

# Kennedy Narrowly Favored To Capture Majority of Southern States

## Tossup Expected In Some Areas; No Runaway Seen

By CHILES COLEMAN  
Atlanta — (UPI) — The election outlook in 12 Southern states which have a total of 138 electoral votes: Most experts call it for Nixon but it may be very close. Democrats are counting on Friday's visit by Kennedy to help, but privately are worried over the silent voters and the imponderable religious question. Nixon-Lodge Democrats have been carrying the campaign bill, citing Nixon as "more conservative" than Kennedy and the Democratic platform. Sen. Harry F. Byrd, key Democratic leader, silent campaign-long.

North Carolina — (14 electoral votes): Neutral political observers still class North Carolina as doubtful. On basis of past experience, Kennedy would be favored, since the state had gone Democratic in presidential elections since 1928. The doubtful tag this time stems from the closeness of the 1956 race, dislike of the national Democratic platform, a more active and vocal Republican effort this year, an intangible groundswell of GOP strength that may or may not materialize in the presidential column. A strenuous Democratic campaign at the state-office level may help Kennedy.

South Carolina — (8 electoral votes): Most experts now think Nixon will give GOP its first presidential victory in South Carolina since reconstruction but all say it will be very, very close, and the Democratic tradition alone may be enough to swing it for Kennedy. Gov. Ernest Hollings, Sen. Olin Johnston and Rep. Robert Hemphill are the only elected Democratic officials actively campaigning for Kennedy. Sen. Strom Thurmond and five Democratic congressmen have kept hands off. Former Governor and U.S. Secretary of States James F. Byrnes is campaigning for Nixon.

Georgia — (12 electoral votes): Charges of alleged interference by Kennedy in connection with the arrest and imprisonment of integration leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. have hurt the Democrats, as admitted by Gov. Ernest Vandiver. Nearly everyone believes the Democrats will still carry the state but perhaps by not as large a majority as previously forecast. Georgia electors are unpledged by law. Seven of the 12 say they will vote for Kennedy-Johnson; the other five may or may not.

Florida — (10 electoral votes): The presidential race is considered neck-and-neck. Nixon is still given a slight edge privately by poll experts. Democratic Gov. nominee Farris Bryant says he believes the two candidates are less than 1,000 votes apart. GOP state chairman G. H. Alexander says Florida is safe for Nixon; Kennedy state manager Fred Dickinson says Kennedy-Johnson will carry Florida by 50,000 votes or more. Most of the state's big city dailies have endorsed Nixon.

Alabama — (11 electoral votes): Alabama is expected to remain faithful to the Democratic party but most political forecasters believe a vote will be the closest in the state's history. The big issue is religion. Metropolitan area — Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile — voted Re-

publican in 1952 and 1956 but the rural vote kept Alabama Democratic. This time, prognosticators say, the influence of Protestant churches on the rural vote will be felt. If the Democrats win, only five of the Alabama electors are pledged to support the Kennedy-Johnson ticket. Other six are states righters pledged not to vote for a candidate repugnant to the South.

Mississippi — (8 electoral votes): Racial segregation is the big issue in the minds of most Mississippians. Since neither party sees eye-to-eye with them on this, a slate of unpledged electors is on the ballot under a plan supported by Gov. Ross Barnett. It is expected to fare well, although Sen. James Eastland and most other political veterans are remaining in the Democratic ranks. Republicans have made an all-out campaign to expect more GOP votes than ever before in Mississippi. A close three-way race is almost certain.

Tennessee — (11 electoral votes): Democrats have gone all out to put Tennessee back in the party column after two consecutive defeats in presidential elections. But most experts rate the state a tossup, mainly because of uncertainty as to the effect of the religious issue. Street polls by newspapers and radio stations have shown Kennedy leading on some spots, Nixon in others.

Texas — (24 electoral votes): Another tossup. One statewide poll shows Nixon leading, another gives the nod to Kennedy. Most observers think a last-minute swing by Kennedy and native son Lyndon Johnson would carry Texas for the Democrats. Democrats appear to be running best in the rural areas, but Dallas is expected to go Republican.

Arkansas — (8 electoral votes): Politicians generally agree Arkansas will go for Kennedy, continuing its traditional Democratic vote. Heavy registration in northwest Arkansas indicates a hearty Republican turnout. Other influencing factors: Refusal of Gov. Orval Faubus to endorse the national Democratic platform, his lukewarm endorsement of the national ticket, his repeated emphasis that voters have a choice of voting Democratic, Republican or for unpledged national states rights electors.

Louisiana — (10 electoral votes): A special legislative session, convened Friday by Gov. Jimmie H. Davis in an effort to avoid integration of New Orleans schools Nov. 14, threatened the lead most experts believed the Democrats had. Late September estimates gave the Democrats about half the vote, Nixon less than 30 per cent, and a state's rights slate the rest. Developments at the special session, where states righters were in command, may sway enough voters at the last minute to change the picture materially.

Kentucky — (10 electoral votes): Most experts agree with the Louisville Courier-Journal analysis of last Sunday, which gave Kennedy and Nixon one safe district each and three "leaning" districts each with a slight overall edge to Nixon. Experts feel Kennedy has been hurt in Kentucky by the religious issue, and by what appears to be a lack of drive and direction in state Democratic headquarters. Republican Sen. John Sherman Cooper considered safe for reelection.

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### Pool Winner Seeks Tolerant Husband

Barnet, England — (UPI) — Mrs. Jean Corbette, a 35-year-old widow, is looking for a husband — and she is not ashamed to admit it.

"I'm not fussy what he looks like as long as he's not bald or heavy," she said. "If he knows how to have a good time, and if he can put up with my three children — he's mine."

Mrs. Corbette, who even owns a house, listed these other attributes: "I love going out, having fun and gambling. But I don't say my husband will have an easy time. I don't like housework very much."

Mrs. Corbette has one other good feature — she won \$92,800 in a football pool last week.

### 'It Could Be You' Star Resting Well

Los Angeles — (UPI) — Bill Leyden, star of the "It Could Be You" NBC TV show, was reported resting comfortably today at the Cedars of Lebanon hospital where he was undergoing treatment for a shotgun wound suffered in a hunting accident.



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