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Interview with Eleanor "Sis" Daley, Session Three
16 October 2002

Location: Home of Eleanor "Sis" Daley, 35th St. & Lowe, Chicago, IL. Present: Eleanor "Sis" Daley, Michael Daley, and Dr. Robert V. Remini.

[The tape opens in mid-interview. Technical difficulties have obscured parts of opening few minutes.]

Dr. Robert V. Remini: It's helpful to me particularly.

Michael Daley: Cream or sugar, doctor?

RVR: Yes please, both, if you would.

Eleanor "Sis" Daley: Each one, in their own way, has something.

RVR: That's part of the fun of having a large family. You get different talents and different characteristics [MD and RVR laugh]. Yes?

MD: Different opinions, mom?

ED: Oh yes. There's all chiefs but no Indians.

MD: The trouble with this tribe is that there's too many chiefs but not enough Indians [laughs].

RVR: Well, that's true. That's true, starting with the chief man up there. You know, I must ask you. I notice that you have the sacred heart on the wall. Was that there when your husband was alive, living here, that picture?

ED: What was that?

RVR: Was that picture of the sacred heart on the wall when the late mayor, your husband, lived here?

ED: Sure.

RVR: It was?

ED: Yes.

MD: You had that all of the time.

ED: I had that since I married. One of my sisters....

MD: She gave it to her when she got married.

ED: She gave it to me as a wedding gift. The priest at her parish, I believe his name was

Father Meyer, he was a great artist. He painted that picture.

RVR: Oh, then it's painted?

ED: This was in the 1960's with all of hippies.

RVR: Oh [laughs]!

ED: Dave Butler said that, my sister's boy. He had about four or five girls and they were all into it in high school and then college. So she said to her mother, "Now tell Aunt Mayme that she can give me anything else but a sacred heart [RVR laughs].

MD: She mean giving it as a wedding gift. Everyone in the family, that was your gift. You knew that you were getting it when you got engaged.

RVR: [Laughs] Whether you wanted it or not!

ED: She used to tell her, "I don't really want a sacred heart. I respect it and all."

MD: Aunt Mayme would come to your house and look for it [MD and RVR laugh].

RVR: If she didn't find it....?

MD: If she didn't find it, you had it in the closet or the attic [RVR laughs].

ED: We all had one.

RVR: See, that's important to know that this is part of the surrounding. But we always knew that he was a very religious man. And we can get into some of that.

MD: Do you want a roll, mom? Do you want a chocolate roll, a plain donut, or a glazed donut?

ED: No. I'm just going to have some coffee.

RVR: Well, I should begin the interview by saying that I am back, thanks to Mrs. Daley. She's invited me to her home again, to continue this interview about life with Mayor Richard J. Daley. Her son Michael Daley is here with me as well. We now want to get into the years your husband was the mayor. But before that I have two sort of personal questions to ask. One is Mayor Daley, as you said, could handle figures very well. He was very good at mathematics. He was very good at handling finance.

ED: He was very knowledgeable.

RVR: Did he also handle the household finance, or did you?

ED: Yes, I always did.

RVR: You always did?

ED: Yes, I always wrote the checks. I handled the money for the children and all.

RVR: I see. I suspected so.

ED: I paid the bills.

RVR: Right. He didn't give you money, let's say at the beginning of the month, that was just put in the bank, and you withdrew it?

ED: If I needed it, I used it for the household.

RVR: You withdrew it. The other question I had was that he was a fastidious dresser. He was always well dressed.

ED: Oh, immaculately.

RVR: Everybody comments on that.

ED: He was one of the ten best-dressed men.

RVR: We mentioned this, I think, in the first interview. But I wanted to ask more specifically. Do you know why that was true?

ED: He was immaculate.

[There was a break in the interview due to a technical error with the equipment]

RVR: There it goes. Oh, we've lost all of that good material!

ED: Here, I have it here Mike.

MD: Okay, mom.

RVR: That's fine. We've lost all of that good material.

ED: You lost it all?

MD: We'll go back....

RVR: I'm going to kill those associates [MD laughs]. I said, "Check it out. Be sure the battery is good." We can normally plug it into the wall.

MD: Here, you can plug it into the wall.

RVR: The batteries make it a lot simpler. So they took it out and checked it, and they put it back the wrong way.

MD: Oh, that happens. We'll go over it.

RVR: Well, we tend to repeat some things, like the stories about the queen. Well, I can remember it. I can write it up and the story about Mike Flynn. I would imagine that your husband and Mike Flynn were very close then. Were they?

ED: Yes. They were very, very close.

RVR: They were friends as well as....?

ED: He was a very friendly man. He loved the children. He married later in life and had two little girls.

RVR: Yes. That's Irish for you.

ED: And he loved them.

MD: What do you mean by later [MD and RVR laugh]? Thirty [laughs]?

ED: No. I had five....

MD: I just got married a year ago. That's later [MD and RVR laugh]!

RVR: And you have grown daughters [MD and RVR laugh]!

ED: Well, this was his first marriage [MD and RVR laugh]. And he wasn't young.

MD: They're all first marriages.

RVR: Right!

ED: He was.... Well, I had five children.

MD: When he got married?

ED: No, not when I got married.

MD: No, when he got married.

ED: When he got married?

MD: Was Flynn? So dad worked for him as county clerk then?

ED: No, he didn't.

MD: No?

ED: No.

RVR: He was county clerk...

MD and RVR: Before.

ED: It was before.

MD: And dad was in the senate?

ED: And he was well. I guess he just dropped dead. He had a heart attack.

RVR: You know, they say that about your husband a great deal, that he just bided his time. And these people died [laughs]! It's as though they had a curse on them [MD and RVR laugh]! Get out of the way, so that your husband could advance [laughs]. They said he was lucky!

ED: He was there at the lucky time, like Dave Shanahan, and then Waltz. Senator Waltz was the Democratic senator in Springfield. And he fulfilled his job.

RVR: And then, what was the man's name? Was he the treasurer? Your husband did all of the work as his administrative assistant. I have it here. Let me see, Joe McDonough, Big Joe. That goes back a bit. What do you remember about McDonough? He was your husband's real mentor, so to speak.

ED: He was the county treasurer and lived a couple of blocks from here. When Dick was a young man going to law school, he worked for the county. I know that he worked at the county comptroller's office. But he was so good with it.

MD: Was McDonough the ward committeeman?

ED: Yes, he was a ward committeeman and the county treasurer.

RVR: And he appointed your husband to be his assistant?

ED: Yes. He was a young fellow going to school. So he worked days and he went to school nights.

RVR: But had he really ran the office, didn't he, for McDonough?

ED: Well, no. McDonough was a smart man. With a lot of those old men, in finances they were whizzes.

RVR: All of them were, yes? Then he died, too?

ED: He died, but Dick didn't become county treasurer.

RVR: No. He was deputy county comptroller.

ED: Yes. He was county comptroller. So that'd be the finances for the county.

RVR: Right. That's how he learned a great deal about the finances of the county.

ED: He was ambitious.

RVR: Well, going on then to after 1950, he was county clerk.

ED: Oh, after 1950 he was county clerk. While he was county clerk, who died? Oh, Mayor Kelly died.

RVR: Mayor Kelly?

ED: Mayor Kelly.

RVR: He was the mayor when...

ED: Then Kennelly was...

RVR: Then Kennelly followed. Did you notice that your husband had more political influence when he became county clerk? Or did the political influence come later?

ED: No. Well naturally, he had never done it before, like the big Democrats.

RVR: He wasn't the ward committeeman, was he, at that time?

ED: In this ward, yes.

RVR: When did he become Kennelly's....?

ED: I think it was after....

MD: Was it after McDonough died?

ED: Yes, it was after McDonough died. That was in 1950.

RVR: Did he replace McDonough as ward committeeman?

ED: No.

RVR: Somebody else was there?

ED: Yes, somebody else was there. He had the advantage. When he went to high school at De LaSalle, they taught short hand and typing, in their last year. So when he was going to law school, he worked up in the stockyards as a secretary.

MD: After McDonough died, didn't dad become the ward committeeman, not the alderman?

RVR: Not the alderman?

ED: No.

MD: Who became the ward committeeman after?

ED: He did, I think.

MD: Dad did.

ED: I think he became the ward committeeman.

MD: And then, what was it? Stanley Nowakowski became the alderman?

ED: Yes. He was a young Polish fellow in the neighborhood. He became the alderman. A very good alderman, he was.

MD: For many years?

ED: For quite a few years, then he died. But Dick never became the alderman.

RVR: Did your husband dictate the appointment of the alderman? Do you know?

ED: No, I don't think so. They had the whole committee of each ward, which would hold their own private meetings. Then all of their committeemen would vote.

RVR: Do you think your husband really influenced the other committeemen, to do what he thought was best for the ward?

ED: No, I don't think he'd come out and say it. He was so in favor of being fair and honest with all of the men. Like when McGovern wanted to run, he wanted to be the candidate. He wanted the Democrats in the city to nominate him as a candidate, or endorse him. Dick said no, they hadn't finished their meetings. Then they would turn in their returns. Remember Senator Kefauver? He was the one that wanted McGovern. He was grooming him for president. He was wild because Dick would not endorse him.

RVR: This was in 1956.

ED: Dick stood up in a meeting and said, "We don't endorse anyone until all precincts are heard from."

MD: Dad really respected the independence of every committeeman in his own ward. So, if someone died, they used to have all of the precinct captains vote for the successor. Now that ward committeeman, or that alderman, had some influence. And there were contests over that. He would always make them turn in the returns downtown. So he had a list of who the precinct captain was from the last election. So they didn't try to change them on the guy [RVR laughs]. He'd call the meetings downtown. Only the people who were listed on the precinct captain report were allowed to vote. Otherwise, they'd replace everybody and change the whole thing. He was very....

ED: He knew the tricks.

MD: Oh yes.

ED: He was a very fair and honest man.

RVR: The city government was so corrupt during those years.

ED: Business was worse.

RVR: Business was what?

ED: Business people were worse [RVR laughs].

RVR: Oh yes, especially today.

ED: Yes today, with all of the big corporations.

RVR: Oh, can you believe it?

ED: My goodness!

RVR: Your husband was a breath of fresh air [laughs]!

ED: He was very honest.

RVR: And everybody knew it! Was Kelly honest?

ED: As far as I knew. I think he was an honest man.

RVR: Was he a weak mayor?

ED: No. Kelly was a good one, a strong mayor.

RVR: How about Kennelly?

ED: He owned a storage house, and he was in that business all of his life. But he was not a strong mayor. To me, the whole meetings of the committeemen and all of that, I don't think he was a strong man. He didn't go for that, I don't think. But he was a fine living man.

RVR: But as the ward committeeman....

ED: No, as the ward committeeman, he was not.

RVR: But your husband has more political influence now?

ED: Oh yes.

RVR: Especially since he can deliver the Eleventh Ward with very large numbers.

ED: Well, everybody knew one another.

RVR: I'm surprised there was a Polish descendant in there. I thought it was totally Irish and totally Catholic.

ED: Oh no.

MD: This was the German section.

RVR: Was it really? That shows how much I know about this.

ED: We have the fourth and fifth generation going to school here now. Pat's two little girls are....

MD: The great grandchildren are going to school here now. One of my nephew's children is going here. So it's the fourth generation at Nativity. Is that fourth or fifth?

ED: It's fifth.

MD: There'd dad, Pat, and Patrick, fourth. It's the fourth generation.

ED: And then there's the little girl. It's the fourth generation.

MD: That's Nora.

ED: I remember when Pat started Nativity. She said to the nun, "I'm the fourth generation," or the third. Well, she'd be the third now. But anyway, it was the fourth, she said. And if that's right, she said, "Here's a little girl who's in the fifth generation [ED, MD, and RVR laugh]."

RVR: One up man!

ED: She was putting her down.

RVR: Your husband then became a member of the Cook County Democratic Committee.

ED: Yes.

RVR: They really decide the nominations for the mayor.

MD: That's when he became ward committeeman.

RVR: When he became ward committeeman. Did he automatically get a place on the central committee?

MD: That's by statute.

RVR: That's by statute?

ED: I think all committee are members...

MD: There's fifty aldermen. That makes the city central committee, under the state law. Then there's the county central committee, which is made up of the fifty, plus thirty in the townships.

RVR: You know this.

MD: So it's eighty. I was their lawyer [MD and RVR laugh].

RVR: Oh, I see!

MD: So they had two committees.

ED: Dick had them with him.

MD: The city committee would vote on city candidates. The countywide would vote on county. Then the state central committee would vote on state wide candidates.

RVR: So automatically then, he became....

ED and MD: By election.

RVR: He was by election to the ward.

ED: By the members of the....

MD: It was the city central committee and the county.

RVR: But does he.... You were going to say something.

ED: He became county clerk. Then, when Alderman Wagner died, it was in a big automobile accident. Who was the head of the Democratic Party then?

MD: Joe Gill or Arvey?

RVR: Arvey, maybe?

MD: Maybe Arvey.

RVR: There was another man. I don't remember his name.

MD: It wasn't Al Horan, no.

ED: No, not AL Horan, no.

MD: There was Arvey....

ED: Yes, it could have been him.

MD: But wasn't it Mr. Gill that helped dad become the chairman?

ED: Then Gill was the head of the Democratic Party.

MD: He stepped down to let dad take it over. It was Joe Gill, I think.

ED: I think so, because he was a younger man. This Joe Gill, he was a good honest man. He was county treasurer for a while. Dick worked at the treasurer's office before we got married, as a surrogate lawyer.

MD: But I think it was Joe Gill that after Kelly died, then dad became county clerk. When he was the county clerk he became chairman, not when he was mayor. He was chairman, wasn't he, before he was mayor?

RVR: Oh yes. That's true.

ED: Oh yes. He was county....

MD: So Arvey became the national committeeman for Illinois in Washington. Then they re-structured the Democratic Party with new leaders.

ED: There was an accident, with O'Brien from Fifty-fifth.

ED and MD: Alderman Wagner was killed.

MD: Wagner, Weber.... Was there a Weber that was killed, or someone?

ED: Yes, I think so.

MD: They were in the Northern Woods.

ED: They were all going on vacation up in the North Woods. They were in an automobile accident, about three, I think.

MD: They were powerhouses in the Democratic Party. They were killed.

RVR: See I told you! He just waits for them [MD and RVR laugh]! That's the thesis [MD and RVR laugh]!

MD: They'll make a history of the accidents.

RVR: Right!

ED: How's your health [ED, MD, and RVR laugh]?

RVR: Well, he worked hard, and he was lucky!

ED: He worked hard, and he was very careful in the positions that he held.

MD: He worked hard.

ED: He was a hardworking man.

MD: Now mom, you're a little tired this morning. So do you want to....?

ED: I feel a little bit better.

MD: You sort of want to cut it off now? Don't go too long today. You went longer the other day. She was a little tired this morning.

ED: But no, I'll go another hour.

MD: Now?

RVR: Another hour?

MD: How about a half hour, mom?

ED: All right, fine.

MD: At a quarter till.

RVR: As soon as you want to stop, we can stop it, and I'll go. Well, now he's a member of the central committee.

ED: Yes.

RVR: He's only a member. He's not chairman yet.

ED: Oh no, no, no.

RVR: How did he become chairman?

ED: Wasn't it after they re-structured the whole....?

MD: It was after that accident that you were talking about.

ED: Yes.

MD: That was when Gill, Arvey, and there was another person....

ED: There was [inaudible]. Well, he was one of the older ones. He was the older man. They were always....

MD: Kennelly was out?

RVR: No, Kennelly's still there.

MD: No, Kelly was out. Kennelly is in. Then they re-structured it. I'm trying to think of

who went in with dad then, at the Cook County Democratic Committee. Was it Duffy, from Beverly?

ED: No, Duffy went out when....

MD: Duffy took over after Ryan died.

ED and MD: He was the county board president.

MD: But who was the head of the Democratic Party with dad? I can't remember. I read it. I wasn't there [laughs].

ED: It was what's his name, that fellow from the Tenth Ward. It was Vrdolyak, because he was an intern there.

MD: Not in the fifties though, mom, it wasn't.

RVR: Let me ask you this, then. Do you remember Congressman Bill Dawson?

ED: I only remember the name.

RVR: He was a black man.

ED: He was black. He lived out in the southeast. He was very, very helpful to the young men and women. I always remember Dick telling Congressman Dawson, "If we're ever able to get in a position, let's help these young people." Dick would tell them, "I'm only happy to be able to help you. But you have to help yourself and educate your children. That's foremost."

RVR: Now he, Dawson, threw his support to your husband, through the aldermen representing the black wards that had been voting for Kennelly.

ED: Well, he was a committeeman then. So he would be in charge.

RVR: Right. Was he on the committee?

ED: He was a committeeman.

RVR: He was? Even though he was a congressman? He could hold that position, too?

MD: In those days you didn't have the laws like today.

ED: Maybe he did delegate some of it.

RVR: Because we have a record of him....

MD: He was the congressman mom, I know. He might have had Claude Holman. He was the alderman from this ward.

ED: He was the alderman.

MD: But the big powerhouse was Dawson. He was very respected and very powerful.

ED: He seconded the vote on John Kennedy for president.

RVR: Oh did he?

ED: Or was it Johnson?

MD: I don't remember [MD and RVR laugh]! I'm embarrassed to tell you! No, I was there. We went in 1960.

RVR: Oh, you were there? Why don't you have your mother's memory [laughs]?

MD: The first convention was in....

ED and MD: 1952.

MD: It was the Republican Convention in the Amphitheater [laughs]!

RVR: Oh yes! That's right, the Amphitheater!

MD: Then came Eisenhower, right down Union Avenue [laughs]!

RVR: Oh wow!

MD: We were all out at the flags.

ED: I took all of the kids over there.

MD: It was General Eisenhower [RVR laughs]. Everyone was out there. He was not the president then. He was General Eisenhower. Then in 1956, he came back.

ED: We all went over to Union Avenue because that's where the parade came down. They raised the flag.

MD: In 1956, he was the president.

RVR: [Laughs] All of these wonderful memories. Now Dawson really hated Kennelly. And he told Kennelly off, because Kennelly was seen as someone who was hostile to the black people. Your husband was seen as somebody who was real, sympathetic, and understanding. Dawson then, threw his support to your husband.

MD: Kennelly was from the north side of the city. And there was no black population on the north side of the city. The black population was on the south side. In those days, it really wasn't even west then. It was all on the south side. There was a lot of conflict between the south side committeemen and the north side committeemen as to power. Who was the fellow? I'm trying to think. He was the alderman, either Jerry Hubbard or Hartigan. Was

that who it was, from up there in the Fiftieth Ward? Neil Hartigan's father was....

ED: I think it was from the north side. It was the Forty-ninth.

MD: Was he the alderman?

ED: He was the alderman.

MD: He was the alderman up there. But he wasn't the other third one with the leadership. There was someone else. Arvey?

ED: There was a Lane.

ED and MD: Lane?

MD: Maybe it was Mr. Lane, yes.

RVR: I can look it up.

MD: It would be helpful if you brought those lists, for her to look at.

RVR: The lists of what?

MD: If you had lists, it would refresh her memory. Do you want to turn this off?

[The tape recorder is turned off momentarily]

RVR: Now that your husband is the central committee chairman, he certainly has a lot of power and influence.

ED: Oh yes.

RVR: Did he discuss with you some of the decisions that he made, appointments, or anything at all that you remember?

ED: I don't recall what they are now.

RVR: Because we're now talking about his becoming mayor.

ED: No, there was no talk about him maybe until they had a meeting, which was after the accident and all the people died. They were having a meeting to discuss fulfilling the candidate to run for mayor. And low and behold, he was picked.

RVR: Right, and Kennelly wanted to be picked.

ED: [inaudible]

RVR: I know he did.

ED: He ran against Dick.

RVR: Against the recommendation of the Central Committee.

ED: Oh, yes. But he was so advised, I think. He wasn't that type of a man. He didn't really put out his hand to help individuals.

RVR: There was a third candidate, too. Do you remember?

ED: A third?

RVR: Benjamin Adamowski.

MD: This was in the primary.

ED: Benjamin Adamowski? Yes, he was a former state's attorney and he ran.

RVR: That's formidable opposition.

ED: Yes. But he was a young father. He went to [inaudible] High School, which all the fellows on the south side went to.

RVR: Sure. And he had that kind of union of different ethnic groups, Poles, Czechs, Germans and such.

ED: And they all belonged to the Hamburg Club, which was just an athletic club in the neighborhood.

RVR: Since you mentioned the Hamburg, can I go back to when your husband was a very young man? He was 17 years of age. He belonged to the club. And in 1919, there was a race riot here in this area. And the members of the Hamburg social club got involved. There were 15 whites and 23 blacks killed, and a thousand homes were burned.

ED: My Dick was too young.

MD: My dad was born in 1902 he was only 17 years of age. At 17 years of age he had no influence with anything, and he was actually working at the yard.

RVR: Right.

MD: The one who started that accusation was Alderman Despres. He made the accusation about him, but dad always denied he had any involvement. He was never involved with it.

ED: He was a very young boy.

MD: He was very young. And secondly, we never heard of it from anybody else. So it's like one of those accusations that you can't respond to because you weren't there.

RVR: You want it on the record because what I read was that Mayor Daley never

commented on it. But that's not true you say?

ED: No.

MD: No. He denied it.

RVR: I would think so. But a 17 year old could get involved...

MD: The difference is that the riots were further south, at the southeast end of the yard. This is the northeast end of the yard.

RVR: Well, since it was brought up-

MD: It was brought up in-remember that movie they did?

ED: Yes, they did a terrible movie.

MD: It was a pictorial on dad.

RVR: On PBS?

MD: Yes. It turned out sour. Actually, the guy that wrote it, the author of it, we found out later, wrote his dissertation on the Vietnam War [MD & RVR laugh]! If we had known that, I mean, he was very anti-against, anti-political establishment. But, like everything, there were good parts and there were bad parts. But he brought that up, and I asked him and he said that it was Leon Despres that raised up that issue. Leon Despres was in there. But dad had always said he wasn't involved in it. It was all older people.

RVR: Well, I'm glad we got that on the record then.

ED: He was an opened minded man.

RVR: Getting back to the election of 1955, I'm switching back. In the primary, your husband defeated both of the men that were running against him.

ED: Adamowski and Kennelly.

RVR: Right. Do you remember much about that campaign?

ED: Yes, I remember. All the women in the neighborhood had a big parade. We went downtown, marched....

RVR: Yes? Did you have placards? Signs?

ED: Oh, yes. With the big shopping bags.

MD: We still have the wooden sign from the top of her car.

ED: I still have it.

RVR: You do have it downstairs? Oh, that's incredible! Oh, I'd love to see that!

ED: I'll show it to you someday.

RVR: And you just marched around and....?

ED: We marched downtown in the Loop, up to Lake Street, I guess.

MD: They had that big rally up to the Opera House, too?

RVR: The Civic Opera House, yes.

MD: It was like a torchlight parade to the Civic Opera House.

ED: That was for dad.

MD: Was that the primary or the general?

ED: That was the primary.

RVR: That's when your husband was accused of his politics. He said that he was being put in by this corruptive administration. And that's when your husband said, "Good politics makes good government."

ED: "Good government is good politics."

MD: That was his motto.

RVR: You remember that?

ED: I do. He was fair, one of the fairest and honest men, I think.

MD: Who would you say, mom, helped dad get elected? Say four or five names, like Mr. McFetridge, the Labor Unions, or Bill Lee.

ED: Yes, they were all very helpful. And Joe Gill was a straightforward man.

RVR: Who was he?

ED: He was the County Treasurer, Joseph Gill.

RVR: And who's Lee that you mentioned?

MD: Lee and McFetridge were labor leaders, big labor leaders. Gill and Lee were very good friends of dad's all their lives.

RVR: This was even before he becomes mayor, because the unions were very strong with your husband. So this happened early on. Why?

MD: They all grew up together.

ED: Everybody was a union man in the city. But they were all good, honest men.

MD: In that era, all the factories, the businesses, the industries were on the Southside. The Northside wasn't developed as a business side. The Westside was residential. All the businesses were along the river. All the factories, all the union people, they worked. Where were the mills? Where were the stockyards? The big, big industries were all outside.

ED: But he always involved it, everything that pertains to the city.

MD: Was Dan Ryan helpful to dad getting elected, mom?

ED: Yes, Dan Ryan was helpful. But Joe Gill was...

MD: He was president of the County Board.

ED: Al Horan. I think they were all headed to the Democratic Party and they were all helping the younger fellows. And then they all went to school, went on to college, to be educated.

RVR: Your husband was 53 years of age at this time. How about Jake Arvey? Was he helpful?

ED: He was much older than Dick.

RVR: Yes. He had a national reputation.

ED: Yes.

MD: Colonel [laughs]! But was Colonel Arvey more of a supporter of Mayor Kennelly?

ED: Oh, yes. He was the one who placed him in.

MD: So he was supporting Kennelly against dad.

RVR: Did you meet Colonel Arvey?

ED: I met him at different social functions.

RVR: What was your impression of him?

ED: I thought he was a very intelligent man, but they had nothing in common.

RVR: But you wave your hand as though there is something missing [laughs].

ED: I had nothing to do with the politics circle, not that I ever attended any of the.... I attended all the social functions.

RVR: You never went to any of the committee meetings.

ED: No. Never.

RVR: You wouldn't have been allowed, actually.

ED: No, I never attended any of that.

RVR: Right. But with the social events, you were always there.

ED: When visitors or guests, President Eisenhower, when they would come. Sometimes some of them would have their wives with them and other times their wives would have something else to do, probably wouldn't be able to come. Well, then, they would eliminate the ladies, so just the men would be there. But always when these guests came from Europe, they would meet with the mayor or the governor.

RVR: Privately.

ED: Yes. And then they would meet with all the heads of all the corporations, of the big corporations, privately, after the big luncheon.

MD: Of the business people, mom, who in the business community was helpful to dad? The labor leaders? The political leaders?

ED: Oh, the labor leaders, political leaders.

MD: Remember the man from the one newspaper? List? Stewart List? Was that his name? Stu List? Wasn't he from the Daily News?

ED: Soto, he was at the American.

MD: The American, the Chicago American. At that time there were 4 newspapers.

RVR: But I remember when I came here, there was three.

MD: But Stu List, is that the paper that endorsed dad, or no?

ED: No. At one time, none of the newspapers endorsed him.

RVR: None?

ED: The first time in the primary.

RVR: Because he was seen as....

MD:coming from the old political.

ED: Dick, after he became mayor, he invited all the presidents of all the different banks and

had some corporations, then had a meeting. And he'd face them. And Bob Abboud was president of the First National Bank.

MD: No, I think it was Livingston, mom, at that time. Homer's father, Old Mr. Livingston. Because that was in the 1950s. Abboud didn't come around until....

ED: Yes, it was Homer Livingston. And they all came to the big meeting and Dick had introduced himself with a tone of how important it was. He wanted to get acquainted with them because it was their city and it was up to them to make it work and help him. He would help them. But he needed help. He said, " I can't do it alone.... "

RVR: We're going to get into that much more, next time.

ED: "This is your city."

MD: Maybe we'll end it now, mom, because this starts another time period, otherwise you'll get into it and it goes too long.

RVR: And then you'll get tired, and we don't want to tire you out....

*****END OF INTERVIEW*****