What Washington's Like

Herald Tribune—UPI photo

The pace around the White House is a little slower these days and the reason for it is the absent President, who is still recuperating on his ranch in Texas from major surgery. He is shown here taking a bundled-up nap aboard his boat while cruising on Lake Lyndon Johnson.

By George Gallup
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Since the November elections, there has been considerable speculation by political observers about how the outcome of the voting would affect the popularity of various prominent Republicans.

Much has been written about John Lindsay's Republican victory in New York City and what it will mean for the future of the party. Richard Nixon's energetic, but unsuccessful efforts to help elect several Republicans to state offices have also been the target of a good deal of comment.

Results of the latest Gallup survey of Republican candidate popularity—completed after the November elections—shows that Richard Nixon has widened his lead over the field of 1968 GOP "hopefuls," since a survey in October, and that the relative popularity of John Lindsay has changed little.

Gallup Poll

Based on interviews with nearly 4,500 persons across the nation in September and October, the Gallup Poll found 25 per cent who said they were "Republicans," 49 per cent who said they were "Democrats," and 26 per cent who did not choose either major party, describing themselves as "Independents."

As those results clearly show, the Republican party is the minority party. In order for the GOP to win a presidential election, its candidate obviously must make a strong appeal to Independent voters.

Below are the latest choices of Independents, compared with the results of the previous survey in October. Little change is found in the standings.