

Southern Voters End 100 Years of Tradition in Tuesday's Voting

Seven States Cast Ballots for Roman Catholic

Atlanta — (UPI) — Southern voters wrote an end to 100 years of political tradition in Tuesday's presidential election.

Seven of the 12 southern "Bible Belt" states cast their ballots for Roman Catholic John F. Kennedy and a strong civil rights platform.

Four went for Republican Richard M. Nixon and a civil rights plank almost as strong. Mississippi went its own way and rejected both major parties by a narrow margin.

There was a heavy Republican vote everywhere in Dixie. But many political leaders who had rejected the national Democratic platform or given Kennedy only lukewarm support found their states going heavily for the young Boston Irishman.

Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia went for Nixon, as they did for Dwight Eisenhower. South Carolina, where former U. S. Secretary

of State James F. Byrnes campaigned for Nixon, had been expected to go Republican for the first time since reconstruction days. But Kennedy took South Carolina by a narrow margin.



EXPRESSES GRATITUDE — Vice President-elect Lyndon Johnson and his wife, Lady Bird, smile graciously as Sen. Johnson expresses his gratitude at being elected to the second highest office in the nation. They will spend some time at the LBJ ranch in Johnson City, Tex., before returning to Washington. (UPI Telephoto)

in 1956, a huge vote was cast for the segregationist States' Rights party. Both parties at their national conventions had refused for the first time to give ground to demands by southern political leaders for a soft stand on civil rights. Nixon and Kennedy, campaigning vigorously in the South, stood on the civil rights planks of their platforms.

Although the Republican party failed to add to its number of southern congressmen — retaining its present five — the GOP swept to a surprisingly large number of local offices in Florida.

Strong in Florida — In Rich Palm Beach county, where Democratic Sheriff John Kirk had just helped crack the state's most baffling murder case, Republicans swept Kirk, two county commissioners and the registrar

supervisor out of office. The GOP won eight seats in the Florida legislature.

Republican gubernatorial nominee George Peterson polled more than a half-million votes in losing, and State Republican Chairman G. Harold Alexander proclaimed that Florida "is now a two-party state."

There was no immediate indication where Mississippi's eight unpledged electoral

votes would go. Georgia's 12 electors were nominally unpledged but expected to go to Kennedy. Six of Alabama's 11 electors could under law withhold their vote from Kennedy.

In North Carolina Republican Robert Gavin pushed Democrat Terry Sanford to the limit before losing out in his race for governor.

Other Republican congressmen reelected in the South

Los Angeles — (UPI) — Dr. R. Bernard Finch's attorney today examined a possible legal loophole through which the surgeon might be able to escape a third trial on charges of murdering his wife and thus go free.

LACK OF IODINE — Rochester — The north central states of the U.S. have an unusual number of goiter cases because the soil and water are deficient in iodine.

New Distant Early Warning Line construction in Greenland includes two big steel buildings that stand on "stilts" 19 feet above the ice cap and will be jacked up three feet hydraulically each year. The two-story structures are each 133 by 144 feet. They have to be raised to keep from being buried by the snow, which builds up on the cap about a yard each year.

North Carolina reelected Republican Congressman Charles R. Jones, and Republican Heinz Rollman came close to upsetting Rep. Roy Taylor (D-N.C.).

Other Republican congressmen reelected in the South

were William C. Cramer of Florida, B. Carroll Reece of Tennessee and Richard Poff and Joel Broyhill of Virginia.

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Italians Uneasy as Vesuvius Scheduled To Erupt Again Soon

By HERBERT G. SPENCER

Rome — (UPI) — The Italian boot stands today under the threat of a volcanic hot-foot which is no joke. The Roman city of Pompeii is centuries dead and buried by ash, its skeleton now laid bare for the amateur archaeologist and curious tourist to study.

Volcanologists say if Vesuvius sticks to her shaky schedule — the last eruption was in 1944 — she may blow her top again this year or next.

Only recently, man-killing Mount Etna in Sicily exploded with the biggest blast ever

recorded at the volcano with modern instruments.

The island volcano of Stromboli, North of Sicily, is continually active, although its close neighbor, Vulcano, has been dormant for 64 years.

But sleep means nothing to an Italian volcano, often as unpredictable as a Roman love affair.

The citizens of Pompeii found that out the hard way when Vesuvius, thought to be dormant, erupted Aug. 24, 79 B.C.

Hot pebbles of pumice-stone the size of navy beans showered down on the city, burying it to a depth of seven to eight feet. Then a rain of volcanic ash mixed with condensed steam from the crater buried Pompeii three feet deeper.

Most of the city's 20,000-30,000 inhabitants managed to escape, but some 2,000 perished. You can see startlingly life-like casts of some of their bodies — made by the soft lava which buried them — in a museum at Pompeii.

Vesuvius continued to erupt through the centuries. Seven eruptions were recorded through the Middle Ages until 1500.

The volcano went to sleep for 131 years, then exploded with new fury in 1631, killing 3,000 persons. There were several eruptions in the 18th century. Lava flows buried villages on the slopes.

Streets Covered — In 1906, one of the greatest eruptions ever recorded hurled ash clouds 12,000 feet into the air. The streets and houses of Naples were covered with two inches of ash, and heavier falls nearer the crater collapsed buildings, including the packed church in which 200 died.

Volcanic dust from Vesuvius fell as far away as Paris and Constantinople.

Another spectacular eruption by Vesuvius in 1944 showered ash on Allied and German troops locked in the battle of Cassino 60 miles to the north. The glow of the volcano's crater provided a beacon for Allied night bombers.

Volcanologist Giuseppe Imbo said there is little statistical data on Vesuvius' eruptions to make firm predictions, but noted the volcano becomes active every 14-17 years.

According to that schedule, Vesuvius could blow its top again within the year.

Over in Sicily, Mount Etna is more predictable, more active and a bigger killer.

An estimated million persons have lost their lives in Etna eruptions and accompanying earthquakes since the volcano's activity was first recorded by the Greek poet Pindar in 476 B.C.

The 10,742-foot volcano, Europe's tallest, has erupted hundred of times down through the centuries. One explosion in 1693 was followed by an earthquake which killed up to an estimated 100,000 persons.

Less Destructive — During this century Etna's eruptions have been less destructive. Although lava flow from the crater to the sea destroyed one village and partially devastated another in 1928.

July's big explosion on Etna, according to volcanologist Alfred Rittmann, was the largest ever recorded.

Since the July 17 blast, the level of magma — molten lava — inside the crater has risen. Peasants on the fertile slopes of Mount Etna are casting fearful glances toward the smoking crater.

They know Italy's volcanoes, like the weather and love, are often dangerously unpredictable.

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