Wallace Egging Halted by Fear

AFRO Writer Tells of Dixie Turnabout

By DOUGLASS HALL
AFRO Special Correspondent

ASHEVILLE, N.C.—Henry Wallace, Progressive Party Presidential candidate, ended his North Carolina tour here Tuesday with a seven-minute speech to an unsegregated audience on the county court steps.

This was his third speaking stop and the only one in which he was not served eggs and tomatoes—scrambled against his body or head.

In Charlotte, N.C., just as he was about to compare child-birth death rate of white and colored women a barrage of boos drowned out his message. He was unable to continue. He was hit only slightly.

In Hickory, Wallace again ran into a hostile group. For the first time during the tour rotten eggs were used. They did not hit him.

After the final meeting here, I learned what was perhaps the reason that this city was comparatively peaceful in its reception. Two white men stood talking after the meeting:

"Why in the h. . . I didn't you throw them eggs?" asked number 1.

"You know d. . m well why I did not. Didn't you see them 'n. . .rs' around me? They were saying that there wasn't gonna be no egg throwing."

"You didn't let a few 'n. . .rs' scare you."

"Well you was right there. You knew where the eggs were. You could have thrown them. Why you want to wait until the speaking is over and start bothering me."

A group from Asheville's Eagle St., went over to the Wallace meeting and let it be known they did not exactly approve of eggthrowing white folk.

They began a little song "There won't be any egg-throwing here today" and there wra not.

Little Hospitality Shown

During his first full day in North Carolina, Henry Wallace, Progressive Presidential candidate, realized very little of the famous "Southern hospitality."

In Burlington at least half dozen eggs thrown by a jeering few in the crowd of about 4,000 landed on Wallace's shoulder, back and neck.

He dodged about half dozen more. For several minutes, he danced from side to side to prevent being struck by flying tomatoes, peaches, and eggs.

The crowd in this small village was by far the most receptive that the Presidential candidate has had to face. There was at least one fist fight in the street near Wallace's car.

Policemen broke it up, and while Wallace was being abused, the officers stood back and joined in the laughter.

AFRO Man Mobbed Too

After trying for about 15 minutes to get order the crowd pushed in so close that he was literally forced into his car.

My car was directly behind Wallace's. The crowd then turned their wrath upon me. Someone reached in after me, shouting insulting names.

He mixed my head and got on by my hat. They threw eggs upon the windows of my car and tried to get the doors open. I drove off with several persons swinging on to my doors.

In Chapel Hill Wallace stood off the campus of the University

Wallace Tastes Southern Hospitality (Lily-White Variety) in Durham

Henry A. Wallace, Progressive Party candidate for the Presidency, sampled the Dixie variety of Southern hospitality when he visited Durham for a rally last Sunday. Besides staging a near-riot at the Durham Armory about half an hour before he spoke and heckling him during his speech, Dixiecrats canceled his reservation at the Washington Duke Hotel (above) when it was learned that part of his staff was colored. Barred from other white hotels, also, Mr. Wallace stayed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Logan (upper right photo). And his followers, finding they could not eat together in white cafes, enjoyed unsegregated meals in Durham's Donut Shoppe (lower right photo).

and spoke to a mixed audience. Only about four students heckled.

Protected Some in Greensboro

In Greensboro, Wallace received his first real police protection. But this was not enough to prevent someone from striking him in the back of the head with an egg as he walked from his car to the speakers' stand.

Wallace could not be heard by the 7,000 persons who had come out to hear him, partly because he talked into a radio mike rather than the loudspeaker, and because there were many hecklers in action.

"I do not mind being hit by eggs and tomatoes," Wallace told the group, "although they would be more useful fed to children."

Feels Progress Being Made

Wallace told the AFRO that he still feel that I am making progress in the South. There are still a great many, decent, liberal minded persons living in the South."

Wallace stated that he had been informed that the same persons were doing the heckling at all his meetings. A reporter asked whether he thought that the same persons would follow him into Virginia.

"No," Wallace stated. "I am afraid that they have their own native claim down there."

Meanwhile, Wallace has been granted a permit to speak in Birmingham on Sept. 1, but the city stipulated that segregation laws must be observed. The Progressive Party candidate had announced earlier that he would not permit any segregation at such meetings.

In Durham, a small group of men carrying picket signs denouncing "Henry Wallace," "Mary Price" and the "Progressive Party" created a riot inside the City Armory on Sunday night in an effort to break up the convention and prevent Wallace from speaking.

About 50 persons took part in the "free-for-all" which lasted about 20 minutes. When guardsmen and policemen finally got them quieted down, several persons lay cold upon the floor.

The picket signs were torn to bits, and the "rebels" were pushed out of side doors. One car was fired by a guardsman in an effort to get order. Others drew pistols as the ruckus seemed to be getting out of hand.

One Stabbed in Back

When a cop pushed one of the picketers out of the hall, the cop was called "a 'd-m' Communist" by the raging intruder. At least one man was stabbed in the back on the outside of the hall and bled quite a bit upon the street.

About half of the persons at the convention were colored and they seemed to be contented in sitting back and letting the "white folks" fight it out among themselves.

While the fighting was going on in the hall, none of the delegates, except those in the immediate rioting vicinity, bothered to get excited about it. The majority continued to sing a Wallace folk song.

The small hall, which had a seating capacity of about 1500 persons was filled to overflowing. Persons were not permitted in the balcony. Several hundred stood in the rear and about 1400 milled around outside.

All during his speech, Wallace was heckled by about one dozen persons who stood in one corner of the building. About a half dozen more "hecklers" were scattered throughout the hall.

One was stopped in the act of throwing an egg. Others set off firecrackers. That they were young Dixiecrats was evidenced by the fact that they continually shouted "We want Thurmond" (R. Strom Thurmond, Dixiecrat Presidential candidate).

Wallace, however, remained cool, except for the time that he pointed his finger at the mob and shouted, "I can stand here just as long as you can yell."

A Durham reporter was hit by an egg.

During his speech, made as policemen stood around to keep order, he made his first campaign promise. He told the group that he would give Southern voters a billion dollars a year in the form of a Federal subsidy to Southern industry and farmers if he were elected President.

Iord, Gloria Swanson, Rudolph Valentino, and others, last week dropped permanently from the scene — unsung and forgotten.

Wallace Has Guts

Whatever else you may say about Henry Wallace, it can never be said that he does not have guts and the courage of his conviction.

Standing before a booing crowd and accepting barrages of eggs and fruit called for physical courage which few of us possess. But we who have associated with Wallace closely in his public life were not surprised.

I recall the day he returned from his speaking trip abroad, which created such unfavorable reaction in America.

He faced a press conference of more than a hundred hostile newsmen who bombarded him with questions designated to brand him as a Communist.

Although it had been announced that the conference was strictly for the press, one broadcasting company attempted to get a sneak recording of Mr. Wallace's statements that could be broadcast later from a transcription.

Just as he began to talk, Wallace caught sight of the hidden mike. His face turned red for a minute and he reached over, snatched the mike from its socket, put his foot upon it and made his speech from that position.

With all of his supposed identism and Messiah-like tendencies, Wallace is no shrinking violet. When he faces hostile audiences, he can be as tough as the next one.

GOP Song.

Not only is Mrs. Georgia Douglas Johnson the widow of a one time GOP leader, the late Henry Lincoln Johnson, but she is a famous author and poet in her own right, and it is natural that she would turn her talents toward doing something for the Republican cause.

She recently has written the "Dewey-Warren Victory March," which has been accepted by the Republican Committee. It goes like this:

Dewey-Warren Victory March

Come, sound your drums and fife
Rally, round the leaders 'til the victory's won.
Come, sisters, lend us your might
Forward into battle 'til we win the fight.

CHORUS

Give three cheers for Dewey and Warren
Give three cheers for the GOP
Give three cheers for Dewey and Warren
Liberty, justice, and Prosperity.

Press forward straight to the goal.
Back the grand old party with your heart and soul.
Make good times come back once more
See Abe Lincoln standing in the White House door.

A Spiritual Pickup

And speaking about good writing, there is a little piece that's being distributed around the nation by Dr. Howard Thurmond, former dean of the Howard University Chapel and now one of the co-pastors of an interracial nonsectarian church in San Francisco.

It is so inspiring that it is worth passing on here to be read when you are feeling in low spirits.

"LOOK WELL TO THE GROWING EDGE! All around us worlds are dying and new worlds are being born; all around us life is dying and life is being born.

"The fruit ripens on the tree, the roots are silently at work in the darkness of the earth against a time when there shall be new leaves, fresh blossoms, green fruit. Such is the growing edge!

"It is the extra breath from the exhausted lung, the one more thing to try when all else has failed, the upward reach of life when weariness closes in upon all endeavor.

"This is the basis of hope in moments of despair, the incentive to carry on when times are out of joint and men have lost their reason, the source of confidence when worlds crash and dreams whisk into ash.

"The birth of the child — life's most dramatic answer to death — this is the growing edge incarnate Look well to the growing edge!

Student Writes Thesis on Society in Raleigh

DURHAM, N.C. (ANP) — The graduate council of North Carolina College has accepted the "thesis of James H. Boykin, "Social Stratification Among Negroes in a Southern Urban Community" as partial satisfaction of the requirements for the master of arts degree, it was announced here last week.

The 63-page thesis, which consists of a field study of 194 families and a total of 788 persons, is based on a racial contemporary class structure in Raleigh, N.C., the first ever made in this section of the South. It was directed by Dr. Joseph S. Hines Jr., professor of sociology?

THIS WEEK

Wallace Has Guts
GOP Song
A Spiritual Pickup

By RALPH MATTHEWS

Wallace Guarded in Deep South

(Continued From Page 1)

appearance at the State Capitol. As he arrived he was escorted by Earl Brown, a colored elector of Jackson, Miss. I did not hear any "boos" from the small crowd that greeted him on the State Capitol steps, but he was not permited to speak there.

Wallace spoke to a mixed group of about 300 persons at Vicksburg. About one fourth were colored. Most of them stood in the rear of whites, but when the speaking began several pushed their way up front. There were no incidents.

In the last four addresses, Mr. Wallace has soft-peddled the two racial items that have drawn most eggs and boos.

In one statement he would compare the death rate of white and colored; in the other he would compare the intelligence of North and Southern white soldiers.

This was Mr. Wallace's last stop in Mississippi.

Upon leaving Huntsville, Ala. the car in which I was riding crashed into one in front. I received one cut slight injury when my head was jammed into the windshield. Doctors advised that the injuries were not serious, and I am sticking with the tour.

Wallace did not speak in Bessemer, Ala., as scheduled Wednesday night, because the group was segregated. Truthfully, there were no colored persons in the crowd.

The place where he spoke is contained only whites, and policemen were stationed all around it with large night sticks to keep colored persons out.

When I attempted to enter the park to get over to my party, an obliging cop offered to "swell my 'd-m' head.

There were others who shared the same sentiments of the officer. A car followed us from Birmingham to Tuscaloosa. It leads the committee on arrangements.

MAIL ORDER

Slayer of Boy, 8, Still a Fugitive

PHILADELPHIA

The man wanted in connection with the fatal shooting of eight-year-old Edward Robinson two weeks ago, is still a fugitive.

The boy, who lived at 240 Monroe St., was killed by a stray bullet near his home on Aug. 21. Det. John Cary, of the homicide squad, identified the gunman as James Hemingway, 22.

Hemingway was allegedly firing at a man who invaded his home and beat him over his head with a revolver when young Robinson was hit.

Police Stand Idly By as Klan Parades in Ala.

TALLADEGA, Ala. (ANP)—A ghostly parade of white robed Ku Klux Klansmen tramped the streets of Talladega last week and proceeded to burn a cross outside the city near Mumford. Besides those marching on foot, about 40 automobiles of hooded characters rolled through the street.

Police took no action whatsoever to interfere with the parade which also went through a colored section of the city. Automobiles carrying the hidden Klansmen had plates and openly exhibited plates from Georgia.

Civic Group Prepares for Annual Session

STAUNTON, Va. (ANP) — The annual session of the Virginia State NAACP Conference here Oct. 1-3 will be the most important in its history, according to W. Lester Banks, executive secretary, who said it will "survey the field of battle and plan our attack."

The delegates, leaders and visitors will be entertained and welcomed by the local white hosts to the convention. The Rev. T. J. Jemison, president, leads the committee on arrangements.

MAIL ORDER

Montgomery Paper Exposes Jim-Crow Ambulance Policy

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ANP) — Last week the Montgomery Examiner, white local daily, exposed a "traditional" policy among white and colored ambulance companies not to transport to hospitals for further treatment persons of other races. This policy, according to a representative of a white ambulance company, has been in effect for years.

The situation was exposed following an incident when a local doctor recalled stopping at an accident to give first aid to a colored boy who had been struck while riding a bicycle and whose leg was fractured near the ankle, with the bone protruding through the skin.

A white ambulance arrived and its crew began unloading their equipment to transport the victim to the hospital for immediate attention, but when they discovered the man was not white, they refused the case.

Doctor Says Regulations Needed

The doctor challenged their right of refusal, warning that the man might suffer shock before a colored ambulance could reach the scene. Still unable to get the crew to take the man to the hospital, the doctor took the victim in his own car.

Speaking of it later, the doctor pointed out that there should be regulatory legislation governing ambulance practices in such instances. "A doctor could be prosecuted and removed from the medical association for refusing to give aid to an accident on grounds of color," he said.

Noted Teacher, Organist Buried

WASHINGTON

Final rites for Edward M. Syphax, 70, who had taught in District schools for nearly 50 years, Monday morning from the Bereau and was organist for four Baptist churches for 30 years, were held Baptist Church, 2033 11th St., N.W.

Mr. Syphax, who resided at 159 Randolph Pl., N.W., died at Freedmen's Hospital last Thursday. His services as an organist were rendered at Bereau, Shiloh, Zion and Liberty Baptist Churches.

Appointed in 1898

He was first appointed to the District School System in 1898, and since then had served at Burrville, Birney, Bell, Garfield, Bowen and Giddings Schools. He retired on Oct. 31, 1947, while teaching at Giddings.

A native of Washington and the son of Colbert and Mrs. Cordelia Syphax, he was educated in the District public schools, having graduated from the old M St. High School and Miner Normal School.

Mr. Syphax was an accomplished organist having appeared in recitals here, Harrisburg, Pa., and New York City in the period between 1908 and the late 30's.

He was trustee of the Washington Conservatory of Music and an active member of the Musicians Guild, the Oldest Inhabitants, Inc., the Bloomingdale Citizens's Association, and the Teachers's Union No. 27, AFL.

He took an active part also in the Columbia Educational Association and the New Negro Alliance.

Mr. Syphax is survived by his wife, Mrs. Florence J. Syphax, and a brother, Charles S. Syphax, 313 T St., N.W., mathematics professor emeritus at Howard University.

Interment was in Lincoln Cemetery.

MAIL ORDER

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