

**Begich a freshman congressman**—Nick Begich, 40, was born in Minnesota and graduated as a history and political science major from St. Cloud State College in 1952 and from the University of Minnesota in 1954 with an M.A. in educational administration and political science. Moving to Alaska, he taught school there in 1956 and began his political career in 1963 in the State Senate, where he served two four-year terms. [See 1970, p. 812E1, 630E3]

**Bicentennial commission scored.** The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission could not provide a "meaningful" commemoration of the nation's 200th anniversary in 1976, a report of the House Judiciary Committee concluded Dec. 29.

The commission was criticized for being "uncertain of what it is to do" and having "thus far failed to consistently generate tangible programs."

Rep. Emanuel Celler (D, N.Y.), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Sept. 2 had backed limited six-month funding of the commission and launched an investigation following charges of political and commercial corruption in the government-appointed panel.

Jack I. Le Vant, director of the commission, resigned the \$38,000-a-year post, it was reported Aug. 2. He had come under increasing fire for improper management.

Philadelphia was dropped as the site of a 1976 world's fair and center for the nation's 200th anniversary celebration May 16 by a 23-4 vote of the commission.

## The Presidential Election

**Nixon margin: 17,999,348.** President Nixon received 47,168,963 votes, Democratic presidential candidate George S. McGovern (S.D.) 29,169,615 votes in the Nov. 7 election, according to complete official totals compiled by the Associated Press Dec. 21. [See p. 881A1] The 17,999,348-vote victory margin was the largest in history. [See table]

John G. Schmitz of the American Independent party was third with 1,080,541 votes. The total presidential vote was 77,684,082.

Based on the popular vote, Nixon won 521 electoral votes, McGovern 17. But when the presidential electors met in their state capitals Dec. 18 to formalize the election results, Nixon received only 517 votes. Alaska's three Republican electors kept their votes secret and a Republican elector in Virginia broke tradition and voted for the Libertarian party ticket.

## Watergate Case

**Newsman jailed.** John F. Lawrence, chief of the Washington bureau of the Los Angeles Times, was jailed for several hours Dec. 19 after refusing to turn over to the U.S. district court in the District of Columbia tape recordings of an interview with a key government witness in the case involving the break-in at the Democratic party headquarters at the Watergate building. [See p. 847A2]

The tapes recorded an interview with Alfred C. Baldwin 3rd, who said he had played a role in the break-in. The interview was conducted by Los Angeles Times reporters Jack Nelson and Ronald

J. Ostrow and articles based on the interview, naming Baldwin as the source, were published. [See p. 805E3] Lawyers for one of the seven defendants arrested in the break-in, E. Howard Hunt Jr., requested the court to order the Times to produce the tapes for the possible impeachment of Baldwin when he testified in the trial, which was scheduled to begin Jan. 8, 1973. [See p. 891G3]

The request, made Dec. 11, was upheld Dec. 14 by Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the Washington court, who approved sub-

poenas for Lawrence, as the paper's representative, and for Nelson and Ostrow. Baldwin had advised the court he had destroyed his own recordings of the interview.

The Times and the reporters asked the court to quash the subpoenas to protect "the people's right" to information. The interview, they said, had been obtained on the promise that the material would be held confidential unless Baldwin consented to disclosure.

Since the two interviewers disclosed

## Certified Returns From General Election Nov. 7

Electoral vote	Nixon	%	McGovern	%	Schmitz	%	
Alabama*	9	728,701	73	256,923	26	11,915	1
Alaska	3	55,349	58	32,967	35	6,903	7
Arizona	6	402,812	65	198,540	32	21,208	3
Arkansas	6	448,541	69	199,892	31	2,887	
California	45	4,602,096	55	3,476,120	42	232,554	3
Colorado	7	597,189	63	329,980	35	17,268	2
Connecticut	8	810,763	59	555,498	40	17,239	1
Delaware	3	140,357	60	92,283	39	2,638	1
Dist. Col.	3	35,214	22	127,627	78		
Florida	17	1,857,759	72	718,117	28		
Georgia	12	881,490	75	289,529	25	815	
Hawaii	4	168,865	62	101,469	38		
Idaho	4	199,384	65	80,827	26	28,869	9
Illinois	26	2,788,179	59	1,913,472	41	2,471	
Indiana	13	1,405,154	68	708,568	32		
Iowa	8	706,207	58	496,206	41	22,056	1
Kansas	7	619,812	68	270,287	30	21,808	2
Kentucky	9	676,446	64	371,159	35	17,627	1
Louisiana	10	686,852	66	298,142	29	52,099	5
Maine	4	256,458	61	160,584	39		
Maryland	10	829,305	61	505,781	37	18,726	1
Massachu'ts	14	1,112,078	45	1,332,540	54	2,877	
Michigan	21	1,961,721	56	1,459,435	42	63,321	2
Minnesota	10	897,569	52	802,346	46	31,407	2
Mississippi	7	505,125	78	126,782	20	11,598	2
Missouri	12	1,154,050	62	698,531	38	3,110	0
Montana	4	183,976	58	120,197	38	13,430	4
Nebraska	5	406,298	71	169,991	29		
Nevada	3	115,750	64	66,016	36		
New Hamp.	4	213,724	64	116,435	35	3,386	1
New Jersey	17	1,845,502	62	1,102,211	37	34,378	1
New Mexico	4	235,606	61	141,084	37	8,767	2
New York	41	4,192,778	59	2,951,084	41		
N. Carolina	13	1,054,889	70	438,705	30	9,039	
N. Dakota	3	174,109	62	100,384	36	5,646	2
Ohio	25	2,441,827	60	1,558,889	38	80,067	2
Oklahoma	8	759,025	72	247,147	24	23,728	2
Oregon	6	486,686	53	392,760	42	46,211	5
Penns'vania	27	2,714,521	59	1,796,951	39	70,593	2
Rhode Island	4	220,383	53	194,645	47		
S. Carolina	8	477,044	71	184,559	27	10,075	1
S. Dakota	4	166,476	54	139,945	46		
Tennessee	10	813,147	68	357,293	30	30,373	2
Texas	25	2,298,468	67	1,154,109	33		
Utah	4	323,643	68	126,304	26	28,549	6
Vermont	3	117,149	63	68,174	37		
Virginia	12	988,493	68	438,887	30	19,721	1
Washington	9	837,135	57	568,334	39	58,906	4
W. Virginia	6	484,964	64	277,435	36		
Wisconsin	11	989,430	54	810,174	44	47,525	2
Wyoming	3	100,464	69	44,358	30	748	1
<b>Total**</b>		<b>47,168,963</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>29,169,615</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,080,541</b>	<b>1</b>

\*McGovern's vote total in Alabama includes 219,108 votes on the regular Democratic ticket and 37,815 votes under the listing of the National Democratic Party of Alabama.

\*\*Others receiving votes: 264,963 (Total popular vote: 77,684,082) —Associated Press Compilation

**Minor party candidates:** Dr. Benjamin Spock, People's party: California 55,167, Colorado 2,403, Idaho 903, Indiana 4,544, Kentucky 1,118, Massachusetts 101, Minnesota 2,855, New Jersey 5,355, Vermont 1,010, Washington 2,644, Wisconsin 2,701. Total 78,801.

Linda Jenness or Evelyn Reed, Socialist Workers: Colorado 666, District of Columbia 316, Indiana 5,575, Iowa 488, Kentucky 685, Louisiana 14,398, Massachusetts 10,600, Michigan 1,603, Minnesota 940, Mississippi 2,458, New Hampshire 368, New Jersey 2,233, New Mexico 474, New York 7,797, North Dakota 288, Pennsylvania 4,639, Rhode Island 729, South Dakota 944, Texas 8,664, Vermont 296, Washington 623, Wisconsin 506. Total 65,290.

Louis Fisher, Socialist Labor: Colorado 4,361, Illinois 12,344, Indiana 1,688, Iowa 195, Massachusetts 129, Michigan 2,437, Minnesota 4,261, New Jersey 4,544, New York 4,530, Ohio 7,107, Virginia 9,918, Washington 1,102, Wisconsin 998. Total: 53,614.

Gus Hall, Communist Party: Colorado 432, District of Columbia 252, Illinois 4,541, Iowa 272, Kentucky 464, Massachusetts 46, Michigan 1,210, Minnesota 662, New Jersey 1,263, New York 5,641, North Dakota 87, Ohio 6,437, Pennsylvania 2,686, Washington 566, Wisconsin 663. Total 25,222.

Earle H. Munn, Prohibition party: Alabama 8,551, Colorado 467, Delaware 238, Kansas 4,188. Total 13,444.

John Hospers, Libertarian: Colorado 1,111, Washington 1,537, Massachusetts 43. Total 2,691.

John Mahalchik, America First: New Jersey 1,743.

Gabriel Green, Universal party: Iowa 199.

Others: 23,959.

A they had turned over the tapes to the Times, Lawrence, who had played no direct part in the interview, became responsible for producing the tapes. Lawrence declined to surrender them Dec. 19, on the grounds it would be a violation of the First Amendment's guarantee of a free press. He was held in contempt of court and ordered by Sirica to be held in custody until he produced the tapes. The custody lasted for more than two hours until a three-judge panel of the U.S. court of appeals ordered his release pending a hearing the next day. The appeals court Dec. 20 continued the stay of sentence pending an appeal to the Supreme Court. But the contempt action was voided Dec. 21 when Baldwin released the Times from the pledge of confidentiality and the newspaper surrendered the tape recordings to Sirica for private inspection.

B Lawrence became the fourth newsman jailed during the year for refusing to disclose confidential information. One of them, William T. Farr, also a Los Angeles Times reporter, had been imprisoned since Nov. 27 for refusing to disclose the source of an article on the Charles Manson murder trial. [See 1046B2] In addition to Lawrence and Farr, Newark Evening News reporter Peter Bridge was imprisoned for 20 days in October and Edwin A. Goodman of WBAI-FM radio station in New York served 44 hours of a 30-day sentence March 3-4.

C The Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press protested Dec. 21 that the latest case "represents a further serious erosion" of the First Amendment. The only reason Lawrence "escaped further imprisonment," it said, "was not by the protection of the First Amendment but because a news source backed down on the confidentiality privilege."

D **Judge indicates wide-ranging trial—** During a pretrial conference on the criminal proceedings Dec. 4, Judge Sirica indicated that the political motivation of the break-in would be explored. The motivation behind the break-in and bugging, he said, was "one of the crucial issues" and the jury was "going to want to know the purpose" of the raid. "Was their sole purpose political espionage?" he asked. "Were they paid? Were there financial gains? Who started this? Who hired them, if anyone hired them? A whole lot is going to come out in this case."

E **More data on Hunt—**Hunt's wife Dorothy was found dead in a jetliner crash near Midway Airport in Chicago Dec. 8 [See p. 1073G2] with \$10,000 in cash in her purse in \$100 bills. Hunt said Dec. 10 the money was intended for a business investment.

F The Washington Post carried a report Dec. 8, based on an interview with a former White House personal secretary, that Hunt was one of a team of officials, known as the "plumbers," assigned by the White House to investigate leaks to the news media. A private, non-government telephone installed for use in the effort was apparently used almost exclusively for conversations between Hunt and Bernard L. Barker, another of the Wa-

tergate defendants, according to the secretary. She said the bills for the phone service were submitted for payment to an aide in the office of John Ehrlichman, President Nixon's chief domestic affairs aide.

White House Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler confirmed the "plumbers" operation Dec. 12 and said the work was supervised by Ehrlichman, but he said he did not believe Hunt had worked on the project. It "would be folly," Ziegler said, to associate use of the phone with the alleged bugging of Democratic headquarters in May and June since the special line was in use only from August 1971 to March 15, 1972.

## Press Developments

**Farr jailed.** U.S. District Court Judge Robert J. Kelleher refused Dec. 19 to free Los Angeles newsman William T. Farr, jailed since Nov. 27 for refusing to reveal the source of a news story he wrote during the Charles Manson murder trial. [See p. 941G3]

Kelleher sent the case back to the state courts, to determine whether trial judge Charles C. Older was biased when he jailed Farr under an indefinite prison sentence for contempt. Kelleher cited a Supreme Court decision refusing to extend protection to newsmen during grand jury proceedings, and said Farr's "lurid" stories demonstrated the "compelling need to protect the defendant against prejudicial publicity."

During the trial, Farr had been protected by a state newsman privilege law, but when he left the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner after the trial, Older ordered him to reveal his source.

**New Jersey law backs newsmen.** The New Jersey legislature passed Dec. 14 what was called the nation's strongest press privilege law. The measure would allow anyone who gathered news for any news media to refuse to disclose any information about the story or its sources to any judicial or investigative body, whether or not the information was actually published. The measure would continue to protect a newsman even if he left the profession after the information was gathered. Passage was sparked by the October jailing of a Newark reporter. [See p. 941F3]

**Civil case privilege backed.** A three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling backing a newsman who refused to disclose the name of a news source in connection with a civil case, it was reported Dec. 8.

Black plaintiffs in a Chicago civil suit had sought to force Alfred Balk to identify the real estate agent who supplied information for his 1962 Saturday Evening Post article about racial block busting. The appeals court cited press privilege laws in Illinois and New York, where the article was written, and said the case did not present "a concern so compelling as to override" First Amendment rights.

**Prison visits curbed.** The California Supreme Court refused Nov. 16 to review a lower court decision denying an interview by a reporter with Ruchel Magee, a murder trial defendant incarcerated at San Quentin prison. The lower court had ruled that the state could refuse interviews or disclosures of prison records for "the legitimate purposes of maintaining prison security, discipline and orderly administration."

**IPI scores U.S. trend.** The annual world review of the International Press Institute (IPI) said in Geneva, Switzerland Dec. 31 that the U.S. government had been trying to "chip away" at press guarantees in order "to make the journalist timid in research for the facts and the public nervous when confronted by a reporter asking for them." IPI conceded, however, that press freedom in the U.S. remained "almost unscathed."

The report singled out for criticism the Supreme Court decision in the Earl Caldwell case, which denied reporters' right to silence before grand juries. [See p. 502B3]

IPI deplored what it called the Philippine government's "silencing of the most courageous and frank press in Asia," and said only one of five United Nations members allowed their citizens "what can genuinely be called freedom of information."

## The Economy

**1973 meat import quota lifted.** Treasury Secretary George P. Shultz announced Dec. 21 that President Nixon had extended the suspension of meat import quotas for all of 1973. [See p. 483G3]

Shultz said the action, which was aimed at the "maintenance of price stability," would increase meat imports by 10%. Larger supplies of foreign meat would add to the total supply of meat in the U.S. by less than 1%, after an expected 3% gain in domestic production, according to the Wall Street Journal Dec. 22.

Meat imported during 1972 totaled 1.3 billion pounds, according to Shultz. That figure was only slightly higher than the allowable quota level of 1.24 billion pounds.

Two further government actions were taken against rising meat prices. The Price Commission announced Dec. 21 that it was suspending a special pricing arrangement with the nation's 18 largest processors of soybean. Soybean meal, a major component of livestock feed, had risen 100% in the past year, the commission reported.

The Cost of Living Council announced Dec. 23 that it was ordering its first rollback of retail meat prices. Four small grocery store chains agreed to comply after an investigation of their prices.

**Hog prices soar—**Hog prices reached record levels of \$34 a hundred weight in the Midwest Dec. 21. The Agriculture Department also reported that prices for all of 1972 would be 13% higher than the previous year. According to the New York Times Dec. 23, production was off 8% in 1972.

Sunday, Dec. 24—Sunday, Dec. 31, 1972