

State Officials Express Grief

SACRAMENTO (A P) — State officials brushed aside their own election fortunes to-day to express grief and shock over the shooting shortly after midnight of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Gov. Reagan told a hastily called news conference he wanted to express his deepest s y m p a t h y to the Kennedy family, and added:

"I am sure also that the people of this nation feel as we do here in California that there is no place in America for the atmosphere of violence that seems to pervade our land. We are determined to replace it with sanity and order.

"I hope that all who are praying for Sen. Kennedy — as we all are — will add a vow that we in this government are not going to rest until we end this lawlessness that seems to be so prevalent in our society."

Lt. Gov. Robert H. Finch said simply, "My heart goes out to Sen. Kennedy and his family with deepest hope for his early and complete recovery."

Senate President pro tem Hugh Burns, D-Fresno, said the shooting was "a real tragedy," and added, "It will have political repercussions from the presidency on down. "I didn't think it would be possible for Kennedy or McCarthy to gain the nomination but this could change things a bit. There could be an air of martyrdom involved now," said Burns, a member of the delegation headed by Atty. Gen. Thomas C. Lynch and defeated by Kennedy backers.

"I think this will severely curtail prominent people from exposing them selves to crowds now," Burns added.

State Controller Houston I. Flournoy said his "heart goes out to the plagued Kennedy family. My mind is staggered at the implications for our whole nation, unless we can effectively eliminate physical fear from the conduct of political and public discussion."

George Zenovich, D-Fresno, the Assembly majority floor leader, said he thought the shooting would have "a tremendous effect on the total presidential picture. If he survives perhaps he can become the nominee. This is a very courageous man."

Sen. Georlge Miller, D-Martinez, chairman of the Finance Committee, said the shooting "is an unspeakable tragedy and obviously the outgrowth of the increasing disregard for law and order in the United States."