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GOP Nomination

Flourney Talks About Reinecke

By George Murphy

The fact that his principal opponent has been indicted makes little difference, Controller Houston I. Flourney said here yesterday.

"I have always felt I was going to win, no matter what happened," he said.

Flourney is seeking the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

So is Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke, who last Wednesday was indicted on three felony counts of perjury by the Watergate grand jury.

Flourney told a press conference here that even had Reinecke not been indicted, "our campaign was gaining momentum, and there is really no question about our winning."

He said he was not aware of any "major defections" from the Reinecke camp to his side, but added, "I wouldn't be concerned about that, anyway."

Flourney discounted polls taken before the indictments showing Reinecke ahead of him by more than 20 points.

"I don't put much stock in such polls, with so much time before the (June 4) election."

The controller was in San Francisco to address the Association of California Water Agencies, but discussed other matters before his address.

In his speech to the water agencies group, Flourney said the "California Water Project remains probably the best single example of how long-range planning can lead to an ultimate and con-

tinuing success. The project is financially stable, constructually sound and operationally productive."

He added: "In a world that is propagating crises as though they were rabbits, California has no water crisis — not even a water shortage. That's no accident, no natural provision — that's good planning."

Flourney did say that "within the field of water, this state still needs a Delta transfer facility to protect the fishery and water quality of the Delta. The time is now, while Delta water quality is degrading, to move out of argument and into viable dialogue and decision.

"For the protection of ag-

riculture and the improvement of the land, air and water environment in the San Joaquin Valley, this state still needs an agricultural waste water drain."

He called for programs for desalting, waste water reclamation, weather modification and geothermal programs, "that have a possibility of providing us both water and energy."