

much corruption developed because legislatures could be bought out and sold that it was determined that the only way to get rid of the corruption was to have direct election of senators. Many people don't realize that under the Second Article of the constitution, when time came for the electors to select president and vice president, there was not a separate vote for each. They cast their votes and the one with the highest number of votes was president, the number with the second highest was vice president. Who knew that? And the reason they said they would do that is because the second highest person would be the second most suitable person to be president. Well, John Adams fell into that office, and he became such a nonentity and there was so little respect for it, he said words to the effect that, my countrymen, in their wisdom, contrived for me the most worthless, useless office known to human beings. He probably said man, but I'm trying to upgrade that. Well, in 1796, Adams was elected president, but because of this cockamamie system that these so called genius founders of the country put together, Thomas Jefferson, his greatest rival, was his vice president because he got the second highest number of votes. So, in 1800, Thomas Jefferson became president and Aaron Burr his vice president because they had gotten an equal number of electoral votes and it was thrown into the House. So the Federalists supported Thomas Jefferson over Aaron Burr. So Jefferson became president, Aaron Burr second in command, nobody wanted Aaron Burr to be president. Well, the Republicans feared that when the election came around, in 1804, the Federalists would juggle the electoral votes, and even though everybody knew that Jefferson would probably be president, the Federalists would do as had been done in 1796, and put a member of the opposite party, or the Federalists in as Thomas Jefferson's vice president. So what the Republicans did was to push hard for the adoption of the twelfth amendment to the constitution, and it was ratified by the states in time for the election of 1804. And Thomas Jefferson was elected president. They wanted the president and vice president to be members of the same party. And guess who was nominated and elected vice president? Clinton, but his first name was George, George Clinton. Most people are so taken by Thomas Jefferson's overwhelming persona, they don't even realize that he had a vice president. And his secretary of state was James Madison, by the way, a very short guy. Senator Abboud, he was shorter than you and me, but he had a heavy intellect, as we have. So what we lack in physical stature we made up for in intellectual power and acumen. All of these provisions in the constitution were political compromises.