

# Church feels corner turned for election win

BY BEN J. PLASTINO

**Post-Register political editor**  
U.S. Frank Church, D-Idaho, obviously enjoying the tough election campaign, was in Idaho Falls briefly Tuesday afternoon to express high optimism over his election victory chances.

In obviously the toughest re-election campaign he has encountered of the past four, Church said "I feel the corner has been turned. In the campaign so far things are looking

better all the time."

"I think people of Idaho are aware of the low level campaign that is being waged against me. They are getting tired of hearing from hired guns who are brought into Idaho to make hit-and-run attacks.

"They are coming to realize that the ABC Committee financed out of Virginia has been waging a campaign of deliberate distortions on my positions on the issues. Idaho people re-

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sent this out-of-state interference into politics. Being fairminded people they don't like this kind of foul play.

"I believe this is backfiring on my opponent Congressman Symms to whom these groups have contributed heavily in the past."

Church said he wants to stick to the issues and deplores bringing into the campaign charges of womanizing and heavy drinking against Symms. He has disavowed such campaign smears.

"I'm more than prepared to discuss the real issues beginning

with the bottom lines on the question of who is bringing effective service to Idaho," he said.

"Symms can't point to a single bill he has enacted into law during the eight years he has served in the House.

"His alibi that this is a Democratic Congress is absurd on its face. For example Senator McClure has passed many bills and so did Congressman Orval Hansen who was a Republican in a Democratic controlled Congress."

Church said the most important domestic issue continues to be that of inflation, adding "it is still the biggest robber in every American household."

He noted with amusement that Symms, who he said used to be for a balanced budget now proposes to "bust the budget" with a tax cut that would add a \$65 billion a year to the national deficit.

"His proposal would send inflation back into orbit again," said Church. "The average American would soon find himself worse off than before.

"I know it is a temptation for any candidate at election time to dangle a big tax cut in front of the voters but the Symms proposal is twice as large at that supported by Ronald Reagan. It is the height of irresponsibility.



U.S. Sen. Frank Church

"The kind of tax cut that Congress should consider should be used on the relief of the middle classes, those who are the most heavily burdened. It should compensate them for the higher Social Security tax which falls due next year. In this way, the income tax reductions would not have an inflationary impact. It would help those who carry the heaviest part of the load."

Church stopped in Idaho Falls briefly Tuesday afternoon after spending Monday and Tuesday forenoon at the Eastern Idaho State Fair at Blackfoot.

He will campaign in the Twin Falls and Boise areas the remainder of the week.