

Angry Critics Stilled

NEW YORK (AP)—James H. Meredith's sudden decision to pull out of the congressional race against Adam Clayton Powell has stilled the angry criticism generated in New York's Harlem district by his candidacy.

Former critics were free with their praise for the 33-year-old maverick civil rights activist who decided not to run as a Republican less than 24 hours after saying the race was as important to him as a presidential nomination.

But Meredith's generally cryptic statements have made the decision a subject for extensive speculation and there is a growing feeling in Hartern that he may have been a viotim of bad advice.

LACKS NEGRO SUPPORT

Almost from his announcement of candidacy last Tuesday, a revolt was evident a mong Harlem Republicans, none of whom had a good word for his candidacy.

Meredith said first at an impromptu press conference Monday that he changed his nind because the Republicans had not delivered on promises of money to help finance his campaign and other assistance

Later in the day, at a second formal press conference, Meredith appeared vague on why he had pulled out. He denied it was because of pressures brought Sunday by Floyd McKissick, national director of the Congress of the NAACP. They told Meredith he would be dead politically if he insisted on opposing Powell.

Evers said he and Meredith

Evers said he and Meredith clasped hands and wept when they parted sometime after 1 a.m. Meredith made his announcement shortly after 1 a.m. With Vincent Albano Jr., chairman of the New York County Republica committee, at his side, Meredith did not repeat his accusations at the formal press conference that the Republican party reneged on promises of money and campaign help.

NO REASON TO QUIT?

Asked why, in view of the election's importance, he withdrew, he said he thought his press secretary, C. Lobert Belt, "answered that best when he said, 'we may never fully know."

Asked if he had been threatened, he angrily replied: "It's a good thing no one ever threatened me."

Belt, who is one of Meredith's close friends, hinted that the man who braved a riot to desegregate the University of Mississippi, and then was shot on a march through Mississippi, may have been stunned by the amount of emotionalism in the sentiment for Powell.

Profit Increase Is Reported

TORONTO — Oshawa Whole-sale Limited's annual report will show a net profit increase of 39.07 per cent, highest in the company's history, and a 30.39 per cent rise in sales, R. D. Wolfe, President, reported recently.

Oshawa's net profit for the fiscal year ended Jan. 28 was \$3,002,067, compared with \$2,158,-651 last year. Sales were \$180,-312,823, compared with 138,288,-

Profit per share was \$1.21 cm 2,480,812 outstanding Commen and Class A shares, a 35.96 per cent increase over 89 cents on 2,429,142 shares last year.

The company also announced a 30 per cent dividend increase Oshawa will pay dividends of 26 cents per share in 1937 compared with 20 cents last year. This is the seventh dividend increase since 1960.

Life Insurance Firms Paid \$96.5 Million

Benefits totalling \$96.5 million were paid to Canadians by the life insurance companies in Canadia during December, 1966, reports the Canadian Life Insurance Association.

The December figure brings to \$985,162,500 the total paid out in benefits by the life insurance companies in Canada during the year 1966. This total exceeds by \$105,221,500 the benefits paid in the year 1965.

Of the 1966 total, \$657,627,500 was paid out in benefits to living policyholders in the form of cash values, annuity payments dividends on policies, matured endowments and disability payments. The remaining \$327,535-000 was paid in the form of death and accidental death benefits to beneficiaries.

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