

Q. What about the length of the session of the legislature; don't you think there ought to be additional days?

A. No, I think the 70-day session meets the requirement. There is a tendency to always want more time. I don't think that any useful purpose is necessarily served by having sessions extended. Until I would see some real evidence of the need for further extension of regular sessions, I wouldn't be in favor of it. We still have a special session technique to resort to in dire emergency, and while I would be a Governor who would never frivolously summon the Legislature into special session, I think it's there if it's absolutely necessary to use it. I would think it is necessary if we get into any tax reform delay.

Q. On the basis of your efforts for tax reform in Maryland, do you have any comment on the problems Governor Reagan might face trying to raise 950 million dollars?

A. I sympathize with Governor Reagan because he's obviously got an extremely difficult problem, not only in the magnitude of the money he has to raise but in the fact that the people of California have reached a level of tax obligation that makes them extremely hostile to any suggested spending regardless of how important it is. Since you mentioned California, I might tell you that we're interested and, as you know, we're looking for a Director of Correctional Services at the present time. I had a conference the other day with Mr. Bennett, former Federal Prison Chief, and I asked him what states he thought had the finest penal systems in the country. California was one of the states he mentioned. He also mentioned Massachusetts, Florida, Washington, Oregon, and Minnesota. They are some that I recall and we're turning our recruitment efforts in those directions.

Q. Governor, what else did Mr. Bennett discuss with you?

A. We talked a bit about what he considered to be a bad situation in the Maryland correctional system. Apparently we have per 100,000 of population more people incarcerated than do most areas. I think that our figure is, and don't quote me on the figure without checking it, around 177 people per 100,000. Some of the states with more progressive systems are only retaining within their prison systems as few as 82 people per 100,000. Now the point that Mr. Bennett made, and I think this is an extremely legitimate point, is that whatever your figure is you can do better with people out of the system as long as they are followed and supervised. And this is where our correctional system needs assistance. We don't have the mechanics or the personnel or the procedures presently to follow the people who have been re-