

Making Up

Ordinarily, a candidate takes the week off during the opposition's political convention. No point trying to compete for headlines when it's the other fellow's show. Last week George McGovern broke this taboo, as he has so many others. Too far behind to give up any opportunities, he spent the week trying to appease some of the political household gods he has offended.

Lyndon Johnson came first. The former President had endorsed him perfunctorily the week before, so McGovern flew down to the Pedernales to see if he could stretch the Johnson support a bit farther. He brought Sargent Shriver along, hoping that Shriver's warmer relations with L.B.J. might help ease the chill of the meeting. At Johnson's insistence, neither staff nor reporters were invited. Johnson greeted the candidates in ranch clothes and a flowing, whitish Buffalo Bill mane. Sitting in lawn chairs beneath a towering oak as they sipped iced tea, then going inside the ranch house for a steak lunch, the trio chatted for almost three hours. L.B.J. offered some campaign advice: talk to people on the phone for at least two hours every day; make sure you get a solid nap every day in your pajamas.

Courtship. It was more important to court Richard Daley, whose support is crucial for winning the pivotal state of Illinois. As with Johnson, McGovern agreed to meet the Chicago mayor on his own turf, and the candidate was forced to eat a certain amount of crow. He stated publicly that he would work with the Daley organization and not against it—a stance that may hurt him with the independents who are trying to topple the machine.

He gave his blessing to the entire Daley ticket, including State's Attorney Edward Hanrahan, who is under indictment for obstructing justice in the investigation of the killing of two Black Panthers. McGovern can only hope that his courtship of Daley will be considered a pragmatic necessity by his demanding followers. For all that, Daley has yet to make a move to work for McGovern in Chicago.

While trying to win over disenchanted Democrats, McGovern also faced some unreconcilable antagonists last week. Speaking before 3,500 American Legionnaires at their annual convention in Chicago, he reminded them that he too is a Legionnaire in good standing. "I intend to remain a member of this outfit for as long as I live. You can disagree with me, but you can't disown me." He even waved the flag a bit, reciting a few saccharine lines of Earl Robinson's song *The House I Live In*. ("What is America to me? / A name, a map, the flag I see. / A certain word, democracy. / That is America to me.") But he also defended his policies, getting stony silence when he declared: "Gen-

eral Thieu is not worth one more drop of American blood."

McGovern's reception at the national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Minneapolis was equally frosty. He tried to stir some populist embers by attacking Renegade Democrat John Connally. Noting that the Texan had been searching for a villa in Europe, McGovern remarked: "That's where the oil-depletion money goes." He even assailed Connally's \$300 suits—an ambiguous campaign issue. While it is true that McGovern pays less than \$200 for his suits, his running mate wears Pierre Cardin suits and has been on the best-dressed list.

McGovern absorbed friendlier vibrations when he met with Hubert Humphrey in Minneapolis. Loyal supporting McGovern despite their primary and convention battles, Hum-



GEORGE MCGOVERN MEETING WITH LYNDON JOHNSON AT THE L.B.J. RANCH IN TEXAS
No warm words, but a few tips on how to take a nap every day.

phrey told a group of labor leaders: "I know you've heard people say 'I don't know whether I'll vote or not.' Well, that's just like a man in the middle of the Mississippi River saying 'I don't know whether I'll swim or not.'" Reminded that not so many weeks ago he had been attacking McGovern, Humphrey responded: "But that's what politics is all about. It isn't lovemaking."

This week, in an address to the New York Society of Security Analysts, McGovern plans to set forth a revised version of his economic proposals, thus establishing a central theme for his campaign. But at some point in the coming weeks, he must establish something more difficult: a confidence among his supporters that the cause is not already lost. Last week Mervin Field's California Poll found, for example, that even among his followers, only a narrow majority of 51% expressed any hope that McGovern could win in November.

The Watergate Report

The seat next to Pat Nixon at a gala fund-raising dinner in Miami Beach for Republicans was assigned to Kenneth H. Dahlberg, Midwest finance chairman of the Committee for the Re-Election of the President. Graciously, he turned his chair over to Dwayne O. Andreas, a Minneapolis millionaire who earlier this year donated \$75,000 to Hubert Humphrey's unsuccessful presidential primary campaign. Since then Andreas had given \$25,000 to the Nixon committee—and that, Dahlberg thought, made him a man who ought to sit next to the First Lady. But by week's end both Dahlberg and Andreas had been drawn into the expanding cast of characters associated with the

possible mishandling of Republican campaign funds.

Embarrassing to the Administration from the beginning, the investigation of the bugging of the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate office building last June had now grown legally as well as politically serious. The General Accounting Office, an independent auditing arm of Congress, charged that there were "apparent and possible violations" of law by Nixon's Re-Election Committee and sent its findings to the Justice Department for potential prosecution. The GAO claimed that up to \$350,000 in funds were involved. The basic charge was that neither the receipt of these funds nor their disposition was properly recorded and reported by the committee as required by the Federal Election Campaign Act that went into effect on April 7.

While the GAO report did not con-

THE U.S.

cern itself with who might have directed the political espionage at the Watergate, it did confirm earlier accounts that \$114,000 of the unreported funds had wound up in the Miami bank account of Bernard Barker, a former CIA agent arrested with four other men at the Watergate. Of this amount, \$89,000 had reached Barker by a circuitous route: from some Texas contributors identified as Democrats, to a Mexican intermediary, back to Texas, then to the Re-Election Committee and on to Barker. The other \$25,000 was given by Andreas to Dahlberg on April 9. He in turn gave the money to Maurice Stans, head of the C.R.P.'s finance division.

A key GAO claim is that for a time, all of the money, plus another \$136,000 that did not wind up in Barker's hands, was kept in a safe in Stans' secretary's office. GAO charges specifically that the Re-Election Committee had failed to "keep and maintain adequate books and records" on this total of \$350,000. A

phony notation on a deposit slip, falsely indicating that the money was left over from the 1968 campaign, was used in later depositing the \$350,000 in a Washington bank, the report said. Other investigators believe that the total of \$114,000 that reached Barker was used to finance C.R.P. security work that included the bugging operation.

The GAO report had been scheduled for release earlier in the week but was delayed after Philip S. Hughes, chief of the GAO's Office of Federal Elections, flew to Miami to talk to Stans, who was attending the Miami Beach convention. At the same time, since some of the money had passed through Florida, an investigator for Florida State Attorney Richard E. Gerstein, a Democrat, served a subpoena on Stans in Miami Beach and interviewed him under oath. Also quizzed was Dahlberg, who had earlier claimed that he received the \$25,000 from Andreas before the April 7 accountability deadline. But Dahlberg

now conceded to the Florida authorities that he was given the money by Andreas on April 9. It was the Florida investigation that helped close some of the holes in the GAO probe.

It will now be up to Attorney General Richard Kleindienst just how hard—and how fast—the Justice Department acts on the charges. Just who might be prosecuted is also an intriguing question. Each violation of the act carries a possible penalty of one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Eleven such possible violations are noted. At the time of the violations, the Re-Election Committee was headed by Kleindienst's former Justice Department boss, John Mitchell. The committee's finance chief, Stans, apparently would bear more direct responsibility than Mitchell, as would the former C.R.P. treasurer, Hugh Sloan. Not surprisingly, top Democrats have called for Kleindienst to disqualify himself from the case and let it be turned over to a special prosecutor.