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Governors answering questions during a televised news conference yesterday at the National Governors' Conference in Seattle. First row, from left: Daniel J. Evans of Washington, Jimmy Carter of Georgia and Daniel Walker of Illinois. Second row: Tom McCall of Oregon, Wendell R. Anderson of Minnesota and Wendell H. Ford of Kentucky.

6 Governors Urge President to Give Up All Evidence to Impeachment Committee

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SEATTLE, June 2—Six Governors—four Democrats and two Republicans—agreed today that President Nixon should turn over all the tapes and documents that the House Judiciary Committee has asked for in its impeachment inquiry.

The six appeared on the National Broadcasting Company program, "Meet the Press," in conjunction with the opening of the National Governors' Conference here.

Gov. Jimmy Carter of Georgia, a Democrat, declared, "I personally think that the President is guilty and I think that the release of evidence will prove it."

Gov. Tom McCall of Oregon, a Republican, said that impeachment was a "completely ludicrous procedure," and that President Nixon should resign immediately.

The others on the panel were Gov. Daniel J. Evans of Washington, a Republican who is the retiring chairman of the conference and the host of this four-day meeting; Gov. Wendell Ford of Kentucky, a Democrat who is challenging Senator Marlow W. Cook for re-election; Gov. Daniel Walker of Illinois, a Democrat, and Gov. Wendell R. Anderson of Minnesota, a Democrat.

The Watergate scandals and the fate of the Nixon Presi-

dency are the first topics of conversation here, as at most political gatherings.

Watergate may have "sort of a reverse effect so far as it affects the states," said Governor Evans.

"I believe there is good stability in virtually all our state governments. Basically they're reasonably fiscally well off. I think there's some considerable harmony in most states, and frankly in a period of national turmoil the states and their leadership may very well be sort of the bedrock of the political system."

The great majority of the

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Governors interviewed here appeared satisfied that Congress did not need their help to reach a clear and fair verdict on President Nixon.

Governor Carter and Governor Ford had advocated Mr. Nixon's resignation before, but today both said they preferred the "constitutional route," in Mr. Ford's phrase, of impeachment.

Most of the Governors are now outspokenly happy to be watching the process from afar. And their conference here, which started with salmon fishing yesterday and horse races at the Longacres track today, will be devoted to other political issues.

Health Care Debate

The main event tomorrow is a three-way debate on "The States and Health Care," Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, one of the principal sponsors of a compromise national health insurance bill; Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; and Dr. Russell B. Roth, president of the American Medical Association, will participate.

Kenneth R. Cole, President Nixon's assistant for domestic affairs, will represent the White House at a panel Tuesday on "The State of the States." Also on Tuesday, John W. Gardner, the chairman of Common Cause, will try to enlist more state governments behind his campaign in Congress for political reform and public campaign financing.

At their closing session Wednesday, the Governors will debate "States and Their Future Agenda" with Elliott L. Richardson, who left the Nixon Cabinet in a dispute over the Watergate prosecution, and Terry Sanford, the former Governor of North Carolina who now is president of Duke University and chairman of the Democratic party's charter commission.

In the political chatter that always ranks high on the informal agenda of these meetings, Governor McCall led off today with the thought that the Republican Party might not survive long enough to field a

major candidate for the Presidency in 1976. "The Whigs were a lot better off than the Republicans are when the Republicans took them over," said Mr. McCall, an independent liberal and onetime television newsman who will explore the chances of building a "third force" in national politics after he leaves office next year.

Since he first broached that idea on network television recently, Governor McCall said, he has received hundreds of supporting letters, \$15 worth of financial support—"all in small contributions"—and enthusiastic telephone calls from two onetime Presidential candidates, former Gov. George Romney of Michigan and former Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota.

"I said we all ought to keep in touch," Governor McCall said. "The persiflage and the rote of the party is something we're all sick of."

On "Meet the Press," Mr. McCall took an unconventionally disparaging view of the impeachment process. Speaking as "an old court reporter" he said that a trial in the Senate violated most standards of due process.

"All 100 Senators would be disqualified in a regular court on the first question: Are you aware of any of the facts, do you have any preconceptions about the case?" Governor McCall declared.

He continued: "Another drawback is that if they don't impeach him, there is still going to be the great distrust of him nationally. If they do impeach him, a lot of people are simply going to say: Sure, what do you expect from a Democratic majority? So I think it's going to be a spinning of wheels. It's going to take a lot of time. It's an ordeal that the nation can't stand."