

DEFRIECE & HALL
LAWYERS

DOMINION NAT'L BANK BUILDING
BRISTOL, VA.-TENN.

FRANK W. DEFRIECE
LEONARD R. HALL

Jan. 6, 1926

Hon. Thomas W. Ozlin,
Kenbridge, Va.,

Dear Tom,

Sometime ago you wrote me in reference to your candidacy for the Speakership for the House of Delegates, and for the reason that I did not intend to return this year I neglected to answer your letter. You will recall no doubt that I told you last session that if I returned this year I expected to support you in this contest and, had I returned, I would have done so, and before I left Richmond I told Jim Price of my intention to support you.

You will very well see that a choice of this kind on my part was not a very easy matter inasmuch as it was between two very valued friends. However I am satisfied that Jim understood my position and that our friendship is not in the least impaired on account of it. At the time your letter came I did not know who would be our Candidate for the House, and decided that I would wait till after election to say anything to you about it. As you are doubtless aware S. Bruce Jones, a young lawyer of this City, was elected to represent this City and Washington County in my place. Mr. Jones is a likable man, an excellent lawyer, and a man possessing a high type of character, and one whom I feel sure you can count on to be of great benefit during the period of coming session. He is a worker and don't hesitate to give it to him.

Mr. Jones does not understand these things yet as some of the others of us who have worked in the House of Delegates, and for this reason he feels that he should reserve his commitment to any of the Candidates until he reaches Richmond. This of course is not customary and I have taken the trouble to explain the matter to him so that he may realize the necessity of taking his position one way or another, so that he may get lined up from the proper committees. I am satisfied that he has made up his mind to support you so you can count on him though he has not committed himself. I therefore want to take this opportunity of expressing to you a hope that you will certainly appoint Mr.

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Jones on the Courts of Justice Committee, and on the Schools and Colleges Committee. In either of these positions I am satisfied you may expect the very best of service from him. He is a lawyer of unusual promise, and also a business man, and he will make a valuable man to the House and to the State. I have stated the committees in the order which he tells me is his preference.

I would enjoy very much being with you gentlemen this winter, but I decided long since that my financial standing would not permit further enjoyment for me in State affairs. With best wishes for your success, I am,

Very truly yours,

FWD/MC