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RANK AND FILE DEMOS HAVE
NO CLEAR PREFERENCES YET FOR
ALTERNATE IF BROWN DOES NOT RUN

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by Mervin D. Field

While it is probable that Governor Edmund G. Brown will seek a third term in next year election, this is not yet a certainty. It is still possible that a federal government appointment or some other factor may cause him to withdraw from the running.

Among the Democrats who have been mentioned as possible candidates for Governor if Brown does not run are Lt. Governor Glenn Anderson, State Controller Alan Cranston, Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh, and Los Angeles Mayor Samuel Yorty. There has also been much speculation that Yorty will enter the Democratic gubernatorial primary next year regardless of what Brown does.

Poll Measures Candidates

The California Poll's most recent survey completed last week, obtained measurements on who the Democratic rank-and-file favors in the event Brown is not a candidate in the primary election. The results show that none of the four mentioned possibilities has a clear cut advantage over the rest of the field.

	<u>Democrat favored if Brown not a candidate</u>
Yorty	27%
Cranston	23
Anderson	21
Unruh	14
No preference	15

(MORE)

All of these men have had considerable statewide political exposure. Yorty has been Mayor of Los Angeles since 1961, and was re-elected by an impressive margin over James Roosevelt, earlier this year. The office of mayor is non-partisan, but Yorty has been a Democratic Congressman and has run for other offices as a Democrat.

Cranston was elected State Controller first in 1958. In 1962 he was re-elected, polling more votes than any other Democrat. However, he lost the bid for the U.S. Senate nomination in the 1964 Democratic primary to Pierre Salinger.

Anderson was Brown's running mate in 1958 and 1962. While the job of Lt. Governor does not frequently bring a man into public eye, this position has been used as a springboard by men seeking higher office in the state.

Unruh is the most powerful figure in the State Legislature. He supported Brown in previous elections, but he has often been at odds with the Governor in recent years.

Brown vs. Yorty

During recent months there have been definite signs that Yorty might contest Brown for the Governor's spot in the 1966 Democratic primary. The California Poll's test of the relative voting strength of these two men shows that if the election were being held today, Brown would be a clear winner. He polls 59% of the vote against Yorty's 31%, with 10% undecided.

If Brown does face opposition in the primary he will go into the fray with the power and prestige of the office in his favor. He also has the reputation of being a Republican giant killer by virtue of defeating Republican ex-Senator William Knowland and former Vice President Richard Nixon in two previous elections. However, California Poll surveys have shown that Brown's popularity with voters has fluctuated widely over the years and his popularity might not rebound again as it has in the past.

Yorty has gained considerable appeal among a wide segment of voters, particularly in the southern portion of the state. He is considered to be a political maverick and he might well decide to go against present odds and oppose Brown in the 1966 Democratic primary.

The California Poll will describe tomorrow how Yorty might fare if he were the Democratic nominee, and were faced in the November run-off by any of seven Republicans who have been mentioned as possibilities.