

CHAIRMAN HUFF: Mr. President, come take the chair.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: No, I think we ought to finish the election, and then I'll take the chair.

CHAIRMAN HUFF: The nomination for first vice president is next on the list. Nominations are open. Mr. Blount has the floor.

DELEGATE BLOUNT: Madam Chairman and fellow delegates, I nominate a fellow delegate from Ward Seven, east of the river, who is currently active in the chair of the Ward Seven Democrats and president of the board of directors of Southeast Neighborhood House. He has worked as director of the D.C. Office of Human Rights where he served with distinction. We're both members of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement. Fellow delegates, I am pleased to place in nomination for first vice president Delegate James Baldwin.

CHAIRMAN HUFF: The name of Delegate James Baldwin has been placed in nomination. Are there any other nominations for the position of first vice chair? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, the nominee for the first vice chair--I will take a motion to close the nominations.

DELEGATE FREEMAN: Madam Chair, I want to have an

opportunity to make a seconding speech.

CHAIRMAN HUFF: Okay, you want to make a seconding speech. Okay.

DELEGATE FREEMAN: Right. And I am very happy to have this opportunity because Delegate Baldwin is a man I've grown to respect early in the course of this convention. And I believe he's a man whom we all can respect in this convention. I think he is a man whom we all can unite behind in this convention. And we all know that that's crucial to the success of statehood, which is what we're all about. He has shown his leadership here. He's clearly a superb parliamentarian. And I believe he's the friend of everybody here. And I think that's very important. And I urge you all to vote for Delegate Baldwin for first vice chair.

CHAIRMAN HUFF: Are there any other seconding speeches?

DELEGATE SIMMONS: I would like to move that the temporary chair be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot on the name of Delegate Baldwin as first vice president of this convention.

SEVERAL DELEGATES: Second.

CHAIRMAN HUFF: It has been moved and properly