

# Primary in Illinois Draws I

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CHICAGO, March 19 — Illinois voters straggled to the polls today to participate in a primary election distinguished only by a limited referendum on a new regional mass transit authority and the unusually large number of candidates who are seeking to win their party's nomination for Congressional seats being vacated by incumbents.

The shadow of Watergate was dimly perceived in the Republican contest in the conservative 13th Congressional District northwest of Chicago.

Here a veteran Representative, Robert McClory, 66 years old, the second-ranking Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, faced his first primary opponent in 12 years.

Edward Vass, 39, a former police probation officer and school teacher, has made an issue of Mr. McClory's unsuccessful effort to set a time limit on the committee's impeachment investigation.

Mr. Vass insists that he re-

mains a supporter of President Nixon. But he is urging an impeachment vote by the full House of Representatives "to clear the air." Mr. McClory, as a member of the Judiciary Committee, declines to say how he will vote on impeachment. However, he has taken a much firmer line in the last two weeks in demanding that the President provide all the information the committee wants.

Here in Chicago what interest there is has centered on a corrosive fight for the Democratic nomination for the prize post of Cook County Assessor.

Alderman Edward R. Vrdolyak, once a highly vocal star in Mayor Richard J. Daley's Cook County Democratic machine, is challenging M. Tully, the machinist who has succeeded the veteran Cullerton, the incumbent.

A Vrdolyak here would have a serious political fight or has sufficient support.

There will be a discussion of the issue.