

Congress Rivals Split Sharply

City College Assembly Is Debate Site

On Issue

Hutchinson And Mitchell Tangle

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ing a back-up would have put his male listeners in uniform. The unfavorable reaction appeared to be a "Tsk, tsk" for the Democrat's appeal to person as against the principle Hutchinson argued. Dr. Mitchell said the nation must go to "any straits to avoid war with our neighbors." "Peace at any cost!" quipped Hutchinson. Mitchell concluded that the fact the U.S. has property impounded by Cuba "does not warrant bloodshed." One other issue drew direct contrasts between the two. A questioner on federal aid to

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parochial schools was answered by Mitchell, "All children de-

What was billed as a mandatory all-school assembly for Benton Harbor Community Collegians Friday produced the liveliest flurry of debate to date between Edward Hutchinson, this district's front-running Congressional candidate, and his Democratic opponent, Dr. Leland Mitchell.

Both candidates sparked ripples of support as well as some skepticism from a responsive student audience at Seely McCord school.

While brief, the interplay waxed warm after the Three Rivers chiropractor challenged Hutchinson's answer to a question on Berlin.

WALL IS TOPIC

Hutchinson, in contrast to Mitchell's prefatory praise for the Kennedy administration record, said the administration has "sat by and watched all over the world" while such things as the Berlin wall developed. He implied the wall should have been contested on the spot.

"The reason we did not act," Mitchell defended, "is that it called for action as a family of nations—the NATO nations had to be consulted," so instant action was impossible. He wrung his hands as he claimed the wall was a building while General Eisenhower was still President.

With this the Fennville attorney moved to the companion crisis in Cuba, accepted bad marks for Ike's withdrawal of our ambassador in Havana ("when they should have moved in Marines") and parried, "How do you answer the Bay of Pigs?"

SUGGESTION HOED

Declaring President Kennedy should have approved for release of the captured Cuban invasion, Hutchinson sat back to boos and

served a right for education. . . I have no hesitancy for advocating aid to parochial schools."

Hutchinson: "I am against massive federal aid to education. It is the most expensive way to meet the problem."

TRIPS FOR YOUTHS

The occasion drew a special proposal from Dr. Mitchell in the form of a "Youth in Washington" program. Depending on funds available from community backing, district students would be picked by government teachers for a three-day, all-expense trip to the nation's capital to meet top officials, he outlined.

He claimed industry, service clubs and civic leaders have shown great interest in the "non-partisan program designed to stimulate interest in politics and good government among our students and in the community. . . This inside view of Washington will provide. . . an education that cannot be obtained out of a text book."

Introduced by Dowagiac's Tom Lascynski, president of the College sponsoring Young Democratic club, the two candidates led off the program with brief comments. Hutchinson on his philosophy of government, Mitchell on the achievements of the Kennedy administration.

"Government should not compete with the people," free enterpriser Hutchinson said. He termed government only an umpire and "keeper of peace." It should not "total" it is not a provider, "but by grace of the taxpayer."

The former state legislator lamented what he called "Con-

gress' decline into an investigatory body with only the broadest rein over actual government. He called for dispersal of power to counter creeping centralism.

Hutchinson stressed that the U.S. must reassert its own national interest in international dealings, not defer to vague "one-worldism."

Dr. Mitchell praised these achievements during the Kennedy reign:

Minimum wage law; manpower retraining law; reduction of transportation taxes; water pollution control bill; progress in space exploration—"It holds promise we can be first to the moon, and I think all will agree that's important"; community health facilities program; emergency feed grain program to reduce crop surpluses; Peace Corps; reciprocal trade bill to enable the President to lower tariffs, deal with the European Economic Community and increase U.S. exports and jobs.

Mitchell pledged to fight for "freedom and renewal of unemployment benefits."