

SFChronicle
25 Nov 69



SEN. EAGLETON

"Sanitized demagoguery"

A Senator Lets Fly At Agnew

By Earl C. Behrens
Political Editor

A Democratic Senator from Missouri yesterday characterized recent speeches of Vice President Spiro T. Agnew as "sanitized, polished-up demagoguery."

Senator Thomas F. Eagleton told a news conference at the TowneHouse here that Agnew's "type of demagoguery . . . can lead us to a terribly divided country . . . isolate permanently one segment of the population . . . slip us into another McCarthy era, this time with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government behind it."

Eagleton declared that the most recent Agnew speeches have been written in the White House and that Agnew is being utilized so as to "keep the President above the battle."

FEAR

Eagleton charged that the Vice President was pandering to the fears of the people.

The Senator conceded he was "surprised" at the latest Gallup poll showing President Nixon's recent gain in national popularity.

Eagleton said he is "pleased with Nixon's de-escalation of the Vietnam war" but favors a more speedy withdrawal of United States troops and an end to U.S. support of the present Saigon government.

The Senator opposed "the President Johnson - Secretary of State Rusk line" as far as American participation in Vietnam is concerned. He was elected to the Senate last year.

"The Democratic party will be hard pressed to hold onto its Senate majority next year," he predicted. Weak areas for the Democrats, he said, are in Utah, North Dakota and Florida.

He expects the Democrats in California will defeat GOP Senator George Murphy. He named only Representative John V. Tunney and Dr. S. I. Hayakawa, president of San Francisco State College, as possible candidates.

TACTICS

In a noontime speech to Democratic State chairman Roger Boas' advisory committee, Eagleton contended that the Nixon Administration is following a planned policy of trying to isolate and discredit those who disagree with Nixon policies.

He declared this "will lead to further division and polarization in the Nation."