

Nation's Energy Coordinator

John Arthur Love

6/30/73

NYT

By BARBARA CAMPBELL

John Arthur Love was a little-known Colorado Springs lawyer in 1962 when he first ran for Governor of Colorado. One of his opponents then pointed to a campaign poster with the word "LOVE" printed on it and said, "how you going to get them to vote against that?" Now he

Man
in the
News

is well into his third term, and, if his tenure has not been particularly innovative, he has provided the people of Colorado with a comfortable, solid and quiet administration without a hint of scandal.

The 56-year-old Republican was appointed by President Nixon yesterday to direct a new energy office that will be responsible for setting energy policy on the Presidential level. The appointment seems appropriate for a man who has governed a state rich in oil shale, which could become one of the main sources of energy in the future.

Left of Center

The new "Energy Czar" has gained the reputation for avoiding political controversy, although he is considered left of center in the Republican party and might be called a liberal had not that term become a dirty word in some Republican circles.

One of his most controversial actions came in April, 1967, when he signed into law the most permissive abortion law in the nation's history, bringing cries from the bill's opponents that the stat would become an "abortion mill" for the rest of the country.

In 1964, at the Republican National Convention in San Francisco, he established himself as a moderate when he seconded the nomination of Gov. William W. Scranton of Pennsylvania before a howling crowd that wanted to hear nothing but ballads of the approaching glorification of Senator Barry Goldwater.

In 1968 he gave another example of low-keyed inde-



Associated Press

Quietly independent

(Mr. Love in San Clemente, Calif., yesterday)

pendence when he endorsed Governor Rockefeller of New York for the Presidential nomination when 15 of the 18-member delegation pledged to Richard M. Nixon.

"I feel it is the right thing to do," Governor Love said.

His wife, Ann, whom he married on Oct. 23, 1942, when he was graduated from Navy pilot training school in Corpus Christi, Tex., remembers that the 1964 San Francisco convention was the only time she had ever had to listen to a large crowd boo her husband. They had met in Colorado Springs, where they both grew up.

Mr. Love was born Nov. 29, 1916, on a Gibson City, Ill., farm. The family, the Governor recalls, drove across the country from Illinois in a Hudson, and he said, "It was the damndest car trip you ever head of."

The engine block cracked before they left Iowa and the family had to camp in a schoolyard for five days.

Mr. Love was graduated from Cheyenne Mountain High School in Colorado Springs and then went to Denver University and its law school. A classmate recalled that "he was not moneyed, but he was smart; he earned his way through school by various reputable pursuits" and that "he was an exceptionally well-dressed fellow on a remarkably small wardrobe."

He passed the Colorado bar examinations in September, 1941, and by December of that year had enlisted in the Navy.

He flew an amphibian used in pilot rescue work in the South Pacific and received the Distinguished Flying Cross for pulling a downed pilot out of the lagoon of a Japanese-held island. The plane was riddled with machine-gun bullets and shrapnel holes.

"Nothing much to it," is the response Mrs. Love said Mr. Love gave to his commanding officer on returning to base with the rescued pilot.

A Family Joke

And this has become part of an involved family joke with the Loves, who have three children. "We tell him he just wasn't awake and really didn't know what he'd done," Mrs. Love said. "I used to think he was mad at me in the mornings, until doctor friends told me it has something to do with blood sugar."

The Governor, once into his day, enjoys skiing, fishing, hunting for pheasants, ducks and geese and playing golf, although he says, "I'm the worst golfer in Colorado."

During his years as Governor, concentrating on economic development of the state, local government reform and environmental problems, Mr. Love has been popular, but friends report that he has said for some time that he felt "stale" in the Governor's office.

His new career in Washington, however, begins almost immediately.