

News Summary

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The Election

Jimmy Carter took an early lead over President Ford last night in the Presidential election, but early indications pointed to a close race despite a heavy turnout that ordinarily would favor Democrats. First substantial figures from two states showed Mr. Ford ahead in Indiana and Mr. Carter ahead in Kentucky, as predicted. But a large turnout in Texas discouraged Republican leaders. [Page 1, Columns 1-6.]

The Congressional elections were called the most important in years by party leaders watching the contest for 33 Senate seats and all 435 seats in the House. For Republicans, it was a chance to recover from their debacle of 1974, while the Democrats hoped to solidify their House majority and add some fresh faces to the Senate. [1:3.]

In New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, President Ford and Mr. Carter were locked in a close contest, with nearly a quarter of the electoral vote at stake. Heavy turnouts were reported in all three states. [19:1-2.]

New York City voting was "astonishingly heavy," an election official said, predicting a 75 percent turnout. Long lines developed at many polling places. Managers of the race between Senator James J. Buckley, Conservative-Republican, and his Democratic-Liberal challenger, Daniel P. Moynihan, both expressed confidence. [1:4-5.]

New Jersey voting for the United States Senate gave the Democratic incumbent, Harrison A. Williams Jr., an early lead over his Republican challenger, David F. Norcross. The Williams candidacy was expected to help other Democrats and pull out the urban vote for the proposition to permit gambling casinos in Atlantic City. [1:1-2.]

The Connecticut election was expected to provide a close race in the Presidential contest, but a comfortable victory

for the incumbent United States Senator, Lowell P. Weicker Jr. His Democratic opponent, Gloria Schaffer, had failed to stir much excitement. [1:1-2.]

International

India's lower house passed constitutional amendments tending to give permanence to the authoritarian course adopted last year by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The vote was 366 to 4, with most opposition members boycotting the tally and some of them in jail. One of them called the changes a codification of the emergency powers concentrated in Mrs. Gandhi's hands. [45:5.]

The Rhodesia talks in Geneva remained stalled as the white Government delegation and black leaders disagreed about a date for black majority rule, but another meeting was set for today. A tense Prime Minister Ian D. Smith warned he would leave the talks until the other participants in the meeting have "come to their senses." [45:1-2.]

Armed forces in Burundi deposed President Michel Micombero without violence, according to an official broadcast from the capital. He had ruled since a coup in November 1966. The announcement said his political party, the only one in the central African country, had been dissolved. [45:3.]

The Gulf Oil Corporation denied in Washington the assertion of Park Tong Sun, a South Korean businessman, that it paid him \$1 million a month. Federal investigators looking into charges that Mr. Park tried to influence the American government on behalf of South Korea thus confront a major discrepancy to be explained. [45:4-5.]

National

The Supreme Court deadlocked, 4 to 4, with one abstention, in a major case that would have decided how far an employer must go toward accommodat-

ing his employees' religious scruples against, for example, working on the Sabbath. The effect is to leave the lower court's decision in effect but no Supreme Court precedent is set. [45:1-2.]

Metropolitan

National fraternities and sororities will again be permitted on the 64 campuses of the State University of New York. The trustees ended a 23-year ban after a "careful study" showed that the national social groups had ended discriminatory practices. At least 16 campuses in the system now have local fraternities and sororities. [45:4-5.]

Lincoln Hospital's executive director was ousted by the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation on the ground that he had demoralized the medical staff, endangering patient care and the hospital's accreditation. The dismissal of Cesar Galarce touched off a sit-in at the hospital's offices protesting against the action. [14:3-6.]

Business/Finance

A sharp dissent from a 5-to-4 decision by the United States Supreme Court in a complicated tax case was delivered angrily by Associate Justice Harry A. Blackmun. Noting that the Government had appealed the contrary analysis by the Tax Court, he said the Supreme Court should have deferred to the Tax Court in such a specialized case. [71:4-6.]

Higher crude oil prices are widely predicted as the outcome of the Dec. 15 meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Guesses range from under 10 percent to as high as 25 percent. The impact of the increase, unlike the 1973-74 quadrupling of prices that brought on worldwide recession, is not expected to destroy the recovery. [61:5.]

Concorde production will be suspended, Britain and France agreed, with fewer than a dozen of the supersonic airliners sold of the hundreds planned. Five more will be built but none after that unless more orders come in soon. Future joint projects will concentrate on subsonic aircraft with a better chance of making money. [61:3-5.]

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Quotation of the Day

"I don't have a friend. If I ever get one, I'll come back."—John W. Dean 3d, after being asked to list the name of a reference for a library card application. [58:4.]

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