

Nixon vs. Reagan Is Real Test

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

One of Richard Nixon's most significant tests will come in Oregon on May 28, and it won't be with Nelson Rockefeller.

It will be with Gov. Ronald Reagan of California, who not only has his name entered in Oregon but has been spending money as if he meant business. Reagan's Oregon campaign manager is Tom Hazen, former president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, who has bought large blocks of radio and TV time and is pulling all the stops to elect his candidate.

Oregon is considered Rockefeller territory. In 1964 he ran in the primary against both Goldwater and Nixon, clobbering the former and leaving Nixon so far behind that it was pathetic. On primary election night you could have shot a cannon through Nixon headquarters without hitting a soul.

But this time Rocky is strangely silent. Not many people know it, but he has 60,000 fresh signatures on an unused petition putting him in the race. The signers are out on a limb and a little unhappy about it because Rocky did not go through with his plans. But each one of them is a potential write-in voter—if the Governor of New York merely says the word.

But while Rockefeller does not seem serious, Reagan is. He is spending money all-out for a showdown with Nixon.

Bobby vs. Hoffa

When Bobby Kennedy reached into a Louisiana prison to fish out Edward G. Partin as a star witness against Jimmy Hoffa, it created headlines around the Nation. Recent developments have not caught up with the headlines.

The other day U.S. District Judge E. Gordon West accused Bobby Kennedy of "a payoff for testimony in the Hoffa case."

He excoriated the Justice Department for moving to dismiss charges against Partin.

"It is making a mockery of justice," the judge announced from the Bench.

Judge West was indignant because, shortly after Partin was used as the star witness against Hoffa, the Justice Department slowed up in prosecution of its own star witness. Then last month it filed a motion to dismiss the 26-count indictment against Partin in which he was charged with 13 counts of embezzlement of union funds and 13 counts of making false entries in Teamsters' Union books.

The Justice Department told the Judge that "no bargain was made," but obviously the Judge did not believe it.

"Are the interests of justice

to be served by the granting of lifetime immunity to this defendant because of the wishes of some previous Attorney General?" Judge West demanded, referring to Bobby Kennedy.

The Judge's torrid words supported the vigorous dissent written by Chief Justice Earl Warren, who also denounced the former Attorney General's tactic of reaching into a prison to use as his star witness a man beholden to the Justice Department. The Chief Justice made it clear that under these circumstances the testimony of the witness should not be believed.

Who's Who?

Clyde Ellis, retired head of the Rural Electric Co-op Association, was dictating the other day on the subject of the out-house, known to an earlier generation as the "Chic Sale."

"The young secretary who typed these remarks told me she had never heard the term 'Chic Sale,'" said Ellis. "She said it sounded psychedelic to her."

"I mentioned this to Orville Freeman, the Secretary of Agriculture. He was amazed that anyone wouldn't know what a Chic Sale was and then asked: 'What's psychedelic?'"

"The next day when I told the young lady what Secretary Freeman had said, she asked: 'Who's Secretary Freeman?'"

Headlines and Footnot

It may be denied, but organizers of the Poor People's March on Washington have secretly encouraged the marchers to violate local ordinances. The organizers are opposed to looting, burning and violence, but believe that sit-ins, traffic blockades and defiance of the police will dramatize their cause and achieve their goal with Congress . . . Mrs. Martin Luther King, on the other hand, has been urging King's successors to continue his crusade for nonviolence. She has been using her influence inside the civil rights movement to avoid a repetition of the riots that followed his martyrdom . . . The U.S. Air Force rushed tons of communications equipment to Paris for the truce talks. Telephone switchboards must be made tap-proof . . . Arthur Goldberg has told intimates that, after he retires as U.S. Ambassador, he intends to speak out on the issues. He will air his view that the Vietnam war has kept the United States in a diplomatic straightjacket and has prevented American initiative in other areas . . . Hsia Shu-Chang, the deputy director of studies at Chungshan University, has been seized by the Red Guards and accused of treason. His crime is that he was once a Harvard classmate of the late President Kennedy.