

**ZONING:** VID has backed zoning resolutions that would preserve the traditional atmosphere and historical values of the Village — and has sent spokesmen on their behalf to public hearings. It organized, researched and prepared an economic study of tourist traffic in the Village area, which it presented before appropriate City departments. Its well-publicized Treasure Hunt spotlighted the Village's value as a tourist attraction.

**CIVIL RIGHTS:** VID supports the Sharkey-Brown-Isaacs and Metcalf-Baker bills outlawing discrimination in housing.

**PUBLIC FORUMS:** VID has encouraged community-wide discussions of important public questions through its Open Forums. Participants have included Mrs. Roosevelt, General Telford Taylor, Assemblyman Daniel Kelly and Housing Authority Charles Abrams.

## VID BELIEVES:

Good government can best be achieved in the city, state and nation through a revitalized Democratic Party which stands for courage, imagination, humanity and clean government. VID members support the Democratic tradition of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Adlai Stevenson.

All Democrats should be encouraged to participate in the affairs of the party.

The current patronage practice of using the public payroll to reward services to a political party is inimical to good government. Candidates for public and party office should be chosen on the basis of ability and integrity, and not to increase the power of a party boss.

Jobs paid for by the public which serve no public function should be eliminated; and appointment to non-Civil Service jobs should be fully disclosed.

Democratic clubs should be run democratically, incorporating such practices as open meetings, nominations and elections by the full membership, and membership control of policy.

Permanent Spring Primaries should be established and voting machines should be mandatory in contested primary elections.

The rules and procedures now controlling the activity (and often insuring the inactivity) of the Democratic State Committee and the Democratic County Committee should be changed to allow the membership a voice and to end boss rule.

A free flow of information and friendly cooperation among all the reform elements in the Democratic Party are essential to final victory.

## FACTS ABOUT VID

**MEMBERSHIP:** From an original group three years ago of 80 members, VID's lists had grown to approximately 600 members at the beginning of 1960. Each has paid the \$5. annual dues. Many of them are your neighbors. They include men and women of all ages, and a wide variety of occupations.

**ELECTIONS:** The club annually elects 8 officers and 29 members-at-large to its Executive Committee. All members are eligible to vote; all voting is by secret ballot.

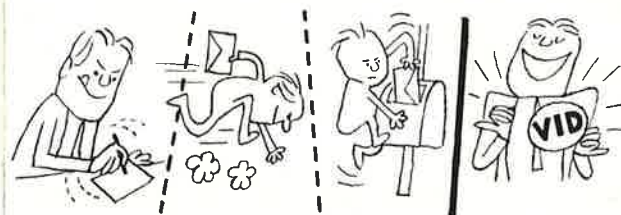
**MEETINGS:** Executive Committee meetings are held almost every Monday evening. They are open to the entire VID membership and the public; all club members are free to participate in the discussions. At least 10 Membership Meetings are held each year.

**POLICY:** Club policy can only be set by the full membership.

**PATRONAGE:** No officer or member of the Executive Committee of VID may retain his club position if he accepts a paid patronage position.

## VID'S FUTURE

Through the large number of votes it has rolled up in the previous primary elections and the nation-wide press coverage accorded its activities, VID has already weakened the control Carmine DeSapio has long held over the Democratic Party in this district, county and state. In 1961, VID will again choose and campaign for its candidates for District Leader, male and female, in the 1st Assembly District South. It expects to win that Primary Election and, as a result, become the regular Democratic organization in Greenwich Village; a democratically run, reform club in which *all* Democrats in the District may have a voice; a continuing active, vital instrument in the democratization of the Democratic Party in New York City and State.



VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS  
224 W. 4 St., N. Y. 14, N. Y.

Please enroll me as a member. Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_

(regular membership - \$5.00 —  
sustaining membership - \$15.00)

I wish to contribute to VID's good work.

Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_

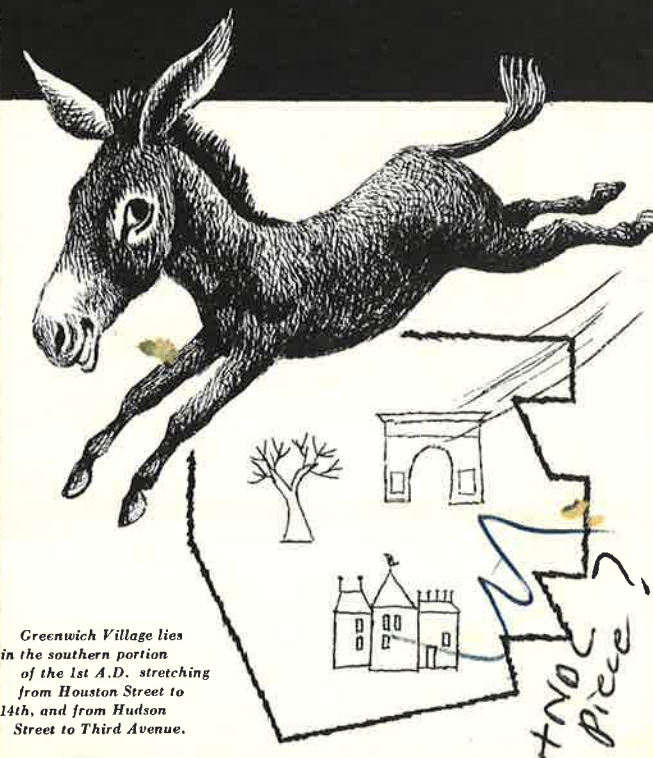
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home phone \_\_\_\_\_ business phone \_\_\_\_\_

# YOU and VID



Greenwich Village lies in the southern portion of the 1st A.D. stretching from Houston Street to 14th, and from Hudson Street to Third Avenue.

*Village Independent Democrats is a group of men and women who want better government and a better community, and who believe in doing something about it. This booklet will tell you what they believe in and what they have accomplished so far.*

VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

224 West Fourth Street, NY 14 NY

CHelsea 3-6555

## VID AND THE REFORM MOVEMENT

The reform movement in New York Democratic politics began about 10 years ago but its greatest growth has taken place during the past three years.

VID has played a leading role in revitalizing this reform movement — ever since the club contested the District Leadership of Carmine DeSapio in the 1st Assembly District, South (Greenwich Village), in 1957.

Then came the 1958 boss-controlled Democratic State Convention at Buffalo, a well-publicized fiasco that paved the way for a Republican victory at the polls in New York State despite a Democratic sweep elsewhere in the nation.

Following the undemocratic convention and the loss of the State to the GOP, increasingly large numbers of Democrats recognized DeSapio as a handicap, if not a menace, to their Party. These forces were unified under the leadership of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Senator Herbert H. Lehman and Thomas K. Finletter, former Secretary for Air. This trio founded the New York Committee for Democratic Voters in 1959. Along with reform Democratic clubs from all over New York City, VID joined and has strongly supported this Committee. In Manhattan alone, more than half a dozen reform clubs have won District Leadership elections. In addition, there are at least six other reform insurgent clubs threatening Tammany control in their respective areas.

*The reform movement is growing rapidly, and each gain shortens Carmine DeSapio's political life. The day when a party boss can carry a convention in his hip pocket is nearing its end!*

## HOW VID BEGAN

VID grew out of the 1956 Greenwich Village Stevenson for President Committee. It was formed by Stevenson supporters who had worked hard for the Democratic presidential nominee while DeSapio's regular Democratic club sat firmly on its hands.

Those who organized VID felt that the local regular club was unrepresentative of the Democrats of Greenwich Village, that it even failed to represent its own members! For instance, there were no open, democratically-run meetings, no elections. And no women voters!

VID was formed in the belief that *all* Democrats have the right to a voice in their Party's affairs. Here's what the club has done so far:

## VID'S POLITICAL HISTORY

- **Contested the District Leadership of the 1st Assembly District South (Greenwich Village) in 1957 and won, on its first try and with political newcomers, 36% of the 6,000 votes cast. DeSapio and Elsie Gleason Mattura were challenged that year by VID's Herman Greitzer and Gwen Worth.**



- **Elected more than 20 VID candidates to the New York County Democratic Committee in 1957.**

- **Contested the DeSapio-Mattura Leadership again in 1959, this time winning close to 47% of the vote! The VID slate that year was Charles E. McGuinness and Miss Worth.**

- **Sparked such interest in the Leadership campaign as to draw an unprecedented 9,000 voters to the polls in the 1959 Primary Election.**

- **Won 22 out of 40 Election Districts in Greenwich Village in 1959, and, as a result, captured a majority of County Committee seats.**

- **Fought for permanent Spring Primary Elections and for mandatory voting machines in contested primaries.**

- **Cooperated with other reform Democratic groups to help eliminate boss rule in the Party. As part of this policy, VID will continue to back candidates dedicated to reform principles.**

- **Provided a home for "displaced" Democrats anxious to work for good government, but unable to do so through the old-line, regular club.**

- **Sponsored educational seminars on aspects of Party operation.**

## VID IN THE COMMUNITY

**WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK:** Gave new strength to the community drive to close the square to traffic by initiating a poll which showed overwhelming Village support for such action. VID spearheaded the formation of the Joint Emergency Committee to Close Washington Square Park to Traffic and followed through with petitions and other publicity.



**HOUSING:** VID advocates construction of housing that residents of the Village can afford in that portion of the Washington Square South Title I project being turned back to the city. In addition, VID has campaigned continuously for middle- and low-income housing to meet the needs of Villagers. VID has rendered service to Villagers on rent control and related judicial problems through its Rent and Housing Committee.

**EDUCATION:** VID backed the battle to save P.S. 8, and supported the drive to build a Junior High School in the Village-Chelsea area.

**HEALTH:** VID has provided hundreds of Villagers with polio shots at cost. It held the first open meeting in the Village on the narcotics problem.





MADAM PRESIDENT with daughter ELIZABETH  
Voice: Gin Briggs

## Politics and Personalities

Inside politics...Carol Greitzer is meeting with presidents of reform clubs in the 17th C.D. to discuss candidates and convention delegates...Executive Committee is submitting to the N.Y. Committee For Democratic Voters names of VID members interested in serving on committees of the Committee...Races around town: A reform candidate is being mentioned to challenge Congressman Farbstein in the 19th C.D., in which VID has some election districts... Bill VandenHeuvel seeking reform nomination against Congressman Santangelo in 18th C.D. on upper East Side...Bernard Schwartz, former counsel to Orin Harris' Committee on Legislative Oversight, is making the rounds of Democratic clubs in the 17th C.D., seeking Congressional nomination against Congressman Lindsay...among other names being bandied about is that of Assemblyman Passannante, who may be looking for an out to his impending primary fight.

### PRIMARIES...continued

Wherever possible, the resolution stated, VID will cooperate with the reform Democratic clubs in the Middle and North sections of the 1st Assembly District.

The second was an announcement of VID's intention to seek and support a competent, independent, liberal candidate for State Assembly for the 1st A.D. who will vigorously initiate and support a liberal program in the State Assembly designed to meet the basic problems of our community, city and state. "We do not approve of the incumbent, and will make every effort to oppose him," the resolution stated.

Thirdly, the membership authorized its president to suggest a meeting with other reform clubs in the 20th State Senatorial District and in the 17th Congressional District to discuss reform candidates for State Senator, Congress and delegates to the Presidential Convention.

## NYU Bids For So. Village Property

Washington Sq. Village Builders Agree To Sell

Title I is back in its accustomed spot on the front pages, with the announcement by the management of Washington Square Village that it would like to turn the unused portion of the land earmarked for the luxury "slum clearance" project over to NYU. (VID opposes this move, and wants the area given over to real middle income housing.)

### Title I Forum Here

Our membership meeting scheduled for Feb. 4 (8 pm at Hq) will feature a panel discussion on the uses and abuses of Title I.

The panelists will be James H. Schauer, President of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council, who has the backing of the West side FDR-Woodrow Wilson Democrats for the reform Congressional nomination in the 20th Congressional District (his wife, Emily, was the New Chelsea Club's 1959 candidate for district leader); Bill Haddad, prize-winning New York Post reporter and a VID member; and Woody Klein, a Villager and the World Telegram & Sun's reporting specialist on housing and slum clearance problems.

### 'Save the Village'

#### Treasure Hunt

Kids from uptown, downtown and out of town hunted Greenwich Village treasures under the auspices of VID on December 28 and 29.

The "treasure hunts," designed to help the Save the Village campaign by publicizing the historic and cultural landmarks of the area, as well as to give the kids a Christmas vacation treat, were organized by Don Davis and Carol Greitzer.

Participants hiked over most of the West Village, armed with maps and clues, looking for such local attractions as Jefferson Market Courthouse, Patchin Place, and the "narrowest" house on Bedford St., and returned to 224 W. 4th St. for cocoa, cookies and prizes.



PRESIDENTIAL POLL

...Starting this week, VID canvassers will be out again, to find out who the Democrats of the 1st A.D. South want for President.

The scientific poll, prepared by Bernice Harris, will, be based on a sampling of approximately 10% of Village Democrats.

VID SPEAKS UP

...Letters have gone out to Robert Moses and to James Felt of the Mayor's Committee on Slum Clearance, urging that the area which Washington Square Village wants to turn over to NYU be used instead for middle income housing...to state legislators in support of the Metcalf-Baker Act, which would enforce non-discrimination in housing on a state-wide basis...to our Democratic State Committeemen, urging direct election of delegates to the Presidential Convention from each C.D. in the primaries.

CORRECTION

...While both President Carol Greitzer and VID were extremely pleased at Carol's making the Daily Closeup in the Post, we'd like to correct (at Carol's request) one misstatement. She didn't say that many VID members "jumped on the (anti-DeSapio) bandwagon" in the past year, but rather that many people elsewhere in the city had done so.

HELP WANTED

...With less than two months to go till the start of the petition period, VID badly needs office workers. There are files to be reorganized, canvassing cards to be checked, and general order to be brought out of chaos.

Headquarters Committee especially and specifically needs good typists - if you're one, please call Gail Borchers, at CI 7-3242.

Hq Committee also needs mimeograph operators, and a Bohn Duplicator Corp. representative will be at Hq on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 2 pm to show volunteers how to run our machine.

Hq is open every week night from 7:30 to 10:30, and from here on out, there'll be plenty to do for all comers.

NOTES ON COMING EVENTS

...Political Workshop, Feb. 9, will deal with "canvassing techniques and practices," illustrated by skits.

...Two parties on the social agenda will both feature dancing and refreshments. A contribution of \$1.25 will be asked. At the members-only party (planned to give old members and new a chance to get acquainted), the first drink will be on the house.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

I'd like to join VID ( )

I'm renewing my VID membership ( )

My check is enclosed for a regular membership, \$5.00 ( )  
sustaining membership, \$15.00 ( )

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Village Independent Democrats  
224 W. 4th St.  
New York 14, N.Y.

*	Bulk Rate	*
*	U.S. Postage	*
*	PAID	*
*	Permit No. 12018	*
*	New York, N.Y.	*
*		*

# VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

224 WEST 4th STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10014

CH 3-6555



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

---

IS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING  
FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD ENDING

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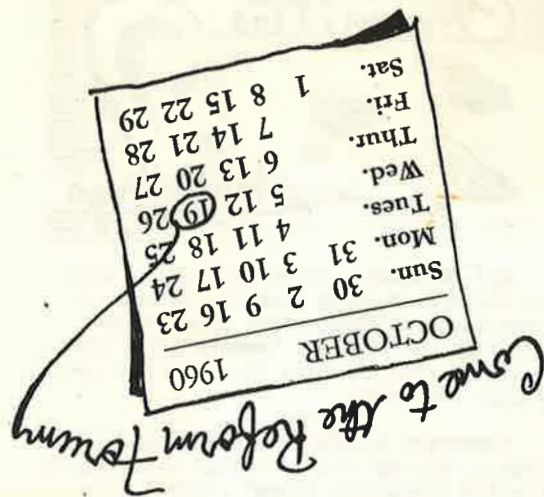


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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON





New York, 14 N.Y.  
224 W. Fourth St.

## VID NEWS

### HARD TRUTH

(Continued from page 1)

On foreign affairs, he points out--as does Stevenson: "Standing up to Mr. Khrushchev in debate is not enough. What we must do is stand up and summon the strength of the free world to advance the cause of peace and our own security."

We must begin, he adds, to plan ahead in anticipation of new developments in a revolutionary age. We must identify ourselves everywhere with anti-colonialism and the drive for freedom and national self-respect. We must put our own social house in order if we are to win the friendship of the uncommitted peoples.

The epitaph of the Eisenhower Era may well be: The world sizzled while Ike putted.

After almost eight years of government by slogan, religiosity, father image, anti-intellectualism and Republican doctrinairism, America's love affair with complacency may be cooling.

The evidence grows that Kennedy's qualities of leadership are getting across, in all sections of the nation. Since the campaign began in earnest, his intellectual insight, his vitality, his historical perspective, and his courage in facing up to

world problems have been most impressive.

VID proudly supports the Kennedy candidacy, and we call on every liberal-minded voter in Greenwich Village to join us.

### VID LAWYERS HELP STUDENT, MOTHER OF 2

A teenage college student arrested with a group of alleged dope users returns to school, on probation, instead of going to reform school.

A mother of two successfully wages a fight against an unfair rent increase and housing violations.

Such cases are representative of the work being done by VID's legal committee in the Village. Free help has been afforded by Ed Koch, chairman, aided by Stan Geller and Dave Dretzin.

Most of the committee's work is in the housing field. Last month, it obtained for tenants at 14 Washington Place a stipulation ordering the landlord to provide required services. Members of the committee are also handling cases at 95 Christopher St., and 145 W. 12th St.

Services are available to all Villagers. Call VID at CHelsea 3-6555 if you need help.

# VID news



VOL 1 NO 2

OCTOBER, 1960

## Hard Truth vs. 'Toothpaste' in 1960

No group fought harder this year to win the Democratic nomination for Adlai Stevenson than Village Independent Democrats. He had inspired VID's creation four years earlier; and his wisdom, maturity, compassion, imagination and wit continued to attract us.

It is largely because we believed in Stevenson's message to the American people that we today wholeheartedly support the candidacy of John F. Kennedy for the Presidency.

For the chasm between Senator Kennedy and Vice-President Nixon is the chasm between action and status quo; between "talking sense to the American people" and well-planned muddling of issues; between a man of energy trying to arouse a great nation to its full responsibilities, and a knee-in-the-groin political manipulator trying to lull that nation into irresponsibility.

The Kennedy message is, in fact, largely the Stevenson message with a Boston accent. He has said, for example:

"The challenging, revolutionary sixties will demand that the President place himself in the very thick of the fight, that he care passionately about the fate of the people he leads, that he be willing to serve them at the risk of incurring their momentary displeasure."

How has Nixon responded? His tactics, in the words of Walter Lippmann, "are designed not to clarify and resolve the issues, but to fudge them and to smother them." Nixon's total performance, as summed up by Joseph Alsop, contains "the approximate intellectual consistency of toothpaste."

Nixon, it should be recorded, is larding his sugar-coated review of recent history with a staple from his cupboard of political tricks -- the "soft-on-Communism" issue. He used this issue with great success early in his career in knifing Helen Gahagan Douglas; in 1956, he drove the same blade into Adlai Stevenson's back. Facing a Catholic, however, has forced a slight tactical change. Kennedy, Nixon tells crowds, is playing into Communist hands, poor boy, but only because he's naive and inexperienced.

Meanwhile, Kennedy has been talking of the nation's needs: full Constitutional rights for Negro and white alike; national action to fight unemployment and aid distressed areas; development of our natural resources by the nation for the nation; plugging of special interest tax loopholes; a higher minimum wage; substantial Federal aid to education; and greater medical protection for older citizens through expanded social security.

(Continued on page 4)



## VID NEWS

Is published monthly by  
**VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS**

**President:** Carol Greitzer

**State Committee:** James S. Lanigan,  
Sarah Schoenkopf

**Staff:** Ed Gold, Editor; Naomi Barko, Pat Chapman, Bobbie DeJoia, Phyllis Hoffzimer, Ralph Leviton

### NO, JACK ISN'T A MEMBER OF VID....

Neither is Bobby or Ed or Joe Sr. Even if the Kennedys were, their dues wouldn't pay for a single issue of VID News--unless you included all their kids.

The point is it costs \$140 each month to reach 2000 families in the Village by mail with our miniature newspaper. But if every reader who supports our cause would send us just \$1, continuation of the newsletter for a full year would be guaranteed.

There's another, more ambitious, project which needs public support. NY Citizens for Kennedy & Johnson need TV time for a Kennedy-Stevenson-Lehman-Roosevelt panel discussion. It costs \$60,000 for one hour of one-network time.

We have Victory Fund booklets containing ten \$1 coupons and three \$5 coupons. They are moving well but time is growing short.

Please use the form below today. Fill it out and mail in the attached postage-paid envelope.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



Here's \$1 to continue VID News.



Please send me ( ) Victory Fund Booklets.



Please send more information on VID activities.



Here's a little extra for your campaign effort.

### POLIO CLINIC SET

VID's polio clinic will be open Oct. 20 from 7 to 8 pm at VID headquarters, 224 West Fourth St. Cost is 75 cents a shot, the actual cost to VID.

## CAMPAIGN REPORT:



### Many Votes Saved for Kennedy

Having made contact with thousands of potential voters in the 1st A.D. South during the registration period, VID canvassers anxiously awaited official registration and enrollment totals at presstime. The campaign will then move into high gear in its final drive to provide Sen. John F. Kennedy with a large majority in the Village area.

Even before official figures were released, however, Campaign Chairman Micki Wolter could point to these achievements:

- VID had provided hundreds of Villagers with where-and-when information that appeared unavailable elsewhere.

- Many Kennedy votes were saved by informing voters they would have to re-register if they hadn't voted since 1957.

- VID carried the vanden Heuvel-for-Congress and Westergaard-for-State-Senator messages to the voters, and rapped the phone liberal claims of their opponents.

- VIDers were able to firm up many of the "leaning-to-Kennedy" votes, particularly among former Stevenson supporters.

A corollary benefit was the strong interest canvassers aroused in VID activities, among newly arrived as well as veteran Villagers.

A disappointment noted by Miss Wolter had been the virtual disinterest by the regular Democratic organization in the Village in the registration drive until the last moment, this despite the high priority given the drive by Kennedy himself.

In a move complimentary to VID, Independent Citizens for Kennedy decided not to set up separate headquarters here after a study of VID's canvassing activity.

Looking past the registration period, Miss Wolter noted that she and assistant chairmen Art Pearlroth and Herb Rosenberg would continue to man VID headquarters between 7:30-11 on weekday evenings.

"We are hopeful of lining up additional canvassing strength, and of providing needed election information to hundreds of voters so that we can win resoundingly in the Village on Nov. 8," Miss Wolter added.



**NEW CHAIRMEN:** Three important committee changes--Barbara King taking over as membership chairman; Steve Grossman and Elinor Herron co-chair headquarters; and Bernice Harris handling the important social affairs committee.

\*\*\*

**COMMUNITY ACTION:** (Sarah Schoenkopf, chrmn.)--Visited South Village buildings in so-called Verrazzano Street project area. Found them badly neglected by City Government, which is landlord. VID backed two-fold move: To get city officials to drop plans for building the street, proposed eight years ago; and to get city to clean up existing housing violations at the site.

On reports that NYU planned to build mainly one-bedroom apartments on Title I land, VID objected, urged creation of two- and three-room apartments to meet pressing Village housing need.

\*\*\*

**NEW COMMITTEE:** A special committee to examine possibilities for new middle-income housing in the Village set up with Dave Dretzin as chairman.

### Panel on Reform Oct. 19

Five Democratic Party reform leaders will air their views at a VID-sponsored panel program Oct. 19 at 8:30 pm in the Textile Workers Union Hall, 99 University Place.

Theme of the discussion is: "What Is Reform and Where Is It Going?" Program chairman is Art Pearlroth.

Panelists include: Jack Baltzell of Lexington Club, 9th A.D. District Leader; Ed Costikyan of New Democratic Club, 8th AD South District Leader; Bill Delano of Brooklyn Independent Democrats, Assembly candidate; George Backer, pioneer in the reform movement, now on the steering committee of Citizens for Kennedy; Mark Lane, reform Assembly candidate in the 10th A.D.; and State Committeeman Jim Lanigan of VID.

## WITH VANDEN HEUVEL CAMPAIGN:

### Lindsay Put on Defensive

Supporters of Bill vanden Heuvel, campaigning in the traditionally Republican 17th Congressional District, were buoyed last week by indications that Democratic-Liberal registration would easily top GOP totals.

Meanwhile, vanden Heuvel was making headway in hammering at Rep. John Lindsay's alleged liberalism. Noting Lindsay's essential conservatism, vanden Heuvel documented his charge:

On medical care, housing, education and TVA, Lindsay has supported a conservative GOP position, vanden Heuvel stresses. Similarly, Lindsay backs Ike on foreign and defense issues.

A Village high spot in the campaign: the appearance in Washington Square of Adlai Stevenson, an old friend of Bill's.

## WITH WESTERGAARD CAMPAIGN:

### Picks Up Real Steam

John Westergaard's campaign for the state senatorial seat in the 20th Senatorial District picked up real steam during the last weeks of September and the first 10 days of October, his supporters feel.

Stressing the need for a strong code of ethics in Albany, and backing liberal and reform policies at the local and state level, Westergaard has been carrying the battle to his chief adversary, GOP Sen. MacNeil Mitchell. His Liberal Party opponent is Leon Braun.

High points include: ADA support; a successful fund-raising dinner, and a stimulating TV appearance. A Village note: John appeared with a live cow, dramatizing support for re-enactment of the milk-dating law--repeal of which Sen. Mitchell has backed.

### PRE-ELECTION PARTY TO BE HELD NOV. 6

VID is sponsoring a Pre-Election Party at the Village Gate, 185 Thompson St., between 2-5 pm Nov. 6. A host of celebrities will be on hand including name entertainers and all the key candidates backed by VID in the Village area. Contribution is \$1.25. Everyone is welcome.

