

Beelen announces candidacy ; blasts Carney in campaign speech

Dr. George Beelen, history professor at YSU, announced his candidacy for Congress last Tuesday at a press conference held at the Ohio Hotel. Beelen, an Austintown trustee, will be facing off against Charles J. Carney, the incumbent congressperson, and two political unknowns, Edith Tomitch and Carl Podolski, for the Democratic nomination. The primary battle will be resolved June 8.

Beelen in his speech blasted the present congressperson, saying, "Charles Carney was sent to Washington to be a congressman. He has not been a congressman in anything more than name. He has been a mere errand boy. Charles Carney would have you believe that all it takes to be a U.S. representative is to remember birthdays, to congratulate graduates, and to

mail out copies of the congressional record--and a variety of other Congressman Carney freebies--all at taxpayer expense."

Beelen noted that Carney has received money from the Seafarers Union, and asked the rhetorical question, "How many seafarers live in the 19th congressional district?" He pointed out that "such chicanery brings to mind Harry Truman's observation 'Nowadays in politics...all anybody seems to be interested in is... not how much he can do--but how much he can get away with.'"

Beelen said the 19th congressional district is one of the most industrialized in the nation, "Yet we have one of the highest unemployment rates in the U.S."

Beelen noted that the number of industries leaving the area is

greater than the number coming in, and our industrial capacity is decreasing at an "alarming" rate.

Summing up, Beelen called for national renewal, claiming that we can do better. He said that "We must reassert our good qualities and find more good leaders--for we have been great because we have been good."

About 150 people attended the announcement gathering, where Beelen was enthusiastically received. He got a standing ovation as he walked off the podium after finishing his speech.

Beelen has one daughter, Lynn, who attends YSU, and two other sons.

Anyone interested in assisting Beelen in his campaign effort can call him at campaign headquarters, 799-3276.

