

# The Other Names

## Washington

The political leaders who had been considered Gerald Ford's rivals for President Nixon's choice as vice president congratulated the House Republican leader last night in statements from across the country.

"I support the president's choice of congressman Ford for vice president with enthusiasm," former treasury secretary John Connally said at his ranch at Floresville, Tex.

"Gerald Ford is an able leader, a man of integrity and dedication with a long record of distinguished service to his party and the na-

tion. I know that he will do honor to the office," Connally said.

California Governor Ronald Reagan, a potential contender for president in 1976, said in Sacramento he thought Mr. Nixon acted "wisely" in his choice of a replacement for Spiro T. Agnew.

"Now it behooves all Americans to unite behind the president's administration and his efforts to cope with the many urgent and serious domestic and international problems confronting the country," Reagan said.

New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, who was

known to be keenly interested in the nomination, offered his "heartiest congratulations" to Ford.

Rockefeller said Ford has "my pledge of unreserved help in any way I can possibly be of assistance to the nation, the president and the vice president in these most critical times in the world."

Senator Charles H. Percy (Rep-Ill.), another potential 1976 presidential candidate, said of Ford: "I don't think there is any question about it. I've known him for 24 years. He's an exceptional man. He will sail through (congressional confirmation proceedings) rather quickly."

*United Press*