present administration, he charged.

The negative income tax, as proposed by economist Milton Friedman, is one possibility, Hamilton said.

Under this idea, a certain amount of money, slightly higher than \$3,000 would be designated the poverty level. Any family showing a net income of less than that figure on their income tax forms would have the difference refunded by the federal government.

One of Hamilton's opponents feels that the negative income tax would destroy all incentive, but Hamilton strongly disagrees.

Present poverty programs destroy incentive, Hamilton said.

"We have got to face it. If we don't confront these problems, the United States may well be severely threatened and society may not be the same."