

SPEAKER

Election

The member for Avon (Mr M.W. Trenorden), as the member with the longest continuous service, took the Chair and presided over the election of the Speaker.

DR G.I. GALLOP (Victoria Park - Premier) [11.50 am]: I move -

That the member for North West Coastal do take the Chair of the Assembly as Speaker.

MR E.S. RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Premier) [11.50 am]: I formally second the motion.

MR F. RIEBELING (North West Coastal) [11.50 am]: I accept the nomination.

MR M.W. TRENORDEN (Avon - Leader of the National Party) [11.50 am]: Are there any other nominations? There being no further nominations, I declare the member for North West Coastal elected as Speaker.

[Applause.]

[The member for North West Coastal was conducted to the Chair.]

THE SPEAKER (Mr F. Riebeling): I thank members for voting me to this position. I now assume the Chair of this chamber as Speaker of the house.

DR G.I. GALLOP (Victoria Park - Premier) [11.51 am]: Mr Speaker, I congratulate you on being elected to this most important position in our parliamentary system. Our Parliament functions only on the basis of the goodwill of each one of us towards the other. On occasions that goodwill is tested in the heat of parliamentary debate, and we require the Speaker to bring matters to order. I have made it clear to all members on this side of the house that respect for the Speaker is the most important aspect of parliamentary life. I am sure that you, Mr Speaker, will carry out your duties with great distinction and that all of us will support you in the important job you have to do.

MR M.J. BIRNEY (Kalgoorlie - Leader of the Opposition) [11.52 am]: Mr Speaker, I add to the Premier's comments and congratulate you on the reaffirmation you have received from this house as the independent adjudicator of the business of this house. Your nomination, of course, was uncontested. You have the support of the opposition. I and my members look forward to working with you over the coming four years.

MR M.W. TRENORDEN (Avon - Leader of the National Party) [11.53 am]: Mr Speaker, on behalf of the National Party, I also congratulate you on your election to the Chair. Not too many people spend two terms in the Chair. I must admit that that was the first time I had sat in the Chair in the 20 years I have been in this house. You now have it all to yourself! Congratulations.

THE SPEAKER (Mr F. Riebeling): I once again briefly state how proud I am to be able to take the Chair for a second term. Improvements to the Parliament and the amenity of this chamber are key elements of my four-year term. I will endeavour to make conditions in this place more bearable, with airconditioning and the like. I will also endeavour to maintain the house in good order over the next four years. Once again, I thank members very much for the faith they have shown in me.

Presentation to Governor

THE SPEAKER (Mr F. Riebeling): I have received advice from Government House that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to receive the newly elected Speaker and some accompanying members at 12.30 pm today.

Sitting suspended from 11.54 am to 2.45 pm