What Chance for Senator McCarthy?

At the outset I would like to say that I am a political science instructor at the University of Pennsylvania. Ever since Senator McCarthy entered into the primaries, I have discussed the political situation with several friends and students. I feel that I have become familiar with the candidates and their policies. Recently, I have become quite concerned with the fact that although the senator has made adequate showings in these primaries, he has failed to secure an "equivalent" number of delegates to the national convention. It is important to ask oneself, therefore, how the senator can improve his chance of being elected to the presidency of the United States? It is my opinion that he has failed to secure adequate advice or he has failed to listen to the same. I hope that the former condition is the case. It has become apparent to me that there is only one way that the senator can skirt the results of the oncoming convention; and according to news reports even that way was denounced by the senator.

Senator McCarthy has (up to now) chosen to operate within the guidelines (political) set down for him by past national conventions and by the party bosses who control these conventions. It is this group of politicians that the senator opposes. If he continues to fight them by their rules, he will continue to lose popular support but lose convention delegates. Despite his popularity, he will not be supported by those select few who control the convention. Therefore, their rules must be discarded and his case must be taken to the people directly. A new dimension must be added to the American political scene and that new dimension is the fourth party (A New Democratic Party). By forming and supporting such a party the senator can have his position brought directly to the American people. George Wallace believes in his distorted cause and he has established a third party. If the senator sincerely believes in his cause, as millions of Americans believe in him and if the senator believes that his programs and his views can best guide America in this time of peril, then he must extract himself from his opponents using their rules and he must therefore, step outside of the national convention now. He must make this decision now or else his cause is lost. He must demonstrate to his followers that he is willing to put the people's wishes above the wishes of those who control the convention.

There are millions of uncommitted Republicans, Democrats and Independents who will have to choose between a Nixon and an HHH — neither of whom they wanted (as can easily be seen in the results of the primaries). It is time that these voters have a say in the selection of presidential candidates, and not just in the choice between two candidates handed to them by backroom politicians.

I sincerely suggest that the senator very seriously consider his only possible alternative to an easy defeat engineered by the old Democratic party leaders. He must act now, if he is concerned about the plight of America.

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