

Religion, Oil Depletion Allowance Give Kennedy Trouble in South

Census Recount Gives Colombia Major Headache

By GERMAN RESPINOSA

Bogota, Colombia—(UPI)—More than two million "lost" Colombians are giving the government a major headache.

They're the little men who weren't there when the last census taker came around.

To explain: The last national census, in 1951, calculated Colombia's population at 11.5 million people. In 1959, however, when it came time to brush up the statistics, the government estimated the population at a little more than 13 million.

This estimate was based on the accepted per cent ratio of annual population growth.

Estimate Horrifies

The national planning board, however, has heard with horror an outside expert's estimate of a 15.3 million Colombian population at the end of 1959.

The survey was carried out by a Canadian expert, Omar E. Lemieux, after a revision of official government figures.

The discovery has caused a great deal of official hand-wringing. Almost, you might say, a state of alarm.

Every government statistic relating to per capita income, the cost of living, the gross na-

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'ORIENTAL' POLITICIANS — Politicians went Oriental at San Francisco during a banquet in behalf of the Nixon-Lodge ticket in northern California. This trio wear coolie hats ballyhooing their candidates during a dinner staged by the Golden Gate Republican Women's club. Chief speaker was Utah

Sen. Wallace F. Bennett, center. At left is Joseph Martin Jr., the new Republican national committeeman from California in whose honor the meeting was held. At right is Mrs. Earl Louie, member of the GOP California state central committee. (UPI Telephoto)

Texas, Oklahoma Favor Nixon in Straw Ballots

By PRESTON MCGRAW

Dallas, Tex. — (UPI) — If John F. Kennedy subscribed to the Baptist religion and oil depletion allowance, he'd be as sure as a Democratic presidential candidate can be in September that he's carry Texas and Oklahoma in November.

But since Kennedy is a Catholic and the Democratic platform committee opposed the oil depletion allowance, he has a hard fight in these two states that have a lot of Baptists and oil wells in them.

Richard M. Nixon, the Republican candidate, has, in fact, come out ahead — frequently as much as 2-1 — in most of the unofficial polls and straw votes taken since the national conventions.

But professional politicians and other observers reflect that the polls and straw votes before the 1948 election showed Thomas E. Dewey ahead of Harry S. Truman.

"It is purely idiotic to predict the November election in September," Robert Hollingsworth, chief political writer for the Dallas Times Herald, one of the biggest uncommitted newspapers in the state, said.

"I remember 1956, when it was looking pretty rosy for the Democrats in Texas and then the Suez crisis blew up. At that time, Adlai Stevenson was talking about disarmament and ending nuclear tests and the voters left him in droves."

Go for Ike

President Eisenhower carried both Texas — where he was born — and Oklahoma in 1952 and 1956. There are 24 electoral votes in Texas and 8 in Oklahoma.

The Republicans in both Texas and Oklahoma have been united from the start for Nixon. Not so with the Democrats and their man.

Gov. Price Daniel summed it up for Texas Democrats when he heckled interrupted him in the midst of his keynote speech in the recent state Democratic convention in Dallas.

"We are going to have harmony even if we have to fight for it," Daniel said.

And he almost did have to fight for it. Arch-conservatives in the party wanted to jettison the entire Democratic national platform. Daniel wanted to support the national candidates without supporting all of the national platform.

In the end, with some maneuvering, Daniel had his way. The convention purged two electors who said they'd vote for Nixon in the Electoral College even if Kennedy won. It also barred six uncooperative delegates.

Texas Republicans held their state convention the same day in Galveston and it was harmony and Nixon all the way. The most belligerent resolution denounced Lyndon B. Johnson for trying to get elected to the vice presidency and Senate at the same time.

It is about the same story among Democrats in Oklahoma. Many legislators and other Democratic party leaders don't like Gov. Howard Edmondson's "Ivy League approach" to government.

Oil is always a sensitive issue in Texas and Oklahoma because the economies of the two states are so closely tied to it. The whole Democratic executive committee in Texas

went over to Eisenhower in 1952 for promising to support a bill giving the states control of oil under their tidelands.

The oil depletion allowance — it gives an oilman at 27½ per cent deduction on his income tax for any income derived from oil — is almost as important an issue this year.

It can also be downright embarrassing. Sen. Robert Kerr of Oklahoma, who is pledged to support the Kennedy-Johnson ticket, is a big oilman.

The Democratic platform is for cutting the depletion allowance out; the Republicans claim they are in favor of an allowance.

But there are more Baptists than oilmen in Texas and Oklahoma—1,500,000 in Texas and 400,000 in Oklahoma — and a large majority apparently are opposed to a Catholic president.

They include Dr. E. S. James, editor of the Baptist Standard, which has a 350,000 circulation. He is opposed to Kennedy and he explains that he and other Baptists are not opposed to him as a man, but because of the "totalitarian system" of the Catholic church.

Expressions of religious opposition range from the vicious to the ridiculous.

Polls Newsman

Richard M. Morehead, of the Dallas Morning News' statehouse staff, polled 15 correspondents in the Capitol at Austin. The Morning News supports Nixon.

Morehead said the correspondents predicted, 8-4, that the Republicans will carry Texas and the remaining three said it was a tossup.

"Generally, the reporters expressed the view that few opinions are really changed by political campaigns — although a larger-than-usual number of Texas voters seem undecided today," Morehead wrote.

"The poll disclosed that most of the statehouse writers feel that Texans' reaction to the Democratic National Convention was negative in July and that the majority of voters still will feel the same way in November."

Johnson's being on the ticket probably has not affected the religious outlook — he is a Protestant — one way or the other in Texas or Oklahoma.

It will be an accident if he doesn't win at least one office, since he is on the ballot for two: the U.S. Senate and vice president.



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Washington — (UPI) — Treasury Secretary Robert B. Anderson told Free World financial leaders Wednesday that the U.S. economy in 1960 has been going through an adjustment that could permit "a long period of sustainable, noninflationary growth."

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