

Senator HUMPHREY. We hope so.

The CHAIRMAN. And it is nice having your own plane, isn't it?

Senator HUMPHREY. It is unusual. [Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Heflin.

Senator HEFLIN. You mentioned you have been a lawyer for 30 years. Have you ever tried a case with or against Judge Souter, when you were a lawyer?

Governor GREGG. I have not quite been an attorney for 30 years.

Senator HEFLIN. I thought you said—

Governor GREGG. If I did, I misstated. I have been an attorney since 1973 or 1974, I have forgotten which date when I became a member of the bar, maybe it was 1972, and I have not practiced since going into politics and being elected to Congress, so I had a window of practice of about 8 years, during which time I did practice, at least in one instance that I recall, before Justice Souter.

Senator HEFLIN. You practiced before him as a judge?

Governor GREGG. Yes.

Senator HEFLIN. Not as a lawyer in a case, where you were with him or against him?

Governor GREGG. No, I never had—well, I obviously had dealings with the attorney general's office when he was attorney general, but the attorney general in New Hampshire does not try cases.

Senator HEFLIN. I believe that is all.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Senator Simon.

Senator SIMON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I had the privilege of serving briefly on a committee in the House with the Governor when he was there. Totally apart from what is pending, I understand that you anticipate the State senate is going to take a downhill turn starting next year in New Hampshire.

Governor GREGG. Well, we look at it as a tremendous expression of the acknowledgment of the value of State government, that a U.S. Senator would return to the State of New Hampshire and participate in State government. We see that as an expression of where the action is.

Senator SIMON. OK. I simply want to join in expressing our appreciation for your being here and for being so patient for so long. We appreciate it.

Governor GREGG. Thank you, Senator. I certainly enjoyed having the opportunity to serve with you on the Science Committee.

Senator SIMON. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Molly, let me say to you, honey, that if you have not had a chance to have dinner yet, dessert is on me, unless daddy is taking you straight home, because you deserve something special today for being here all this time.

Is there any closing comment you would like to make, Governor?

Governor GREGG. I appreciate your courtesy, Senator. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you for taking the time. The fact that the Governor of a State would take such a large amount of time out of his schedule to testify on behalf of a nominee for the Supreme Court testifies very well to the caliber of the man that you are tes-