

L.I. - P. & G. Tuesday, Nov. 2, 1948.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Broadcasting from the C.B.S. mobile unit, the Bubble - let's have a look at the election figures, such as have come in. Mere early scattering returns - the old Election Day story on a radio program at this hour.

(The earliest figures came from New England, and were a sweep for Dewey - as was ~~to be~~ expected from states like New Hampshire and Vermont.) Those Republican strongholds might be expected to give heavy G.O.P. majorities, and the chief interest is in the question - How does the Dewey vote this year compare with the ~~strength that~~ strength that he showed in Nineteen Forty-Four? ^R Nothing definite on that, but an early fragmentary figure from New England, ~~communities~~ gave Dewey ninety-three, while four years ago he polled seventy-nine - in those same places. Today Truman gets twenty-six, while Roosevelt, polled thirty-five, in 1944.

A town on Cape Cod - Dewey 97; Truman 72. Four years ago, Dewey didn't run as strong as that - when he got 89 as against 81 for Roosevelt. ~~The town of Hull, in Massachusetts, gives Truman 150; Dewey 135. Four years ago Roosevelt carried the town by a narrower margin than that.~~

(In President Truman's home state, Missouri, the first precinct reporting showed Dewey 70; Truman 106.) That was in Shelby County, which four years ago voted two-to-one in favor of President Roosevelt - two-to-one being better than those early figures today. ~~70 to 106.~~

(In neighboring Kansas, the first ~~forty five precincts,~~ gave Dewey 2500; Truman 1700. A little later, 166 precincts showed - Dewey 8,000; Truman 7400.)

Much of the early vote comes from the South. Three precincts in South Carolina ~~gave Truman 91; Dewey 7, Thurmond 91. Later returns from still other precincts -~~ Truman 227; Dewey 16; Thurmond 608. Which might seem as if South Carolina were going for Thurmond, as ~~had been~~ expected.

A surprise early result from West Virginia gave Dewey 182; Truman 55. A little later the West Virginia return was Dewey 192; Truman 182 - with Republican Senator Revercomb leading by about the same margin - which may be significant in the all-important race for Senator.

From Tennessee - Dewey 1500; Truman 1300. The Republican candidate for Senator, Carroll Reece - also leading.

From Kentucky, home state of the Democratic Candidate for the vice-presidency, Senator Barkley, early figures show Truman and Dewey about the same.

Oklahoma - Truman 574; Dewey 24.

(And so the early scattering returns come in, seesawing and without much meaning. But at the moment they show President Truman running strong in states like Missouri.)

BUBBLE

This is nostalgic tonight - broadcasting in the C.B.S. mobile unit, the Bubble. A sort of hangover from the Philadelphia Convention, where the Bubble first went into operation - this radio station of wheels, where you can sit in a transparent plexi-glass dome, something like a goldfish bowl. ^{TR} In sweltering, crowded, convention-time Philadelphia - it was hard to get from hotel to radio station. So the Bubble was a great convenience, rolling right up to the hotel entrance; - and down you come, and in you step. That kind of convenience is not needed this early on Election Night in New York. But it is reminiscent ^{for} ~~in~~ this program, riding from my news headquarters over to the Columbia Broadcasting Station - where I'll be working a large part of the night - helping in the task of putting on the air the figures, the swing of returns, the political drama of ~~this~~ Election, ~~Night~~.

At the Philadelphia Convention, the Bubble had its baptism of broadcasting at the hands - or rather, the vocal chords - of this program. Plus Governor Warren of

California. The gentleman from the far west, who seems likely to be our next Vice-President, joined us in

breaking-in the Bubble. ^{At the time he didn't know what} ~~and he never knew what~~ ~~it~~ ^{was}

in for. And I will say this - the United States will never have had a more amiable, tolerant and forgiving Vice-President.

In Philadelphia he was virtually broiled. The weather at the

~~Philadelphia~~ Convention was a national headline - the heat

simply brutal, the sun beating down as if it wanted to fry

the whole town. ^{TP} So you can imagine what it was like in an

air-tight glass dome in the burning glare of the sun; - ~~it was~~

like a hot-house. We shed our coats and neckties, and rolled

up our sleeves - and sweated, as we drove from Convention Hall

to Republican headquarters - putting on this program all the

while. Governor Warren took it like ^a ~~a~~ good-natured ^{martyr,} ~~hero~~

mopping his brow as he spoke into the microphone.

But it's different tonight, cool and brisk in

New York - and it's pleasant here in the Bubble, as we drive

through the New York streets. Everything okay - even if a

sudden downpour of rain should break in a deluge. That element of rain provides a bit of comedy. A lot of us will remember the weather the afternoon Governor Dewey was nominated.

Right afterward a tremendous rainstorm hit Philadelphia, and it poured in buckets. But only briefly - and out came a brilliant rainbow. There was much mention of that glorious rainbow in the sky. *An omen? We see tonight.*

Well, the Bubble got caught in the deluge. I was not in it at the time, no broadcasting going on - which was lucky. Because the Bubble was rained out. The joints of the plexi-glass dome were not sealed ~~in~~ tight, and water poured in - flooding amplifiers, flooding the transmitter, ^{*flooding the crew.*} It was a wet, bedraggled Bubble, a soaked and sodden radio mobile unit - by the time that rainbow appeared.

But now The C.B.S. engineers tell me that all that has been fixed up. The joints of the plexi-glass dome have been sealed, waterproofed.

So, we don't care, even if it rains pitchforks,

as we are on our way to the ^{big} C.B.S. studio - where I'll be
handed the latest election figures, to end this program.

CANDIDATES

The line-up of election news always gives us accounts of the candidates voting, where they cast their ballots, and, if possible, some interesting slant. Today, we have one of these - which is really newsworthy.

The Republican vice-presidential candidate, Governor Warren of California, voting at Oakland. He had a run-in with a news photographer, and he certainly was in the right. Governor Warren stepped into a polling booth, for the secret ballot, and pulled the curtain. Whereupon the news photographer thrust a small camera over the top of the booth, and snapped a picture of Warren voting inside. ^R The California Governor immediately stepped out. "Don't you know," he demanded with plenty of heat, "that it's against the law to photograph a person while he is voting?"

Which certainly was to the point. The secret ballot is recognized far and wide as a major safeguard of Democratic liberty - and what kind of secret ballot is it, when a camera makes a picture to be published in the newspapers?

To the photographer, Governor Warren said: "I want you to destroy that film."

The cameraman knew he was in the wrong. He promptly apologized, and promised to burn the negative. Of course, I don't suppose it's any secret about the kind of ballot Governor Warren cast today. Republican? or Democratic, ^{for} Wallace? or Thurmond? But even a candidate for the vice-presidency has a right to a secret ballot.

Governor Dewey voted in New York - and he, in a way, violated the secrecy of his own ballot. Mrs. Dewey's too. When the Deweys, after voting, left the polling place, the Governor said: "Well, that's two votes we got, anyway."

^{TR} Governor Dewey says he's going to wait-up for the returns, and ^{then} go to his campaign headquarters - to thank the election workers.

President Truman, on the contrary, says he's going to bed early - ten o'clock. He voted today at his home town, Independence, Missouri - and his decision to go to bed early

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he believes

intimates that [^]the result of the election will not be known until tomorrow morning. He thinks the vote will be that close - so he's going to turn in and be up bright and early in the morning for the result. [^]Well, it's hard to think how a candidate for the presidency can sleep, roll in at ten o'clock, and [^]drowse off quietly, while the tense drama of ^{his own} election returns is being played. How many of us could do it?

ELECTION - KENTUCKY

In Bourbon County, Kentucky, they voted early and often ~~this morning~~ - at least some people did. The name of that county is, of course, famous in the annals of the kings of France - also at the corner saloon. And in Bourbon County there's a town with the name of - Paris. So at Paris, this morning, election workers brought in the empty ballot boxes - before the ~~hahaha~~ polls opened. At least, the ballot boxes were supposed to be empty. But somebody noticed something in one, and they found seventeen fully marked ~~ballots~~ ^{votes!} Somebody had done some ballot box stuffing and had voted even before the regular election day - voting seventeen times.

The town of Paris in Bourbon County is about a hundred per cent Democratic, and the ballots were marked that way - in this case ^{of} ~~the~~ voting being early and often.

MOONSHINE

In Kansas, one feature of the election is - prohibition. A bitter conflict raging around that venerable Kansas Dry Law - which, I believe, was the first prohibition law to be enacted in any state of the Union. ~~And~~ In various counties of the South, prohibition ^{still} is a burning election issue - which adds timeliness to a story from Knoxville, Tennessee, telling us how the moonshiners have grown modern.

In the old days of the mountains, the moonshiners had long beards, which were often seen at the rear end of a rifle pointing toward a revenue agent. But ~~now~~ today the mountaineers who deal in the product of illicit stills are up-to-date. They run the white mule in fast automobiles, hire sharp lawyers, and have a smart way of giving the alarm.

TR They have lookouts to spot revenue ^{ra} agents - and, when government men show up, a lookout touches off a blast of dynamite. The explosion reverberates through the hills, warning the moonshiners - who immediately leave their stills,

and gather at the local grocery store. There they ^{are} ~~was~~ found,
innocently sitting around, talking politics, probably.

ELECTION-ITALY

Here's an indication of interest abroad in the American election. Over in Italy, in Rome, the editor of a Communist newspaper telephoned the office of the United Press, and asked for the first election figures. The U.P. office in the Eternal City had, at the moment, the first returns that came in today - from the town of Hart's Location, in New Hampshire. The villagers there getting up and voting early. So the U.P. man gave the figures to the Communist editor:- Dewey eleven votes, Truman one vote.

To which the Red editor exclaimed, in blank astonishment: "What! No Wallace?"

And the echo from Hart's Location, New Hampshire, is - no, no Wallace.

PALESTINE

There's a rumor from Jerusalem that Israel and the Arabs are conducting secret peace negotiations. This is denied officially by both sides, but the reports persist - saying that behind closed doors, carefully concealed, peace talks are going on.

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And now, Nelson, while I check the latest figures will you take over for a moment.

FIGURES

The latest: First figures from Michigan - Dewey 27;
Truman 16.

Massachusetts, a Berkshire County town with a
comparison. Dewey 73; Truman 59. In Nineteen Forty-Four,
it was Dewey 68; Roosevelt 64.

More from Kansas - Dewey 14,300; Truman 13,800.

(The latest total for scattered votes shows -
Truman 83,000; Dewey 76,000.) This is in striking contrast
to the 1944 election, when the late President Roosevelt
piled up a large early lead, and was never headed off.

At
~~But~~ this time, four years ago, Roosevelt had a lead of
four to three, while tonight it's virtually neck and neck.

END

Here we are at our CBS election headquarters.
The latest figures handed into the Bubble include the
following: --

(Insert Here.)

That's the latest at this moment, but I'll
be back with some more election results on the Jack
Smith Show fifteen minutes from now, on this same station.

And now - So Long Until we meet in Fifteen
Minutes on the Jack Smith Show.

FIGURES FOR THE END

The count in Kentucky shows Dewey running strongly. Truman fifteen thousand and four hundred; Dewey fifteen thousand. From 22 Kentucky precincts, figures showing Dewey ahead. - forty-three hundred to forty-two hundred.

~~Tennessee~~

Tennessee, ~~Truman 1200~~ Dewey 1200; Truman 997.

Later from Tennessee, Dewey 1500; Truman 1300.

South Carolina shows Thurmond running away with the election, the Dixiecrat polling ~~for~~ four to five times as many votes as Truman - thus far.

At six o'clock, the total scattering vote, as tabulated by United Press, was - Dewey 42,000; Truman 46,000 - reflecting the comparatively heavy returns from the South.

Here are the first 169 precincts in ~~some~~ Connecticut! They give Dewey 280. Truman 119. Wallace 7. The Wallace vote thus far has been next to nothing - big city returns not yet having come in.

FRANCE

From France - news of another coal mine battle.

This one a flaming affair. Red strikers held a mine in eastern France - and today, when troops and police moved to the attack, walls of flame sprang up in front of them.

Communist action squads had laid a barricade of ditches filled with gasoline, and set fire to these, as the security forces approached. The attack was beaten off by the flames - but, when the ditches of gasoline burned out, tanks ground forward. The Communists replied with a barrage of missiles - including hand-grenades.

But the tank-led assailants captured the mine - one of the last of the coal pits held by Communists. One of the latest events in the collapsing strike - hosts of miners returning to their jobs in a back-to-work movement.

SMOG

Donora, Pennsylvania, had a happy election day - the smog blew away. A brisk wind ^{took off} ~~blew away~~ the murky mist of smoke, dust and fog that had caused a score of deaths. Six hundred people made ill - affected with ^a ~~small~~ [^] ~~ies~~ of the throat and lungs.

For days a cloud of smog hung over Donora - doctors and nurses, hospitals, kept busy. Victims - coughing, gasping, and given oxygen treatment. Most of the fatalities - elderly people with heart condition or asthma.

The local zinc factory, with its smelter, closed down. No more dense clouds of smoke pouring from its chimneys. Although - there was no certainty that the fatal epidemic was caused by gases from the smelter chimneys mingling with the smog. ^R But still, the murky mist covered the town, until today - when for the first time in ten days, Donora, Pennsylvania saw sunshine. The wind blew away the smog, and not one call for aid was received by the doctors. The air was clean and clear - the people were glad, and went to the polls to vote.