

Report on 1970 Election

Frederick J. Doyle, President

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED that the published agenda for the Business and Awards session at this 1970 Convention stops after the President's Report. You will undoubtedly have heard rumors about why this is so. It is necessary for me to explain to you certain circumstances surrounding the election of officers and directors, and the vote on the proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.

At the meeting of the Board of Direction on February 12, a letter from one of the Board Members was introduced stating that ballots were unconstitutional, requesting that the election be set aside, and a new election conducted with officers to be installed at a special meeting to be called subsequently. After considerable discussion a motion to this effect was made, seconded, and passed by the Board with 8 votes for, 1 opposed, and 5 abstentions. The grounds for the motion were that insufficient time had been allowed for members to submit additional nominees by petition, and that inadequate information had been made available on the Constitution and Bylaw amendments required to effect the reorganization of the Society as approved by the Council and the Board at the Portland meeting.

The facts are these. At my suggestion, the Nominating Committee, anticipating the change to one Director elected by each Region, solicited nominations from all Regions for Second Vice President and for Director. Some Regions, not currently represented on the Board, were contacted several times. The Nominating Committee, under date of December 23, submitted one candidate for President and Vice President, three candidates for Second Vice President, and seven candidates for Director. One of these seven subsequently withdrew. I attempted to telephone the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, but he was on Christmas vacation, and I did not reach him until after New Years. He stated that his procedures had been orderly and that he would prefer not to submit any additional nominees for Director.

By this time it was too late to inform the members of the Nominating Committee's selections, allow 30 days for additional nominations by petition, and get out a formal

ballot 45 days before an Annual Meeting on March 4.

Somewhat the same situation occurred with the Constitutional amendments. The many changes required several iterations before the complete document was acceptable. In the meantime the substance of the proposed reorganization was published in the Newsletter of the January PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING.

I decided that the best interests of the Society would be served by going ahead with the election and I directed General Jacobs to send out the ballots. I wrote a short explanation including the instruction to vote for any or all of the six nominated Directors. It was my intention (although unfortunately I did not so state) that if the amendments were approved, we would install six Directors which would have been permitted under the revised Constitution. If the amendments were rejected we would install only the five receiving the highest number of votes.

It is true that normal procedures were not followed, but this was not done to deprive any one of his right to be nominated or to review the proposed Constitutional amendments. Indeed, I felt that the active solicitation of all Regions by the Nominating Committee, the publication of the reorganization in the Newsletter, and the announcement that the complete text was available, satisfied the intent, if not the letter, of the rules. My objective was to accomplish an orderly transition to the new organization and to hand over to my successor a piece of completed business.

Acting in response to the Board's motion, on February 13 I wrote to all the nominees informing them of the Board's action, and its consequences. I also prepared a letter to the general membership. In addition I informed Past President Radlinski of what had transpired.

Before the letter to all members was mailed, Past President Radlinski telephone me. He had discussed the situation with Past President Gruner and several other Board members. He requested me to again solicit the Board for a vote on a motion made by him and seconded by Past President Gruner. The heart of the motion was, "Considering there-

fore the best interests of the Society and its membership, be it resolved that the ballot sent to the membership in January 1970 is valid and the election of officers and directors resulting herefrom is fully acceptable and proper. This motion will supersede the action taken by the Board at its meeting on February 12 which invalidated the election." I sent this to all Board members requesting a vote by return mail. The Board's vote was 20 in favor of the motion, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention (mine).

Because of the importance of the matter, I called a special meeting of the Board for Monday, March 4, to ratify the vote taken by mail. After considerable discussion and quoting from Robert's Rules of Order, the following motion was presented:

"Move that this body vote to waive the provisions of the Bylaws regarding elections that have been violated in this election, and accept the results of the election by ballot tallied by the Tellers Committee for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Five Directors. Further, that we place this motion before the membership at the Business meeting for affirmation by two-thirds of the membership present and voting. Further, that this action supersede the action taken by the Board of Directors at its meeting of February 12, 1970, regarding the subject election."

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by the Board.

In view of this motion, it was unnecessary to ratify the letter vote on Past President Radlinski's motion, and it was withdrawn from consideration.

I call to your attention that his action re-



Outgoing officers of the American Society of Photogrammetry were (left to right): Directors Hugh B. Loving, Robert F. McGivern, Mrs. Clarice L. Norton, Charles W. Culkin; Past President Heinz Gruner, and retiring President Frederick J. Doyle.

lates only to the election of officers, and not to the Constitution amendments. The complete text of the amendments will be published in the Newsletter of the April issue of PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING. A new ballot will be prepared and distributed to the total membership.

Now therefore, before we can proceed further with the business of this afternoon, I will need a motion from the floor to validate the election of the President, First and Second Vice Presidents, and five Directors.

* * *

At the Business and Awards Session on March 4, 1970, the following motion was presented by Mr. John T. Smith, Jr.:

"Move that this assembly, as a duly advertised business meeting of the Society, vote to uphold the action of the Board of Direction validating the results of the election for President, First and Second Vice Presidents, and five Directors."

The motion was seconded by Past President James Webb, and carried unanimously by those members present and voting. Subsequent to the approval of this motion the remainder of the agenda for the Business and Awards session included:

- Recognition of retiring members of Board of Direction
- Election Teller's report
- Installation of new Directors
- Installation of Second Vice President
- Installation of First Vice President
- Installation of President
- Incoming President's acceptance
- Presentation of Birdseye Citation to retiring President
- Adjournment



New members of the Board of Direction were: Directors Spencer B. Gross, Harry O. Tutmark, Karl Heineman; and past president Frederick J. Doyle. Directors Merrill R. Brown and Thomas V. Cummings were not present.