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ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

The Honorable Secretary of State announced that the next business in order is the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives, and announced that nominations for Speaker are now in order.

Hon. A. P. Johnson of Dimmit county nominated Hon. Fred H. Minor of Denton county, and spoke as follows:

Honorable Secretary of State and members of the House:

During the infancy of his race and in the dawn of his self realization, man acknowledged no law, bowed to no authority and recognized no creed. His habitation was the cave, the open forest and the grassy plain; yet he was the most abject of all slaves—the most helpless of all creatures, buffeted by the storms of passion, mocked by the voice of superstition and led by the hand of ignorance. He was mystified by the phenomena of nature, subdued by her forces and slain by her savage life.

Yet in the nature of man there are infinite possibilities of growth and development. In these lie his chief blessedness. He is capable of rising through unending ages and generations to a higher intelligence, nobler ideals and a more perfect society of civilization.

At this stage of that development, we see dawning a new legislative day.

A new trust has been tendered by the sovereign voters in giving us what we have requested in the way of added compensation and modern methods of procedure. The call of the Legislature has been answered affirmatively by the people, and the responsibility is upon us four-fold for constructive business-like administration of State affairs. My humble prediction is that this Legislature will meet that trust in a co-operative statesmanlike way and when the final gavel falls at the end of this session that we will have shown full justification for our having been and for the increased trust and responsibility that is ours. To my mind the most potent harbinger that justifies that prediction is the apparent and timely unity of mind that is being evidenced.

Three classes of greatness have been exemplified by history. Some are born great, some have greatness thrust upon them and others achieve greatness. The American people recognize no greatness except that which has been achieved. Achievement is the watchword of our people and is the stamp of the man in whom our people put their trust as their leader.

No greater example do we have of that fact than the unusual page of Texas history that is now about to be written. That of the representatives of the greatest people of all time unanimously choosing a man as their leader. A man who has achieved success, character and honor among his own people and in his chosen profession as well as in legislative halls. A man who is great, not because of some daring act that has placed his name first in the hearts of his countrymen, nor because he has led great forces that have won victories that have changed the destinies of nations, but a man who is great because there lives within him that same spirit of love and loyalty for country that has characterized every truly great man in the world's history and because he has won our hearts by the unimpeachable evidence of ability and character of the highest type, fair, modest and sincere and imbued with the ideal of service to his fellowman.

Honorable Secretary of State, it is a pleasure, a privilege and a distinguished honor which I do not merit, that I now nominate for Speaker of the Forty-second Legislature of Texas a man whom I love—a man whom we all love, the Honorable Fred H. Minor of Denton county.

Hon. Sarah T. Hughes of Dallas county seconded the nomination of Hon. Fred H. Minor, and spoke as follows:

Madam Secretary of State:

As a new member of the House of Representatives I wish to endorse the candidacy of the Hon. Fred H. Minor for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I met Mr. Minor for the first time two years ago when he was chairman of the important Judiciary Committee. In a discussion of a proposed bill before that committee I found that Mr. Minor was quick in his perception of the main points of the bill, sane in his judgment of its merits and fair in his criticism of its demerits. A survey of his work in the Legislature during the last four years shows he has an enviable record and has always had the interest of Texas and the people of Texas uppermost in his mind.

I next met Mr. Minor in Dallas on legal business. I found that he was a capable and able lawyer and a member of a distinguished law firm of Denton.

As a citizen of Denton he has always been interested in civic affairs and in the Texas schools which are so largely a part of Denton.

The people of his county believe so strongly in Mr. Minor that when Fred Minor speaks his word is law. Just as the people of Denton say that Fred Minor's word is law so during the next two years the members of the Forty-second Legislature will also say that Fred Minor's word is law.

I deem it a distinct honor to second the nomination of the Hon. Fred H. Minor of Denton for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Hon. Dewey Young of Collingsworth county seconded the nomination of Hon. Fred H. Minor, and spoke as follows:

Madam Secretary of State, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a peculiar pleasure and privilege of mine to second the nomination of the Honorable Fred H. Minor of Denton, Texas, for the place of Speaker of the House of Representatives, Forty-second Texas Legislature.

During the four terms in which I have been a member of the House, I have had the opportunity of observing presiding officers and seeing the qualifications necessary to properly preside over the business of the

House, and since Fred Minor has been a member of the House I have observed that he is peculiarly fitted for this place. He has embedded within his heart those principles animating our forefathers, causing them to hew out of the wilderness the foundation of the great State which we at present enjoy. He comes from a lineage of Texans dating back to the early days of this State, during all of which time his forefathers, as well as himself, have been instrumental in bringing forward and causing to be maintained the great government which we enjoy at the present time.

While Denton county was yet on the frontier of the State, Fred's parents settled there, at which place Fred was born and, ever since, has continued to reside in that county. The people among whom he lived and grew up have, for three times, sent him to represent them in this body. His efforts have been untiringly in the interest of good government, which accounts for his successive return as Representative of his people.

Fred Minor is a self-made man, as he was orphaned at a very early age. Despite this adversity, which, in the average situation, is enough to discourage most people, he, by his own efforts and with money made while doing so, made his way through the public schools and finally through the law school of the University of Texas. It is the same aggressive spirit manifested during this period of his life that has qualified Fred for the place to which he is soon to be elevated, and shows that he will successfully fill the office. His experience before coming to the House of Representatives has prepared him to pass upon all questions coming before the Chair in a broad-minded, State-wide way instead of from the complexion of his own locality.

This has characterized his activity in the House during the terms which he has been a member and, it being a trait of his, there is no question but what such will guide his services as our presiding officer.

Thus, in the name of the great people of the imperial State of Texas; in the interest of a good government over that people, it affords me a happy privilege to second the nomination of a man who has shown himself worthy to be elevated to the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives, Forty-second Legislature, the Hon. Fred H. Minor of Denton, Texas.

Hon. R. M. Wagstaff of Taylor county seconded the nomination of Hon. Fred H. Minor.

Hon. R. E. Morse of Harris county seconded the nomination of Hon. Fred H. Minor and moved that nominations for Speaker of the House be now closed and that the Chief Clerk be instructed to cast the entire vote of the House for Hon. Fred H. Minor for Speaker.

The motion prevailed.

In accordance with the above action the Chief Clerk then cast the entire vote of the House for Hon. Fred H. Minor for Speaker.

The Hon. Secretary of State then declared Hon. Fred H. Minor to be the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Forty-second Legislature.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED.

The Honorable Secretary of State then appointed the following committee to escort Hon. Fred H. Minor to the Speaker's stand so that the constitutional oath of office might be administered to him:

Messrs. Beck, McCombs, Hubbard, Mathis, Jackson of El Paso, and Kayton.

The committee having performed their duty the Honorable Secretary of State then administered the constitutional oath of office to Hon. Fred H. Minor, Speaker.

Hon. Fred H. Minor then addressed the House as follows:

To be elected to the high and important office of Speaker, an office which is unquestionably the second in importance in our State government, is a distinct honor. To be the choice of this House without the shadow of a contest is doubly gratifying. I approach the task with a feeling of humility, keenly realizing the grave responsibilities assumed. If my administration as the presiding officer of this House shall be successful, it will be because I have had the loyal support and the unqualified co-operation of the membership, and may I say to you now that I earnestly and sincerely crave that co-operation.

The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but the pages of Texas history which will be read by both present and future generations will record in unmistakable terms what we do here.

I am one of those who believe that we face a new era in the history of this great Commonwealth. The opportunity is at hand for you and me to render to Texas and its six million inhabitants a signal and unselfish service. Let us, therefore, in the very beginning of this session, dedicate ourselves to the high purposes of that great task. May co-operation and team-work be our slogan.

"It ain't the guns or armament or the money they can pay;

It's the close co-operation that makes them win the day.

It ain't the individual or the army as a whole,

But the everlastin' team-work of every bloomin' soul."

Imbued with this spirit, surrounded by men and women prompted by patriotic impulses, and a desire to serve, I accept the gavel, the emblem of this high office. God being our helper, our efforts cannot fail.