

LAF 10/13/68
**Dick Gregory, Mark Lane to be
Inaugurated on March 4, '69**

Independent write-in President of the United States in exile, Dick Gregory, announced that he and Mark Lane, his chosen Vice President, will hold inauguration ceremonies in Washington on March 4, 1969. Gregory said that his first concern will be a world food program to eliminate hunger in America.



"We are going to deal with people all over the world and perhaps teach governments to spend as much time and money and scientific genius to guarantee that people are fed here on earth with as much of an effort as we are trying to get to the moon."

Gregory began another fast on Thanksgiving day. He will take

no nourishment other than distilled water until New Year's.

"This time I will be fasting to dramatize the reality of the thousands of American citizens who are undernourished in this country where farmers are paid not to produce food, and crops are plowed under and destroyed in order to support farm prices.

"I am talking about human beings who are not only Black, and White people, but of Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, and especially my Indian brothers who have experienced unspeakable hardships under inhuman conditions for generations.

"The treatment by the United States Government of these native Americans whose territory we occupy, continues as our present greatest shame and will disgrace us before the rest of the world until these conditions are changed. I am making this topic my primary concern in the hopes that all citizens will make it theirs," Gregory said.