

16 San Francisco Chronicle

☆☆ Mon., July 28, 1969

Kennedy's Desire For Private Life

New York

Senator Edward M. Kennedy was portrayed in a magazine article yesterday as reluctant, even before the accident, to seek the presidency and resentful of the growing political pressures being placed on him as the only surviving Kennedy brother.

The article, written by Brock Brower for life magazine, says the Senator was "overwhelmed by the great

expectations" of following in the footsteps of his dead brothers and that those pressures "helped push him to folly" on Dyke Bridge at Chappaquiddick Island, Mass.

Brower quotes Joseph F. Gargan, a cousin of Kennedy's as saying some time before the fatal car accident at the bridge the night of July 18 that Kennedy did not have the presidential ambitions of his older brothers, who were

victims of political assassinations.

"Yes, he picked up the standard," Gargan said. "But you can pick up the standard without picking up the presidency. The standard is the causes, the work, the poor, the blacks . . . he's got other things on his mind than being president."

Brower, who had been working since February on a profile of the Senator, speculates that if the accident had not occurred, "He just might possibly, with a little more time, have found the strength of character to refuse 1972 on his own.

"Within the Senate he was gradually, credibly building a record that was not simply something to run on, but was an expression of liberal principles that he sincerely felt, that gave him reason enough to stay in the Senate and seek his power and effect there rather than in the White House."

PRESSURES

The inescapable political pressures and the assumption that every move he made was directed at the 1972 presidential campaign "had actually begun to sour him on public life, turn him in other directions than toward a distant and pretty definitely unwanted presidency," Brower said.

Men Who Helped in Kennedy's Speech

Hyannis Port, Mass.

Ted Sorensen, former speechwriter for President Kennedy is reported to have done most of the drafting of Senator Edward M. Kennedy's Friday television address about the accident in which Mary Jo Kopechne died.

Other who advised the senator included Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., the historian who advised President Kennedy in the White House. He arrived in New York on Thursday from a conference in Rumania, stopped there briefly, then flew to Hyannis Port.

John Kenneth Galbraith, the Harvard economist and former ambassador to India, kept in touch but was prevented from coming to Cape Code by ill health that confined him to his summer home in Newfane, Vt.

A sarcastic comment made when Robert McNamara, the former defense secretary, arrived here indicates how grave the senator's advisers estimated his situation to be.

"Well, Bob," a Kennedy adviser said, "you handled the Bay of Pigs and Vietnam. Now let's see what you can do with this one."

New York Times

you know, there are so many things that are so much more important than that," he quotes Kennedy as saying.

"I love to sail and into one of those Maine harbors where nobody knows you . . . couldn't care less.

"It's the only way I can get off by myself."

ENERGY

Brower said Edward Kennedy had "the energy, the flexibility, the courage, even the fatalism" of his older brothers.

"But while this fatalism caused Jack to become somewhat of a stoic and turned Bob into an evangelical, it has done something else to Ted. It has made him, in combination with his youth and all the pressure, a hedonist," he wrote.

Still grieving for his brother, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and missing his counsel, Edward Kennedy rebelled against the pressures by acting out of conviction and compassion rather than political considerations in public life and by hedonism in private life, Brower said.

Brower said, "Some thought his drinking had got beyond the strains it was supposed to relieve, and there were parties for tightly knit Kennedy loyalists — similar to the one out on Chappy that week — where drinking often took place."

United Press



UPI Telephoto

Well Wishers

A crowd of about 200 persons gave Senator Edward Kennedy warm applause yesterday as he arrived at St. Francis Xavier church in

Hyannis. With the Massachusetts senator were his wife Joan and two of their children: Edward Jr., 7, and Kara, 9.