

NEW YORK

Wed. Mar. 20-68.

Campaign Sixty-Eight seems to be shaping up. As suspected he would do on the Republican side - Rockefeller calling a press ~~XXXXXX~~ conference for two ~~XXXX~~ o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Everybody assumes he'll formally declare himself. Presumably to announce he feels he can offer an alternative - to Nixon's stand on the war also on Civil Rights.

As for the Democratic race - at Racine, Wisconsin - Senator McCarthy today was vowing to make a real run for it. Time Magazine by the way, has ~~xxxxxxx~~ a great piece on McCarthy. Meanwhile Senator Kennedy today ~~was~~ was urging a vast home building program to eliminate ghetto-housing.

KEY WEST

6 1/2

More on politics - from Key West, Florida; where vacationing former President Truman - was once more at his fire-eating best today. Asserting that Senator Kennedy's entry into the Democratic race - will make it all the easier for President Johnson to win re-election. Adding of former Governor Wallace of Alabama: "I don't think he's got the guts!" to force the race into the House of Representatives. The doughty ex-President also taking a few digs - at Nixon, Rockefeller, public opinion polls, draft card burners and so on.

When it was all over though - the eighty-three year old ^{Harry} Truman showing he had mellowed somewhat.

Telling newsmen how pleased he was - that they still considered him worthy of a press conference. Said he:

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"It was a grand thing for you to do - and I'm very thankful for it."

VIETNAM

On the war front -- a report today that the Communist siege of Khe Sanh has failed. U S intelligence sources saying the ~~enemy~~ enemy has withdrawn from the area ~~of~~ an estimated twenty four hundred men - two full regiments. Apparent reason: A North Vietnamese casualty rate - called "fantastically high." Also - improving weather; making enemy positions around Khe Sanh - virtually untenable in the face of U S airpower.

On the home front - retired Marine Commandant General David Shoup - ~~front and center today~~ Telling a Senate committee ^{how} ~~that~~ substantial U S troop increases - might eventually break north Vietnam's will to fight.

The general contending, however, that resulting murderous military destruction - would not be worth one-thousandth of the cost.

LONDON PARIS

Britain's newest tax jolt - coupled with U S
monetary reforms - a potent factor today in the world
money market. With the price of gold skidding again
~~downward~~ -- as the U S dollar and the pound
sterling continued their rapid ~~recovery~~ ^{climb}.

~~Be that as it may~~ ^{still} Britain's Conservative
Party ~~promptly~~ ^{is} demanding the resignation of Labor Prime
Minister Harold Wilson, calling his new tax scale - too
"brutal". While across the Channel - ~~French President~~
DeGaulle - was ~~getting in his own ticks~~. Asserting that
a world monetary system based on the dollar and the pound -
is no longer workable; that it could lead, in fact - to
world crisis.

Only solution - said he - a return to the gold
standard.

DE SERTERS FOLLOW LONDON PARIS

Elsewhere in Paris - four more American servicemen turned themselves over to French police today. ~~soon~~ Receiving, in return - official residence and work permits. Making a total of nine American - admitted deserters and draft-dodgers ~~who have been~~ granted asylum in France ^{in a} ~~over the past~~ month, ~~one~~ and all basing their decision ~~they say~~ on opposition ^{they say because of} ~~to American policy in~~ Vietnam.

^{Only one} This latest quartet - including private Peter Thomason of Coral Gables, Florida; ~~apparently~~ the only anti-war deserter to date - who has actually served in Vietnam. ~~He was~~ ^{Once} assigned to Khe Sanh - also Dak To.

CAPITOL HILL

~~Here on our own shores - President Johnson~~
~~was spending~~ ^{Presidential} another special message to Congress today.

A request for new powers - to deal with the dollar drain.

~~including~~ ^{also} a call for another half-billion ~~bucks~~ for the

export-import bank - ~~plus~~ plus speedy enactment of ^{LBJ's} ~~its~~

long-awaited tax increase. ~~The President saying:~~ "The

hour is late - the need is urgent," ~~says~~ ^{says} the President.

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW CAPITOL HILL

~~Turning to domestic affairs~~ - the President ^{Also}

~~today~~ appointed a Cleveland district attorney - as the

Federal government's first consumer counsel. Merele

McCurdy ~~assigned~~ to work with Betty Furness, a special

White House assistant for consumer affairs. ^{He} Immediately

pledging ^{ed as he said:} ~~in his own words~~ to "put teeth and ^a little

clout" into federal consumer protection programs.

~~For~~ Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan -

hero of last year's six-day war, ~~against the Arabs~~ a close

~~is~~ ~~class today~~ on the Mediterranean Coast near Tel Aviv,

~~General Dayan~~ pursuing his lifelong hobby ~~working on~~ ^{RA}

an ~~xxx~~ archaeological ~~dig~~ ^{at} ~~when he~~ was totally buried -

by a sudden, unexpected sandslide.

Alone at the time - General Dayan was saved from almost certain death - by four children who luckily happened by. The youngsters freeing his head - so he could breathe again. Also summoning a group of nearby ~~work~~ workmen - who completed the rescue.

At a hospital in Jerusalem - doctors later reporting the one-eyed General had suffered "damaged ribs and spine." ~~His~~ ^{These} His injuries were called - ~~xx~~ not ~~serious~~ critical.

CAIRO FOLLOW HOLON

On the other side of that mid-east truce line -
a sweeping ^{Egyptian} government shake-up today ^{with} ~~at Cairo. Colonel~~
Nasser swearing in - fourteen new cabinet ministers,
~~At the same time~~ ^{and} promising swift action, ~~to implement~~
50 1/2 ~~their~~ ~~was~~ "~~plans for future political action.~~"

The fourteen ~~new ministers~~ are described as
"well-educated technocrats - who worked their way up
from the lower grades of government." ^{This in} ~~marked~~ contrast
to previous Nasser cabinets -- usually dominated by former
army officers.

FORT LAUDERDALE

Late word from Fort Lauderdale, Florida,
~~informs us today that~~ "the silly season has begun."

^{This is}
~~Which means~~ the vanguard of an expected thirty thousand
young collegians - ~~have already arrived~~^{ing} for their annual
Easter vacation spree.

~~So far - just the usual pranks. Like someone,~~
~~stealing an eight foot cardboard bull - from in front~~
~~of a local restaurant.~~ Girl-watchers on hand - reporting
~~at least one significant development~~^{Girls} ~~though.~~ In Bikinis
~~bathing suits~~ -- briefer than ever.

As one hot-rodder put it: "You could take
the material from all the ~~him~~ bikinis on the beach and put
it together - ^{Warren -} and you'd hardly have enough cloth to make
a convertible top ^{for a car.}"

MILWAUKEE

~~From~~ ^{In} the Milwaukee zoo comes news today -
of a ~~ba~~ crazy, mixed-up goose. The product of a match
between a Canada goose and a blue goose - this goofy
gosling ~~was forced to~~ shift ^{ing} for himself in the bird yard,
~~quickly~~ joining a flock of flaming pink flamingoes and
even learning to stand on one leg. - ~~or so we are told.~~

~~The final straw~~ Says Zoo Director George
Speidel - when the "wrong-way goose" started romancing
a black swan ~~whereupon~~ he was banished - to a strictly
goose colony, ^{flirting with} where at last report he was ~~again trying~~
~~to cross the color line~~ ~~making eyes at~~ a true-blue goose.

~~Zoo Director Speidel commenting:~~ "At least
now ~~he's half right.~~ Or is it half-wrong, I wonder?"