

Myles Garrigan

Patronage in the House

Memories of New Jersey Representatives William Sutphin and James C. Auchincloss, and of the role patronage played in the Page program.

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I don't remember too much about him, actually. We had very little contact. I think the two years that I was a Page- well, he- well, he was defeated. I came in '41. In the '42 election, he was out. A man by the name of James C. Auchincloss- a Republican- took his spot in Congress, from the Third Congressional District of New Jersey. He was from Rumson, New Jersey. He was the Mayor of Rumson, at one time. So here, I figure I'm going, I'm going back home shortly. But Ralph Roberts was the Doorkeeper then. And I chatted with him. He said, "Myles, just stay where you are. Do your thing." So I stayed on for a whole year later. Nobody said, "Myles, your Congressman is no longer here. You go with him. You weren't elected." {laughter} So I stayed. I became closer friends, actually, with Auchincloss, than I was with my patron Congressman.