The Honorable John Dingell, Jr., of Michigan

Diverse Responsibilities

Description of the various duties of a Page. *Interview recorded February 3, 2012*

I was a documentarian for a while. I handled the doors. They had Pages on the doors. I had the responsibility of, as I say, taking people on tours of the Capitol, if a Member had that. I had the responsibility of running errands from the bench when I started. That was usually where you started. Sometimes I worked in the cloakroom, which was where you handled the telephones. That was a pretty responsible undertaking. I did just about everything that the Pages did. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn what happens in the Congress, and about the Members, and watch the Members, and see how the smart ones conducted themselves. And I remember a lot of the Pages would stand at the railing to watch to see what was going on in the debates, and try to understand what all happened.