At Reykjavik - Bobby Fischer closes in on the world chess championship. In game eighteen today accepting a draw as offered by reigning champ Boris Spassky; doing so - even though he clearly held an advantage. The American challenger thus picking up another half point raising him to ten-and-a-half in all. With six games still to go he now needs only two more points to become America's first world chess champion.

Says US grandmaster Larry Evans. "I wouldn't be surprised if Fischer is content to play the rest out in draws."

Vice President Agnew today was at Minneapolis addressing the national convention of the veterans of
foreign wars, lashing out at George McGovern for
suggesting that, quote, "a general amnesty is a tradition
among the Presidents of this country." Such a statement
clearly evasion of fact - said Ted Agnew. Adding: "The
truth is - the US has always looked with disdain on those
who in time of need walk out on their obligations to the
nation and their fellow citizens."

He was also contending that "this kind of amnesty - would tear the country apart." "It would anger, and I believe rightly so - said he - "the millions who have served honorably in our armed services; and the tens of millions whose sons and husbands and other relatives - have been or now are in uniform."

WASHINGTON FOLLOW MINNEAPOLIS

On the Democratic side - Sinator McGovern
in Washington, was issuing a statement accusing President
Nixon of turning the nation into a "palace for the privileged
few." Also, accusing the President of sending into exile the nation's principals of peace, prosperity, justice and
open government."

And then a speech to a National Labor Committee

for McGovern-Shriver he was accusing the President of

attempting to cloud the issues; of which "issue number one"

- said he - is now unemployment. The Senator adding that

his new tax welfare proposals - "will put people back to

work placing "the number one emphasis - on providing a

job for everyone who is able to work."

At the United Nations - the peoples

Republic of China cast its first veto. As one of the

permanent members of the UN Security Council
successfully barring the admission of the new state

of Bangladesh, UN membership.

China's ambassador Huang Hua charging that
Russia and India - were "guilty of aggression in East
Pakistan;" and now - in seeking membership for
Bangladesh - attempting to "legalize their violation
of the UN charter." Adding them in effect, no dice.

The New York Times refers to Explorer Suydam

Cutting as "the first white Christian ever to enter the

forbidden city of Lhasa in Tibet." He was indeed one

of the first, and Lowell Jr. and I were much indebted to

him for suggestions and help he gave us just before we

crossed the Himalayas to Lhasa in 1949.

Suydam Cutting, descendant of a family that became wealthy way back in Colonial Days, died at his Cape Cod home at age eighty-three. He was one of the most modest and self-effacing of modern explorers. A close friend of the President Theodore Roosevelt family he made several Asian journeys with the TR's two sons, Kermit and Ted; just about the first Americans to bring back the horns of the rare ovis poli, the magnificent high Asian sheep named for Marco Polo.

Among his associates were the Jay Goulds, the Vincent Astors, and nearly all of the legendary social group of the era before World War One.

His journey to Lhasa in Nineteen Thirty-five was in company with Arthur Verney, pal of the Duke of Windsor. When he returned Suydam wrote a fine book, - The Fire Ox And Other Years, in which he referred to the Dalai Lama's palace, the Potala, as the most magnificent building in the world. Suydam Cutting an explorer of another era!

In Snowhomish county, Washington - on the slopes

of Mr. Index - a local helicopter crew succeeded in haulingin a stranded climber; one Craig Keyes, who had dangled since

Monday at the end of a rope hundreds of feet above the

ground. Rescuers further reporting: He's in good shape much better than expected.

The name Bob Hoffman - a name revered

by generations of body-builders and weight lifters

the world over. At age seventy-four the living pa proof

of all that he preaches two hundred and fifty pounds

of pure muscle as well as a millionaire

this

many times over; from the sale of health equipment
and books such as "you are what you eat".

Now from Munich where he's attending the Olympics, - discussing the physical demands of political power, Says Hoffman - "the average man has about twelve days a year when he's bust not Then he adda, up to par's but a sneeze from the President - can echo throughout the world; so the Chief Executive must always be in top shape. He, therefore, recommends among other things - a coffee free diet, plenty of apples and peanut butter. And regular exercise. "I gave President Nixon some of my dumbbells that he uses from time to time" - says Bob Hoffman. Adding: "That's one reason - he's the healthiest President in a century." Next question: to prescribe Does he also plan and a physical regimen - for Democratic challenger George McGovern. Says Bob Hoffman: Let a Democrat, de that.

Bill, the Strong Man side-stepped that one.

One of the most enduring of American traditions is
the venerable old Farmers' Almanac, published at
Lewiston, Maine. Year in and year out - The Farmers'
Almanac pokes gentle fun at women. Once observing: "One
of the best ways for a woman to catch a man - is to keep
her trap shut." Another: "Many women would be more spic
- if they had less span."

Ah, but times change. And this year - in response to complaints for womens libbers - Almanac new editor Ray Geigerhas is changing his tune with an article praising women for their intelligence, wit, charm and beauty; also, their fiscal responsibility - and political acumen.

Elsewhere inthe Almanac, he has some one liners on on women. In one he says: "My wife leads a double life - hers and mine."