

## Valparaiso Mayor Backs Wisconsin Town's Secession

VALPARAISO, Ind. (UPI) — Valparaiso Mayor Donald E. Will Friday defended the small town of Winneconne, Wis., and pledged his aid to the village, which is planning to secede from Wisconsin and form its own state because it was omitted from Wisconsin's new road map.

Mrs. Vera Kitchen, president of the Winneconne Chamber of Commerce, received a letter from Mayor Will, who was born and raised in Winneconne. In the letter the Mayor pledged aid to the unwanted town and promised to contact Governor Roger Branigin and the state legislature to find out if Winneconne could become part of the Hoosier State.

Mayor Will stated in his letter to Winneconne that he would be "only too proud" to help make Winneconne a part of Indiana.

Valparaiso is a city of more than 15,000 persons in extreme north-eastern Indiana.

Part of the Mayor's letter stated that "It has just been brought to my attention that Winneconne was left off the map. My wife and I are natives of Winneconne. We resent this as much as the citizens of Winneconne.

"I have made many trips back and forth and brought my wife back on one. I know that this omission will cause some financial loss. Since the state of Wisconsin doesn't desire your presence, I as mayor of Valparaiso would be only too proud to intercede and with the help of the governor and legislature take your town into the fold," Will said.