Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Losen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

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CALIFORNIA

Challenge and Response

"Who is Olney III?"

The question, asked angrily in July of 1948 by Walter Lentz, a special agent for California's then Attorney General Fred N. Howser, was strictly rhetorical. "I charge," said Lentz, "that Olney III is hell-bent toward destruction of public confidence in every law enforcement agency and officer in the state . . . (He is) a political gnat . . . a political hatchet man . . ."

Such abuse was neither surprising nor disturbing to Oakland-born Warren Olney III. As chief counsel for Governor Warren's Commission on Organized Crime, he had poked an inquiring thumb into the steaming pie of California's underworld and had come up with some juicy plums: Howser, he claimed, had done little to rid the State of slot machine, punchboard and bookmaking rackets; and, in fact, the aroma of a State-wide protection system could be traced, he said, right to the Attorney General's office.

Furious, Howser ruled that Olney's job was illegal, later reversed himself, then was defeated for re-election in 1950. Lentz, for all of his noisy indignation, quietly resigned. Another of Howser's agents, Wiley (Buck) Caddell, was sent to San Quentin for gambling conspiracy. California bookies found their operations hampered by the cutting off of phone and wire service. And the State Legislature slapped through one of the toughest anti-slot machine ordinances in the Nation.

Chronicle

WARREN OLNEY III

He stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum

See CALIFORNIA

When the Crime Commission folded in 1950, Warren Olney was appointed professor of law and criminology at the University of California. When a new commission was set up a year later, he was again named chief counsel. And last week non-Californians had good reason to ask: "Who is Olney III?"

For the mild-mannered, 48-year-old lawyer had been chosen by President-elect Dwight Eisenhower to serve as the $15,000-a-year chief of the Criminal Division in the Justice Department. (To head the Department's Claims Division, Ike picked Warren E. Burger of St. Paul; J. Lee Rankin of Lincoln, Neb., was named to head the Executive Adjudications Division.)

"General Eisenhower and Attorney General (to-be) Herbert Brownell are determined to restore the prestige and good name of the Department of Justice," said Olney. ". . . I could do no less than accept so stirring a challenge with enthusiasm."

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