

I THINK I HAVE REPRESENTED THEM  
VERY WELL. HAVING BEEN RAISED IN  
THE *neighborhood*, HAVING BEEN  
EDUCATED IN THE *neighborhood*, AND  
NEVER LEAVING THE *neighborhood*  
ALLOWED ME TO BE ABLE TO  
*give back to people.*

– The Honorable Mike Horsey,  
1995-2004

PENNSYLVANIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**ARCHIVES**

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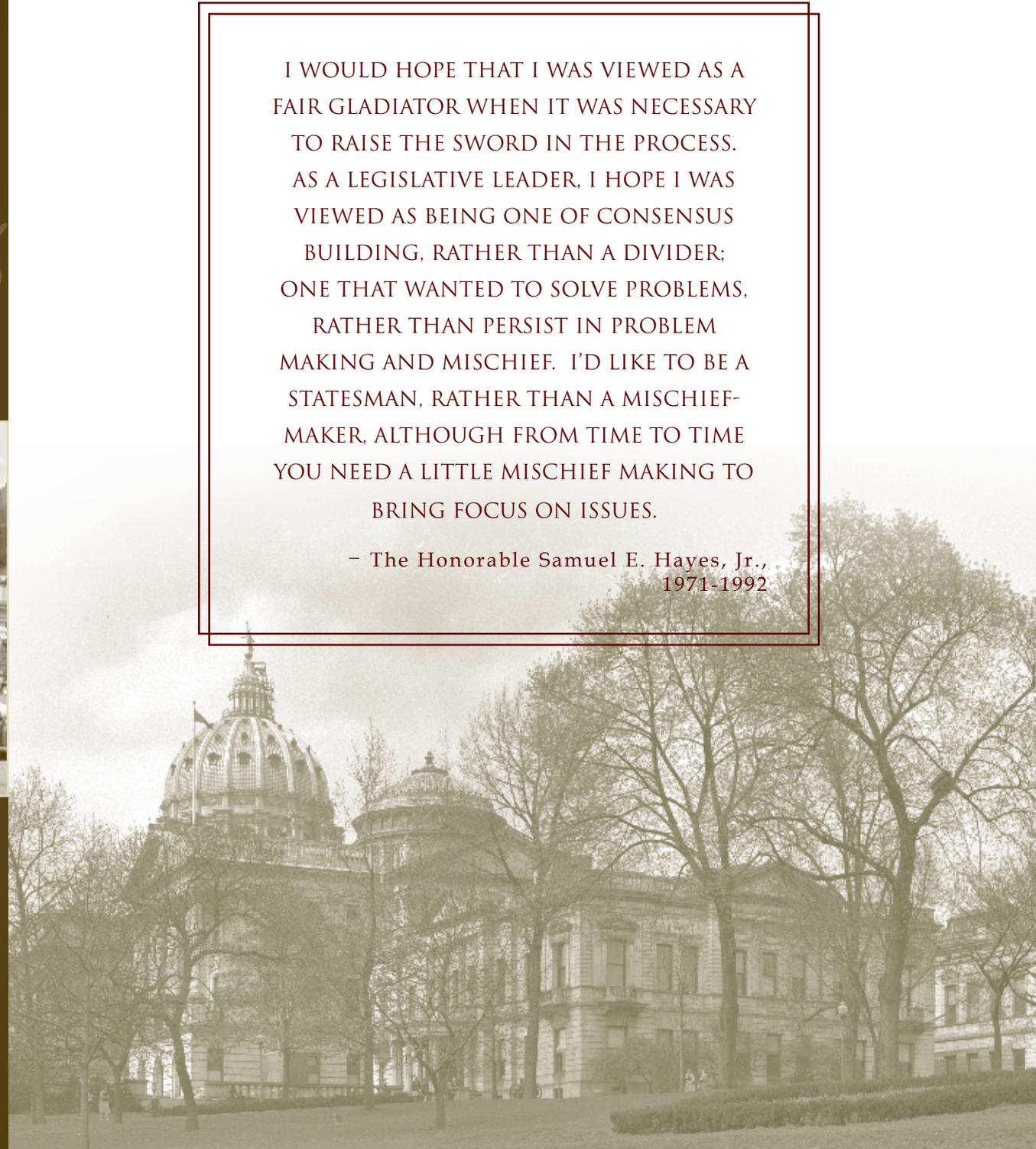
THE PENNSYLVANIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Archives*



I WOULD HOPE THAT I WAS VIEWED AS A  
FAIR GLADIATOR WHEN IT WAS NECESSARY  
TO RAISE THE SWORD IN THE PROCESS.  
AS A LEGISLATIVE LEADER, I HOPE I WAS  
VIEWED AS BEING ONE OF CONSENSUS  
BUILDING, RATHER THAN A DIVIDER;  
ONE THAT WANTED TO SOLVE PROBLEMS,  
RATHER THAN PERSIST IN PROBLEM  
MAKING AND MISCHIEF. I'D LIKE TO BE A  
STATESMAN, RATHER THAN A MISCHIEF-  
MAKER, ALTHOUGH FROM TIME TO TIME  
YOU NEED A LITTLE MISCHIEF MAKING TO  
BRING FOCUS ON ISSUES.

– The Honorable Samuel E. Hayes, Jr.,  
1971-1992



# Preserving our Legislative Memory

I BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE TO  
WANT TO TASTE THIS. YOU  
HAVE TO WORK HARD. YOU  
HAVE TO HAVE A THICK SKIN,  
WHICH I DO NOT, AND YOU  
HAVE TO BE DEDICATED.  
SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND  
PEOPLE SIT ON YOUR LAP IN  
THAT HOUSE FLOOR EVERY  
DAY, NOT YOU. DO WHAT  
THEY WANT YOU TO DO. BE  
THEIR VOICE. AND WORK  
YOUR BUNS OFF.

The Honorable Lita I. Cohen,  
1993-2002

Under the direction of the Office of the Chief Clerk, The Pennsylvania House of Representatives Oral History Project officially started in late 2004 with the goal of recording and capturing the social and legislative history of the House from former Members and key staff.

Many of the interviews to date contain a common thread of similarly shared experiences, such as budget battles, serving on committees, constituent services or the legislative process. The interviewees also have shared personal reflections, unique experiences and considerations that went into prime-sponsored legislation.

The actual interview follows a biographical format, beginning with the subject's family background, education and pre-House work experience. Additionally, the interview covers the topics of campaigns, inter-personal relationships, legislative career highlights and insights to Representatives' post-House careers.

The Oral Histories will become a part of the Archives permanent collections. Recorded on both audio and video, the interview is also transcribed by staff for scholarly research by historians, students and other institutions with an interest in Pennsylvania's political history.



## *Topics during your Oral History Interview...*

To complement the Oral Histories, the Archives is also beginning to collect "Social Memory Essays" from former Members who either chose not to participate in the recorded Oral Histories or who wish to add more to their first Oral History interview. In addition, the Archives is also encouraging former Members and staff to donate their personal papers from their time in the House, with a concentration on information such as legislative files, photographs, scrapbooks, campaign memorabilia, books and correspondence, which will be housed in the Archives for permanence.

Whether they are memories great or small, we are encouraging all former Members to share their experiences and record their legacy in the House of Representatives Archives.

- Career prior to the House
- Campaigns
- Your District
- The Legislative Process
- Committee Assignments
- Camaraderie
- Your Legislation
- Reflections
- Other Topics Tailored Specifically to your Interests