

Nixon's Congress Aide

Clark MacGregor

By LINDA CHARLTON

After 10 years in the House of Representatives, Clark MacGregor will move next month to the other side of the fence to become, in his words, "the President's man dealing with the Congress." Representative MacGregor, a native of Minneapolis, whose suburbs he has represented since

1960, is aware that moving from the legislative to the executive branch as Counsel

to the President for Congressional Relations will mean a major adjustment. "It'll certainly give me a new perspective," he said yesterday. "I doubt that one easily makes the transition." Mr. MacGregor said he was glad to have this month "to get adjusted mentally to the new responsibility" and most of January, until the 92d Congress convenes, to get used to operating from the White House.

"I think some people have had difficulty making the transition," he continued. "I know Wally Hickel recently ousted Secretary of the Interior said, 'I had to do it my way,' and that explains the difficulty, because when you're appointed by the President, you have to do it his way."

Long Nixon's Man

But the tall (6 feet 4 inches), genial 48-year-old lawyer has long been Mr. Nixon's man. He broke from the uncommitted Republican ranks in Minnesota in November, 1967, to endorse Mr. Nixon's candidacy, and went on to become Mr. Nixon's Midwest campaign chairman.

During his unsuccessful campaign this fall against former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey for the Senate Seat vacated by Eugene J. McCarthy, Mr. MacGregor stressed his closeness to the President, larding his speeches with purportedly verbatim accounts of conversations with Mr. Nixon "in the Oval Office."

In one interview he quoted the President as saying, "Clark, I look forward to the selection of you as the Republican nominee so that I can personally come to Minnesota and be of help in your campaign," and I said, 'Boy, you're welcome, Mr. President.'"

Mr. Nixon did make one Minnesota appearance on Mr. MacGregor behalf, but neither that nor the Congressman's hard campaigning could prevail against Mr. Humphrey's sweep.

Vice President Agnew, however, did not campaign



The New York Times

Came out for Mr. Nixon
in 1967

for Mr. MacGregor, who had publicly criticized the Vice President for his attacks on Senator Charles E. Goodell, a liberal Republican of New York who was subsequently defeated.

Broad Party Views

"The party," Mr. MacGregor said, "is big enough to embrace Goodell and others who disagree with Agnew and the President." At another time Mr. MacGregor said that he did not think it appropriate "for somebody to try and exert the kind of discipline in our system that would expel somebody because he doesn't meet a certain quotient of party support."

Clark MacGregor—he has no middle name—was born in Minneapolis July 12, 1922, the younger of two sons. Educated in Minneapolis public schools, he won a scholarship to Dartmouth College where he majored in government and history.

After graduating with honors in 1944, he enlisted in the Army, serving in Burma as a second lieutenant with the Office of Strategic Services.

After being graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1948, he settled in Plymouth Village, a Minneapolis suburb, and spent the next 12 years as a trial lawyer.

He and his wife, Barbara, who is from Duluth, Minn., have three daughters: Susan, 21, a senior at Vassar; Laurie, 19, a sophomore at Sarah Lawrence; and Eleanor, 14, who is at the Madeira School.