STATEMENT OF POSITION BY THE BOARD OF ADVISORS ON SITUATION IN THE 1st A.D.

The question of endorsement, by the NYCDV, of a slate of candidates for
committeeman and committeewoman in the 1st Assembly District has proved to be
a very divisive one. The facts are as follows:

Both Mr. Kinsolving and Mr. Lanigan are members of our Executive Committee.
Both have unquestioned records of devotion to liberalism and to the reform
movement. Mrs. French has not been identified with the reform movement as
such; she has, however, an outstanding record of work for liberal causes
within the Democratic Party. Miss Schoenkopf has worked extensively within
the reform movement.

One reform club in the 1st A.D. has endorsed and is supporting Mr.
Kinsolving and Mrs. French; one reform club has endorsed and is supporting
James Lanigan and Sarah Schoenkopf. One reform club has voted to be neutral.
The major anti-reform club, Carmine DeSapio's club, is supporting Mr.
Kinsolving and Mrs. French.

These are the present incontrovertible facts. There are also many
involved circumstances and allegations which are in controversy.

These controversial circumstances and allegations have given rise to
issues on which there are sharp bases and differences of opinion.

One such issue is the extent to which Carmine DeSapio -- his influence
and power -- are involved in the impending contest, and the consequent
degree to which the interests of the reform movement are involved in its
outcome.

Another issue is the question of whether the NYCDV can or should
endorse a candidate supported by one reform club when an opposing candidate
is supported by another reform club in the same political subdivision.
Still another issue is the question of whether the NYCDV should or must make its decision, on endorsement, on the sole ground of the personal qualifications of the candidates concerned.

In view of these and other issues which are presented by the situation in the 1st A.D., the members of the Board of Advisors are agreed that it would be unwise for the Executive Committee to take a vote on the endorsement of one or the other of the two slates of candidates in the 1st A.D.; such a vote would place an unjustified strain upon the recently-constituted, and necessarily imperfect organizational structure of the NYCDV.

Nor would it be wise for the NYCDV to decide simply by majority vote, that no endorsement should be made.

We believe that a positive action, short of an endorsement action, and beyond a no-endorsement action, is called for.

We therefore recommend and urge that the NYCDV take official note of the fact that important issues are presented on which there are substantial differences of opinion, and that these issues cannot and should not be lumped into one and forced to a decision by a vote of endorsement in the 1st A.D.

We urge that the NYCDV declare instead, by general assent, a members' option with regard to the support of one or the other of the candidates or sets of candidates in the 1st A.D. This option shall, of course, pertain to members of the Board of Advisors, among others.