

VERLYN MOORE, JR.

JAMES MACKAY: Your Program Committee asked the History Committee of the Bar to arrange a special program today for a special reason: This is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Georgia. It is the 161<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the founding of this county. We are having this program in conjunction with the DeKalb Historical Society, which was founded by Carl Hudgins, who departed this life on October 15. Carl, many of you did not know because he has been ill the last two years, but he was admitted to the practice of law in 1915 and was still at it in 1980. And I don't know anybody that has passed him, but one of our debts to this splendid man was that he founded the Historical Society, and the Bar and the Historical Society do all sorts of things together. Fay Hill [spelling?], the president of the Historical Society could not be with us today. Whit Smith here and Pat Davis are vice presidents of the Bar—I mean, of the Historical Society. Rick Shinall is in charge of the videotape history project. And I would like to give a round of applause to Howard Worthy, who recognized that this was a program worth videotaping and preserving in the archives of this county. Howard, will you stand up, since we're not paying you, and let us applaud you? [laughter, applause] Now, there's no better way to have a program than to have speak to you a person that would get the unanimous vote as having been cut out of the finest oak—human oak—in this state's history, because the family has been a part of this community since 1837, just thirteen years after this county started. Verlyn Brown Moore is the illustrious son of the illustrious Judge Verlyn Moore, Sr., who died a year or so ago. This Verlyn graduated from Emory; his father, Judge Verlyn Moore, graduated from Emory; and his grandfather graduated from Emory. Verlyn was Best All-Around Athlete at Emory, All-Emory Baseball, Basketball, Football, Glee Club—the only negative thing I've found, Verlyn, is that you're a member of the Chi Phi fraternity. [laughter] He received his LLB degree at the University of Georgia, Best All-Around Student over there, Phi Delta Phi. He turned down a professional contract with the New York Celtics. He turned down an invitation—I didn't understand

why, Verlyn—to be a member of the U.S. All Stars in the 1936 Olympics. From 1934 up to '49 he practiced law, and then from that day forward he was a trust officer and later chief trust officer of Fulton National Bank, now Bank South. He has served as president of Woodrow Wilson Law School that has contributed so much to the education of many of the people in this room. He has been a leader in his university, in his church, in this community; married, has two sons. And as a fellow that likes to talk myself, I say that Verlyn Moore is the finest speaker that could possibly be brought before you. And if you don't agree with me when he finishes, Verlyn, I made a mistake. Verlyn Moore. [applause]

VERLYN MOORE, JR.: Thank you, Jim, for that very flattering introduction you just gave me. Three things that it's impossible for a man to do: One is to climb a tree that leans towards him, another is to kiss a woman that leans away from him, and the third's to live up to an introduction. [laughter] I'll do the best I can now. He forgot to say that I have now reached what's known as statutory senility. [laughter] I've found out, and I'll give advice to some of the younger fellows, when you reach that stage in life, well, you do three things: get all the free lunches you can—which I'm doing today, I guess; ride the bus for thirty cents; and get you a hobby that'll pay you some money. Then you can live in the style that you're accustomed. Reaching old age really has some domestic problems. My wife is a little deaf in one ear. We've had thirty-five happy years together, and thirty-five out of forty-five's not bad. [laughter] I was sitting down today, and I said, "Peggy, I'm proud of you." And she said, "I'm tired of you, too." [laughter]

My father, of course, was judge of the Superior Court. He was Verlyn Moore, Sr., and I'm Verlyn Moore, Jr. Of course, I'm very proud to bear his name, but it is a little confusing. People are always asking me if I'm kin to Verlyn Moore. When they do, I remember we had a new employee at the bank where I was working. He came in one day, and I said, "What's your name, son?" He said, "My name's Roosevelt." I said, "You any kin to Franklin D. Roosevelt?" He said, "I *is* Franklin D. Roosevelt."

[laughter] I is Verlyn Moore. When you have a name like Verlyn, you know, you ought to be proud of it; but I've been called Vermin and Virgin and [laughter] [inaudible] and everything else. I feel like I'm an old hound dog with a fancy name. In fact, I had an old hound dog [inaudible] entered himself in a dog show recently. One of the requirements was each dog had to get up and give his name and spell it. Well, a little French poodle got up and said, "My name is Fifi, spelled F-I-F-I." The little Pomeranian came up and said, "My name is Gigi, spelled G-I-G-I." Old hound dog got up and said, "My name is Fido, spelled P-H-Y-D-E-A-U-X." [laughter]

As Jimmy [Mackay] says, we're celebrating, really, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Georgia, and he made a good talk yesterday at the Breakfast Club, which he talked about the Bar here in Decatur/DeKalb County, going back to 1947. Well, I antedate him some many years. I started practicing law in this area in 1934. I came up on the elevator a few minutes ago with about ten lawyers. Back in that day, that'd be the whole Bar Association that came up then. But this was a great Bar and always has been. I remember when I started practicing law and then, I believe, Jim Davis was the judge; and Guess was a City Court judge; and Gus Roan, I believe, was a judge of the Municipal Court of Atlanta, DeKalb Section—you know, there was the Atlanta Section and the DeKalb Section; Roy Leathers was the Solicitor General. Judge Morgan was the Ordinary—he had the prettiest little girl you ever saw doing his work, named Katherine [spelling?] Edelman. She became Katherine Mann, for a long time the Ordinary here. "Uncle Ben" Burgess was the clerk, must have been clerk ten, fifteen, twenty years. His assistant was "Little Ben"—which wasn't his son, it was his nephew, I believe. His son was Hugh Burgess, who was practicing law. Scott Candler, of course, was acknowledged political power out here. He was the mayor of Decatur and also longtime County Commissioner. Andy Robertson, I believe, was the mayor for a while, and that made up basically the political structure out here in DeKalb County; and it was a great county, and we're indebted to them for what they contributed.

Lawyers out here, back in 1947, Jimmy Mackay, he was secretary of the Bar Association. I think they had about forty, forty-five lawyers. Jimmy said they owed fifteen dollars, and they couldn't have any lunches like this. I see you've got \$3000 in the treasury, which is great, but I'm with the Fulton Bank, so we put on an all-day estate planning council out here for the whole Bar Association. They were all hungry, and they all showed up. I've got a letter here which listed about every lawyer that was in Decatur here at that time. I remember Hugh Burgess and Murphey Candler and Scott Candler. Whenever the big firms would come out here, one would get on one side and one get on the other. Hugh Burgess got mad because he didn't want to be associated, representing the power company; he wanted to be the lead lawyer, and he insisted on it, and he was. We had, of course, John Wesley Weeks [Weekes?], the McCurdys—I mean, Richard Bell was just a kid back in those days [inaudible]. Over in the record room you had fellows like Jim Huff and Roger Bell and B. O. [spelling—Kopf? Koff? Coff? Cobb?] and the other Kopf boys and finally—I mean, Bill Zachary, and that's about the Bar Association that we had here. And it was a great Bar, and now you've got some three or four hundred lawyers here in Decatur. I looked at the lawyers who'd made it to the Supreme Court in 1846—it wasn't but 231 lawyers in the whole state of Georgia at that time, which I'm going to talk about in a few minutes.

I thought I'd talk a little while today about the bench and the Bar in Georgia. And I guess we go back about 206 years, because we started in 1777. And from 1777 until we founded our Supreme Court in 1846, the lawyers and the bench, as we knew it then, really was vested in the judges of the Superior Court. [Inaudible] somebody asked me at the law school the other day, "I'm trying to find a decision by the Supreme Court dated in 1825. I want to look up something." Well, there wasn't any Supreme Court in 1825. In fact, we didn't have any Supreme Court until about 1846. So what was the judicial system like between 1777 and 1845, 1846? Well, we developed through judicial circuits. A lot of people think Georgia came into full bloom at the end of the Revolutionary War. But as a matter of fact, we only had a very narrow strip around Savannah and Brunswick and up to Augusta and then on up to the Broad

River valley. We divided Georgia at that time into eight basic counties, and the first circuit in Georgia was the Eastern Circuit. And counties like Camden and Effingham, Chatham and Liberty and Richmond, and then we had the county which encompassed basically the counties of Oglethorpe, Elbert, Lincoln, and Wilkes County. We named that Wilkes County. You see, just prior to the Revolutionary War, old Governor Wright down in Savannah obtained two million acres of land from the Indians just north of the Little River, and he got that in a bankruptcy proceeding, really. The Englishmen dealt and traded with the Indians, and they were swapping whiskey and whatnot for furs, and the Indians got in debt to the Englishmen to the extent of about £57,000, which, back in 1760, amounted to a whole lot of money, so the Indians swapped two million acres of land north of Little River to settle that debt. That's when people moved in to what they called "the hornet's nest," the Broad River valley. Most of the Revolutionary War, you'll recall, after the battle of Savannah, was fought up in the hornet's nest. We tried to take Savannah from the British, back in 1778, and failed to do it; and thereafter people like Elijah Clarke and John Dewey and Nancy Hart and Hank Hart and others fought guerilla-type warfare there. As we got our independence, people began to move into these Indian cessions; and immediately we developed our judicial system, because as soon as you created a county or group of counties, you had to create a judicial circuit. And as you developed the Indian cessions in this state, moving from the first cessions on west to the Alabama line, you'll see that we developed our various judicial circuits at that time. Wilkes County—the northern part of it up there—was known as the Northern Circuit, and as we moved on west, we had the Western Circuit and the Southern Circuit. We have now, I guess, about forty-four different circuits in Georgia. At about 1845, when the Indians had ceded all of their land, we had basically thirty-one counties. Those thirty-one counties have now been expanded into 159 counties. And you can find or trace the history of DeKalb County here as it jumped from the Flint [?] Circuit to the Coweta Circuit to the Atlanta Circuit back to the Stone Mountain Circuit. As new counties came in, they were divided up into judicial circuits and superior courts.

Well, prior to 1845, when we had the Supreme Court, the most powerful judges or people in Georgia were the Superior Court judges. And the Superior Court judges are still the most powerful—or certainly one of the most powerful—officials in our political system. A Superior Court judge has power over your life and your property and freedom and liberty and everything else. And the Superior Court judge was something that was really treasured. If you look back into the history of Georgia, you'll find that a number of our senators—United States senators from Georgia—resigned their position in order to go back and take a position as judge of the Superior Court. For example, William H. Crawford was one of the most eminent lawyers as well as public and political figures in Georgia history. He practiced law down in Wilkes County. Crawford was a United States senator, he was an ambassador to France, he was a Secretary of the Treasury—the last time we balanced the budget, when he was handling that particular chore. He was a great big fellow, six-feet-four. Napoleon, when he was ambassador to France, said he was the only man that he ever felt like bowing down to. Crawford almost became President of the United States at the time when John Quincy Adams was elected. If it hadn't been for the fact that he suffered a crippling stroke just before it, he probably would have been the President of the United States. But he retired from that position, came back, and ended his career as judge of the Superior Court over in the Northern Circuit of Georgia. Crawford County is named for him, and Crawfordville is named for him. William Dawson, United States senator from Greensboro—back in those days, Greene County had one of the greatest Bars in the state, and that's because people began to move from the east over to the west—the lawyers followed where the business is. That's why there's so many people in Decatur and Atlanta now—that's where the business is. But Greene County had Peter Early, who became governor of Georgia; and William Dawson; and Thomas Willis Cobb, that Cobb county is named for over here—all of them were outstanding lawyers. Dawson became a congressman from Georgia; he was a very eminent person. Resigned and went back to Greensboro in order to become judge of the Superior Court. Dawson County is named for him and Dawsonville and Dawson,

Georgia, all named for Dawson. Of course, George Walton, who signed the Declaration of Independence, was a lawyer. The other two, Gwinnett was a businessman, and Hall was a doctor; but Walton served as chief judge of the Supreme Court they had back in those days, and he became a judge of the Superior Court in the Middle District of Georgia.

So Superior Court judges were powerful people, and you sought those positions, and you had to remember you didn't have any appellate procedure at all. I suppose that the hardest problem that they had in the legislature back in those days was the effort to pass an act that would create an appellate court. This came up before the legislature time after time and was turned down. But finally it succeeded in about 1845; session of court started in 1846.

What kind of library did these lawyers have back in those days? Well, obviously they didn't have any decisions of the appellate courts to rely upon; but they had the United States Constitution and the state Constitution, and they had the laws passed each time by the legislature. Ben Camp gave me a copy of the laws of Georgia of 1817-1818 [*The title of a publication?*]; and when you thumb through the laws of Georgia at that time, you can see that they were concerned with property matters and Indian rights and political matters, slavery, land cases, wills—still somewhat of the same bread-and-butter type of actions that we have today. But the lawyers were concerned with those kinds of things. That basically was the law that they had to deal with in those days.

Prior to the Civil War we had some real outstanding lawyers who got very high in the national government. After the Civil War most of our lawyers or our politicians, they were out of favor, particularly with the Union states that controlled the government; so we didn't have people who got high in the Cabinet and positions in the federal government. After the war we had seniority, people like Dick Russell and Senator George and Vincent and Crisp. They stayed up there, and they became powerful people from the standpoint of the Legislative Branch of the government. But prior to the Civil

War we had some outstanding lawyers in Georgia who were high in the political Executive Branch of the government. As I say, William H. Crawford was Secretary of the Treasury, he was an ambassador to France, he almost became President of the United States. John Forsyth was probably one of the outstanding Georgians of his time. He was governor, he was a United States senator, he became the ambassador to Spain. He's the fellow that bought Florida from Spain. Forsyth, Georgia, and Forsyth County all named for him.

Berrien—John MacPherson Berrien—was known as the “Cicero of North America.” He was in the Senate; he was a great lawyer and a great orator. He became the Attorney General of the United States under Andrew Jackson. Right interesting, back in those days, MacPherson [Berrien] and John C. Calhoun were on the Cabinet of Andrew Jackson; and they got into a squabble, a disagreement about a Cabinet member named Eaton, who had married a Peggy O’Neal. You’ve probably heard that song, “Peggy O’Neal is a girl who can steal your heart anywhere any time.” Peggy O’Neal was a barmaid, and Mrs. Calhoun and Mrs. Berrien felt that it was beneath their social status to associate with a barmaid, and so it broke up the Cabinet. They resigned from the Cabinet, and Berrien came on back to Georgia—he was Superior Court judge, too. John C. Calhoun probably would have been President of the United States instead of Van Buren, who was a bachelor, didn’t care, and stayed on the Cabinet. [laughter] [Inaudible] presidents are really made. Forsyth and Berrien engaged in a three-day argument down in Milledgeville, Georgia, over the proposition of nullification and secession. That was one of the great problems that you had back in those days.

Charlie Tait’s an interesting person over in the Broad River valley. You see—I don’t know if anybody’s from Alabama here or not—but the first two governors of Alabama lived in the same house in Georgia. See, Alabama and Mississippi used to be part of Bourbon County, Georgia. We never possessed it, but we did own it. We swapped it to the United States in return for them getting the



Indians out of northwest Georgia. Over in Petersburg, Georgia, which was the capital of the Broad River valley—and that’s where people came across the Savannah River and took up land. Petersburg was the third-biggest city in Georgia at that particular time, but William Bibb was a United States Senator from Georgia, and his neighbor was Charlie Tait—spelled T-A-I-T. Charlie Tait had a wooden leg. There’s a famous story about Tait and John Dooly getting into a duel. Back in those days if lawyers lost or got into a dispute in the courthouse, they could go out and have a duel. It’d be right tough on some people today if they had to fight a duel every time they lost a case [laughter]. But John Dooly was one of the great wits of the Bar. John Dooly didn’t want to fight the duel, and so he got out to the field of honor, and Tait had a wooden leg, and he said, “Now, look this is not fair for me to fight you. You’ve got a wooden leg, and I’ve got a real leg.” He said, “I won’t fight you till you go out and get a [unclear—*beeswag*?]”—that’s a hollow log, you know—“that I can put one of my legs in.” Well, Tait hobbled around and tried to find it and never did, so they finally called the duel off. [laughter]

William Wyatt Bibb was a United States Senator, went over and became the governor or the commissioner of the Alabama Territory. When Alabama was made a state in 1819, Bibb was elected first governor. He fell off a horse and broke his neck, and his brother Thomas succeeded him. Though, if you want to confound your Alabama friends, you tell them that the first two governors of Alabama lived in the same town in Georgia. But Charlie Tait went over there; he became the first federal judge in Alabama, and he later became a famous botanist. He discovered some sort of deposit down in Claiborne, Alabama. And Tait was an early judge of Alabama.

The Supreme Court in Georgia didn’t come about until 1845, 1846. You ought to look at the *Martindale-Hubbell* of its time. I just cut this out of *1 Georgia*. Very few people have ever looked at the *1 Georgia Report*, which were the first decisions ever made by the Supreme Court. But in the front part of the book, *1 Georgia*, you’ll see that the Supreme Court is set at Milledgeville, which was the capital;

but they went around to the circuits, and at this time we had about thirteen circuits. The first time that they sat was in Carlton, Georgia, Talbot County; and whenever they would sit there, everybody in the circuit would come in and be admitted to the Bar. They moved around in 1846 to fourteen different locations, and the lawyers who were admitted to the Bar were set out in full in the *1 Georgia*. I counted them, and there's about 212 lawyers that were admitted to the Supreme Court at that time. Some very famous lawyers that you see on this list. Looking at Talbotton, Georgia, the first man on there's Alfred Iverson. Iverson was from Columbus, Georgia. He became a United States Senator, you recall. His son was General Alfred Iverson, who captured Stoneman and his cavalry right down here below Decatur later on. Next when they sat in Macon, Georgia, at the February term court; then they met up at Cassville. Cassville was then the county seat of Cass County, which is now Bartow County, named for Francis Bartow; and Cartersville is the county seat.

The first case ever tried before the Supreme Court was tried by Warren Aiken. Some of y'all know Warren Aiken III or IV, but this is great-great grandfather. And the first case involved a matter of pleading and practice. I guess we still have those coming before the Supreme Court now. Warren Aiken was admitted to the Bar at that particular time in Cassville. In Milledgeville, Georgia, at the May term, Iverson L. Harris is one of the lawyers admitted. He became a Supreme Court judge later on. Herschel Vespasian Johnson, as you recall, Herschel Johnson, who was from Milledgeville, became United States Senator and also governor of Georgia. He was a vice presidential candidate when Douglas ran for the nomination against Lincoln. They named Johnson County for him. And Herschel Walker's from Johnson County, so I guess he got his name from Herschel Johnson, the old governor. Andrew J. Miller was admitted at that time; Miller County is named for him. Then Americus, Georgia, the next time; then we get to Decatur. The Supreme Court met here in Decatur in August term of 1846. The first man on the list, which would indicate who were some of the lawyers in Decatur at that time, is James M. Calhoun. James Calhoun was a Decatur lawyer, but he moved over into Atlanta and became the wartime mayor of

Atlanta, James Calhoun who had to surrender the city to the Union armies after they had evacuated. Charles J. McDonald is listed here as a lawyer; he was from Marietta. He later became a governor of the state. Leonard C. Simpson was admitted at that time; he was from Decatur. He moved into Atlanta; he was the first lawyer in Atlanta. Simpson Street is named for him. William Izzard is another lawyer who became a Superior Court judge, and John Collier. John Collier was a senator who carved out Fulton County. And it's only John Collier and God who know who Fulton County was named for. [laughter] Some say it was Robert Fulton, but he never lived down here. He created a steamboat. Some say it was Hamilton Fulton, who was a surveyor down here. But only John Collier knows that. Jared Whitaker, who was mayor of Atlanta, and Orville Bull and Obadiah Warner—both of them became judges of the Superior Court of DeKalb County, or the circuit that covered DeKalb County. Charles Murphey, who was a famous lawyer here in Decatur. Then in Gainesville, in September term, you got people like Howell Cobb and Thomas R. R. Cobb were admitted to the Bar. Howell Cobb and his brother, Thomas R. R. Cobb, were Athens lawyers. Howell Cobb was a general in the Confederate Army. He also was Secretary of the Interior under Buchanan. He almost became a President of the United States, or a nominee. His brother, Thomas R. R. Cobb, was the first lawyer in the whole United States that ever codified common law. And if you have in your library *Cobb's Digest*, Thomas R. R. Cobb, a brilliant lawyer who took the common law and all the statutes and decisions of the Supreme Court at that time and put them down in a digest form. Thomas Cobb's career was cut short. He became a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, got killed defending Marye's Heights in the battle of Fredericksburg. But he and his brother were right famous lawyers of that time. Thomas Cobb really started a dynasty in Georgia. Joseph Henry Lumpkin, who was the first chief judge of the Supreme Court, had a daughter named Marion; she married Thomas R. R. Cobb. They had five daughters; one of them was Lucy. Lucy was two years old and died, and Thomas Cobb was very interested in women's education and founded Lucy Cobb Institute over at the University of Georgia in Athens. One of his daughters, named Callendar, Callendar married

Philip Weltner. His son, of course, is Charlie Weltner, who is now a Supreme Court judge. The Cobbs have contributed a great deal to jurisprudence here in Georgia.

In Milledgeville, you've got two very famous names among the Bar that were admitted to the Supreme Court: Robert Toombs and Alexander H. Stephens. Toombs was from Washington, Georgia, and Alexander Stephens was from Crawfordville. You remember that Robert Toombs was the man that said that we could whip the Yankees with cornstalks. And after we lost to the Yankees, somebody said, "Mr. Cobb [sic], you said we could whip the Yankees with cornstalks." He said, "Well, we could, but they didn't fight with cornstalks." [laughter] Toombs County and Stephens County are both named for them.

DeKalb County has a right interesting career, coming into the state and the judicial circuits. January 8, 1821, you recall that the Indians ceded all of their land south of their village of Standing Peachtree. Standing Peachtree was right there where Peachtree Creek runs into the Chattahoochee River. And they ceded the land all the way down around Codele, Georgia, between the Flint River and the Ocmulgee River. And they divided that basically into five counties. The five basic counties were Henry County, Fayette County and Monroe County and Dooly County and Houston County. Those counties have been split up since that time into about twenty-five or thirty different counties, and DeKalb County is one of those. At the time that these counties came into the state, they immediately founded the Flint Judicial Circuit. The first judge of the Flint Judicial Circuit, which included DeKalb County, which was created on December 23, 1822 [sic—means 1822?], was Augustine S. Clayton. Now Clayton was quite a, not only a great judge, but he became Congressman Clayton. Clayton County's named for him, [and] Clayton, Georgia, up here. DeKalb County was created in December 23—in '32—and Eli Shorter was the first judge. Charles J. McDonald succeeded him as a judge of the Superior Court. From 1823 to 1869, DeKalb County was in the Coweta Circuit, and you had judges like Howard Warner, who was one of the first judges of the Supreme Court. You had Orville Bull and Obadiah Warner, you

had Johnny Collier—all served as Judges of the Superior Court of the Coweta Circuit. It was changed to the Atlanta Circuit from 1869 to 1893, and in there was Fulton, DeKalb, and Clayton County. In 1885-1887, they changed the name to Stone Mountain Circuit, and DeKalb, Clayton, and Douglas County became the counties in that. The solicitor was John S. Candler. Judge John S. Candler later became not only a Congressman but also he was a judge of the Supreme Court.

Just looking back into the history of DeKalb County, it's very obvious that the lawyers have played a great part in the political history of this county. When this became a separate Congressional district, Jim Mackay over here was the first elected Congressman from this circuit. He was succeeded by Ben Blackburn, and he was succeeded by Elliott Levitas; all three of them were basically lawyers. But from 1836 on down to the present time, we had ten Congressmen from this area—that is, Fulton and DeKalb County and whatever little counties we had. Decatur had six of those people who were Congressmen, and all of them were lawyers except one. Now, the first Congressman that ever came from DeKalb County, 1835 to 1839, was a fellow named Jesse Franklin Cleveland. Gus Cleveland is one of his associates; I don't know exactly whether he's a descendant or not. But anybody named Cleveland is kin to Jesse Cleveland, because all of them came from the same person. Jesse Cleveland was a merchant. He was a businessman; he came over here from Charleston, South Carolina. He was elected to the State Senate and was the first Congressman who served about four years. Went on back to Charleston; he's buried over there in Charleston, South Carolina. From '75 to '79 Milton Candler was the Congressman from this district. That's a great family. Milton was the father of Scott Candler, Scott Junior, and Milton Candler had a nephew named Ezekiel Candler, who moved over to Mississippi and was Congressman there. He also was kin to Alan D. Candler, who was the one-armed plowboy from Gainesville, Georgia, who became governor of Georgia. You all remember Alan Candler, who created the Georgia Historical Society and brought all the records over here from England during his time. Lot of us remember Will Schley Howard. Will Schley Howard was a Congressman from 1911 to 1919. Branch

& Howard was one of the great firms here in [the] Atlanta area. And from '27 to '29 Leslie Steele, who was an attorney, represented this district; and he was followed by Bob Ramspeck. Robert Ramspeck was a Congressman from '29 on up to '45, when he resigned to become a vice president of Eastern Airlines. It was then when we had one of the great cases in history over political maneuvering. When Bob Ramspeck retired as a Congressman, he had a Democratic committee. And it's the authority of the Democratic committee to set up the rules for the election. He always ran under the general election on the popular vote, because he was a very popular fellow everywhere, and Fulton County and DeKalb County and Rockdale was in his district. And he got the popular vote. When he resigned, old Helen Douglas Mankin—you know Ham Douglas's sister, she was one of the early women lawyers in this state and a fine lawyer. You know, somebody just wrote a book about her recently. Bessie Kempton was probably the first [woman] lawyer in this area. But Helen Douglas Mankin was in the legislature; she ran for Congress and was elected. In the meantime, when she came up for reelection, the Congressional committee changed the rules from the popular election to the County Unit System. And so then was when Judge Davis—Jim Davis--resigned, ran for Congress, got elected on the County Unit System, which triggered off, basically, one of the great contests which we carried to the Democratic Committee and on to Congress; and she lost.

But this has been a great county. This has been a great Bar Association, and the lawyers have been the ones who contribute. I've about run out of my time. I have a lot of my students here in the audience today. Tony Zezima [spelling?] over there [points] just graduated from my school. One time I was teaching a class; apparently most of the students had been out on a all-night party, nobody'd studied. And I called on one student to recite, and he says, "I don't know." I called on another one, and he says, "I'm not prepared." Called on a third, and he says, "I haven't studied." Called on a fourth—called on Tony then—he says, "I don't believe I can add anything to what's already been said."

[laughter] [applause]

END OF MR. MOORE'S PRESENTATION