

will be achieved on platform recommendations which we may submit to the Committee on Resolutions at the national convention in August.

All regional hearings have been designed with this in mind. All follow the same format, only the issues vary. This hearing is confined to the categories of civil rights, education, health, job opportunities and law enforcement. Six authorities in these respective fields have been invited to testify. Witnesses will present a five minute summary of their written statements which will be followed by a period of questioning by the Governors lasting about ten minutes.

Subsequent witnesses, who have prepared papers, will speak for three minutes and questioning will follow as time permits.

I sincerely regret we could not hear all who desired to testify but time is one problem that defies solution. However, all papers presented in connection with this hearing will receive the task force's consideration and be turned over to the Republican Governors' Association for full distribution.

Again, I reiterate my welcome to Governors, witnesses and guests — and on behalf of the task force, express our gratitude as we go to work.

COMMENT ON PUBLISHED REPORTS ON VICE PRESIDENCY

May 17, 1968

I am flattered by the reports that Richard Nixon has listed me among the several persons he has considered as potential vice presidential candidates. I have spoken to Mr. Nixon and thanked him for his kind remarks.

While it is pleasing to receive such consideration, it is certainly too early to speculate about the presidency or the vice presidency. My concern and my obligation are to protect the best interests of the Republican citizens of Maryland at the Convention and to work for the strongest possible ticket that can be nominated.