

I think if we are going to organize this Ethics Committee we should get into this. I was at the Veterans of Foreign Wars banquet last night and there were 45 youngsters. Every year the Veterans of Foreign Wars gives a prize in every State in the Union to the youngster who can write the best essay on Americanism and government.

When I saw these youngsters lined up there last night, the thought struck me that they would probably never come to the Senate of the United States to represent their State or the Congress unless they can get some influences with plenty of money to finance them. In order to come to the Senate or House of Representatives they probably will need to be financed as much as if they went into a major business. That applies to the Governor's job, too, but we have nothing to do with that. I want to commend you for mentioning that you would like to go into these campaign contributions because that pertains to ethics and real representative government more than any other one thing. Unless action is taken by the Senate and the House, it is going to get worse and worse as the years go by. They are starting right now. You can hardly pick up the paper but there is some big drive on for a \$500 dinner or a \$1,000 dinner to get money for the next campaign.

That means you have to be pretty close to the boys up there who can throw money around like you would confetti or you are not going to come to Congress, or you are not going to come to the Senate. Certainly that is one of the greatest tasks that this committee should undertake—and it will pertain more to ethics, I think, than any other one thing—it will purify our Government in the future. If we do not do it, there won't be many years before you will have to be a friend of multimillionaires or superduper big business, or these foundations that do not pay any taxes at all—you will have to be tied up pretty close to them—or you will not be in the Senate or the Congress. I want to commend the gentleman for his statement.

That is all.

Mr. PEPPER. Would the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. MADDEN. Yes.

Mr. PEPPER. I thoroughly agree with what the able gentleman has said. What disturbs me is that the public no longer seems to be offended by any amount of money that is spent in a campaign. Nobody pays any attention to it. If you win, it doesn't make any difference how much money you spend, apparently.

Mr. MADDEN. I do not know. The money seems to pop out from all directions when a campaign gets rolling. I know in my district there were 90-some-odd thousand spent 2 years ago. It was almost impossible for me to buy billboards or radio time, and workers were out lambasting me on propaganda. I really do not know how I survived. I think I must have an exceptionally smart and intelligent electorate in my district. I am not speaking boastfully on that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. GOODELL. I might comment, and I think it is a little bit off the subject, I have for some time been a very strong advocate of election reform legislation. I am very proud that Mr. Ashmore and I are now cosponsoring a strong election reform bill that came out of our subcommittee last summer unanimously. I would hope that the Congress would take this first step in the next year or two in this Congress. I think more does need to be done than is included in that bill. I might