

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS

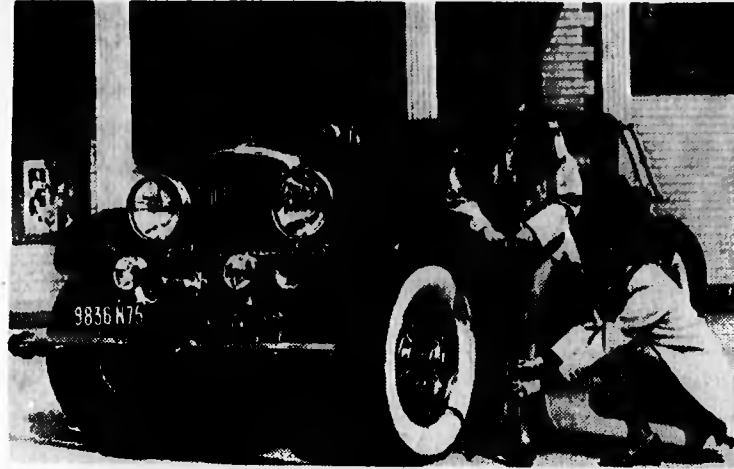


President Nixon, who barely won his first term in a squeaker over Hubert Humphrey in 1968, has now received one of the greatest popular and electoral votes in history.

Analyzing the victory, the President seems to have laid the groundwork for his mandate

last year in several dramatic turnabouts. To avert economic chaos he adopted wage and price controls, thus lessening domestic worries about inflation. He also changed American foreign policy in decisions to visit China and Russia, which he implemented this year. But more importantly, the coalition of Democrats that had held together for a generation finally fell apart in the hard fought primaries which culminated in the nomination of George McGovern. What could have been a close election turned into a walkway for Nixon.

Apart from the Presidential contest, the elections went according to no pattern. There appears to be little change in the Democratic control of the Senate and House. As of this writing, the Democrats have gained two seats in the Senate, although North Carolina elected Jesse Helms as my colleague, and he will be the first Republican in 69 years to



EXPENSIVE ANTIQUE . . . Two lovely "chauffeurs" inflate a tire on a 1933 Duesenberg owned by millionaire amusement park owner Charles Wood of Lake George, N.Y. The car, formerly owned by film star Greta Garbo, was purchased by Wood for \$90,000, reported the highest figure ever spent for a car at auction. The car, along with several other old time autos, will be on display at Gaslight Village, Wood's Lake George tourist attraction.

represent our state in this body. Virginia, Oklahoma, and New Mexico also shifted Democratic Senate seats over to the Republican side of the aisle. These, however, were offset by Democratic gains in South Dakota, Kentucky, Iowa, Colorado, and Maine. What had promised to be potential upsets never developed in the Senate races in Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Texas.

With some exceptions caused by retirement and a primary defeat, the Senate Committee and Subcommittee chairmanships will continue as they are at the next session. The South will benefit in this by having eight out of seventeen Committee chairmen. These are Senator Talmadge, Agriculture and Forestry; Senator McClellan, Appropriations; Senator Stennis, Armed Services; Senator Sparkman, Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Senator Long, Finance; Senator Fulbright, Foreign Relations; Senator Eastland, Judiciary; and I have the privilege of chairing Government Operations.

In the House, Southerners will likely continue as chairmen of seven powerful Committees. These include Agriculture, Appropriations, Armed Services, Banking and Currency, Ways and Means, the Select Committee on Crime, and the Select Committee on Small Business.

Overall the next Congress many be a little different in its

liberal-conservative makeup. The prospect is that there will not be a great deal of change either in its organization or its voting patterns. Once elected, Members of Congress and to reflect the views of their particular constituencies, and there seems to be no clear-cut national consensus on many issues. The essential mandate given in last Tuesday's elections appear to be that of continuity of government with the President proposing new and old remedies affecting both domestic and foreign policy and Congress disposing of legislation in accordance with the nation's mood.

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