

Mrs. Fleming Backs Payne in Cleveland

[Chicago Defender Press Service]

Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 11.—Mrs. Lethia Fleming, wife of former Councilman Thomas W. Fleming, caused no little satisfaction among her 120 workers at her home, 2342 E. 40th St., when she had announced to them that she was withdrawing from the councilmanic race in favor of Attorney Lawrence O. Payne, said to be the leading candidate from the Third district.

Pressure had been brought to bear by Republican leaders to have her withdraw at this time, with the hope that she will be in position to run two years hence. It is said that Mrs. Fleming withdrew with the understanding that the Republican county executive committee should omit from its indorsement of Councilman E. J. Gregg, who backed the city manager form of government in the recent charter fight, Mrs. Fleming, with the organization, making a hard but losing fight for the ward and mayoralty form of city government.

When Dr. Gregg's name was presented by Dwight R. Williams, a member of the Republican and Progressive government committees, Maurice Maschke, the veteran Republican leader, said that one of the conditions under which Mrs. Fleming withdrew from the council race was that the Republican committee should not indorse Gregg. By a big majority, it is said, the Republican organization voted against Gregg's indorsement.

Dr. Gregg, an independent, will have the strong Progressive government committee, the Citizens' league

and other leading civic organizations of the city and will put up a stiff fight in the Third district, with Dr. Leroy Buncy, Lawrence Payne and Dr. James A. Owen as strong contenders.

Another surprising announcement was the withdrawal from the Fourth district councilmanic race of Hazel Mountain Walker, teacher-lawyer. The news was received by the politicians with great joy and clarifies the situation in that district. Councilman Clayborne George and Atty. Chester K. Gillespie will be the race contenders for councilmanic honors in the East End.
