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New Bernians are talking more and more about the Presidential race, and less and less about the Gubernatorial battle between Bob Scott and Jim Gardner. This climate apparently extends from Manteo to Murphy.

If nominated, Hubert Horatio Humphrey appears destined to go down the drain in the Old North State. George Wallace could get a clear majority, and is hurting Richard Nixon so badly the Republican nominee may run third behind Humphrey, despite the latter's unpopularity.

Scott's problem, or certainly one of them, is how to best steer clear of the stigma attached to the Democratic Party nationally. Humphrey on the Tar-heel ticket won't increase Bob's chances, which don't appear to have deteriorated greatly in recent weeks.

It would seem to us that George Wallace in the national race isn't of particular benefit to Gardner. Without the ex-Alabama Governor around, Nixon would have been a good bet to carry the State, and Jim as a Republican candidate could have been on the bandwagon with him.

Gardner stands to get a good chunk of the vote given Wallace, but it is entirely possible that many North Carolinians who are strong for Wallace will find it in their heart to support Scott. Hatred for the Democrats is general up to a point, but is centered chiefly on Washington.

Perhaps it is only a hunch, but enthusiasm locally for Gardner appears to have tapered off somewhat during the past several weeks. Increasingly, the man in the street is expressing belief that Scott will defeat his Republican opponent, and the best thing a candidate can have going for him is the notion he is headed for victory.

On the national scene, the Democrats have made history with their announcement that they won't have the usual banner waving, singing and marching on their convention floor in Chicago. This may make good sense, but manufacturers of toy balloons who made a killing at the Republican convention in Miami, and television commentators who find the phoney demonstrations good fodder for gabbing won't be happy.

Granted that a majority of the celebrants are hired for the act, a political convention without its imitation New Year's Eve atmosphere may provide rather dull viewing for television viewers, not to mention delegates who had to pay their own way to the Windy City.

Since the three major television networks are reportedly sinking \$21 million in this year's conventions, dead air at Chicago isn't exactly desirable. To fill the gaps, especially if it becomes a foregone conclusion that Humphrey will pick up the marbles on the first ballot, there'll be a preponderance of uninteresting interviews, and scads of candid-camera glimpses of faces in the crowd.

Having held discord to a minimum at Miami, best demonstrated by the quick squelching of the Romeny bid to supplant Nixon's choice for Vice-Presi-



**HISTORY MAKERS**—Dwight D. Eisenhower, seen here briskly strolling with Winston Churchill during World War II, was our 34th President, but New Bernians who served under him and loved ones who waited anxiously at home will remember Ike chiefly for his role of Supreme Commander in the European Theater. Few if any expect him to be recognized by posterity as a White House great. First and last, he was a military man, and never was his ability to smile

in grave circumstances better demonstrated than this week as death hovered near. General Douglas MacArthur once said that old soldiers never die, they just fade away. Ike, at 77, appeared determined after his seventh heart attack to prove that old soldiers, fading or not, are still capable of doing battle magnificently against insurmountable odds. "Cowards die many times before their death, the valiant taste of death but once."