

5 minute speech written by J. Reynolds

Ladies and gentlemen my name is Bill Moore. I live in Graceville, Florida and I come to you today to speak on behalf of Farris Bryant's candidacy for the governorship of the state of Florida.

I first knew of Farris Bryant _____ years ago through his work in the Methodist Church where he was teacher of the Men's Bible Class in Ocala, a District Lay Leader, a Member of the Board of Education of the Florida Conference and a member of the Official Board of his local church and Trustee of the Florida Conference of the Methodist Church.

After that I became interested in Farris Bryant and watched his record in the legislature the past five terms, the whole five terms having been served without opposition from anyone in his home county. He was sent to the legislature without opposition for five straight terms. I understand that is a record unequalled by anyone ever having served in the state legislature.

Ever since Farris Bryant first went to Tallahassee to serve in the legislature he has been an outstanding leader. In each of the five sessions in which he has served he has been named one of the most valuable members of the House of Representatives. In 1955 he was named the most valuable member of the legislature. He started out in 1947 by being named "The first-termer with the most promise." He certainly lived up to that distinction.

Farris Bryant was honored by the Florida State Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the five outstanding young men in Florida in 1948 and 1950, the only man so honored twice. He received his award by being a truly outstanding leader of our state.

He was a leader in his own hometown, president of his Rotary

Club, Exalted Ruler of the Elks, President of the Marion County Chamber of Commerce. His life has been one of leadership.

Farris Bryant comes to you offering himself for this high position very well prepared for that job. He was born and raised in Ocala and he knows the problems of the small counties as well as the large ones.

One of the principal issues of this governor's race in 1956 is the issue of segregation. Farris Bryant is the only man in the race with a constructive plan for preserving segregation in Florida. Farris Bryant believes in segregation. He believes that the maintenance of segregation will insure the continued growth of each race. His plan for segregation is based on three points, the last of which calls for the joining with the governors of all other southern states with similar views for the purpose of working out a program to meet the threat of federal intervention without force or violence.

No other candidate has come before you and offered you a plan for the maintenance of segregation. You have heard loud shouts, loud voices speaking out, saying that they were against the mixing of white and colored in the schools but none of them have offered you any plan for the maintenance of segregation. Farris Bryant offers you that plan and Farris Bryant is the man who can carry that plan out.

Farris Bryant has long been a leader in the field of Education. He has supported teachers' pay raises, increased facilities, and was a leader in the House of Representatives in the passage of the Minimum Foundation Program which has been such a great aid to the public schools of this state. I ask you to consider Farris Bryant for this high office and for good clean, honest government you be for Farris Bryant governor for all Florida and for all the people. On May 8 be for Bryant and Bryant will be for you. I thank you.