

CAPITOL STUFF

By TED LEWIS

Washington, Nov. 5—One aspect of the Presidential balloting that the Johnson Administration is now worrying about is the explosive civil rights enforcement problem posed by the election returns from the South.

In the five Deep South states which went for Barry Goldwater because of the segregation issue, the problem has always been difficult. Now it is far more so because of the voting, which really constituted a referendum on the issue.

What the President must decide, and probably soon, is whether in the face of the expression of Southern voter sentiment he should choose an Attorney General more inclined to a policy of persuasion than to stringent enforcement of the new Civil Rights Act.

This Cabinet appointment will be one of the most important the President must make in deciding on his official family for the next four years.

The head of the Justice Department is the chief law enforcement officer in the land. The job is now held by Nicholas Katzenbach of New Jersey, who was deputy attorney general under Robert F. Kennedy. He was also the man in charge of the federal confrontations on integration at the University of Alabama and the University of Mississippi.

Katzenbach has Lyndon's confidence and respect, but the question now is whether he is suited to the difficult job of healing the South and strictly enforcing the racial rights law at the same time.

Johnson has envisaged his own role as that of a healer and a unifier. For this reason alone it is probable that he will look to the South for a replacement for Katzenbach. If he does, his most likely choice for the post would be Leon Jaworski, a native of Texas.

Prosecuted Barnett in Mississippi Race Case

Jaworski is a senior partner in a Houston law firm, has at times acted as LBJ's personal attorney, and was picked by Bobby Kennedy, at Johnson's suggestion, to prosecute former Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett in the Oxford, Miss., race case.

Jaworski certainly would be more acceptable to the South than Katzenbach or others mentioned for the Cabinet post. These have included Abe Fortas, the Washington lawyer close to Johnson and with a New and Fair Deal background, and present Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz, once a member of Adlai Stevenson's Chicago law firm.

The President's problem is delicate and complex. It seems impossible for him to make a selection which would be even grudgingly acceptable to the South and also meet the demands of civil rights organizations for someone known to favor strict law enforcement of the crackdown type.

Johnson had clearly hoped that the election would soften the impact of the civil rights issue. He had wanted most to sweep the South. He would rather have lost Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and Maryland, than Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.



Leon Jaworski
Johnson's eyes are on him

- Tolson ✓
- Belmont ✓
- Mohr ✓
- DeLoach ✓
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Evans _____
- Gale ✓
- Rosen ✓
- Sullivan ✓
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

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