

NEWSSCOPE

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Kleindienst Gets Blamed in Carswell Case Defeat

(The Times-Picayune National Service)

WASHINGTON — Heads may still roll in the administration after the debacles of the Haynsworth and Carswell nominations.

Attorney General John N. Mitchell, generally credited with snatching defeat from the jaws of victory in the Supreme Court nominations, apparently is not being blamed by President Nixon. But the same cannot be said for Deputy Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst.

Assigned by Nixon to get the Carswell nomination through the Senate, Kleindienst failed. As an old Goldwater hand and not really a Nixon team man, Kleindienst is now considered vulnerable.

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House defenders of Justice William O. Douglas fear the drive to impeach him is developing into the kind of runaway that led to the ouster of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.).

Their strategy is to head it off in the House Judiciary Committee whose liberal chairman, Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.), is opposed to impeachment. But congressional observers note changes in the committee have loosened 80-year-old Celler's control, and the decision on whether to allow a vote on impeachment may be taken out of his hands.

To counter that eventuality, Douglas's House allies — most of them Democrats — are amassing legal material needed to fight a floor battle.

Once the House votes for impeachment, there is no way to stop the process from which there is no appeal. The Senate would have no option but to hear charges made against Douglas. The justice's friends believe the Senate would reject the charges of alleged bias and misconduct. But the strategy presently is aimed at stopping the movement before it gets that far.

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House Ways and Means committee members, generally cold toward social reform, are warming ever so slightly to

some form of national health insurance. Various government-backed health insurance proposals have been introduced in Congress, and pressure is growing for some action. But the ways and means committee is not likely to be hasty in any event. As a first step, the committee is grappling with the question of extending medicare to children under 5 years of age. If it agrees to this, national health insurance may follow — in about three years.

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Indians are on the warpath again, and federal scalps may come off. The National Congress of American Indians, largest of the tribal organizations representing 400,000 Indians, is aiming at its old adversaries, the Department of the Interior and its Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Earl Old Person, president of the Indian coalition, denounced the federal agencies for failing to touch base with the tribes in appointments to key positions in the bureau.

Old Person is targeting on Congress to force greater recognition of Indians in policy-making posts — and the tribes are reported considering resorting to spectacular demonstrations on Capitol Hill, including war-whooping charges through the halls of Congress, to win their points.

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Consumer gadfly Ralph Nader is preparing himself for the role of ombudsman to the average taxpayer. He is ready to tackle the Nixon administration and Congress on the issue of tax reform for the little guy. Likely targets: Lower taxes, more deductions for educational expenses and simplification of the horrendous form 1040.

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Only a fraction of the nation's colleges and universities are making any effort to provide for special education needs of "disadvantaged" students. A Ford Foundation survey of more than 4,000 higher education institutions found 72 per

cent — nearly three-quarters — had no programs for this long-neglected group of students.

The reason: Most colleges and universities think this type of effort — including remedial programs — is incompatible with their “institutional structure and purpose.”

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The Pacifica Foundation, a left wing counterpart of the right wing H. L. Hunt Founda-

tion, is seeking an FM radio license in the nation's capital. And it has an opponent — a vigilante group calling itself Accuracy in Media. AIM's objection: Pacifica stations (There are four on the west coast) show “subversive tendencies” and broadcast “pornographic stuff.”

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Another might have been of history: The last time Sen. Rob-

ert S. Kennedy spoke with France's Charles de Gaulle, the latter's final words to his visitor went something like this: Your career is well launched, but take an old man's word for it. Stay out of that Vietnam mess. You or any politician involved faces oblivion. The tale of ignored advice is in Doubleday's just issued, “On His Own: Robert F. Kennedy, 1964-1968.”