

tigation revealed that Colavita has worked himself into the processes of both the legislative and executive branches of the county government to an extent that makes him a de facto official of that government.

Commission inquiries over the past two and a half years have revealed that local governments throughout the State are often dominated by party leaders who are not elected by or accountable to the voters. In Westchester County, the Commission found a graphic illustration of this reality. In making recommendations, the Commission takes into account the inherent symbiotic relationship between leaders of government and the political parties from which they emerge, but at the same time seeks to eliminate practices which needlessly foster the perception that access to government may be obtained by making contributions to particular parties. In short, the reforms sought are aimed at drawing clearer lines of distinction between the political and governmental structures where appropriate and possible, and, to the extent that divisions are not feasible, making party leaders more accountable under the law for the influence they exercise.

In response to revelations made at the Commission's public hearings in November, 1989, County Executive Andrew O'Rourke has indicated that he will propose several

Janett 11/10/82

New word for Westchester GOP

TALES OF HOFFMAN

— Chairman Andrew O'Rourke of the Westchester Board of Legislators drew more than 200 persons to his \$125-a-person fund-raising dinner Friday night at Stouffer's, kicking off his campaign for undetermined office. It is interesting to note that Frank Coppola, the Republican chairman of Westchester, not only attended but also praised O'Rourke: "I wish Andy the very best... whatever his desires are will be fulfilled." Normally, it is routine for a city chairman to say such nice things about a candidate, but had Coppola and the Yonkers Republican organization been nicer to O'Rourke, or is it vice versa? O'Rourke would have been sitting on the bench of some court by now.

— O'Rourke repeated at the dinner what has become obvious in the last few days. He is shifting his vision, which had been aimed only at a judgeship, to county executive.

"I've been a soldier in the Republican Party and where they send me I will go and fight the battle. The record is nine battles, nine victories." Incidentally, O'Rourke showed at the dinner he could side-step with the best of politicians. Two members of the Early Show, an all-children's revue in

Manhattan, which entertained at the dinner, pulled O'Rourke onto the dance floor where he joined the troupe.

— O'Rourke was well received at the County Association dinner the other night when he pledged that the Republicans were not planning to dismantle the county government once they took over, but would follow generally the same course set by Republican County Executive Edwin Michaelian and Democratic County Executive DelBello. He told his own dinner audience: "I believe we are not destined to relive history, we are destined to make history."

Ex "W"