

# Lester, Bo Still Exchanging Barbs

ATLANTA (UPI) — Gubernatorial candidates Howard (Bo) Callaway and Lester Maddox exchanged barbs Tuesday night when both addressed a meeting of the Georgia Municipal Association.

Callaway, a Republican, accused his Democratic opponent of making wild promises to get himself elected and knowing full well the money would not be available to fulfill the promises.

"The old saying that money doesn't grow on trees apparently hasn't registered with my opponent," Callaway said.

The GOP nominee specifically accused Maddox of promising an education group to give teachers a \$1,200 per year pay raise in the first year of his administration "but he failed to tell the public about this."

"He failed to tell them they will have to foot a \$200 million bill in four years to fulfill his pledge," Callaway said.

He said Maddox also had promised to triple the normal increase in local school financing and "he doesn't have any idea where you can raise that kind of money."

## Secret Meetings Cited

Callaway mentioned as well that secret plane trip his opponent took to meet James Gray in Florida and the closed-door meeting of Atlanta area Democrats where Maddox is alleged to have promised to endorse the 1968 Democratic nominees and three Negroes running in state elections.

Maddox has since denied he made any such pact with Democrats, calling the charge a "sinister plot." Mystery continued to shroud the trip to Florida.

Both incidents were examples of "Maddox's irresponsibility," according to Callaway.

The republican pledged to support most of the major platforms of the GMA including the continuation of direct grants to cities, new sources of local revenue and tax relief for homeowners.

## Barbs Returned

Maddox, who addressed the group later, let fly with barbs even more pointed than Callaway's.

"Nothing but a fool would say he would take politics out of any department," Maddox said. "He (Callaway) either is a fool or thinks you are."

Callaway had pledged to take politics out of the highway department.

"Bo Callaway and the bankers that control him have climbed down into the gutter of hate," Maddox continued.

Then, half joking, Maddox said he had already been somewhat successful in his bid for

governor.

"Weltner has left Congress, Johnson has left the country, Martin Luther King has gone north and Ivan Allen has gone into hibernation."

In a talk earlier at Augusta, Maddox said an out-of-state building firm offered him \$50,000 for his "political influence."

He said the firm—which he refused to name — was interested in contracting with the state. Maddox said he could have picked up \$50,000 in cash in Augusta Tuesday had he agreed to go along with the bribe.

Maddox said he refused to meet with the company's representatives.

It was the second time Maddox has claimed offers of large amounts of money. He earlier charged that he was offered \$100,000 to drop out of the governor's race before the first primary election.