

INSIDE the INTERIM

MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Six members will retire



Six more members of the House of Representatives have announced they will not seek reelection this fall, including all the leaders of the Minority caucus. Minority Leader Aubrey Dirlam, and Assistant Minority Leaders Tom Newcome and Charles Weaver, in addition to Robert Johnson, who earlier announced his retirement, will retire.

Aubrey Dirlam (Redwood Falls), who has served in the House of Representatives since 1941, is retiring. Rep. Dirlam, a farmer from District 21B, said that there is no one reason for his decision, but, "There comes a time when anyone in public service should terminate his career, and I feel that that time has come." He said his 34 years spent in the Legislature has been "a great and rewarding experience", and said he hopes that the record will show "that through my legislative service I have made a meaningful contribution to the quality of life in Minnesota." Rep. Dirlam is currently Minority Leader and was Minority Leader for the



1947 session. He has served as Chairman of the Rules Committee from 1963-1971; Speaker of the House, 1971-73; and President of the National Conference of State Legislative Leaders, 1972-73. No member of the present Legislature has served longer than Rep. Dirlam, however, Rep. August Mueller (Arlington), who earlier announced his retirement, has also served since 1941.

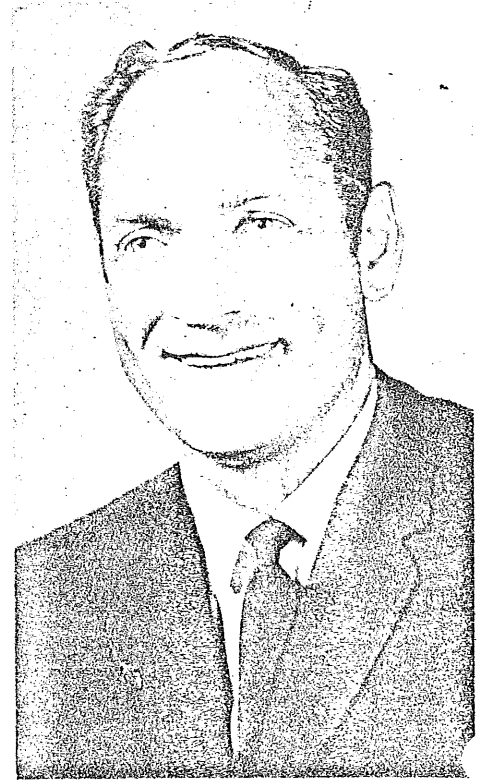
During his tenure, Rep. Dirlam has served with 851 legislators and under nine governors.



Tom Newcome (White Bear Lake) will not seek reelection from District 49B after 10 years as state representative. Rep. Newcome, a lawyer, said the time required "to properly perform legislative duties and do justice to another profession is extremely difficult;" and that the increased workload of the flexible session has made the "citizen-legislator" a thing of the past. Rep. Newcome was Chairman of the Governmental Operations Committee and Assistant Majority Leader in the 1971 Legislative session. He is currently Assistant Minority Leader.



Charles Weaver (Anoka) is retiring after four years as a representative from District 19B because "the full-time Legislature is requiring too much time from my business and family." Rep. Weaver, a lawyer, was elected to the House in 1967, and currently Assistant Minority Leader. He was author of the Fiscal Disparities Bill in 1971.



Ernest Lindstrom (Richfield) will retire after eight years as representative from District 37A. Rep. Lindstrom, a lawyer, said the "part-time citizen legislator" is being replaced by the "full-time professional politician" and he doesn't see himself as a full-time politician. Rep. Lindstrom served as Majority Leader for the 1971 session.