

## Excerpts From Senator Muskie's Nationwide TV

Following are excerpts from the nationwide television broadcast last night by Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Democrat of Maine:

I am speaking from Cape Elizabeth, Me., to discuss with you the election campaign which is coming to a close.

In the heat of our campaigns, we have all become accustomed to a little anger and exaggeration. Yet, on the whole, our political process is wrong. There has been naming for your judgment a range of answers to the country's problems and a choice between men who seek the honor of public service.

That is our system. It has worked for almost 200 years, longer than any other political system in the world. And it still works.

But in these elections of 1970, something has gone wrong. It has served us well, present-calling and deception of almost unprecedented volume. Honorable men have been slandered. Faithful servants of the country have had their motives questioned and their patriotism doubted.

This attack is not simply the overzealousness of a few local leaders. It has been led,

inspired and guided from the highest offices in the land.

The danger from this assault is not that a few more Democrats might be defeated—the country can survive that. The true danger is that American people will have been deprived of that public debate, that opportunity for fair judgment, which is the heartbeat of the democratic process. And that is something the country cannot afford.

Let me try to bring some clarity to this deliberate confusion. Let me begin with those issues of law and order, of violence and unrest, which have pervaded the rhetoric of this campaign.

I believe that any person who violates the law should be apprehended, prosecuted and punished, if found guilty. So does every candidate for office of both parties. And nearly all Americans agree.

I believe everyone has a right to feel secure, on the streets of his city and in the buildings where he works or studies. So does every candidate for office of both parties. And nearly all Americans agree.

Therefore, there is no issue of law and order, or of violence. There is only a problem. There is no disagree-

ment about what we want. There are only different approaches to getting it. And the harsh and uncomfortable fact is that no one, in either party, has the final answer.

For four years, a conservative Republican has been Governor of California. Yet there is no more law and order in California today than when he took office.

President Nixon, like President Johnson before him, has taken a firm stand. A Democratic Congress has passed sweeping legislation. Yet America is no more orderly or lawful nor its streets more safe than was the case two years ago, or four or six.

We must deal with symptoms—strive to prevent crime, halt violence and punish the wrongdoer.

But we must also look for the deeper causes, in the structure of our society.

If one of your loved ones is sick, you do not think it is soft or undisciplined of a doctor to try and discover the agents of illness. But you would soon discard a doctor who thought it enough to stand by the bed and righteously curse the disease.

Yet there are those who seek to turn our common distress to partisan advantages,

not by offering better solutions but with empty threat and malicious slander.

They imply that Democratic candidates for high office in Texas and California, in Illinois and Tennessee, in Utah and Maryland, and among my New England neighbors from Vermont and Connecticut, men who have courageously pursued their convictions in the service of the republic in war and in peace, that these men actually favor violence and champion the wrongdoer.

That is a lie. And the American people know it is a lie.

And what are we to think when men in positions of public trust openly declare:

¶That the party of Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman, which led us out of depression and to victory over international barbarism;

¶The party of John Kennedy, who was slain in the service of the country he inspired;

¶The party of Lyndon Johnson, who withstood the fury of countless demonstrations in order to pursue a course he believed in;

¶The party of Robert Kennedy, murdered on the eve of his greatest triumphs;

How dare they tell us that this party is less devoted or

## Broadcast on Election Eve

less courageous in maintaining American principles and values than are they themselves.

This is nonsense. And we all know it is nonsense.

These attacks are dangerous in a more important sense, for they keep us from dealing with our problems.

Names and threats will not end the shame of ghettos and racial injustice, restore a degraded environment or end a long and bloody war.

Slogans and television commercials will not bring the working man that assurance of a constantly rising standard of life which was his only a few years ago and which has been cruelly snatched away.

No administration can be expected to solve the difficulties of America in two years. But we can fairly ask two things—that a start be made and that the nation be instilled with a sense of forward movement, of high purpose. This has not been done.

Let us look, for example, at the effort to halt inflation. We all agree that inflation must be arrested. This Administration has decided it could keep prices down by withdrawing money from the economy. Now I do not think they will ever control inflation this way.

But even if their policy was sound, the money had to come from someone. And who did they pick to pay? It was the working man, the consumer, the middle-class American.

There are only two kinds of politics. They are not radical and reactionary, or conservative and liberal, or even Democratic and Republican. There are only the politics of fear and the politics of trust.

One says: You are encircled by monstrous dangers. Give us power over your freedom so we may protect you.

The other says: The world is a baffling and hazardous place, but it can be shaped to the will of men.

Ordinarily that division is not between parties, but between men and ideas. But this year the leaders of the Republican party have intentionally made that line a party line. They have confronted you with exactly that choice.

Thus, in voting for the Democratic party tomorrow, you cast your vote for trust, not just in leaders or policies, but for trusting your fellow citizens, in the ancient traditions of this home for freedom and, most of all, for trust in yourself.