20 Seats for JLP 9 for PNP ★ JLP leading in remaining 31

Friday, October 31, 1980



The Jamaica Labour Party last night was set to score a landslide victory over the People's National Party (PNP) in the island's ninth general election since Universal Adult Suffrage and the island's fourth since independence.

At press time last night the preliminary count showed that the JLP had won twenty sears, the PNP nine with 31 seats still undecided. However, the JLP was leading in all 31 of these constituencies.

Voting islandwide was heavy and in many cases voters went out an hour before the polling stations began at 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

The voting was in most cases incident-free except for some cases where gunmen held up one polling station in a Corporate Area constituency and took away two ballot boxes. In all at least 14 ballot boxes were 'stolen from polling stations in the Corporate Area. Because of late arrival of some polling clerks and presiding officers in a few polling stations, some voters had to vote after closing time which was five o'clock.

The day was reported calm from most correspondents and it was a fair day in the Corporate Area apart from one or two light scattered showers.



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