

Speech - Mr. Justice William O. Douglas  
DePaul University  
Chicago, Illinois  
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A LAWYER'S EDUCATION

The Supreme Court of the United States has had fourteen Chief Justices. Our eleventh was Melville Weston Fuller of Chicago, Illinois, who was appointed by President Cleveland on April 30, 1888, and who served twenty-two years.

Cleveland's first choice had been John Scholfield of the Supreme Court of Illinois. Scholfield refused because he had a large family and thought that Washington, D. C. would be a poor place to raise children. And the talk was that his wife -- a frontier woman who went barefoot in the summertime -- would not find Washington society to her liking.

And so Fuller -- a slight, supple, and gracious man and a very efficient administrator -- came to head a Court of strong-minded, individualistic men, each of whom made an imprint on American law.

Fuller's Court is perhaps best known for its stormy decisions of the 1890s and early 1900s. U. S. v. E. C. Knight & Co., 156 U.S. 1, held that the Sugar Trust was not under the Antitrust laws, since it involved "manufacturing" not "commerce." On its heels came the Income Tax Cases, 157 U.S. 429, 158 U.S. 601, where the Court held a federal income tax unconstitutional. In re Debs, 158 U.S. 564, arose out of the famous Pullman strike. There the Court upheld a sweeping injunction against