

Q. Governor, yesterday it was disclosed that a realty agency owned by Comptroller Goldstein's wife would refuse the right-of-way acquisition for the gas and electric company. Do you think there is a causal relationship or any indication of influence peddling between his supporting the bill to give the company a tax break for purchase of the land and his latest business arrangement with the family.

A. I honestly don't think there's any relationship between the two matters. In the first place, I don't see any news value in the fact that someone in the real estate business, namely Mrs. Goldstein, sought to engage in that business. I don't think there's anything wrong in what was done in accepting the assignment from the gas and electric company which has no public involvement other than being a public utility regulated by the Public Service Commission. I just can't see any impropriety whatsoever in this thing.

Q. Governor, are you concerned about the recent IRS bookmaking raids in the City of Baltimore?

A. No, if you look back over the years, you will see that the IRS periodically makes a few startling raids in every major city. I discussed this with Colonel Lally and with other persons who have had some experience at the Federal level, and I see nothing unusual about it. And I see nothing unusual about the procedure of not informing the city police that the raids were going to take place. This has happened previously, also.

Q. Governor, getting back to national politics, has any other governor besides Governor Romney and Governor Rockefeller made an especially good impression as a potential candidate for President?

A. Well, I think we've got one very outstanding young man that's coming along in the Republican Party, and he was selected to be the keynote speaker, as far as the governors' preference is concerned, at the coming national convention. That's Governor Dan Evans of the State of Washington. Governor Evans is quite a young man. I think he's 42 or 43. He's in the latter stages of his term. I'm not certain whether they have a two or four year term there, but I do know he's up for election this time. And he's an extremely capable and attractive candidate with a national future in my opinion.

Q. Governor, you expressed an interest in becoming a member of the GOP platform committee next year. If the party's candidate happens to be a dove, do you still plan to maintain your position on the Vietnam War?