

WHAT WALLACE NEEDS TO WIN

JOHN J. SYNOR

The latest figures I have seen give George Wallace 9,900,000 votes, some 13 or 14 per cent of the total number cast.

In itself, that is an impressive number but what it really means is problematical. It is a long way from the minimum needed to win, 34 per cent — but, then again, it may not be. Wallace's chance in 1972 may be far better than might be supposed.

Consider the facts: It is only in the voting booth that the citizen must make an absolute choice. Until he has marked his ballot, he may have been torn between several candidates.

Such I-don't-know folks are a common phenomenon. They are, really, the principal reason a campaign is waged, to win over the undecided. In Wallace's case, polls taken a month before the election showed almost twice as many people expressing a preference for the Little Judge as actually voted for him on election day.

Those voters, in one degree or another, retain a residual of sentiment for Wallace. And certainly there are millions more who, while sharing many of Wallace's expressed convictions, never did quite think they would vote for him, and didn't. Such pro-Wallace leanings as theirs were never reflected in the polls.

Couple these three factors, those who actually voted for Wallace, plus those who at one time thought they would but did not, plus those who only leaned his way, and, chances are, if they were all won over they would constitute enough voting strength to make the difference.

But what chance is there of that? That is what is problematical. If such people are "almost ready", as they say in other circles, the percentage Wallace actually received in 1968 is misleading. If they are a long way from "ready," the vote he received is a true reflection of his strength.

In any event, that is what Wallace needs to win, his maximum potential made into a reality.

But how to do it? That is the question. How to inject the suspicion of courage or conviction needed to win over the hesitant; how to make voters of sympathizers.

To say that Wallace, himself, conducted a magnificent campaign is to understate the case. It is probable, as a personality, his effort was the best of this century. It is indisputable, George Wallace did as well as George Wallace could have done. Yet, he failed.

What else, then, is needed for victory?

Understand this: A national campaign has two essential parts: the candidate and his organization. Therefore, given the supposition that Wallace, himself, performed at his maximum, the answer must lie in increasing the effectiveness of the organization that supports him.

To seek a touchstone along some other avenue — to look for Easy Street — is to court further failure. To await "events", say, is not only a nega-

tive, it is to entrust the future to a fickle fate. To try to increase Wallace's personal stature as a vote getter — already at its proved maximum — is impossible. Such an effort would lead, first, to distortion of the

Other Editors Say

THE MONTGOMERY INDEPENDENT

LBJ's Forlorn Signoff

Perhaps the long range of history will see him differently, but for now Lyndon Johnson leaves the White House as a textbook example of the folly of appeasement. Here was a man who so desperately craved acceptance that he seemed to sell out himself and his convictions in a vain effort to achieve it. Even at the last moment, his desire for acceptance surpassing his pride, Johnson went before Congress to sign out personally, calling upon all the mawkish and maudlin devices to engender sympathy.

The effort was not lost upon this listener. Johnson was, indeed, a creature in need of sympathy. He had done everything possible, legislatively, to earn the affection of American pressure groups. As his biographers will say, he did more on the statute books for the Negro, labor, poor people and other identifiable blocs than any other President. Yet Johnson's career ends in alienation.

Johnson's overweening weakness was to be all things to all men. This was borne, no doubt, of his Southern — or as he would put it, Western — heritage. Having followed the elegant Kennedy into office, Johnson never seemed to accept with

confidence that he was President. He constantly had to prove that he could rise above his disgraceful Southern background, and this led him to try to be more Boston than the Kennedy's.

The answer lies within the organization he has created. If, during these immediate years of grace, George Wallace can successfully add to The American Independent Party the sinew and muscle needed to get the incipient votes his own maximum personal effort failed to win, he will prove himself to be what many of us suspect he is: The greatest public figure in American life.

That, it seems, is Wallace's job for the time being.

We will see how it goes.

to hard, too crudely to win those who were forever hostile to him. Had he remained true to himself, perhaps it might have been projected enough strength and purpose to have avoided such unpleasantness as his meeting with the "intellectuals," who thought so little of him as to thumb him to his face.

So Lyndon Johnson goes back to Texas, even now imploring Americans to love him. The Independent feels no rancor toward him — really pity, for him and the country he left behind. Johnson never learned that he couldn't buy or beg universal love, and in that he booted away the quality of respect.

There is left the memory of him on television, crying out to Congress when he was proposing civil rights legislation: "We shall overcome." In view of what happened thereafter — to him and the country — that statement says enough about Johnson's taste, wisdom and sense of correctness. Those of us who share his policies know best the price he paid in a futile effort to buy greatness.

Renew Your Subscription

Frosty Morn Meats Inc.

"Helping to build a better Livestock Market for Eastern North Carolina"

Top prices paid for Hogs & Cattle Daily

No Commission Charge

No Waiting

Phone JA 3-5103 Kinston, N. C.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

by Henry E. Garrett, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Psychology, Columbia University
Past President, American Psychological Association

Q: Dr. Garrett, look at this, from the Liberator magazine, and written by W. H. Ferry, vice president of the left-wing Fund for the Republic: "...The United States is a White Man's country, conducted by White customs and laws for White purposes... Integration in the U. S. is a sentimental not a doctrinal idea. Racial integration in the U. S. is

impossible. If we in Whitetown had ever really wanted integration we would have rushed to achieve it... Finally we shall have to learn how to run a separated society. Since we cannot have integration, we must have something." That almost sounds like you, Dr. Garrett. Do you agree with it.

A: It about sizes it up.

JARMAN FUNERAL HOME

... Where Your Trust Is Sacred
And Your Wishes Cared For ...

Dial JA 3-5143

Kinston, N. C.



BARRUS READY MIXED CONCRETE COMPANY

Free Estimates — New Bern Highway, Kinston, N. C.

No Miss — No Waiting —
Our Ready-Mixed Concrete is on the job when you need it.
Also Sand, Gravel and Crushed Stone.

HUNTING SEASON HAS OPENED

Everything for the
OUTDOOR SPORTSMAN



SEE OUR

Apparel Camp Stove
Guns Gun Case
Ammunition Knives
Coats Caps

IT WILL PAY YOU TO SHOP AND SEE IN STOCK THIS LARGE SELECTION!

GET YOUR HUNTING LICENSE HERE

FREE HUNTING INFORMATION

Pollock - Johnson

Hardware, Inc.

Directly in Front of Courthouse

131 S. Queen St.

Kinston

Dial JA 3-4884

— FREE PARKING BACK OF STORE —