



POLITICS OF THE PAST

The changing (male) face of politics

Whisker fashions have evolved since state was young

Editor's note: This summer and fall, Capitol Report is dipping into the Minnesota Historical Society's political archives and scooping out documents and artifacts exploring the state's rich record of voting reforms, colorful politicians, contested elections, curious facial hair and more.

By ZAC FARBER
Staff Writer

Devoted readers of this history column — or, rather, readers of the editor's note that precedes it — have been patiently waiting for the exposure of a highly visible feature of Minnesota's political past.

Now, with the nation in turmoil, it's time to withdraw briefly from our woolly political reality by looking back at our state's long history of electing legislators with curious facial hair.

SUBMITTED IMAGES: MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

Best overall facial hair

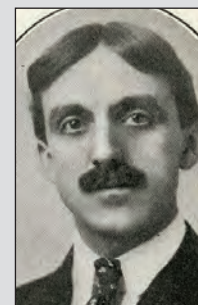


Sen. Eugene St. Julien Cox

Best mustaches



Sen. William Sprigg Hall

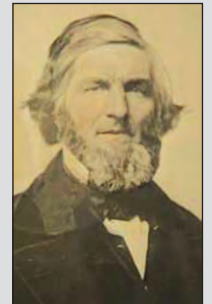


Rep. Edmond J. Fuchs



Sen. David Wallace Illsley

Best beards



Rep. Albert Tuttle



Rep. John Harrington Stevens



Rep. George O. Way

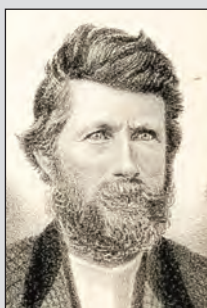
Best facial hair by decade

1850s



Sen. Dennis William Chauncey Dunwell

1860s



Rep. John Gage

1870s



Rep. George A. Wells

1880s



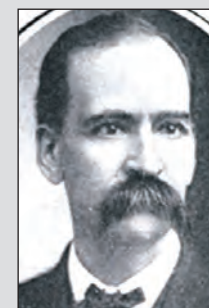
Sen. Calvin Siscoe Powers

1890s



Sen. Frederic Iltis

1900s



Rep. John T. Johnson

1910s



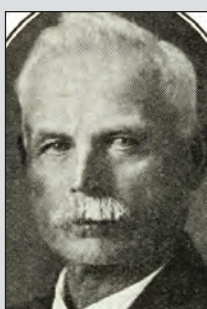
Rep. Albert B. Peterson

1920s



Rep. O.K. Dahle

1930s



Rep. John Prestegard

1940s



Rep. Bernard Francis Ederer

1950s



Rep. Peter Stephen Popovich

1960s



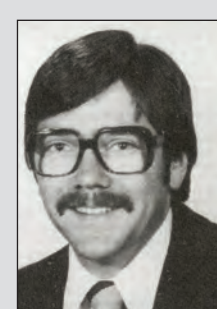
Rep. Glenn A. Blomquist

1970s



Rep. David R. Cummiskey

1980s



Rep. Tom J. Shea

1990s



Sen. Mark Ourada

2000s



Rep. Tony Cornish

2010s



Rep. Joe McDonald

Best eludes photo frame Most regrettable



Rep. Andrew Miller



Rep. Robert George Marshall