

Hufnagle achieves last of youthful goals

Rep. Paul C. Hufnagle (R-Bloomington) has finally made it.

The freshman legislator reaches back to his high school years to tell the story of his success.

"You remember in high school when you had to write down the three things you wanted to become most? This is the one thing I hadn't done," he says, referring to his election to the House of Representatives last November.

"For the first time I can say I'm satisfied," he says. "I've done everything I set out to do."

Hufnagle's other goals — to raise a family and become financially successful — have already been attained. He's married and has five children. Since graduating with an economics degree in 1957 from the University of Minnesota, he has worked for a number of financial institutions and is currently chairman of the board of the Franklin State Bank in Renville County.

"Handling money is what I've done most of my career," he says.

Hufnagle has been involved in politics since 1952 — before he was old enough to vote. In his youth, he was a bit of a rebel. In the early 1950s, he was thrown out of a Hennepin County Republican



Paul C. Hufnagle

District 41A

Age: 55

Home: Bloomington

Occupation: Banker

District traits: 41A takes in the western part of Bloomington, which is characterized by mostly middle-to upper-class homes and a number of large parks.

convention because he was deemed too young to be a precinct delegate. He was 20, then under legal voting age.

Now that he's been elected — after two unsuccessful bids — Hufnagle says he has no plans to run for higher office. He supports a limit on terms in the Legislature.

His first impressions of the Legislature? "It's a very interesting body," he says. "Everyone here has a definite ego of their own."

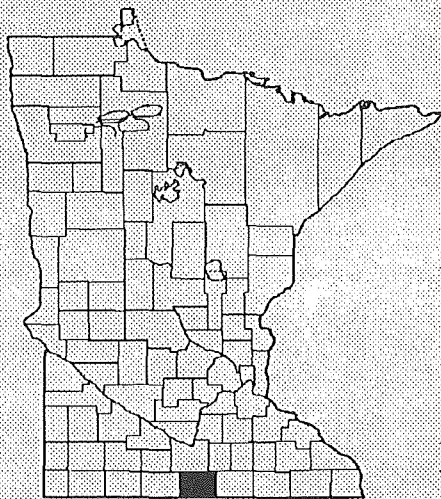
If there's one thing Hufnagle dreams of accomplishing this session, it's repealing the state's fiscal disparities law. The fiscal disparities program allows Twin Cities area communities with little new com-

mercial-industrial development to benefit from tax dollars generated in communities with lots of new development.

Bloomington is among the largest net contributors to the tax pool, losing tax dollars to other cities.

Hufnagle, however, is realistic about the slim prospects of eliminating fiscal disparities. And, as a freshman, he also doesn't expect to be leading the charge on other major legislation. Instead, he hopes to introduce some local bills.

"I learned real quick that seniority counts around here, and right now I don't have any," he says.



Do you know?

Faribault County was named after Jean Baptiste Faribault, a trader who was the first white settler to cultivate soil in Minnesota and the first person to build a stone house in the state.

Faribault spent most of his life as a trader with the Dakota, or Sioux, Indians. Born in Quebec, he came to Minnesota in 1803 and took charge of a trading post at Little Rapids, a few miles up from the present sites of Chaska and Carver.

Later, he became an independent trader at Pike Island, just below Fort Snelling at the mouth of the Minnesota River. Faribault also resided in Mendota, where he lived in Minnesota's first stone house, which is still standing today.

During his lifetime, Faribault taught farming to several groups of Indians who lived in what is now the upper Midwest.

He spent his last years in present-day Faribault, which began as an Indian trading post founded by his son, Alexander Faribault, for whom the city is named.