

Legislator Will Enter Communal Religious Sect



CARROLL KING
Leaves legislature

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State Rep. Carroll King, 33, has quit his job and announced he will not run for re-election to the legislature because he, his wife and five children are joining a communal religious group in Farmington, Pa.

King told the Minneapolis Tribune Tuesday his family already has departed for Farmington.

He will leave in two or three weeks, he said, when he completes turning over his duties to his successor as manager of the Denham (Minn.) Co-operative asso-

ciation, a general store.

THE ONE-TERM liberal legislator said there are about 130 persons in the Oak Lake Bruderhof community in which he will live. He said the sect has about 2,000 members altogether, in several states and in Paraguay, Uruguay, England and Germany.

Some of the members were driven out of Germany by Adolf Hitler.

"The community is a church organism," he said yesterday, "similar in its concepts to the Hutterians (but with a broader outlook).

"Members surrender themselves, their posses-

sions and their spirit. I'm going with the intention of becoming a member (there is a probationary period), if I prove myself big enough."

KING SAID perhaps he will be accused of "fanaticism," but he said there is no hint of that. He and his wife were reared as Methodists, his wife's parents being missionaries in China.

"You have to look at the revolutionary aspects of the Christian faith 2,000 years ago," he explained. "There is a similarity here.

"Today you find yourself compromising in your daily living, in your poli-

tics, in your faith. You decide such a community (as Farmington) won't work, but you see that it does."

King said some people have told him he could do more good here in Minnesota than by going away, but he said he found it too easy here to "accommodate your faith to your own comfort."

THE BRUDERHOF community manufactures toys and playthings for community playgrounds. This forms the economic base for two communities, he said, and part of the base for a third.

"I'll fit into the com-

munity the best way I can," he said.

King related he became interested in the community because a friend of his in World War II service belonged to a similar group. He visited the friend a year ago, he said, and still was not much interested. He promised to return for a longer visit.

Last month he and his wife and four of the children spent two weeks in the community and decided to become part of it. The King children range from 2 years of age to 9.

King graduated from University of Minnesota in 1947.