

Praises, Warnings From

Washington

Members of Congress joined in widespread, bipartisan praise yesterday for President Nixon's shakeup of his administration's high command.

But many senators and representatives coupled their commendations with warnings that a housecleaning of the White House staff would not be sufficient to restore faith in the Nixon administration or government as a whole.

Furthermore, Representative John E. Moss of California urged House Democratic leaders to start a formal inquiry into the possible impeachment of the President.

The suggestion by the veteran Democratic congressman — which key leaders of both parties in the House described as "premature" — was the most severe reaction on Capitol Hill to the latest developments in the Watergate conspiracy case.

Mark O. Hatfield, (Rep-House or presidential re-

Ore.), declared on the Senate floor that the President would have to follow up the resignations and dismissals of key figures from his administration by convincing the public that he had told "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania hinted broadly and others declared flatly that the Watergate investigation should be turned over to an impartial, prominent figure outside the administration.

Moss told newsmen he believes a select committee of the House should be impelled to investigate "possible involvement of the President in conduct that might lead to initiation of impeachment action."

Scott said he had been convinced by a long, confidential discussion with the President on March 20, that Mr. Nixon had no knowledge of the extent to which White



REP. JOHN MOSS
Impeachment probe urged

election campaign workers were involved in the Watergate conspiracy or attempts to cover it up.

But Moss said that he found it "most difficult to conceive that the President was not aware of Water-

gate" and all its implications during the ten months the conspiracy has been before the public.

"I'm not saying we should do it" — impeach Mr. Nixon — "but we should prepare ourselves to have all the facts," Moss added.

Senator Barry M. Goldwater, the Arizona Republican who was his party's presidential nominee in 1964, told a news conference in North Dartmouth, Mass., that impeachment of a President is not something to be done "willy-nilly," but that if it were shown that Mr. Nixon had in any way been "dishonest about this, then I think the impeachment would certainly come."

House Republican leader, Gerald R. Ford called Mr. Nixon's declaration of responsibility for Watergate "a most courageous act" and endorsed the President's plea for attentiveness toward "matters of greater moment to the nation."

But Senator Lowell P. Weicker Jr., the Connecticut Republican who, as a member of the Watergate panel, has been among the most forceful critics of the White

Congress

Demo Governors Demand Special Prosecutor

Huron, Ohio

The nation's Democratic governors yesterday called for appointment of a special prosecutor in the Watergate case.

Governor Marvin Mandel of Maryland, chairman of the National Governors Conference, said that Elliott Richardson, appointed yesterday as the new attorney general, is only a "designated pinchhitter."

Meeting here in special caucus prior to the June 3 meeting of the group, the 31 Democratic governors or their representatives unanimously demanded the appointment of the special prosecutor.

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House staff, said through a spokesman that he "would not even dignify the Presi-

dent's speech with a comment."

Senator Marlow W. Cook (Rep.-Ky.), who served as the master of ceremonies at Mr. Nixon's second inauguration in January, professed dismay that Mr. Nixon had dealt with "extraneous" matters in his speech and disappointment that the President had not publicly ordered the Committee for the Re-Election of the President to disband and turn over its fund surplus to the party.

Representative John B. Anderson of Illinois, chairman of the House Republican Conference, joined other members of Congress — among whom Republicans were the most ardent — in suggesting that the departure of the attorney general and three senior White House aides is merely a first step.

"Until it has been amply demonstrated to the American public that the last shadowy element in this tragedy has been brought to light, that every possible question has been asked and answered satisfactorily, our

institutions of government will remain under a cloud," Anderson said.

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. (Dem-N.C.) and Senator Howard H. Baker Jr. (Rep-Tenn.), the ranking members of the Senate select

committee investigating the Watergate conspiracy, said that the White House shake-up and the President's speech last night would not alter their plans to begin hearings on May 15.

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