

The Honorable John Dingell, Jr., of Michigan

Life of a Page

Reflection of “enriching” experiences as a House Page
Interview recorded February 3, 2012

We worked at night sessions, of which they had a fair number in those days. And we would serve as tour guides for the Members who, if they had a guest, they wanted to see what was going on. There were Pages in the House, or Pages in the Senate, and there were a few Pages in the Supreme Court and there were great rivalries amongst them. We had baseball teams, and it was *de rigueur* that you, if you were a House Page, you played baseball or football with the Senate, you won, or you had, or you had trouble with your colleagues. I served with a great bunch of them. They, we hunted together, and fished with Chief McCabe out at his place, which is where Dulles Airport is now. We also had the, the privilege of, of learning the history and seeing what all went into the building of the Capitol, and the, and the history of the buildings.

We saw some rather great things. The President declared war after the, the day after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. We saw, saw Winston Churchill on the 26th of December, 1941, when he came to address the Congress. And we saw the Presidents give State, State of the Union messages, and, not infrequently, to address the Capitol or the House on other matters. It was a very enriching experience.