

ALÞINGI

Reykjavík, 5. February, 1929.

To the Honourable
the Governor of the State of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minn.

Honourable Sir,

The presidents of The Legislative Assembly of the Kingdom of Iceland, The Alþingi (Althing), hereby take exceptional pleasure in requesting the honour that your Government will kindly and considerately honour an occasion which marks an epoch in the history of our nation, viz. the celebration of the

ONE THOUSANDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALÞINGI,

the national parliament of Iceland, by appointing and sending a special representative to take part in this celebration on behalf of the people of the State of Minnesota. This occasion will be celebrated about the end of June 1930, at Þingvellir, its ancient meeting place. The festivities, a program of which will be forwarded to you later, will probably last three days. All informations you may require in connexion therewith, we shall be pleased to supply.

Iceland was colonized during the Viking Age; and when the country had become fully settled, these independent colonists established here a republic in 930, at the same time providing for a general assembly for the whole country, the Alþingi, which possessed both legislative and judicial powers. From 930 onwards the Alþingi assembled at Þingvellir regularly every year till about the close of the 18th century, when its meetings were temporarily suspended; but they were soon resumed in Reykjavík, the capital of Iceland, where the Alþingi has met ever since.

While this Invitation has been extended to the American Nation at large through its most honoured representative in the Council of the Nations, his Excellency the President of the United States of America, we feel it incumbent upon us as a most agreeable duty to extend this invitation to you as the chief executive of the Government and the citizens of your State, realizing as we do, that so many sons and daughters of our nation have found a permanent home within the boundaries of your State and assumed an active and an influential part affecting the general welfare and legislation of your Commonwealth.

Trusting that you may see fit to honour the occasion by acceding to our request as above stated,

We beg to remain,

Honourable Sir,

yours most respectfully

Þorgrímur

The president of the Alþingi
(both chambers in conclave)

Jón Baldvinsson

The president
of the Upper House

Benedikt Sveinsson

The president
of the Lower House

Kindly address all correspondence to the

SKRIFSTOFA ALÞINGIS,
REYKJAVÍK

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