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Nixon Is Greeted Warmly By 10,000 in Mississippi

By JOHN HERBERS

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JACKSON, Miss., April 25—President Nixon received rousing applause from 10,000 people and words of comfort from the Democratic Governor of Mississippi today when he delivered a speech promising peace and prosperity for a generation.

It was the largest and most enthusiastic public reception Mr. Nixon has received in his public campaign against impeachment. In addition to the throng in the Mississippi Coliseum, several thousand who were turned away stood outside in the bright sunlight and greeted the President and Mrs. Nixon when they arrived.

Seated on the stage behind the President as he spoke to repeated rounds of applause were the two Mississippi Senators, whose votes and influence could be crucial to Mr.

Nixon should the House vote for impeachment and the case go to the Senate for trial—James O. Eastland, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and John C. Stennis, chairman of the Armed Forces Committee, who is one of the most influential men in Congress. Both are Democrats.

The enthusiastic welcome was expected. In 1972, Mississippi gave Mr. Nixon the largest margin of support of any state, 78 per cent, and a popular view here today is that the President is being persecuted by liberal Democrats and the news media.

The Jackson Daily News, in a front page editorial under a red, white and blue flag welcoming the President, said Mr. Nixon had been "electronically

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lynched each evening in the living rooms of the land" and that a poll of the newspaper's readers showed that 97.7 per cent wanted the President to "hang in there" and serve out the remainder of his term.

The President's audience was virtually all friendly. With the exception of a small cluster of picketers outside the Coliseum, there was an absence of the heckling that Mr. Nixon encounters almost everywhere he goes in this country.

The audience inside included youths and adults and a sprinkling of blacks. The President, who flew here from Washington just in time for the address and returned immediately afterward, seemed pleased and stimulated by the reception.

Mr. Nixon's 40-minute speech was before the annual convention of the Mississippi Economic Council-State Chamber of Commerce, but the occasion was clearly one designed to demonstrate that Mr. Nixon retains support in this region. The council moved its luncheon to the Coliseum and provided free tickets for several thousand to fill the balconies for 360 degrees around the speaker's stand.

The President was greeted by applause on entering the hall, and Gov. William Waller whipped up more enthusiasm in his glowing introduction.

Mr. Nixon, Mr. Waller said, came to the state's aid with Federal assistance during hur-

means, floods and tornadoes and he gave the President credit for ending "violence in our streets and our campuses" and for working to end the cold war with Russia and China.

Lincoln and Truman Cited

He reminded the audience that "two of our greatest Presidents," Abraham Lincoln and Harry Truman, had experienced periods of unpopularity and he urged the audience to "get behind the President and get this nation moving."

In addition to the two Senators, three of the state's five Representatives were on the stand joining in the applause. Representative Trent Lott, a Republican, remained in Washington to attend a meeting of the House Judiciary Committee, where he is supporting the President, and Representative Jamie L. Whitten, one of the key Democratic leaders in the House, said he was detained by the press of business.

The President's speech was largely one that has become standard in his current campaign. Predicting an upturn in the economy, Mr. Nixon said.

"I see the year '74, at the end—and now it is very difficult for us to look that far ahead—but at the end we will look back and say 1974 was not our best year, as were '72 and '73, but it was a good year. I will say, and I will flatly predict that '75 will be a very good year and I say today that '76, the 200th anniversary year for America, will be the best year in America's history, the most prosperous,



United Press International

President and Mrs. Nixon among welcomers yesterday at the airport at Jackson, Miss.

the most free."

As to the current year, Mr. Nixon said that although the first quarter was done, the second quarter would show a leveling off and the last two quarters would show an upward trend.

Looking into the future, Mr. Nixon said that at the end of this century this nation will be strong materially and spiritually.

"I can see it now—25 years from now a President of the United States, I trust, may be standing in this very place," he said. "It will be the year 2000, and we will look back to this critical generation of ours and he will say, 'They did not fail when the going was very difficult and when American leadership was so important in the world.'"

An Administration spokesman said today that the President would deliver the commencement address at Oklahoma State University at Stillwater on May 11. It will mark the President's first appearance on a college campus in more than two years.

Next Thursday, Mr. Nixon will fly to Phoenix, Ariz., to address a Republican rally. After an overnight stay in Phoenix he will travel to Spokane, Wash., where he will open Expo 74.