

Ike Splits Solid South As Landslide Pours In

ATLANTA (AP) — Dwight D. Eisenhower split the Solid South to bits in Tuesday's general election and immediately a high Republican official in Florida said his feat was the beginning of the two party system in Dixie.

With four states in the Eisenhower fold, a fifth apparently on the way to a Republican triumph and a sixth nip-and-tuck, Ike had polled more Southern popular votes than any other GOP nominee.

Firmly in Eisenhower's grasp were Florida, Oklahoma, Virginia and Texas. On the basis of almost complete returns, he had taken Tennessee. Ike held a 4,000 vote lead in Tennessee early Wednesday and nearly all of the remaining unreported precincts were in predominantly Republican East Tennessee.

By taking those five states the Republicans would pile up 65 electoral votes. The race was tight in Louisiana and where that state's 10 electoral votes might go awaited further ballot counting.

"It is the beginning of the two-party system in the South," said Paul Helliwell of Miami, vice chairman of the "Florida for Eisenhower" committee.

The other seven states of the traditionally Solid South—Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and North and South Carolina—with 71 electoral votes appeared safe for the Democrats' Adlai Stevenson.

Yet in overall popular vote, with many precincts still missing, the final general counted 4,000,000 which was more than twice the

total gained by Thomas E. Dewey in 1936—and fewer than 100,000 behind the Stevenson total at this point.

Later returns may put him to more than double the previous Republican high mark in Dixie set by Hoover in 1928.

Hoover polled slightly more than 2,500,000 votes in carrying seven of the Southern states that year. It was Dixie's greatest defection by states.

All five states which Eisenhower has or may carry also went for Hoover in '28.

In his 1952 assault on the South, Eisenhower probed at the chinks in Democratic solidarity disclosed by the States Rights movement in 1948. But he found few soft spots there and lost at least three of

the four states, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina, which returned States Rights majorities.

In rolling up the largest Southern vote ever registered by a Republican he made heavy inroads in practically all of the states he failed to carry.

The outcome was a victory for some old line Democrats, defeat for others. Notable winners were Gov. Allan Shivers of Texas and his Democratic party organization, which bolted to Eisenhower over the tide lands oil issue.

On the seaway side are Govs. Robert Kennon of Louisiana and James Byrnes of South Carolina, and urged their supporters to do likewise.

In Virginia, Sen. Harry F. Byrd,

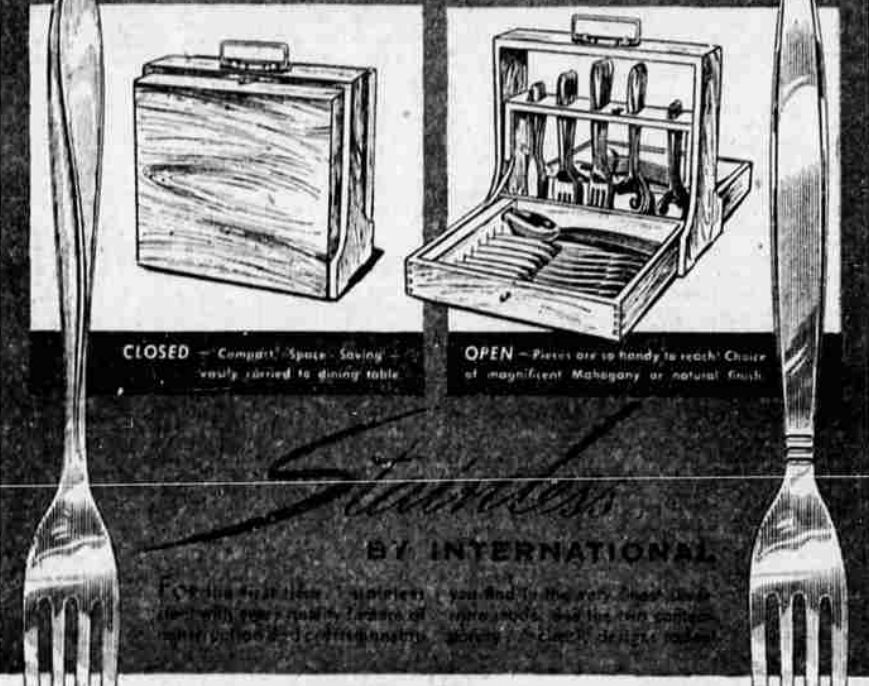
a severe critic of the Truman administration, repudiated Stevenson but did not say he would support Eisenhower, nor did he urge his friends to do so.

The most unexpected result was in Oklahoma, which had not figured high in Republican' pre-election predictions of their chances in the South. In Florida, Texas, Virginia, Tennessee and Louisiana they saw some chance to win, but Oklahoma was not counted seriously.

The size of the Texas vote caught some attention. Stevenson is within 25,000 votes of Truman's 1948 vote there, and still is trailing better than 100,000 votes. Republican and States Righters together rolled up a total of only 388,000.

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U.S. Agents Protect Ike

NEW YORK (AP) — U. S. Secret Service agents took over protection of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower early today shortly after his election as president was assured.

A group of agents had been standing by at the general's campaign headquarters in the Commodore Hotel while the election returns were being tabulated around the country.

Once the outcome became apparent, the agents moved into the corridor to guard Eisenhower's third floor suite.

When the general left the hotel at 3:15 a.m. EST, for his Columbia University residence, the agents accompanied him and his wife.

Under the law, the Secret Service is assigned to guard the president and his immediate family at all times. The protection also extends to the president-elect.

Secret Service agents also had been standing by in Springfield, Ill., to take over protection of Democratic nominee Adlai Stevenson if he had been elected.

Dewey Shows Gratification

NEW YORK (AP) — Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, one of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's original backers, expressed gratification Wednesday over the election results. He said in a statement:

"For the sake of our country and the cause of peace in the world, I am deeply happy over the election of General Eisenhower as president.

"The American people have chosen a great leader for the difficult times ahead. I am particularly happy that New York state has given General Eisenhower the greatest majority of any state in the nation."

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