

November 16, 1959

Mr. Allen Morris
Cracker Politics
Capitol News Room
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Allen:

I carried your letter with me for several days, intending to take time out while in some hotel room or other place of leisure to answer as it deserved--and now it is gone. Therefore I shall have to ad lib.

For about a year after the campaign I declined all invitations to speak other than in the Church (filling in for preachers, Sunday School classes, Brotherhood Meetings, etc.) for two reasons: 1. I wanted rest from politics; 2. I wanted to rebuild my law practice and devote time to my family.

After that I began accepting invitations to speak to state conventions only, but then as people read of my speaking they began inviting me to all types of occasions, and of course to a great many of the people who made the requests I owed a substantial debt of gratitude which made it impossible for me to flatly refuse. When I would tell them that some legal matter kept me from accepting a particular engagement they would offer to change the date of the engagement to suit me--and that was that.

During that time, also, I served as chairman of the State Fund Drive of the Florida Association for Mental Health, and that put me back on the road to a degree. We had a very successful drive, doubling the receipts of the previous year--and I learned a lot about the problems of mental illness.

we had a wonderful family vacation in the summer of 1957, too, the first in many years. Cecilia, our 10 year old daughter, was at camp, but we had her return early and we all took an apartment in a motel on Miami Beach--without letting anyone know where we were. Then Julia and I went to New York twice, seeing "My Fair Lady", ~~My Fair Lady~~ "Major Barbara", "Auntie Mame", "Lil' Abner", "La Tosca, with Dorothy Kirsten, and "The Swan" by the New York City Ballet.

The speaking I have done to conventions and civic groups has been on subjects that varied according to the occasion. Whenever I have spoken on governmental subjects they could be broadly entitled "Financing Florida's Future", "The Role of the State", "Justice in the Social Order", "The Florida Dilemma" (Reapportionment), "The Rights of a Minority", etc. Unfortunately I never write speeches, so there are no copies.

As a National Council Member of Boy Scouts I have spoken several times to Scout groups, kicking off fund drives, addressing annual meetings of executive councils of various councils in Florida, etc.

My personal correspondence has become voluminous, running 25 letters, more or less, a day, largely from and with friends who want to know what I plan, or who are conveying their own thoughts and information. These letters, a half dozen long distance calls a day, and my personal contacts as I attend meetings around the state or talk with people who take time to say hello on their way through Ocala, keep me extremely well posted. As potential candidates for governor swing around the state, scounding out possible supporters, I can pretty well follow them just by my long distance calls and letters from friends they have contacted.

My law office is still over The Munroe & Chambliss National Bank, across from the Courthouse--and John Marshall Green and I are still law partners (we grew up together here in Ocala). We have an associate (U of F graduate) and engage in general civil practice (no criminal). We still follow ~~the~~ rule of not representing any person or corporation before state agencies unless their business situs is Marion County or unless we are their attorneys in general business matters.

