

Distrust of Nixon

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& Chronicle

beat the GOP

WASHINGTON — A Democratic Party post-election poll of Cincinnati voters concluded a "deep and abiding mistrust" of President Nixon was the clincher in Thomas Luken's capture of a traditional Ohio GOP House seat last week.

The poll, conducted by Peter Hart Research Associates for the Democratic National Committee, closely meshed with a similar in-depth survey made by the Cincinnati Enquirer after the March 5 election. The

Enquirer said "voter disapproval" of Nixon was the vital factor in the Democratic victory.

The Democratic-commissioned polltakers also reported to national chairman Robert Strauss the election showed a return of 1972 Democratic defectors to the party ranks and a strong shift of independents toward the Democratic candidate.

This, they said, could mean President Nixon's "new majority" in Ameri-

can politics had gone glimmering.

The Hart surveyers, who interviewed 353 voters as they left the polls, found concern over inflation and energy shortages to be somewhat higher than Watergate and the honesty-in-government issue. But, they said, sentiment "shifted dramatically" against the President in the last six weeks before the election — from 36 per cent for impeachment in an Oliver Quayle poll in January to 58 per cent for impeachment in March.