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STATE'S ATTORNEY DROPPED BY DALEY

Democrats Won't Support Hanrahan for Re-election

By SETH S. KING

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CHICAGO, Dec. 20—In the face of mounting pressures from other Democratic candidates and leaders of Chicago's black community, the Cook County Democratic organization decided today that it could no longer endorse State's Attorney Edward V. Hanrahan for re-election.

Mr. Hanrahan is under indictment on a charge of conspiring to obstruct justice in a raid in 1969 on a Black Panther head-quarters by special police from his department.

Two weeks ago, despite pri-vate protests from several Demvate protests from several Democratice officeseekers and threats by black leaders that they would support another candidate in the primary March 21, Mayor Richard J. Daley and the Cook County Democratic Central Committee endorsed Mr. Hanrahan for a second term.

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This morning, the Central Committee reversed itself and withdrew the endorsement.

The party will now back Traffic Court Judge Raymond K. Berg, who has the reputation of a tough judge who cleaned up the city's graft-ridden traffic courts.

Many Democratic candidates had feared that Mr. Hanrahan's presence on the ticket as the party's endorsed candidate would drag them all down. To the professional politicians, the Cook County State's Attorney's office, with its almost unlimited investigative powers, is the most sensitive on the 1972 ballot.

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In 1968, the regular organization was so preoccupied with making certain that Mr. Hanrahan won it neglected its work for the other Democratic candidates, including Hubert H. Humphrey.

Charges Are Listed

The former Vice President has said that this neglect may have cost him Illinois and, as a result, the presidency.

The committee's sudden decision to drop Mr. Hanrahan and get Judge, Berg onto the ballot brought a share decoeff in city.

get Judge, Berg onto the ballot brought a sharp dropoff in city services today. Democratic precinct captains and party workers, many of them employed by the city, scurried out to collect 6,000 signatures on Mr. Berg's primary filing petition before the deadline this evening.

One charge against Mr. Han-rahan in the indictment is that he attempted to protect the special policemen and one of the raid in which two Black
Panther leaders—Fred Hampton and Mark Clark—were killed.

The indictment also accused Mr. Hanrahan of presenting evidence that he knew was false against seven other Black Panthers who survived the raid and were then charged with at-tempted murder of the raiding policemen.

The charges against the Black Panthers were subse-quently dismissed for lack of

quently dismissed for lack of evidence.

When he was endorsed two weeks ago, Mr. Hanrahan assured Mayor Daley and the Central Committee that his position in the courts was "unbeatable," and that the indictment would be quashed.

But Friday a Democratic State Supreme Court Justice voted with three Republican justices in a 4-to-3 decision that denied Mr. Hanrahan's request to examine members of

quest to examine members of the grand jury that had in-dicted him.

dicted him.

Mr. Hanrahan has two other motions to dismiss the indictment pending in Cook County Criminal Court. But even if these should be sustained, subsequent appeal by the special prosecutor in the case could drag it on for months, with the possibility that it would come to trial before the autumn elections.

The embattled State's Attorney refused today to say whether he would withdraw from the primary. He has until Christmas Eve to request that his name be removed from the

If he stays, one of the wildest primary fights in Chicago's tur-bulent political history is ex-pected.

Independent Files

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Earlier today Donald Page Moore, an independent Democrat who once served as an Assistant to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and is now a member of a prominent Chicago law firm, filed in opposition to Mr. Hanrahan.

Whoever wins in March will face a battle from the Republican candidate, Bernard Cary, a former Federal Bureau of Investigation agent who last year came within 10,000 votes of winning the coveted office of Cook County Sheriff.

Many observers here were surprised when Mayor Daley and the other party leaders ignored the warnings of Mr. Hanrahan's opponents and endorsed him anyway.

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, one of the leading spokesmen for Chicago's large black community, said that the endorsement of Mr. Hanrahan was an insult to his people and would ause many black votefs to turn to the Republicans this fall.

In announcing the switch of support, Mayor Daley, the Cook County Democratic chairman, said this afternoon that Mr. Hanrahan had been dropped by the organization in the best interests of the party.

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