

SFChronicle
**'Make Nixon
The Vice
President'**

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By Maitland Zane

President Nixon and Vice President Gerald Ford should switch jobs to keep the country from "dying inch by inch," Governor Tom McCall of Oregon said yesterday.

"A crippled presidency cannot be allowed to twist in the wind for another three years," said McCall.

"Let's ask whether there might not be merit in the idea of elevating Gerald Ford to the presidency and having Mr. Nixon nominated and confirmed as the new vice president — a vice president who has proved himself amid the spittle in Caracas and the debate in a Soviet kitchen."

Last month McCall became the first Republican governor to call for Mr. Nixon's resignation rather than put the nation through an impeachment trial.

Suggesting that the burden of the White House may be too great for one man to carry, McCall proposed a "two-president" system with the President riding herd on domestic affairs and the vice president sticking mostly to foreign policy.

"Mr. Nixon and (Secretary of State) Henry Kissinger would make the strongest two-man foreign policy team in our history," McCall said.

That remark earned McCall a full minute of applause from the Commonwealth Club members he was addressing at the Sheraton-Palace hotel.



GOVERNOR McCALL
'Two-President system'

ton-Palace hotel.

"Watergate has done us all in" McCall said, "but we can build on its lessons and come back to America the way it was meant to be; the America before the \$100,000 political contribution and subversion, espionage and distrust in high places; the America where decisions of massive importance are skewed toward the good of mankind and not toward keeping political leaders out of the pokey."

McCall said he agrees with Senator James Buckley, the conservative Republican from New York, that "resignation is the least awful of the abominable alternatives facing the President."

"We see the country dying inch by inch as impeachment and trial hasten polarization across America, sharpening the edges of pro and con anger," McCall said. "The President can't win. Even if he's exonerated his leadership will not be restored and it's because he can't lead that he and the country are in chains."