

By New Owner of Metz, Childs

## 2 Engineers in Agnew Payoff Fired

BALTIMORE, Oct. 27 (AP) —Two of the Baltimore engineers implicated in the federal probe of former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew have been fired by the New Jersey firm that bought their engineering firm in 1970.

Lester Matz and John C. Childs had been retained as salaried employees after their firm, Matz, Childs & Associates, was purchased by Walter Kidde & Co., a Clifton, N.J., conglomerate.

The Matz and Childs firm has been operated as a Kidde subsidiary under the Matz, Childs name. Paul Finkel, a Kidde vice president, said Friday that the name of the Towson, Md., based subsidiary will be changed during a current reorganization.

Edmund F. Haile, 40, an operating vice president of Matz, Childs, was named acting president. The firm also has offices in Rockville, Md., Manassas, Va., and Newark, Del.

Matz was cited in a government summary of evidence against the former vice president as being among a group of engineers who made payoffs to Agnew while he was Baltimore County executive, governor and vice president.

Childs knew of the payments to Agnew and acquiesced to them, the government said.

Another Agnew associate linked to the probe, I. H. Ham-

merman II, is continuing to resign his public positions.

The Baltimore Sun reported Saturday that Hammerman resigned as a trustee of Loyola

College, as an associate trustee of the University of Pennsylvania and as a member of the corporation of the Savings Bank of Baltimore.

He earlier resigned two federal positions President Nixon appointed him to and as a member of the board of directors of the Eastco Corp.

## U.S. Court Clerk Quits in Dispute Over Her Letters Criticizing Agnew

PADUCAH, Ky., Oct. 27 (AP) "I believe what I wrote and . . . I would do it again," says Mrs. Ernest W. Rivers, who resigned as resident clerk of the U.S. District Court here after three judges requested that she quit because of letters she wrote to newspapers contrasting penalties imposed on a young shoplifter and on former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

Mrs. Rivers, who held the clerk's post for seven years and 10 months, submitted her resignation Friday afternoon. She said the request came through the District Court clerk in Louisville, from the federal judges who sit in the court's Western District.

The clerk in Louisville claimed that the three judges — Chief Judge James F. Gordon, Judges Rhodes Bratcher and Charles Allen — "were unanimous in their decision," Mrs. Rivers said.

Chief Judge Gordon confirmed the report. He said that the judges considered the letters printed in the Paducah Sun-Democrat and the Louisville Courier-Journal "a reflection on the integrity of the federal judiciary."

In the letters, Mrs. Rivers noted that an 18-year-old girl had been given a 30-day jail sentence and fined \$200 in Paducah police court for attempting to steal a \$1.99 bottle

of hair lightener, and observed:

"I am appalled . . . to think that a sentence of this kind could be imposed upon a young girl when . . . a man who was elected to the second highest office in the country gets away with bribery and extortion and heaven only knows what other crimes, and the Attorney General of the United States asks us to have 'compassion' for him."