

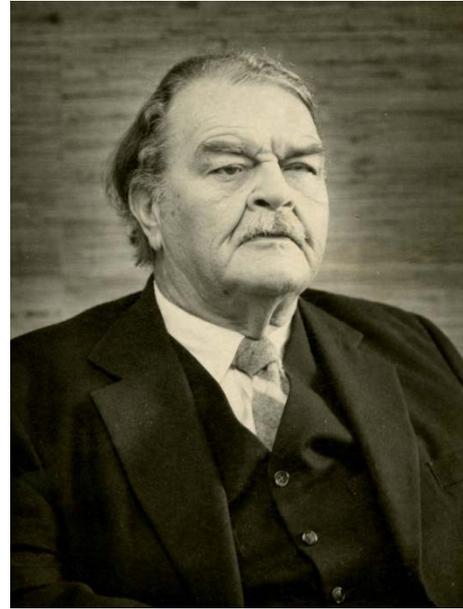
“The Philosopher,” Edward F. Prichard Jr.

A Bourbon County native, Edward F. Prichard Jr. (1915-1984) was a political progeny by many accounts, friend and advisor to many politicians throughout his life and dubbed “the philosopher” by Gov. Bert Combs.

Prichard studied at Princeton and Harvard Law School before spending time in the U.S. Supreme Court and Justice Department as well as working in the east wing of the Roosevelt White House during WWII, all before the age of 34 when he was convicted of ballot-box stuffing in his native Kentucky. Despite his own political career being cut short, Prichard continued to be a political insider, his ideas helping to shape Kentucky legislation, most notably in the Combs and Breathitt gubernatorial administrations.

Always the champion of education reform, Prichard chaired the state citizens’ committee on education, whose effort ultimately resulted in the Kentucky Education Reform Act in 1990. In 2013, the Prichard Committee for Education celebrates its 30th anniversary.

Oral history interviews with and about Edward “Prich” Prichard Jr. can be found at <http://passtheword.ky.gov>.



“Pass the Word” is a discovery tool for oral histories throughout the state of Kentucky. To learn more about this topic, visit <http://passtheword.ky.gov>.