

ROCKEFELLER

Tues, Mar. 19 - 68

Governor Nelson Rockefeller of New York is reported ready to announce that he is a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. His formal announcement of Intention is expected by Friday, or possibly before. The impending decision to oppose Richard Nixon for the nomination was strongly indicated in Washington at a meeting between Rockefeller and seventeen Republican Senators. He also today won the endorsement of Senator Thruston Morton of Kentucky, former G O P National Chairman. Rockefeller says that ~~if and~~ "if and when" he enters the race he will probably campaign only in the Oregon primary, scheduled May Twenty Eighth. Although he says there <sup>is</sup> a chance he would also campaign in the Indiana primary, May Seventh.

MCCARTHY

46 1/2

Senator Eugene McCarthy - still denying any deals - said today that if he ~~did~~ fails to win the Democratic presidential nomination <sup>then</sup> he will support Senator Robert Kennedy's bid to be the party's nominee. Speaking ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> Howard University in Washington, McCarthy also said President Johnson is risking "more disorder, more riots" in our cities by "wasting" - as McCarthy puts it -- thirty billion dollars a year in Vietnam. While at the same time cutting back on the war against poverty. McCarthy also called for a guaranteed annual income for every American - and the expenditure of "all the money it takes" to wipe out poverty in the nation.

KENNEDY

47  
President Johnson ~~is~~ leaving it up to the Kennedy holdovers in his administration to make their own personal decisions as to ~~whether~~ whether to stick with him, or support Senator Robert Kennedy for the Democratic Presidential nomination. There are several top-ranking administration officials who were closely linked with the late President John F. Kennedy. Among them - Postmaster General Lawrence O'Brien -- Interior Secretary Stewart Udall - and Undersecretary of State Nicholas Katzenbach. Postmaster General O'Brien has already declared his loyalty to President Johnson.

The most powerful of Illinois Democrats - Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago - says Senator Kennedy has no chance of turning President Johnson out of office in the November elections. He also says the Democratic Party will not be ripped apart by the conflict between the President and Senator Kennedy.

VIETNAM

48

*The South Vietnamese army command quotes two Viet Cong defectors as saying that North Vietnam's spy network has cracked security on American B-Fifty-two bombers - giving the Communist forces twenty four hours warning on the time and ~~ga~~ target for bombing raids. But in Saigon, U S General Winant Sidle says - "that's baloney. Many of our air strikes aren't even planned that far in advance." General Sidle is General Westmoreland's information officer. ¶ Even as the Viet Cong defectors were telling about the alleged security leak, B-Fifty-Two planes were dropping tons of bombs on North Vietnamese forces surrounding Khe Sanh. U S officials in Saigon also say the air war appears headed for a new phase. North Vietnam is reported to be increasing its Air Force by adding about forty Mig interceptors - a plane highly respected by American pilots.*

MORE VIETNAM

Reliable Communist sources in Eastern Europe say that North Vietnam is counting on the American presidential campaign to intensify anti-war sentiment in the United States. And for that reason the North Vietnamese government has ruled out any peace talks in the near future. These informants stress that the withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam is the ~~only~~ only issue on which the Communists would be prepared to talk if they talk at all.

The White House says that President Johnson has no plans to appoint a special peace commission on Vietnam because it would usurp his authority and might be misinterpreted by North Vietnam. But the commission idea advocated by Senator Robert Kennedy has gained support from Senators ~~William~~ Fulbright and Margaret Chase Smith who are urging the president to reconsider his stand.

## FINANCE

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The price of gold ~~xx~~ dropped again today on the European markets - and the American dollar and British pound recovered more strength. In London the pound soared to its best level on the foreign exchange since February Twenty Six - just before the ~~great~~ great gold rush began and brought on an international monetary crisis. The closing rate was two dollars forty and one half cents per pound.

Also in London, the Labor government jolted the British public with a ten per cent tax boost - the highest in the ~~nation's~~ nation's history. And wages were frozen at present levels for the next eighteen months at least. Chancellor of the Exchequer ~~Ray~~ Jenkins told a hushed and gloomy House of Commons that these measures are necessary if Britain is to climb back up the painful road to recovery ~~from a~~ after devaluation of the pound.

HOUSE

50

The House Rules Committee has rebelled against its leadership by voting to delay action on the Open Housing Bill until April Ninth, at the ~~very~~ earliest. This will be *only* two days before Congress adjourns for a ten day Easter recess and there are signs the Committee may even wait until after the recess before taking action on the measure. The leadership had ~~planned~~ planned to bring the Bill to a vote on the House floor some time next week.

SHERIFF

*The first Negro sheriff to hold office in*

*At Alabama since the Reconstruction - Lucius Amerson -  
announced today that he has arrested a white ~~police~~ police  
chief and a state trooper in connection with the alleged  
beating of a negro. Amerson - sheriff of Macon County -  
says Police Chief Bobby Singleton of Notasulga was  
arrested yesterday and Trooper James Bass surrendered  
to the authorities today. The warrants were signed by  
the alleged victim - twenty-two year old Ossie <sup>Lee Devance,</sup> Devance.*

50/2



FLOOD

Hundreds are homeless in New England today after the worst flooding since Hurricane Diane struck the same area thirteen years ago. But, the heavy rain *did* came to an end ~~today~~, after three days of steady downpour. Even so, flash floods continue to plague many ~~low~~ low-lying areas - particularly in South East Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

*I hope your Vermont farm  
wasnt washed away, Warren!*

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CUBA

*The Soviet Union told Communist Cuba today that ~~xxx~~ revolution is not an exportable commodity and Russia does not intend to interfere in the affairs of Latin American countries. In recent months Cuban Premier Castro has been highly critical of Soviet failure to support his proposed uprisings in Latin America.*

## ROMANCE

*King Olav of Norway has given his blessing to the marriage of his only son and heir - Crown Prince Harald - and the attractive blonde daughter of a Norwegian storekeeper, the Royal consent wrote another chapter in the fairy tale romance of the Prince and Sonja Haraldsen -- a commoner he has ~~now~~ courted for the past ten years. It was ~~not~~ only the second time in this century that an heir to a European throne has made a commoner his wife. The other was Crown Prince Carol of Romania in Nineteen Eighteen.*