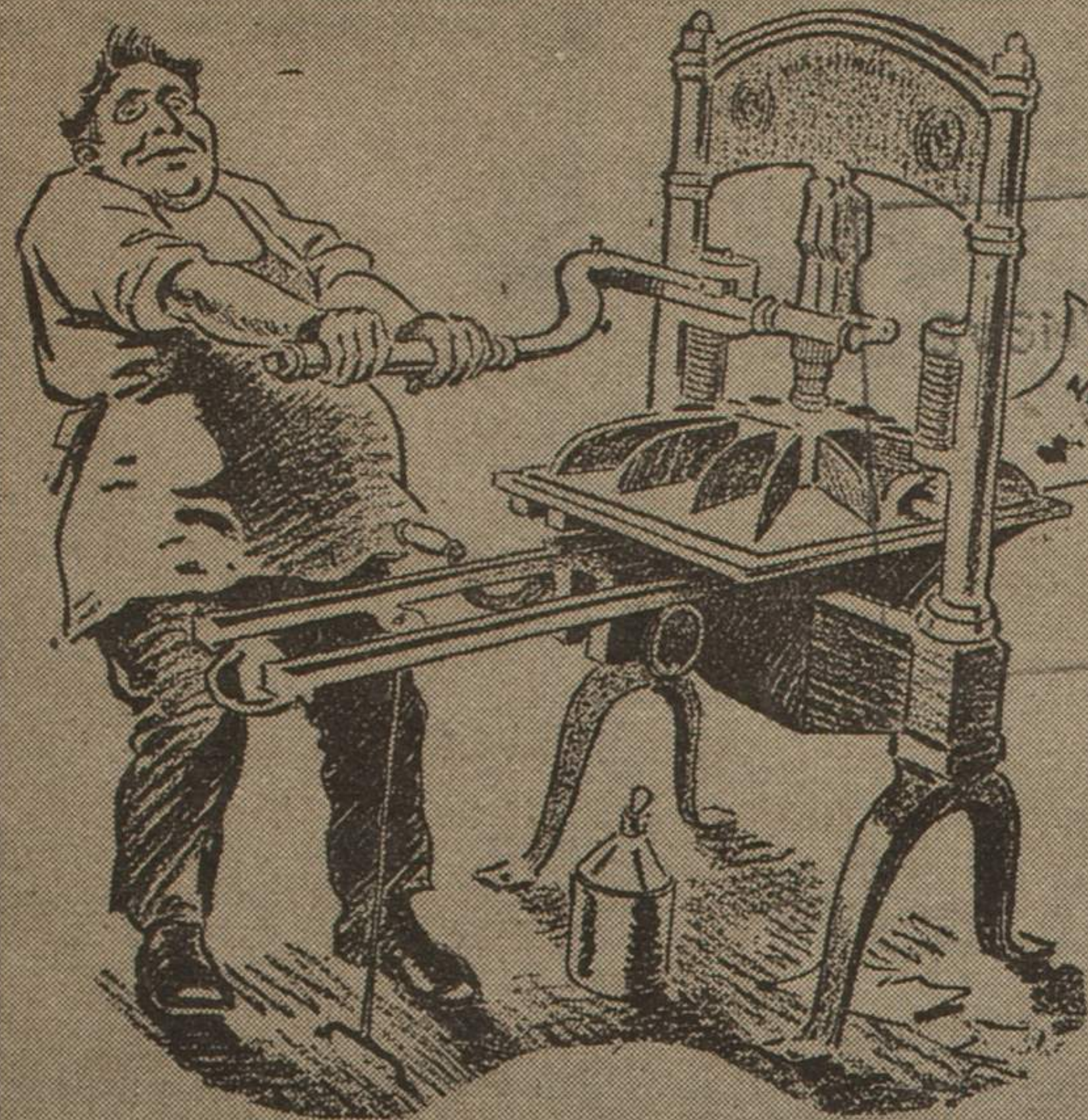


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FROM THE FLOOD PLAIN TO SUBURBIA

BY
CHIP
JONES

LAWRENCE MOVES SOUTH

Bob and Sue lived in a small house in the country-like atmosphere of North Lawrence until recently when they decided to make a drastic change in their life and move to the suburban environs of Indian Hills. PUBLIC NOTICE interviewed this couple to find out why they wanted to live in a newer home and what impact the move had on their lives. They had some insightful comments to make. We encourage our readers to explore their own communities and to write about them.

We looked for a place to rent, but a clean, decent place costs a lot of money. So we looked into it and found we could get a pretty good deal on this house. We figured if nothing else we're not losing money because we can always turn around and sell it. Just due to inflation we should make money.

"We figure we got a pretty good house," Bob interjected. "There are a few things that need fixing, but it's hard to get the builder over here to fix them because they stopped building houses. Now they're into commercial stuff. But I'll get them over here some day."

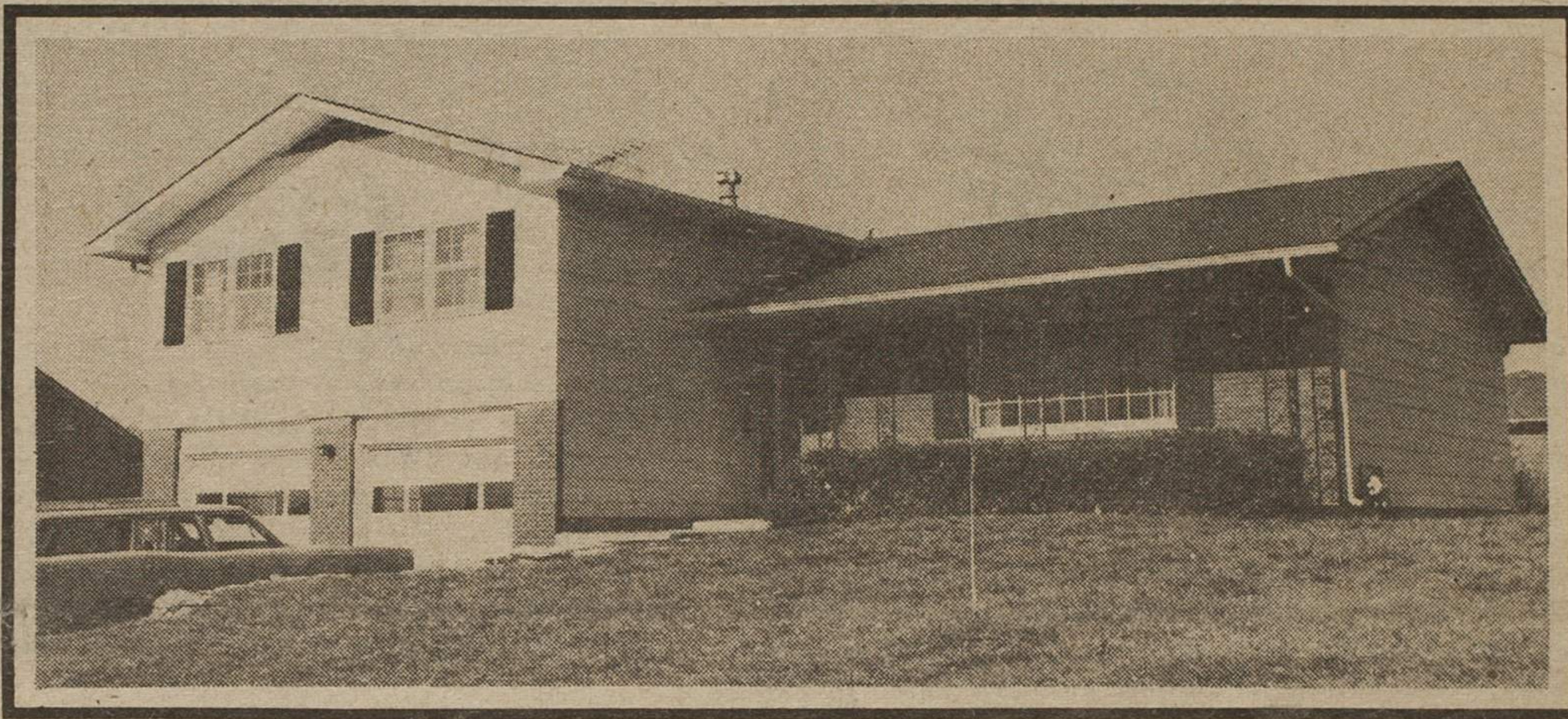


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In 1965, Four Seasons Inc. began construction of a housing development called Indian Hills in the cow pastures south of 23rd Street. Eleven years later, a young married couple, expecting a baby, tired of a roach-infested North Lawrence home whose faulty wiring inspired visions of immediate conflagration and an apathetic landlord who refused to make any repairs, began combing these relatively flat "Hills" for a suitable home. For \$36,500 and a thirty year mortgage, they found one. It has three bedrooms, one and a half baths, wall to wall carpeting, and a front and back yard bald as their baby's behind.

Sue and Bob (at their request I'm supplying fictitious names) talked at length recently about their reasons for moving from North Lawrence to Indian Hills, their impressions of both neighborhoods, the present and future of Lawrence, and anything that came to mind.

When asked why they bought a new house, Sue said, "That house we were living in wasn't safe for Brad (the baby) or



ARE THE PEOPLE OF LAWRENCE TOO IGNORANT TO RUN THEIR TOWN?

Citizens of this town were outraged last month when a Journal-World editorial (Nov. 9) referred to the people of Lawrence as "50,000 political amateurs," in a scathing attack on the current effort to place a "return to Mayor-Council" proposition on the City ballot next Spring.

The crux of the question seems to be whether the City is to be run by the 5-member oligarchy, called the City Commission, or a Mayor-administrator, elected at large, and a Council, composed of members elected from districts.

PUBLIC NOTICE urges citizens to take note of this controversy. Judging from the obvious over-reaction of the local press, it's sure to stir a heated debate, provided the issue is placed on the ballot. Seems anytime you talk about letting the people get in on the runnin' of the town, somebody comes up to say that it can't be done... See page 12 for more.



"OUTTA THE WAY BUDDY,
'CAUSE WE'RE COMIN'
THRU!"

THE HASKELL LOOP east lawrence in a battle for survival

By
The
Staff

Over 175 people jammed into the East Lawrence Center, 10th and Delaware, on the night of Nov. 8. It was the largest crowd ever gathered at one of the monthly meetings of the East Lawrence Improvement Association. Consideration of the pros and cons of the proposed Haskell Loop was the only item on the agenda.

The Loop is a roadway planned for the eastern and northern fringes of the East Lawrence neighborhood. It's designed to connect Seventh and Connecticut with the intersection of 11th and Haskell Avenue. The road bowls over 27 homes while leaving 26 others on the industrially-zoned area to the north and east. It eliminates the neighborhood's park facilities on the 1000 block of Delaware. Housing will be torn out and neighbors will be relocated with \$845,000 in Community Development Act money granted to the City by the Federal Government. The City justifies such urban renewal by pushing the roadway as a boon to neighborhood rehabilitation. Proponents claim the road would take traffic off neighborhood streets and buffer industrial uses in the area from residences. The controversial nature of the project stems from intense interest on the part of the business and industrial firms in the East Lawrence area. They were the first to jump on the Loop bandwagon, and were subsequently recognized by the City as the legitimate voice of the neighborhood.

But residents of East Lawrence were not to be had so easily. After two hours of spirited debate in the smoke-filled quonset hut at 10th and Delaware, more than 110 dues-paying members of the ELIA prepared to take a vote on whether to support, as a group, the Haskell Loop. As non-members scrambled for the rear of the building, including several City officials, the vote was called for. Thirty-six stood in favor of the road-- primarily businessmen and their relatives, members by virtue of property-ownership, while sixty-eight stood opposed--all but one were residents of East Lawrence.

Since the City has constantly harped at the overwhelming support the neighborhood has given to City plans to build the Loop, it became apparent at this meeting that those plans were in jeopardy.

Indeed, two years ago, the construction of the Haskell Loop was a foregone conclusion. The City Commission gave a blanket endorsement of the project. The Lawrence Chamber of Commerce gave a standing ovation to the idea of an industrial thru-way dumping traffic and dollars into the north end of downtown. Even the ELIA itself had voted for the road, on recommendations of the City,



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