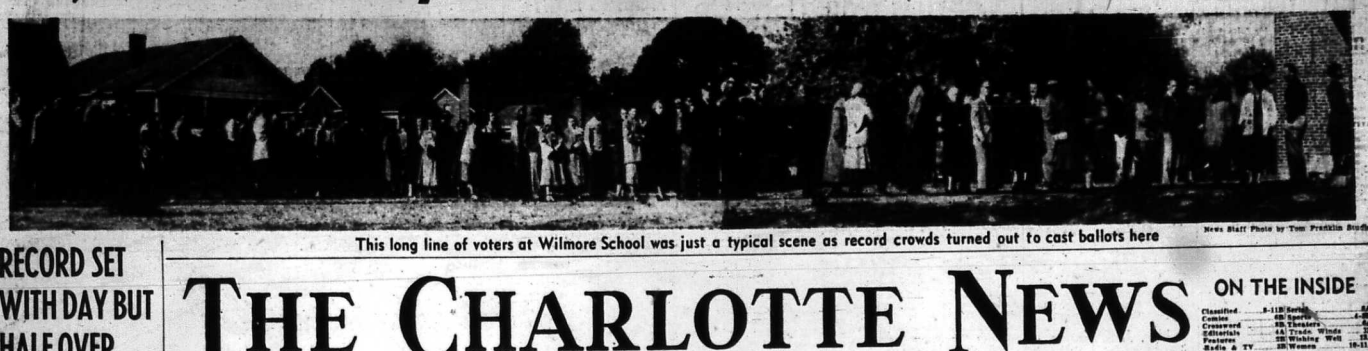
35,000 Vote By Noon In County's Biggest Turnout



This long line of voters at Wilmore School was just a typical scene as record crowds turned out to cast ballots here

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Boone

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolines

ESTABLISHED DEC. 8, 1888 — Charlotte, North Carolina, Tuesday, November 4, 1952 — ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ — 26 Pages—Price Five Cents

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BALLOTING POINTS TO RECORD

RECORD SET WITH DAY BUT HALF OVER

Astounded Registrars Call For More Help As Long Lines Form

By TOM FESPERMAN
Charlotte News Staff Writer

A tremendous turnout of citizens during the first five hours today indicated that a total of 70,000 or more votes would be cast in Mecklenburg before the polls close this evening.

Long lines formed outside many of the polling places, and some of the voters had to wait as much as two hours before getting to the registrars' tables.

The great majority of them waited patiently, and chatted good naturedly with their neighbors, despite a chilly breeze that made waiting uncomfortable.

CALL FOR HELP

Many registrars called for help long before the morning was over. W. Cleveland Davis, chairman of the Election Board, authorized them to "bring in as many additional election clerks as they need."

Registrars called on their neighbors, swore them in hurriedly while voters waited, and increased the election force to cope with the crowds.

All the registrars, members of the Election Board and politicians were wide-eyed as they stared at the lines.

While all of them had predicted a record-breaking vote in Mecklenburg, none apparently had expected it to be quite this big.

TO DOUBLE RECORD

If the pace is maintained through the afternoon hours, the previous record vote total in Mecklenburg—35,781 in the Roosevelt-Willkie race of 1940—would be doubled.

Mr. Davis said he expected lines to continue until official closing time at 6:30 P. M.

"Voters may be voting in some of these precincts as late as 9 o'clock tonight," Mr. Davis said.

He instructed the registrars of the 73 precincts to assign one clerk to stand at the end of any

See COUNTY on page 6-A

A table showing the turnout by noon today at most of Mecklenburg's 73 precincts may be found on the Second Front. Also on that page are photographs of the scenes at the jam-packed polling places this morning.

OUR WEATHER

Fair and cool today, fair and slightly colder tonight.

Fair and a little warmer tomorrow.

High temperature yesterday, 80 degrees.

High expected today, 68 degrees.

Low this morning, 38 degrees.

Low expected tonight, 28 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:47 A. M.; sunset, 5:26 P. M.

More Weather Data on page 6-A

Many NC Offices At Stake In Vote

RALEIGH (AP)—Tar Heels crowded to the voting booths today to take advantage of one of America's great heritages, the secret ballot.

A record high registration caused many observers to predict a record high vote.

The great registration had different meanings to Republican and Democratic leaders.

State Democratic Chairman Everett Jordan declared the "overwhelming majority" of new registrants were Democrats.

But State Republican Chairman J. M. Baley Jr., said the high registration indicated "a protest vote" and "means many, many people are disgusted with the Truman administration."

Polls in the state's 2,036 precincts opened at 6:30 A. M., with a promise of clear, cool weather and some scattered showers. They will close at 6:33 tonight and then the returns will start pouring in.

The big state-wide question was whether North Carolina would give a majority of its presidential votes to a Republican for the first time since 1928.

Republican candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower had much admitted strength among the rank and file voters, especially in the Western part of the state.

Baley declared the presidential race "is close in North Carolina" and predicted the general "would win an impressive victory in the nation."

Jordan predicted Adlai Stevenson would get 600,000 votes in North Carolina, enough to give him a lead of 250,000 to 300,000 over Eisenhower.

He also predicted a record vote of over 900,000. The record is 830,000 cast in 1936.

But the presidential race was not the only one to occupy the voter's attention. Tar Heels also chose a governor. The candidates were Democrat William B. Umstead and Republican Herbert Seawell.

They also picked a lieutenant governor and their top state officers, three Supreme Court justices, 12 congressmen, 170 members of the State Legislature, and numerous local officials.

AMENDMENTS

And they voted on the proposed amendments to the State Constitution.

Republicans gave themselves little chance of breaking through the state's solid Democratic front on the state level except in three congressional races. In the 10th they put up one of their leading heavyweights, Charles R. Jonas of Lincolnton, in their efforts to unseat Rep. Hamilton Jones of Charlotte. In the Ninth they had hopes Walter P. Johnson of Sparta would defeat Democrat Hugh Q. Alexander of Kannapolis. In the 11th, they pitted veteran campaigner George M. Pritchard against Rep. Woodrow W. Jones.

Led by Gov. Scott, most state officers returned to their homes to vote and await the returns.

TOP RACES

Here are the top state races at stake, with the Democratic candidate name-l first.

Lt. Gov. — Luther H. Hodges,

See HEAVY on page 6-A

THEY'LL KNOW BEFORE VERY LONG

Democratic Candidate Gov. Adlai Stevenson is joined by his sister, Mrs. Elisabeth Ives, as he waves to crowds which greeted him during his campaign. The wife of a retired diplomat, Mrs. Ives will become first lady of the land if the Governor wins. (UP Telephoto).

At Abilene, Kan., shading his eyes from the mid-Summer sun, Republican Presidential Candidate Dwight Eisenhower gave the appearance of a man looking into the future as he sat with his wife, Mamie, on the speaker's platform. (UP Telephoto).

Voters Give Verdict After Bitter Race

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans turned out in great numbers today to elect a new President and in various cities across the country election officials said this should be the heaviest voting in history.

The citizens were making their choice between Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower and Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson at the close of a bitter campaign.

Generally fair weather helped to pile up the totals and some polling places were swamped from the very opening hour.

It was plain a record total of ballots was going into the making of the verdict on the Republican argument that "It's time for a change" and the Democratic contention that Americans "never had it so good."

Some forecasters predicted 55-60 million ballots. The biggest vote cast in the past was 49,820,312 in 1948 when Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated Republican Wendell Willkie.

MYSTERY IN BOOTH

Though the outward scene was similar everywhere, the big mystery was what was going on behind the curtains of the voting booth—did the big vote mean "a landslide for Ike" as Republicans hoped, or "a big sweep for Stevenson" as Democrats wished?

The result may be known around midnight tonight or, if the voting is extremely close, perhaps not until tomorrow. The last of the polls to close, some on the West Coast, will be open until 11 p .m. (EST).

As usual, a scattering of smaller precincts got in all their votes and made a count soon after the opening hour.

FIRST RETURNS

Sharon, N. H., bidding to be first in the nation, had all its votes in by seven minutes after midnight. The count: Eisenhower 32, Stevenson 14.

Four years ago, the vote in Sharon was 21 for Republican Thomas E. Dewey, four for Democrat Harry Truman and two for Progressive Party candidate Henry A. Wallace.

Brown's Farm, Fla., gave Eisenhower four and Stevenson four. In the last election, it gave Truman four and J. Strom Thurmond, State's Right candidate, two.

Rutland, another small Florida precinct, reported 14 for Stevenson and 10 for Eisenhower. Officials didn't recall how it voted in 1948.

From Cataloochee, a mountain cove in North Carolina's Great Smokies, the returns were 7-0 for

See RECORD on page 6-A

FIRST N. C. BOX SOLID FOR STEVENSON

CATALOOCHEE— (AP) —This Haywood County precinct high up in North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains, reported all seven of its registered voters cast their ballots for Adlai Stevenson in today's election.

Four years ago President Truman received all seven votes.

Stevenson Votes Straight Ticket In Last Effort

Nominee Has To Wait Turn In Long Line

HALF DAY, Ill. (AP)—Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson came to this little village today and voted the straight Democratic ticket in the final act of his fight to win the presidency of the United States.

A crowd of some 200 townspeople stood outside the polling place. The Town Hall was jammed when he entered and it took him 30 minutes of waiting for other voters to complete balloting before he could find a booth and mark his ballot.

The governor had driven to Half Day from the exclusive residential suburb of Lake Forest where he spent the night at the home of friends, Mr. and Mrs. Hermon Dunlap Smith.

Just before going into the booth, Stevenson said: "I never thought it was so hard to vote. There is quite a crowd here."

When Stevenson went into the booth, his two sons, Bordon and John Fell, followed him to the canvas curtain and then stood outside waiting their father to complete marking his ballot.

The crowd of about 200, on hand when Stevenson arrived, quickly grew into a crowd of about 1,000, including a great many school children who swarmed in for a glimpse of the governor.

There was a holiday air in the little community.

Beside a nearby church, a tent had been erected on the church lawn and the women were serving soft drinks and sandwiches to any of those who might drop in.

The Democratic candidate's final speech from Chicago was in its total effect, a call to forget the bitterness and the strife and the name-calling of the presidential campaign and to unite behind the winner—whoever he might be.

He appealed to the people to close tehir ears to the "cowardly voices of hate and fear and suspicion" and to believe and trust in each other.

And he said: "If your decision is Gen. Eisenhower and the Republican party, I shall ask every one who voted for me to accept the verdict with traditional American sportsmanship. If you select me, I shall ask the same of the Republicans, and I shall ask our Lord to make me an instrument of his peace."

Stevenson's last-minute appeal

See STEVENSON on page 6-A

Eisenhower Awaits Decision In New York

Republican Candidate Appears Confident

By RELMAN MORIN

NEW YORK (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower returned to New York today to await the decision of a nation.

He made a last great appeal last night for a mandate from the American people to take his "crusade" into the White House. Peace, he said, is "the dearest treasure in the sight of free men," and he placed it at the head of his objectives if he is elected.

This was his last major campaign speech.

Eisenhower came home to sit out the biggest day of his life since that heavy hour, in June 1944, when, having said, "Let 'er rip," there was nothing to do but wait. Then, it was the great invasion; today it was the end of a struggle for the greatest office on earth.

WIFE WITH HIM

His wife—famous now as "my Mamie"—was beside him.

The Republican nominee was a picture of confidence.

He seemed more at ease, more sure of himself, in his last appearances last night in Boston than

See GENERAL on page 6-A

Human Side Of The Election

TARENTUM, Pa.—(AP)—Nothing could keep Mrs. Virginia Borrison from voting today—not even the birth of a son.

Six hours after she gave birth to a baby boy in Allegheny Valley Hospital, the mother, accompanied by her husband in an ambulance, went to the polls one-half mile from the hospital and cast her ballot.

After voting, she returned to the hospital. The attending physician was Dr. J. A. Borrison, brother of the father.

NEW YORK—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower will fly to Augusta, Ga., tomorrow for a brief rest after his campaign for the Presidency.

Mrs. Eisenhower said today she and the General, their daughter-in-law, Mrs. John Eisenhower, and three grandchildren, will make the trip.

She declined to comment on reports that Eisenhower, if elected, would go to Korea after spending one day in Georgia.

ABILENE, Kansas —(AP)— Of the first 44 votes cast in Dwight Eisenhower's home town in today's general election, 39 were for the Republican candidate for President.

The early voting was heavy.

Incomplete, unofficial returns from seven of eleven precincts of Parsons gave: Eisenhower 299, Stevenson 164.

In 1948, Parsons, an industrial town, cast 57.9 per cent of its vote for President Truman.

Unofficial and incomplete returns from a rural Shawnee County (Topeka) precinct, Potter, gave: Eisenhower 34, Stevenson 15.

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Carpenters worked full speed this Election Day building stands for the Jan. 20 inauguration of the next President.

Construction of the stands, which will seat 15,000 persons, has been underway at the Capitol for about a month. The plan is to complete the task shortly before Christmas.

COLUMBIA, S. C. —(AP)—The first complete box in South Carolina's Presidential balloting today gave Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower five votes to three for Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson.

The first reported complete box was at Bell's store in a rural area of McCormick County.

BOSTON —(AP)— Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower suffered a slight cut and a swelling on his head early today when he was struck by a clock which fell from a temporary stand.

The Republican nominee was posing for pictures in a television studio shortly before leaving for New York when the timepiece fell on his right temple.

He finished posing for the press photographers before a small piece of adhesive was placed on the wound.

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Weather is co-operating with the get-out-the-vote drive by remaining generally fair over most of the nation today.

Only exceptions, the bureau said, may be snow flurries in Western Montana and showers in extreme Southern Florida, Northern New Mexico, Southern Colorado and coastal areas of Washington and Oregon.

Election At A Glance

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Presidency—sought by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower (R), Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson (D), and seven minor party candidates.

Senate—93 candidates competing for 34 seats. Present lineup 49 Democrats, 46 Republicans, one independent Republican.

House—904 candidates for 432 seats. Present lineup 230 Democrats, 200 Republicans, one independent, four vacancies. (Maine elected three Republican members Sept. 8).

Governorships—69 candidates for 29 state offices. Present lineup 25 Republicans, 23 Democrats.

Registered voters—75,378,785.

Estimated vote—55 million or more.

Earliest poll closing—4 P. M. (EST), in some parts of Rhode Island.

Latest poll closing—11 P. M. (EST—8 P. M. Pacific Time), in California, Oregon and Washington.

Red Assaults Turned Back By Dug-In Allied Soldiers

SEOUL (AP)—Dug-in Allied soldiers today hurled back predawn Red assaults on the Korean Eastern and Central Fronts.

North Korean Communists launched six attacks in the Heartbreak Ridge sector. Each was stopped cold despite unusually heavy Red artillery and mortar fire.

Chinese Reds on the Central Front stormed all night long at South Korean positions atop bloody Sniper Ridge. The ROKs beat back the final assault at dawn.

The U. S. Eighth Army said Sniper and nearby Triangle Hill were quieter today than at any time since the Allies launched their Central Front attack Oct. 14.

The mercury dipped to a bone-chilling 1 degree above zero.

American soldiers huddled around their radios for the latest news of the U. S. presidential elections. One of the most interested listeners was Maj. John Eisenhower, son of the Republican candidate.

A battalion of North Koreans — about 750 men — powered the biggest Red attack on the mountainous Eastern Front. The Reds slammed straight at Heartbreak Ridge.

Allied infantrymen, fighting from trenches and bunkers, stopped the assault cold in a three-hour battle. The defenders estimated they killed or wounded more than 100 Red Koreans.

Five other attacks, up to 175 men in size hit elsewhere along a four-mile sector.

On the center, about 200 Chinese Reds tried to scramble to the top of Sniper Ridge during the night. None got closer than 100 yards.

A company of Chinese hit an Allied outpost south of Pyonggang on the Central Front early this morning. They seized part of the hill, but lost it to counterattacking U.N. troops.

Democrats Hold Edge In Congressional Race

By JOHN CHADWICK

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Democrats carried a numerical advantage into the showdown battle with the Republicans today for control of the next Congress.

Victory predictions came from both sides as the voters began making their choices after listening to weeks of campaign oratory.

The outcome was bound to be influenced by the presidential race and, conversely, to have an important bearing on the success of the next president's administration.

At stake in today's balloting are 34 of the 96 Senate seats and 432 of the 435 House seats. Maine elected a Republican Senator and three GOP House members on Sept. 8.

The House, where the Democrats now outnumber the Republicans 230 to 200, has rarely run counter to the presidential tide. Capitol authorities said that only twice—in 1848 and 1876—has an incoming president been faced by a House controlled by another party.

DIFFERENT PICTURE

The Senate presents a different picture. Numerous Republican senators conceded privately that it probably would take an Eisenhower landslide for them to capture the Senate.

The Democrats now hold 49 Senate seats—the bare minimum necessary for control. But only 14 of their seats are on the block and five of these are in the Democratic south.

The Republicans have 46 seats, not counting Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon, who "resigned" from the Republican party and threw his support behind Stevenson in the presidential race.

With Morse's defection, the Republicans needed to pick up at least three seats to be assured of con-

See DEMOCRATS on page 6-A