



Former Home of Jacqueline Kennedy Center of Dispute

By HELEN THOMAS

Washington — (UPI) — A suburban zoning controversy involving Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy's girlhood home on the Potomac has touched off one of the angriest well-bred rows in Washington's New Frontier history.

The dispute involves a move to convert the McLean, Va., estate of Merrywood into a luxury apartment development. It has split some of the nation's powerful political and socially prominent figures into opposing camps.

The decision of Mrs. Kennedy's stepfather, Hugh D. Auchincloss, to sell the 46-acre river estate to an apartment builder has rattled the teacups and sharpened the conversations in the nation's capital.

It has brought a storm of protest from some McLean property owners that has reverberations in the Fairfax county board and on Capitol Hill.

Despite the ire of neighbors and friends, Auchincloss, a millionaire broker, is standing firm in his intention to sell Merrywood to builder Sheldon Magazine, who will share his interest with a syndicate. Magazine will have 50 per cent interest in the purchase. The three other members of the syndicate will share the other 50 per cent. They are Fairfax County Sheriff John Taylor, attorney Lytton H. Gibson, and William Page, a car dealer.

The syndicate signed an option to buy Merrywood within nine months for about \$650,000. Plans call for three 17-story apartment buildings and 50 luxury townhouses on the fenced-in grounds that have long been a landmark of Washington society.

The syndicate members expect to build the project on the banks of the Potomac at a cost of about \$16 million.

One nearby McLean resident is Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, who has stayed out of the fight thus far.

Would Block Project

But a bill which would block the Merrywood apartment construction has been introduced by Rep. Henry I. Reuss (D-Wis.), a staunch conservationist. It has been referred to Robert Kennedy's Justice Department and other agencies for an opinion.

In addition to the Reuss bill, Rep. Joel Broyhill (R-Va.), has submitted legislation which would impose federal control over all construction along the Potomac river from Great Falls to Mount Vernon — a distance of 20 miles.

Two prominent outdoorsmen — Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall and Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas — added their voices in support of McLean's protesting residents.

Udall, a McLean resident, expressed concern that approval of lower apartments on the Potomac would destroy the beauty of the area.

Douglas called the proposed apartments "destructive of the river's shoreline beauty." At the country level, 16 McLean residents have filed a suit to reverse the rezoning, and the court action may impede arrangements for financing. But the builders are confident the case will be resolved in their favor before January.

Accuracy Necessary For Apollo Program

Washington — (UPI) — The Apollo program calls for precision and reliability unmatched even by the great emphasis on pilot safety in the Mercury program. Satellites flying near the earth reenter the atmosphere at 18,000 miles an hour but Apollo craft, returning from the moon, will reenter at 25,000 miles an hour.

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TESTIFIES — Baldwin P.

Davenport, above, former chairman of the Texas State Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation committee, is shown as he testified before the Senate subcommittee investigating the Billie Sol Estes case in Washington, D.C. Davenport told the group that the late Henry C. Marshall, who died under mysterious circumstances, had warned a Texas agriculture committee that Estes was abusing the cotton allotment transfer program. (UPI).

FUNDS APPROVED

Washington — (UPI) — The Senate today approved by voice vote a \$3.8 billion authorization to speed the nation's civilian space program.

Capitol Memo

Hatfield, Morse Deny Campaign Deal For Fall Election

By DOUGLAS GRIPP

Salem — (UPI) — GOP Gov. Mark Hatfield (D-Ore.) today rejected a nationally published report that they have made a deal not to campaign for each other's opponent in the November election. The idea of the article states, is to promote victories for each other.

Hatfield called this "inaccurate and unfounded." In Washington, D. C., Morse did likewise.

The report is contained in the July issue of "USA *1", a news magazine published in New York. The article, by Jonathan Rinehart, is titled "Favorite Son From Oregon," and is about Hatfield.

Rinehart wrote that "There is a silent but solid gentlemen's agreement between Morse and Hatfield not to campaign seriously against each other on behalf of their otherwise weak tickets."

Hatfield's Democratic opponent for reelection is Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton. Morse's GOP opponent for reelection is Sig Unander, former state treasurer from Portland.

The article includes a picture of Morse and Hatfield taken after a private conference between them in the capital here last year.

At a news conference afterward, the two veteran political foes stressed cooperation for the state's common good, adding their meeting was "fruitful" and harmonious. They said they discussed various issues affecting Oregon, and cited some of them.

Meetings between Morse and Hatfield are rare, and newsmen couldn't remember seeing the two more cordial to one another.

In Rinehart's article, based on recent interviews with Hatfield and others, the caption under the Morse-Hatfield picture says an "odd truce prevails this year between Morse and Hatfield. In a maneuver that would seem outlandish outside Oregon, they agreed in effect to let each other win."

Hatfield said "I would join with Sen. Morse in denying the report as inaccurate and unfounded." He also complained about what he described as other "unfounded facts" in the article, but he did not specify what they were.

Morse said there is "no truth" in the story about any truce. "Neither Gov. Hatfield nor I would betray our respective responsibilities to our party ticket," he said. "I have made clear that I am supporting the Democratic ticket and Gov. Hatfield has made clear that he is supporting the Republican ticket."

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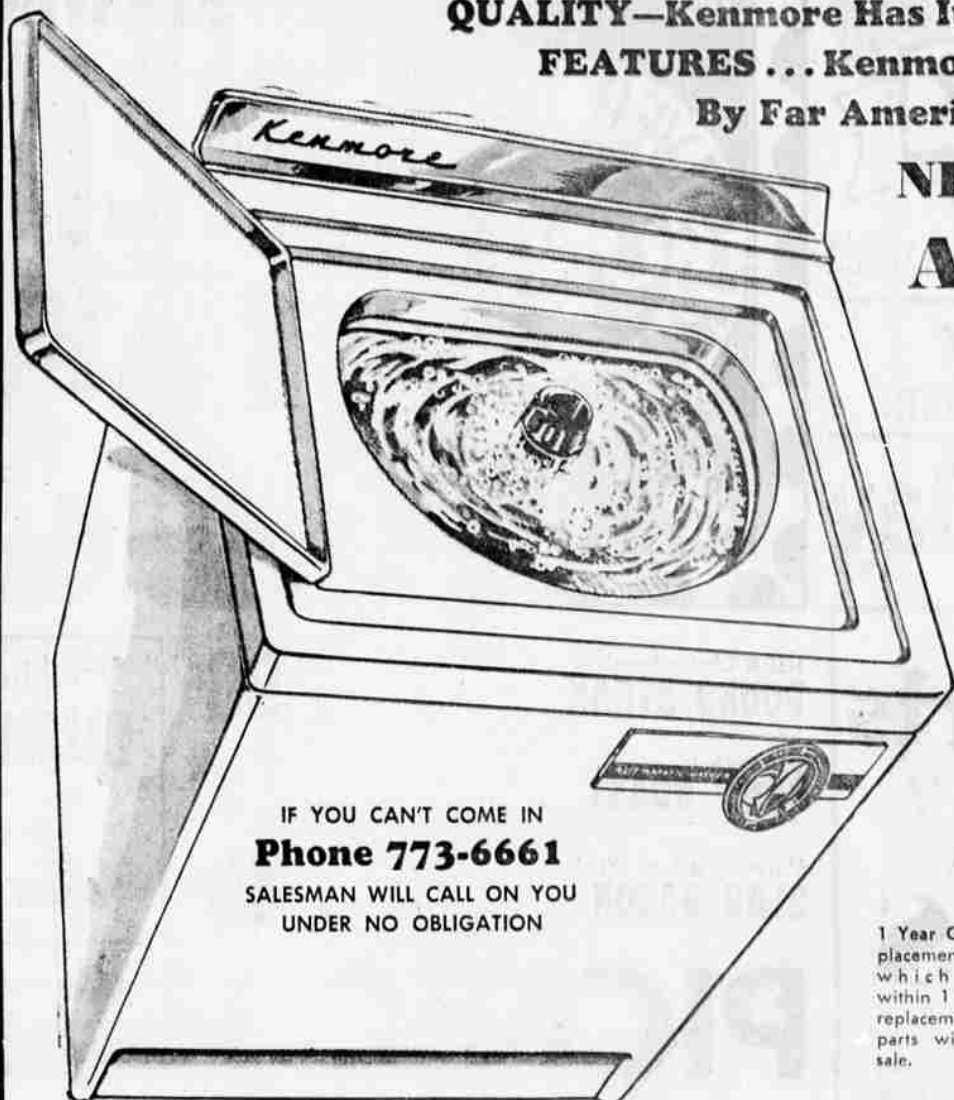
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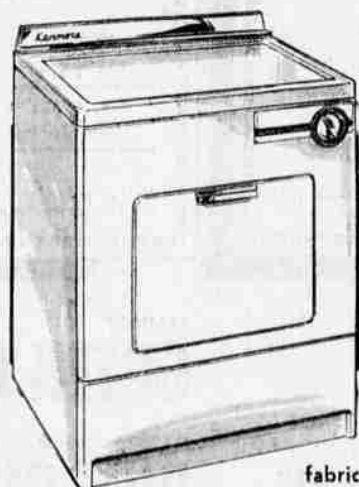
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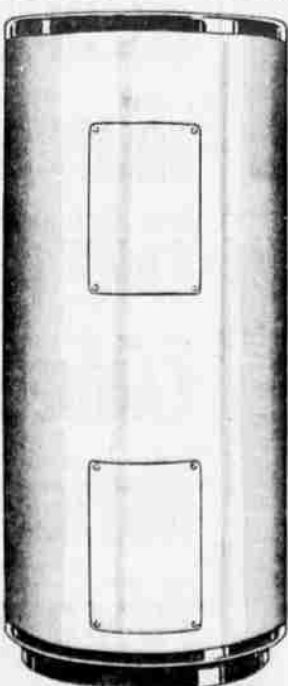
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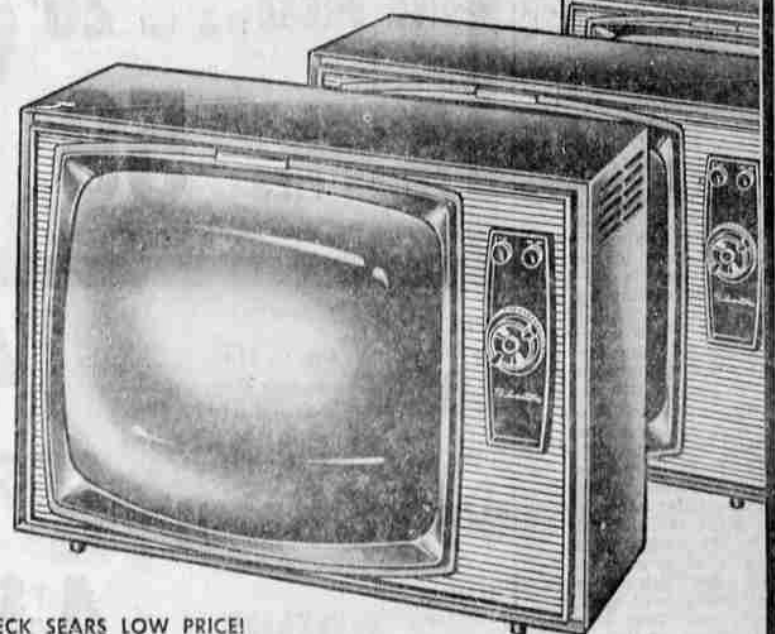


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