

# Italians Defy Dark Skies to Register Vote

**By STAN SWINTON**  
**ROME (AP)** — Some 20 million Italians, defying rainsqualls and somber skies, swarmed to the polls Sunday in a national election that will determine the fate of Premier Alcide de Gasperi's pro-Western government.  
 Unofficial returns indicated that between 63 and 70 per cent of the 30,348,789 registered voters turned out on the first day of the two-day balloting.  
 They voted at 48,743 polling places, guarded by strong contingents of police and troops, for the second postwar Parliament in strategic Italy. First returns are not expected until Monday.  
 Predictions are that a heavy vote should assure victory for de Gasperi's coalition of four center parties.  
 In Rome, the national capital, a turnout of 72 per cent of the registered voters was reported.  
 At stake are 590 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 237 of the 343 Senate seats. Since results on the Senate contests will be tallied first, results on the more important lower chamber elections may not be available until late Monday or early Tuesday.  
**To Determine Trend**  
 The outcome will determine whether Italy will retain its pro-Western, pro-American middle-of-the-road democracy, move to the left with the pro-Moscow Communists and extreme leftist pro-Red Socialists, or try to turn the clock back with the increasingly strong monarchists and neo-Fascists.  
 The voting was unusually orderly and quiet. Only one shooting was reported, from Reggio Calabria Province at the southernmost tip of the Italian "boot's toe."  
 There a Communist fired five shots into his cousin who was trying to convince the Red's wife to cast a pro-Western ballot. The wounded man is expected to live.  
**Tried to Take Ballots**  
 Police and army guards halted a few other scuffles. A tipsy Communist poll watcher on the island of Sardinia tried to walk out with 137 ballots in his pocket but was captured.  
 Interior Minister Mario Scelba charged Communist rowdies with conducting organized "hunts" to prevent Roman Catholic nuns from voting.  
 In half a dozen towns Communist officials demanded that crucifixes be removed from polling places, but police refused. Crucifixes are found normally in most Italian schools and other public buildings normally used as polling places in Catholic Italy.  
 Most observers believe de Gasperi's coalition of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Republicans, and moderate Socialists will win by a narrow margin of the 50.01 per cent of the vote which would give the bloc bonus seats in the Chamber of Deputies.

# Sheds 'Royal Tears'



**KEENE, N. H.**—Being crowned Queen of a church 'Kiddie' carnival at Keene, N. H., proved too much for four-year-old Barbara Keene and she broke down and cried when the crown was placed on her head. Prince consort Ralph Newell Jr. (left) placed on her head. Prince consort Ralph Newell Jr. (left) seems a model of restraint in view of the queen's outburst. (AP)

# Vandenberg Says Red Jets Peril to Europe

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg says Russia has a rapidly growing fleet of light jet bombers which can hit any point in free Europe in an hour or if pitted against the Allies in Korea can "quickly jeopardize" the UN position there.  
 In the most detailed official public discussion thus far on Soviet capabilities, the USAF chief of staff who is fighting against administration-ordered cuts in the Air Force budget also:  
 1. Said the TU-4 medium bombers of the U. S. S. R. can "deliver the atomic bomb through staging bases already prepared in Siberia and Northern Russia to any target in the United States in a one-way mission."  
 2. Asserted "the initial blows in any struggle are likely to be the decisive ones. We no longer can count on having time, as we did in the last two wars, to mobilize our military resources after the fighting has begun."  
 "If Soviet industries, and airfields, and transport facilities were left intact while they struck with atomic weapons at those of the West, we would have no chance of ever meeting them again on anything like equal terms."  
 This comment by Vandenberg seemed to challenge the basic policy of industrial mobilization, under which additional weapons for all-out war would be produced after hostilities had started.

# AEC Seeks to End Control of Atomic Cities

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Atomic Energy Commission has submitted to the Budget Bureau a plan to turn the atomic cities Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Richland, Wash., over to the people who live there.  
 AEC Chairman Gordon Dean disclosed this to the House Independent Offices Appropriations Subcommittee in testimony made public Sunday.  
 Dean said the AEC does not now plan to relinquish Los Alamos, Nevada. He made the statements after Rep. Phillips (R-Calif.) asserted Richland was operated on an "extravagant scale."  
 Phillips said cost of such services at Richland as fire and police protection, parks and health and welfare work were higher than in most Washington cities and added:  
 "It seems to me you ought to dispose of Richland as a federally owned community."  
**"Agree Completely"**  
 "We agree with you completely both as to Oak Ridge and Richland, but Los Alamos for the moment is in a separate category," Dean replied.  
 The AEC has spent much time, he said, in working out plans "to turn these communities back to the people who live in them, including provisions for incorporation, sale of the homes."  
 A plan to dispose of the two towns "eventually" will come to Congress, he said.  
**Civic Improvements**  
 Phillips wanted to know why, if plans were shaping up to dispose of the two towns, that the AEC wanted \$3,724,000 for community improvements during the fiscal year starting July 1.  
 M. W. Boyer, AEC general manager, said the commission wanted to have the governmental facilities in good operating condition for the cities and that some repairs and improvements were needed.  
 Phillips was told that the request had been reduced to \$1,543,000 for Richland and \$800,000 for Oak Ridge.  
 David P. Shaw, manager of the Hanford, Wash., operations office, said the AEC expects to realize about \$40 million from the sale of land and property at Richland. No figure was given for Oak Ridge.  
 Shaw said at Richland the AEC would "dedicate the community plant to the new community. That is, the roads and streets and the utilities and the municipal part of it."

# Jeep Used in Alps As Lofty Taxi Cab

**VIENNA (AP)** — An American jeep now appears to be the world's highest taxi cab.  
 In the heart of the Austrian alps, a four wheeled U. S. Army veteran will take you to the region of eternal ice and to a mid-summer ski area for a few Austrian schillings.  
 This latest tourist attraction has been introduced by an enterprising Alpine innkeeper on the 8,200-foot Rotkogel mountain in the Oetz Valley alps.  
 To reach the taxi-stand, tourists first take a chair lift from Soelden to the 6,800-foot Hoch Soelden. From there they take another chairlift to the Rotkogel. The jeep was dismantled and taken up on the same lifts.

# Rapist, Killers Escape From N. Y. Hospital

**BEACON, N. Y. (AP)** — A rapist and two dangerous killers who escaped from Matteawan State Hospital for the criminally insane Sunday morning were still at large despite an intense police search.  
 One of the killers, Raymond Wood, 27, of Oneonta, N. Y., was adjudged insane while awaiting a murder trial in the Oneonta slaying of three persons.  
 The other fugitives are William Schmit, 20, of Lake Ronkonkoma, Long Island, and William Shanks, 30, Brooklyn Negro.  
 All three men were adjudged insane before their trials.  
 Schmit was charged with keeping two girls prisoner in his apartment for six hours last January, threatening them with a knife and shotgun and raping both. Shanks was sent to Matteawan in June, 1947. He was accused of killing a man in a Brooklyn brawl.

# Pair Drown In Car Wreck

**VALE, Ore. (AP)** — A pickup truck went over an embankment into Bully Creek 15 miles west of here Sunday, drowning Jerry Jackson Hensley, 40, and his wife Dorra, 45.  
 They were trapped inside the car when it rolled over and landed upside down in the creek.  
 The accident occurred at about 2:30 a.m. It was discovered when a neighbor saw a tail light on the Hensley truck still shining under water.

# APARTMENTS COLLAPSE

**MOLFETTA, Italy (AP)** — A big apartment house collapsed in this southern port city Sunday. Most of the 100 residents were at the polls for the parliamentary elections. The few children left at home ran to safety when the structure began to shake. Cause of the collapse was not determined.

# Granada Way, from Hansen Avenue to Haight Street

**NOTICE HEREBY IS GIVEN** that the Common Council of the city of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve GRANADA WAY, from the south line of Hansen Avenue to the west line of Haight Street, in the city of Salem, Marion County, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said street to the established grade, providing drainage, constructing concrete curbs and paving said portion of said street with a 2 1/2" asphaltic concrete pavement 30 feet wide at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the street and alley intersections, which expense will be assumed by the city of Salem, all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor which were adopted by the Common Council May 25, 1953, which are now on file in the office of the city recorder and which by this reference thereto are made a part hereof. These plans and specifications may be examined by any interested party. The Common Council hereby declares its purpose and intention to make the above described improvement by and through the street improvement department.  
 Owners of property liable for the cost of making such improvement may file written remonstrance against the same with the city recorder at any time within ten days after the final publication of this notice.  
 By Order of the Common Council May 25, 1953.  
 ALFRED MUNDT, City Recorder.  
 Date of final publication June 15, 1953. J.1.8.15

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# The Nation's Top Comics

DAILY AND SUNDAY in Your Home Newspaper



**A Bit Of This-'n-That**  
 By Sid Boise and George Huggins

**Dear Queen Elizabeth:**  
 We followed your coronation with a great deal of interest on the boss' TV set a few nights ago and an interesting thought came to mind. We couldn't help but wonder if your crown was insured and if so, by what company—Lloyd's of London? Our own General Insurance Company of America insures diamond rings, bracelets, watches and other jewelry for our friends in the Willamette Valley but we doubt if it has ever been called upon to insure a crown. However, our facilities are available and we would be willing to write this "all risk" insurance at our regular rate of \$1.60 per \$100 of valuation. In other words, \$1,000,000.00 of insurance would cost just \$16,000.00 This would be a refreshing experience for us because no one we know could even pay the premium.  
 Respectively yours,  
 This-'N-That  
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