

# Renner Expected to Be Named District Attorney Due to Langen

By FRANK WRIGHT  
Minneapolis Tribune  
Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — If State Rep. Robert Renner is appointed U.S. district attorney for Minnesota, as is expected, he can thank his congressman, Rep. Odin Langen, for the job.

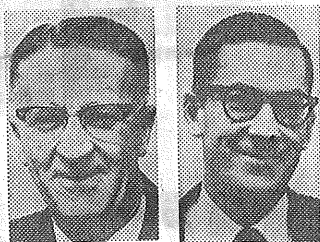
Langen first suggested Renner months ago when the state Republican Party formed a patronage committee to consider candidates for federal positions in Minnesota that would have to be filled by the new Nixon administration.

Committee members included state Party Chairman George Thiss, National Committeeman George Etzell, National Committeewoman Rhoda Lund and the five GOP congressmen, Reps. Clark MacGregor, Albert Quie, Ancher Nelsen, John Zwach and Langen.

MacGregor was designated liaison man with the administration.

**RATHER THAN** single out any preferred contender for district attorney, the No. 1 patronage plum with a salary of \$26,525 a year and plenty of potential for public exposure, the committee sent to the Justice Department more than a dozen names of men.

The department zeroed in on Lloyd Duxbury, Caledonia



Langen Renner  
Patronage plum

speaker of the State House of Representatives, and promotional efforts for other prospects dwindled.

Duxbury lives in the 1st Congressional District in the southeast and had the support of his congressman, Quie.

Early this month Duxbury declined the job, forcing the committee to start over.

Langen then pushed hard for Renner, who lives in Walker, one of the farm communities that comprise the 7th District in the northwest.

**LANGEN** contacted Renner, a former assistant county attorney in Cass County, and asked him if he would accept the job if it were offered. Renner said yes.

Langen was instrumental in adding Renner's name to the list of about a dozen prospects invited for interviews in Minneapolis May 13 by the Justice Department.

After the interviews the department told the patronage committee that it would approve any one of five candidates: Don Alsop, New Ulm lawyer and 2nd Congressional District GOP chairman, and State Reps. Gary Flakne, Minneapolis; Ernie Lindstrom, Richfield; Joseph O'Neill, St. Paul, and Renner.

**RENNER, BACKED** by Langen, and Alsop, pushed by Nelsen, had about equal support in the committee, it was learned Tuesday.

Alsop, who had been a reluctant candidate all along, withdrew, telling the committee that he preferred to stay in New Ulm.

This left Renner the front runner, although not, according to committee sources, to the exclusion of Flakne, O'Neill and Lindstrom.

The committee preference for Renner has been forwarded to the Justice Department.