Connally, Cox Vie For State House

Ex-Navy Head In Vigorous Bid For Gubernatorial Slot

By EUGENE KEILIN

Still running hard after two primaries and a fast-paced general election campaign, Democratic gubernatorial nominee John Connally is seeking victory on November 6 by welding together the loose coalition of conservatives, moderates, and liberals who give token allegiance to the Democratic party.

Candidate Connally apparently believes that the only way to preserve a Democratic majority in the state is to hold together the divergent interest groups of which it is traditionally composed.

HIS CAMPAIGN has thus been based on a broad appeal to a wide range of political and special interest groups.

"We must recognize," Connally says, "that Texas, in the years ahead, must move forward in meeting the challenges that face us. We must become foremost in education, job opportunities, the utilization and conservation of our resources—both human and natural.

"We must strive constantly to build a greater and increasingly prosperous state for all Texans."

TO IMPLEMENT these goals, Connally advocates numerous reforms in the state's governmental machinery, showing extensive knowledge of state procedures to add to his experience in business, law and public administration as qualifications to support his candidacy.

Among these goals is a general rise in the level of excellence in education. Specific proposals along this line include attracting to the state more instructors of real pre-eminence, together with the provision of more extensive research facilities; additional emphasis on graduate education; and special programs for the gifted student in the public high schools.

TO ENCOURAGE industrial development, Connally would create a Bureau of Commerce responsible for "correlating all industrial development activities in the state," a small business liaison unit and industrial development teams.

In addition, Connally proposes a "Statewide Business Development Corporation, privately owned, to make long term loans to businesses desiring to locate in Texas which cannot secure financing from conventional sources."

ADVOCATING the retention of the state right to work law (as do both party platforms), Connally also proposes to set up a state Bureau of Labor, an industrial safety program, and a special program to increase job opportunities for people forty years of age or older.

Although he has not said so publicly during the campaign, Connally advocates the elimination of the tax and the substitution of a strong voter registration statute. The proposal is embodied in the party platform which the candidate virtually dictated to the El Paso convention.