

Notes on People

In 6 Words, Clawson Resigns

The letter from Ken W. Clawson, the White House Communications Director, the President Ford, said simply: "I resign effective Nov. 7, 1974." Observers with an arithmetical bent and a sense of history immediately speculated that the letter probably rivaled his record for brevity in Government communications.

President Ford responded to Mr. Clawson, a former newspaperman with The Washington Post and a hold-over from the Nixon Administration, with thanks for "assistance during this transitional period and your devoted service to former President Nixon." Mr. Clawson, an aggressive defender of Mr. Nixon, did not indicate his plans.

"Somebody has to mind the store," said Betty Ford.

With those words, the President's wife stressed that she would not accompany Mr. Ford to Japan next week. The White House had said earlier that Mrs. Ford would probably not take part in the Presidential trip to Asia, but no decision had been made.

The news briefing at which Mrs. Ford announced her decision also served as the occasion for Mrs. Ford's introduction of her new press

secretary, Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld. Mrs. Ford, who underwent surgery in September for breast cancer, also announced: "I feel just fine."

Judging by recent photographs, President Ford hands off more footballs than your favorite quarterback. The latest pigskin, bearing the Chief Executive's autograph, passed from Presidential hands in ceremonies at the White House to 12-year-old Brian Molloy of the Bronx, the 1974 Poster Child for the Epilepsy Foundation of America.

From France, where the health of high Government officials and their families is regarded as a personal matter and receives little official publicity, comes an announcement of surgery on Anne, the 41-year-old wife of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. The gynecological surgery, performed at the St. Antoine Hospital in Paris, involved the removal of a "benign lesion." The medical bulletin said the operation went "very well" and added that Mrs. Giscard d'Estaing would be able to resume her normal schedule in a month.

I must return this check to you," his letter said, "but I am compelled to do so as a matter of conscience. The women were ordained at an irregular ceremony. Bishop Allin favors authorization of ordaining women.

The Rev. Carter Hayword, one of the three women, said further efforts to contribute to world relief would be made through Paul Moore Jr., the Episcopal Bishop of New York.

When the polls close tonight, a lot of politicians are going to find themselves ticketed for Siberia. One politician who is listed there is Senator Mondale, the Democrat. Several Democrats are hopeful of a Thursday trip to Vietnam.

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