

Gentlemen of the Joint Session:

The returns of the late election for State officers having been opened, canvassed and cast up in accordance with the provisions of section 3, article 5 of the Constitution of the State of Missouri, I now have the honor to announce the result of said count as follows:

For Governor—		For State Treasurer—	
Lon V. Stephens.....	351,062	Frank L. Pitts.....	341,063
Robert E. Lewis.....	307,729	Jacob F. Gmelch.....	304,343
Herman P. Farris.....	2,588	Oscar Wood.....	23,941
Lewis C. Fry.....	757	Irvin T. Hull.....	2,267
J. McD. Trimble.....	1,809	Henry Poelling.....	654
Scattering.....	21	Wm. McIlwrath.....	2,014
For Lieutenant-Governor—		Scattering.....	2
August H. Bolte.....	340,974	For Attorney General—	
Abra C Pettijohn.....	304,624	Edward C. Crow.....	340,585
James H. Hillis.....	23,824	John Kennish.....	304,686
James M. Ritchey.....	2,341	Frank E. Richey.....	24,062
Christopher Rocker.....	632	Geo. E. Bowling.....	2,053
Albert F. Osterman.....	1,957	Nicholas D. Thurmond.....	2,008
Scattering.....	4	Scattering.....	4
For Secretary of State—		For Railroad and Warehouse Com.—	
Alexander A. Lesueur.....	341,451	Timothy J. Hennessey.....	340,310
Wm. P. Freeman.....	304,015	Geo. N. Stille.....	304,686
Thomas Day.....	23,931	Daniel M. Cowan.....	24,005
Edwin E. McClellan.....	2,308	Wm. E. Sullivan.....	2,436
Albert E. Sanderson.....	642	Chas. L. Hood.....	640
Daniel H. McIntyre.....	1,896	Henry A. Koster.....	2,080
Scattering.....	3		
For State Auditor—			
James M. Selbert.....	340,803		
John G. Bishop.....	304,583		
Sheridan Webster.....	23,907		
John O. Rolfe.....	2,275		
James Randal.....	635		
Edwin D. Porter.....	1,941		

Now, therefore, I, John W. Farris, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Missouri, declare that Lon V. Stephens has been elected Governor of the State of Missouri for the term of four years; August H. Bolte has been elected Lieutenant-Governor for the term of four years; Alexander A. Lesueur Secretary of State for the term of four years; James M. Selbert State Auditor for the term of four years; Edward C. Crow Attorney-General for the term of four years, and Timothy J. Hennessey Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner for the term of six years, they having received the highest number of votes cast for the said several offices at the general election held on November 3, 1896, as shown by the returns of said election just opened and published by me, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Senator Peers moved that the joint session be dissolved, which was carried, and the joint session declared dissolved, and the Senators retired.

Mr. Hall of Saline presented the annual report of the Superintendent of Public Schools, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That in compliance with the provisions of section 8081, Revised Statutes of 1889, 5000 copies of the annual report of the State Superintendent of Public Schools for the year ending June 30, 1896, be printed and bound in cloth, 1000 copies to be for the Senate and 2000 for the House, and 2000 for the use of the State Superintendent of Public Schools.

Which was adopted.

The following message was received from the Governor through his Private Secretary, Mr. Winston:

STATE OF MISSOURI, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
CITY OF JEFFERSON, January 8, 1897. }

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I have the honor herewith to transmit (through the House of Representatives) the eighth biennial report of the Missouri State Fish Commission for the years 1895-6. This report is so comprehensive in its scope and so luminous in its treatment of the important subject of fish culture that I take pleasure in commending it, not only to your favorable consideration, but to the attention of the people generally. It is a document of such value that I believe the public interests would be promoted by having it printed for general distribution. The present Commission have administered the affairs committed to them with great intelligence and fidelity. Pisciculture has made decided progress in the last four years. Much has been done to disseminate valuable information on the subject, greatly to the profit of the people, and it affords me pleasure to congratulate the Commission on the success of their labors.

Respectfully,
WM. J. STONE, Governor.

[For report of Fish Commission see Appendix.]