

officers shall conform to the law and discharge their duties in a fair and impartial manner. I am informed by telegram that the county judge has to-day the question of the undecided appeals before him, and, although in the latter part of November or the early part of December he ruled that he would not take any evidence when appeals were made by the Reform Committee, but would simply decide the question on the evidence as reported by the revising officer, nevertheless to-day a different rule is to be adopted in regard to the other side. I hope that may prove to be an unfounded statement, or, if it is true, that His Honour may reconsider his determination and may act upon the same rule throughout. I think that the import-

ance of the question justifies my bringing it before the House, and I think, also, that the House ought to accept the proposition laid down, that it ought to accept this declaration of its rights and duties, because in my opinion the adoption of such a resolution would have a wholesome effect upon the officers of the House in the discharge of the very important duties which have been assigned to them.

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