On the Stump for Truman

By Dorothy Brandon

WASHINGTON.

THE 1952 Presidential campaign will be a knock-down-and-drag-out fight, with President Truman again heading the Democratic ticket because he is "the only man we have who can win," Mrs. India Edwards, a vice-chairman of the Democratic National Committee, believes.

"We know the Republicans are preparing for a hard and dirty fight—and we're ready for them," the aggressive leader of the women's division of the Democratic National Committee said in an interview last week. She said she is already "ear high" in plans to get out "the greatest woman's vote in history," because she is convinced that "women will rule out the lies of the opposition and register confidence in the leadership of President Truman."

"Don't let anybody tell you that President Truman can be beaten—he's the only man we have who can win and I'm confident that with the strong support of women voters he will win by a greater margin than in 1948," Mrs. Edwards asserted.

Terming the proposal by Sen. Paul H. Douglas, D., Ill., that Gen. Eisenhower be induced to run on a joint Democratic-Republican ticket an "un-American idea because our nation's strength is rooted in the two-party system," Mrs. Edwards said she hopes the Republicans would nominate Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., Ohio.

"With Sen. Taft in the running, party lines will be sharply drawn," she said. "Every vital issue will be thrown into sharp relief—that's as it should be. We Democrats will welcome the opportunity to defend the record of President Truman."

DURING discussion of her two-month European tour this spring, Mrs. Edwards said she wished to make it clear that she went to Switzerland as a United States delegate to the world health conference.

"I was appointed a lay delegate by President Truman on the recommendation of the surgeon general—but after the conference I toured Europe at my own expense in what proved to be a successful effort to gain a first-hand insight into the political problems of our allies against Russian aggression," Mrs. Edwards asserted.

Asked if Gen. Eisenhower was among the leaders visited, Mrs. Edwards said, "Goodness, no—there was nothing we had to talk about. If I'd met him at a social function that would have been different, but no such opportunity came up."

She said Gen. Eisenhower has the confidence and affection of everyone from "statesmen to char-women."

"Every one speaks well of him and the job he is doing in re-arming Europe," she remarked. "In addition to being a great military man, he is an able diplomat."