

LEXINGTON

Wed. Mar. 17 - 71

On a pine dotted hill side at Lexington, Kentucky, the last rites today for Whitney Young, the fallen Civil Rights leader; including a moving ~~in~~ tribute from President Nixon.

The President saying: When others were asking what will the government do - Whitney Young was saying - what can I do - what can I do -- to make this a better country through helping others.

The President further observed that Whitney Young's idea of America - was "one nation, indivisible, with liberty, justice and opportunity for all." And he added: "It is the responsibility of each of us - to help fulfill that dream that was in his heart."

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW LEXINGTON

Later on - back at the White House - President Nixon signed into law today - that new ten percent ^{SS} ~~across~~ the board increase in Social Security benefits. But he also said that it's now up to Congress - to pass the legislation needed to help pay for it. Or failing that - said the President "we are faced with a very real prospect of ~~increasing~~ increasing inflation."

CAIRO-JERUSALEM

In the Middle East today -- Cairo - cautious approval of that new U S peace strategy -- as outlined yesterday by Secretary of State William Rogers. Western diplomats quoted as saying that Israel - is now "on the spot."

At the same time - a report that Jerusalem is perhaps ready to try a new tack. And this - we are told - an attempt to set aside major differences - in favor of negotiations on relatively minor differences. In other words - an attempt to ~~be~~ start at the bottom and work up.

ADD TO CAIRO JERUSALEM

Now this: Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir taking strong exception to Rogers' border proposals. Madame Meir saying: "We cannot trust what Rogers offers us - even if he does say it with the best intentions. And she added: "This is not the border of the U S A but that of the Jewish people - and there are some points beyond which a nation cannot go."

LAOS

In the war news from Laos - a report today that South Vietnamese troops have now ~~be~~ abandoned that hill top artillery base called "Lolo". The ~~South~~ Saigon troops said to have scrambled down a thousand foot cliff - just ahead of an advancing column of ~~North~~ North Vietnamese tanks. The South Vietnamese later hacking their way through the jungle attempting to reach the safety of another allied base at nearby A-Luoi. An aerial bombardment from big U S B-52s -- helping to cover the retreat.

Allied officials add ~~however~~ HOWEVER - that the Communists apparently paid a terrible toll for Lolo - losing more than eleven hundred men - as compared ~~with~~ with South Vietnamese losses set officially at sixteen. And the main reason according to one ~~South~~ South Vietnamese officer - the fact that Hanoi desperately needs "a psychological victory." Indeed, Viet Cong radio promptly announcing that the entire Laos drive "is now in bankruptcy."

PARIS

From the pen of the late Charles DeGaulle - another volume of memoirs today - "the effort" - as it's called - dealing with France's domestic problems during the early sixties.

This - a rather slim book; in that DeGaulle had completed only two chapters - prior to his death. Nevertheless, ~~this~~ its first printing - consisting of a record half million copies; and the public - is already gobbling it up.

DeGaulle here giving his personal portrait - of French President Georges Pompidou calling his successor - "capable, and ~~is~~ dignified" - also, valorous and loyal. DeGaulle adds, however, that France itself - ^{has been} ~~was~~ afflicted with "the malady of souls that results from a civilization dominated by materialism."

COLOMBO

At Colombo - the ~~capital~~ capital of Ceylon - a declaration of near-martial law today. This following a series of disorders - including an attack ~~from~~^{on} the U S Embassy in Colombo also a shoot-out that left at least five dead.

Ceylon's leftist Prime Minister - Madame Siranavo Bandaranaike blaming the trouble on "certain subversive elements" meaning bands of ultra-leftist youths - composed mainly of the unemployed. Madame Siranavo Bandaranaike adding that ~~the~~ Ceylonese ~~are~~ parents should ~~also~~ "help preserve law and order - by keeping their children away from Anti-national activities."

BIRTH FOLLOW-~~DOWN~~

~~THE~~ Rome again - another blow to church state relations; with Italy's highest court - officially legalizing today the dissemination of ~~birth~~ birth control information; doing so - in the name of freedom of speech.

This in a ruling that squashes a law - originally passed in Nineteen Thirty; at a time when the Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini - was proclaiming that "numbers are power."

ST PATRICK'S DAY

From Maine to California - from Alaska to Texas -

it was a time today for "the wearing of the green." Millions and millions of Irish Americans - millions and ~~millions~~ millions of Irish-for-a - day celebrating St. ~~St~~ Patrick's Day, Nineteen Seventy One. The usual big U.S.

celebration

~~in New York's big parks~~ - augmented by the presence of

Irish Premier Jack Lynch; who also expressed confidence that the division of northern and southern Ireland - must end sooner or later.



I celebrated St. P^t Day, here in Fla. with my old friend Dick Pope - the pope of Cypress Gardens - and along with some 10,000 others enjoying the water skiing show which I first knew Cyp. Gardens in Movietone days 30 odd yrs. ago has been witnessed by some 30 million people. More from Ohio than any other state, N.Y. next.

I've often wondered what happens to the lovely girls who perform here. Of course Gov. Wallace of Alabama married one recently. Another married a chap with a million, tired of him and next married a man with 5 million. Ho hum! What

DUBLIN BELFAST

In Ireland today
Meanwhile, ~~the Irish themselves~~, both North and
they South -- were likewise celebrating in typical fashion with
bands marching - bottles popping -- ~~hurling~~ ballads
being sung -- as well as an incident or two.

At Dublin - Irish Finance Minister George Colley -
the victim of an egg throwing barrage. At Belfast - jeering
Protestants pelting marchers with rocks and bottles.

St. Patrick's Day on the Auld Sod: ~~symbolic~~ color ~~is~~
- *also* green - ~~and~~ black and blue.

*And now from WDBO - Orlando,
Fla. 21-*