

1984 1985

# ROTARY SPRAY

P.O. BOX 1900 ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA 31522

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SEA PALMS - MEETS TUESDAY 1:00 P.M.

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### ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA 31522

Volume XXXIX

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President Morgan Stapleton opened the meeting promptly at 1:00 p.m. and called upon Gil Tharp to lead us in singing the first verse of "America". He then called upon Bob Crouch for the invocation.

VISITING ROTARIANS: Assistant Treasurer Tom Lowry introduced the following: Fred Beale, Darmariscotto, ME; Charles West, Marianna, AR; Grady Gardner, Brunswick, GA; Jim Martin, Old Town, ME; Matt Denertie, Rochester, MN; Lehman Hoagn, Highlands, NC; Harold Davis, Columbus, OH; and Jim Dryden, Brunswick, GA.

GUESTS OF ROTARIANS: Guests of Rotarians were: Ray Perkerson, Hingham, MS, with John Morse; Leo Johnson with Morgan Stapleton; Bob Hungarland with Jim Shaw; John Raines with Sam Franklin; Corbin Davis with Ed Williams; and Joe Isenberg with Ed Kelly.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS: Gil Tharp, Bill Strother, John Wilson, Ed Bruce, and Lloyd Hughes.

VISITATION REPORT: Ben Moore gave us a good report advising that Olin Henry was home from the hospital. Bennie Gentile was at the meeting. Lou Gabbard is still in the nursing home in Fernandina, and Ruth Kilgallen, the wife of one of our frequent speakers, is doing well.

<u>NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM</u>: Henry Kingdon's report was made for him stating that our own member, Ray Arens, would speak on taxes. Nothing could be more on our minds at this time than the subject of taxes.

PROGRAM: Lyman firestone introduced our speaker, Judge Griffin Bell of Atlanta. Judge Bell is a native of Americus, GA, and is a graduate of the Walter George School of Law at Mercer University. Upon his graduation and admittance to the Bar, he began his practice in Rome, Georgia, later moving to Savannah. He then moved on to Atlanta to join the prestigeous firm of King & Spalding. While serving as a partner, he was picked by President Kennedy to sit on the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. He served with distinction and resigned to return to his law firm, only to be selected by President Jimmy Carter to serve as his Attorney General. After serving for three years, he resigned to return to the Atlanta firm.

Judge Bell chose as his subject "Political Ethics." He told us of the many problems that beset anyone holding political office. He stated that the ethics in one area may differ from another. He stated that so many people accepting political appointments in Washington are unaware of the pitfalls ahead. First of all, Washington is not an easy spot to live and it is costly.

He pointed out that a rich man taking an appointment is subjected to the many inquiries made by the investigating authorities, and it is very upsetting to have one's finances and his personal life gone over with a fine tooth comb. Too, it is just as bad for a poor person to accept such an appointment, as his cost of living goes far beyond his income and he is subject to many charges that can be embarrassing.

He told us that in his own case he didn't buy an expensive house in Washington, but rather he rented an apartment and kept his home in Atlanta.

His talk gave us full evidence that "All that glitters is not gold." The fine job can turn out to be a mill stone to many appointees.

The trankness with which Judge Bell told of his experiences gave us a better understanding of the factors that make up a man's willingness to go to Washington.

As Judge Bell is a part-time neighbor on Sea Island, we do hope he will visit with us whenever he is on the Island.