

# Rejected Prosecutor

Edward V. Hanrahan

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

Two years ago, any reading of the Chicago political charts would have placed Edward V. Hanrahan near the top of the ruling Irish hierarchy. The Cook County State's Attorney had been a rising protégé of Mayor Richard J. Daley for more than a decade and was widely considered the

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probable choice of the Democratic organization to run for Governor of Illinois in

1972. Yesterday, however, the 50-year-old prosecutor's long and carefully nurtured political ascendancy suffered a damaging, if not fatal, blow when the Cook County Democratic Central Committee, controlled by Mayor Daley, withdrew its endorsement of Mr. Hanrahan's candidacy for a second four-year term.

The decision, which ultimately could kill Mr. Hanrahan's political career, came in the face of a public outcry that cited his indictment last summer, along with 13 other persons, on charges of conspiring to prevent the indictment of eight Chicago policemen who participated in the raid on a Black Panther apartment on Dec. 4, 1969, in which two Panther leaders, Fred Hampton and Mark Clark, were slain.

That raid, according to some political observers, may have been the most serious wistake in the career that showed a steady rise through party ranks and public office. Until it occurred, Mr. Hanrahan's credentials had been impressive although not uncriticized.

### A Former Gangbuster

Mr. Hanrahan is handsome, Irish Catholic and a former gangbuster in the tough, Chicago tradition. He attended Notre Dame and Harvard, fought in World War II and returned to become a precinct captain and a bright young lawyer.

Associates say that he could have entered any of several top law firms and found a lucrative career in private practice, but he chose instead to join the Chicago Corporation Counsel's office, first as an investigator and then, from 1955 to 1960, as an Assistant Corporation Counsel.

With Mayor Daley as his mentor, Mr. Hanrahan served as Assistant Illinois Attorney General from 1961 to 1964, then—again with the Mayor's blessing—became United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

As a United States Attorney, Mr. Hanrahan won wide public favor by jailing some of the top crime syndicate figures in the country, including the reputed Chicago boss, Sam Giancana. At the same time, however, he was accused by some lawyers of being an inflexible prosecutor more eager to get convictions than justice.

In 1968, Mayor Daley picked Mr. Hanrahan to run for Cook County State's At-



The New York Times

*A rosy outlook  
turned bleak.*

torney, a post that has been called second only to that of the Mayor because of its almost limitless power to investigate or not investigate any matter, including the activities of political machines.

In the election, Mr. Hanrahan polled 1,214,385 votes to 897,682 for Robert O'Rourke, the Republican candidate. With his popularity thus proved, he undertook a widely hailed campaign against the black street gangs marauding on the South and West Sides. The effort won some support in the black community. It was a special detachment of policemen assigned to Mr. Hanrahan's office for the gangbusting campaign that conducted the raid on the Panther apartment two years ago, and the waves of reaction are still being felt.

Associates describe Mr. Hanrahan as an intense man with a flaring Irish temper that he holds in check with the visible strain of clenched teeth. He has had running disputes with the press and has been known to call publishers to complain about stories that he considers unfair.

Edward V. Hanrahan was born on March 11, 1921, at Coconut Grove, Fla., the son of Edward J. and Kathleen Walsh Hanrahan. The family moved to Chicago where Edward attended Our Lady of Sorrows Grammar School and St. Philip's High School.

He received a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame in 1943 and, after three years in the Army, went to Harvard, where he earned his law degree in 1948.

Mr. Hanrahan and his wife, the former Geraldine Tyrell, who were married in 1953, have four children.

The prosecutor has had little to say publicly about his indictment since it was handed up last Aug. 24. But two days after, he announced that he would neither resign nor take leave of absence, and he declared: "I intend to fight—just as the law permits any person to do."

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