8 San Francisco Chronicle

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on's decision to re-enter partisan day in San Francisco that he was startled by former President Nixtive Charles Wiggins on Monday. politics by joining in a fund-raising event for Republican Representa-John Ehrlichman said yester-

me that's something he might do," Ehrlichman said in an interview. "It certainly never occurred to

The former White House aide, here to promote "The Company," his novel about Washington, said he had no intention of following the Nixon lead. For that matter, he welcome an Ehrlichman endorseadded, he could not imagine any-one in public life who would

come of his appeals on burglary, Ehrlichman, who lives in Santa Fe, N.M., while awaiting the outperjury, conspiracy and other convictions, said he has never had an "articulated" political outlook.

ard Nixon's activities," Ehrlichman been derivative - to defend Rich-"My public outlook has always

Now, Ehrlichman said, he is getting an opportunity to explore his own ideas.

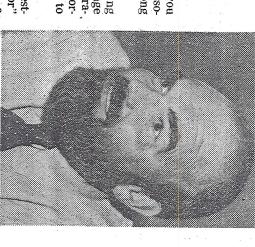
"I came to be a Republican by inheritance," he said. "You can live in a community and be guided by its practices and its standards without making any fundamental deci-

> sions for yourself because you know what your friends and associates agree with. You float along involuntarily.

spend my days." tunity to think out how I want to "In the last ten years young people have tended to challenge tion didn't. Now I have an opporthose assumptions, as my genera-

He said he no longer is interested in what he called the "glamor" of serving as a key aide to a president or any other public official.

"The derivative role is one that obviously has aspects that are inevitably destructive." Ehrlichman said.



He promoted his book in S.F. JOHN EHRLICHMAN

man but for public service. It's a say you are working not for the subtle cost you pay." "You tend to rationalize it. You