JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
FIRST CALLED SESSION
OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF TEXAS

CONVENED IN OBEDIENCE TO THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
GOVERNOR MARCH 13, 1909, AND ADJOURNED
WITHOUT DAY, APRIL 11, 1909

AND OF THE
SECOND CALLED SESSION
CONVENED IN OBEDIENCE TO THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
GOVERNOR APRIL 12, 1909, AND ADJOURNED
WITHOUT DAY MAY 11, 1909

AUSTIN, TEXAS:
VON BUECHEM-JONES COMPANY, PRINTER
1909
Total number present, including the Speaker in the chair, 125.

Necessary to a quorum, 89.

The Speaker announced a quorum present.

Prayer by Hon. I. A. J. Nelson, a member of the House.

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION.

The Speaker then handed to the Clerk the proclamation of the Governor, which was read to the House, as follows:

Executive Office,
State of Texas.

J. T. M. Campbell, Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of authority vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby call a Special Session of the Thirty-first Legislature to convene in the city of Austin, Texas, beginning at 2 p. m. March 13, 1909, for the following purposes, to wit:

1. To enact adequate laws simplifying the procedure in both civil and criminal courts of this State, and to enact laws amending and changing the existing laws governing court procedure, as will reduce the present unusual and unnecessary expense of litigation, and as will tend to the speedy administration of justice in civil and criminal cases.

2. To enact laws providing for the prompt establishment of an effective system for the guaranty for the deposits of State banks of Texas, under the supervision and control of the State.

3. To enact laws for the establishment of additional experimental agricultural stations, especially in Central West and Northwest Texas.

4. To enact adequate laws granting adequate authority and ample means to the State Health Department to properly safeguard the public health and to secure greater efficiency in our public health agencies.

5. To enact laws that will conserve and protect the oil and rice industries, with adequate provision for fixing and regulating the charges of canal and pipeline companies.

6. To enact laws or amendments to the present statutes relating to the fish and oyster industries, as may be necessary to promote the fish and oyster industries, and to properly protect the interests of the people in this great food supply, and to increase and protect the fisheries of Texas.

7. To consider and act upon such other matters as may hereafter be presented, pursuant to Section 10, Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the State of Texas to be affixed, at Austin, this March 13, A. D. 1909.

T. M. CAMPBELL,
Governor of Texas.

By the Governor:
W. B. TOWNESEND,
Secretary of State.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE SPEAKER.

The following presentations were made to Speaker Kennedy:

By Mr. Crockett of Mitchell, on behalf of the members of the House, a gold watch.

Mr. Crockett of Mitchell said: "Mr. Kennedy, I think myself happy that I am permitted, under the peculiar environments, to perform this agreeable request of my colleagues and fellow-members of this House. The poet has written:

"And what is friendship but a name,
A charm that hurls to sleep,
A tie that follows wealth and fame
And leaves the wretch to weep."

'A friend in need is a friend indeed,' and I come to you as a messenger of friends bearing a token of this friendship that shall refute the poet's dream. Whatever futilities you may have, or whatever errors of judgment you may be judged to have made otherwise, I believe I voice the sentiments of every member of this House, that as the Speaker in this chair, in the most trying times and confusions, and at all times, you have meted out to each member as nearly equal and exact justice as it is possible for fallible humanity to do. As a memento I present to you this unalloyed golden trophy; may it be a perennial reminder, as you travel down the rugged path of life with that beloved companion, who now occupies the gallery with watchful and anxious eye, of our esteem and ever good. will and fervent friendship for your impartial demeanor as Speaker of this House. It is human to err; but divine to forgive."

By J. W. Blake, on behalf of the clerks and stenographers of the House, a punch bowl.

Mr. Blake said: "Mr. Speaker and Members of the Thirty-first Legisla-