

L.T. Delco - Wed. Nov. 3, 1954

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

The Democrats will control the House. They will probably control the Senate. That's the way the election results look tonight.

There is no doubt about the House. The Democrats have already won two-hundred-thirty-one seats -- with only two-hundred-eighteen needed for control.

The Senate, not yet decided. The outcome still hanging on that nip-and-tuck race in Oregon. Democrat Richard Neuberger has gone ahead -- and if he stays there, the Democrats will be sure of forty-eight seats in the Senate. The GOP will have forty-seven. One Independent, Wayne Morse, who says he'll vote with the Democrats. So if Oregon elects a Democratic senator, then the GOP majority ^{will} be gone.

The overall picture of the election is -- the closest ever run, etc., etc., etc.

In New Jersey, both parties insist on a re-count in the struggle for the Senate. In New York Governor Dewey impounding all voting machines, pending an investigation of the count that gives Harriman the Governorship.

Connecticut Republicans say they are re-checking on Governor Lodge's behalf.

In Illinois the winner, Senator Douglas, asks the FBI to investigate what he calls "slow counts," and in Ohio there will probably be a re-count of the votes that give Bender the last two years of the term won by the late Senator Taft.

So what you get -- is a confused picture of bitterly fought local contests -- with numerous demands for re-counts. Quite a few losing candidates, not convinced that they really lost. The confusion,

indicated in a statement by G.O.P. National
Chairman Leonard Hall. Said he: "There was a
complete lack of pattern -- in the manner of seats
gained or lost, in both Houses." Just a lot of
local elections -- so it seems.

So Governor Knight joins these other top
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Justice Warren, and Senator Knowland.

KNIGHT

Tonight, California, and the Republican Party, have a new major figure. Goodwin Knight, who won the campaign for Governor.

Knight has been serving as head of the State ever since Earl Warren was named Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He also has been trying to win the favor of California voters -- and seems to have succeeded -- running up a plurality of more than three-hundred-thousand over Democrat Richard Graves.

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OREGON

The Oregon race for the Senate was something like the one in New Jersey -- only in reverse. Republican Guy Cordon, running up a quick lead of about thirteen thousand votes over Richard Neuberger. But then the Cordon lead began to dwindle. Neuberger, came up with a rush and took the lead. The Democrat, now evidently ahead by a thousand or so. But the Oregon election will not be over until the last votes are in.

Substitute NEW JERSEY

New Jersey's controversial Republican, Clifford Case, wins a seat in the Senate. He defeats Charles Howell - by actually one thousand three hundred eighty-eight votes.

The result, an astonishing turn-about. Last night, Howell was ahead by ninety two thousand. His election looked so sure - that he issued a victory statement. But then the tide turned. Votes for Case came pouring in - until he overtook Howell. He went ahead, and stayed there - ending up with a plurality of less than two thousand, in a total vote of one million seven hundred thousand.

But, both sides have asked for a recount, or did while it was still on. So we'll have to wait about a month before we know for sure.

NEW YORK

~~sets~~ ^{we still} ~~begin with~~ New York, with its recount coming up; ~~And right there, you~~ have a perplexing situation. Harriman apparently winning the ~~Gubernatorial~~ Gubernatorial election with his running mate, F.D.R.Jr. defeated for Attorney General. Of course young Roosevelt had wanted that nomination for Governor. Was considered by many as a much stronger candidate than Harriman. Now Harriman wins and Roosevelt loses.

The Harriman victory - if he has won - is by the proverbial hair. By ~~just~~ just over six thousand - in a vote of five million. The closest election in ^{the} history of the state. So close that Governor Dewey has ordered all voting machines, and other records held - for a re-count.

Another point about the election - the rise of Tammany Hall. Its leader, Carmine de Sapio, seems to emerge as a top national figure in the Democratic Party. De Sapio all along was for Harriman, rather than F.D.R.Jr. So Harriman's victory, if confirmed by the recount, will make the Tammany chief a top political



The story from Michigan is the defeat of a figure. Hence they are saying in New York, tonight, top Republicans, Senator Hiram Ferguson, Chairman of that the star of Tammany's de Sapio has risen with the Senate Republican Policy Committee by going down Harriman.

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MICHIGAN

The story from Michigan is - the defeat of a top Republican. Senator Homer Ferguson, Chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee -- going down before Patrick McNamara, an official of the A. F. of L. McNamara, winning by over twenty thousand votes. Along with Mennen - Soapy Williams, who won an unprecedented fourth term as Governor.

GOVERNORS

At eleven P.M., last night, I was on the spot.

The governorships? Eighteen Democrats, fourteen Republicans. The significant fact here is that - Democrats won in seven states that had Republican governors. In New York (?), Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico.

figures that were pouring in? Who, actually, was winning?

Or rather - by what margin the Democrats were winning?

The feeling was - a Democratic sweep. Which had been predicted as early as eight weeks - by Univac. The electronic brain - reporting for C.B.S. In some ways, the figures on the big C.B.S. election board - confirmed the impression. For example, ^{at that time} it showed an overwhelming victory for Harrison over Ives in New York. Ives - already conceding. In Connecticut - Republican Governor Lodge defeated So, the temptation was - to go on the air and give that impression. The Democrats - winning control of Congress, hands down.

ELECTION NIGHT

At eleven thirty, last night, I was on the spot.

This program goes on the air at that time, for the Western states - out there where the time is two or three hours different. At that hour, the election picture was a sort of paradox. Confused - contradictory, in a way. The question being - how to size up the news, amid all those bewildering figures that were pouring in? Who, actually, was winning? Or rather - by what margin the Democrats were winning?

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Cool reason said - the numbers, themselves, don't show anything definite. The other C.B.S. newsmen on the job took that same ~~cool~~ view. The impression was - a Democratic sweep. ^{But} you couldn't prove it - by the actual returns, which had come in.

So, going on the air for the Western program, I played it - cautious. Beginning by saying: "At this moment, the control of Congress is in ~~some~~ doubt - so far as the figures go. That is, on the face of things." Continuing - with factors that could indicate a Democratic sweep. But adding: "On the surface, it looks like a close thing - much in doubt."

Which, as things turned out, was a wise bit of caution. Reflecting - a puzzled state of mind - as C.B.S. put on a radio-television election show, which kept giving the results all night long, until six A.M. By morning, it was clear that the battle of Congress was, actually - in doubt.

Along about two or three A.M., it was evident that,

in a whole series of close races, the Republicans were hanging on - tenaciously. Holding their own, in doubtful areas - better than had been expected. The G.O.P. had been expected to lose control of Congress - all signs pointing to that. But they were making it the closest kind of contest. Thanks - to late returns that were pouring in.

I've worked on many an election night, but this was the most perplexing of all. In fact - it confused even the most experienced observers, among the newsmen. In one place after another, all over the country, things were not running true to form.

Here's an example. Today, the C.B.S. news office phoned its representative out in Montana, where things were, still - undecided. Democratic Senator Murray had a lead over Republican Candidate D'Ewart. At one time, Senator Murray seemed - elected. With a lead of - thirty-four thousand. But later figures cut that in half - down to seventeen thousand

Returns were still coming in, Montana - in doubt.

The C.B.S. man out there told the New York office - it was impossible to figure the situation. Ordinarily, you could tell in advance - which way districts were likely to go. But that was all upset - in this election. Sections normally Republican - returning figures favoring the Democrats. Other places, normally Democratic, were going Republican.

For days to come, the political experts will be trying to figure just what happened - analyzing the returns from various localities. Trying to figure - why so many did not run true to form.

EISENHOWER

What does President Eisenhower think of the results? We all know how the President staged his own whirlwind tour, at the last moment.

Today when asked about it at his news conference, he admitted that although he was surprised about what happened in some areas, he does not regard anything that happened as a repudiation of his administration. Meaning, that local issues usually dominate Congressional elections. Even the Eisenhower influence, not able to swing the balance everywhere, in an off-year election.

Reminded that he had warned against letting the opposite party control Congress, that it would lead to political "cold war" - between the legislature and the executive, he said that statement had been too strong, and he regrets he made it. He says he wants to work with Congress - and will try to get along with Congressional leaders - no matter to what party they belong.

ATOMIC

Today Secretary of State Dulles handed a note to Soviet Ambassador Zarubin. The subject - President Eisenhower's "atoms-for-peace plan."

~~Dulles and Zarubin conferred at the State Department for about fifteen minutes. Then the Russian Ambassador left with the text - to be relayed to the Kremlin. It's our ^{reply} ~~response~~ to a message from Malenkov - in which he expressed a desire to renew negotiations on the Eisenhower plan.~~

The President spoke about the note at his news conference. He said he hopes that a new phase is beginning - ~~he hopes~~ ^{that} the Russians will be more agreeable, about the international use of atomic energy, than they have been in the past. ~~But Mr. Eisenhower stressed one point. Said he,~~
~~"We are determined to get on with this international project whether or not the Soviets participate."~~

ADENAUER

Chancellor Adenauer, returning to Bonn after his American visit - and running head-on into a political crisis.

The most important issue of the crisis - that agreement with France over the Saar basin. Many Germans feel that Adenauer made too many concessions. Even some members of Adenauer's own Party are lining up with the opposition. The debate over the Saar is sure to be angry and bitter.

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SHOSTAKOVICH

A famous Russian composer - says that everything is fine between him and the Soviet authorities. Dmitri Shostakovich, broadcasting to North America - and calling criticism of the Soviet line in Music - "propaganda" and "obvious lies."

~~The reference being, to Western condemnation of the way Shostakovich has been made to produce music acceptable to Stalin and the other Red bosses. Today, the composer declared, it just isn't so. He insists that no ban was ever put on any of his music. He thinks the Western reaction is propaganda - put out by wicked capitalists. Declaring that Soviet music is being played more often in the West, Shostakovich added: "Apparently, this is not to the liking of the men who sponsor war propaganda."~~

But ~~he~~ did not mention the way the Communist Party treated him only six years ago. That was when the Central Committee of the Party accused him of "anti-proletarian music."

The Central Committee, laying down the law - a party line,
to be followed by all composers, especially Shostakovich.

Apparently he's forgotten about that incident.

Anyway, he didn't mention it today.

NOBEL PRIZE

An American scientist wins the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. Dr. Linus Pauling, of the California Institute of Technology. The award goes to Dr. Pauling for his work on the structure of molecules - the so-called "building blocks of matter."

Dr. Pauling is the tenth American to win the Nobel Prize for Chemistry, Hugh - and the fourth American to win the Nobel Prize this year. Seems to be a Nobel year for us!