

MR. PRESIDENT?

Until a few months ago the name of Adlai Stevenson meant little to the people of Britain - or, indeed America. But the man who was Governor of Illinois for four years will be President of the United States if the Democrats are returned to power again, and his sister, Mrs. Ernest Ives, will become America's first lady, for Stevenson is divorced from his wife. Tough opponent from the Republican camp is our old friend Dwight Eisenhower, who now wages war not on battlefields but from political platforms.

To compare American politics with our own is impossible. The ballyhoo that surrounds their battles is foreign to us. But the fact has emerged that Stevenson is a brilliant statesman with the human touch.

Pictures of him dining with a farmer's family in Minnesota only confuse us in Britain, even more so when we see his rival taking lunch - with the same family. Many of us in this country may well be prejudiced in favour of our friend Ike, a soldier whose leadership and integrity won the respect of all in Europe. Soon, a new President will be elected. But whether it be Stevenson or Ike, Britain is assured of a good friend in the White House.

President Truman takes to the road to stump for a continuation of Democratic policies on a tour that takes him from Montana and on down through the West Coast to California. Crowds turn out everywhere to see the President, who also draws the usual complement of small boys. In San Francisco, Mr. Truman says Eisenhower is a "captive of Old Guard Republicans" The President becomes a key campaign figure.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower brings the Republican Presidential campaign ~~xxxx~~ on a rapid whistle stop tour through Wisconsin, Minnesota and North and South Dakota. Thousands of people -- including this bearded cyclist -- turn out to see Ike as he tours cities and speaks to crowds through this part of the Midwest -- and even takes a ride in a college jalopy. Ike denounces Administration policies at home and abroad, as the campaign gets hotter.~~xxx~~