

Tate Victory Shatters Phila.

Party Organization



JAMES H. J. TATE
... has 71,000 plurality

By Mark Forrest

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PHILADELPHIA, May 17—

The combo played "Happy Days Are Here Again," the crowd cheered, and red, white and blue balloons floated down from the ceiling. Mayor James H. J. Tate had rolled up a remarkable 71,000-vote plurality over Alexander Hemphill in the Democratic Party primary for Mayor.

Tate, dumped by his own Party, not only smashed the organization's choice for Mayor but much of the organization as well. Only two of Party boss Francis R. Smith's candidates for City Council-at-large seats won nomination and one of the two, John B. Kelly Jr., was co-chairman of Mayor Tate's campaign committee.

It was by any standard a triumph for the Mayor, organized labor and dissident ward leaders. The only winner for Smith was City Council President Paul D'Ortona.

Many Missing

Tate issued a victory statement last night calling again for Smith's resignation as city Party chairman, but then never read the statement aloud. When asked later in the evening if he still thought

Smith should resign, the Mayor said: "That's up to him."

Many of the Democratic regulars were missing from the celebration. Instead of ward leaders there were labor leaders such as James O'Neil of the Building Trades Council, who protested with a wry grin that he was not a politician.

The Mayor spent an estimated \$500,000 in the primary campaign. Local unions paid for thousands of campaign mailings out of their own pockets. And on election day, union men manned the polls with Tate watchers.

Tate's victory poses as many questions as it answers, such as Smith's future. Tate is expected to make no move to force Smith out of the chairmanship. Under Democratic party rules it takes a two-third majority of the 66 ward leaders to oust the chairman. As of now the Mayor has only about half that number on his side.

Smith himself has refused any comment on the outcome of the primary. He went into seclusion shortly after the polls closed at 8 p.m. Tuesday and has not been seen since.

Labor Role Important

Far more important than Smith's future is the role of labor in the November campaign against Republican

Arlen Specter. Labor set out to prove a point that the Democratic organization could not afford to ignore the wishes of unions in Philadelphia.

Now the point is proven.

The cost has been high in terms of money and manpower. Labor's own candidate for Council, Ralph P. Turchi Jr., was an unsuccessful tenth in a field of 33.

Over the next several weeks labor is expected to re-examine its role in the campaign. AFL-CIO leaders will ask how good Tate's chances are of winning, what the cost

would be for victory and whether an accommodation can be worked out with Republican Specter.	at least several weeks for the dust to settle. Meanwhile the Mayor has his renomination, the chairman still has his chairmanship and the Republicans still have their best chance of winning City Hall in almost 20 years.
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