



DUPONT PLAZA *Center*

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300 Biscayne Boulevard Way, Miami 32, Florida • FRANKLIN 9-8861

March 17, 1960

Mr. Farris Bryant
Post Office Box 1773
Ocala, Florida

Dear Farris:

A friend of ours was talking with Matty Matthews the other day in Washington in regard to the present governor's race. As you know, Matty has been identified with George Smathers for quite some time, and Smathers is responsible for him being in Washington. From the conversation this friend had with Matty, I gathered that the talk among the Florida delegation in Washington is principally for Carlton, but there is some talk for you. It seems that Carlton is considered to be the favorite of the king-makers, and the Washington crowd feels that Collins is strong for Carlton, but playing it cozy.

Matty told this friend that Smathers considered himself close to you and McCarty, but Matty didn't know what relationship existed between Smathers and Carlton. Smathers has not been outspoken in Washington and is continuing his role as the great soloist.

Again I would like to impress upon you how important I feel it is that you once more attempt to cement your former relationship with Smathers. I feel too that the time has come again when you should arrange another interview with Jack Knight and his staff at the Miami Herald, and suggest also that you arrange an interview with Jim Cox, Dan Mahoney, Bill Baggs and their staffs at the Miami News.

At this stage of the game I don't think we should take for granted that both the News and the Herald are going to endorse others. It certainly appears that the Herald is going to endorse Carlton, however, and that the News is wavering between Carlton and McCarty. On the other hand, I believe both of these papers recognize you as a

very strong candidate and I don't think either of them would like to see you elected without their support.

I think it is possible that you can win without the support of either Miami paper, however, your election could be assured with the support of one or the other of these two papers.

With warm regards, I am,

Sincerely,



Perrine Palmer, Jr.

PPJr/h

cc: Robert M. Morgan
Marion E. Sibley