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# DEBATES IN THE TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1875

## FIRST DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1875<sup>1</sup>

Obeying the instructions of Governor Richard Coke in his proclamation of August 23, 1875, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention assembled in the Hall of Representatives, in the City of Austin, at noon on Monday, September 6, 1875.

### *Permanent Organization Effected*

Major Charles S. West, of Travis, called the convention to order and suggested General J. W. Whitfield, of Lavaca, for temporary chairman. This was agreed to without opposition, and General Whitfield took the chair. Eighty-one delegates answered to their names, and permanent organization was effected. Mr. E. B. Pickett, of Liberty, was elected President of the Convention on the second ballot. Mr. Leigh Chalmers, of Travis, was made Secretary, and Mr. Joe Owens, of Galveston, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Organization for the first day was completed by the appointment by the President of a printing committee, a committee to determine rules of order, a committee on standing committees, and a committee to notify the Governor that the Convention was ready to proceed to business. The Sergeant-at-Arms was directed to arrange for the drawing of seats by the delegates.

## SECOND DAY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1875<sup>2</sup>

Judge John H. Reagan, of Anderson, reporting for the committee on additional officers for the Convention, suggested two Assistant Secretaries, one Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, three pages, and two porters. The officers suggested by the committee were elected.

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<sup>1</sup>The proceedings for this day were taken from the *State Gazette* (Austin), September 7, 1875.

<sup>2</sup>The proceedings for this day were taken from the *State Gazette* (Austin), September 8, 1875