

WALLACE TO STAY IN POLITICAL RING

JUN 6 1973

Says He Is Healthy Enough
to Win Governor Race

NYTimes

By SETH S. KING

Special to The New York Times

LAKE TAHOE, Nev., June 5

—Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama said today he had every intention of remaining in National politics and that he was certainly healthy enough now to beat anybody who might run against him for Governor next year.

In an obvious move to show the large press corps covering the 65th National Governors Conference here that he was alert and vigorous Governor Wallace was wheeled to the rest room of a conference room and answered questions for nearly an hour.

He said that President Nixon had been "badly hurt" by the Watergate scandal.

"But whether this has dissolved Nixon's new majority won't depend only on Watergate," he said. "It will depend much more on the questions of unemployment, inflation and the energy crisis."

Mr. Wallace said he believed the Democratic party was moving back toward his philosophy and that he was pleased to be a member of the party's policy advisory committee.

"I can't walk, of course, and I can't go running up to fences to shake hands," he said, recalling that it had been barely a year since 12 bullets from a would-be assassin had paralyzed him. "But I feel fine. I'm gaining weight. I'm leaning toward running for Governor next year and I am healthy enough to beat anybody who runs against me."

Doubts Nixon Will Resign

Mr. Wallace said he did not believe President Nixon would ever resign. He said he would not suggest that he do so, as Gov. Patrick J. Lucey of Wisconsin, another Democrat, demanded yesterday, until all the facts on Watergate were known.

Vice President Agnew, who announced yesterday that he had changed his mind and would be a guest of the convention after all, arrived this afternoon to talk privately with the Governors.

Mr. Agnew, who served during the first Nixon term as the Administration's chief liaison with state and local governments, usually attends the conferences. But this year he at first had indicated that he would not do so.

"When I see him, I'm going to tell him, for heaven's sake let's get this Watergate business out into the open and over with," said Gov. Daniel J. Evans of Washington.

Governor Evans, a loyal, middle-of-the-road Republican who has been among the staunchest supporters of Mr. Nixon's domestic programs, said the only way the President could offset the damage of Watergate was with "a full laying out of what he knows."

"It's obvious that most people in the country don't feel they know the facts about Watergate," he told reporters. "It should be obvious to the President that his series of statements are not sufficient. They're not believable because the ring of security around him prevents the questions that should be asked him."