

# Wallace Cheerily Talks of '76

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To George Corley Wallace, the unending stream of big-name politicians visiting him in the past several months indicates more than just kindness.

It was a little more than a year ago that a would-be assassin shot the Alabama Governor, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down.

But yesterday, in a wide-ranging interview, Wallace was the playful politician, dropping more than a hint that he plans to be a power in Democratic politics in 1976.

Whether he'll run for president again he wouldn't say.

## FUTURE

But he made a point of noting that "a governor from a Deep South state could go into a Northern state like Michigan and carry 82 out of the 83 counties.

"That showed that I very well represented the great mass of Middle-America in 1972."

Wallace paused for a moment, then added, "I was very probably the best candidate."

Here to attend the National Governor's Conference, Wallace said he is "feeling better every day. I'm almost back up to my old weight, I put in a full day at the office, and I'm busy in Alabama politics."

Wallace is up for reelection next year, and said he is "leaning towards" running again.

## VIEW

As to whether he might settle for the vice presidential nomination in 1976, Wallace said "that's a hypothetical, if-fy question. I don't

know whether it would be even offered.

"But I can tell you one thing: In Miami in 1972 a group of governors urged me to run for the vice presidential nomination.

"I told them: 'If you want a candidate who will attack the party platform, then you might consider me.

"What I'm saying is I would never run for Vice President unless the views of the presidential candidate

were in close conformity to my own."

Then again, he returns to his theme that he represents the mainstream of the party.

Wallace, sitting in his wheelchair and adjusting his hearing aid (right ear), has a Cheshire cat air about him these days, and the grin might well be justified.

The 45 governors attending here managed to set aside, at least publicly, Wat-

ergate worries yesterday, and heard discussions of such state-affecting problems as the energy crisis, and the high cost of public education.

They'll discuss revenue sharing today, and among the panelists appearing before them will be Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Caspar Weinberger.

Vice President Spiro Agnew, who arrived yesterday, will also attend today's conference session. It was not known whether he would address the governors.

At today's session, the conference will adopt a number of resolutions growing out of the seminars and panels they have held here the past two days.

There may be a move by one of the Democratic governors to introduce a resolution concerning Watergate. Most observers see this as doomed to failure, because the Democrats cannot muster sufficient votes for passage.

It is also believed that Agnew is here as added insurance to keep the GOP governors from breaking ranks and joining the Democrats.