

McKeldin

By ODELL M. SMITH

Governor McKeldin charged early today that Dr. H. C. Byrd had switched his campaign tactics from "cowardly innuendo" to "outright lying."

This outburst was set off by the statement of Dr. Byrd, in a television program late last night, that an \$8,000 bribe was demanded in Annapolis for the passage of a roads bill.

The Governor characterized the Byrd charge as "just another of his desperate attempts to stave off the defeat he faces today."

Asks Questions

He asked his Democratic opponent why he had not named the business man who told him the story of the bribery demand and why he had not designated the person who solicited the \$8,000.

"At the eleventh hour, he will stop at nothing," the Governor said of Dr. Byrd, "switching as he has tonight from cowardly innuendo to the outright lying which has characterized his activities throughout his public career.

"The statement tonight, of course," he added, "is libelous."

Earlier, the Governor had asked the voters of Maryland to give him a second term on the strength of "the record of my Administration."

In a statement issued for election-eve consumption, the Governor declared he was highly pleased by the upsurge of interest in the election in all areas of the State.

He said he had noted this stimulated interest "during the last week, and particularly in the last few days."

Real Issues At Stake

He was of the opinion that the "genuine concern," which has replaced the "early apathy" of the campaign, grew out of a realization on the part of Maryland voters that "real issues are at stake in Tuesday's voting. . . ."

It was one of the few pronouncements made by the Governor during the past several weeks in which he did not mention the

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name of his Democratic challenger, Dr. H. C. Byrd.

He mentioned the Democratic candidate as "my opponent," and made a few references to "the inner circle" of Dr. Byrd's advisers.

Accuses Opposition

He accused this "opposition" of conducting a campaign in which it tried to obscure the true issues, declaring that to accomplish this "they have turned to extraneous extremes and irrational irrelevancies."

Governor **McKeldin** is hoping to become the first Republican ever to occupy the Governor's mansion for two terms.

In this, one of his final campaign statements, the Governor had kind words to say about two high Democratic officials in the State Government.

Bipartisan Control

He named them—State Comptroller J. Millard Tawes and State Treasurer Hooper S. Miles—in expressing a wish that the "sound bipartisan control of the State's top-ranking administrative fiscal body (the Board of Public Works) may be continued."

Mr. Tawes is running for reelection without Republican opposition and, of course, will be re-elected.

The Governor promised that he would exercise all his influence, "within the range of propriety," to prevail upon the General Assembly to re-elect Mr. Miles.

In summing up the campaign, the Governor said:

"I have discussed with frankness and with pride our programs and their progress—programs for a real system of roads, for better health services, for advanced and scientific meeting of the problem of juvenile delinquency, for the rehabilitation of inmates in our penal institutions, for better schools and a sufficiency of them, for safer driving on our highways.

Finances Of The State

"I have discussed the finances of the State, our institutions of higher learning, our good relations with privately endowed schools, home rule for counties and municipalities, court reform, conservation and all the other services of the State.

"I have called upon my opponent to state his position on each. His silence has been stifling.

"In these last four years, ours has been a calm capable government of progress, constantly in touch with the general public and the consensus of its wishes.

"Avoided Uncertainties"

"Because we have planned well, and discussed our plans with the people of Maryland, we have avoided the uncertainties and unsettling influences of special sessions of the Legislature.

"By the same democratic means, we have avoided surprise, bombshell legislation. We dug no holes from which it was necessary to extricate ourselves."