

Hamilton Fish Sr. Criticizes Son on Impeachment

By United Press International

Hamilton Fish Sr., who was a Republican Congressman for 25 years, released a letter yesterday criticizing his son, Representative Hamilton Fish Jr., for voting to recommend the impeachment of President Nixon last week in the inquiry by the House Judiciary Committee.

The elder Mr. Fish, 85 years old, has organized grassroots support for President Nixon. He said he had written the letter to his son and released it to the press because he had received "a dozen or more caustic letters upbraiding me because they thought I was my son."

Hamilton Fish Jr., who represents Dutchess County in upstate New York, was one of seven Republican members of the House committee who supported the article of impeachment.

Mr. Fish Sr.'s three-page handwritten letter, addressed to "My Dear Son," said that "I

shall support you [for re-election] as blood is thicker than water," but added that "certainly you cannot expect me to defend your votes to impeach and destroy Nixon."

In an interview, the elder Mr. Fish said that as a Congressman he had "seen things that make all of this Watergate look like a mosquito bite compared to what went on during Roosevelt's day."

The letter said, "I predict your misguided Republicans on the Judiciary Committee will all be defeated by the silent majority — and they deserve to be."

However, in the interview, Mr. Fish said he believed his son would be re-elected in spite of the impeachment vote because "he's a good Congressman, he already has Conservative Party endorsement, his opponent is an unknown and he was elected last time by a 94,000-vote margin."

He added that the impeach-

ment vote "will cut that margin in half, maybe more."

Reached in his Washington office, Representative Fish said he did not believe the letter would hurt his re-election bid.

"I only hope it doesn't hurt him," Representative Fish said. "A lot of people might feel a father should be more supportive of a son."

The elder Mr. Fish said in his letter:

"I watched the T. V. and did not hear any convincing evidence beyond a reasonable doubt to impeach President Nixon. No charges of corruption, bribery or treason were made; only an accumulation of minor allegations, all of them were far worse under F.D.R., Kennedy and Johnson."

"No President has done as much as President Nixon to promote peace in the world, and in this nuclear age, that issue is far bigger and more important than the Republican party or the Democratic

party or both combined, as it might well involve the death of 100,000,000 Americans, by a first nuclear strike by Soviet Russia."

"That is why I am shocked at the expenditure of many, many millions of dollars for the investigation of President Nixon by several hundred left-wing Democratic prosecutors. The whole Watergate investigation by radical and partisan Democrats is to take over the Congress and the Government."

The impeachment of the President by the House and conviction by the Senate will give a green light to radicalism, socialism and Marxism in the United States."

"It will be a tragic event for both America and the FREE nations. It will be disastrous for the NATO alliance and for freedom throughout the world. It will be generally considered as the greatest Communist victory since Yalta and the communization of



The New York Times

Hamilton Fish Sr. at his summer home in Toms River, N.J., last weekend.

of China. It may well be in history, the beginning of the decline and fall of freedom and democracy and the advent of world communism."