PEKIN

President Nixon paid a brief visit today to Pekin,
Illinois, out here in the heartland of America; where he
dedicated a new library in honor of a native son, the late,
great Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois.

The President saying: "We live in a time when many people are cynical about politics and politicians." Then stressing, however that "in this profession - as in any - there is much to be improved - but there is also much to admire." And "it would be a real tragedy" - he continued - "if we allowed the mistakes of a few to obscure the virtues of most; or if we let our disappointments with some aspects of the system - turn into despair with the system as a whole."

The President further insisting: "The system is working." And "the way to make it work better - is to bring more good people into it" - said he. Adding that "Everett

Dirksen would tell the cynics of the day - not to shun the system but to share in it; to enter into the political arena - and to fight for their ideals."

The President also calling for a renewal of "reasonable partnership" - between the White House and the Congress during the current period of strain; "recognizing that neither partner can have his way all the time" - that "both sides must give and take."

On the economic front - a number of price roll backs in the steel industry, in chemicals and oil, in tire making, and even in newspaper publishing. This the face of President Nixon's new sixty day price freeze.

For what its worth though the price of gold was again jumping on the big London bullion market; while the U.S. do!lar was slumping in Frankfurt and Amsterdam.

Back at the White House - a brief disturbance today;
with four teenage members of the Jewish Defense League staging a surprise sit-in; also, shouting appeals - addressed
to President Nixon; urging the President to press for free
immigration of Soviet Jews in his talks next week with Soviet
leader Leonid Brezhnev.

This apparently the first in a series of demonstrations
- planned by Jewish groups across the nation. It ended
quickly though - with the four protestors taken into custody
by Secret Service agents. They were then turned over to
District of Columbia police on charges of unlawful assembly.

Copenhagen - the final session of a two day meeting of NATO foreign ministers. The full NATO alliance adopting a resolution - earlier approved in secret talks between the U.S. and France. The Western Allies noting that "profound changes" have occurred since NATO was first formed twenty-four years ago. Adding that "the time has come for the NATO governments to look at their relationships - in the light of these changes.

In short - a clear cut victory for the U.S. The NATO

powers agreeing to a study - aimed at reforming and

revitalizing the NATO alliance; a study the U.S. has long

urged in hopes of achieving a greater sharing of defense

costs. U.S. Secretary of State Rogers saying: "We will now

examine our principles - in the light of current realities."

Now that their job in space is nearly done - the three Skylab astronauts were beginning to crank up for the return trip. Mission Commander Pete Conrad spending four hours today checking the Apollo command ship that will ferry them back to earth. Houston later saying: "It's looking good."

And then - another space first. The Skylab

astronauts - picking up a spectacular solar flare; the first

ever viewed from space-born telescopes; a twisting, flaming

erruption of super hot gases - stretching an estimated

twenty-five thousand miles across the face of the sun; with

the full picture relayed back to earth.

Dr. E.H. Reeves of the Harvard College Observatory saying: "The really significant thing here - is that it was observed by the best instruments ever built; and all simultaneously."

Under Federal law, twenty three states were required to submit plans last April on how they propose to clean up the air in their urban areas. Two of these were finally approved today by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. One -for Alabama; the other - for New York. The latter including a number of measures aimed mainly at New York City; including an attempt by various means to discourage auto traffic into Manhattan.

The acting E.P.A. Administrator says future plans for Los Angeles - "could result in banning all automobiles from the streets in L.A. there by Nineteen-Seventy-Seven." This - said he - because the air in Los Angeles is already so foul it may require more to clean it up than just a mere reduction in traffic.

Drugs - an order today restricting the use of six drugs

normally used as appetite supressants. These including
didlex, voranil, podamin, plegine, pre-sate and

phendimetrazime; all of which have come into widespread

use - since the use of amphetamines was severely limited

two years ago. Government experts claiming that said drugs

may be an aid in weight reduction - but they can also be

habit-forming.

MIAMI BEACH FOLLOW DRUGS

In the same vein, a weight reduction horror story reported today from Miami Beach. Three persons weighing
upwards of three hundred pounds each - undergoing
so-called "bowel bypass" surgery; a technique whereby their
digestive tracts were shorted - in order to help them lose
weight. The same doctor - performing all three operations;
whereupon the patients - promptly died.

All of this coming to light - with the filing of malpractice suit. The families of the three patients - demanding a Million Bucks in damages.

The late Dr. Louis Leakey, South African

anthropologist - as you probably know - the discoverer of

fossil fragments about two point eight million years old;

said to represent "the oldest skull of early man - yet

discovered." "Skull Fourteen Seventy" - as it was later

dubbed from Kenya's Lake Rudolf area of the Rift.

Now a closer examination of "Skull Fourteen Seventy" by Dr. Leakey's son. Richard Leakey has just come up with
a remarkable analysis which he tells about in the latest

National Geographic. Richard Leakey saying that
exhaustive studies show conclusively that the oldest early man
yet discovered was probably a woman. You might even say a typical woman, Bill. I mean, after all this time - she's
still getting the last word, isn't she?

At Portland, Oregon - a meeting of the Southern

Baptist Convention has been taking up a resolution from one
of its committees; a resolution urging that woman be given
greater leadership roles in church policy. Instead of
approving the recommendation though the Baptist Convention
turning it down flat; but did pass a substitute resolution
reconfirming male superiority in church affairs.

The news resolution saying, in part: "Christ is the head of every man - man the head of the woman; man was not made for the woman - but the woman for the man." And it adds: "The woman was the glory of man."

That - from the Southern Baptist Convention.

And so long until Monday.