

California Republicans On Confident Side When It Comes To '56 Outlook

(Editor's note: This is one in a series by the AP's national political reporters who are surveying the situation across the country in the light of President Eisenhower's decision to seek a second term.)

By MORRIS LANDSBERG

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A hard thing to come by in California today is any widespread prediction that the Democrats will take the big state away from President Eisenhower in 1956.

Some people tell you they won't vote for Eisenhower again because of his heart attack. Others don't like Vice President Nixon, a Californian.

Nixon or no Nixon on the ticket, Republicans are talking of a landslide victory. The state is becoming, jobs are plentiful, business is good. Eisenhower's personal popularity remains high.

Farm folk contend they aren't as well off as they were four years ago but their vote is relatively small in a state with 13 1/2 million population. Eisenhower lost the Central Valley farm belt to Adlai Stevenson in 1952 — yet carried California by 400,000 votes.

Republicans say they are extra happy over the 1956 outlook. The President's decision to go for a second term called off a possible three-way fight to control the state's 70 delegates to the GOP National Convention.

Instead, the three potential rivals — Nixon, Sen. William F. Knowland and Gov. Goodwin J. Knight — are united behind the single delegation pledged to Eisenhower in the June 5 presidential primary.

The maneuvering among the state's Republican big three stole most of the interest in the political scene here despite Stevenson's forthcoming contest with Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee for

the 68 Democratic delegates. That campaign won't really get rolling for another few weeks.

Oddly enough, Nixon is not a big issue in California — not yet, anyway. There are voters, of course, who wonder whether he's right for the job in case anything happens to Eisenhower. But the controversy over the 43-year-old vice president has originated on the outside.

The California Republican Assembly, a state organization of party clubs, showed no hesitancy in endorsing Nixon for reelection.

At the moment, Democrats are pretty busy getting ready for the Stevenson-Kefauver showdown.

The Democratic state chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth Snyder of Los Angeles, predicts Stevenson will come out on top in California. Tom C. Carrell of San Fernando, Kefauver's state chairman, replied "we're sure we are going to carry California."

Stevenson appears to have the edge over Kefauver now, coming in as his party's 1952 nominee and with the support of all top Democratic officials in the state except for Mrs. Clara Shipper, national committeewoman.

Republicans concede that any GOP candidate other than Eisenhower would face a tough job to swing California. There are some formative signs of a Democratic trend in voting, and the election registration is still preponderantly Democratic.

But, says GOP State Chairman Thomas W. Caldecott, "With President Eisenhower heading the Republican ticket, he will be reelected with a large majority."

"Democratic chances are much better than they were in 1952," says Mrs. Snyder.

An old California campaigner, former Democratic Gov. Culbert L. Olson, described Eisenhower as the strongest candidate the Republicans can nominate. He added, "That doesn't mean, however, that he can't be beaten by the Democratic nominee."

Caldecott doesn't foresee any changes in the 19-11 Republican majority in the state's present congressional delegation. Mrs. Snyder looks for Democratic gains — she won't say how many. She also sees a good chance of beating Republican Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel.

Battling for the Democratic nomination to oppose California's junior senator are 39-year-old State Sen. Richard Richards and former U. S. Rep. Samuel W. Yorty, both of Los Angeles.



THESE KLAMATH FALLS NATIONAL GUARDSMEN are currently attending the Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile School at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas. The guardsmen are: left to right, Sgt. First Class Allan B. Cosand, 2nd Lt. Philo E. Groves, Capt. Claude W. Biehn, 2nd Lt. J. D. Lowell, Sgt. First Class Leroy J. Lofdahl and Sgt. Loren C. Stroud. Capt. Biehn is the commander of Klamath Falls Battery 8 of the 732nd AAA Battalion. Cosand and Groves are also members of 6 Battery. Lofdahl, Stroud and Lowell are members of D Battery. Lts. Groves and Lowell are both taking the basic course in AA artillery. Capt. Biehn is taking an advanced course in AA artillery. He is a veteran of World War II with the 3rd Division. The three enlisted men are taking a fire control course. (Official U. S. Army Photo).

Conservation Talks Heard At Silver Lake SCD Meet

FORT ROCK — Outstanding conservation talks by five grade school girls were a highlight of the third annual meeting of the Fort Rock-Silver Lake Soil Conservation District here Thursday.

Planned as a contest, these speeches covered various phases of activities handled by the local district. Carol Heger, Fort Rock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Heger, was named winner. Her name will be engraved on a plaque displayed each year at the school of the winner. Jim Corbin of Silver Lake was winner in 1954 and 1955.

In opening the meeting Eston Porter, district chairman, spoke of the way people of a district work together in their struggle to get ahead as typical of the American way. Edwin A. Eskelin, program chairman, presided.

Lloyd Gift, Bonanza, area member of the state Soil Conservation Committee, served as moderator for the panel on irrigation.

Marvin Shearer, Oregon State College irrigation specialist, showed and discussed color slides depicting good and bad irrigation practices including sprinkler and surface methods and land preparation.

Irrigation rates for the valley were quoted by George M. Larimer, manager of Midstate Electric.

The importance of soil analysis before planning an irrigation system was stressed by H. L. Leithhead, Bend, Soil Conservation Service specialist. He had prepared a hypothetical farm plan demonstrating an irrigation system designed to fit three very different soil types irrigated from the same well. He also pointed out the value of a district guide to soil types, irrigation methods and soil management problems.

A potluck dinner was served at noon by ladies of the community.

British Claim Jet Speed Record

LONDON (AP) — Britain claims her dart-like new jet fighters, the world speed record with a mark Fairey Delta 2, has captured the 1,132 miles an hour.

The Royal Aero Club said the single-jet plane known to airmen as the "Droop Snoot" struck this average in two runs over a nine-mile course in southern England. It recaptured the record from the United States. Test pilot Peter Twiss was at the controls.

Col. Horace H. Hanes of the U.S. Air Force set the previous record last August when he flew a F100C Super Sabre at just over 822 miles an hour. Another U.S. plane, the Bell X-1A, has flown at 1,650 miles per hour but not under record conditions.

Power Line Building OK

FORT ROCK — Northern Construction Company won its race against the spring runoff last week when it completed building the power lines into the Sink area, 25 miles east of here. Large sections of access roads used in the construction are already flooding from the intermittent stream known as Peck Creek.

Forty miles of lines were involved in its extension to Midstate Electric Cooperative of which 24 are multi-phase. It will serve the F. A. Frazee and Ellis Painter ranches as well as irrigation pumps.

Plagued by the most severe winter in years, crews have worked in extreme weather in order to finish before the unusually heavy snow pack caused flooding. Find the winter been more nearly normal, C. W. Brown, general manager of the firm, said they would have completed the job in mid-January.

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in water deep enough to come into the cab. It had to be shoved through several deep spots by one of their four-wheel drive units.

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