

For Immediate Release

Former Alabama Governor George C. Wallace, who is being mentioned as a possible third-party candidate for President in next year's election, will "feel the political pulse" of the West Coast area in a series of speeches starting Oct. 26.

Sounding out sentiment of the voters before making a final decision as to whether he will be a candidate in 1968, Wallace will visit four states, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and California, on a nine-day, 13-speech swing through the Far West.

The Wallace schedule is as follows:

Oct. 26---Reno Centennial Coliseum, Reno, Nev., 8:00 p.m.

Oct. 27---Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, 12:00 noon,
and Moore Theater, Seattle, Wash., 8:00 p.m.

Oct. 28---Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., 8:00 p.m.

Oct. 30---Veterans Hall, San Francisco, Calif., 8:15 p.m.

Oct. 31---Comstock Club, Sacramento, Calif., 12:00 noon
and El Dorado Hotel Auditorium, Sacramento,
8:00 p.m.

Nov. 1---East Fresno Rotary Club, Fresno, Calif., 12:00
noon, and Civic Auditorium, Bakersfield, Calif.,
8:00 p.m.

Nov. 2---Channel City Club, Santa Barbara, Calif., 12:00
noon, and Russ Auditorium, San Diego, Calif.,
8:00 p.m.

Nov. 3---New Products Pavilion, Orange County Fairgrounds,
Costa Mesa, Calif., 8:15 p.m.

Nov. 4---Long Beach Arena, Long Beach, Calif., 8:00 p.m.

In addition to these personal appearances, Wallace will appear on "Face The Nation", the nation-wide TV panel discussion program, Sunday, Oct. 29.

The four-state speaking tour, which could be a prelude to his entering the 1968 presidential campaign, comes close on the heels of highly successful appearances in Virginia, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma

and Texas. More than 25,000 persons turned out to greet him in Virginia alone, and other large crowds followed for speeches in St. Louis, Wichita, Kan., Oklahoma City and Houston.

An example of Wallace's popularity in states other than his own was shown when, in a talk in Wichita, Kan., he was interrupted 22 times during a 40-minute speech. And, in a straw vote conducted by a Houston, Texas, television station, Wallace outpolled other possible presidential candidates by a comfortable margin.

In answer to the question, "Would you vote for George Wallace if the election were held today?", 64 percent of the persons who called in gave an affirmative answer. By comparison, in similar polls conducted by the station, Ronald Reagan received 59 percent affirmative votes, Richard M. Nixon received 37 percent affirmative votes.

The Wallace speeches throughout the nation are attracting considerable attention. Many observers say that if the former Alabama governor, a champion of constitutional government and a leader in the fight for personal and property rights, will be a deciding factor in the 1968 presidential election. These observers remember how, in 1964, Wallace received as high as 44 percent of the vote in preferential primaries in Wisconsin, Indiana and Maryland. They believe Wallace would be an even stronger candidate if he runs next year.

While not committing himself, in recent speeches Wallace has said that he will be a candidate for president next year if the two major parties do not give the people a choice in their nominees and in their platforms.

"I have said many times if one of the two national parties does not give the American people a choice in 1968, that I will be a candidate," Wallace has pledged. "And the way it seems at the moment, the candidate and the attitude of the leadership of both national parties is that there will not be a choice," he adds. He says at the present time "there's not a dime's worth of difference in them."

Wallace has stated that he expects to make a decision on the presidential matter around January, 1968.

The rise of George C. Wallace in state and national politics has been phenomenal. After having served in the Air Force in World War II

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immediately following his graduation from the University of Alabama Law School, Wallace was elected to membership in the Alabama House of Representatives when only 27 years of age. He served with distinction in the House for five years and then was elected Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit of Alabama, being the youngest Circuit Judge in the nation.

A former Golden Gloves boxing champion, Wallace made his first bid for governor in 1958 when only 39 years of age and while he did not win, he received the highest number of votes ever cast for a runner-up in Alabama gubernatorial history. Four years later he breezed to the governorship, getting the largest vote ever given a candidate for governor in his state.

During his administration as governor, Alabama gained \$2 billion in new and expanded industries, at the same time creating 100,000 new jobs. During this same period, 29 new junior colleges and trade schools were built and educational appropriations were increased 100 percent. In addition, \$549 million was invested in the greatest road building program in Alabama history.

Under his leadership, Wallace put his state on a firm financial basis. There was not a single hint of scandal throughout the four years.

Unable to succeed himself, Wallace last year campaigned on behalf of the candidacy of his wife, Lurleen, and the Wallace team marked up a landslide victory that shook up the political experts from coast to coast. This election attracted world-wide attention and set the stage for a possible George Wallace bid for the presidency in 1968.

