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The Candidate Speaks: Remarks of Edward I. Gross, Carl E. Delano, and Robert E. Baldacci

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

Title: The Candidate Speaks: Remarks of Edward I. Gross, Carl E. Delano, and Robert E. Baldacci

Date: October 14, 1957

Recording number: Tape 20, part 3

Length of recording: 6:26

[Transcript begins]

MINCHER: All the remainder of the material on this tape, whoops, was recorded for the Candidate Speaks in 1957 before the Bangor municipal election. See the book for details upon who is represented here.

[The "book" refers to the station log, which reads: CUT 3 -- Edward I. Gross -- material for The Candidate Speaks, a program to introduce candidates for Bangor City Council election of 14 Oct 57. He was elected; CUT 4 -- Carl E. Delano. Same data. He was elected. CUT 5 -- Robert E. Baldacci. Same data. He was not elected."]

GROSS: I am Edward I. Gross, and I am one of the candidates for the Bangor City Council on October 14th. It is my purpose in running for this position to serve Bangor, to promote a better Bangor, and to stimulate the healthy growth of Bangor. There are many issues which are present in the minds of all citizens of this city at this time. The issues are not small but they are, and can be, overcome. Some of these issues pertain to new schools, industrial development, parking facilities, urban rehabilitation program, and last, but certainly not least in importance, the tax problem. It would be presumptuous of me to tell you that I know all the facts and all the answers at this time. These questions cannot be answered by offhand, impulsive decisions. Great care and thought must be employed before the matters are decided.

DELANO: My name is Carl E. Delano, candidate for Bangor City Council, and I am grateful to radio station W LBZ for this opportunity to tell you about myself. Of course, the better acquainted you are with the candidates whom you will be considering at the municipal election on Monday, the more intelligently you will vote. Our council form of government is good and of course it is best when it's councilmen are able men of integrity who represent the community's people. I have always judged a candidate by his experience and training, as well as what he has done in the past in behalf of city betterment. To me these things mean more than promises, because promises made before all the facts are known are dangerous. Now to tell you about candidate Delano. I was born in Bangor in 1909, son of the late Roscoe and Laura Delano. My education was in Bangor schools, graduating from Bangor High in '27 and from Hudson College two years later. I have always lived within a two-block radius of my birthplace on West Broadway, and it would take a lot to convince me that I should move from this

community because I have grown extremely fond of it and had many friends and acquaintances who feel the same. I have a brother and sister who live here. My family consists of two children, both enrolled at the University of Maine. My wife, a registered nurse, was formerly Lillian Conley of Ellsworth. So much for my personal history. Now for my experience. While still in my sophomore year of high school, I took my first job and I have been working ever since. I had a variety of experience before becoming Personnel Director of the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad. I came with the railroad 27 years ago. I have held my supervisory job these last eight years. Undoubtedly, I have met some of you when you applied for work. Other tasks in this position involve wage and salary administration and supervisory training and development. My outside activities have been varied, all with the thought of improving myself and helping to better the community. Because I have considered that home is not bound by four walls but it extends to the city limits and even beyond. Even before my own children were born I was interested in youth work. For several years, I headed up a citywide Cub Scout unit. When it was first started here in Bangor. I have always been active in the work of my church, and among other jobs there, I have been Clerk of Hammond Street Church for more than 25 years. I have been its campaign chairman for an educational wing on the church and Teams Chairman for the expansion program at Bangor Theological Seminary. I am president of the Bangor YMCA and was chairman of the latest fundraising campaign for their new swimming pool and gymnasium. I have spoken to some of you when I addressed groups on behalf of Community Chest, because I have been sold on the fact that this sort of activity is making our city a better one. For improvement of business methods in the area, I have associated myself with the Industrial Management Club, the Toastmasters Club, and I am a director of the Bangor Chamber of Commerce.

BALDACCI: I am a candidate for City Council. I am Robert Baldacci. Your vote does count. Why aren't the citizens of Bangor better informed? Is it because some Councilmen are forgetting their responsibilities to the citizens? If I had voted for revaluation, you would have been informed. If I had voted for spot zoning of Hannibal Hamlin School, you would have been informed. For I believe that a City Councilman must make it his duty to keep the voters informed at all times, to sound out public opinion on the issues, and act accordingly. This procedure has seldom been followed. I would like to cite a few examples, such as the pending order, which if accepted, would rezone Hannibal Hamlin School from a restricted zone to an open business zone. And the sale of the school, which includes nearly an acre of land, was let out for bid as a Class C zone, which restricted building in the in the zone to an apartment house, a hotel, or motel, or an office building. Two bids were submitted with the outstanding bid made by commercial organization of \$43,000 with the stipulation in the bid that if the area was not re-zoned, there was no bid. Why wasn't the area rezoned to commercial zone and then put out to bid? Did it not discourage competitive bidding? Were you fully informed?

[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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