

Nixon, HHH Strategy: Don't Alienate Anyone

DEARBORN — Each of the major presidential candidates has done a lot of talking—but not one of them has said anything, according to a University of Michigan political scientist.

The issues in the 1968 election campaign are so complex that open discussion would alienate large segments of the population, says Prof. John Dempsey.

Many people are against the war in Vietnam, in favor of social justice, but against strong "law and order" legislation. Others are in favor of the war and stronger law enforcement but are not interested in racial equality.

SOMEHOW, SAYS Dempsey, a candidate running for major political office has to discuss the problems of the times openly without actually committing himself to solutions or saying

anything to offend the electorate. Moreover, he has to discuss the problems and offer acceptable generalities with confidence and self-assurance. Dempsey made his comments in teaching a course on "The Making of the President, 1968." The course is being offered on the U-M Dearborn Campus by the University Center for Adult Education.

Dempsey says Republican candidate Richard Nixon is trying to conduct a flawless campaign without offering any disturbing solutions.

BUT AS A practical matter, Dempsey says, there is nothing wrong in avoiding the issues if the candidate wants to win. Even Franklin D. Roosevelt would have had difficulty in 1932 if he had given all the details of the New Deal during the campaign.

Nixon is being careful not to

make a mistake. He conducts his campaign lightly, making only a few personal appearances and speeches a day, but each public appearance is at a time and place to assure maximum exposure.

Dempsey sees Nixon now as an experienced and seasoned campaigner who will not be tripped by the same mistakes that cost him the 1960 election.

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY'S Democratic campaign may appear to be in difficulty now, but is picking up steam and starting to roll, Dempsey says.

The professor notes that more voters are registered as Democrats than as Republicans, but Humphrey's big job is getting the Democrats out to vote. As a rule, the percentage of voting Democrats is lower than the percentage of voting Republicans.

To move the Democratic vot-

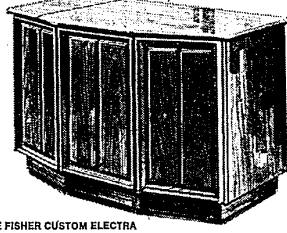
er, Humphrey has continued to stress that all the major economic advances in the United States in the past 35 years are results of Democratic administrations. "Humphrey, again and again, tells the voter that if he doesn't vote the Republicans, will win," Dempsey notes.

THIRD-PARTY candidate George Wallace's popularity has probably reached a peak, or will do so soon, Dempsey believes.

Wallace's choice of Curtis LeMay as his running mate will hurt his cause, the professor believes, because the general is regarded by many as too hawkish.

According to Dempsey, Wallace never intended to become a serious candidate in this election. He didn't even have a real campaign strategy until recently, when he realized that he might have a chance to win. Until recently, too, the two major candidates had little to say about Wallace, but they will soon zero in on him from all directions. Wallace has only a few years of experience as governor, hardly enough to give him experience for the presidency, Dempsey says.

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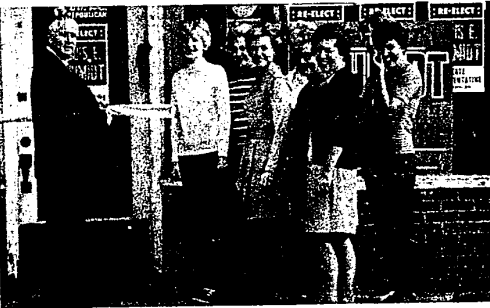
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STATE REP. LOUIS Schmidt cuts the ribbon officially opening the Livonia Republican Party's new headquarters at 31420 Five Mile. Ladies (from left) are Jean Hintin (headquarters manager), Reida Tramsen, Gloria Sladek, Veda Vogel, Marilyn Pollock, Elaine O'Neil and Sharon Falk. Democrats are seeking to get the GOP evicted.

Jail 'Appalling' - Friedrichs

Democratic County Supervisor candidate Donald E. Friedrichs (26th District, Plymouth, Northville, Canton, Livonia) toured the Wayne County Jail and found conditions "as appalling as the recent reports have said they were."

"But I was also impressed with the steps being taken by Sheriff Roman Gribbs to improve dark and dingy cell blocks that have been painted in years, broken plumbing and unrepaired windows," Friedrichs said.

Friedrichs is seeking one of the 35 seats on the newly reappointed Wayne County Board of Supervisors. Active in the Livonia Rotary Club and YMCA, Friedrichs is director

of secondary education for the Livonia Public Schools and former principal at Bentley High School.

He visited the jail at the invitation of Gribbs, toured several cell blocks in both the old and new wings, and talked with Gribbs about what the new board would have to do about the conditions in the jail. The report does not exaggerate, but steps are being taken to improve conditions," Friedrichs said.

"On my tour I saw cleanup, painting crews working on the cells, as well as cells with

broken plumbing and walls that hadn't been painted in years," he said.

Friedrichs cautioned against acceptance of the entire report of the Sheriff's Committee.

"For instance one recommendation calls for a pre-trial detention facility to be built to replace the present jail. Since the current building had a new addition in 1963, I have reservations about implementing plans for an entirely new detention facility without careful study. Before such steps as these can be taken, it is obvious we must take a look at reorganizing the law structure of the county and the administrative operation of the jail," Friedrichs said.



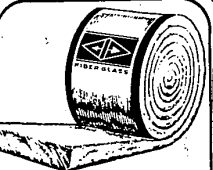
DONALD FRIEDRICHS (left), Democratic candidate for Wayne County supervisor from the 26th (Livonia-Plymouth) district, meets Sheriff Roman Gribbs.

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