

Rhodes Urges Law and Order; Says Taft Is Soft on Violence

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COLUMBUS, Ohio., May 4—With campus upheavals providing the opportunity, Gov. James A. Rhodes has seized upon law and order as a campaign issue in the closing days of a close Senate primary contest with Representative Robert Taft Jr. He acted swiftly to call up the National Guard to put down disturbances at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio State University and Kent State University. Today he alerted the Guard to stand by for duty at Case Western Reserve University following demonstrations there. Tonight, he asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate four shooting deaths at Kent State.

Each call-up has been accompanied by statements that while he is Governor no one will be allowed to damage state property.

At Cleveland Saturday, in the last of four debates, he said that he was cracking down on "anarchy" and accused his opponent of preferring to "coddle" students.

He charged Mr. Taft with having a "soft attitude on campus violence" for criticizing the speed with which the Guard had been dispatched to Miami University in Oxford.

Yesterday, the Governor flew to Kent after the Reserve Officers Training Corps building had been burned to the ground and said that he would propose legislation to "eradicate" campus disorders.

He said that he would seek passage of state laws to provide for immediate dismissal of

any student or faculty member involved in a riot.

Under the plan, anyone dismissed would be ineligible to enter any other Ohio state university. The Governor also proposed that the Legislature make it a felony to throw anything at a law enforcement officer.

Need for Issue Seen

Some observers attributed the toughness of his stand to a need for an issue to catch up with Mr. Taft, who bears the most formidable political name in Ohio and who has been reported in recent polls to have a slight lead over the Governor.

By stressing "integrity," Mr. Taft has alluded frequently to an issue that has hurt the 60-year-old Governor in the campaign—charges in a Life magazine article a year ago that Mr. Rhodes diverted campaign funds to his personal use, did not report them as income and commuted the sentence of a mobster who had money available to buy his way out of prison.

Last April 17 the Governor sued Life for libel. On Friday, Life responded with a petition saying that its article was true and asking dismissal of the suit.

Today, the Governor issued a statement declaring that Life had "brazenly attempted to influence the outcome of the Republican United States Senate primary contest" in Ohio by filing its response on the eve of the election, a week before the response was due in court.