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M E E T   T H E   P R E S S

Produced by Lawrence E. Spivak

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1975

GUESTS:

Gov. Calvin L. Rampton (Utah)

Gov. Wendell R. Anderson (Minn.)

Gov. Christopher S. Bond (Mo.)

Gov. James B. Longley (Me.)

Gov. Reubin O'D. Askew (Fla.)

Gov. Edwin W. Edwards (La.)

MODERATOR:

Lawrence E. Spivak

PANEL:

David S. Broder - The Washington Post

R. W. Apple, Jr. - The New York Times

Neal R. Peirce - The National Journal

Bill Monroe - NBC News

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MEET THE PRESS

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1 MR. SPIVAK: The 67th Annual Meeting of the National  
2 Governors' Conference begins tomorrow here in New Orleans and  
3 with us today for a special full hour edition of MEET THE PRESS  
4 are six of the nation's governors.

5 \* \* \*

6 We will have the first questions now from Bill Monroe of  
7 NBC News.

8 MR. MONROE: Governor Rampton, government experts believe  
9 the economy may begin a slow recovery this month but the un-  
10 employment figures released just the other day were the worst  
11 since 1941.

12 As you see the economic picture from your state, do you  
13 believe the Federal Government should do anything more to help  
14 the economy and, if so, what?

15 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I would like to have seen the President  
16 sign the Public Works Bill that was vetoed and failed to pass  
17 over a veto by a very narrow margin just a few days ago. We  
18 do not have in my state as high an average unemployment as exists  
19 in the nation as a whole. However, we could well use some of  
20 the public works that were provided for in that bill. The  
21 President vetoed it, I understand, on the grounds that it  
22 would take effect and have its maximum application after he  
23 hoped the economy would have recovered anyway.

24 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Anderson?

25 GOVERNOR ANDERSON; I feel it was a tragic mistake for the



1 President to have vetoed the bill.

2 Senator Javits, Republican from New York, has said,  
3 with eight and a half million people unemployed, that un-  
4 employment is just tearing the social fabric of this  
5 country apart and in the big cities of this country we have  
6 young blacks, half of whom are unemployed.

7 I don't think we can tolerate that and I think the Congress  
8 and the President have to get together in a Public Works  
9 program that will put people back to work.





1 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Bond.

2 GOVERNOR BOND: It is reassuring to me that Congress  
3 upheld that veto because I think we are beginning to  
4 realize that the Federal Government cannot insure a healthy  
5 economy. Public works projects are merely a short term, tem-  
6 porary solution. I think part of the problem has been unwise  
7 Federal policies which have contributed to the inflation and  
8 the economic downturn. I think the economy. itself, is going  
9 to be the thing that creates new jobs, not Federal projects  
10 and public works programs.

11 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Longley, do economic conditions  
12 in your state suggest the Federal Government should do more  
13 about the economy?

14 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: I think it is about time the Federal  
15 Government got government back to the people, and I think  
16 the days of Roosevelt are very, very important at this point.  
17 That under the Roosevelt Administration we had work projects  
18 with an honor from the standpoint of welfare recipients.  
19 Under the present program I think it is very easy, particularly  
20 on a partisan basis to be critical of the President, but I  
21 think we need to couple works projects with a hard look  
22 at welfare programs that reward people more for not working  
23 than they get for working.

24 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Askew.

25 GOVERNOR ASKEW: I believe the Congress and the



1 President should now get together now that they have upheld  
2 the President's veto on the job bill, and obviously he is  
3 willing to go with something less, and I think it is a very  
4 pressing problem, and I think it is important now for both  
5 of them to come together with some program that they can  
6 agree on and put into law so hat it can help stimulate the  
7 economy.

8 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Edwards, what action if any would  
9 you like to see from the Federal Government?

10 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: They could repeal the tax reform  
11 measure and rebate which was just passed, which I think is  
12 counterproductive. I think they should recognize you can't  
13 create permanent wealth by passing laws, no matter how well  
14 written they are or how fine the paper on which they are  
15 written. Productivity alone will effectively stimulate  
16 the economy over the long range. Production of national  
17 resources farm products, forestry products and products of the sea  
18 putting people to work, making things, doing things, producing  
19 things will create some permanent wealth and really stimulate  
20 the economy.

21 (ANNOUNCEMENTS)  
22  
23  
24  
25



1 MR. BRODER: Governor Rampton, the theme of your conference  
2 this year is states' responsibility to local government. With  
3 the recession in the state it is, are the states really in any  
4 position to offer the cities anything more than good wishes?

5 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I don't know that it necessarily means  
6 money for the local governments. That is on a revenue-sharing  
7 basis but keep this in mind: The cities and counties are creations  
8 of the state. We have got to be sure that we give them the means  
9 to perform the programs for which we assign them the responsi-  
10 bility and so what we are looking at here and what we have  
11 been looking at in our research for the last year is what must  
12 we do for the cities and the counties in order to allow them to  
13 perform these functions and not have to look around the states  
14 to the federal government.

15 Now, it means partly money but it means more than that;  
16 it means authority.

17 MR. BRODER: When you say it means authority, you conceded  
18 in a speech, I think that you made last year, that much of the  
19 reason for the cities' running to Washington for help was the  
20 fault of the state government --

21 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: That is absolutely right.

22 MR. BRODER: What reason is there to think that that  
23 attitude is changing?

24 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: Well, I hope we can change it through the  
25 Governors' Conference. That is the reason we have been working



1 on this problem for the last year. That has been the prin-  
2 cipal task of our staff. There will be a proposed publication  
3 released here tomorrow and, after reaction to that proposal by the  
4 Governors and by various officers of local government, we hope  
5 to put out a handbook and perhaps even a proposed uniform local  
6 government code that state legislatures can consider and with  
7 appropriate changes to meet their local needs and act and,  
8 as I say, it is partly money, but it is not all a question of  
9 money.

10 MR. APPLE: Governor Anderson, the Democratic Governors  
11 played some important role at the Mid-Term Convention in Kansas  
12 City. I wonder whether you are going to try to play any kind  
13 of role at the National Convention, the Democratic National  
14 Convention, next year, and, if so, what?

15 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: I hope we do and I hope we play a role  
16 by getting more Democratic Governors involved in the primary  
17 system. I would like to see someone like Governor Askew  
18 or Cal Rampton or Noel from Rhode Island, or any of the  
19 Governors from the bigger states involve themselves by becoming  
20 candidates in the presidential primaries.

21 I think under our so-called reforms, of course, our primaries  
22 are far less open. It is much more difficult for a new  
23 candidate to get involved in the primary system but in spite  
24 of that I hope that these governors would become candidates.

25 MR. APPLE: You come from a state that has produced a few



1 presidential candidates in recent years. What about Governor  
2 Anderson as a favorite son?

3 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Senator Mondale was a candidate and  
4 withdrew. Senator Humphrey has indicated he will be available  
5 in the event of a draft at the convention. Jim McCarthy may  
6 very well become a candidate. I think that is enough from our  
7 state.

8 MR. APPLE: Do you expect Mr. Humphrey to control the Minne-  
9 sota delegate to the convention?

10 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: No one ever controls the delegates  
11 from Minnesota. I think there will be a lot of natural respect  
12 and admiration I think for the most distinguished legislator in  
13 the 20th Century.

14 MR. PIERCE: Governor Bond, I would like to ask you a  
15 question as head of the Republican Governors. The Republican  
16 party used to be known as the party of fiscal integrity and  
17 balanced budget, but this year we are seeing Democratic  
18 Governors like Dukakis in Massachusetts and  
19 Brown in California, and Lucey in Wisconsin, cut back very  
20 heavily on expenditures and sound like old-fashioned Republican  
21 conservatives on spending. Is this going to steal some of the  
22 thunder of Republican candidates trying to win back the  
23 governorships where they are at such a low level now?

24 GOVERNOR BOND: No, I think we are very delighted to see  
25 the others recognizing the principles on which we have stood for



1 so long. I wish now that we could instill the same realization  
2 of the need for sound fiscal policies in Congress and I think  
3 much of the battle will go on in the years ahead as we try to re-  
4 establish on a national basis the understanding of the limits  
5 on government's power and its unfavorable impact when it extends  
6 too far.

7 I think this could be the real issue for the late 70s and  
8 80s and beyond. I think the realization at the states is a first  
9 step toward a national understanding of the limitation.





1 MR. PEIRCE: Let's take the Republican Party problems  
2 nationally  
3 if we could for a moment. The conservatives in the  
4 party are calling for an open convention next year. Only  
5 16 of 38 Republican Senators would sign an open letter endors-  
6 ing Mr. Ford's renomination and reelection right now.

7 Would you as Governor of Missouri feel comfortable run-  
8 ning with President Ford as head of the ticket next year,  
9 or would you be willing to be the Chairman of his reelection  
10 drive in the state?

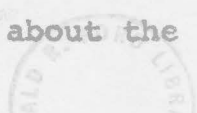
11 GOVERNOR BOND: At this point I think the President is  
12 gaining in popularity. I think that his prospects look very  
13 good. I believe that his strong stand for an energy policy  
14 and international issues are going to continue to strengthen  
15 his position, and I would expect that he would be in a very  
16 strong shape this time next year.

17 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Bond, earlier this year you  
18 said, "I assume Mr. Ford will be running, will be renominated  
19 and will be reelected." How sure are you of that today?

20 GOVERNOR BOND: More sure than I was when I said that.

21 MR. SPIVAK: Upon what do you base your belief of that;  
22 that he would be reelected; that he would be renominated?

23 GOVERNOR BOND: I think the response of the people around  
24 the country is more favorable towards the President. I believe  
25 that his actions in the energy program, for example -- he  
has said, "I have an energy program, we must get about the  
business."



1 He set forth a strong program, and I believe there has  
2 been little to challenge it. Nobody else has come forward  
3 with a program. Nobody else has come forward, I think, with  
4 any type of challenge.

5 MR. SPIVAK: You did hedge your statement though  
6 a little bit later when you said, "If President Ford can show  
7 the American people some success in dealing with their problems,"  
8 you thought he might be reelected.

9 Which of the major problems would you say President Ford  
10 has dealt with successfully?

11 GOVERNOR BOND: First of all, on the international scene  
12 I think he gained a great deal of respect for his response  
13 in the Cambodian incident. I believe that his insistence  
14 upon a Federal energy policy has done a great deal to show  
15 that he does have the qualities of leadership. I would expect  
16 that he would continue to deal with the problems of the  
17 economy, as I said earlier. I don't believe that public works  
18 projects alone are the answer. The free enterprise system,  
19 private industry and private employers are going to have to  
20 provide the jobs that bring us out of the recession, and I  
21 think he realizes that.

22 MR. MONROE: Governor Longley, I would like to ask you  
23 a question as head of what might be described as the Independent  
24 Governors' Conference. Do you feel that in your politics  
25 you have anything in common with George Wallace, in the sense



1 that he has shown a lot of independence of party in the past?  
2 He is looked on as voicing complaints of the people and of  
3 being somewhat anti-establishment.

4 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: If I am head of the independent group  
5 here it will be a unanimous vote, obviously, as the only inde-  
6 pendent governor present.

7 I think Governor Wallace's emergence very interesting  
8 and in part I think an indication that we are suffering lack  
9 of leadership to the extent that he is emerging so strongly  
10 at this point. I don't in any way mean to discredit this man.  
11 I admire his courage. I think he is a very courageous Ameri-  
12 can. But I think also the two parties, particularly the Demo-  
13 cratic Party, the last time, failed to hear what he was  
14 hearing from the people. There was a similarity to what I  
15 heard as a former Democrat, now an independent governor of  
16 my state.

17 I think people want more law and order. I think people  
18 want more fiscal responsibility. I think people want welfare  
19 or aid to those that really need it, but I think America is  
20 sick and tired of supporting the ne'er-do-well, the person  
21 who really is looking for the system to use rather than serve.  
22 And I think Governor Wallace is very interesting to watch.  
23 Although we have many philosophical differences, I admire his  
24 courage.

25 MR. MONROE: Do you think there is much



1 possibility of a third party in 1976 that might have the  
2 support of persons like Governor Wallace and yourself and Ronald  
3 Reagan?

4 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: I really am so busy trying to be  
5 the Governor of Maine, it is the first time in public life,  
6 I had never run for public office before I was elected governor,  
7 and I am trying very hard to be the best possible Governor of  
8 Maine. But let me address another question more specifically:  
9 As the only person on this platform that is neither Republican  
10 or Democrat, I think America is indeed fortunate to have  
11 President Ford, and if I can take a liberty and respond to  
12 the previous question, I think he has brought integrity and  
13 faith in government back into America, which we need so badly.  
14 If he did nothing more than to bring this forward in America  
15 at this very difficult time in our history, I think America  
16 is very fortunate today to have President Ford.

17 MR. MONROE: You used to be a Democrat. Are you now in a  
18 transition between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party?  
in a

19 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: No, I would not. As a matter of fact,  
20 at this time a fiscal conservative but a very liberal humanitarian.  
21 And I think this is what I see in the Democratic Party serving  
22 the people greater than the Republican Party has in the past.

23

24

25



1 But I think we need to take a very close look at what the  
2 Republican Party has stood for from the standpoint of fiscal  
3 responsibility. Some people might say today that Roosevelt  
4 could be a Republican.

5 MR. BRODER: Governor Askew, Senate Majority Leader  
6 Mansfield said this week that he could not support or even  
7 vote for a Democratic ticket in 1976 that included George  
8 Wallace in either first or second place.

9 As a fellow southern governor you know George Wallace  
10 better than most of the Washington politicians. Do you think  
11 his views are so far outside the mainstream, as Senator Mans-  
12 field said, that the Democratic Party and you personally could  
13 not accept him on the ticket?

14 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Well, I think that there are some views  
15 that I think might be out of the mainstream. I think there  
16 are many of his views that are in the mainstream. Democrats  
17 are constantly asked this question, Mr. Broder, and I believe  
18 that the answer would be much simpler when Governor Wallace  
19 indicates that he will support the Democratic nominee, re-  
20 gardless of who that nominee is, and will stay in the Demo-  
21 cratic Party. I believe this is a reluctance of a lot,  
22 of saying they would or wouldn't support him as a nominee  
23 of the Democratic Party.

24 MR. BRODER: Are you asking him in effect then to take  
25 a loyalty oath if he becomes a candidate for the Democratic






1 nomination?

2 GOVERNOR ASKEW: I think that the two party system, Mr.  
3 Broder, has served this country well. I would hope very  
4 much that we do not go into any type of a third party. The  
5 difference in this country, with so many other countries in  
6 the Western World has been the fact that we had a two-party  
7 system. It has granted stability. We haven't had to  
8 have coalitions of minorities to sit as a President, although  
9 we have had some minority presidents, even in the two-party  
10 system. But I believe that we should stick to the two-party  
11 system, and I am happy that Governor Reagan I think is indi-  
12 cating pretty much that he intends to stay within the Republican  
13 Party, and I would hope that Governor Wallace, if he seeks  
14 the nomination, would stay within the Democratic Party.

15 MR. BRODER: But the former Democrat who is sitting  
16 right next to you just said the Democratic Party didn't hear  
17 what the people were saying, and that George Wallace was  
18 expressing. Do you think that is correct?

19 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Oh, I think to a large degree, I think  
20 the Democratic Party got away from the mainstream of the  
21 thought of American life, and I believe that is moving back  
22 toward it.

23 MR. APPLE: Governor Edwards, your colleague, Mr. Ander-  
24 son just suggested a few minutes ago that he thought it would  
25 be a good idea to have some favorite sons in the Presidential





1 race. Do you think that in Louisiana, or elsewhere in the  
2 South, having favorite sons would be a useful stop-Wallace  
3 technique?

4 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: Certainly it would, because I think  
5 Governor Wallace would go to the Convention with the large  
6 percentage of his support coming from southern areas, but I  
7 don't view that favorite son thing as something I would want  
8 to engage in. That is an exercise in futility, unless a  
9 person can project himself as a favorite son of more than one  
10 state. I mean this business of just going to the convention  
11 to have your name put on the ballot is a futile experimen-  
12 tation. My own view is simply that the delegates from Louis-  
13 iana will go to the Convention, both of them, with a view to  
14 nominating the person who best represents the hopes and aspira-  
15 tions of America.

16 MR. APPLE: Well, now, you have indicated that you like  
17 Senator Bentsen for President, I believe. Do you think in  
18 Louisiana Senator Bentsen has the remotest chance of taking  
19 delegates away from George Wallace?

20 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: No, sir, I do not.

21 MR. PEIRCE: Governor Rampton, you are now one of the  
22 two senior governors in the United States, and of course  
23 chairman of the National Governors Conference. During these  
24 years that you have been in state government has the flow of  
25 power in the United States moved back towards the states at



1 all or is it still towards the Potomac?

2 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: NO, I think it is moving back towards  
3 the States. I think it is evident in many things that are  
4 happening. Where new Federal programs are instituted,  
5 at the present time the state is being charged with the  
6 responsibility of administering most of them. Not only under  
7 the direction of State governments, but often with local  
8 citizen councils directing the operation of the program.

9 I think there is a decided decentralization of power  
10 going on, not only a movement from Washington back to  
11 the states, but the states are taking a leaf from that book and  
12 moving authority from the state government back to the counties  
13 and cities. Centralization was going on both on a national  
14 level and on a state level.

15 MR. PEIRCE: If this decentralization is taking place in  
16 real power and authority, why do half the positions of the  
17 National Governors Conference still really end up in asking  
18 for a bigger dole from Washington?

19 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I think that is not a fair statement.  
20 Now we have our mid-winter governors conference in  
21 Washington which is devoted very largely to the relationship  
22 of the state governments to the federal government. Our mid-  
23 summer conference, which this is, is devoted more to our inter-  
24 nal affairs, and what we should do. But really there is  
25 not much excitement in that program for you fellows, so you con-  
centrate on our relationship with the federal government. You  
give an undue emphasis to that end of it. But most of our policy

positions have regard to what we do, ourselves, within the state government.

1 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Rampton, you have said that the  
2 states have failed to meet their responsibilities to the  
3 units of local government and that the units should therefore  
4 turn to the federal government. What do you consider the  
5 state's responsibility to the units of the governors?

6 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I would like to see the states make  
7 available to units of local government some of the more  
8 productive means of taxation. The federal government has pre-  
9 empted the income tax field pretty well, although we do have  
10 some small state income taxes. The states have moved into the  
11 sales tax field, which is another big yielder of public  
12 revenue.

13 As a result, local government is left with the property  
14 tax, which is the least productive, the most regressive and  
15 the least responsive tax that there is. I think that we have got  
16 to make a study and make some decisions for a restructuring of our  
17 tax structure so that units of local government are not going  
18 to be strapped right to the property tax.

19 MR. SPIVAK: Well, don't you think the states themselves have  
20 set a bad example for the units by turning so often to the  
21 federal government whenever they got into trouble?

22 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: Indeed, I do, and I think we are doing  
23 that less and less.

24 Now, you are going to find on the agenda of this meeting  
25 in the next three days some proposals where various governors



2  
1 are going to urge legislation on the federal government.  
2 I think you are going to find a resistance on the part of  
3 many governors to endorse that though.

4 Let me take an example. The Governor of Oregon has  
5 indicated that he is going to propose a resolution here  
6 supporting a national bottle bill similar to what is in  
7 effect in the state of Oregon. Although many of the governors  
8 favor that concept, I think you are going to see many of those  
9 favoring the concept, say the states should do it themselves.  
10 That is not a matter for the federal government.

11 I would hope more and more we would address the respon-  
12 sibility on a state level rather than to listen to Washington  
13 and again I say that applies not only to dollars, but it  
14 applies to many other programs also.

15 MR. MONROE: Governor Anderson, Democrats are sometimes  
16 accused of starting social welfare programs that don't always  
17 work and then not being able to stop them.

18 You said recently that the recession had been tough on  
19 state budgets and you said: Let us be grateful that we are  
20 forced now to re-examine under the harshest light every program,  
21 every habit, every commitment.

22 Have you re-examined any of your programs specifically  
23 in Minnesota, found them wanting and decided to  
24 phase them out?

25 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Before responding to that, Mr. Apple



3  
1 said I said governors should get involved as favorite son  
2 candidates for president. I said much more than that.  
3 I felt that additional number of Governors should get involved  
4 as full-fledged, announced candidates for President in primaries  
5 outside their own state.

6 With respect to your question, sir, I think there is a  
7 good deal of waste at the federal level and the state level.  
8 I think there is no question but that the Congress, governors,  
9 state legislatures, should eliminate waste. If we find that  
10 a program has not worked, I think it should be eliminated.


11 In Minnesota, we brought in a group of outstanding  
12 businessmen to help us eliminate waste; it was very, very  
13 successful.

14 I wish the federal government would do the same.

15 MR. MONROE: Have you ended any existing programs?

16 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Yes, we have. But more importantly,  
17 I think we are doing a better job of delivering services to  
18 Minnesota because of the fact we have attempted to eliminate  
19 waste, and there is still waste and it has to be a continuing  
20 battle.

21 The point I would make though, I think there is much  
22 more waste in American dollars spent overseas than the  
23 American dollars that are spent domestically and I think a  
24 lot of Congressmen and a lot of public officials use examples  
25 of waste here locally to use arguments that we should stop





1 federal programs. I think the programs ought to be stopped  
2 where we have the most waste, dollars we send overseas.  
3 In this quotation from you from a recent speech you talked as if  
4 were going to re-examine programs and were going to end some.  
5 Specifically, what have you ended in Minnesota?

6 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Let me put it to you this way:

7  
8 There were things we were doing that were creating great  
9 waste, not so much in terms of eliminating a program, but where  
10 we were not using good business practices. We used to take money  
11 in Minnesota, checks from taxpayers and not get any return /  
12 in terms <sup>/of</sup> interest from the banks. We had some \$75 million in  
13 state banks, not drawing any interest.

14 MR. MONROE: I am not sure from your answer so far that  
15 you have ended a single program.

16 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Well, we have. Most of the programs  
17 we feel in terms of education and welfare have been working and  
18 the waste we have been talking about is the unwillingness of the  
19 state to do things in a businesslike fashion and that we are  
20 beginning to do.

21 MR. MONROE: What has been ended?

22 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: In terms of a specific program? I  
23 can't think of anything in terms of a major program that has  
24 been eliminated. Some departments have been eliminated. We  
25 had a Department of Liquor Control; it has been eliminated.





1 MR. SPIVAK: Anything else?

2 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: I can't think of anything right now,  
3 but there have been a half dozen departments, half dozen advisory  
4 units that have been eliminated.

5 MR. BRODER: Governor Bond, you have given a sort of  
6 endorsement to President Ford. Despite your personal feelings,  
7 do you think it would be a desirable thing for there to be an  
8 open Republican Convention in 1976, as a number of conservatives  
9 have suggested?

10 GOVERNOR BOND: I don't think anyone can assure a  
11 closed convention. I certainly wouldn't advocate that. I  
12 don't think that anything we do as state leaders or anything  
13 else is going to change the mood of the delegates.

14 I don't feel that there should be an absolute ban on  
15 opposing views. I would expect that beginning with our conven-  
16 tion in '76, and hopefully going through the campaign, there will  
17 be a continuing dialogue about what course this nation is going  
18 to follow in the late 70s, 80s and 90s. This is the time.  
19 We are coming to the end of the era of the recession, the end  
20 of the era of the Vietnamese War, and I hope that we are coming  
21 to the end of the era when we thought there was a federal  
22 solution for every problem. The more we discuss that beginning  
23 at the convention and going through the campaign, I think the  
24 better we all are going to be.

25 (Announcements.)



1 MR. BRODER: Governor Bond, I confess I didn't understand  
2 your answer to my question before the break about an open  
3 convention. Do you favor an open convention in the sense of  
4 competition for the presidential and vice presidential nomination?

5 GOVERNOR BOND: Who can be against that?

6 MR. BRODER: In the earlier part of the program you said  
7 that jobs would have to come from the economy and you also praised  
8 President Ford's courage, I think, for his energy program. Would  
9 you explain why forcing up the price of every oil product in  
10 this country, that comes into this country, is going to help the  
11 economy recover?

12 GOVERNOR BOND: Two things. First I said that the long  
13 term economy recovery is going to have to come through productive  
14 employment and productive industry; not through public works  
15 jobs. And we see in Missouri already signs that we are turning  
16 the corner.

17 I have been emphasizing jobs in Missouri and we have been  
18 attracting new industry. We think this is the long range  
19 solution to the problem, and when the President takes steps to  
20 reduce the federal deficit, then he enables private industry,  
21 private employers, to expand job opportunities. Under our system  
22 when something is in scarce supply, as energy is now, we have a  
23 self-regulating mechanism where higher prices tend to encourage  
24 conservation and also stimulate new sources of energy.

25 This I think is absolutely essential. Some unwise federal



1 policies in the past have depressed the prices of energy and  
2 we acted like a country that had energy to burn. We don't have  
3 energy to burn any more and it is about time that the real value  
4 of energy was reflected in the marketplace.

5 MR. APPLE: Governor Longley, I would like to ask you a  
6 question or two about your own plans.

7 First, some of your associates in Maine have been saying  
8 in the last week or so that you have some thoughts about  
9 running against Senator Muskie. Is there any truth to that?

10 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: There is no truth to that. / incidentally,  
11 Senator Muskie was one of our best governors and I think an  
12 outstanding Senator.

13 MR. APPLE: Is that endorsement?

14 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: No, it is not.

15 MR. APPLE: The Muskie-Ford ticket was about to  
16 emerge, I thought. I had great hope.

17 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: That might be an improvement.

18 MR. APPLE; Governor, what are you going to do, if anything,  
19 to try to extend this independent philosophy on which you were  
20 elected? Do you have any thoughts of organizing a third  
21 party, or an independent movement outside the State of Maine?

22 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: I was hoping, Mr. Apple, that we could  
23 return to a statement that was made here that the two-party  
24 system has served this country well, and then in response to  
25 a question of Mr. Monroe, as I recall, are you requiring a  
loyalty oath of Governor Wallace, I think they go together with



1 your question, if I may.

2 I think that the two-party system historically has  
3 served this country fairly well, but not recently. I think the  
4 choice of McGovern and Nixon in 1972 did not really provide  
5 this country much of a choice, and I think the two parties need  
6 to ask themselves some hard questions:

7 Are they serving the country well when they give the  
8 country that type of a choice?

9 I mean that as a challenge because hopefully the two parties  
10 will listen. I happen to feel that there is an emerging in that a  
11 segment of the population, and as I understand it, could very  
12 easily be No. 2 in position from the standpoint of enrollment.  
13 I am talking about the unenrolled or  
14 independent voter.

15 I think this is a positive expression. I don't think it is  
16 a negative expression and I do think to some extent if I can  
17 take liberty with Mr. Broder's book, the party is over, but  
18 hopefully the two parties will emerge stronger and listen  
19 and if they don't I predict we will have a third party emerge  
20 very strong. It is in the aisles at the moment.

21 MR. APPLE: Do you plan or intend to try to act as a  
22 spokesman for these independents, for this second largest  
23 grouping as you describe it, in bringing pressure on the two  
24 major parties?

25 GGOVERNOR LONGLEY: No, I do not. I said as a candidate  
for governor that I hoped to strengthen the two-party system.



1 I genuinely hoped to do that in my first few months as  
2 governor. However, I now recognize for the first time in public  
3 life that the two-party system to some extent is subjected to  
4 pressure of special interests and the parties themselves represent  
5 a special interest. Just the question: Would we require a  
6 loyalty oath of Governor Wallace suggests this, and I say unless  
7 the two parties recognize that on occasion even people within that  
8 party had better start putting the country in a state, and every  
9 city and town in America above the party and recognize we must  
10 support the person, the best person possible.

11 If it happens to conflict with the party candidate then so  
12 be it. Otherwise I don't think the two-party system will survive  
13 as we know it today. I think we could see a third party or see  
14 a group replace an existing party.





1 MR. PEIRCE: Governor Askew, corrupt states can hardly  
2 be a strong factor in the federal system, and your own personal  
3 integrity, of course, has never been questioned a bit. But  
4 much of the Florida state government seems awash in corruption  
5 today. Three cabinet officers have been indicted, and one  
6 convicted and sentenced; there have been impeachment trials  
7 against high state officials; supreme court justices have  
8 resigned under a cloud of impropriety. Now we hear of a new  
9 wave of Florida land scandals. Can you tell us what is happen-  
10 ing in Florida, what is the reason for this?

11 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Well, I would like to have a little  
12 caveat to begin with, Mr. Peirce, in that none of the ones  
13 you made mention of were appointed by me. They were elected  
14 officials. And I think it is to the credit of Florida that  
15 if there are any allegations of wrong-doing, that they be  
16 pursued, and that is exactly what has taken place in Florida.  
17 So I don't really believe that Florida is different from the  
18 country in the fact that they may have public officials who  
19 may betray their trust. The difference might be that we  
20 have pursued to make sure that they just didn't stand. It  
21 is one of the reasons, quite frankly, why I have felt so  
22 strongly on personal and full financial disclosure. have filed  
23 copies of my income tax return and statements of my both net  
24 both  
25 worth/as a candidate, and every year as governor; and we  
made some improvements this time in the ethics law in Florida,  
and I am hopeful we can go to full financial disclosure




1 which is not an answer in and of itself, but I believe it  
2 would certainly restore some of the confidence for the people  
3 in government, not only in Florida but in the nation as well.

4 MR. PEIRCE: There were some allegations that this year's  
5 legislature was no longer the great reformed legislature  
6 that Florida has been talked of as having two or three years  
7 ago, but the pork chop gang, and the rural interests and the  
8 special interests had taken over again. You had a terrific  
9 battle to get any kind of ethics legislation at all. Is  
10 there a change in temper in the state now?

11 GOVERNOR ASKEW: I think it is more a change probably  
12 in the personality of leadership more than anything else, but  
13 we have accomplished substantial reform, as you well  
14 know, in Florida in the last four years, and we are going to  
15 continue that thrust.

16 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Askew, wherever I go your name is  
17 mentioned for first place or second place nomination for the  
18 Democratic Party. And yet you have made it clear in  
19 unmistakable language that you are not interested in either  
20 a Presidential or Vice Presidential nomination. Now that  
21 you have made that clear, will you tell us why?

22 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Well, I guess I just don't want to  
23 go into national politics, Mr. Spivak. I don't aspire, and  
24 I simply don't want to be President or Vice President.  
25 And I really feel it is a little presumptuous for me to



1 assume that I ever could be, but I just really don't want it.

2 MR. SPIVAK: And yet you have indicated that you do have  
3 a great interest in what is happening to this country, and  
4 there is a great demand for national leaders. Why then do  
5 you persist in your position?

6 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Well, I guess it is what everybody  
7 really feels like that they should do in life, and I really  
8 don't think that is one of the things that I wish to do in  
9 life, Mr. Spivak. But I certainly don't plan on -- I do plan  
10 on having some part, I think, in the selection of leadership.  
11 But I just don't want that leadership to be me.



1 MR. BRODER: Governor Edwards, I would like to get you  
2 into the debate with your neighbors on the loyalty oath.

3 Do you think Governor Wallace, who you said would beat your  
4 own preferred candidate, Senator Bentsen here in Louisiana, do  
5 you think Governor Wallace ought to be asked to pledge his  
6 loyalty to the Democratic party?

7 Well, I think that's a paradox in itself. I mean  
8 GOVERNOR EDWARDS:/ what kind of party would think about  
9 nominating somebody to lead the party on condition that he would  
10 swear to be loyal to the party? I mean that is to me a  
11 ridiculous syndrome. If the party doesn't have that kind of  
12 faith in a candidate, they have got no business giving him any  
13 serious consideration.

14 MR. BRODER: Do you have that kind of faith in Governor  
15 Wallace?

16 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: I don't view him at all as a possibility  
17 for the Democratic nomination for president or vice president.

18 MR. BRODER: Why is that, sir?

19 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: Because the make-up of the leadership  
20 in the Democratic party is such that it doesn't accommodate  
21 to Governor Wallace's views.


22 Now, in Louisiana 60 per cent of the people in the state  
23 are locked into him and, as I said before, neither Senator  
24 Bentsen nor Edwin Edwards or anybody else could erode that  
25 support. The other 40 per cent would fragment among the various  
candidates or go to one candidate, I don't know, but there is a

1 big difference between the 20 per cent of the American people  
2 scattered around the country though it may be, who support  
3 George Wallace, who lock him in and give him a frontrunner  
4 position in popularity now because that is locked in to him but  
5 that is the same reason that it ends his race, because his  
6 well known posture on so many issues has locked him to a respect-  
7 able minority of people in the country. But that is as far as  
8 he goes. He runs out of gas when he passes that group of  
9 people and I think he will go to the convention with a respect-  
10 able group of delegates but end there.

11 MR. MONROE: Governor Rampton, a few weeks ago you were one  
12 of eight western Governors who asked President Ford to approve  
13 the strip mining bill. The President vetoed the strip mining  
14 bill. The House apparently will attempt to override the veto  
15 in the next couple of days. You have congressmen and senators  
16 from Utah who can tell you what is going to happen in  
17 Washington sometimes.

18 Do you think that the congress will override the President's  
19 veto?

20 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I rather think they will override the  
21 President's veto. I endorsed the strip mining bill, really,  
22 as Chairman of the Governors Conference. As far as my own  
23 state is concerned, we have taken care of that matter with a  
24 strip mining bill that was passed by the Utah Legislature.  
25 I would like to see all of the states move on the problem



1 themselves, so I don't really feel as deeply about the federal  
2 strip mining bill as I do about some other matters before the  
3 Congress, but I did endorse it.

4 MR. MONROE: Certain federal officials say that that strip  
5 mining bill would cost 36,000 jobs. What about that argument?

6 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I think it would not cost that many jobs.  
7 I think it would cost no jobs at all in the long run, because  
8 the energy fuels are there; they have got to be recovered.  
9 It is going to cost more without doubt to cover the cost of the  
10 strip mining bill, but I think that is a price that we must  
11 pay for recovering this energy fuel and it has got to be covered  
12 by the cost of the fuel so the price is going to be passed on  
13 to the consumer.

14 But in those states which have shallow deposits of fossil  
15 fuels, the ecological effect of recovering those without  
16 restoration is just too much to contemplate, so I think the  
17 bill either on a state or national level is an absolute must.





1 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Rampton, may I ask you a question  
2 and then run right down the panel on this, if I can get a  
3 brief answer from all of you:

4 The thing that concerns the American people very deeply  
5 today is in controversy today between politicians and econo-  
6 mists and that is, have we touched bottom? Is the recession  
7 over? From what you see, do you think the recession is  
8 over, or do you think it is going to get worse?

9 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I don't think the recession is over,  
10 but I think we may well have touched bottom. Now, this last  
11 month both the national unemployment rate and the rate within  
12 my home state went down again, but I have a feeling so far as  
13 the State of Utah is concerned, that so far this month we  
14 have been seeing an upturn, we have been seeing additional  
15 people go back to work. I have been able to sense a reduction  
16 of the load on our aid to dependent children, so I feel that  
17 we have bottomed out, Mr. Spivak. At least I hope so. And  
18 that the summer and fall should see some improvement.

19 MR. SPIVAK: May we have answers all down the line?  
20 Governor Anderson.

21 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: I think it is critical that the Federal  
22 Government establish as its goal to put everybody to work who  
23 is able and willing to go to work.

24 MR. SPIVAK: Do you think the recession is over?

25 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: No, sir.



1 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Bond?

2 GOVERNOR BOND: As I said earlier, I think we are beginning  
3 to see the turning of the corner in the creation of new jobs  
4 in our state.

5 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Longley?

6 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: I don't think the recession is over,  
7 but I think we are starting to move upwards at least in Maine  
8 hopefully the rest of the  
9 and / the nation will be following suit. I do think  
10 the government has the responsibility however to help put  
11 people back to work. We can't wait for the private sector to  
12 solve the problem.

13 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Askew.

14 GOVERNOR ASKEW: There have been some good signs, Mr.  
15 Spivak. I don't believe anyone can say with any absolute  
16 assurance we have yet bottomed out. We hope we have.

17 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Edwards.

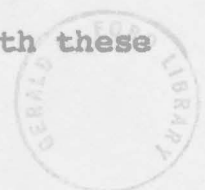
18 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: It is clearly not over and will continue  
19 to worsen until we address ourselves to the energy problems  
20 in the country. As long as we are spending \$25 to 50 billion  
21 a year which will escalate for the next ten years, importing  
22 foreign oil at ridiculous prices, when we have it sitting in  
23 the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico, we  
24 are not going to resolve the problems of the economy in this  
25 country.

MR. PEIRCE: Governor Anderson, according to the Commerce

1 Department the average wages in state and local government  
2 are now up to 106 percent of the average in the private sec-  
3 tor in the country. Yet government workers have much better  
4 pension benefits in many cases/through civil service  
5 much better job security. Don't you think the taxpayers  
6 around the country should be asking some rather serious ques-  
7 tions about that imbalance?

8 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: First of all, I think they should,  
9 but I want to make this observation: When I was first elected  
10 to the state legislature back in 1958, w were having a turn-  
11 over of our state employees/every three or four years because  
12 their pay was not commensurate with the same responsibility  
13 in private industry. We have made great strides. I  
14 think in some areas police and fire retirement benefits and  
15 so forth are low, and teachers deserve our close scrutiny. In  
16 other areas of public service I don't think the salary is  
17 adequate or commensurate with the same position in private  
18 industry.

19 MR. PEIRCE: Like many Democrats and some Republicans,  
20 in your last campaign you accepted contributions from the  
21 teachers and other government employee unions. Yet as Governor,  
22 either directly or indirectly, you are in a position of bar-  
23 gaining with those same employees on wages and benefits.  
24 Doesn't that represent sort of an inherent conflict of interest,  
25 to accept contributions and then to be bargaining with these



1 people?


2 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: I think it does. Of course, we do  
3 have disclosure which I think is one safeguard, and the  
4 other thing we have in Minnesota is public financing. We  
5 have dollar checkoffs that goes not only to support the  
6 constitutional officers, but the legislature as well. We  
7 do not have that on the Congressional level. I think in the  
8 future it is going to alleviate the legitimate problem that  
9 you raise.

10 MR. PEIRCE: Would you favor a Minnesota law that would  
11 bar labor unions from making direct contributions to his  
12 campaigns?

13 GOVERNOR ANDERSON: Not today, but I would if in fact  
14 public financing would raise the substantial amount of money  
15 it takes to run an effective campaign. We are just experi-  
16 menting with it right now. We have only had it in existence  
17 for one year. But if we get to the point where public finan-  
18 cing will raise 70 or 75 percent of the funds it takes, my  
19 answer will be yes.

20 MR. APPLE: Governor Bond, I am going to take one more  
21 try at what you would like to see happen in 1976. Let me  
22 start with this question: Would you like to see Governor  
23 Connally run for President?

24 GOVERNOR BOND: It doesn't make much difference to me.  
25 If he wishes to run for President, that's fine.



1 MR. APPLE: Do you think it would be a healthy thing for  
2 Governor Connally or Governor Reagan to get into the race or<sup>not</sup>.

3 GOVERNOR BOND: I think that is up to them. They can  
4 make that decision themselves. What I had wanted  
5 to see in '76 if it would help in your understanding of  
6 my position, is an open discussion and a, well, a dialogue,  
7 if you want to use that phrase, on the issues, and the Federal  
8 programs for the next several generations, even. And I think  
9 it is a good opportunity.

10 MR. APPLE: You are going to have one candidate having  
11 a dialogue with himself.

12 GOVERNOR BOND: No, I think there will probably be others.

13 MR. APPLE: What do you think about the conservative  
14 move to get rid of Governor Rockefeller as Vice President?

15 GOVERNOR BOND: I think Governor Rockefeller has done  
16 an excellent job as Vice President. I think he can continue  
17 to serve. He was my first choice for Vice President, and I  
18 am quite happy with him.

19 MR. BRODER: Governor Longley, I would like to find  
20 out how Governor Rampton's proposal would work in the State  
21 of Maine. Are you prepared to turn over any of your present  
22 tax sources to the localities in Maine?

23 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: I think that both the federal govern-  
24 ment and the state government should serve as a conduit from  
25 the standpoint of revenue sharing back to the cities and






1 towns, and I see conceptually the advantage of getting govern-  
2 ment back to the people by eliminating the categorical grants,  
3 whether we are talking on the federal level or the state  
4 level, and try to move to public works projects and local  
5 community projects as much as possible, by transmitting as  
6 much money as possible back to the cities and towns. Yes,  
7 I would support that approach.

8 MR. BRODER: The leaders of the legislature in Maine  
9 when I was up there charged that your budget, rather than  
10 doing that, would have the effect of putting a ceiling on state  
11 taxes, but forcing up the local property taxes to pay for  
12 such things as snow removal, which is fairly essential in  
13 Maine.

14 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: Mr. Broder, I am very proud, that  
15 it looks like our Maine legislature is going to approve  
16 the governor's budget, a balanced budget without a tax increase.  
17 In these days of rising costs I think that is a major accomplish-  
18 ment for the people of Maine, and a tribute to our legislature.

19 MR. BRODER: What will that do to local property taxes?

20 GOVERNOR LONGLEY: But let me simply say I am not in  
21 agreement with the supposition advanced to you which is  
22 really a liberal element within the Democratic Party in  
23 the House. It is not supported by the House as a whole. I  
24 think as evidenced by the support of our budget. Because I am  
25 saying if we can transmit decision making back to the people,  
that we will have greater fiscal accountability and greater fis-  
cal responsibility, and I think that is the key. I am not prepared



to support that it is a cutback. I think it is a definite improvement.

1 MR. MONROE: Governor Askew, in your second inaugural  
2 address a few months ago, you talked about combating crime  
3 and you asked, among other things, for some real assurances  
4 that our system of justice will be just for black and for white,  
5 for rich and for poor, for the powerful and for the powerless.  
6 How do you get those assurances?

7 GOVERNOR ASKEW: Well, of course, you do your best to try  
8 to make it work a little better by virtue of having more black  
9 input at every level of government to the extent that it is  
10 within your power to do so and to try to assure that the law is  
11 administered fairly. It is no easy thing but certainly I was  
12 elected the first time and re-elected without any commitments to  
13 anyone except a single constituent so it has given me an  
14 opportunity to be free in doing that. But it is a tremendous  
15 goal but it is one that we are working towards in Florida.

16 MR. SPIVAK: Gentlemen, we have less than three minutes.

17 MR. PIERCE: Governor Edwards, a major theme of this  
18 conference is State Growth Policy and there are a lot of people  
19 who think there needs to be state-wide land use policies if you  
20 are going to prevent helter-skelter growth, or harm to the  
21 delicate ecology of a state like Louisiana. Yet your state,  
22 according to the state planning office, has no state-wide  
23 land use plan in effect or even in preparation from what I can  
24 gather. Can you tell us why?

25 GOVERNOR EDWARDS: I wouldn't think that would be a viable

2  
1 concept. I think it is part of this overall scheme of somebody  
2 else somewhere high up regulating everybody's lives, properties,  
3 dealings, futures and plans. We are going to look at our  
4 marshland because we believe that some state level, not federal  
5 level, and not local level, some state level planning  
6 for the maintenance of the marsh areas, the estuaries of the  
7 Gulf of Mexico are important but as far as Baton Rouge  
8 dictating to parishes, cities and local governments, what  
9 they should do with land areas, I think that is a trend in the  
10 wrong direction and I would not support it and I don't think  
11 the people of my state would want that sort of thing.

12 MR. SPIVAK: Governor Edwards, you are deeply concerned  
13 about the energy crisis. Do you have any new proposals,  
14 proposals that are workable to solve the energy crisis?

15 MR. EDWARDS: Absolutely. The Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic  
16 Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. The best proposal we have would  
17 be to remove government interference with oil and gas companies  
18 in this country that are responsible for producing the enormous  
19 amounts of energy that have been produced in the past 40 years,  
20 allow these companies to go into the Atlantic Ocean and the  
21 Pacific Ocean in areas where it is expected there could be  
22 production and produce it. It would take a three to five-year  
23 lag time but we could produce almost enough energy from those  
24 areas to take care of our short-fall as we now experience it.

25 MR. APPLE: Governor Rampton, you said in an AP interview



1 this week that all the presidential candidates, the Democratic  
2 presidential candidates, were going to fall from sheer fatigue.  
3 Who is going to replace them?

4 GOVERNOR RAMPTON: I don't recall having said that. You  
5 must have a quote from someone else, but I would agree with the  
6 statement because the task of going through these numerous  
7 primaries is exhausting. I think there will be additional  
8 candidates in the field to those that are now announced. How-  
9 ever, I would expect whether he announces it or not that Ed  
10 Muskie will pick up a substantial number of supporters along the  
11 way.

12 MR. SPIVAK: I am sorry to interrupt but our time is up.

13 Thank you, gentlemen, for being with us today on MEET THE  
14 PRESS.

15 (Next week: The Vice President of the United States, Nelson  
16 Rockefeller.)

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