

# 2 Democrats Face Spunky Challengers in 5th, 7th Districts

Crews, Stephen

Chicago Tribune (1963-Current file); Mar 19, 1972; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Chicago Tribune  
pg. SCL6

## 2 Democrats Face Spunky Challengers in 5th, 7th Districts

BY STEPHEN CREWS

Two Democratic congressmen from Chicago face spunky challengers in Tuesday's primary election.

In the 5th District, which veteran Rep. John C. Kluczynski has represented for more than 20 years, and in the 7th District, newly acquired by Rep. George W. Collins, a pair of independents have appeared to provide some competition.

In the 5th, Donald Lazo, a research technician at a chemical company, has been carrying on an almost single-handed attempt to overthrow the 76-year-old Kluczynski.

### "Time For New Blood"

A former helper in Kluczynski campaigns, Lazo, 30, has not waged a campaign of issues, but citing his opponent's age, has asserted that "it is time for new blood."

Stressing his support for stronger consumer protection laws and his longtime opposition to the war in Viet Nam, Lazo said that "whether I win or lose, at least he [Kluczynski] will be made aware of the thinking of people in his district." One resident of the district is Mayor Daley, who is supporting Kluczynski.

Altho Lazo lacks financial and organizational backing, he believes he still has a chance to upset his opponent. "If the people are ready for change, they'll vote for me, expensive campaign or not," he said.

Kluczynski, more than 20 years a congressman and a state representative before that, claims he is not taking the primary for granted. He has not, however, put in much effort outside his ward organizations.

### Notes is Seniority

As to the question of his age, Kluczynski responds, that in his opinion, "my seniority is my greatest asset."

The unopposed Republican in

the heavily Democratic district is Leonard Jarzab, 6200 W. 64th St.

The other contest Tuesday pits freshman Rep. Collins (D., Ill.), against Mrs. Rhea Mojica Hammer, a political novice, in the 7th district.

Collins, a black congressman formerly of the 6th District, was remapped into the 7th and won a battle against Rep. Frank Annunzio for the Democratic organization's support in seeking reelection there.

### Admits High Odds

Mrs. Hammer, an associate producer and coordinator of Ayuda, a Spanish-language television program on Channel 26, has been campaigning actively, despite odds she admits are high.

With more than 50 volunteers, Mrs. Hammer has been zeroing in on civic groups, students, and Spanish American voters with the goal of "breaking ground for Latinos."

She has not campaigned in black areas which account for a large block of votes.

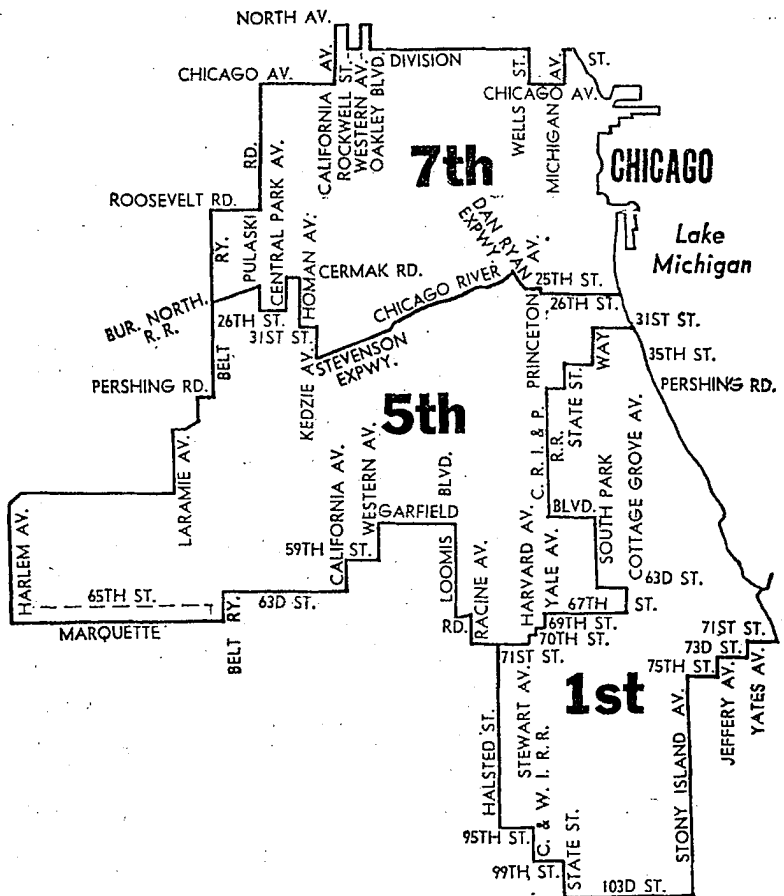
Mrs. Hammer says her issues are the need for day care centers, more programs for youth, and "congressmen who are in control of their own vote."

### Runs On Record

Collins has been campaigning only lightly in the district, and says he is running on his record. That includes efforts in Congress to improve the lot of veterans who have received other than honorable discharges.

Running unopposed in the district's Republican primary is Thomas J. Lento, 747 S. Western Av.

In the 1st District, the other district partly included in the south central city area, Rep. Ralph H. Metcalf (D., Ill.), of 4530 S. Michigan Av., is running unopposed in both the primary and the November general election.



Map shows 1st, 5th, and 7th Congressional Districts on the South Side.



Rep. John C. Kluczynski

Donald Lazo