DEDICATION OF NEW ARIZONA

SENATE CHAMBERS

MARCH 7, 1960

[PROCEEDINGS]

Remarks of Senator J. Morris Richards in Arizona State Senate
March 7, 1960 inaugurating new Senate Chambers

Mr. President:
Mr. Speaker:
Governor Fannin:
Honored Guests and Friends:

We have heard this afternoon from the distinguished Senator from Mohave, Mr. Morrow, a brief history of the Territory during the days in which the capitol was located at Prescott and Tucson, and of the time it was removed to Phoenix.

We have heard of the first state capitol building in Phoenix at the turn of the century. It is remarkable that the building from which we moved last week and which will continue to be used for departments of state government, was constructed within the limits of a $100,000 appropriation--a rather modest sum in the light of present day expenditures. This new wing of the Capitol has cost approximately one million, 760 thousand dollars.

Of the ninety-six years since Abraham Lincoln signed the bill making Arizona a territory, sixty of them have been under what one newspaper writer facetiously called "the biddy on the Capitol dome". It is of these sixty years that I speak today.

We are members of the 24th two-year legislature since statehood, but there were five territorial legislatures that met in the Capitol building before statehood was achieved.

In those years between 1901 and 1912, and since statehood, much history has been made under that Capitol dome--and the Council and Senate have had a great part in it.

Many distinguished and outstanding citizens have served this state in the upper house of the legislature, and in judicial and executive posts after having been legislators.

Just to call the names of some of those illustrious men will bring memories to many who are with us today on this occasion.

Eugene S. Ives was president of the territorial council when the legisture moved into the Capitol from its rented quarters. He was elected from Yuma County in the 20th legislature and then served three terms, in two of which he was president of the upper house. Later he ran for Congress when Arizona gained statehood.

He was an outstanding lawyer and practiced in Tucson after leaving the legislature.

George W. P. Hunt of Gila county became president of the Council in 1905. He had served two terms in the territorial assembly and two terms in the Council between 1892 and 1900. Running again in 1904 he was elected and served as president in the 23rd and 25th legislatures. He later served as president of the Arizona Constitutional Convention which convened in October 1910 and then became a candidate for the first governor of the state in the democratic primary. In this race he won from another distinguished Arizonan, Thomas F. Weedin, who also served in the legislature. Just this year he was elected to the Arizona Newspapers Hall of Fame.

George W. P. Hunt served as first, second, third, sixth, seventh, eighth and tenth governor of Arizona. In between he was minister to Siam.

In the rough and tumble of political battles, Governor Hunt became known as the "Old Roman" but he also was known by other names. As a boy I thought his name was George Washington Peter Hunt, but later found out that it was actually George Wylie Paul Hunt.

In the 24th territorial council the president was A. J. Doran of Yavapai county. He was a mining man who was best known for his supervision and operation of the world-famous Silver King mine.

Previously he had served in the 11th and 14th legislatures from Pinal County, and later served in the 16th, 17th and 18th councils. He had moved from Pinal to Yavapai before serving in 24th, and it was he who sponsored the bill which established the Pioneers Home at Prescott.

When statehood was achieved the first president of the State Senate was a polished and educated gentleman from Yavapai, Michael G. Cunniff. He had been a member of the constitutional convention from Yavapai. Michael Cuniff was credited with putting Arizona's constitution into polished and proper language. He was chairman of the committee on style, revision and compilation for the convention.

W. P. "Doc" Sims, who had been named to the territorial board of dental examiners by Governor Joseph H. Kibbey, was chosen president of the second state senate in 1915. He was followed by D. H. Claridge, A. A. Tony Johns, H. B. Wilkensen, and then Mulford Winsor who served for three terms.

Harry W. Hill served as president in the 9th legislature, followed by Fred Sutter before being returned for a second term in the 11th legislature. R. T. "Bob" Jones was president during the 3rd special session of the 11th legislature, succeeding Harry Hill, who had resigned. Joe C. Haldiman served in the 12th, and then Paul C. Keefe of Yavapai was elected five times in succession, serving as president through the 17th state legislature.

Most of us are fairly well acquainted with the presidents since that time. They have been H. H. D'Autremont, John G. Babbitt, Fred J. Fritz, Warner B. Mattice, Hubert Merryweather, and our distinguished president in the chair today, Clarence L. Carpenter, serving his third term.

Governors of Arizona who have delivered messages to the legislatures since 1901 have been outstanding figures in the affairs of Arizona.

Nathan Oaks Murphy was governor of the territory when the legislature moved into the capitol building. He had served a term earlier in 1892 and 1893, after being secretary of the territory. His second term began in 1898 and lasted until 1902.

He was followed by Alexander O. Brodie who held the post for three years. Governor Brodie was a military man, having come to Arizona at the age of 21, assisting in the campaign against the Apaches led by General George Crook, in the 1870's. He later assisted in recruiting the famous Rough Riders for the Spanish American war and had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel by the time the war was over. He had many personal friends in both parties, and was presented with a saber on his retirement from the governorship in 1905. He was instrumental in the organization and effective work of the Arizona Rangers.

Joseph H. "Judge" Kibbey followed and served from 1905 to 1909. He was already a distinguished public servant by the time he became governor under appointment by President Theodore Roosevelt. He had served four years as Associate Justice of the Territory under appointment of President Harrison in 1889. It was during those years that he handed down one of the most far-reaching and important decisions of all time in Arizona. It was he who proclaimed the famous Kibbey Decision that land and water are inseparable. This became the basic concept for water law in the entire West. He was known as the greatest authority on irrigation law in the United States. Judge Kibbey had served in the 22nd Territorial Legislature.

The last territorial governor, appointed in 1909, was Richard E. Sloan. Many of us who did not know him so well as a governor,

have read his most interesting book called "Memories of an Arizona Judge". He had served as a justice of the territory with Judge Kibbey under appointment in 1889, and again returned to the Supreme Court of the Territory in 1897 under an appointment from President William McKinley, to be reappointed in 1902 and again in 1906.

He was named governor by President William Howard Taft and served until George W. P. Hunt was inaugurated as first state governor on February 14, 1912.

Judge Sloan was almost immediately appointed to the federal bench for the district of Arizona, but returned to private law practice within a year. He served on the territorial bench longer than any other judge in Arizona history.

We have spoken of Governor Hunt, who served so long. He ran a close race for his third term, and for nearly a year Tom Campbell served as de facto governor before the courts rules that Hunt had been elected.

Thomas E. Campbell, known widely as "traveling Tom" was elected in 1918 and served two terms through 1922. He had been a postmaster at Jerome, assessor of Yavapai county for eight years, and the first native Arizonan to be elected to the legislature, where he served in the 21st territorial assembly. He had served as a Rough Rider in the Spanish American War. After being defeated in 1922 by George W. P. Hunt, he accepted federal appointments which took him to Washington, D. C. and to Spain. He finally was named to the Civil Service Commission by President Herbert Hoover. His ten-gallon hat carried the spirit of the West wherever his travels took him.

After Hunt had served three more terms, he was followed by Governor John C. Phillips, a Phoenix attorney. Phillips had worked as a carpenter apprentice on the state capitol building in 1897 and 1898 while it was being constructed. Later, after studying law, he was admitted to the bar and elected probate judge in 1902. He was re-elected four terms and became the first official to receive the oath of office on February 14, 1912, when he was sworn in as a superior court judge. It was during Phillips' term that the famous Navajo Bridge across Marble Canyon above Grand Canyon was dedicated.

Dr. Benjamin B. Moeur became governor during the famous depression and it was his unhappy duty to try to assist in finding help for hundreds of needy citizens. It was during his terms--four years from 1933 to 1936--that the real property tax moratorium was granted, and when the "temporary" privilege sales tax was put on the books. He was best known for his liberal use of cuss

words and his characteristic cigar. He was an active member of the constitutional convention.

Rawleigh C. Stanford, serving but one term in 1937 and 1938, found the burden of patronage seekers one of his greatest problems. He had served many years on the superior court bench, having been a judge in Maricopa County from 1915 to 1922 and his judicial temperament was ill-suited to the pressures of executive office in times of economic stress. Judge Stanford had served his country during the Spanish American War in the Philippine campaign, and was greatly admired by the pioneers of the state. After one term, he did not seek re-election.

Robert T. "Bob" Jones, who had been in the State Senate for two terms from Pinal County and one from Maricopa County, was governor during the 14th State Legislature. He had been urged to run in 1936, but decided to support his friend Judge Stanford. When Governor Stanford decided not to seek re-election, Bob Jones announced for the office and was elected in 1938 to serve two years. He had been engaged in engineering and construction in Panama and Mexico before coming to Arizona in 1909. He was instrumental in completion of the railroad from Kelvin to Hayden Junction, but later left the engineering field and opened a drug store in Superior. Later he had stores in Phoenix and Tucson and was a merchant at the time of his death.

Sidney P. Osborn, was in the governor's chair during the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th legislatures, having been elected four times in succession.

Gov. Osborn's father, Neri Osborn, was a page in the first territorial legislature in Prescott in 1864, and Sidney himself became one of the delegates from Maricopa County to the Constitutional Convention in 1910. Later, when statehood was accomplished, he ran for and was elected the first secretary of state, serving two terms.

Governor Osborn was a newspaperman for several years before being elected governor, having operated Dunbar's Weekly, a political newspaper in Phoenix. He was the only Arizona governor to die in office, having succumbed on May 25, 1948.

He was succeeded by Dan E. Garvey, who had served many years as secretary of state. Dan served another term as governor by election, and at the present time is serving with distinction as State Examiner under appointment of Governor Ernest McFarland.

Howard Pyle was governor during the 20th and 21st legislatures, being the first Republican governor since John C. Phillips in 1930. Howard served for two terms, and moved on to Washington where he became an important member of the White House staff of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He is now serving as president

of the National Safety Council.

Ernest W. McFarland, after illustrious service in the United States Senate, was elected twice as governor of Arizona, and was in the chief executive chair during the 22nd and 23rd legislatures. Before going to Washington he was judge of the superior court in Pinal county for many years.

We come to the present with Governor Paul J. Fannin, who is an honored guest today. Governor Fannin has addressed only the 24th Legislature, where he has placed special stress on such pressing problems as industrial development, education and traffic safety.

We of the Arizona state senate salute those governors who have brought to legislative halls the emphasis needed to stir the lawmakers to action in solving many of the problems of Arizona during all of these years.

Our charming Secretary of the Senate, Mrs. Louise Brimhall, who keeps the work of the upper house moving smoothly and efficiently, has had some notable predecessors. She is serving her third term as secretary, and for five terms or ten years before her May Belle Craig was senate secretary. One of the colorful figures who served as senate secretary was W. J. "Billie" Graham, who came from down Bisbee way. He served continuously from the 9th legislature in 1929 until the end of the 16th in 1943, and had served one other term in 1925 in the 7th legislature.

There have been only ten persons serve as secretary since statehood, and only fifteen since 1900.

It seems rather unfortunate to some Arizona citizens that although the state has an excellent department of library and archives, there is no regular state historian to organize and publish the interesting and exciting history of Arizona. We honor the director of our library and archives here today, and look forward to the time when she will be able to have an historian in her department to keep the history of Arizona current with the explosive growth of the state in so many areas.

Because the history is not readily available in published form since statehood, it is necessary to depend on the writings of a rather notable corps of newspaper writers, who have covered the statehouse and the legislature down through the years.

It will not be possible to name all such devoted members of the Fourth Estate here today, but there were some whose work has stood out down the years.

However, among some of the better known writers on the legislative scene were such notables as William "Bill" Turnbow, who wrote UNDER THE CAPITOL DOME in the Phoenix Gazette for years and was known as the dean of statehouse reporters; and Talbot T. Smith, familiarly known as "Smitty" from the Arizona Daily Star at Tucson, who wrote a daily column or more of news for every session of the legislature for many years.

Also familiar on the legislative scene have been the late Harvey Mott, and such well-known and veteran writers as Clyde Threlkeld, T. W. B. Anderson, Hal Mitchell, Ben Avery, Claiborne Nuckolls and Lester Inskeep. More recent legislative reporters have been Eddie Lee and Les Schlangen of the Associated Press, Bill McFarland of the United Press International, Jim Cooper of the Tucson Citizen, Virg Hill of the Phoenix Gazette, and Bernie Wynn of the Republic. Of course time does not permit us to name them all.

The radio and television reporters, in more recent years, have added their services to the state in keeping the doings of the legislature before the people.

The press and radio corps at the capitol have done a thorough, though sometimes critical, job of recording the doings of this Senate, as well as the House and the other departments of state government.

These people have had an essential and important part to play--even to the extent of the actual content on occasion of legislative measures that have passed or failed in legislative halls.

Some of you may have noticed that the Winged Lady of Liberty on the Capitol dome, presently faces to the southwest, directly into the prevailing winds of this area.

Mr. President, it is my wish today that the members of this distinguished 24th Senate will face into the problems confronting us, as the statue on the state house faces into the winds of nature, and that with courage, stamina and determination, we meet all of our problems head-on with equal will and determination as our predecessors in this lawmaking body.

We, like they, are writing history for our beloved state. Thank you, Mr. President.