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## Journal of the Constitutional Convention, 1968 Mar 25

August P. LaFrance

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LaFrance, August P., "Journal of the Constitutional Convention, 1968 Mar 25" (1968). *Journals of the 1964-1969 Constitutional Convention of Rhode Island*. 6.

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State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

JOURNAL OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Providence, Rhode Island

March 25, 1968

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, at 2:11 P.M. pursuant to the following written order:

March 13, 1968

"Delegates to the Constitutional Convention:

"The Delegates will, under the authority granted to the chair to call a session, meet on Monday, March 25th, 1968, at 1:30 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House.

"At this session the report of the special committee of which Judge John Doris was chairman will present a report to the Convention.

"This will probably be the last official meeting of the Convention.

"Please make every effort to be in prompt attendance.

"Very truly yours,

/s/

"Dennis J. Roberts  
Chairman"

The roll of delegates was called; there were 65 present and 31 absent.

Absentees were Mr. Appolonia, Mrs. Barber, Messrs. Beauchemin, Bissonnette, Bride, Mrs. Capuano, Messrs. Cunningham, Delehanty, DeCiantis, Dodge, Gallagher, Kenyon, Mrs. Lacroix, Mr. Lallo, Mrs. Lambros, Messrs. Lawrence, Martin, Matzner, McCabe, McKinnon, Merolla, Mulligan, Murphy of Warren, Murphy of Coventry, Nathanson, O'Donnell, Mrs. Pell, Messrs. Prince, Pucci, Sherry and Stapleton.

The names of the absentees were called.

On motion of Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mr. Cote, the reading of the journal of the previous day was dispensed, on a voice vote.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Doris as Chairman of the Committee to conduct public hearings on the proposed constitution submitted his report as Chairman, on public hearings held in Pawtucket, East Greenwich, Bristol, Westerly, Cranston,

Newport, Woonsocket, and Providence.

The report was read.

The report was accepted on motion of Mr. Cote, seconded by Mr. Foster, on a voice vote,

#### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Ricci offered Resolution No. 48 entitled "Resolution of Intent".

The resolution was read.

Mr. Ricci, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved passage of the resolution.

The motion was debated.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Cochran and Bizier, moved that the resolution be laid on the table.

The motion to lay on the table prevailed on a voice vote.

Mr. Doris offered Resolution No. 49 entitled "RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION."

The resolution was read.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Cote, Foster and Chaharyn, moved passage of the resolution.

The chairman ruled that the resolution had to be referred to committee under the rules.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Administration of the Convention.

Mr. Doris offered Resolution No. 50 entitled "RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PERMANENT DEPOSIT OF CONVENTION DOCUMENTS".

The resolution was read.

Mr. Cote, seconded by Mr. Wexler, moved passage of the resolution.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

Mr. Wexler offered Resolution No. 51 entitled, "RESOLUTION TO PUBLISH COMPARISON".

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Administration of the Convention.

RECESS

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Foster and Viall, moved that the Convention be in recess for a period of twenty minutes.

Mr. Fanning announced that the committee on Administration of the Convention would meet during the recess.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote at 2:35 P.M.

ORDER

At 3:11 P.M. the chairman again called the convention to order.

By unanimous consent the convention referred back to Reports of Committees.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. Cannon, for the Committee on Administration of the Convention, reported back that the committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 49 entitled "RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION."

The resolution was read.

At 3:14 P.M. The Chairman yielded the rostrum to Mr. David D. Warren, First Vice Chairman.

Mr. Cannon, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved passage of the resolution.

The motion was debated.

On a division vote the motion prevailed 50 delegates voting in the affirmative and 10 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Cannon, for the Committee on Administration of the Convention, reported back that the Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 51 entitled "RESOLUTION TO PUBLISH COMPARISON".

The resolution was read.

Mr. Wexler, seconded by Messrs. Cote, Cochran, Wrenn and McGrath, moved passage of the resolution.

The motion was debated.

On a division vote the motion prevailed 56 delegates voting in the affirmative and 1 delegate voting in the negative.

Mr. Cannon, for the Committee on Administration of the Convention, reported back that the committee recommended adoption of a written motion that the Secretary of State be authorized to draw upon the convention appropriation for expenses of publishing the copies of the proposed constitution as required by law."

The motion was read.

Mr. Cote, seconded by Messrs. Chaharyn, Fontaine, Foster and McGrath, moved passage of the motion.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 61 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 3:55 P.M., on motion of Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Cochran, the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, May 13, 1968, at 1:30 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House, on a voice vote.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary  
Constitutional Convention