

# KANSAS TURNOUT DISAPPOINTS G.O.P.

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Small Primary Vote Is Laid  
to Watergate—Dole to  
Oppose Rep. Roy

By PAUL DELANEY

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TOPEKA, Kan., Aug. 7 — Watergate and impeachment scandals were blamed for the exceptionally low Republican turnout in yesterday's primary elections in Kansas.

In a state considered to be heavily Republican, fewer than 210,000 Republicans went to the polls. For the last 40 years, the average Republican turnout, but it was abnormally low, was 350,000.

John Ransom, the Republican state chairman, said in an interview. "We expected a low turnout, but it was abnormally low. That extra degree of apathy was because of the national situation. Voters are turned off by the political process."

Senator Robert Dole was unopposed for re-election in the Republican primary. He faces a strong challenger in Representative William R. Roy, a Topeka lawyer and gynecologist, who swamped George Hart, a former state treasurer in the Democratic primary.

## Democrats Hopeful

Dr. Roy's decision to give up what was considered a safe House seat to take on Senator Dole combined with Gov. Robert Docking's retirement from politics has affected state politics significantly. The Democrats buoyed by Watergate and impeachment developments, are hoping to make more inroads into traditional Republican strongholds.

The Democrats hope to win Senator Dole's seat, and Dr. Roy is considered the favorite at this stage.

The Democrats are also favored to retain the executive branch of the state government. The candidate for Governor, Attorney General Vern Miller, was unopposed yesterday. He will face Robert F. Bennett, a Republican who is president of Kansas State University, who won by less than 1,000 votes over Donald O. Concannon, a lawyer.

Governor Docking, a Democrat, predicted in a television interview today that Kansas would be a truly two-party state in 10 or 15 years. Mr. Ransom said he already considered the state under the two-party system. Robert Brook, the Democratic state chairman, agreed.

Mr. Ransom, however, said the Democrats were vulnerable because of the indictment of Governor Docking's brother and one of the Governor's aides in a kickback scandal.

But he said his major concern was the potential negative influence that Watergate would have on the November elections.

"If the President resigned, it would be a great help to Senator Dole," Mr. Ransom commented. "It might help the Senator to become a heavy favorite rather than be engaged in a close race at this point."

## Eagleton Renominated

By The Associated Press

In the Missouri primaries Tuesday Senator Thomas F. Eagleton was renominated by a large margin over two other candidates and will face former Representative Thomas B. Curtis, the Republican primary victor, in the November election. The general election will be a rerun of 1968, when Mr. Curtis lost to Mr. Eagleton.

All 10 of Missouri's incumbent Representatives will be seeking re-election in November. Two of the nine Democrats were unopposed for renomination and the others won their contests by wide margins. The state's only Republican Representative, Gene Taylor, also won easily.

In Michigan, former State Senator Sander Levin won an unexpectedly easy victory for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. Mr. Levin defeated his nearest rival, Jerome Cavanaugh, former Detroit Mayor, by a 2-to-1 margin. Mr. Levin will face Gov. William G. Milliken, who was unopposed in the Republican primary.

## Rematch for House Race

Tuesday's balloting also set up a rematch in the eighth Congressional District between Representative Bob Traxler, a Democrat, who was unopposed in the primary, and James Sparling, a Republican, who faced only token opposition. Mr. Traxler defeated Mr. Sparling last April in a special election.

The only three Congressmen challenged in the primaries won renomination with at least 70 per cent of the vote.

In Idaho, former Representative George V. Hansen defeated a three-term incumbent, Representative Orval Hansen for the Republican nomination. The two Hansens are not related. George Hansen will face Max Hanson, a Democrat, in the general election.

Senator Frank Church, a Democrat, was renominated for a fourth term. He will face Bob Smith, a Republican, and Jean Stoddard, the American party candidate.