

Meeting of the Republican Caucus before the Speaker Vote

Representative Joel Pritchard addresses the caucus concerning redistricting and the upcoming election campaign:

Joel Pritchard: Well, there were little rumors, but by that morning, when we came in, we knew—some of us that were close. Then we went to caucus, and didn't let anybody out of caucus. And we stayed in the caucus until we walked out on the floor and voted. We were very fearful that a couple of our members—we didn't want them to slide away, and we didn't want them to talk and tip our hand. We kind of knew who might do that, so we just kept everybody in until noon, I think that's what it was. And then we walked out on the floor, and Si Holcomb called the roll. The chief clerk calls the roll, so he controls the vote as far as keeping it going.

Anne Kilgannon: Can you recall what you were saying when this photo was taken?

Joel Pritchard: Actually, I was not talking about the coalition at that point. We kept everybody in, and I put together a sort of campaign team to see if we couldn't help some of these new ones, and I was explaining that to them.

Excerpt from *Joel Pritchard: An Oral History*, pages 98-99
The interviewer for the Oral History Program is Anne Kilgannon.



The Republican caucus, where the decision was made to switch to Democrat Day

All photographs in this document were donated by Joel Pritchard and were first printed in the *Argus: Special Legislative Issue*, Volume 70, Number 3, January 18, 1963, Seattle.

CALL OF THE HOUSE

The Sergeant at Arms was instructed to lock the doors.

The Clerk called the roll, and all members were present.

On motion of Mr. Copeland, the House proceeded with business under the call of the House.

Nominations for Speaker of the House were declared to be in order.

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Schaefer.

Mr. Schaefer:

"Mr. Chief Clerk. Honorable Judge Hunter, my distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

"We are embarking today on the thirty-eighth session of the Washington legislature. We know from past experience through the last few years that our state is continually growing and because of this we are having more complex problems and more demands for services. This session of the legislature we have been given a mandate by the people to produce adequate services for our people within a balanced budget, and to set out on this type of program we need the strongest possible leadership. To have strong leadership we must start at the top, the most important job in this House, the Speaker.

"I will place in nomination the name of a man whom we have served under and respect, and who, you who have served with him know, has the qualifications to handle this position. He has served many years in this House. He has been elected Speaker four times. He has treated all of us with fairness and integrity.

"At this time, it gives me great pleasure to nominate for the Speaker of this House for the thirty-eighth session of the legislature, Mr. John O'Brien. Thank you."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Beierlein.

Mr. Beierlein:

"Mr. Chief Clerk. Honorable Judge Hunter of the Supreme Court, my distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

"It is my profound privilege to second the nomination of a distinguished citizen of the state of Washington for Speaker of the House. Ladies and gentlemen of this House, I would like to urge you today to support John O'Brien for Speaker of this House and our leader. He is experienced. He is eminently fair. His decisions and his rulings are impartial. As you know, he has been a member of this House for a long time and, as my colleague, Mr. Schaefer, pointed out, he has had the distinction of being chosen by his own colleagues four successive times as Speaker of this House—an unprecedented event in the history of the state of Washington. In my opinion, this entitles him to the hallmark of greatness; and, with the rough road ahead in facing the most difficult problems in the history of the state of Washington, we need such a leader in this House. Thank you."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Backstrom.

Mr. Backstrom:

"Mr. Chief Clerk. Honorable Judge Hunter, representatives of the state of Washington, ladies and gentlemen:

"As I look upon this very fine group, I think the people and the citizens of the state of Washington are to be complimented. I look upon you as a very fine group of representative people who will take the problems of the state of Washington in a very serious vein during this coming session. Then, too, as I think of the American heritage, I think it is incumbent upon us that we do our job in a responsible manner, which I know you all will. As we carry out our functions and face the complexities of the problems that we have in this state, I feel that experience in the Speaker's chair is necessary, and therefore I am happy to second the nomination of John O'Brien."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Braun.

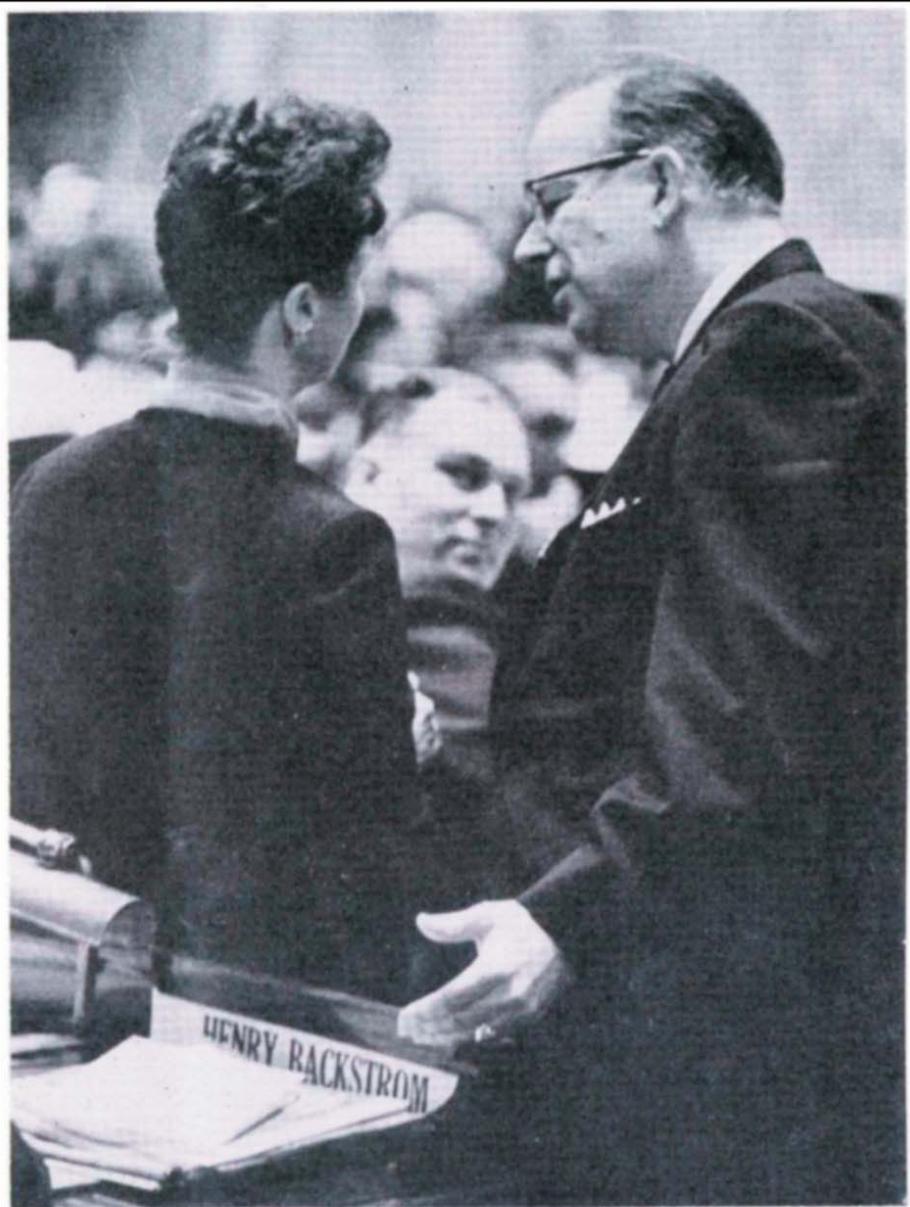
Mr. Braun:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Honorable Justice Hunter, my distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

"I also rise to second the nomination of John L. O'Brien as Speaker of this House. It has been my privilege to serve in this House three terms under the leadership of

John L. O'Brien as Speaker. In those three terms, I have found John to be probably the most qualified for this position among our party. I hope that some of you men here today electing a Speaker will think seriously, not about your personal feelings, but about the welfare of the people of the state of Washington and the job they sent you here to do. Again I hope you will think seriously when you cast your vote, and that you will vote for John L. O'Brien as Speaker of the House."

Election of Speaker: Nomination of William S. Day



In the heat of the speaker fight at Olympia, REP. JOHN L. O'BRIEN gestures bitterly as he talks with REP. MARGARET HURLEY. Mrs. Hurley made the nominating speech for O'Brien's successful opponent, REP. WILLIAM C. DAY, who can be seen turning an amused glance from his seat just behind them. (See pictures on pages 7-10.)

The Chief Clerk recognized Mrs. Hurley.
Mrs. Hurley:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Honorable Judge Hunter of the Supreme Court, ladies and gentlemen of the House:

"It is my privilege to take an important part today in the nominations for Speaker of the House. During the many sessions I have attended and participated in these elections, each has been exciting. Some have been tense. All have been important. But none has been more full of meaning for the people of our state than the choice we make today.

"We all realize, no matter what our political party, that the selection of Speaker is not something to be determined lightly, for on this decision depends the whole trend of legislation to be considered during this session. Will we have responsible expenditures, or thoughtful economies; increased governmental controls, or protection of individual freedom? Will we carry out the will of the people as indicated by the election of these new members I see all around me, or thwart their desires by clinging to the same old program? Those who do not accede to the wishes of the people this year may not be here next session to thwart them. On the choice we are about to make also depends the appointment of those who will share with the Speaker the responsibility of solving the present problems of the state and in preparing the way for a brighter and more prosperous outlook for the future. On this combination of leadership, their principles, their integrity and their wisdom, depends all we hold dear as a state and a nation.

"I recommend to you a man whose wisdom, governmental principles, personal integrity, prudence, and firmness of purpose qualify him to be selected as our presiding officer. He is congenial, fair in his dealings, and a man of his word. Let us recall for just one moment the oath of office we have just taken to serve the interests of the people of the state to the best of our ability. Your vote for a new Speaker will be your first opportunity to fulfill that oath.

"It is with every desire for what is best for the people of this state that I place in nomination the name of William S. Day for Speaker of the House."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Kink.

Mr. Kink:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Honorable Chief Justice, members of the House of Representatives:

"I rise to second the nomination of William S. Day as Speaker of this House. Mr. Day is personally known to me to be a successful and capable professional man well respected in his community. I also know him as a dedicated, sincere legislator who as speaker will conduct the affairs of this House fairly and without favoritism. Thank you."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. King.

Mr. King:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Justice Hunter, ladies and gentlemen:

"I also rise to second the nomination of Bill Day for Speaker of the House. You have spoken about trials and tribulations we are faced with in this particular session. I have seen many of them, and the last is always the worst. I have seen lots of people come up here I thought just as educated and capable as Mr. Day or Mr. O'Brien for the job Mr. O'Brien has held, and I don't think the Speaker of the House has stumped or homestead rights to that particular position for all time. So that is one of the reasons that I am supporting Mr. Day, and I hope that you people will do likewise and give somebody else an opportunity to show what he has and what he can do."

Election of Speaker: Nomination of Daniel J. Evans



Tensions on the floor show in gallery faces during speaker fight

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Canfield.

Mr. Canfield:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Justice Hunter, honored guests, distinguished ladies and gentlemen of this House:

"The legislative times are times that are always important. Often they are troublous times. Today is no exception. We never fail to have problems here. The same ones come back from session to session with changing emphasis. We also have new problems from time to time. It is vital to have strong leadership and strong legislators with high ideals to meet these situations.

"It is my privilege today to nominate a man for Speaker of this House who is eminently qualified and universally respected for his personal character, for his knowledge of political practices, for his leadership, for his dedication to responsible government. We are most confident that his actions will be guided by knowledge and not ignorance, with wisdom and not irresponsibility, with decisiveness and not weakness, always keeping in mind a program to promote the progress and the best interests of this great state of Washington.

"And so, ladies and gentlemen of this House, I give to you in nomination for Speaker the name of the honorable representative of King County, Daniel J. Evans."

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Moos.

Mr. Moos:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Honorable Judge Hunter, ladies and gentlemen of this House:

"I rise to concur in the remarks of my colleague from Yakima and to second the nomination of Representative Evans. We on this side of the aisle have had a wonderful opportunity to serve under his leadership, and certainly his leadership has been good leadership, as I look back at this fine group on this side, and we have grown under this leadership. You people have watched Representative Evans' ability to lead the minority party. You have known Representative Evans as an able and conscientious legislator. You have known him as a citizen and as a man and we, all of us as legislators and members of this House, are proud to know him as one of our colleagues. He has the ability to lead this House of Representatives in the direction I believe this state wants to be led. It is with a great deal of pride I second the nomination of Daniel J. Evans for Speaker of the House of Representatives."

House Journal, 1963, pages 7-8

First Roll Call Vote



1st Ballot: Confidence . . .

There being no further nominations, the Chief Clerk announced that the nominations for Speaker of the House were closed.

The Clerk called the roll for election of the Speaker of the House. The House failed to elect a Speaker by the following vote: Mr. O'Brien, 45; Mr. Day, 6; Mr. Evans, 48; absent or not voting, 0.

Those voting for Mr. O'Brien were: Representatives Ackley, Anderson (Eric O.), Backstrom, Beck, Beierlein, Bergh, Bigley, Bozarth, Braun, Brouillet, Burtch, Campbell, Chatalas, Conner, DeJarnatt, Dootson, Gallagher, Garrett, Gleason, Grant, Haussler, Henry, Herr, Jolly, Klein, Litchman, May, McElroy, McFadden, Moon, Mundy, O'Brien, O'Connell, O'Donnell, Olsen, Rogers, Rosenberg, Savage, Sawyer, Schaefer, Smith, Taylor, Uhlman, Wedekind, Witherbee—45.

Those voting for Mr. Day were: Representatives Day, Hurley, King, Kink, McCormick, Perry—6.

Those voting for Mr. Evans were: Representatives Adams, Ahlquist, Andersen (James A.), Berentson, Brachtenbach, Canfield, Clark, Comfort, Copeland, Earley, Eberle, Eldridge, Evans, Flanagan, Folsom, Goldsworthy, Gorton, Hadley, Harris, Hawley, Hood, Huntley, Johnston, Juelling, Kirk, Leland, Lewis, Lind, Lybecker, Lynch, Mahaffey, Mast, McCaffree, McDougall, Metcalf, Miles, Moos, Morphis, Morrissey, Newschwander, Odell, Pritchard, Reese, Siler, Swayze, Wang, Wintler, Young—48.

House Journal, 1963, page 8

Second Roll Call Vote



2nd Ballot: Concern . . .

The Chief Clerk announced that the House having failed to elect a Speaker, the Clerk would call the roll a second time.

The Clerk called the roll for election of Speaker of the House a second time. The House failed to elect a Speaker by the following vote: Mr. O'Brien, 44; Mr. Day, 7; Mr. Evans, 48; absent or not voting, 0.

Those voting for Mr. O'Brien were: Representatives Ackley, Anderson (Eric O.), Backstrom, Beck, Beierlein, Bergh, Bigley, Bozarth, Braun, Brouillet, Burtch, Campbell, Chatalas, Conner, DeJarnatt, Dootson, Gallagher, Garrett, Gleason, Grant, Haussler, Henry, Herr, Jolly, Klein, Litchman, May, McElroy, McFadden, Moon, Mundy, O'Brien, O'Donnell, Olsen, Rogers, Rosenberg, Savage, Sawyer, Schaefer, Smith, Taylor, Uhlman, Wedekind, Witherbee—44.

Those voting for Mr. Day were: Representatives Day, Hurley, King, Kink, McCormick, O'Connell, Perry—7.

Those voting for Mr. Evans were: Representatives Adams, Ahlquist, Andersen (James A.), Berentson, Brachtenbach, Canfield, Clark, Comfort, Copeland, Earley, Eberle, Eldridge, Evans, Flanagan, Folsom, Goldsworthy, Gorton, Hadley, Harris, Hawley, Hood, Huntley, Johnston, Juelling, Kirk, Leland, Lewis, Lind, Lybecker, Lynch, Mahaffey, Mast, McCaffree, McDougall, Metcalf, Miles, Moos, Morphis, Morrissey, Newschwander, Odell, Pritchard, Reese, Siler, Swayze, Wang, Wintler, Young—48.

House Journal, 1963, pages 8-9

3rd Ballot: The face of defeat



The House having failed to elect a Speaker on the second roll call, the Chief Clerk announced that the Clerk would call the roll a third time.

The Clerk called the roll for election of Speaker of the House a third time, and Mr. Day was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives by the following vote: Mr. O'Brien, 41; Mr. Day, 57; Mr. Evans, 1; absent or not voting, 0.

Those voting for Mr. O'Brien were: Representatives Ackley, Anderson (Eric O.), Backstrom, Beck, Beierlein, Bigley, Bozarth, Braun, Brouillet, Burtch, Campbell, Chatalas, Conner, DeJarnatt, Dootson, Gallagher, Garrett, Gleason, Grant, Haussler, Henry, Herr, Jolly, Klein, Litchman, May, McElroy, McFadden, Moon, Mundy, O'Brien, O'Donnell, Olsen, Rogers, Rosenberg, Savage, Sawyer, Smith, Uhlman, Wedekind, Witherbee—41.

Those voting for Mr. Day were: Representatives Adams, Ahlquist, Andersen (James A.), Berentson, Bergh, Brachtenbach, Canfield, Clark, Comfort, Copeland, Day, Earley, Eberle, Eldridge, Evans, Flanagan, Folsom, Goldsworthy, Gorton, Hadley, Harris, Hood, Huntley, Hurley, Johnston, Juelling, King, Kink, Kirk, Leland, Lewis, Lind, Lybecker, Lynch, Mahaffey, Mast, McCaffree, McCormick, McDougall, Metcalf, Miles, Moos, Morphis, Morrissey, Newschwander, O'Connell, Odell, Perry, Pritchard, Reese, Schaefer, Siler, Swayze, Taylor, Wang, Wintler, Young—57.

Those voting for Mr. Evans were: Representative Hawley—1.

Democratic Leaders Attempt Negotiation with Republican Leaders

O'Brien-man Mark Litchman huddles with Day-men Evans, Canfield



O'Brien (left) stares stonily at the seated Evans.



Chief Clerk Holcomb Makes Decisive Ruling



Winning strategists huddle with House Secretary Holcomb as end nears

MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mr. Schaefer, having voted on the prevailing side, moved that the House do now reconsider the vote by which Mr. Day was elected Speaker of the House.

POINT OF ORDER

The Chief Clerk recognized Mr. Copeland.

Mr. Copeland:

"I would like to have a ruling of the Chair as to whether the motion to reconsider on this particular matter is a valid motion."

RULING OF THE CHAIR

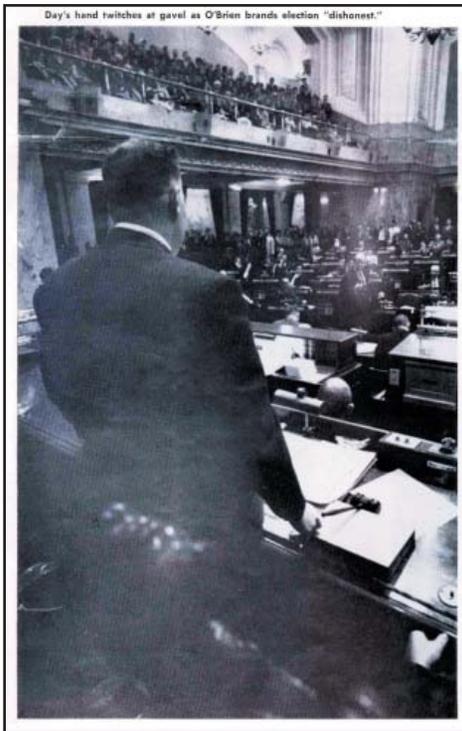
The Chair: (The Chief Clerk presiding)

"The authority of the Chief Clerk in presiding over this House of Representatives is limited to one thing. That is the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives. A Speaker has been elected by your vote on the last ballot. Therefore, I do not consider it is within the Chief Clerk's authority to consider any other business now that a Speaker is elected. While the Chief Clerk is presiding the motion is declared out of order."

William S. Day Sworn in as Speaker



Speaker Day glares as his vanquished opponent talks of "sellout."



Day's hand twitches at gavel as O'Brien brands election "dishonest."

The Chief Clerk appointed Representatives Perry and Adams to escort Mr. Day to the rostrum where the Honorable Robert T. Hunter, Justice of the State Supreme Court, administered the oath of office to him.

The Speaker assumed the Chair.

The Speaker addressed the House with the following remarks:

"Mr. Chief Clerk, Honorable Judge Hunter and members of the House of Representatives:

"I am grateful as well as pleased by my election as Speaker of this great House—grateful because of the honor which you have rendered to me and the confidence you have placed in me—pleased because as Speaker of the House I shall preside during a period in which we must solve the all-important problems of living within our revenue, and that of formulating a redistricting plan which has bipartisan acceptance of this legislative body and is responsive to the best interests of the people of this state.

"Each of us, as a state representative, should serve the interests of his or her particular district as well as the interests of all the people of the state of Washington. As I view the Speaker's position, in addition to his responsibilities to the people of his district and the people of the state of Washington, he has an additional responsibility to each member of this House to provide that member an opportunity to express his views, privately as well as publicly.

"To that end, let me now invite every member of this body, regardless of party, regardless of previous disagreements, to contact me and make his opinions known. While I am Speaker of the House, minority opinions and discussion will always be permitted; however, the ultimate decision on legislation must, as always, reside with the majority.

"Each day we live brings changes which affect us in our public and private lives. Most of these changes constitute progress, and are brought about by increased knowledge based upon experience. The cumulative experience of the members of this House contains knowledge which can be utilized to bring about progress. I am, therefore, urging that this body critically examine its rules and procedures to determine whether changes are warranted and logically can be effected in the processes which bring about legislation.

"Constitutionally a legislative session is sixty days. In the past we have not always been able to abide by this constitutional requirement. I am asking that each of you assume a portion of the responsibility which will lead to our successfully accomplishing our work in the time allotted.

"The initial examination, rejection or passage of each measure introduced in the House is a task which of necessity must be performed by committee. It is essential to the orderly procedure of this body that bills without merit be rejected on a committee level, while important and necessary legislation be quickly passed upon and brought before the House for vote. This labor is of prime importance and requires the thoughtful consideration of each committee member. Because of the large number of committees which convene in this House, each representative must necessarily serve on more than one committee. However, considering the importance of committee action, it is obvious that committee assignments must be limited, insofar as practical, to permit each legislator sufficient time to devote to his respective committee assignments.

"In this brief acceptance speech, I have attempted to outline for your examination several of the problems which, as State Representatives, we must all consider. Each day of the session will bring before you issues of importance which will need your individual decision. It is for this reason that I am asking each of you to put aside any personal ambitions and partisan causes which you may have, and devote your time and efforts to a successful, responsible, and productive legislative session." (Applause)

Dan Evans Congratulates Speaker Day

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

The Speaker recognized Mr. Evans.

Mr. Evans:

"Point of personal privilege, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to congratulate the new

Speaker on his victory and on his speech, because I think it bodes well for this House of Representatives.

"I would like to address myself, however, more particularly to the members of this House and those in the galleries and those in the press, because we are embarking on a new era, a really new era. As most of you probably don't know, the Republican party during this last election for the House of Representatives polled over fifty-three percent of the popular vote in this state. Unfortunately, we elected only forty-eight out of ninety-nine Representatives, but I think it has been obvious since the last election, and certainly it's been obvious in the last few days, that the Democratic party was split and could not by themselves elect a Speaker. Rather than sit here for many days, as we could have, in a deadlock, we felt that it was our responsibility to take some action that would organize this body and set it on its course.

"The decision wasn't easy. We had three choices open to us: to sit still and hope we would have some support from the other side to elect a Republican Speaker, or to vote for either of the two candidates on your side of the aisle as they have been presented here today. May I say clearly and most emphatically that the decision was not made on a basis of personality. John O'Brien has served this House long and well and he is a good presiding officer, but the decision ultimately did not rest on personalities. The decision rested on a choice we had to make between two programs and two courses of action. We had to make our choice on the basis of the one we thought would help bring the principles and the ideals that we as Republicans have to the floor.

"In making this decision we, as you know, voted for Mr. Day. Going back a little bit, maybe the Democratic convention this year was a pretty good deciding point. We had to make a choice of you who walked out of the convention, and those who adopted a platform we felt was radical and in control of a radical element. We couldn't buy that kind of principles and that kind of ideas. We had to go to those who had the courage to walk out of a convention like that, rather than those who either advocated or tolerated the type of platform that the Democrats adopted this spring.

"While this choice was difficult and has many thorns in it, our future course isn't very difficult. Our future course is to provide—and this goes to every member of this House—our future course is to provide the best government we can and the best laws we can for the state of Washington, and we on this side of the aisle will advocate the principles that we hold dear—that individual liberty is the cornerstone of our democracy, that the local government which is closest to the people can best serve the people, that fiscal responsibility is not an end in itself but a means to an end, a means to give to our children a government that is free from debt caused by the spending sprees of their fathers.

"These are the principles we believe in, that we will advocate, and that we think have the best chance of being successful with the Speaker and the organization that we have just elected. To this end, we will devote our talent and resources, and we hope we will finish in sixty days."

John O'Brien Responds to Electoral Upset



O'Brien bitterly asserts, "A price was paid — we will suffer."

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

The Speaker recognized Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien:

"Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

"This is a very unusual position, for the presumably majority party to be in a minority position. We think it is a very bad mistake for the Republican party to go to this low type of political maneuvering. In my opinion, it is absolutely politically dishonest and immoral. After all, we come here to Olympia to do a real job. There should be a code of ethics, even among legislators."

The Speaker:

"Mr. O'Brien, let's not impugn the motives of anyone."

Mr. O'Brien:

"I am not impugning anyone's motives. I am giving my viewpoint. First of all, I want to thank all the people on our side of the aisle who were so loyal. You have not only my admiration, but you have the admiration of all thinking Democrats in the state of Washington, and you can well be proud, because I think a price was paid here today and we are going to suffer by it.

"There is no question about it, in my opinion. Good government in the state of Washington has been hindered and handicapped, and the blame and the whole responsibility is going to be placed on the Republican party. I will be one that will help in doing this. We could have had a very harmonious session. You people and I have, in the past, taken care of our differences.

"I feel very sorry for the people who have supported me and who were planning to take a very active part in this legislature. It was rightfully theirs to have important committee chairmanships, and now this isn't going to happen. For myself, it doesn't mean too much. You people have been kind to me in the past and have given me all the honors any legislator could possibly have. I have been in a minority position in the past and I rather enjoyed it. When you are up on that rostrum you can't say very much. You have to be impartial and fair to everyone; but down here we can point out the deficiencies in your proposals.

"You talk about our political platform. Well, we didn't like your platform either, and I can tell you people right now you are in for the most interesting sixty days you have ever had. We are going to do it on a high level. We are not vindictive about this. You have asked for the responsibility, and you are going to have it.

"In closing I want to say to the people on our side, I am very sorry for what happened here today. We had our caucus. We had the contest for Speaker. We thought we had resolved it. However, during the last couple of sessions, we have had people on our side who just didn't feel they belonged to our party, even though they filed on the Democratic ticket. I believe there is one thing we should do here this session, Mr. Evans, and that is to get an oath of loyalty from each and every person who filed for a respective party position that they are going to abide by party principles and party caucuses. I think this is something that is most important. If you don't, it is going to destroy the two-party system. We are going to have people file on the Democratic ticket who will do nothing but plan to destroy the party. One gentleman in particular has been planning for months that the Democratic party had to go. He ran on our ticket. He was successful here today, and I certainly think next time Mr. Robert Perry should file on the Republican ticket. He doesn't belong on our ticket.

"I wish to thank each and every one of you who was so loyal not only to me but to our Democratic party. We are extremely sorry you people across the aisle saw fit to do this thing. Maybe you will regret it. Mr. Speaker, as minority leader, I will say let the chips fall where they may. Thank you very much."

Concluding Remarks on Speaker Election

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

The Speaker recognized Mr. Savage.

Mr. Savage:

"I want to speak on a point of personal privilege."

The Speaker:

"State your point of personal privilege."

Mr. Savage:

"I want to be frank. I want to say a word in behalf of the past Speaker. In view of the things that have happened today, I feel we should give some appreciation for the work he has done for a period of several sessions.

"Mr. Speaker, I served in the House with John O'Brien several sessions before he became Speaker. He was elected Speaker because of his willing Democratic leadership. I would like to point out that democracy is a voluntary situation. Democracy is not something we force. If we are going to have a democracy, it means that we agree to abide by rules that are set down by the legislature. Surely we have some enforcement, but if we have to enforce everything, we are taking peoples' liberty and freedom away. That is not democratic. In France, where they have thirty-eight parties or so, and no party responsibility, they don't confine themselves.

"We were able to organize under John O'Brien as a Democratic leader. We were able to accomplish a great deal. I am sure I am speaking for many who appreciate John O'Brien's leadership in passing legislation to improve our education and our schools in general. He has done a tremendous job in the legislature the last few years on highway legislation and much legislation has passed this House in behalf of institutions. I hope these things aren't scuttled this time in the House. We appreciate the leadership John O'Brien has given us in helping to work this out.

"Now, I feel that party responsibility is part of democracy. The Democrats and the Republicans have the two-party system. I once in Congress heard Sam Rayburn say that one of the most solemn obligations to party are the members who are devoted to their Speaker. I don't blame the Republican party for taking advantage of an opportunity to get their program through and get control of the legislature, but I feel that the people who let the Democratic party down are to blame for this type of thing. I don't think they deserve very much consideration as Democrats, because if you are going to be a democracy, you have to voluntarily go along. It was a question of the caucus, of having decided who was going to be Speaker—"

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. Perry:

"Point of order, Mr. Speaker."

The Speaker:

"State your point of order."

Mr. Perry:

"Mr. Savage rose on a point of personal privilege to give Mr. O'Brien his eulogy. I don't believe what is now being discussed is relevant to the eulogy for Mr. O'Brien."

The Speaker:

"I am going to rule your point is well taken, Mr. Perry. Thank you, Mr. Savage."