

would be to stay out of it entirely until the candidates have all filed and then, at that point, to make the analysis and decide where their support is going to go.

Q. Do you mean Republicans will support some candidates and Democrats will support others?

A. I'm hopeful that when these candidates have all filed, that there will be some people who are of such obvious stature in their professions and in their businesses and in their civic responsibilities of a non-elective, non-political type, that both parties will find it expeditious and convenient to support those people. Certainly, if a man like Dr. Milton Eisenhower filed for the Constitutional Convention, I would think both parties could support him. If a man like Dr. Otto Kraushaar, the former president of Goucher College, filed, it would seem to me that both parties could support him. So, what I'm saying is, let's not freeze out real talent on the basis that you've got to have a political endorsement to win.

Q. Again, Governor, whether this is a freeze to both parties to stay out of direct partisan support, all you want is a bipartisan ticket, is that right?

A. I want a complete nonpartisan convention if it's possible to get it. I don't think that it's going to be possible entirely to get it. I think there are going to be some political people in this convention. I'm not sure it's bad to have some of them in there. I think members of the Legislature may render in some cases a contribution to the convention. But the overall impact in the majority of this convention should not be dominated by any political machine. That's what I have an interest in. This doesn't mean they shouldn't belong to a political party, it means they shouldn't be dominated by any political machine.

Q. Governor, if Representative Long launches a referendum campaign on the bridges and the tunnel, will you open the campaign again?

A. Well, I don't know what the referendum would be launched against. Is he going to fight the Harbor tunnel? We already have in a separate bill, enacted in the previous session, authority to go ahead with the Harbor tunnel, and I indicated at our last press conference that that was our first priority. So that the referendum, even if launched, would not affect that. We haven't said a thing about going ahead with any of the Bay crossings, yet. We haven't even assigned priorities. So I think a lot of the people are under the impression that