

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I report to the Senate that Senator DASCHLE and I have spoken to the President and have assured him that we have taken the necessary actions to swear in our Members and establish our quorum, and we are ready to do business. He said he was glad to hear that and he is ready to go to work.

HROR OF DAILY MEETING

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk fixing the daily meeting of the Senate at 12 noon.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 3) fixing the daily meeting of the Senate at 12 noon.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 3) was agreed to.

The resolution is as follows:

S. RES. 3

Resolved, That the hour of daily meeting of the Senate be 12 o'clock meridian unless otherwise ordered.

PROVIDING FOR THE COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTES ON JANUARY 9, 1997

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a concurrent resolution to the desk providing for the counting of electoral votes on January 9 at 1 p.m.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 1) to provide for the counting on January 9, 1997, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, the concurrent resolution is agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 1) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 1

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the two Houses of Congress shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Thursday, the 9th day of January 1997, at 1 o'clock post meridian, pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution and laws relating to the election of President and Vice President of the

United States, and the President of the Senate shall be their Presiding Officer; that two tellers shall be previously appointed by the President of the Senate on the part of the Senate and two by the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives, to whom shall be handed, as they are opened by the President of the Senate, all the certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes, which certificates and papers shall be opened, presented, and acted upon in the alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter "A"; and said tellers, having then read the same in the presence and hearing of the two Houses, shall make a list of the votes as they shall appear from the said certificates; and the votes having been ascertained and counted in the manner and according to the rules by law provided, the result of the same shall be delivered to the President of the Senate, who shall thereupon announce the state of the vote, which announcement shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons, if any, elected President and Vice President of the United States, and, together with a list of the votes, be entered on the Journals of the two Houses.

ELECTION OF THE HONORABLE STROM THURMOND AS PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is now with great pleasure and truly indeed an honor that I send a resolution to the desk electing Senator STROM THURMOND as the President pro tempore of the Senate.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 4) electing STROM THURMOND, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, to be President pro tempore of the Senate of the United States.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 4) was agreed to.

The resolution is as follows:

S. RES. 4

Resolved, That Strom Thurmond, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, be, and he is hereby, elected President of the Senate pro tempore, to hold office during the pleasure of the Senate, in accordance with rule I, paragraph 1, of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO SENATOR STROM THURMOND AS PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE FOR THE 105TH CONGRESS

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator from South Carolina, to be escorted by the majority leader, Mr. LOTT, the Democratic leader, Mr. DASCHLE, the former President pro tempore, Mr.

BYRD, and the Senator from South Carolina, Mr. HOLLINGS, will present himself at the desk to take the oath of office.

The President pro tempore advanced to the desk of the Vice President; the oath was administered to him by the Vice President; and he subscribed to the oath in the official oath book.

[Applause, Senators rising.]

[Mr. THURMOND assumed the chair.]

Mr. DASCHLE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Democratic leader.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, on behalf of all the Members of the Democratic caucus, let me congratulate the President pro tempore on his ascension to this position once again. He has served ably in the last Congress and he has gained the respect of many new Members who did not have the opportunity to work with him in the past. I know that will be the case once more in the 105th Congress.

So we join with our Republican colleagues in congratulating and wishing you well on your election and expressing the hope that we can continue to work so ably together, as you have so clearly demonstrated the ability to do in the last Congress.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thank you, very much.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the distinguished Senator from South Carolina for his reelection. Once again the people of South Carolina have shown their usual good judgment. And I also congratulate you on your being reelected as the President pro tempore. Your leadership and your determination to pass good legislation for the best interests of our country and the honorable way in which you serve as the Senator for your great State and as leader in the Senate is one for which we are all very proud and one that as such sets an example for all of us to emulate. We congratulate you and wish you the very best in the 105th Congress. We know you will do your traditional good work.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thank you for your kind words.

[Applause, Senators rising.]

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would be delighted to yield to the distinguished Senator from West Virginia.

SENATE PRECEDENTS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority leader.

For the record, and without being critical of anyone, I am sure that we have followed late precedent in notifying the House and notifying the President after the President pro tempore is elected.

When the Senate first met on April 6th, 1789, after having been delayed 34

days for the lack of a quorum, the first order of business was the election of a President pro tempore, who is a constitutional officer. The Senate is required to elect a Member of the body to serve as the President pro tempore in the absence of the Vice President.

When the Senate met on April 6th, 1789 there was no Vice President. There was no President. And once the President pro tempore was elected—his name was John Langdon from New Hampshire—the Senate then notified the House that it was organized and ready to count the electoral ballots.

So the selection of the President pro tempore was first because the Senate had to have a Presiding Officer. And there was no Vice President. There was no Vice President until April 21st of 1789 when the Vice President, John Adams, took the oath of office.

So I say this because sometimes we vary from precedent without thinking about it. And it escaped my notice that this was done, I think, in the last Congress when the President pro tempore was elected.

But in any event, for the record, I hope that in the future we will follow the practice of the Members of the Senate of 1789, when a President pro tempore is to be elected.

In the old days they elected a President pro tempore perhaps for the occasion, or one for a single day. But the practice now is that we elect a President pro tempore, who serves until another is elected—he retires, or passes on to another world, or his party loses control and a new President pro tempore is elected, or until his own term as Senator expires and he is reelected, as was the case today.

I thank all Senators for their indulgence. And especially I thank our two fine leaders. I am also very favorably impressed with both leaders. I know that they are going to do the Senate proud and do all of us proud.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from West Virginia for that information. And certainly we want to follow the precedents very closely. I will make sure that we look carefully at those and be prepared to elect a President pro tempore first the next time. Certainly, my feeling is that there is no higher honor nor greater responsibility nor greater opportunity than electing the Senator from South Carolina as the leader and as President pro tempore of the Senate.

So I thank Senator BYRD for his comments.

NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk notifying the President of the election of Senator THURMOND, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 5) notifying the President of the United States of the election of a President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 5) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 5

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of STROM THURMOND, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk notifying the House of the election of Senator THURMOND, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 6) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a President pro tempore of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 6) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 6

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of STROM THURMOND, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AND THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 48

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a concurrent resolution to the desk extending the life of the Joint Inaugural Committee, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provisions of S. Con. Res. 48.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 2

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That effective from January 3, 1997, the joint committee created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 47 of the One Hundred Fourth Congress, to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration

is hereby continued with the same power and authority.

SEC. 2. That effective from January 3, 1997, the provisions of Senate Concurrent Resolution 48 of the One Hundred Fourth Congress, to authorize the rotunda of the United States Capitol to be used in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President of the United States, and for other purposes, are hereby continued with the same power and authority.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENTS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, these unanimous-consent requests are those of the standing orders—for example, the setting of leaders' time each day—which are obtained at the beginning of each Congress which govern our day-to-day activities. As in the past, these consents have been cleared with the Democratic leader. Therefore, I send to the desk 11 unanimous-consent requests and ask for their immediate consideration en bloc, that the requests be agreed to en bloc, and that the various consents be shown separately in the RECORD.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 105th Congress, the Ethics Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 105th Congress, there be a limitation of 15 minutes each upon any rollcall vote, with the warning signal to be sounded at the midway point, beginning at the last 7½ minutes, and when rollcall votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7½ minutes.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during the Congress, it be in order for the Secretary of the Senate to receive reports at the desk when presented by a Senator at any time during the day of the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority and minority leaders may daily have up to 10 minutes each on each calendar day following the prayer and disposition of the reading of, or the approval of, the Journal.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives and his three assistants be given the privilege of the floor during the 105th Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXVIII, conference reports and statements accompanying them not be printed as Senate reports when such conference reports and statements have been printed as a House report unless specific request is made in the Senate in each instance to have such a report printed.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 105th