

## Bill Goodwin

### Arriving at the Capitol

Memories of arriving at the Capitol for Page service in 1953.

*Interview recorded November 2, 2009*

**GOODWIN:** So then I arrived at Union Station here in D.C. the next morning. I suppose it was close to eight o'clock or something like that, because that was the timing. I just walked from Union Station all the way up to the Old House Office Building. I remember Mr. Dondero's address was 1414 House Office Building. In those days, the House office buildings were named just two buildings: the Old House Office Building and the New House Office. And I went to his office. His staff was very kind and generous to me, and introduced me to Mr. Dondero. And Mr. Dondero then took me over to the Capitol Building. I left my raggedy-old suitcase in there, in a corner of his office and went over to the Capitol Building. He introduced me to [Oliver Furlong], a page boy who had been there some time. He knew Oliver quite well, and Oliver showed me a little bit around the ropes there. And then Mr. Dondero took me to a lunch at the Member's private dining room. He wanted to treat me to that, and pointed out to me the famous bean soup they have at the Member's dining room. Do they still have it?

**JOHNSON:** Yes, they do.

**GOODWIN:** Okay. And he showed me on the back of the menu how the story of Speaker Cannon raised hob about the bean soup not being there on one hot summer day, so they've had it there ever since. Well he, Mr. Dondero told me about that and treated me to a lunch there in the Member's private dining room. And then back up to the Doorkeeper's office to get me introduced to the, to the Doorkeeper