

Members of Congress than broader matters of policy. If there is a pinching, even if it is only a small one, that is felt more acutely than a broad, philosophical concept or objective, then it seems to me that some of the regrettable legislative acts that are taking place have been the product of that kind of special interest.

Representative RUMSFELD. I have not been in Congress as long as Mr. Curtis. But it is my, at least tentative, conclusion that the pinch within the Congress is generally felt in the very restricted number of areas of the country, not across the border. And it is true, it is acute where it hits. But I have at least the feeling that if the dialog were conducted better, and if arguments that could at least point to the contrary were developed, that our system is capable of dealing with these problems.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I agree with you. And I don't think that most of us who speak out on these questions in hopefully objective ways do enough of it.

Representative RUMSFELD. I was most impressed with both of these statements.

Mr. Ball, as an ex-resident of the 13th District I am delighted to see you here. And I was very interested in your statement. Would you like to comment on this question that I have raised?

Mr. BALL. I think it has very broad ramifications, the question as to how one can best discuss what are basically conceptual problems with the public and keep them interested, and at the same time offset the very specific interests that might be affected by the adoption of a particular measure. We have this question of preference treatment for the less-developed countries, for example.

Now, I think that generalized preferences, most of us would agree, are a good idea in principle, because they are a way to enable the developing countries to establish markets in the industrialized countries, and get a little headstart. It may be that one should grant these preferences only for a limited period of time to give the new nations a chance to get a beachhead in the industrial revolution. But I can see enormous practical difficulties, because I think—

Representative RUMSFELD. You have lived with them.

Mr. BALL. I have lived with them. The kind of industry which is best suited to the abilities of a less-developed country is a labor-intensive industry, and in such an industry there are, by definition, more individuals interested in it—the working force in every country—than in a capital-intensive industry. Thus a labor-intensive industry has an unusual ability to mobilize pressure. So far the dialog has always been the other way, just as Mr. Curtis has suggested. The question has been whether we should impose impediments to the imports of those articles. Can we now turn it around and say not only that we are not going to impose impediments, but we are going to grant preferences? I find it hard to believe this is possible, no matter how seriously one makes the point in public discussion. And yet it is a very important thing, because unless we can assist these nations to get a beachhead in industrial production, and find a place in world markets, then the problem of being able to meet their requirements through external grants out of the public sector every year becomes a continuing one, and a more and more irksome and difficult one.