

SF Chronicle
**Ford's No. 2
List Is
Still Growing**

Washington

President Ford is considering a growing list of possibilities to be his vice president, and Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott yesterday described him as "nowhere near" a decision.

Asked if former New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller would prove acceptable, Scott said:

"I would think there would be a rush to favorable judgment. That is equally true of Senator (Barry) Goldwater and others . . . unless there is something very controversial in his background."

"Before the announcement is made," Scott added, "I think he would have a fast check with the FBI because no one wants any more trouble in this troubled Washington.

Scott said he expects Ford's decision to "crystallize" by the middle of this week as the President trims the list to five, to three, and then a final choice.

But "he is nowhere near making up his mind," Scott said.

House Republican leader John Rhodes wrote yesterday to all 136 of his fellow GOP members requesting they forward to him by noon today, in sealed envelopes, their personal preferences for vice president.

Rhodes has listed his own top choice as fellow Arizonan Goldwater.

Scott and Rhodes commented after they and seven other members of the GOP congressional leadership met separately with the President Sunday at the

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Wires Urge Reagan For Vice President

Sacramento

Reagan-for - Vice - President telegrams were sent yesterday by Gordon C. Luce, chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of California, to GOP leaders across the nation.

In telegrams to the nation's other 49 Republican state chairmen, Luce asked for support of Governor Ronald Reagan. A spokesman for Luce said Reagan had not been consulted about the

telegrams and was not aware of them.

"Given the new spirit of confidence and optimism in our party, I would like to strongly urge your support for the vice presidential nomination of a man who has proven himself to be one of the Republican party's most popular elected officials and California's greatest governor in a generation — Governor Ronald Reagan," the telegrams said.

Associated Press

UROC Wants Ashbrook To Be Vice President

Ventura

The Board of Directors of the United Republicans of California has urged President Ford to name Representative John Ashbrook (Rep-Ohio) as vice president.

At a weekend meeting here, the directors adopted a resolution noting that Ashbrook had opposed former President Nixon in several Republican presidential primaries in 1972.

The directors also urged the organization's membership to write Mr. Ford, expressing opposition to Nelson Rockefeller of New York as a potential candidate for vice president.

Another resolution urged the American Legion to cancel its plans to give an award to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and to give it, instead, "to an American who places his country's interest first."

Our Correspondent

White House to discuss the matter.

Scott said Mr. Ford's personal list of possible nominees already is longer than the 15 names reported following the Sunday sessions. He said his own four top recommendations to the President are Rockefeller, Goldwater, Republican national chairman George Bush and John Scali, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Mr. Ford's nominee will be subject to the same scrutiny and majority approval by both Houses of Congress that Mr. Ford underwent when Mr. Nixon chose him to replace Spiro T. Agnew last year.

The procedure is prescribed by the 25th Amendment to the Constitution. Once Mr. Ford has decided and Congress acted, the nation will have for the first time both a president and vice president not elected by the people.

United Press