Legislators admit definite biases

(Continued from Page 1)

Although not radical, some of McGovern's proposals are certainly revolutionary, but he manages to carry them across the political gap with both ease and forcefulness. In his speech to the General Assembly, the South Dakota blazoned Nixon's "Southern Strategy" and went to great lengths to smooth his "radical" reputation.

McGovern was interrupted several times by applause, most of it generated by the packed gallery, composed mainly of young people.

Most of the legislators managed to bring their hands together during the applause, and Gov. John West, seated to McGovern's left (in an unusual political alignment), added to the applause although he wore a rather unconvincing look on his face throughout the speech.

McGovern seems to have a particularly pleasant time with the press these days, mainly because the Fourth Estate was among those who paid little attention to his candidacy in its opening months.

Although probably not intentionally, McGovern had thrown a wrench into many of the journalists' plans earlier in the day. It is usual for a politician's press aids to distribute copies of his speeches to the press before the speech is made, and this practice was followed Wednesday.

But McGovern delivered a completely different speech, and he had members of the media frantically filling their notebooks with line after line of seemingly unreadable quotations.

The press breathed easier following the speech, however, as one of McGovern's aids obtained the Senator's personal copy of his speech and had copies made for distribution.

McGovern's copy of the speech was quite interesting. It was apparently the same speech he has used earlier in the week in Texas, since he had scribbled "So. Car." in place of Texas in several places.

His speech writers had used the word "man" in several places, but McGovern chose "person" and edited the line in clear but haphazard handwriting. He had also scribbled the name "Gov. John West" at the top of the first sheet.

Following his speech, he and a 20-minute press conference in the State House, McGovern slid past the alert highway patrolman to speak to a crowd of 2,000 drenched followers on the capital steps.

Despite a driving rain, McGovern was at his best here. He was like manna from heaven to the umbrella-covered crowd, filling their ears with "end the war" words and other anti-administration goodies.

Protected by umbrellas and Secret Servicemen, McGovern waded into the crowd on his way to a luncheon at the Market Restaurant. Nothing of consequence occurred, although the Secret Service agents, easily recognizable by their triangular lapel, pins, were justifiably edgy.

In many circles, McGovern was as unwelcome here as the relentless rain which fell the day he arrived. If nominated, he stands little chance of carrying this state in the fall. But, for a few precious hours, the radicals, Communists, hippies, socialists, and, quite probably, the Democrats of Columbia were in the midst of Their Leader.