and looked more like a executive in a Madison Avenue ad agency than a revolutionary. Shaw was dressed in an out-of-date two button suit with a small pearl grey check and badly in need of pressing (I immediately thought of "Harry's, the Corner Store") Shaw is heavy, well built (said he had been in the Merchant Marine) and typically mid-Western in appearance. He has straight brown hair, receding at the temples, black rimmed glasses. The more you looked at Shaw the less you thought of the Vice Presidency.

When the audience had increased to about 24 or 25 a small girl in her twenties, I think it was Miss Perez, went to the front of the audience and introduced the speakers. She was dressed in a brown tweed skirt and powder blue sweater. She was extremely soft spoken with a very innocent face.

She spoke softly and away from the audience, so I did not get the name of the third speaker, except for the fact that he is called "Artie". Nixon was introduced as the Manager of the Guardian, and Shaw as the SWP V.P. Candidate.

Before I get into the speakers, I think a few brief notes on the audience would accent the flavor of the evening. All seemed to be under 25 and looked more European than American. Sports coats with dungarees, suede boots and beards characterised the boys while the drab, styless clothes with straight hair and no make-up characterised the girls. Two couples were exceptions. One sitting directly behind me looked like Beverly Farms Republicans - tweed sports coat, stripped tie, glasses and the girl dressed in a well tailored tweed suit. They both wore Noel Day buttons. Behind them was a Negro couple that looked to be African. I say this due to their dress and manner. They sat quietly through the evening, neither applauding nor showing any other emotion.

Ed Shaw led off the discussion defending the thesis that there was no choice between Johnson and Goldwater and that one had to vote for a third party, even with the knowledge that it would lose.

He didn't strike me as being an experienced speaker. He was disorganised and unenthusiastic. It was unemotional, low-key and with no points of emphasis. Because of this it was impossible to determine what he considred important. He set forth all of the anti Liberal, anti Capitalist cliches, but nothing that resembled a program. His criticisms were sweeping, without justification, and not constructive in any sense. The response was mild, equally unenthusiastic, and in the vein of conditioned reflex: sneers at the mention of Hubert Humphrey's name.

Some quotes from his presentation follow:

"We need to vote for independant political action....we need to vote not only against Goldwater, but against Johnson as well."

"Lesser of two evils politics can only be justified if there is movement in two opposite directions....If the Democrats were moving toward peace, then support of the Democrats would be justified."

"War is the greatest danger, but there are other problems as well, poverty and Civil rights, I do not think that there is a significant difference between Goldwater and Johnson on these issues."

"Anti-Communism is the policy of the Johnson Administration abroad, and the Kennedy Administration before him."

"The only difference between the John Birch Society and the State Department is that the John Birch Society sees a Communism as a menace at home, while the State Department sees it abroad."

"The Johnson Liberals, if they were convinced that there was a serious Communist threat at home, would use the weapons of mass terror... I don't think these liberals and this administration can be trusted."