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Carey, Richard "Spike" oral history interview

Mike Richard

Interview with Richard "Spike" Carey by Mike Richard

Summary Sheet and Transcript

Interviewee
Carey, Richard "Spike"

Interviewer
Richard, Mike

Date
August 26, 1999

Place
Belgrade, Maine

ID Number
MOH 139

Biographical Note

Richard J. Carey was born on January 7, 1929 in Waterville, Maine. He lived in Waterville from 1929-1989. He didn't speak English until he was 12 years old, growing up in the Franco American community in Waterville. His father, Augustus Carey, was a paper maker and worked on the electrical switchboard, and later became a carpenter. His mother, Alma Carey, was a police matron. Augustus served on the city council in 1922, was the chairman of the fire department committee and served on the Board of Aldermen in 1937. Richard Carey married Helen, who at one time was the vice chair of the Democratic Ward Committee, and had six children: four boys and two girls. He was the first town manager of Belgrade in June 1989 and left the office in 1990 after 16 months of service. He has served in the Maine legislature for twenty years. He attended high school in Waterville, and then went to work at the Forster Manufacturing which produced toothpicks and disposable utensils. He enlisted in the Air Force and became a flight engineer and few throughout the U.S., especially during the Korean War. He attended University of Maine but left because of financial issues. He joined James W. Sewall Co. to do survey work. He ran and developed the Maine State Lottery from 1979-1986. He was mayor of Waterville from 1970-1978.

Scope and Content Note

Interview includes discussions of: Muskie mayoral race in Waterville, Maine; politics in Waterville in the 1930s and 1940s; Waterville, Maine community during the 1930s and 40s; Franco-Americans in Waterville; different ethnic communities in Waterville including Francos, Lebanese, Syrian and Irish; problems with environmental legislation in Maine; overall changes in Waterville over the last 60 years; 1972 Republican Convention in Augusta; personal impressions of Muskie; Waterville mayoral elections of 1970; Louis Jalbert; Veterans Committee; Ken Curtis; James Longley; Urban Renewal Projects; and anecdotes about Ed Muskie.

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Mike Richard: The date is August 26th, 1999 and we're here at the Belgrade, Maine town office with Richard Carey. Interviewing is Mike Richard. And Mr. Carey, could you please state your full name and spell it?

Richard Carey: It's Richard J. Carey, C-A-R-E-Y.

MR: And your date of birth, please?

RC: 1/7/29 [January 7, 1929].

MR: And where were you born?

RC: Born in Waterville.

MR: And for how long did you live in Waterville?

RC: Until '89, '29, about sixty years.

MR: Okay, well let's talk a little bit about your family background. First of all, what were your parents' names?

RC: My father's name was Augustus Carey and would have been named after an uncle who served temporarily as mayor of Waterville, but that's yet another story, and my mother was Alma Carey. Both came from the south end of Waterville. My mother at one time was a police matron and she worked in the wards and I guess one of her biggest disappointments was the fact that Muskie did not get elected mayor of Waterville at one time when he ran.

I have two brothers, one is retired military green beret, spent three tours of duty in Vietnam, although never set foot in the country. They were on the, they were in Laos on the Ho Chi Minh Trail or whatever it was. And the other one is living in Florida right next door to where my mother lives and he was the commander of the American Legion Post in Crystal River, and I guess his term is expired now, he's retired.

My wife Helen and I have had six children, we had four boys, two girls. The oldest son is an

engineer with the state of Vermont on environmental water quality issues, the second one passed away four years ago, the third one has taken over my business as a surveyor, and the fourth one, with the influence of his uncle, is serving in the special forces, the green berets, and travels extensively. One daughter is a schoolteacher, teaches math, has her masters in it, and the other daughter is the abandoned property manager for the treasurer's office. That's when you have, maybe you left a job and you had worked two days that week, then you've been two days' pay coming but you never got it. See, after a year that has to be turned in to the state and then they will put you on the list saying that you have some money coming. Well, that's the family. I did survey work for forty-three years.

MR: And what were your brothers', or what are your brothers' names?

RC: The, I'm the oldest, the next one down the line is called Carey Parell, he changed his name because he was a singer and his first name was Curley and he wasn't too crazy about the name. And then the other one is Jack Carey, C-A-R-E-Y again, and he lives in Waterville.

MR: And how about your father's occupation?

RC: My father was a paper maker, worked on the electrical switchboard, worked on rewinders where they'll take a monstrous roll of paper and cut it up into newsprint page size. And then he left there with an early retirement buyout and went to Florida and started, because he was a good carpenter, his father had been a good carpenter, they were both finish carpenters, and so he went down there to build and install kitchen cabinets.

MR: And what were your parents' political beliefs or interests?

RC: Democrats all the way. My father's father had served in the city council back in 1922 and he chaired, we had a bicameral system at the time, he was chairing the fire department committee that supervised what's going on in the fire department, and in 1922 he went to Boston and he bought the first ladder truck that the city got, that the city had, an old Stutz [a kind of truck]. Twenty-five years later, my father is sitting on the Board of Aldermen, which is on the other side of the hall, the higher body. Supposedly it's like being in the house or being in the senate, one or the other. And so he went to Boston and bought the fire truck that replaced his father's fire truck. And then twenty-five years later, I come along, I'm sitting in the mayor's office, and I didn't have to leave the office, I bought the truck that replaced my father's. Right now we don't- except for myself, we don't have anyone in the family that's in the political arena. I'm also a selectman here.

MR: A selectman in Belgrade?

RC: In Belgrade, yeah, yeah, I was the, Belgrade's first town manager, and the interesting part of that was that the first selectman at the time was a little disappointed that with a full time town manager the, there was no need for him to sit at a desk in the front waiting for people to come in and talk to him. And so he said he was going to put an article in the *Warrant,* which would do away with the town manager form of government. And so I, very shortly after, gave my resignation and took out papers to run against him, and defeated him. So at least while he may

not have liked the system, apparently somebody did.

MR: What time was this that this incident happened?

RC: This was back in '90.

MR: And so when did you first become town manager?

RC: In, the end of June of '89. I was manager for sixteen months.

MR: So that was pretty much right after you came here from Waterville?

RC: Yeah, and that was quite a transition for the town. At least it stopped pitting one selectman against another for doing something, because basically we have three towns here, the Belgrade Lakes, North Belgrade and Belgrade Depot. It's really all one township but it, the shopping center, if you would, if you want to call it that, is down in Belgrade Lakes, the industrial area is up this way, and there's not much in North Belgrade unfortunately. There's a lumberyard that hires some forty-odd people and that's about it. It's, basically we have fifty-eight miles of shore frontage, so we have a high valuation.

MR: And did your parents discuss their Democratic politics with you when you were a kid growing up, or with you and your brothers?

RC: Oh yeah, as a matter of fact, Chet Marden was mayor in '48, and my father was on the board at that time, and so Chet asked him if I would come in and he'd pay me a dollar a meeting to carry whatever they did in the board of aldermen, to carry that paperwork over across the hall for the council. And when Chet was honored as the man of the year, I was mayor and I mentioned that, that he owed me two dollars, and sure enough, he got up when he started giving his speech, he passed me over two dollars. But we probably in this area now have more people who are unenrolled than there are in one party or the other. More and more people are having a problem in really enrolling in a party. And I don't think it's because they feel that they've got to follow the line because I've been given a lot of leeway in the senate. I'll look at a bill, I have a set of principles that I try to follow; that's whenever a bill comes before us for debate, or at the committee level, my first inkling is, is this good for the state? Secondly, what does it do to my district, for or to my district? And thirdly, I consider the party, and so it's at the bottom of the priorities, right. And I'm starting my twentieth year in the legislature so I imagine my, and also my last, so it's obviously set well with the people that I represent.

MR: I guess, yeah. You said you consider party considerations last in that list of priorities. Do you think that that's pretty common among legislators today, or how has that changed?

RC: It's getting more common, more common. We have an independent in the house. We have an independent in the senate. They both got re-elected. And the independent in the house is from Auburn and, which is basically democratically controlled, and the independent in the senate is from Bar Harbor, which is heavily Republican. I tell you, it's probably more and more people that are going to be doing that. And we're getting a much larger percentage of women in the

legislature. Not many of them have children, which allows them to be able to sit there without having to worry about something going on at home rather than the material that's in front of them.

MR: Talking about your time in Waterville growing up again, would you and your brothers discuss politics much, or was it kind of you were more interested in it?

RC: Yeah, my mother was a matron at the time when we were growing up, and we'd go to a political meeting in Grove Street School, which was maybe four blocks from the house, and that was really a hotbed of activity. It was the most Democratic ward in the whole city. If you won in ward seven, wards three and four usually had to vote pretty heavy, to offset the margin that would come in out of ward seven. So we did attend some meetings, and the guy who was the chair was a barber who lived right next door to us on Carrion Street, and he was very forceful individual.

And we had businessmen who lived in the ward. I think of two people, both owned their own oil business. The, Mr. Laverdiere, who was a grocer, was in there, and so it was a mix of the working class and retired people, but in those days there weren't as many retired as there are today percentage wise. I imagine Social Security has made that possible, plus the negotiated pension plans that some employees have been able to pick up.

MR: Now you mentioned before that you were in the south end growing up? Was that traditionally the Franco-American area of town?

RC: Yeah, yes it was.

MR: So, what was it like growing up in that area? Also it was a strongly Democratic area so what were the relations between maybe other groups in the town?

RC: It was interesting because people looked out for their neighbors. You didn't have to worry that if you forgot to lock your door that somebody would get into your house because there were always neighbors around. The kids got along well, we walked to school which was probably a mile, a mile and a half away. We used to hook on to the trolley in the wintertime and just let the trolley pull us, but that ended. My mother and father bought a store, which was a candy store at the time. Mr. Dostie just wanted to retire. And they made enough money, they put in a soda bar, an ice cream place, and they did well, although it was, my mother would work during the day and when my father got out of work, then he'd go to the store and work. They made enough money that they bought the First National next door, Cloverdale it was called because most of their brands were under the Cloverdale label. And they put in some pinball machines in the back of the ice cream parlor, and those were kept busy all the time. My, on Sunday, when people would go by the store from, coming from church, some of the men would stop in to buy a morning paper and in her safe she had a bottle or two of different brands of liquor and they would also get a little shot, not that they had gone to Mass and gone to communion and everything. And so she almost got busted once by the liquor inspector, but everybody knew who the liquor inspector was, a fellow named Canoff. We had a hockey rink down at the south end, that's where our neighborhood would beat everybody else because there was the south end, the

Western Avenue Tigers, Pious Hill, the north end and they would beat the heck out of us in basketball, but they couldn't skate, so we would take the hockey thing all the time. But those were the good days.

MR: And so growing up, you were, when you were younger I guess you were growing up during the Depression, what was that like in the south end and for your family?

RC: We had a lot of pea soup made with a soup bone, and in those days they used to throw those away. We ate a lot of baked beans, but we didn't really have welfare programs in those days, I mean the whole town would have been on welfare practically. My father was quite an athlete. He got a job with the old Hollingsworth and Whitney, which became Kimberly Clark eventually. Went in a baseball league, they had industrial leagues, and they would pick out semi-pro guys and hire them to work in the factory, and that's how he got a job at the H&W. He, when he was pitching he'd win twenty-two, twenty-four games and lose maybe four or five, and when he wasn't pitching he was in the outfield and he'd hit four hundred. They sent somebody down from New York and the guy who came down said to my father, "I'd like to talk to your mother," and so he took her down to my grandmother's and she said, "Yes, what can we do for you?" And the guy says, "Well, we'd like to have your son come play ball for us, I'm with the Yankees. Although he won't start with the Yankees, he'd be up in Binghamton in the farm league," and she says "Well, is he going to get paid for this and housing and everything?" And they said "Yup," and then she asked the question, "Will he be able to come home nights?" And the guy says, "Oh no, we'll have him all summer." And that's when you listen to your mother. When she said, "Then he's not going," he didn't go. Yup, he was eighteen at the time.

MR: And what were your parents' religious beliefs?

RC: We are Roman Catholics. My wife and I serve as eucharistic ministers at Notre Dame in Waterville.

MR: And how big a role did the church play in life growing up in Waterville?

RC: Well, I was about twelve years old before I could speak English, and I was going to the convent, if you would. The nuns there were, I've always marveled at the fact that the nuns will have on one side of their uniform a rosary, and on the other side they'd have the razor strap. Have you gone through that?

MR: No, I haven't, but I've heard about it, through stories.

RC: Yeah, oh yeah, and so, and I was almost always in trouble, raising hell at one time or another, you know, so I saw more of the razor strap than I did of the rosary. But we stuck together, we had friends, and we were basically friends from within that district, the Franco district, and we did everything together. We all played football, we all did hockey, I could hardly stand up on skates so I didn't get on the ice very often. We had a baseball team, which later blossomed into a league down in, at the south end of the city. I built, while I was mayor I built a softball field on the river. But those were the good days, again.

MR: And were there any tensions or, actually I shouldn't slant that like that, what were the relations like between the French community in Waterville and the other ethnic communities?

RC: We had the Lebanese community, Lebanon and Syria have some people in Waterville who lived just north of the south end, and were scattered throughout the city, and they were mill workers who had come in, in the late 1800s to, and they came out of Canada, to get employment at a Wyandotte Worsted plant, which was a, this the French were working in the old Lockwood cotton mill which was down the street and, almost out of our area anyway. But there were a lot of intermarriages, a Lebanese girl, French guy, French girl, Lebanese guy, and so those two, we got along very well. There were some who were more upper crust from us who, who didn't fit in with either group.

MR: Were those other ethnic groups that were, or some within the Lebanese and French community?

RC: Well, we had two colleges, we had Thomas College in Waterville, which was over the 5 and 10, and then we had Colby College, which was up by the railroad yards, and is now moved on top of Mayflower Hill Drive. And they tended to get, oh, maybe a little snooty. They, over the years they've relaxed something fierce. They've hired more and more local people to work up there rather than keep bringing in people from out of state. So it, it's nowheres near what it was when we were kids but, we were lucky to have clothes on.

MR: Was there a prominent Irish or Italian or Yankee community in Waterville?

RC: There are a few Irish people, or there were then. And I would say that they were probably as friendly to us because they were treated, the Irish were treated the same way that the French were treated. You know, it's one of these things that where the parent tells the boy or the girl, the son or the daughter, "Don't go in the south end because you're only going to get in trouble down there." Well, that was not exactly the case, but I guess they wanted to make sure that their child was going to meet someone, you know, and if they eventually married, it would be someone with some stature.

MR: Okay, and just a general question. Well, first of all actually, you mentioned that the Democratic stronghold was really in ward seven, when you were growing up. Was the rest of the city either half and half Democratic and Republican, or was it more one or the other?

RC: Ward one could go either way, ward two was another that could go either way, Ward three and four were heavily Republican. Ward five was nowheres near the size as it is today because in those days we didn't have that one man/one vote edict from the federal government, so that that came around, must be thirty years ago now, so that each ward had the same number of people in it. So that was a more balanced representation. Right now, for instance, I represent thirty-five thousand people in the legislature, and no one has more than a thousand less or more than I do. Sometimes you've got to stretch out to get, I have nine towns in my district, but Portland has two representatives, two senators, and they used to run on a whole ballot because we didn't have districts in those days, you just ran at large, but with the party label on it. Ward six was also a Democratic ward because most of the people in that ward didn't have automobiles

and they didn't have a need for an automobile because they worked in the cotton mills, so six and seven were basically Democratic wards. Three and four were Republican. And ward five was just building, it was just open space, and they had at that time the fewest number of voters in the ward. But it was the place where people who worked at the college, management people at the Wyandotte Woolen mill or the Lockwood cotton mill, they would build their homes there. And so it's a ward until, well until '72, that would go Democrat or Republican, it would depend on the candidate. It would be nice if we could get rid of these party labels and just call ourselves liberals or conservatives. That may happen some day. Yeah, I vote against my party a good part of the time just based on the values or priorities. And I haven't been stripped of any chairmanships so I guess they are satisfied that I'm giving them half a shot anyway.

MR: And how do you think that your relationship to the party line has changed over the years, or have always kind of voted. . .?

RC: I've always been this way, yeah. Even when I was in the city council before becoming mayor, I looked at how it would affect the city, how it affected my ward, and then how it affected the party.

MR: Do you think your way of voting has been more or less aligned to the party recently than it has in the past?

RC: I have a dislike for super environmentalists. I don't mind an environmentalist, but the super charged environmentalists see absolutely nothing but a very narrow path to their goal, and, but life isn't like that. There are curves I think in everyone's life.

MR: Is this, some of what you're thinking about, maybe related to the Green party also? What's your assessment of the Green Party movement in Maine?

RC: I don't have a problem with them getting on the ballot, I don't think they will win. I have a great fear of Jonathan Carter. Jonathan seems to always find somebody to finance his efforts to save the Maine woods, and obviously if you save the Maine woods, and then the paper mills are gone. We just passed a fifty million dollar bond issue which the voters will have a chance to say yes or no, hopefully it'll be yes, to buy more land, but I've been trying to get from the forestry department a map telling me what we own as a state. And Plum Creek came in and made an offer to the state that, they bought SAPPI's land and they go all the way, almost all the way around Moosehead Lake, and they've offered to sell very reasonably that lake frontage so it can be preserved.

I'm not totally against the environment. I was very disappointed when the Edwards Dam ran out and I was somewhat surprised when the governor said, well, he didn't know there were carp at the bottom of the dam, and his planning office said that they had told him that there were carp at the bottom of the dam there. It's a very, it just eats the other fish, it just attacks them. We got two feet of water in one space, if you were to go across the bridge in Winslow, the southerly bridge, you would see the rocks are sticking up there, and I don't know how that's going to be navigable. So we did more damage by taking that out, because I chaired the utility committee and one of the things that we're trying to do is get more and more renewable resources in there,

which would be, gas is not because that doesn't renew itself, coal is not, biomass is because the trees will grow again once you take the lumber off of it anyway, hydro is a renewable, and hydro is the most dependable that we have.

I chair a commission on the problem with biomass right now, where they shut the mills down, they say for maintenance, but they shut down for about a month and in the meantime the guy's got no place to bring his stuff. And they seem to do it rotation wise, where Fort Fairfield was shut down, and then Ashland was shut down, and then when they go back up, Sherman goes on line. And I think what they're driving at is, they have to buy their fuel, they weigh the trucks full, dump the load, and most of it is bark, but there are some slabs there, a tree is round and you've got a straight line through that.

So I think what they're driving at is that they are eventually going to start charging the lumber yards for bringing that material to them. And if they charge, I had a letter from a Mr. Bornstein who is running Isaacson Lumber, he said that if they start doing that and we pay even thirty dollars a ton, that's going to cost my company two hundred and seventy thousand bucks a year. So, that may take care of that industry, but we'll see.

MR: How would you say that Waterville has changed over the years, over the past sixty years or so?

RC: Waterville has changed in that the main street has seen, since I was a kid, a lot of development. The banks have come in, they've built new buildings, we had urban renewal in the '60s, I was on the council in those days. Colby College has moved up and has got a beautiful campus up there. Thomas College moved from the five and dime and went out on the West River Road, and they've got a growing campus out there. As far as schools are concerned, we've had to build new schools and move the junior high into senior high, build a new senior high, and then as you moved out from an elementary school, one of the much smaller elementary schools would be closed and people would move (*unintelligible phrase*) and so it's a progression.

But the state is not doing its share in keeping buildings and the operational system in order; they just don't seem to find the money. They had twenty-three million, I think it was, two years ago to spend on school buildings - it all went to Brunswick, all twenty-three million, they were building a new school. So, it's a case of being in the right time at the right place, and by that I mean having somebody who may live in Brunswick be on the Board of education that makes the decision. It's a, I don't know, the old good boy syndrome, which is unfair to the rest of the state.

MR: And how would you say that Waterville has changed politically over the years?

RC: We have now more people who are not enrolling in a party who want the freedom to express their views, even though if they're in a party they can still express, all the candidates show up on the ballot so, you know, you could do it that way. But we, the city of Waterville just impeached a mayor last year.

MR: Oh, really?

RC: Yeah, yeah she was being led by her administrator, her city administrator who is now the town manager, he works for the mayor. And he fired an employee, they just had to pay her thirty-five thousand dollars in a settlement. And she built a monument to whatever it is in the concourse where you have to drive around there, I call it, it's a semi-truck catcher because it's built on a mound, and as they try to go around this little rotary, little rotary, they get hung up when they, because the trailer, as they're going through this thing the trailor (*unintelligible word*) closer and closer. Yeah, they got to hire somebody to come over and get them off that, so. But she had made some terrible mistakes and they all took her out by a vote of two to one.

MR: Well, let's talk about your educational background. Where did you go to school in Waterville?

RC: I went to South Grammar School after I got out of, with the nuns. And then my grandmother during the war took me to Florida and I was in junior high in Florida. When the war ended, I was, I went into high school in Waterville, graduated basically as a carpenter, manual training I called it. Then I worked at the, what was a -

(*Taping paused.*)

RC: After high school, I went to work at the Foster Manufacturing, which made toothpicks, wooden toothpicks, tongue depressors, forks and spoons for ice cream, the little things that, they're double ended. And then I became a fireman in the boil room, it just paid more money, and then finally I enlisted in the Air Force and went to basic training in San Antonio, and then went to Biloxi, Mississippi at Keesler Field for twenty-eight weeks to study aircraft and engine mechanic work. I found it interesting that you learn all of these things, and if something goes wrong with an engine or something, you don't change the part you were trained to change, you change the whole engine. Insane. They must have had more money than they needed. I became a flight engineer and flew all over the country. During the Korean war, for instance, we'd go to some place, I was stationed in Tennessee and we'd go into Kentucky and pick up a whole load of refrigerators and we'd go to Fairfield (*unintelligible word*) in upstate California and unload, and then they'd be loaded on to go for (*unintelligible word*) the hospitals on the front and what have you, but I always thought they really went to the officers' clubs. Sometimes I think too much.

MR: It's best not to know.

RC: Did you want a coffee, or?

MR: Oh, no, that's okay, I'm all set.

RC: After the service I went back to school to get something other than a carpenter's degree, and I took physics, chemistry, algebra, I'm missing one, whatever it was, and then went to the University of Maine where I stayed for a year and a half. My G.I. Bill ran out because by then, my wife and I were living in a twenty-eight foot long trailer with two kids and the hundred and sixty-five dollars a month that were coming in just disappeared. So I was offered a job at the time by the James W. Sewall Company, who did survey work. They had just hired a fellow

named Herman Shea who was the retired, just recently retired from MIT, teaching engineering. And we got all kinds of work when he came on board because the highway commissioner from Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and, I don't think it was Maine. But all of these guys were graduates of MIT and had been students of Mr. Shea so nothing went to bid, they just automatically called him up and tell him what they had to do and he'd end up giving them a price.

I was very fortunate because it was at that time that the interstate system was getting built, so I surveyed the Connecticut turnpike, we had three crews down there, so I got a third of it. We surveyed 495 around the Boston area, which used to really be Route 110. We surveyed the Maine turnpike extension that had been built right after the war, but we extended it into Newport and somebody further up the line picked it up in Newport and surveyed it further.

MR: Actually, I'm going to stop the tape before we lose anything.

End of Side A, Tape One
Side B, Tape One

MR: This is the second side of the tape of the interview with Richard Carey on August 26th, 1999.

RC: When we got done all the survey work and they got into the construction stages, it was at that time that the Sewall Co. decided they had to reduce the size of their work force. And Joe Sewall, who later became the president of the senate while I was in the house in those days, Joe Sewall is the one who said to me, "Go in the equipment room and pick out some equipment," he said, "I can get you a job with the state or you can go out on your own and I'll give you the equipment, seeing as how we don't need that many crews and equipment any more anyway," but, he says, "Show me what you're taking." So I took an old transit that had been a mining transit up in Nova Scotia, a little job that they had been doing up there, level rod, a couple of plumb bobs, a tape, two range poles, and he looked at them and he said, "Gee, you could have picked out better stuff than that but if that's what you want you can have it, no charge." And later on I did some work for him on some parcels of land that they had.

And I never did get to spend more than a year and a half in college, but it gave me all the surveying and engineering stuff that I would need to chair, to be a party chief of a survey party. And I stayed with it, and now, when I had bypass surgery in '95 I turned my business over to my son who was also licensed as a land surveyor, so. He had better equipment than I did, he had the electronic stuff, then I had the old transit. I used the transit to teach, when I was Scout master, I used the transit to teach the Scouts some surveying, basically how to find yourself in the woods, and when they took the school down that we had a, the basement area of, I forgot completely about it and so I have no idea at all where that transit went. Hopefully somebody saved it anyway, it was an 1880 model, (*unintelligible word*). It was worth some money, solid brass.

So, since '95, I went in, in '92, in the election of '92 in the legislature. And so, oh, from '79 through '86, I ran the Maine State Lottery. I'm the one that wrote the law on the Tri-State Megabucks. And having been in the legislature it worked wonders because I had to go, we did,

megabucks is a game that needs a large player base so that you're not offering fifty thousand dollar prizes, and so I went to New Hampshire and I spoke to the, I can't remember the name of the committee now, the house side, they have different committees, they have a house committee and a senate committee, and so does Vermont. And even though the governor of Vermont was against it, Governor [Richard A.] Snelling, they passed it over his objections and the three of us then made up a combination of about two and a half million people, and that's about the minimum that you really need to run that kind of a game. And that saved the lottery.

The year I got there, the state had gotten eight hundred and seventy thousand dollars for the general fund, and I swear that the ad agency had made more money than that over that time. So I had a little problem with that ad agency, so I fired them, got another one, and we just started going straight up and now it gives the state about forty-two million bucks a year. Tickets were costing us five cents apiece, and the agent was getting eight cents a ticket, that's thirteen cents out of a dollar that's gone. The prize structure was forty-five percent, so now we're talking well over sixty percent of prizes, so that meant that the state was getting thirty-six, thirty-seven percent. And I still watch it now, I'm on the legal affairs committee which supervises the lottery and unfortunately we got a person there now who is more interested in getting his paycheck than he is in trying to come up with new material. We are stopped from going with the Powerball, I don't know if you're familiar with that or not.

MR: I've heard of it, yeah.

RC: If you get into Powerball, you have no states around you that are in it, number one, and if one of the states, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts wants to get in it, it will get blackballed by New Hampshire because there's a lot of cross border stuff. We lose about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, we, that goes across Fryeburg, down into the Berwicks, Somersworth and everything, that could be being spent here. And if it was spent on ours, then ours would grow that much faster. They still play ours, if there were forty games out there some people would play forty games. It's like beano, how many cards can you play.

MR: Yeah, it's a craze.

RC: So that basically is my career. I left the lottery shortly after getting the game started. An interesting part of it is that Joe Brennan as the governor, he was just coming in as governor, had defeated me in a primary. I went back to doing survey work and on the way home, when I got home, my daughter said, "Gee, the governor's sitting in the office, he wants you to call him right off." "Well," I said, "it's quarter past five." She said he'd wait, and so I called and he said, "I want you in my administration someplace so don't tie yourself down," and so, "Okay." So about a week later he said, "How would you like to be the Maine-Quebec ambassador?" I said, well, there's no such position. The United States has an ambassador who's in Ottawa, not in Quebec." And I said, "Besides, with my French and with René Lévesque up there," I says, "hell, we'd be at war in two weeks." So that went by.

And I'm trying to remember the second thing that he offered me, but when the third call came, which was about five and a half, six weeks later, he says, it wasn't "How would you like to be this?" he says, "I want you to be my next lottery director." So I put my hand over the phone, I

turned to my wife and I said, I think this is his last and best offer," so she said, "Listen, I've listened to you complain about the lottery," I was a very strong supporter of the lottery, "and if you don't take that job I never want to hear you mention the word lottery in the house again." So I said to the governor, "I'll take it on one condition, that if something better comes along, I can be considered for that." And he says, "No problem," he says, "be in my council chambers tomorrow morning at ten o'clock, I'm making the announcement." So I got in my suit and everything and the TV cameras are there and, colored cameras, and I'm sitting there with my suit on and, like this, and he announces that I am the new lottery director and the camera turned to me. And that night when I watched the news, I had on a blue sock and a green sock. So that didn't work out that well.

But two weeks after he gave me that job he said he was going to put in, called me in and said I'm putting in a bill to abolish the lottery. Well I, basically I had just left the legislature, so I went to see some friends of mine, Paul Jacques from Waterville, Greg Nadeau who is now, who was from Lewiston and is now on the governor's staff, and a senator from Westbrook. Age. When age gets you, you've had it. So, and they just went down to see the governor and said, "Well you've got to give this guy a chance anyway," and we turned it around almost right away. But it was very enjoyable for me. If I'm managing anything at all, I manage things in that, you're not Mr. Jones, or anything, you know, you're Harold or Harry or whatever, and it keeps us all on the same plane. Some of us are more fortunate in being able to move up the ladder. I've enjoyed it.

MR: Okay, well basically just to clear up my notes here, so you were in the house of representatives from '67 to '79, is that right?

RC: I was in the house from '6-, yeah, I was twelve years in the house, and I was, now in my eighth year in the senate.

MR: Okay, so there was a period between your house and senate years, that was when you were in the, involved with the lottery?

RC: Yeah, well I, when I was in the house I was also mayor of Waterville, all at the same time.

MR: Oh right, that was '70 to '77, is that right?

RC: Yeah, yeah, '78.

MR: Seventy-eight, okay.

RC: We had different elections in that the city election was held in the off year from the state, so that every year we had elections, municipal officers one year, then state officers the next year, and we had, two-year terms. And so I served from '70 through '77 because that was a state election, yeah, eight years in the mayor's office.

MR: Then you said you've been in the senate since '92?

RC: Yeah.

MR: So, between about ‘80 and ‘92 you weren’t, you didn’t hold any official political positions, it was more (*unintelligible phrase*) with the lottery job?

RC: Well, I had the eight years with the lottery. And then I paid attention to my business for the first time in doing it full week at a time, and that was about it.

MR: Okay, before your time in the House of Representatives, did you hold any political offices? I think you mentioned you were on the town council?

RC: I was in the common council, I was on the common council for four years, and then four years on the board of aldermen, and then ran for mayor. So I had eight years, plus the eight years of mayor, so that was sixteen years there.

MR: And how did you become, how did you first become interested in running for the council and the alderman (*unintelligible word*)?

RC: My wife was the vice chair of the Democratic ward committee, and they had no candidate. The guy who was in had decided to run for the board of aldermen, and they, there were two councilmen and one alderman from each ward, so there was fourteen in one body. And so one of the guys, Mr. Giddy, was going to run for reelection, and he did, but they needed another person and my wife said, “Why don’t you run for the seat?” And I said, “Well, you must be able to find somebody out there,” and she said, “Well we’ve looked high and low, we really can’t find someone.” So I said, “Okay, put my name in then,” and I signed a few papers and then I was bitten by the political bug, which has not been unkind to me at all. I never would have got the lottery job if I hadn’t been involved, and that’s what ended up giving me a reasonable pension anyway because I had twenty-three years total service, four of which were in the service. After fifteen years you can buy your service time, and so that gave me nineteen, and now I’m under a separate pension plan which doesn’t make much sense to me because they ought to add this to that, to send one check instead of a couple of checks.

So, this is the South Grammar School that I had walked him when he finally came home for an election. I took him over to where we were going to put this building for him. And he made the remark, “Well, I just came home to vote and I voted for you for your fourth term as mayor. Will you vote for me next year when I come up for my fourth term in the Senate?”

MR: Just a little back scratching (*unintelligible phrase*)?

RC: I always remember that, yeah, yeah. In ‘72 when he ran for president, he would vote and go around to a couple of the wards and then go out to the golf course, and I was invited that year to go with him and play golf, so the two of us were playing, oh, three, Jack Avery was there too, as well. And I had a hard time to concentrate on the golf course because whenever you picked up your head and looked down the fairway, behind every single tree there was down there, there was some kind of security, you know. There was, or photographer, either one. There wasn’t a hiding place in the world back then, you knew they were there. And he was a golfer that would shoot in the mid-eighties, so we had fun there. In ‘72, when the Republican convention took

place in Augusta, some real oddballs, probably some of us who were Democrats, some real oddballs tore the flag down at the convention center in Augusta. I was still mayor and I vowed that that would not happen here so I got the aerial ladder and we were up at Colby, we, I had them tie the flag to the staff, and then grease twenty feet of the pole, so our flag stayed up. Because we figured somebody would want to retaliate, you know.

He was good enough to us here to allow us to do many things. I don't know if I mentioned the elevator at the city hall, for the handicapped, that was a HUD grant that I went after and it took no time at all to get it. His home is in Rumford really, but he'd moved to Waterville to establish his law practice, and the letter I sent him was that we would use a part of that grant to make the opera house and the main floor at city hall accessible to the handicapped. The Boys' Club, Girls' Club, it's the same boys and girls club, were expanding and they only had enough money for two lanes in their pool and so I was trying to get a grant for the other two lanes, and obviously plus the (*unintelligible word*). And then while we were at it we threw in about eight hundred thousand dollars for the, what I ended up calling the Muskie Center.

And so, he's always been helpful to us; well respected. He did fall off his roof once and just about broke his back. But he was heavily involved in politics in this area, had been I think the minority leader in the house when they only had a handful of Democrats. He left early, about two or three days early to go to Washington, and that was to give him a little more seniority for committees and stuff. And Mr. Haskell, who was the president of Bangor Hydro Electric was the president of the senate, and the rumor is, and I don't doubt it, that he didn't draw a sober breath for the three days that he was governor. But they had control, and they could do anything they wanted, they was that strong. Out of the thirty-two members in the senate at that time, there really were only five who were Democrats, you know, so they just ran roughshod, you know.

MR: And how did you first get to know Ed Muskie, was that through his Waterville law practice back when he was doing that?

RC: No, I was too young for that. My mother knew him very well, but I couldn't tell you anything about how she met him or anything.

MR: Would she tell you any stories about him, or about the Muskie family or, maybe him and Jane Muskie and how they. . .?

RC: Jane was the, was the daughter of the publisher of the *Waterville Morning Sentinel*. Nice lady, will always be I think a nice lady. But we didn't, except when he'd come home, once he left then he had to devote a lot of time to other regions in the state so we really didn't see him that often, except that when he came back he'd go to his brother-in-law's camp, and he bought a cottage on China Lake, and as I recall it was on a little point of land there. But he came home as often as he could, you know, to just get away from that Washington crowd I guess. We try to do that here with the Augusta crowd.

MR: Your own little Washington.

RC: Yeah, yeah. I've got something for you. Had something for you, oh, here they are.

President, vice president, you can keep this.

MR: Oh, thanks. I was noticing all the posters on the wall here (*unintelligible phrase*).

RC: Yeah, that's all my stuff, yeah. That one; when we have a convention, I usually bring it down and we'll put it up. I had forgotten about the (*unintelligible word*) man, qualified to be vice president. He ran for mayor and lost.

MR: Yeah, what was, what were your perspectives on that, why do you think he lost, or what happened with that campaign?

RC: It was basically the Democrats just didn't turn out, thinking he was from Rumford, he wasn't from Waterville.

MR: Just sort of voter apathy, yeah?

RC: And that's too bad, he'd done a hell of a job. Good man.

MR: So how did you get to know him later on after the, while you were in the house, well actually while you were in Waterville politics and the house?

RC: Well, we campaigned for him, we'd hand out literature at election time, we'd cut the city up into sub wards, if you wanted to say that, we'd take, some of us would go around and just pass out literature, we didn't have to wait or try to answer any questions or anything, but we were just passing out literature. And we'd run into him every now and then at headquarters where he'd be working on a map and coloring it in that, oh, that section is all done. And he'd, "Oh well, I can do well over here so can I get somebody to go over there and do this section," you know. People don't like to be forgotten. They don't get a piece of advertising material, they feel you're ignoring them and they get more insulted if they know that you're not going around door to door as a candidate. You may not be in their ward, but you are someplace handing out material, and so he'd do that as well. And that's where I learned to go out and go door to door myself, you know. Excuse me a minute-

(*Taping paused.*)

RC: I've been asked on several occasions, you know, "Why don't you just run for leadership?" But I love the committee work. It's exciting. You hear both sides of the story. Sometimes there are three or four sides to a story. And I got, the governor thought enough about the restructuring in the electrical industry which we've been working on for three years, that I got to mail a copy of that to a fellow in Pittsburgh, they're going to try to see how much of our stuff they can use. We have basically a model, everybody was starting on the first of January in the year 2000, and we decided to start on the first of March in the year 2000 to get away from the Y2K problems, if there is a problem at all. And I don't understand, I'm not a computer person, don't even know how to turn them on, I'm an adding machine type, I, and I'm trying to figure out why when it goes from ninety nine to zero, since there were no computers in 1900, why can you, how can you mistake that for 1900 unless somebody's put their records all the way back. It boggles my mind.

But if I knew something about computers, I'd probably be dangerous.

MR: Actually, I've got to ask you something, how did you get the nickname Spike?

RC: Okay, my father was an excellent ball player. When he wasn't, we talked about the industrial league earlier, when he wasn't pitching he'd play in the outfield, and in the course of the year he'd win twenty, twenty-four games and lose maybe four or five. And when he wasn't pitching he'd be in the outfield and he was hitting four hundred, so a scout from the New York Yankees spent a week following him around, they played almost every day, and after a game he said to him, he introduced himself and said, "I'd like to meet your mother," and so they went to see my grandmother, and the scout says, "I'm with the Yankees and we want to have your boy eventually play for us, but he would start out up in Binghamton, he will not start in Yankee Stadium, but he'll develop and come in." Well, she says "Well, will he be able to come home nights?" And the guy says "Oh no. Binghamton is three hundred miles away and there's no way he'd be able to make it home at night." And that's when you listen to your parents in those days, and she said "Well then he can't go." But he'd have been playing in the era with Ruth and Gehrig, those guys. Yeah, yeah. Died of emphysema. He'd take off his oxygen mask so that he could puff on a cigarette.

MR: How did you get the nickname Spike?

RC: Well, okay, he was Spike. Even as a, as young as I was, I became Spike, Jr., I was the batboy on the team. And when I started playing ball, I was then Spike because my father was no longer around, and one of my sons became the batboy, and he was Spike, Jr., and that's the one that's passed away, so. We went to British Columbia where the Canadian Pacific started at the west and built a track going easterly and a crew was coming in from the east and they met, and so I got a railroad hat, on it it said the last spike. But that was the nickname. And everybody had a nickname at one time or another, when we were kids and growing up. Boy, you're bringing out some memories there.

MR: Another thing also, when did you meet your wife?

RC: I met my wife because I was introduced to her by her boyfriend, and they, I was in the service at the time and they split up. I can't remember what the reason would be, but they just split up. And so she wrote to me as I remember and asked me if I could help get them back together or something, and then it turned out that, no, he wasn't going to make any changes at all. And we got married, I don't know, maybe a year later. But she was in, Mt. Mercy was a Catholic school, she was a boarder where she stayed right there and would go home on weekends. And she lived in Waterville but her mother was working long hours, and I think her father was probably, worked in a telegraph. He used to relay the ball games that the Red Sox had on the telegraph.

MR: During your time in the Waterville town, well, Waterville town government, who were some of the people that you worked closely with, and what were some of the issues that were important?

RC: When I first got elected I had hoped to work very closely with Dick Dubord, and he and Muskie were great friends. He died two days before the inauguration, and the morning of the inauguration I went to his funeral. Excellent lawyer, capable, best law firm in the county if not in the state at that time. So I had to count on people who had been there before me, Malcolm Fortier, who passed away recently. Even Don Marden, who was a Republican who is now a superior court judge, was the mayor just before me and there was no question that he would get re-elected. But as the year, two years went along it developed a problem for him because he was the first mayor that had an administrator instead of a, we didn't have a town manager, we didn't want to give up the political system and (*unintelligible word*) so we just, and the change to an administrative system was so drastic that no matter who was mayor, they were not going to win re-election, the first one under that system. And I defeated him, it wasn't by much but I did defeat him. But he didn't take it, you know, too hard. He wanted to see about getting back into the district attorney's position. I don't think, I guess he decided not to run.

But I stripped the administrator of several of his duties that Don had indicated to me that he really wasn't doing the job adequately. He was so-called commissioner of both the police and fire department, and when it came time to negotiate contracts, they were in a union, he would just ignore them. So I took him out as the police and fire commissioner and he challenged me, so I turned to the city's attorney, John Jabar who was a long time political activist, he was my city solicitor. And he wrote a letter to the administrator and said, the mayor has followed every step properly, he notified you by writing, and he sent a copy to the city clerk for filing, and so you are duly removed from that position. He was the finance director, the welfare director, he was lightly involved with the public works department, not anywheres near as, he should have been anyway because we had guy running the department. And there were two or three other things that he was involved in and it didn't give him too much time to administrate out of city hall, and so I didn't fire him, I just removed him from one job and it was fantastic, the improvement in his public relations with the employees and the public, you know. He was quite arrogant, he was administrator down, had experience, he was the administrator in Westbrook, and we stole him away from there.

MR: And who was this again, was this Don Marden you've been talking about or is this someone else?

RC: The administrator, like, Don was the mayor before me, one term, and Bob Palmer was the administrator, yeah, and we hired, you know, somebody that had experience. We basically followed their charter, and now there's a charter commission working to change the charter again and probably go to a town manager form of government, only because of actions by one mayor, the one who got impeached, you know, out of, and we've had mayors since 1882.

I mentioned to you that I had an uncle, the one my father was named after. In 1911, a fellow named Fuller was elected mayor in Waterville, and in those days they were one-year terms and the day after getting sworn in, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis, and in Fairfield we had a TB sanitorium, state run. And so he was sent up there and my grand uncle was chairman of the Board of Aldermen, so he served as the acting mayor, and throughout that entire year they tried to get Fuller to resign because he just was not doing the job, he was out of town as a matter of fact, and he wouldn't resign. And when his term expired, he died the day after his term expired.

So, my uncle had been the longest serving non-mayor. He was a contractor, big contractor, put up big buildings, so his business suffered a little bit while he spent his time in city hall, but things were a little slower in those days than they are now. You never know what's coming out of the DEP, and, yup.

MR: Who were some of the other people in Waterville politics that were important? Maybe, one name is Max Codere?

RC: Max was our treasurer when I was mayor, yeah. He was a good treasurer. I say good because there wasn't a week go by that I didn't know how much money we had spent that week, how much we still had left in reserve, and how that related to the budget. If we were six months into something, except for highways, we should have spent no more than fifty percent of our money, you know, and mostly salaries. Highways are a little different because you've got money to build and fix the road, but you don't start building and fixing the roads until maybe the end of April, sometime in May. So they would have a lot of their money left, they might have ninety five percent of their money left. And then when the construction season was over around the middle of October, then they would have a hundred percent of their budget would have been spent. I had one little thing that I insisted on doing when I was mayor, and that was that we have seven wards, we're going to take the highway budget and we're going to divide it by seven and we're going to spend that amount of money in each one of the seven wards, and I think that may have had something to do with my longevity. I didn't forget anybody no matter whether they were Ds or Rs or. They gave that up now, they didn't even spend any money at all on roads last year.

MR: Okay, well let's talk a little bit about your time in the House of Representatives. What were some of the issues that you worked on, people you get to know there?

RC: I was on a committee for the sugar beets. When the sugar beet plant opened up in Easton, way up country, there was some thought that it would fail because the farmers, who came even all the way down from Farmington, would load up their trucks and they'd get weighed, then they'd drop them through grates by unloading them. And they were loading and there were some fairly large rocks in those things, and they would ruin the knife blades of the choppers that reduced it down to manageable size, as they boiled off the waste, they would get a syrup out of it, sugar syrup. And a guy who was fairly adamant was one of the bankers, Blaine, Mr. Blaine, he was chairman of the commission, and we had a real problem in that because his bank was holding much of the loan.

We finally abolished the Wayne Building Authority, what it was. I chaired the appropriations committee in the legislature during one of those terms, I spent a lot of time on legal affairs, I was on the legal affairs committee, I chaired the taxation committee when I was in the house, I was on banking and insurance, and I can't remember some of the committees. I never served on agriculture. I never served on the natural resources committee.

MR: You were also on, was it transportation and veterans and military affairs, those two?

RC: Yeah, I been on those, yeah. Yeah, my first term in the legislature was on transportation,

which was I think called the Highway Committee at that time. And that is the one time that I can recall that we ever got rid of a lobbyist. The guy who was lobbying for the truckers, it was at the Augusta House which is on the rotary, or was on the rotary and now the Casco Bank building went in there. And he claimed, Mr. Crosby was our chair and he came from Kennebunkport, he claimed that they had to be able to move the double bottoms, the double trailers, through Maine to get to New Brunswick. And a fellow named Joe Cobb was the railroad representative, so he attended those transportation faithfully. And he talked to Mr. Crosby and he said there's no way they're going to get through New Hampshire, because New Hampshire won't let them in either. And the guy says, "That's a lie," he says, "We can go through New Hampshire." So Cobb went over and picked up the phone. Called the secretary of state in New Hampshire and asked him the question and he says "Now, I'm going to pass the phone over to somebody else so you give him the answer." And the guy says, "I don't know how they're going to get to Maine because they can't come through New Hampshire." And not the legislature or not the ethics committee, which we didn't have in those days, but the lobby itself got a hold of his boss and he was gone in two days.

MR: Oh, wow.

RC: Oh yeah, that's all they have to sell, really, is the truth -

End of Side B, Tape One
Side A, Tape Two

MR: This is the second tape of the interview with Richard Carey on August 26th, 1999 in Belgrade, Maine. And, on the last tape we were talking about some of the powers of the lobby, the lobbies, in the state legislature? Did you, I didn't want to cut you off, if you want to continue that story, do you have any other stories of lobbies?

RC: No, (*unintelligible phrase*), hopefully we finished that story, that he was gone in two days. And so I appreciated that, and I've been working now for three years to try to get the lobby to appoint a governing body over the rest of them, you know, and make proposals and what have you. And also be aboard for discipline. We have, now with term limits, we have people who turn over more and more, and the problem that we're having is is that some of them who seem to think that any conversation with a lobbyist is poison to them will report that to the ethics commission. The ethics commission has not really had any processing to do because they're little minor infractions, and what they could be doing since some of these things are minor, they could be going to this governing board and turn that lobbyist in and then that board will investigate and see if it's a minor infraction. They can give him some pointers as to, you know, you don't operate, we don't operate that way.

This is Maine, we're not in New York or California or Louisiana. So, they're still thinking about doing it, but nobody has really, I thought John Doyle was one who might grab it by the horns and run with it. It would save a lot of embarrassment to a legislator who has claimed something and is not upheld by the ethics commission, or to a lobbyist whose reputation could very well be spoiled, even though he may be a full time employee of whatever company he's representing. So, that's one of the problems I've been trying to work on, but time is running out on me. I have

one more year to try to get them to do that.

I've also tried, in the introductory section when we first meet, now I'm going back to the way we used to have introductions to new legislators to the introductions that we have today. Back in the '60s, we would have a lobbyist explain his duties, we. The house and the senate members are sitting there and that lobbyist would explain his duties just like the attorney general explains his duties and how the secretary of state would explain his duties, so that they would have a pretty good idea of what a lobbyist is expected to be doing, representing his clients but not lying about it. That disappeared while I was gone. I was at the lottery by then, and I've tried to reinstitute that and it's not going any place. If I were in leadership it probably would have, but I love committee work too much. So that's one thing that I've been working on.

I've also in the last couple of sessions now been working on this idea that there are two Maines. And I have currently a proposal to ship thirty to a hundred million cubic yards of gravel out of Whiting, which is in Washington County. Washington County has the highest unemployment rate in the state, and this would put a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five people to work, so, plus the dockworkers, the truck drivers. And a fellow owns eleven hundred acres near Indian Lake in Whiting. I've never seen it, I didn't even look it up on a map, but he said that he's got a mountain full. And they had a geologist come up from Georgia and he says it's what's left out of the esker, and since the esker rolled through there all the rocks have no sharp edges on them. They just get rolling and bouncing against each other, and so he wants to move that. He'd been saving it now for something like twenty years, now it's time to, so I got to meet with the governor on that one. Those are the couple of things. I've been following Bowater. I really take a lot of pride in the governor having autographed that without any request for it or anything, and that is the law on restructuring, I chaired that committee.

I may have lost a little control over the committee because we have joint committees. And maybe a month before we finished this spring, the house members, of which there are ten on the committee, six Ds and four Rs, finally came to realize that there were ten of them and only three senators, so that they could outvote the senate any time they wanted. So I had developed problems this year, but at the very end on very minor stuff. The senate has two Democrats and one Republican only because the Ds are in power in both houses, and so they keep an eight to five margin.

But I been following the Bowater thing, and had talked to Mr. Bedard and I'm a big fan of Hydro Quebecs. I've been up twice to James Bay to look at their operation up there. They've got billions of dollars tied up in a, the, they're friendly with the Indians. They want to build a five thousand megawatt plant in Churchill Falls in Labrador. And to show that they are supportive of the Indians, for instance, unlike us here, they've set up a tripart, or whatever you want to call it, where Labrador, the Indians, and Hydro Quebec all have to be in agreement before they'll put out a press release or start any action on something. Hydro Quebec realized that right away when Newfoundland made an announcement without consulting the Indians whose territory was going to be invaded. And so Hydro Quebec stepped forward and said from now on, and that was real bad publicity, nobody needs bad publicity, so I appreciated being able to go up there and see what they had.

The members of my utility committee were not very friendly to Hydro Quebec, and there again most of them are white Anglo-Saxons. I don't, I had two people on our side who come from Aroostook County where there's a total lack of electrical power, and they get the power that they do have, comes from New Brunswick, so they're paying really top dollar for it and it's not a place where anybody that will use any amount of electricity at all wouldn't want to build a plant. So, I been working on that. It's a little difficult.

MR: And talking about your time in the house, we mentioned off the tape Louis Jalbert, you said you had some stories about him?

RC: Yes, yeah, Louis had been here about twenty years when I got there, and served ten more before he got ill and got defeated. One of the things that comes up to mind immediately is that he had a seat on the aisle, on the middle aisle and it's a great position to be at where the governor comes down, you can shake his hand as he's going by and all that stuff.

A fellow named Lewis Marstaller, who lives in Freeport, had been elected to the House and he was given a seat right next to Louis, and Eddie Kelleher, it was his first term as well. Lewis Marstaller was complaining and Eddie Kelleher overheard the conversation, and the guy was saying, "Geez, there's a Republican and there's a Democrat there, Jalbert, and I'm not going to do anything in this session." So Kelleher said, "Well, you want to change seats?" and they did, and so Louis got out of that seat and it went to Kelleher. And Louis Jalbert says to Kelleher, "You're very lucky, my boy, because I get to pick my seat mates." Severin Beliveau has also been a seatmate of Louis Jalbert. Millie Wheeler was a representative from Portland, and every time she didn't vote with Louis, he'd just slap her behind the head, you know. But he was a wild man, but he was an excellent source of information.

Louis at one time made a statement and, I can't remember the kid's name, came from Sabattus, Leighton Cooney. It was his first term, and he didn't like what Louis had said so he got up and he was insulting Louis, not knowing that you don't do that on the floor of either chamber. You wait, you might do it in caucus or what have you. But Louis asked for the floor, got the floor, and he says, "I want to tell the young man from Sabattus that he's serving two terms at once: his first and his last." Never forgot that.

We had a guy from Portland, Bartholomew Sullivan, who had gone to superior court to change his name. In those days they had eleven representatives from Portland and the order was by alphabetical on the ballot, instead of drawing. And so he went to court and he wanted to have his name changed from Bartholomew Sullivan to Sullivan Bartholomew. And the judge asked him, "Well, why do you want to get your name changed?" and he said, "I want a higher place on the ballot. Because you, (*unintelligible word*) but you know, if you've got twenty-five candidates, you've got to really be careful you're not voting for twelve, but then you lose all of your ballot.

So he didn't get to change his name, but in the course of debate on some issue or other, he got up and spoke and then there were other comments, and he got up and spoke a second time and then the debate continued, and he got up to speak a third time. Now, we have rules both in the house and the senate that you have to have unanimous consent to speak a third time. The reason for

that is that while you're on your feet either the first or second time, you ought to be able to get in what you're going to be saying in the third time. So he got turned down by the Republican leader in the corner, and Louis Jalbert bounced up and he said, "Mr. Minority Leader, you have made a terrible mistake," he said, "because now you may want to speak a third time, and there won't be a person in here that'll allow you to speak a third time because you stopped a member from speaking a third time." He was very wise, he really was. So he turned to, after giving this guy all that lecture, he turned to Sullivan and he says, "representative Sullivan, you may try once more to speak a third time." Sullivan got up and there was not an objection, because it has to be unanimous consent to speak a third time. So he got up and, this is a paper here, and this is his inside coat pocket, and he looked at the crowd and he said, "Some of you may think I'm crazy," and he had been at AMHI, and he says, "But I have a paper here that says that I'm sane. Have you got a paper? Have you got a paper?" And then he turned around, looked me right in the eyes and he said, "Have you got a paper?" And I had to say that, "no," I didn't have a paper.

But, Louis was a great friend of a guy from, that owned the Hyde Windlass Company, Ross, Rodney Ross from Bath. He's passed away since, most of the people have passed away. Louis' wife is still alive but she's in a nursing home someplace, I haven't been able to find out where.

There was a legislative council committee and Louis was on it and all the old timers were on it. And unlike today when a committee gets to study something while we're not in session, this legislative research committee did all of that, they spent the whole summer at it. And I got into trouble the third day I was there when, we were getting four inches of reports every day. They might, you know, eight half inch reports, it might be two two-inch reports, and there might be a mixture of them, and I was trying to read all that stuff. There was a study of the MIBA, Industrial Building Authority with the sugar beets. We'd studied the purchasing of dams. They had, they supervised the University of Maine system and trustees. And so these reports are coming in and the first day, this is when the Democrats took over in the 103rd. They had lost control, yeah. My first term they had lost control, but in the 102nd it was the Goldwater election. And so, almost everybody became Democrats to go vote. So we were back in the minority again. And the minority leader, that was Ken Curtis' first year, the minority leader at the end of the first day said, "By this time in the 102nd we had already passed three bills and the governor had signed one of them," and then the second day he got up and made an announcement that by this time we had passed seven bills and the governor had signed four of them and he had recalled one of them.

So I went to see the Republican speaker who was David Kennedy, and I always thought him to be a very fair person in spite of being a Republican, and I said, "Can I answer that guy?" and he said "Sure," he said, "but give me an idea of what you want to say to him because, then I'll tell you whether it should be on or off the record." Because when you get up, you ask to speak on the record or off the record. So he said, "No, you better say that off the record." So the third day this guy got up, we hadn't even appointed the committees yet, how the hell can you get a report out, and he talked about thirteen bills now had gone by and the governor had signed eight of them and they still had the one that was recalled, and there were four that were turned down. And the governor doesn't act that fast to begin with. So I got up and I said, "I don't know what the people of Madawaska expect of their representative, but I know the people in the Waterville area expect much more of me than that, that you're trying to pass something, and so far I had

twelve inches of reports put on my desk and I'm trying to read through that stuff." And Jack Cottrell, who was a football coach down in Portland and was in the, sat almost across from Louis on the other side of the aisle, and he said he'd like to ask a question of the young gentleman from Waterville. So he says, you don't, "You're not reading all that stuff, are you?" And I said, "Well, yeah, it's on my desk." And he said, "Well all you have to do is read the two page summary," and then in a flash of brilliance I said, "And why don't we just print five copies of the report, but distribute the summary? And if somebody wants to go to the library and read the report they can do that." And nobody answered it, but they still print all kinds of stuff.

I no sooner sat down that Joe Brennan, who was the assistant to the minority leader, and we had just had the brand new glass put in back so that the lobbyists couldn't lean over the rail there and tell you how to vote, tapped on the glass. And so I went out and he said, "Emilien wants to see you in his office as soon as we adjourn." Well, that never happens, because the majority and minority leaders are always meeting people along the halls and discussing one bill or another. So I waited and he didn't show up. So I told Doris, the secretary, "Well I'm going home and I can be back tomorrow." Well, she says, "If Mr. Levesque says he wants you here, he wants you here." And I said, "Well you tell Mr. Levesque that I'm going home and I'll be here for nine o'clock tomorrow morning." And that's just the way it worked. I went back the next morning, nine o'clock on her doorstep, and I said, "Is Mr. Levesque here?" and she says, "No. But he told me to find him as soon as you got here." So he pulled me into his little office, and he said, "Now listen here Carey," he said, "this is not local politics, this is not about you, this is the big ball game you're in now," he says. I never forgot that. And he put me on veterans, I can't remember what else.

That was the committee he put me on and he didn't realize what a big favor he was doing for me because we only had three bills, we had three meetings. The first meeting was to introduce ourselves to each other on the committee. The second meeting was to hear a bill which awarded money to the DAR because they had found some more veterans' graves from the Revolutionary War and we always allowed them enough money, a bronze tablet type thing, and they knew what they cost and everything. And the other one was the very first time we voted on a veterans' cemetery. So, I can't remember what the heck the third thing was. But then the third meeting was to have our class picture taken. They used to take, the senate chair would always provide the money to take a class picture and give the 8X10s to each member of the committee. That's one thing I've started up again. I've been doing it now for four years. I hate the loss of identity almost, if you would, of how it used to run, regardless of whether it was Ds or Rs.

MR: Well, I guess I'll just ask you about a couple of governors you might have had the opportunity to work with. Did Governor Reed, did you, were you in the house while he was still governor?

RC: No, I came in with Ken Curtis and then Jim Longley, and then Brennan, then served under McKernan and currently serving under King, yeah.

MR: What was Ken Curtis like to work with in the house?

RC: Ken was a great guy. He always tried to boil down every single question to its most

common theme. He surrounded himself with good people. He was extraordinary; extremely well liked. He could probably have been the governor today if they hadn't had the two term limits on governors. He was very concerned about the poor. He did want to get some kind of an industrial base set up in every section of the state, but it wasn't going anyplace. But he was an excellent governor. He was the one who brought in the income tax, in '73 I think, and he was helped by the Republican majority leader, Richardson from Cumberland. The Republicans sponsored the bill for him, which gave it a much better chance because we were in the minority, the Democrats. So he had to work with a Republican house. And the senate was always Republican. It's changed some, but we still have people there that some of them are die hard Republicans. They will just keep voting to lower and lower and lower the taxes without having any idea of what effect it may have on the social problems that we're trying to face up to. I'm a fiscal conservative, but a moderate when it comes to social problems. But I still hate environmentalists, the super ones.

MR: How about Governor Longley, what's he like?

RC: Governor Longley. I sit next to his daughter, Susan Longley, in the senate. Governor Longley was a weird duck, he, it's almost like he'd go into a trance. The first session that he had- and that was the only one that he had, but, well there were two sessions, but the first two years, he talked to a woman who was heading up the business regulation department, and wanted her to go over to become the state treasurer and that he would give her a raise. But she was smart enough to realize that the governor doesn't have control over the treasurer, it's the legislature who elects the treasurer. And he had a couple of other bloopers that he made when he had addressed us.

So I made a speech on the floor of the legislature that he hadn't been elected God, he hadn't been elected king, he was only the governor and as such he had to live within the Constitution like the rest of us. I got called down to his office, and he's sitting at his desk and he's got this drawer open and he's got a writing board that slides out over that, and I could swear he had a tape recorder in there, you know. In politics, you don't really trust too many people.

MR: I guess not.

RC: And so he said, "well, I have made some mistakes in here but how am I going to get back in the good graces of, I know that some of them up there want to work with me." And I said "Well, give the speaker of the house a call and see if he will allow you to come back up, but that's a, it's almost a given but you have to ask to be able to go and the speaker will tell you (*unintelligible word*) what time you can get there." Then we send a committee down for the formal investigation, invitation. He got up and he gave his speech, and even I thought that he said that I've made a mistake and I apologize. And he had actually said, "If I ever make a mistake I will apologize." We praised him and everything, and, but tricky, boy was he tricky.

He was the one that wanted to tax non-residents double what we as residents pay for property taxes. And he figured that would help the schools. But I called him and said, and I wrote him a letter besides, and I said, I was chairing taxation at the time, I said, "I will give you for your use a copy of our tax commitment book," I was still in the mayor's office, I could do that. And I

says, “and you’ll find that non-residents don’t come from out of state. They’re the ones that live in Winslow or Lewiston-Auburn who have a store in the other community, but are listed as non-residents because they don’t live in the community where their property is.” And he said, “Well I’d be interested in reading that.” We became good friends. So, he says, “Why don’t you bring it down?” and I said “Well, I’m on my way to see a hockey game.” He said, “What time are you going through the toll house because I’ll have a state trooper waiting for you?” And so I got to the toll house and there was the trooper and I pulled over. I gave him the commitment book, which was about that thick, and he gave me a book autographed by Jim Longley himself, which said something about, oh, the name of the thing was Strategies for Survival. He was a big user of the American Management Association and he’d buy books by the case his daughter said. And so I got one of those, and he says, “We do have one thing in common, we have two great wives named Helen.” But he never really fit in. He’s a weird guy who had, he made up stories about how he’d get up at three in the morning to walk and some woman had a flat tire there and there’s nobody around, there was no traffic, and he’d change the tire for the woman, and, weird.

But he did what he said he was going to do. When they were campaigning, Ken Curtis had appointed him to the, a committee to study where we could find savings in state government. And he surrounded himself, he had the ability to do that, he surrounded himself with people who are management people in insurance companies, Hannaford Brothers, any big companies. From Waterville he picked one of the top bankers and one of the guys who was managing the telephone company. And industry was very interested in getting a reduction because then they could get lower taxes in the long run, you know, it might change the rate in the taxes. He found twenty-three million dollars that could be cut out. Twenty-three million was a lot of money, you know, back, you know in ‘74.

He, this was before the election. He went on stage with Jim Irwin, who was the Republican candidate from down southern part of the state, and George Mitchell, and he got on a kick, when it was time for him to speak, that there was money to be found in state government and the taxes could be reduced. Jim Irwin got up and he says, “Well,” he says, “I can reduce the taxes,” he says, “I’ve done a study myself,” and he says, “I can reduce the taxes by maybe five to seven million dollars.” And he whips out this one inch thick report, Longley did, and he says, “I’ve got twenty-three million dollars in savings right here and we can document each and every one of them.” And he says, “Did you bring a document with you?” And Jim Irwin says, “Well, no, I didn’t think I needed it.” So he got elected. The *Bangor Daily News* was the only paper in the state that supported him, and boy, they looked good to him after the election. I still have a copy of that report. I don’t throw anything away, unfortunately.

So, but he was a, you just had to watch him. He had a banker who was heading up the finance department, Robinson from Farmington who was the president of Farmington Bank. And he never asked him to resign from the bank and be full time in the finance department. And that raised a hell of a stir with most of us, you know. If you’re going to be a state employee, you’re going to be a state employee. If you’re going to work in a bank, go work in a bank and you choose which one you want, seeing as how both of them were available. So. But, I think he did some positive things for the state. I can’t remember any offhand.

And then Brennan came in, and that’s when I went to the lottery. And then when I finally ran

again, McKernan was governor, so I would have been a Republican appointment to run the lottery so I quit, when we really weren't running anybody against him.

McKernan and I worked together to save the Hathaway shirt factory. When Linda whatever her name was that's, was the president of Maidenform or something, which included the Hathaway division, she was going to close the Hathaway because it had lost money in the last two years. Well, she was stripping the money out of that to make the other departments look good, and that finally came to light. And so the Hathaway was going to close, and the mayor had said there's no way in hell that she was going to spend a million dollars to buy that building and then lease it out.

In the meantime, I'm in the legislature working to see about getting an employee tax increment financing plan, because I still feel very strongly that if you can save a job, that's just as good as creating a new job, you know. This is a negative if you lose that one, this is a positive, and what happens? They cancel each other out. And so I wrote a bill and got it through and Hathaway today; that was in '95, and Hathaway today is hiring more people. They've got four hundred and fifty employees. They're making sixty-six hundred dozen shirts a day. They've gone away really from the formfitting shirt that they used to have that all the movie stars had, and it's a more casual atmosphere. And she's got, Alice Walton who I met during this whole thing has ordered sixty-six thousand dozens for WalMart, that's the daughter of Sam Wall, but she's just a regular person, yeah. And she did the same thing down in Biddeford by buying I don't know how many blankets. The Sunbeam blankets factory was going to shut down and some people went down, it was an employee buyout, and she gave them enough work for, you know, two or three years so they can get on their feet.

MR: And also, a couple of names that I was thinking about in the House that you might have known, Elmer Violette, did you know him?

RC: Yup, Elmer became a judge. His son is currently the executive director for the Maine Turnpike Authority, and he was in the senate and Elmer was in the senate. Elmer did everything he could to be able to get something going up in Aroostook County and it never really worked, that's unfortunate. He was there when I got there. And he, I guess he passed away now, but he became a superior court judge. Good judge, balanced, very concerned about what he was doing. And the next name?

MR: I was thinking of Emilien Levesque?

RC: Emilien was the leader when I first went in, I told you that story about being hauled into his office and, this is the big ball game now. He was a hundred and twenty percent Democrat, that if something was in by a Democrat, he was for it. If it was a Republican bill he'd have to stop and think about that. But he was a good leader in the way he surrounded himself with the people he put on different committees. Because when you set up a committee, the majority party will get its choice of six people in the house, and over in the senate they'll get two people, so that's eight, so that's the majority of the committee to begin with. But then the minority leader has the opportunity to put who he wants on the four slots that they get in the house, or the one in the senate. And so that is done by them because at that point we're in the minority anyway. And

I thought he had made some wise appointments, especially since he put me on the appropriations committee second term." He forgot what I said to him on the first term.

MR: Probably for the best.

RC: Yeah. And Louis was on the appropriations committee, and Joe Sewall was on, and I'm trying to think of some of the other guys. Mr. Bragdon from Perham, Mr. Burt from Millinocket. In the house you're mister so-and-so, and in the senate you're senator so-and-so. Formality.

MR: Were you going to continue there? I was just going to say that I was out of questions, but. . .?

RC: Oh, yeah, no, that's about it.

MR: Okay. Well is there anything else that you can think of, maybe about any of your time in politics or as mayor of Waterville and the legislature that we haven't gone over, people that we haven't talked about?

RC: Well, when I was in the council we had urban renewal, which completely changed the heart of town.

MR: Did you work with Ed Muskie, actually, on that? Was that involved with the model cities project also, or was that a separate. . .?

RC: It was before model cities, it was called urban renewal.

MR: Was he involved in. . .?

RC: And model cities came later to enhance what had been done with urban renewal. Yeah. We had a big parking lot, Zayre's came into town, Zayre's later became Ames. Then they filed bankruptcy and were protected in bankruptcy while they tried to reorganize and they came out of it, and went back in, came out of it, and I guess now are financially sound. But they closed about two hundred stores in the meantime, stores in the ghettos or stores in the areas of some larger cities that had to worry about hijacking cars. Yeah, instead of going to an automobile dealership, you go shopping at the shopping center for a car you want.

MR: And were you involved with urban renewal during your time as mayor in the '70s too?

RC: I did some survey work for the urban renewal authority. And there wasn't money that was coming from the city, so I'd had an opinion from the lawyer that, yes, I could do that, you know, if it went out to bid and I bid the lowest on something. So, I didn't get all the work, but I did get a good part of it. Right now, unfortunately the cities are trying to go back to the old days with the somewhat gas, gas type lanterns and, they're electric but they're dimmer bulbs, and with the sidewalks of brick, you've seen that. And they don't seem to, it's history repeating itself, if those brick sidewalks came out, because when you sanded and salted and the frost came in, they'd get bumpy and everything, they try to take that up by putting a little shim of cement

underneath those things, but they're going to flake off. The salt attacks the brick. And so, it's, we ought to be going ahead, not backwards. I know you can't forget the past, but you try to obviously not make the same mistakes a second time.

MR: Okay, actually, I'm going to flip the tape here.

End of Side A, Tape Two
Side B, Tape Two

MR: This is the second side of the second tape of the interview with Richard Carey on August 26th, 1999. And we were talking on the first side of the tape a little bit about the urban renewal projects you were involved in. Were there any other pressing issues, either during your time on the town council or as alderman or as mayor that were related to that?

RC: Well our, currently in Belgrade we're trying to build a sort of a center, center for all seasons. We have a place down by the golf course, which is new by the way. We got a brand new golf course Harold Alfond built. We, he's buying, donated to us some four or five hundred thousand dollars to build, towards building a new center. Hammond Lumber has put up four hundred thousand, and Pete Gagne put up a hundred thousand with his cement block plant, so we're getting there. But the piece of land we're buying is going to run around six hundred thousand. We're going to build a year round center as opposed to, we have a center in North Belgrade, as I said, you know, there's three towns, and that is used year round, that's heated. By year round, it's just on an occasional use. We had a center down in Belgrade Lakes, and he needs some space for his golf course, which abuts it, so for the money that he's giving us we're going to turn that land over to him. I think he may want to lengthen the first hole. But it's not a cheap course, cost you about a hundred and five bucks to go play, to get a cart, so it's not really a course that he's built for the natives. This thing here would be one, as well as the surrounding towns.

The golf course has done good things for us; it's given us a little more, a little higher recognition as far as the tourists are concerned. We have fifty-eight miles of lake frontage, and in those fifty-eight miles our valuation gets pretty high. And because of the high valuation, we pay what might be, or what is an inordinate amount of school tax for the number of students that we have. And I have often felt that maybe it would nice if we could say, half was going to go towards valuation and half is going to go to the percentage of students you have in a school system, and I think then we might be a little better off. Well, Oakland with six thousand people is paying much less than Sydney or Belgrade, which have about, combined, five thousand people in them. We still got to work on some of those things.

But we can't seem to get the town of Rome into the district, it prefers to pay tuition, because then they don't have to raise taxes on the debt service that we have for the building of schools. So that saves them quite a few bucks. And our kids here are suffering because most of the Rome kids come to the school that we have, and we got about eight portable classrooms. The kids were told by the teacher to write me a letter, which they all did, and one kid said, you know, "In the winter time it gets pretty cold out there." And, he said, "There are times when I have to go to the bathroom," and he says, "and boy, it's real cold, you know." And what obviously he was

saying was he had to go from the portable classrooms to the main building to go to the bathroom. But, I saved that one, it was comical, you never know what they're going to say.

We got a lot of work to do here. We've had some people resign recently, some of them who had already told us that they were going to resign their chairs that they had, but that they were going to remain on the committee. And one guy who had already said to us that he had a higher degree of responsibilities, and therefore he had to concentrate more on that than be the chair of a committee and so he was resigning totally from the committee, because even as a member he still wouldn't have had too much time. A week later he comes in to tell us that his problem is with the town manager.

So, during those six, well, we've had a little bad publicity. The chair of our committee, our board, one guy did give us his resignation by throwing his key and his little code for getting into the building, because we made reference to the fact that they wanted *x* number of feet for this store, this bed and breakfast that this woman was putting up, but somebody with a third of that land had two businesses which indicated they should have had six hundred feet of frontage, and we were concerned about the favoritism that may be shown. And I think that probably happens in every town, maybe a little more discreet in some towns than others. But if you're so and so, you can do what you want but if you're that man down the street there, you know, you're not going to get anything. And that's not our way to govern, and this guy took offense to it and just resigned right in front of us and walked out. Unfortunately he was probably the best chairman we had on the planning board, so we don't know who's going to take his place.

MR: Do you have any stories about Ed Muskie or anecdotes or something about his personality or professional style or anything?

RC: Well, he had a temper every now and then. But he was always interested in the little people as a, I guess his folks may have been Polish immigrants, I'm not sure, but if there's anything he could do. And he came home from Washington as often as he possibly could. He was fantastic for fundraisers. He would, if you were a Democrat, he would support you. If you were a Democrat that had no real platform he'd help you develop a platform, on how to run. He did wonders for the environment. We're maybe paying for some of that now, but at the time they were excellent ideas and they did not, Congress did not follow up and strip the Mid-West of burning coal in their electric plants. Our big problem here was acid rain and ozone, ground ozone problems.

There was never anything that would indicate that he wasn't happy with the job that he had. We were all extremely pleased when he became the secretary of state, and we were even more pleased when another person from Waterville, George Mitchell, was named by Brennan to take his place. While he didn't do much of anything for us at the secretary of state level, simply because there really wasn't much of anything he could do for us anyway, we appreciated all the service that he gave us. And while he was governor, he was able to get almost everything he wanted out of the Republican executive council. I don't know if you're familiar with the executive council or not?

MR: Yes.

RC: Okay, no, he did very well with that council, and there were some hardnosed Republicans in that. That's how they get on the council.

MR: You mentioned his temper, too, what were, did you get to witness that?

RC: Every now and then he would just cut loose, but just as fast as it came it went. He got his point across and then went back to normal conversation.

MR: Was that ever with you, or would you more witness it with other people that he (*unintelligible phrase*)?

RC: I saw it from afar. Some people would come before him and would say, "Geez I know damn well you can help me with this problem, but you're not doing anything for me. I try to reach you and I can't reach you," or "I have reached Don Nicolls [*sic* Nicoll] and spoken to him," and the answer comes back, "Well, we can't do anything about this because the law is the law." And he'd say, "Well, you know how long it takes to change the law?" And we're still hearing that same thing today, no matter what law we put in we're forgetting somebody.

MR: Okay, well, I guess, unless there's anything else you want to add that you think we missed. . .

RC: No.

MR: . . .I guess that's it. So, thank you very much.

RC: I miss him though. He was a real guiding light. Even though he never was elected mayor, I was never elected senator, so, I mean (*unintelligible word*) Washington, so we may be even. But I never ran for vice president. I was, the whole state was basically in shock, Democrats and Republicans when he was running for president and the guy at the *Manchester Union Leader*, can't remember his name. . .

MR: William Loeb?

RC: William Loeb, yeah, yeah, just put out the article about how he was on there and was crying and were they real tears, and that destroyed his candidacy. He'd have been a great president.

MR: Well great, thank you very much.

RC: You're welcome.

End of Interview