

Muskie gathers support as primaries draw near

WASHINGTON AP — Front-running Sen. Edmund Muskie of Maine picked up more support Monday in his drive to capture the Democratic presidential nomination.

Muskie, named Sunday by the Gallup Poll as the leading choice of Democrats for their party's standard bearer, on Monday gathered the support of Boston Mayor Kevin White and former Ohio Gov. Michael DiSalle.

White said he found it difficult to choose between Muskie and New York's Mayor John Lindsay, but ended up on the Muskie side, partly because the Maine Senator "has the best chance of uniting first our party, then our nation."

Former Gov. DiSalle announced he would be a Muskie-pledged candidate in the Ohio primary May 2. DiSalle said Muskie "best demonstrates the important qualities needed for president." The present Ohio governor, John Gilligan, endorsed Muskie last month.

In Iowa, Muskie and South Dakota Sen. George McGovern appeared the leaders as state Democrats attended nearly 2,600 neighborhood precinct caucuses to elect delegates for the Feb. 26 county conventions. District conventions are set for March 25 and the state con-

vention on May 20 will choose delegates for the national convention.

Among other developments in the cluttered Democratic campaign for the nomination, Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington accused Alabama Gov. George Wallace of trying to destroy the party by entering its primaries.

"George Wallace in my judgment is out to make a shambles of the Democratic party," Jackson told the National Planning convention of the Machinists Nonpartisan Political League in Washington. He added Wallace might be preparing to step out of the race in the South and leave the field clear for President Nixon.

"There may be some kind of sweetheart agreement down there," Jackson speculated.

But in Tampa, Fla., Wallace warned Democrats not to sell his candidacy short. "Before it's over with, they may need me," he said. But Wallace again sidestepped questions on whether he planned to run on a third-party ticket, as he did in 1968. "I have no master plan. Let's see how they treat us at this convention," he said.

Also politicking in Florida was Sen. Vance Hartke of Indiana,

who told a civic club audience in Jacksonville that President Nixon invoked wage and price controls out of political panic.

"Two and one-half years of economic gymnastics has brought the country to the edge of economic disaster," Hartke said. "President Nixon was looking for anything to hold the people off until November. He panicked."

In Madison, Wis., former Sen. Eugene McCarthy said at a news conference many young persons who backed his 1968 presidential bid may remain on the sidelines this year because "I think they have reservations about whether the system will work."

"They've been gassed and maced and shot," said McCarthy again a candidate for the Democratic nomination, and "I don't fault them altogether" for questioning the system.

On the Republic side, California Rep. Paul McCloskey told a group of businessmen and women at a luncheon in Keene, N.H. that if he could go to the convention with just 200 delegates, he will have enough political clout "to present alternative leadership in the Republican party." Needed for nomination are 674 of the 1,346 delegates to the San Diego convention.

Moscow recognizes Bangladesh as list of nations grows

MOSCOW AP — The Soviet Union has accorded diplomatic recognition to Bangladesh, becoming the most powerful nation so far to give its blessing to the nation carved from Pakistan by war.

Tass, the Soviet news agency, reported early Tuesday that President Nikolai Podgorny and Premier Alexei Kosygin telegraphed the Kremlin's decision to Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman in Dacca.

"We convey to you and to the people of Bangladesh friendly wishes of peace, well-being and success," they told the sheik, "in consolidating the state sovereignty of your country, in building a peaceful democratic republic."

The Soviet step had been expected after diplomatic recognition extended by several Communist countries in Eastern Europe. It followed consistent Soviet support for India in the India-Pakistan war which gave birth to Bangladesh.

Throughout the U.N. Security Council's consideration of the two-week war last month, the Soviet Union and India insisted

that a Bangladesh representative get a chance to speak. But the matter never came to a vote.

India led the way in diplomatic recognition for Bangladesh once the secessionist government set up shop under the protection of the Indian army. Bhutan, a small nation whose foreign relations are guided by New Delhi, followed.

Since then, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Poland, Barbados, Burma, Nepal and Mongolia have announced recognition. Four Scandinavian countries say they plan to do so when other Western nations make up their minds.

The United States, which backed Pakistan in the war with India, has not granted

recognition. The Bangladesh foreign minister, Abdus Samad Azad, said Monday he hoped Washington's endorsement would come "sooner than expected."

Recognition by the Nixon administration would "reflect public opinion in the United States on Bangladesh," he added in a statement in Dacca.

Only hours before the Soviet announcement, President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan expressed hope that other countries would hold back from recognizing the Rahman regime, to give him more time to attempt reconciliation.

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court's death blow to welfare residency laws in New York and Connecticut was seen Monday as a possible spur to a federal government takeover of relief. "The Supreme Court decision against New York State's welfare residency law," said New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, "leaves unsolved the major national problem posed by the fact that a needy family can be starved out of one state to become a disproportionate responsibility of the people of another state..."

TOKYO — Foreign Ministers Andrei Gromyko of the Soviet Union and Takeo Fukuda of Japan discussed the U.S.-Communist China rapprochement Monday and decided that the Soviet premier and the Japanese prime minister would exchange visits soon. Gromyko is in Japan for the first Soviet-Japanese foreign minister talks since 1967. Japanese commentators believe the Soviet interest in renewing the consultations stems from a desire not to be left out of developments in the Pacific region, especially those centering around China.

PARIS — The French government has quietly informed Washington it cannot ban a world assembly against the Vietnam war scheduled for Feb. 11-13 at Versailles, diplomatic sources reported Monday. The United States and South Vietnam protested the planned assembly earlier this month, saying it could disrupt the "neutral atmosphere" surrounding the deadlocked, three-year-old official Vietnam peace talks in Paris. Organizers of the antiwar assembly say they expect more than 1,000 delegates from about 50 countries, including the United States. North Vietnam and the Viet Cong plan to send official delegations.

WASHINGTON — The Senate Monday moved toward giving the government broader authority to curb job discrimination but then reversed itself a few hours later. The presence or absence of Democratic presidential aspirants made a crucial difference on each roll call. At issue was how the federal prohibition against job discrimination based on race, religion, sex, or national origin is to be enforced. The bill before the Senate would confer authority on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to issue cease-and-desist orders. At present it can employ only persuasion and conciliation. Sen. Peter Dominick, R-Colo., called up an amendment to strike out the cease-and-desist authority and to require the EEOC to bring court suits to enforce its findings of discriminatory practices.

WASHINGTON — Democratic Sens. William Proxmire, Edmund Muskie and Edward Kennedy criticized President Nixon's new budget Monday as being too pro-military. But more-conservative Democrats criticized the budget on different grounds, including a large deficit or allegedly faulty arithmetic. And House Republican Leader Gerald Ford of Michigan denounced in advance all budget criticisms by Democrats as coming from men "who brought this nation to the brink of economic collapse."

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