

- K: What do you think his greatest vote-getting asset was?
Was it the fact that he could say hello to somebody on the street after two years?
- P: I think it was. The greatest vote-getting asset was the fact that he remembered people, and was able to shake hands with them. He made the people believe he was glad to see them and I think he actually was, because he always would take up time with them a little bit.
- K: So that would make them feel that he knew them...
- P: Yes.
- K: ...and he knew their problems....
- P: Yes.
- K: ...and was considerate of them?
- P: I think that is because he was a master mixer and they tell all kinds of stories about him. They told about me, too, and some of the ones they used to tell on me they told on him twenty years earlier.
- K: Sir, do you have any idea why in the early years of this century there were so many influential political figures coming out of this area, coming out of Lakeland? Mr. Trammell and Mr. Drane and people like this?
- P: I don't know. I studied on that a while back, because it's been remarkable somewhat because, we have produced Trammell, Spessard Holland, now Lawton Chiles, and we...Herbert Drane, the man who I succeeded, was in Congress several years. And then I was in Congress, and while this is not generally known, but Frank Clark, whom Lex Green defeated, practiced law at Bartow and was city attorney and was buried at Bartow. And so they had three congressmen and three senators.
- K: A remarkable record.
- P: But I think it was a reasonably large county, it was a respected county, law enforcement, and there wasn't any scandals down here, and I think it was midway between the real big counties and the little counties, and the people kind of respected the county and the persons that come from it started off with a good endorsement.