

Toward Equality

The three sat before a cluster of microphones in the offices of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy—a Negro woman, leader of a racial protest movement in Cambridge, Md.; a white man, an official of that city; and Mr. Kennedy. Their voices were weary as they spoke into the microphones, telling of an agreement for racial peace in Cambridge which they had hammered out in eight hours of non-stop negotiation. But their words were words of hope—"orderly desegregation . . . a new era . . . a victory for all."

The scene last Wednesday night, its promise of a settlement that has been a particularly difficult dispute, was symbolic of a certain shift in the situation on a national scale. Both among leaders and local white officials, a greater willingness for accommodation seems to be emerging, and greater efforts are being made to prevent the Negro protest movement from getting out of hand.

Buttons for 'March'

Thus, the principal Negro organizations showed last week that they were keenly aware of fears that their "March on Washington" Aug. 28 could lead to outbreaks of violence and a backfire of Congressional resentment that could hurt their cause. A special coordinating committee began distributing "March on Washington" buttons among the church and social groups sponsoring the civil rights rally. Along with the buttons went precise instructions for weeding out potential trouble-makers, assembling in Washington for a parade up Pennsylvania Avenue—and getting out of town by night-fall.

Thus, also, came evidence that White Dixie was not quite as solid for segregation as some of its spokesman claim. Before the Senate Commerce Committee, which is holding hearings on the Administration's civil rights bill, appeared the Mayor of Atlanta, Ivan Allen Jr., with an appeal that made the committee chairman, John P. Pastore of Rhode Island, sit forward in surprise. Mayor



he aimed (1) to make firm his leadership of the liberal wing of the party; (2) to offset the damage caused by his popularity by his recent remarriage and (3) to polarize his points of difference with Mr. Goldwater, now regarded as the frontrunner for the nomination. Mr. Rockefeller had said a week earlier that some of the Senator's "radical right" supporters were planning an election campaign based on "writing off" the Negro vote and called on Mr. Goldwater to disavow the "lunatic fringe" of the party and the John Birch Society.

The New Yorker never got to the profit nevertheless, holding a 34 in the nation's State brought to avoid the question by voting to abolish the conference's resolution. But the strategy backfired. The Democrats managed to make themselves look like members of a party trying to sweep an issue under a rug. The infighting produced this exchange between Governor Rockefeller and Gov. Richard Hughes of New Jersey.

Mr. Rockefeller said: "This clearly makes the Republican party the party of civil rights."

Mr. Hughes replied that, if the Republican governors concur in this, let them instruct their Congressional delegations that, "We've switched signals now; we'd like you to support President Kennedy's civil rights program."

Chiding by President

But even the President seemed to chide the Democrats. He told a group of teenagers who had voted a resolution condemning discrimination at the "Boys Nation" in Washington that they had shown "more initiative in some ways than the Governors Conference." Press Secretary Pierre Salinger tempered that by saying the President "was not referring to any specific issue," but Mr. Kennedy's words were out.

In general the feeling was that Mr. Rockefeller had scored a success by dominating the news at the conference, forcing the racial issue and putting it up to Mr. Goldwater to declare his feelings about support from rightists and segregationists. And, said one uncommitted Western Governor: "He

to themselves to interfere in their relationship to national needs;" second, "the family relationship between immigrants and persons already here, so that the reuniting of families is encouraged;" third, "the priority of registration,"—i.e., first come, first served. Total immigration would be increased slightly, to about 165,000 a year.

Possible Changes

The general rule would be that no country could provide more than 10 per cent of the total annual immigration; actual details of how the 165,000 spaces would be distributed have yet to be worked out. For some nations, the change would increase immigration to the U.S.—Italy's total could rise to 16,500. For others, there would be a decrease—English immigration, now about 25,000 a year out of a 65,000 quota, would be limited to 16,500. For any nations that would be "disadvantaged" in this way, the President requested authority to raise the 10 per cent figure. Mr. Kennedy also asked for repeal of the "national origin" laws, which require that if half a person's ancestors come from an Asian or Pacific nation he must be considered under the quota of that nation, no matter where he himself was born or lives. Thus a person of Japanese descent living in England must apply under Japan's quota. Mr. Kennedy called that a "discriminatory formula" to prevent the admission of Orientals.

It is doubtful that Congress will get to the bill this session. When it does, the outlook in the Senate is good. But in the House it is dim, despite the death this year of Representative Francis Walter, the most powerful opponent of major changes in the quota system. The House traditionally is reluctant to increase immigration, particularly in times of widespread unemployment. And it is also likely to be unhappy about the idea of an increase in the proportion of immigrants from the "non-Nordic" countries.

Embassy Row

With increasing frequency, foreign governments represented in Washington have been abandoning their embassies in downtown commercial areas and moving out to fashionable residential sections.

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ate Commerce Committee, which is holding hearings on the Administration's civil rights bill, appeared the Mayor of Atlanta, Ivan Allen Jr., with an appeal that made the committee chairman, John P. Pastore of Rhode Island, sit forward in surprise. Mayor Allen said that Atlanta and other Southern cities need the help of a new "national law" banning all segregation as "slavery's step-child."

Nevertheless, all over the country racial unrest was continuing, breaking out in new areas even as it subsided in others. Last Friday's issue of the New York Times carried 25 stories dealing with various aspects of the Negro movement; half the items were about pickets, demonstrations, arrests. And there was still doubt as to whether the civil rights bill, the Administration's main answer to the problem, will be enough to restore peace to the country even if it passes with its key provision—a ban on discrimination in public accommodations—intact.

Legal Controversy

On that score, some legislators have objected to the bill because it is based on Congress's power to regulate interstate commerce; they feel this may involve improper infringement on private property rights, and they would prefer to base the ban on the "equal protection of the law" clause of the 14th Amendment. Last week the Administration accepted a proposal by Senator Kenneth B. Keating, Republican of New York, that the bill be based on both the commerce clause and the 14th Amendment. One witness in Congress, Dean Erwin M. Griswold of the Harvard Law School, suggested reliance on both those clauses and also a third—the 13th Amendment. This amendment freed the slaves, and Dean Griswold argued that discrimination is a "vestige of slavery."

The compromises thus suggested improved the bill's prospects, but the main question is whether the Administration can round up the two-thirds majority it will need in the Senate to break the filibuster planned by the Southern Democrats. For that it will need all the non-Southern Democratic votes, plus 22 of the 33 Republican votes, and whether these votes are to be had is still in doubt.

Rockefeller's Round

Once a year, the Governors of the 50 states meet at the National Governors Conference. Its declared purpose is "to serve as a medium for exchange of views on subjects



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In general the feeling was that Mr. Rockefeller had scored a success by dominating the news at the conference, forcing the racial issue and putting it up to Mr. Goldwater to declare his feelings about support from rightists and segregationists. And, said one uncommitted Western Governor: "He made a lot of friends here."

Miami Beach made it certain that Mr. Rockefeller is not counting himself out of the race. Corroboration came from Albany, where it was learned that he plans a swing through nine states this fall and the usual candidate's tour of Europe. This weekend, he is taking his case before some 2,000 leading Californians.

'The Huddled Masses'

In 1958 the junior Senator from Massachusetts, John F. Kennedy, wrote a pamphlet called "A Nation of Immigrants." In it he declared:

"The famous words of Emma Lazarus on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty read: 'Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free'... Under present law it is suggested that there should be added: 'as long as they come from northern Europe, are not too tired or too poor or slightly ill, never stole a loaf of bread...and can document their activities for the past two years.'"

The U.S. immigration law—passed in 1924 and modified slightly in 1953—sets up an annual immigration quota of about 150,000, with each nation's quota based on the percentage of persons of that national origin living in the U.S. in 1920. In that year the population was predominantly northern European—English, German and Irish—and as a consequence the quotas are weighed heavily in favor of that area.

Asks End of Quotas

In recent years the northern European countries have not been filling their quotas: England, Ireland and Germany, with a total quota of 109,200, send over only 53,000 immigrants a year. Countries with low quotas—Italy, Greece and Poland in particular—have large backlogs of immigration applications. Italy, for example, has a quota of only 5,500 and a backlog of about 300,000 persons who would like to come to the U.S. But the law does not allow transfer of unused quota numbers.

Last week President Kennedy asked Congress to make the law more equitable. He proposed that the quota system be abolished over five years and that applicants be

increase in the proportion of immigrants from the "non-Nordic" countries.

Embassy Row

With increasing frequency, foreign governments represented in Washington have been abandoning their embassies in downtown commercial areas and moving out to fashionable residential sections. Not all Washington residents have welcomed this trend. In the Chevy Chase area, residents have banded together against construction of a new Soviet Embassy there—they say it would cause "embassy blight." And at Belmont Road, N.W., the French, who want to add office space to their embassy, have had trouble with an influential neighbor—William Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

To prevent further "blight," Mr. Fulbright sponsored a bill in the Senate to prohibit construction of embassy offices in Washington residential areas—embassy residences would not be affected. Last week the Senate passed the bill by voice vote. Even if the bill is passed by the House and signed by the President, work on the French Embassy would not be stopped, since it is already in progress. But construction of the Soviet Embassy could be affected—it has been postponed by a court injunction issued last week, and would not get under way at all if the bill were passed before the injunction's Oct. 1 expiration date.

The bill aroused deep resent-

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1. Pair these men—President Kennedy, Prime Minister Macmillan, Premier Khrushchev—with the following statements concerning last week's nuclear test ban agreement: (a) "Let us now advance further toward the easing of international tension . . ."; (b) "This treaty is not the millennium. It will not resolve all conflicts . . ."; (c) "I am very anxious that we should regard this . . . as a step to something very valuable."
2. Before a proposed nuclear test-ban agreement can become effective, it must be approved by (a) both Houses of Congress, (b) the Secretaries of Defense and State, or (c) two-thirds of the Senate. Which?
3. President Kennedy proposed to Congress last week that the railroad dispute be submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission. Is the chairman of the I.C.C. William McChesney Martin Jr., Rupert L. Murphy or Newton N. Minow?
4. The Security Council last week heard complaints by 32 African nations against South Africa and Portugal. Can you name the four African nations that were original members of the U. N.?
5. The "July 26 movement" celebrated its 10th anniversary last Friday. Where?

Answers will be