

**Matter of Fact** By Joseph Alsop

THE NEWS THEY HAD FOR NIXON

Washington - Vice President Richard M. Nixon's home coming was not all cheers at the airport. His personal political staff was waiting, almost at the gangplank, with the warning that what they call "the Rockefeller situation" had been abruptly transformed during Nixon's absence.

The Vice President and those around him have never discounted the potential candidacy of New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. Nixon himself has often said that events would probably "force" Rockefeller into the race. But Nixon always hoped that events would work the other way, and he also felt reasonably confident that Rockefeller would at least stick to his gubernatorial knitting until the New Year, as he said he would.

Now, however, "the Rockefeller situation" is thought to be transformed, because of a whole series of reports of symptomatic developments. One report, as yet unconfirmed, concerns a sort of Rockefeller loyalty oath imposed on the New York State Republican organization, in which there were pro-Nixon tendencies here and there. Another report, also unconfirmed, suggests that a sort of embryo headquarters for a nationwide Rockefeller underground has been opened in New York City.

THOUGH unconfirmed, both the foregoing reports are believed by the Vice President's advisors. They are no less ominous, in any case, than other developments of undoubted authenticity.

One such was the circulation by the New York State Republican Committee Chairman, L. Judson Morhouse, of a memorandum on the Republican outlook. The memo said, in effect, "Nixon can't win. Rockefeller can." Another, and much the most important development was Governor Rockefeller's own announcement in Puerto Rico. At the Governor's Conference he told the political reporters that he would decide in November, on the basis of public opinion polls, whether to become an active candidate.

For these reasons, the Nixon staff concluded, long before their chief's return, that they must now prepare for an active contest with the New York Governor, beginning much earlier than had been expected. Pro-Nixon Republican leaders all across the country have reached the same conclusion. Thus the Nixon office in the capital was already being deluged by appeals for action, and suggestions of public pledges to the Nixon cause, while the

Vice President was still traversing the Siberian wilds and receiving the cheers of Warsaw.

AS THE Nixon high command sees the contest ahead, the polls that Gov. Rockefeller says will guide his decision will be a major factor in the outcome. On this front, the Vice President's position has been improved, thus far, by his journey behind the Iron Curtain. Whereas the Gallup poll for July gave Nixon 44 per cent of the national vote and Adlai Stevenson 56 per cent, a new poll, hastily taken after the Nixon-Khrushchev debate had been televised, gave Nixon 51 per cent and Stevenson 49 per cent.

This is a substantial and highly encouraging gain in popular support. But Nixon and his staff have noted, somewhat apprehensively, that this first pairing did not include the man they regard as by far the strongest Democratic vote-getter, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

There are rumors already that a Nixon-Kennedy poll, also taken post-Moscow, will appear next week. If Dr. Gallup's results are anything like the results this reporter got in New York City, the second test is not likely to be an encouraging as the first.

THERE are further rumors that the next full-dress Gallup poll will also test the Vice President against Senator Kennedy. Strangely enough, although Dr. Gallup's own pollers have collected much evidence of Kennedy's superior strength, many months have passed since the inquiring doctor published a nationwide poll with Kennedy in the Democratic top place. If Kennedy holds anything like his former support in these polls that lie ahead, their shock-effect can more than cancel out the Vice President's gain in Moscow.

Nixon and his staff naturally contend that polls taken now cannot possibly forecast the outcome of a hard-fought campaign next year. Yet they are realistic enough to foresee that this autumn's polls may lend credence to the "Nixon can't win" slogan. The Nixonites further consider that this is just the pretext Governor Rockefeller wants for an announcement that he feels compelled to use his exceptional campaigning talents to save the Republican party.

Time must tell whether this is a reasonable analysis of the Governor's intentions. For the moment it looks remarkably sound.

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THE WAY HE TELLS IT IN THE OFFICE, BULLISTER IS MR. DEEP-SEA GAME FISHERMAN, PAR EXCELLENCE--

**By Jimmy Hatlo**



**Rackets Committee Nears End Of Labor-Management Study**

Editor's Note: This is the first of several dispatches on the work and results of the Senate Rackets Committee.

By ALVIN SPIVAK UPI Correspondent

Washington -UPI- The Senate Rackets Committee is nearing the end of its three-year journey along crooked trails of crime and corruption in labor and management. Apart from mop-up investigations and a close look at the role unions play in politics, the committee's main effort now will be to prepare a final, comprehensive report on what it has found and where this should lead.

The eight-member committee headed by Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) already has inspired the drive for labor reform legislation which meets its crucial test in the House this week.

Its disclosures have prompted the AFL-CIO to drive the scandal - scarred Teamsters Union from its ranks and knock leaders of several other unions from power.

Committee hearings have touched off a number of federal and state criminal prosecutions, and have sparked a Justice Department investigation of "wholesale" racketeering, perjury and income tax evasion by various Teamsters officials.

The committee's second interim report, issued last week on the basis of last year's testimony, accused Teamsters President James R. Hoffa of sinister designs which it said, "will successfully destroy the decent labor movement" unless he is curbed.

The top of the committee's final recommendations will depend to a large extent on the final shape in which labor reform legislation comes through this year. Committee members themselves are divided on how strong it should be.

Testimony before the committee already has amounted to 45,000 pages of original transcript. It covers 262 days of public hearings in which 1,505 witnesses appeared and 341 of them invoked the Fifth Amendment.

McClellan has emphasized

repeatedly that the committee's charges of corruption have applied to "a minority of the unions."

Spotlights Teamsters Most of the investigative road has run through Teamsters terrain where the committee has endured head-on collisions with Hoffa and Fifth Amendment roadblocks from his aides.

It has been territory which, according to the testimony, has been infiltrated by gangsters and racketeers ranging from streetcorner thugs to crime overlords of New York, Detroit and Chicago.

The committee also has tracked through smaller but similar areas of unions including the Bakers, Butchers, Carpenters, Restaurant Workers, Operating Engineers, and others.

And management's sins have been explored in cases where employers paid off corrupt union bosses, or worked with union leaders for their mutual advantage and to the detriment of their workers.

Charges have involved "dictatorships" reaching from local to international levels of several unions; extortion of money from employers; brutality, from an anonymous threats to brass-knuckles beatings and murder; graft and collusion, including allegations that some union agents worked with law enforcement officers to take over local vice operations.

The latter sort of inquiry, centering on Portland, Ore., started the committee on its

way early in 1957. But before long, the Portland sensations were drowned out by the howling swan song, in a Fifth Amendment key, of Dave Beck, Hoffa's predecessor as Teamsters president.

Beck's downfall began after the committee traced through thousands of financial transactions and came up with documented charges that he "took, not borrowed, more than \$370,000 in union funds."

The committee's dismay over Beck's "uncontrollable greed" soon gave way to anger and shock about Hoffa, leading it to state that Hoffa "presents an even greater threat than Beck to the welfare of this country."

Last week's report charged that Hoffa "maneuvered" use of \$3 million in Teamsters insurance money to "pay off a long-standing debt to the Chicago underworld and to the corrupt labor leader who introduced him to Midwest mob society, Paul Dorfman."

The report said the money, paid to the Dorfman's son and wife over eight years, included \$1,650,000 "in excess commissions and service fees."

In its March, 1958, interim report, the committee said "union funds in excess of \$10 million were either stolen, embezzled, or misused by union officials over a period of 15 years, for their own financial gain or the gain of their friends and associates."

The committee's final total is still being tallied.

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**11,500 Idled by Copper Strikes**

Salt Lake City—UPI—Kenne-cott Copper Corp. operations in four western states were halted today as 11,500 workers were idled by a strike which a company spokesman said appeared to be the start of an industrywide copper strike.

The strike for new contracts was called by members of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, the United Steelworkers of America, and the International Association of Machinists.

Picket lines at Kennecott operations in Utah, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico were honored by members of the 17 other unions which have contracts with Kennecott. Workers in New Mexico jumped the gun and started striking last week.

Supervisory workers were allowed to pass through picket lines in order to maintain equipment during the strike that costs an estimated \$850,000 a day in economic losses.

**PHONE COST RAISED**

Rome—UPI—Italy is raising the cost of telephone calls 25 per cent beginning Oct. 1. The price of a "gettone"—a small metal slug used in telephones—is going up from 25 to 30 lire (4 to 5 cents).

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