

For President?

By Wright Davis

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles on possible candidates for President of the United States. Subsequent articles will follow on Nixon, Reagan, Kennedy, and Johnson.

Handsome, vigorous, clean cut, and roughhewn, George Wilcken Romney, 58, is a leading contender for the Republican nomination for President in 1968. Romney, a dynamo on the speakers platform, brings into politics that sort of pounding evangelism that makes simple homily on the duties of being a citizen sound like a call to arms.

He is regarded by the professionals of the G.O.P. as another Eisenhower, disdainful of "party politics" and basically an independent, suspiciously eager to talk about "citizen participation" and "nonpartisan approaches".

George Romney does not have the aura of the loser and the demagogue which clings to Nixon, but the big question that is being asked by his party members and the American citizenry alike is whether he has the political knowledge, instinct, and nerve to translate his assets into a winning ticket.

Despite Governor Romney's energetic drive for the Presidency, he faces some formidable problems ahead, some of which seem insurmountable. The first of these, of course, is the job of capturing the nomination. This presents an arduous task in view of the rising candidacy of Richard M. Nixon, the Party's nominee for 1960. Nixon not only has the party pros betting on him, but he has the overwhelming support of the Republican county chairman at the grassroots where the convention delegates are to be chosen. A nation-wide check by the Gallup Poll revealed recently that 1,227 county chairmen prefer Nixon while only 341 prefer Romney. This was the secret which Barry Goldwater used in 1964 to lock up the nomination before the convention began.

Romney's greatest hope seems to lie in the preferential state primaries which will be taking place prior to the bang of the gavel at the opening of the 1968 Republican Convention. If Romney can capture the important primaries in his effort to stop Nixon, he has a good chance of winning the nomination. Leonard Hall, the former chairman of the Republican National Committee, has been selected for the job of entering Romney in the primaries and gathering the necessary 667 delegate votes to win the nomination. It will be interesting to note how Romney fares when he meets Richard Nixon head on in New Hampshire, Oregon, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. If Romney wins these primaries with sizeable margins, and captures a sizeable bloc of the large state delegations, then watch out for George Romney.

The second major obstacle which confronts the Michigan Governor is his position on several vital issues. The major objection to Romney among Republicans and the general populace is that his position on many foreign and domestic issues is unclear. Romney has said very little in recent months on the position that the U. S. should take with regard to Viet Nam. He vociferously attacks President Johnson's conduct of the war, but offers no alternative solutions.

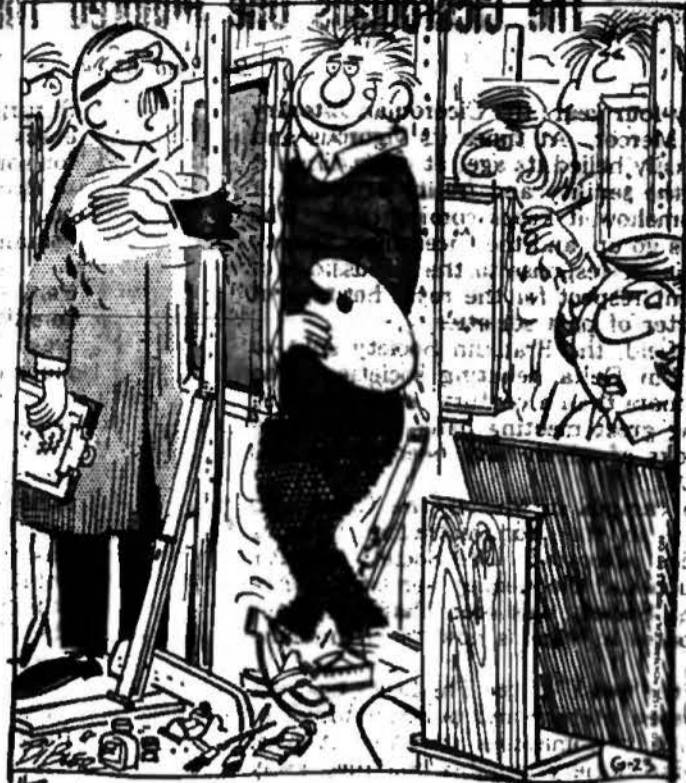
On the issue of civil rights, Romney's position is the clearest. He has always been a strong advocate for civil rights legislation, and this will help to siphon the votes of ethnic and minority groups away from President Johnson, in the event that Romney should be nominated. However, Romney will run into some trouble with the position which his church takes on the race issue. Romney is an official of the Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormans), which takes a more conservative stand on this issue. The Governor will have to tackle this problem in the like manner of President Kennedy. Kennedy proved to the country that he could administer fairly and impartially without letting his religious affiliation enter into his decisions.

Governor Romney does hold a trump card in his hand, however, with his amazingly strong showing in the public opinion polls. He must convince the delegates at the 1968 Republican Convention that he is the man who can beat Lyndon Baines Johnson. At the present time the American public favors the Governor of Michigan by 53% to President Johnson's 43%.

What does the future hold for Governor George Wilcken Romney? The political experts predict that the next Presidential election is going to be a cliff-hanger. If George Romney wins the Republican nomination for President, he might well be the next President of the United States.

NEXT WEEK: SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



I PRESUME, MR. FARNSWORTH, THAT THIS HAS BEEN YOUR FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO PAINT THE UNPAID FIGURE?

Comic Book Craze Hits Many Campuses

by Russ Drummond

From The Saber, Columbus College, Apr. 2, 1967:

Have you ever heard of a comic book "society"? It has been reported that over 50,000 college students now pay \$1 each to belong to "Comic book societies." These "Societies" now have chapters on more than 100 college campuses across the nation. It has also been reported that teachers of contemporary American Literature are using comic books in their courses. One professor said, "I know the classes will dig them and I hope that in them they will see various... patterns at work which would give them better insight to where things are today."

From The Signal, Ga. State College, Apr. 13, 1967:

Did you know that at Ga. State holding your "Honey" by the hand in the student lounge is PDA? What's the ruling here at Mercer? (I do it.)

From The Profile, Agnes Scott College, Mar. 31, 1967:

The faculty of Agnes Scott College has voted to permit students to take courses at Scott on a PASS-FAIL basis. Letter grades will be given to the students during the quarter but the final grades will be either PASS or FAIL.

From The Auburn Plainsman, Auburn Univ., Apr. 21, 1967:

I have recently heard Mercer Coeds complaining about curfews at Mercer. Well girls, there are some places that are in worse "shape" than you (I mean the curfews are stricter than at Mercer). At Auburn, the coeds have gotten an extension on their curfew. The new rules are:

1. Freshmen must be in at 10 P.M. on week nights and 12 P.M. on Friday and Saturday. Freshmen with a 2.00 grade average will get Sophomore permission. Freshmen who fall below the 2.00 avg. for the preceding quarter must be in at 9 P.M.
2. Sophomore curfew will be extended to 12:30 A.M. on Sat. and will remain at 12 P.M. on Fri. Sophomores with a 2.00 avg. will be given Junior permission.
3. Juniors will get 12:30 permission on Friday and Saturday nights. Those with a 2.00 avg. will get Senior permission.
4. All Senior girls will get 1:00 A.M. permission except those girls with an avg. less than 2.00. They must be in at 12:30 on Friday nights.

From MY DESK!

Do you realize that there is nothing happening and this is SPRING QUARTER?! I'm running out of "points of interest" to write about. ANYBODY WANT TO START A RIOT?

If you know of anything happening at other colleges and universities please contact me at Box 460 or in the Cluster office.

Letters To The Editor

Sir: As a student at Mercer last spring, I was asked by T. P. Haines to Emcee the annual campus singing competition held in Willingham Chapel. The list of my presentation involved a somewhat ribald humor. For my efforts, I received a scathing letter, penned by none other than Dean Helen Glenn. I also received an invitation to see Dean Joe Hendricks, who advised me to drop by the Ivory Tower for consultation with Dean Garland Taylor. My humor had included absolutely no objectionable wording.

The gross and infantile hypocrisy of the administration of Mercer University revolts me. As I can surmise from their rather nebulous point of view, it would be permissible to use any vocal utterance with impunity. I'll bet that the Prodigal Preacher is the only one allowed such license.

I hope my old man gets him. Any bets that he won't?

Sincerely,
George W. Patton, Jr.

180 West End Avenue
New York, New York
April 24, 1967

Mr. James Waters, Pastor
Mabel White Baptist Church
Houston Avenue
Houston, Georgia

Dear Mr. Waters:

As an alumnus of Mercer University (AB, 1960) and a Religion major, I was naturally interested in the New York Times article last Friday regarding the controversial chapel sermon delivered by Dr. Robert Otto.

I was relieved to learn that your attempts to have Dr. Otto severely disciplined for his action were not successful. His dismissal would have been a great loss to the University, and especially to the student body, whose welfare he has always kept uppermost in his mind, as well as in his conduct.

When I attended Mercer, there was no professor on the faculty whom I held in higher esteem than Dr. Otto. His lectures challenged the intellect while his charity warmed the heart. His sermons brought meaning back into a theology that had grown sterile through the monotonous repetition of meaningless platitudes of the kind which you delight in dispensing, and which you mistakenly identify with the Gospel. In short, Mr. Waters, this man helped me not only to hear the Gospel, but to understand it, both with my head and my heart.

No words, either written or spoken, could possibly dissuade you from the position which you have taken on this issue. Whether you are dissuaded or not, I, like you, have moral obligations, and by this vote of confidence in Dr. Otto, I intend to fulfill one of them.

Very truly yours,
W. F. Maxwell
cc: The Macon Telegraph and News
WBML Radio
The Mercer Cluster

Art Is The Happening At Mercer

(Continued from page 3)
venting the movement, Mr. Daugherty received two Carnegie grants to continue working on the project. In his capacity as an art instructor, Mr. Daugherty is also an art critic.

"My standards of criticism vary with each piece of work, but I do use certain points as critical guidelines. Does it have good design, dynamics, balance, the encouragement of movement, a fresh surprise, an emotional impact and most important, does it have something to say? All good art has said something new about life in a forceful way. Intellect and feeling are parts of life which have been expressed through art by the manipulation of materials of earth. If an artist is not in that contact, then not only are we saying something



new and different about life around us, but we are almost co-creators with God in the sense that out of formless matter we constitute something with order and unity that will speak to generations of the future, provided the job is done

well." "I am not interested in grading a student's work of art in the academic category of A, B, or C. I am interested in seeing my students get involved. It is important to see to what extent they respond to new ways of thinking, how interested they become and what their improvement is from the beginning. One of the greatest thrills in my profession is to see an art talent budding which has never existed before. Of course, I realize that grades must be given for academic purposes, but my grading system is based on a personal evaluation of the work, taking into consideration all of the previous points. Often the student receives a grade given the lowest grade because I demand so very much more from

the ones with the real artistic ability." Although Mr. Daugherty serves as a critic, he says it is difficult



to judge good art today. "The standards are in a state of flux. Most of it is not worth two cents. It sometimes appears as though standards have been abandoned; it's now who does what first. However, when I judge an artistic work, I do not have to like it; I appreciate any work that makes me feel more complete after having experienced it. That makes me see the world around me with a new point of view, but I don't have to like the work or think that it is necessarily beautiful." "The popular art movements to reduce the design down to a minimum. In fact, the form is called minimalist art. Optical art is also a leading trend. It uses just about any kind of material and method." (Continued on page 8)