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What some government folks are up to: The newest member of the Minnesota . House, DFL Rep. Alice Hausman elected Nov. 7 to the seat vacated by Commissioner of Human Services Ann Wynia) can stake her claim as the only House member ever sworn in the Senate chamber. The ceremony last Wednesday couldn't be in the House chamber because of renovations there.

St. Paul Mayor-in-transition George Latimer will say an off-the-record goodbye to the journalists who have chronicled his 15-year political career at a "You Won't Have Smiling George to Kick Around Any More" party Thursday. The invitation advises that "pens, pencils, tape recorders, notebooks and other weapons will be checked at the door. No speeches! Well... maybe one."

The how-tos of improving the functioning of bureaucracy, Minnesota style, are chronicled in a new book, "Managing Change/A Guide to Producing Innovation from Within," by state Administration Commissioner Sandra Hale and Mary M. Williams.

■ Robert Baird, state human services deputy assistant commissioner, recently received the top award given by the federal Health Care Finance Agency. He was honored for heading a task force that recommended procedures for saving taxpayers \$38 million to \$45 million a year in administration of the prescription-drug portion of the 1988 Medicare Catastrophic Act.

Martha Garrett Russell, former associate to the dean of the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota, is the new director of technology assessment and deployment for the Minnesota Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers, a program of the Greater Minnesota Corporation.

St. Paul IR gadfly Mary Jane Rachner has already served notice that she'll run for the Minnesota House in 1990.