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Kenneth C. Colbath Political Statement

WLBZ Radio

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Transcript of a sound recording in MS 608, WLBZ Radio Station Records, Bangor, Maine, 1931-1973

Title: Kenneth C. Colbath Political Statement

Date: Fall 1956

Recording number: Reel-to-reel Tape 5, part 5

Length of recording: 1:56

[Transcript begins]

Announcer: The following was recorded by Kenneth C. Colbath of Presque Isle for use during the 3rd Congressional District campaign in the fall of 1956.

Colbath: About two years ago, I became an active political candidate in order to assist in every way possible the return of two-party government to Maine and the election of Ed Muskie as governor. The results of that election and his accomplishments during his first term have proved conclusively that the voters of Maine no longer must accept Republican nominees blindly but that they now may make a choice at the polls and have the right to insist that candidates for reelection campaign on their record with a thorough discussion of the issues. Political monopoly is just as dangerous and damaging on the national level as on the state level. It's not a coincidence that the three states that have the lowest per capita income in New England are the three states that for almost a century have been one-party states. Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont have a per capita income of five hundred dollars less than the New England average. For almost an entire century we have allowed one political control group to dominate our lives in the governmental sense. Since nomination on the Republican ticket has, throughout this entire period, been tantamount to election, is it any wonder that our representatives have never felt pressed to work very hard for a solution to our basic economic problems? In the third District, like all other congressional districts, we have only one congressman and the first and primary responsibility of that person is to the people of his district. He is not a congressman at large. We need his entire ability and labors more than any other area needs them.

[Transcript ends]

For more information about this transcript, audio recording, or other materials in Special Collections at the University of Maine, contact:

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