

Shooting Expected to Spur Wallace Vote in Maryland

By JAMES B. ROWLAND
Star Staff Writer

Maryland voters go to the polls today to cast their ballots in presidential primary scarred by the late-afternoon shooting that felled Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace and may have left him partially paralyzed.

There was speculation that voter sympathy for the wounded candidate will solidify, if not increase, the apparent lead Wallace had going into today's balloting.

Polls opened at 7 a.m. and will close at 8 p.m. throughout the state.

Wallace, 52, remains in serious condition in Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring with wounds suffered shortly after 4 p.m. yesterday in the Laurel shopping center. Three others were wounded in the assassination attempt.

Michigan residents also vote today in a preferential primary where Wallace, as in Maryland, appears to have a lead over Sens. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota and George S. McGovern of South Dakota. There are 132 convention votes at stake in Michigan and 53 in Maryland.

Lead Unblunted

State Democratic leaders and campaign officials differed on how strongly the shooting might effect the Maryland vote, but all agreed the incident did nothing to blunt the lead Wallace has over the 10 other candidates on the presidential primary ballot.

A majority speculated the shooting will spur the Wallace lead, with some voting out of sympathy for the Alabamian's agony. Others will vote for Wallace to demonstrate to any other would-be assailant that a candidate cannot be muffled by gunfire and demonstrations, they said.

In addition, they said, some who had intended to vote for Wallace, but who would have stayed home because of threatening weather, now will get to the polls even if it means wading through a

cloudburst.

Crossovers Barred

During today's balloting, state law prohibits the sale of alcoholic beverages in any form in bars, restaurants, package or any other type store until the polls close. Public schools will be closed but banks and other businesses will be open.

Maryland law, unlike in Michigan, forbids crossovers. Democrats in Maryland will be limited to balloting for

Democratic candidates, and Republicans will be able to choose only from GOP contenders.

Also on the ballot are congressional and judgeship contests, plus some local events such as the school board race in Montgomery County.

Wallace was expected to at least match, and possibly better the percent of the vote he won in the state's last Democratic primary in 1964. In that race he ran against only one other candidate, former Sen. Daniel B. Brewster, a stand-in for President Johnson.

Also, Humphrey has campaigned little in the state and McGovern gave it just one day, last Saturday. McGovern drew impressive crowds, capped by a 5,500-person turnout in Columbia which prompted his national office to pump another \$4,000 into the state for last minute media exposure. McGovern's Maryland office is not predicting an upset victory, but speculating on a surprise second place showing.

Enthusiastic Crowds

Wallace campaigned for more than a week in Maryland, drawing large, enthusiastic crowds that cheered and whistled repeatedly throughout his standard speech attacking welfare loafers, foreign aid, the Vietnam war, school busing to achieve integration, and the lifetime appointment of federal judges.

Despite yesterday's shooting, a \$25 per plate fundraising dinner that Wallace was to have attended in Glen Burnie after his Laurel speech

was held as scheduled, as was a rally he was to have attended afterwards at the armory in Annapolis.

The mood at both affairs was somber, with participants either still stunned by what had happened to their candidate or furious over what they felt was an attempt to silence the leader of the downtrodden who "tells it like it is."

Dinner officials said the affair was a sellout although the dining room at the Barn restaurant set for 400 persons while about 350 showed up. Chairs at the armory were set up for 750 persons but less than 150 attended.

The low attendance, in part, was attributed to a thunder storm which dumped torrents of rain on Glen Burnie and Annapolis before and during the rally. There were traffic tieups throughout the area.

'Sympathy Standpoint'

C. Maurice Weidemeyer, a member of the House of Delegates from Anne Arundel County and chairman of the Maryland for Wallace Committee, said the governor

"could get some additional votes" because of the shooting, but declined to speculate directly on today's outcome.

State Senate President William S. James, D-Harford, and State Democratic party chairman, predicted the shooting "probably will help from a sympathy standpoint — it may generate a great deal of sympathy."

"It's a tragedy that we can't go through the procedures of democracy without violence," James added.

Atty. Gen. Francis B. Burch, co-chairman of the Humphrey campaign in Maryland, and Joseph R. Raymond, director of McGovern's campaign in the state, both declined to speculate on the Wallace vote.

"Obviously it (the shooting) is a travesty, and reflects the sickness of our times," Burch said.

HE SAW IT HAPPEN

'I Was Four Feet From ...'

By WILLIAM TAAFFE
Star Staff Writer

I was four feet from George C. Wallace's right elbow when he was shot. Startled, I wheeled to my left. The governor was no longer where I had seen him a second before.

Minutes earlier, Wallace had ended a campaign speech, moved from his bullet-proof podium and began chatting with aides beneath a makeshift stage.

He was preparing to leave, but when he heard the friendly cries of "George! Hey, Governor, shake our hands," he removed his coat and strutted toward the crowd.

I joined him, moving along a roped-off area in the shopping center, a few feet to his right.

He was smiling as he began pumping a sea of hands, his eyebrows arched with excitement.

Wallace had touched about a dozen hands when I turned to find more room. The governor and two or three of his campaign men were crowding me on the left.

As I turned away, Wallace reached deep into the crowd with his left hand and shook other hands close to his waist with his right hand. He was leaning part over the rope.

This was my first day covering a presidential campaign rally and I had a fleeting thought of how easy it was for Wallace to shake a number of hands at once.

Then all time stood still.

A volley of shots was fired rapidly, from close range. They were loud. There was no mistaking what they were:

"Crack (a pause). Crack. Crack. Crack. Crack."

Wallace crumpled onto the asphalt parking lot, flat on his back, his arms and legs spread apart.

I did not see Wallace's assailant or the gun. A cloud of white smoke filtered about us immediately after the shots were fired.

Panic and pandemonium was on the loose.

I thought, "My God, my

God, this is happening right before my eyes." It was a sensation of unreality.

I circled around Wallace as his wife, Cornelia, shielded his body with hers. He was bleeding heavily from a wound in his right abdomen, the blood draining into a puddle to his right.

'Give Him Air'

"Give him air! Give him air! Get away. Get away!" desperate people shrieked as newsmen and photographers collected around Wallace, recording his anguish. Persons were milling like cattle trapped in a boxcar out of control.

I withdrew, colliding blindly with reporters and campaign aides. Then I saw that others immediately around the governor also had been shot.

Lying a few feet from Wallace was his personal bodyguard, Capt. E. C. Dothard of the Alabama state police. He, too, was on his back, a woman attending him.

Wallace fell in a roped-off section about 15 feet in front of the stage. Some of those near him were screaming and shouting.

I returned for another look at Wallace.

He was lying, I thought, ex-

actly the way the late Robert F. Kennedy had fallen in a Los Angeles hotel when he was shot on the night of the California primary in 1968.

Wallace's pale blue shirt was stained crimson. There were smudges of blood on his forehead. He was perfectly still.

A 19-year-old aide, Al Steineker of Montgomery, Ala., said Wallace first was carried bodily onto the back seat of a nearby station wagon. Then he was placed in an ambulance, a blanket covering his limbs, Steineker said.

Another Wallace supporter, Jack Ingram, 27, of Huntingtown, Md., said he saw the shooting.

"He (the gunman) kept yelling, 'Hey George, Hey George.' Gov. Wallace was shaking hands. It sounded like firecrackers going off." In-

gram said.

Melee Follows

Ingram said the gunman pointed the pistol directly at Wallace's abdomen and opened fire. Then a melee, reminiscent of the capture of Kennedy assassin Sirhan Sirhan, began.

"A few people said 'Tear him apart' and everyone went after him," Ingram said. "They were trying to grab hold of him. His teeth were all bleeding. He was twisted and ripped."

Ironically, Wallace had spoken only moments before about crime in Laurel, Md., and in Washington.

"The person that knocks you on the head is out of jail on some federal judge's edict before you get to the hospital," he shouted in his familiar style.

Crowd Was Festive

The crowd of about 1,200 persons had been in a festive mood. A huge display of red roses crowned the stage in the center of the parking lot where Wallace appeared.

Many in the crowd wore straw boaters gaily decorated with Wallace bumper stickers and contributed dollars into buckets passed around by campaign women.

They tapped their feet as Billy Grammer of the Grand Ole Opry warmed them up with the "Wabash Cannonball" before Wallace arrived, 40 minutes late.

Wallace is a small man, older and more fatigued than he appears on television. As he strutted to the stage in his inimitable cocky way, the crowd seemed slow to gather that he was really there.

'HE WAS APPLAUDING'

At First, Just a Hand From the Crowd

By DAVID HOLMBERG
Star Staff Writer

At first, it was just another hand coming out of the crowd to shake Gov. Wallace's hand.

Then Mrs. Ross Speigle, a Laurel housewife, "saw the finger and the gun started to repeat fire."

He husband, a 46-year-old crane operator, is the man credited with wrestling the suspect to the ground.

Both are among the eyewitnesses at the shooting of Alabama Gov. George Corley Wallace yesterday for whom events became an unbelievable blur; a world moving too fast; television cameras that would correct some of them.

But it could not take away their impressions. It could not erase their feelings — the shock.

2 or 3 Minutes

Phillip Epling, 41, of East Pines, Md., could only repeat that he had seen Wallace shaking hands for about two or three minutes before the shots were fired, that he had heard voices calling the candidates to come over and sign autographs for them, and that the man who had fired the shots was "middle-aged, about 25 or 30."

And he could only say again and again: "It's a damn shame. A family man gets shot on his last day in Maryland. It's a damn shame."

Brigitte Hawkins, of Laurel, identified herself as the last person to shake Wallace's hand before the governor fell

to the ground and lay flat on his back.

She said she had noticed the man who had shot him a few minutes before; he was holding his hand to his hip for about five minutes, she said, as a man might do who had a weapon there. But she saw no gun and thought nothing of it — not until the police were putting him in an ambulance and she knew it was him.

Used First Name

As Wallace moved along the crowd, she said, the man had edged toward him, and then he said: "George, come over here. George, come over here." Wallace had heard him and moved toward the man, she said, and she had followed him.

Then, she said, she was immediately behind the man and she reached over his shoulder and shook Wallace's hand and "the instant I took my hand away he reached out and fired. Mine must have been the last hand he shook." She was not the only one who said that. She said she thought he fired with his left hand, although television film showed it was his right.

Mrs. Speigle said she was standing at the right of her husband with her 65-year-old mother, Mrs. Mary Winters.

Shook Hand Again

"He shook hands with Ross, and then with me, and then Ross told me 'shake his hand, honey,' I guess he didn't realize I already had, and I shook

his hand again," Mrs. Speigle recounted.

"Then this arm lunged over and I thought it was someone reaching out to shake his hand."

Mrs. Speigle remembers thinking it odd, as she threw herself to the ground, that the man was firing the gun directly into Wallace. "He was wearing a Wallace button," she said. "When we were applauding, he was applauding."

Fred Knapp, 16, of Laurel, told his story in the rain which hit the Laurel Shopping center about 6 p.m.

The rain had washed away the blood in front of the red and blue speakers' stand, from the shooting some two hours before.

Knapp huddled in a corner by a bank just adjacent to the stand and a few yards from a station wagon with signs on the back: "Wallace in '72. Register Communists, not firearms." He said he was a "junior member" of the National Rifle Association and that because of his experience with guns he was certain that the gun he saw fall to the ground shortly after the shots were fired was a .38-caliber automatic.

Hand Reaches Out

He said he had seen the man approach Wallace and that he had reached out his right hand as though to shake it and then pulled out the gun with his left.

The man, he said, "looked kind of weird." He said he was

short and stocky and had medium-length hair. He said he was dressed in a sport coat and a white shirt and wore Wallace buttons on his chest. (Several other witnesses said the man was wearing a Wallace shirt.)

Knapp said the man did not resemble the "hippie types" — all of them white — who had stood in the back of the crowd and occasionally heckled Wallace. "He definitely looked like a Wallace man," he said.

After the shots were fired, according to both Knapp and his brother, Russ, who was also nearby, the crowd set upon the assailant. "They were yelling 'Kill him, kill him,'" Knapp said, "and I thought they were going to do it."

The police — "who seemed a little scared themselves," Knapp said — had to pull the crowd off the man. And he said that at one point a black man — one of the few in the crowd — had yelled "Kill who?" in response to the shouts of "Kill him." The rest of the crowd around the assailant, apparently all white, had moved threateningly toward him, and the police edged in to prevent a fight.

For H. J. Edwards, the executive secretary of the Laurel Chamber of Commerce, the words of a Secret Service agent shortly before the shooting will long be remembered.

The Enigmatic Assailant

By FRED BARNES
Star Staff Writer

The accused assailant of Gov. George C. Wallace is an unusually taciturn young man from a working class background in Milwaukee who was given to bursts of eccentric behavior in recent months.

Arthur Herman Bremer, 21, a high school graduate and one-time photography student, had shaved his head — all except the sideburns — last January after his 16-year-old girl friend broke up with him.

He worked steadily for many months at two jobs — one as a busboy at the Milwau-

kee Athletic Club and the other as a janitor's helper at an elementary school. Then he quit both by simply not showing up for work any more.

In the last month, he had, in effect, disappeared — until yesterday afternoon.

Friends and relatives said he had never shown much interest in politics, but FBI agents yesterday found his apartment strewn with paraphernalia and newspaper clippings of the Wallace campaign.

They also found some enigmatic poetry and scribbblings. Among them:

"Cheer up, Oswald."

"Happiness is hearing George Wallace singing the National Anthem or having him arrested for a hit-and-run traffic accident."

Bremer paid the \$138.50-a-month rent regularly for his apartment — across town from his parents' home — until just over a month ago, when he disappeared.

His departure came shortly after the April 4 Wisconsin primary, in which Wallace finished second.

Neighbors said Bremer had a Wallace bumper sticker on his Dodge car and apartment

back door, but they disappeared shortly after the Wisconsin primary. The building manager told Milwaukee reporters that about that time he also noticed Wallace buttons in Bremer's trash.

Others who knew him said Bremer was an unusually quiet and calm person.

And Bremer "never had a gun to my knowledge," said his 58-year-old father, William.

But, authorities said, Bremer purchased a .38-caliber revolver in Milwaukee last Jan. 13. They said it was the same weapon seized when
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Brewer was wrestled to the ground at the Laurel Shopping Center yesterday after Wallace, two of his bodyguards and one campaign worker were shot.

Milwaukee police said Bremer was arrested on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon Oct. 18 and was subsequently convicted of disorderly conduct.

Bremer's life took some unexplainable turns in recent months. His upbringing in Milwaukee's blue-collar South side appears to have been normal and quiet.

His father is a truck driver who has worked for the same firm for more than 30 years. Besides Arthur, the Bremer family includes three other sons: Theodore, 34; William, 32; and Roger, 18.

Members of his family agreed that Bremer was an exceptionally quiet person — and often a puzzle to them.

"Nobody could talk to him," said Roger. "We never knew much about him."

School Record

Arthur Bremer went to South Division High School, where he tried out for football but apparently didn't make the team. He graduated in 1969.

A report card dated January 1969 showed two C's and two D's. In conduct, he had two A's, 2 B's and one C.

After high school, he enrolled at Milwaukee Area Technical College, taking a photography course. He re-

mained at the school through last fall, working the two jobs all the while.

Bremer, a sandy-haired youth of average height and stocky build, was "the quietest kid there," recalled a fellow photography student, Gary MacDonald, 24. "He seldom talked to anyone. He never asked a question in class."

The Bremer family had lived in several houses in the south side over the years before moving last fall into their present home, a wood frame duplex. It was about the time of the move that Arthur Bremer moved out, getting an apartment alone on the west side of the city.

The Girl

It was also ast fall that Bremer dated Joan Pemrich, 16, a high school student whose mother works as a crossing guard outside the grade school, Story Elementary, where Bremer was employed as a janitor's helper.

The girl's mother, Mrs. Margaret Pemrich, told Milwaukee Sentinel reporter Alida John that she had known Bremer for several years and found him "strange."

"I would say hello to him every day," she said, "and he would never say hello back to me."

Mrs. Pemrich said Bremer's relationship with her daughter was never a serious romance.

But shortly after Joan Pemrich broke off with Bremer, he showed up for work at the athletic club with his wavy hair shaved off.

The headwaiter at the club

told reporters that Bremer explained that he had encountered troubles with his girlfriend and shaved his head in hopes of getting back in her good graces. A few days later, Bremer stopped coming to work, the headwaiter said.

Wouldn't Go Home

Bremer had few visitors at his three-room apartment, said Stephen Wasche who lives with relatives who run the apartment building. "He stayed pretty much to himself and didn't talk much," Wasche said.

"He had only one visitor I know of — his mother," said Wasche.

Bremer's father told newsmen that Mrs. Bremer had tried to talk her son into returning home, but he refused.

MARY McGRORY

A Nation Stands Humiliated

By MARY McGRORY

Star Staff Writer

National humiliation threatens us in Indochina, our leaders tell us.

But it has come to us in Laurel, Maryland.

Respect, we have been warned, will be lost, if we not assert our might in a country half a world away. It has already been lost, in a small-town shopping center, in a typical American community.

Self-respect is unattainable in a nation which cannot protect its public men as they move around among their own countrymen, if a political rally ends in a blaze of gunfire.

The shooting of George Wallace is shocking, but it is also sickeningly familiar. We have seen it all before, four times in the last nine years. The progress among the friendly citizens, the sound of bullets, the screaming, panic and con-

Point of View

fusion. We are back in the car in Dallas with John Kennedy on the patio in Memphis, with Martin Luther King, and with Bob Kennedy in the hotel kitchen in Los Angeles.

A Dangerous Place

Nothing that could befall this country in Asia, where the violent solution has been once again presented as the only one that could shame us more than what happened to George Wallace twelve miles from the capital of the western world.

Minutes before he was felled, George Wallace was telling us that America is a dangerous place. Even before the attack, he could not be gained. From sea to shining sea, the country walks in fear.

He seemed an unlikely tar-

get for a gunman. He spoke the fears and resentments of the fed-up and the shut-out. It seemed he was giving voice to the undefinable grievances which well up among those who sit alone and brood and clean guns and dream of the assassin's notoriety.

His speeches seemed a surer protection than the bullet-proof podium which he took everywhere with him to dramatize the danger he sensed everywhere around him.

He was on the threshold of his greatest success — victory in two primaries. He was not on his way to the White House, Beckoning as those buzz-saw simplicities, exciting as those banjo-tones, he did not have either the stature or the organization to make himself the leader of the Western world.

Now He Has

He seemed content, surrounded by adoring crowds, to "send them a message in Washington."

Now he has. He has informed us once again that there is something wrong with this country.

After the initial shock, there was the ritual wait with bated breath, lest the assassin turn out to be the trigger for further horrors. Had he been black, had he been a wildly protesting young hippie, the specter of something like civil war loomed. But, as far as can be learned, the alleged assailant is the standard demented outsider craving the attention that is available

only at the trigger of a gun. John Kennedy was murdered by a misfit Marxist, whose reasons we can never know because he was shot before he could tell us. Martin Luther King's killer never admitted us to his dark mind. Robert Kennedy was shot, not because he reached out to the poor and the black and the dispossessed or because he tried to stop a war, but because of minimally provocative, almost universally shared views about Israel.

Shamed and Humiliated

George Wallace's would-be murderer is apparently one who admired the Alabama governor. He has no political history and no political pre-occupation that is discernible.

So we are once again shamed and humiliated. Once again we see a beautiful young wife flinging herself on her knees by the side of a wounded husband, while the benumbed nation watches on television.

The political campaign is terrorized and poisoned. It is too much to hope that anything will come out of what has happened except deepened bitterness and wilder frustrations, suspicions of plots and dread of the future.

Perhaps it will shock our leaders into coming home, into some realization that the violence which is our foreign policy has traveled back to stain our own. Our own ills should be examined before we continue in our fearful efforts to remake the world in our own image by force of arms.

Tighter Candidate Protection

It appears likely that the federal agents around presidential candidates will try to impose even tighter protection when and if open, person-to-person campaigning is resumed.

Treasury officials in charge of Secret Service operations insisted yesterday that there would be "no other instructions" to agents now despite the shooting of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

But they created an impres-

sion of heightened concern by promptly assigning agents to three more candidates, and by stressing again publicly the risk that candidates take by moving into crowds.

"You cannot assume that persons aren't going to be subjected to the kind of thing that happened this afternoon," Asst. Treasury Secretary Eugene T. Rossides remarked at a press conference last night. "As I've stated before, on the question of active, open cam-

paiging, there are the risks involved."

The air of increased security in the government did not mean, officials stressed, that they felt security arrangements had broken down, even in the shooting of Wallace at Laurel.

When reporters asked Rossides whether the attack on Wallace would lead to an increase in the number of Secret Service agents protecting the candidates, he replied:

"It is not a question of increasing the details. The number of persons involved would have made no difference in this kind of situation."

But he did volunteer that, at President Nixon's direction, the Secret Service had extended its protection to three not previously covered—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., Rep. Shirley Chisholm, D-N.Y., and Rep. Wilbur Mills, D-Ark. (Presidential Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler

Likely

said Kennedy accepted the protection on a temporary basis.)

Although they were not entitled to the protection under the guidelines set up earlier this spring, Rossides said the President is "directing us to move" to provide the agent teams.

The Treasury official would not say how many agents would be assigned to each new candidate, nor how many had been guarding the other candidates up to now. He did estimate the cost, however—\$185,000 per month per candidate.

Although the number of agents assigned to a candidate apparently varies, depending upon the kind of schedule he keeps from day to day, it can run into large numbers.

Al Steinaker, 19, a member of Gov. Wallace's national staff said after the shooting yesterday that 105 Secret Service agents had been assigned to Wallace, in three shifts.

The governor also has a cadre of Alabama state troopers as bodyguards.

Podium Bulletproof

Beyond this phalanx of men around him, Wallace has relied for protection on a large bulletproof podium, so tall that it nearly obscures him from his audiences. Security men say Wallace also had been fitted for a bulletproof vest. But

would not wear it.

Lt. Lloyd Jemison, one of Wallace's bodyguards over the years, told the New York Times in Montgomery, Ala., yesterday that there had been "no threats at all lately" to the governor. "There's been nothing we could check out, nothing," he said.

Jemison, who was on temporary duty away from the governor's party yesterday, said that the protective detail has "always tried to keep the security on the tight side. But the governor, he's on the friendly side, you know."

Gun Control Laws Fought By Wallace

By DENNIS SODOMKA
Chicago Daily News Service

CHICAGO — The shooting of George Wallace undoubtedly will spawn new attempts to restrict the availability of handguns. Ironically, one of the men most opposed to gun control is Wallace.

In his campaigns for president and for governor of Alabama, Wallace always has defended the right of the individual to own a gun. And so have many of his backers.

Less than 20 feet from where Wallace was shot there was a car with a bumper sticker that said, "Register Communists, Not Guns."

Under several gun control proposals pending in Congress, Arthur Bremer, the accused gunman, would have been unable to obtain a handgun legal-

ly. Wallace was shot with a .38-caliber pistol.

Gun control supporters have cited lower gun crime rates in states with gun control laws and compared them to such unregulated states as Wallace's Alabama, where the murder rate is one of the highest in the country.

Wallace and his backers have ridiculed the theory that controlling guns will eliminate crime. They contend that when gun laws are enacted, criminals can still get guns, but private citizens cannot get them to protect themselves.

The Nixon administration and acting Atty. Gen. Richard Kleindienst have opposed gun control proposals while trying to draft a bill outlawing cheap, small-caliber handguns without interfering with the rights of citizens to own guns.

The last federal gun control measure — spurred on by the assassinations of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King — was the Gun Control Act of 1968.

It prohibits interstate shipment of pistols and revolvers to individuals and out-of-state purchase of handguns, rifles, shotguns and ammunition.