

DEMOCRATS VICTORS IN PRINCE GEORGES

Party Wins Majority on
Board of Commissioners
and in State Delegation.

CONTEST RAN CLOSE

Saved from defeat only by the heavy and favorable vote of the last four precincts counted, the Democratic party yesterday returned to power in Prince Georges County. Democratic candidates won all the important offices save one, and have a majority on the board of commissioners and in the delegation to the State Legislature in addition. They carried their State ticket.

There are three Democrats among the five commissioners, and five of the seven legislators are of the victorious party. Alan Bowie, after a race which was close until the very end, won the office of county prosecutor, and Brice Bowie will be the new county treasurer. But a Republican, W. Curtis Hopkins, was selected as sheriff, beating his opponent by a large majority.

The new commissioners are Frank Small, Jr., Walter M. Grimes, Robert E. Brown, George N. Bowen and Ormond W. Phair. The legislators chosen yesterday are Charles C. Marbury, Kent Roberts Mullikin, J. Guy Bell, Oliver Metzertott, William F. Keys and Richard C. Zantzinger. Lansdale G. Sasscer was reelected to the State Senate.

Ritchie Given Good Margin.

Ritchie beat Broening by more than 1,100 votes in the 15,000 cast but many of the other offices were won on a much smaller margin. In the race for the treasurership of the county, Brice Bowie topped William A. Duvall by only 543, while Alan Bowie won as county prosecutor with only 364 votes to spare.

Returns came in slowly, and at an early hour yesterday morning there were reports from but five precincts of the 29 in the county. The first of these gave the advantage to the Democrats, but the tenor changed later, and the Republican vote piled up throughout the day. Only the last minute reports from Chillum District, Berwyn, and Riverdale served to turn the scale in favor of the Democrats.

Just before the reports came in from these four places, Albert R. Hassall led Alan Bowie by only 94 votes, after the two had run neck and neck all day. Chillum District had always been considered a Democratic stronghold, but the independents had been particularly active there, and it was feared that their work might cause a lack of Democratic support when it was most needed.

District Saves Party.

Apparently, however, Chillum voters were not to be swayed from their old allegiances, and the district came through to save the party. This was the sort of election where one family, voting as a whole, can swing the tide. Some of the candidates for the House of Delegates were separated by as few as three votes, though both Marbury and Small gained an early lead of several hundred, and held it throughout the day as the returns came in.

Counting of the votes was delayed by the number of split tickets, which increased the work made necessary by the large ballot. Party leaders did not receive any returns at all until more than seven hours after the polls had closed, and judges and tellers labored nearly 24 hours at other polling places before the count was finished.

Summerfield D. Hall was reelected to serve as clerk of the Circuit Court, and William T. Davis was selected as registrar of wills. Thomas Edward Latimer, whose father long served in that position, was chosen as county surveyor.