

## FIRST CRACK AT PRESIDENT-ELECT

# Roughing It Inside Mort Sahl

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Nov. 10 (UPI) — "Every time (John F.) Kennedy walks down the street now and meets a couple, he knows that one of them doesn't like him."

With that jocularly given reference to Sen. Kennedy's narrow margin of popular presidential votes, Mort Sahl, the nation's modern political humorist, last night warned the forthcoming Democratic Administration it would not be immune to his two-edged tongue.

In his first public appearance after election, Sahl said the vote was so close it was "ridiculous. It doesn't seem that we've made up our minds as a nation."

Sahl noted that Sen. Kennedy earlier had trouble getting Administration briefings on foreign policy "but Allen Dulles will go to see him now — it's o. k. now to give him our secrets."

The comic hit equally hard at Sen. Kennedy and Republican rival Richard M. Nixon in comments on fatherhood:

- "I identify myself with Kennedy. I couldn't prove myself to my father, either."

- "He was a sort of father image for Nixon—but it wasn't transferable."

The casually-dressed Sahl, flailing a newspaper for emphasis, said the press might blame the election outcome on the debates. But he said it was actually a case of "Kennedy didn't win the debates—Nixon lost them."

"It's too bad the election has to be lost because of a makeup man's mistakes."

Sahl said the debates "didn't tell us anything." He said a typical closing was one in which Sen. Kennedy dis-

counted on the gross national product, while Mr. Nixon told viewers to "get your children to bed before Truman comes on the air."

He said the debates got the biggest rating in television history — "but they were dropped after four performances."

"What we really need is a man who can stand up to

Khrushchev and sit down to Suskind."

Sahl said he planned to see Sen. Kennedy soon and ask him how he felt about the election.

"I hope he doesn't make a mistake and say 'it's a miracle,'" Sahl said. "People might get the wrong impression."