

News Summary and Index

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1974

The Major Events of the Day

International

President Nixon, one of the chiefs of state who attended memorial ceremonies in Paris for President Pompidou on Saturday, conferred with other heads of government over the weekend, including leaders of the Soviet Union and Japan, said "au revoir" to a friendly crowd of Parisians and returned to Washington. His aides said that the trip demonstrated that Mr. Nixon, even though he is under an impeachment inquiry at home, is needed in the Presidency if the United States is to continue as a leader for world peace. They were clearly relieved at the absence abroad of opposition and criticism that the President sometimes encounters at home. [1:4-5.]

Jacques Chaban-Delmas, former Premier of France, won the full backing of the powerful Gaullist party as its candidate for President. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the Finance Minister, and head of the Independent Republicans allied with the Gaullists, but a personal rival of Mr. Chaban-Delmas, will announce today whether he too will run. Edgar Faure, twice Premier and now president of the National Assembly, insists that he will not back out of his declared candidacy despite enormous pressures. This means that the right will probably present three contenders to the voters May 5 against a single contender from the left—the Socialist party chief, François Mitterrand. [9:1.]

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries—the cartel that has pushed up the price of oil by 400 per cent in the last year—faces serious internal problems and possible breakup by 1980 because of potential sharp conflicts of interest among its members, according to Walter J. Levy, an influential oil economist, whose views have been given wide attention by high government circles here and abroad. [1:2.]

The members of OPEC, whose representatives met in Geneva decided to set up a special fund to help poorer developing countries, but they failed to agree on how much money to contribute. The lack of agreement reflected a political split in the 12-nation group. Iran, Venezuela and Algeria firmly sponsored the fund, but Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Arab countries resisted. [1:2.]

National

Donald C. Alexander, the commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, refused to say

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