ELECTION EVE

Good Evening: It's all over but the shouting in the closing hours of this election eve. Tomorrow - the nation goes to the polls - with an expected record number of Eighty-Five-Million voters casting ballots - out of a total number of registered voters something like - One-Hundred-Eight-Million.

And this election will be a FIRST - if you did'nt already know. The first national election in which the polling booths will be open to all U.S. citizens - eighteen years of age - and over.

How does it look? Well - according to the public opinion surveys - it looks just about the way it has looked all during the campaign. An easy re-election victory for President Nixon. Maybe even by landslide proportions - in the electoral college - if not in the popular vote.

But George McGovern isn't giving up. "Keep your fingers crossed" - he told campaign aides in New York - as

he wearily climbed aboard the jet - for one final swing around the country. From New York to Philadelphia to Wichita - Long Beach, California - and thence back home to South Dakota for a midnight rally in Sioux Falls.

Defying the polls - McGovern says: "I believe we're going to prevail."

President Nixon relaxed at the San Clemente White

House - taped a final five-minute TV pre-election statement

Vice-President Agnew scheduled a final appearance in

Richmond, Virginia this evening - charging that McGovern

has been a flip-flop candidate whose campaign became a

disaster. Sergeant Shriver is following a windup schedule

almost as crowded as McGovern's - Cleveland to Pittsburgh

to Texas to Washington. He charged - during the day - that

President Nixon has lost credibility by not signing a proposed

peace settlement for Vietnam.

At midnight - the race will be over. Tomorrow the votes - not only for the White House - but for a third

ELECTION EVE - 3

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of the Senate - all of the House - eighteen governorships - a flock of local races and a flurry of resolutions and referenda.

It's all - up to the people now.

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By order of Prime Minister Edward Heath - an instant freeze today on all wages and prices in Great Britain; a freeze to last ninety days, at least - muybe more. The same as here in the U.S. - an attempt to curb inflation.

Heath blamed today's move - on a breakdown in government negotiations with labor and management. This "disagreement" - said he - "has forced us to take action less satisfactory than voluntary arrangements could have been."

SUPREME COURT

Another Monday - another big day at the Supreme Court; including a verdict upholding school busing in and around Nashville - from the pre-dawn hours till well after dark.

The High Court also held unConstitutional - a law barring mass demonstrations on the U.S. Capital grounds a law enacted back in Eighteen-Ninety-Four - after the historic march of Coxey's army - ranks of unemployed seeking relief from Congress - under the banner of Jacob Coxey - a political reformer of another era.

In Vietnam - the fighting continues to drag on; with latest action including the downing of three U.S. helicopters - killing four crewmen. This - we are told - "the highest American death toll in months - in direct combat with the Communists."

In the air war, American jets completing a record three-day series of strikes - against the Communist North. Radio Hanoi promptly accused the U.S. - of carrying out "annihilation raids." Also, accusing the U.S. of using "the logic of gangsters" - in an attempt to gain additional concessions."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "KATMANDU"

And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas; discussing tonight - the old and the new in the land of Shangri-La. Lowell....

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "KATMANDU"

Thank you, Lowell. A final story - in a moment.

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In Washington - the Price Commission gave the Pillsbury Company - permission today to raise the price of flour by an average Eleven-Point-Two percent - largely because the firm experienced higher wheat costs.

The price of wheat has gone up because of large

U.S.-Soviet Wheat Deals, which have contributed to a number

of price increases in bakery products across the nation.

Although the Eleven-Point-Two figure is an average, Pillsbury will be able to increase its regular flour prices by Eleven-Point-Twenty-Nine percent in the Western U.S. and by Sixteen-Point-Thirteen - in the Eastern part of the country.

This next - from Lehigh University at Bethlehem,

Pennsylvania; telling of an international conference - on the

planning and design of tall buildings; coming to the

conclusion that there is almost no limit - on how high a

building can go. Those present noted, for example - it is

now technically feasible to construct a two mile high

building; one that could hold - perhaps an entire city.

Conference officials later admitted though - they still have to solve another problem, namely: "Who'd want to live there?"

Now for Lowell Thomas, so long until tomorrow.

NEW YORK-PHILADELPHIA-LONG BEACH

At long last, the tumult and the shouting dies - the captains and the kingmakers depart; with Campaign 'Seventy-Two - all but history. And still - George McGovern battles on.

The Democratic nominee starting his last day of campaigning - with a walking tour here in New York; an outing that quickly turned into a shoving match /- between security men, newsmen and would-be well-wishers. When asked about an eleventh-hour poll that shows him trailing badly - McGovern stating simply: "It's nuts."

Next - a quick hop to Philadelphia; for a downtown political rally - drawing about twenty thousand. McGovern calling for a Democratic victory - to "help rehindle the American purpose." "Let us find again" - said he - "the confidence that ours is a country - that stands for what is noble and just and decent in the affairs of mankind."

And then a cross-country flight - to Long Beach,

California; where McGovern will hold another rally - before

NEW YORK-PHILADELPHIA-LONG BEACH - 2

returning to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to await the outcome of the election.

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SAN CLEMENTE

Reverse side - President Nixon was spending the day at San Clemente; where he taped a half-hour television speech - for broadcast later tonight. The President planning to vote tomorrow morning in California - and then return to the White House.

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Meanwhile, Spiro Agnew and Sargent Shriver - were also completing their own campaigns.

The Vice President - following McGovern into

Philadelphia; there addressing a rally - under the auspices

of the local Fraternal order of Police; asserting that police

and firemen have come under increasing attack - because they

are "the living daily symbols of democracy at work." The

Vice President adding: "When we condone, excuse or

rationalize criminal conduct - we not only encourage crime

but we diminish respect for those who fight crime."

As for Sargent Shriver - a brief visit to Pittsburgh; where he predicted a Democratic victory in Pennsylvania - by a "large" margin. And then Cleveland - where he also predicted an Ohio victory. What about the polls? They were wrong in Canada - said Shriver - they will be wrong here.