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## Journal of the Constitutional Convention, 1966 Jan 03

August P. LaFrance

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**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**JOURNAL OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

**Providence, Rhode Island**

**January 3, 1966**

The Convention was called to order by Mr. David D. Warren, First Vice Chairman at 1:35 P.M.

INVOCATION

The Chairman presented Reverend George Lawson, Assistant Minister of the Calvary Baptist Church, Providence, for the purpose of giving the Invocation. The Invocation was given.

The roll of delegates was called; there were 82 present, 17 absent. A quorum was present.

Absentees were Messrs. Cannon, Delehanty, Dodge, Gallagher, Gammino, Gates, Giguere, Jordan, LaFrance, Mrs. Lambros, Messrs. Lawrence, Macari, Martin, McCabe, Moon, Mmes. Pell and Webster.

The names of the absentees were called.

On nomination of Mr. Murray, seconded by Messrs. Sherry and Cote, Mr. Ernest A. Foster was elected Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of the Secretary of the Convention, unanimously.

On motion of Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mr. Murphy of Tiverton, the reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed, on a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman announced receipt of a letter of resignation from Mrs. Charlotte H. Webster.

On motion of Mr. Cote, seconded by Mr. Beauchemin the communication was accepted and referred to the Committee on Rules.

On motion of Mr. Cochran, the delegates extended to Reverend Lawson a rising vote of appreciation for his kindness in giving the Invocation.

The Chairman also announced receipt of a communication from the Women's Intergroup Committee.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Style and Drafting.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF PROPOSALS

The Chairman announced receipt of the following proposal:

Proposal No. 191, offered by Mr. Gorham of Scituate, entitled "Of the Legislative Power".

The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on the Legislative Department.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Cochran, recognized on a question of personal privilege, discussed a newspaper editorial.

At 2:05 P.M. Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, took the rostrum.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Chairman announced that he would present the report of the Committee of the Whole for December 6, 1965, a copy of which was on the desk of each delegate.

On motion of Mr. Cochran, seconded by Messrs. Dolbashian and Murphy of Tiverton, reading of the report was dispensed and the Convention proceeded to act thereon, on a voice vote.

The Chairman, as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on December 6, 1965, presented the report of the Committee of the Whole to the Convention and action was taken thereon as follows:

"The Committee of the Whole meeting on December 6, 1965, considered Proposal No. 129, 'Wiretapping'.

"The Committee on Personal Liberties did not recommend. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, a motion to reject the proposal prevailed."

Mr. Murphy of Warren, seconded by Mr. Dolbashian, moved that the proposal be rejected.

The proposal was read.

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

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 130, 'Capital Punishment'.

"The Committee on Personal Liberties did not recommend. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, a motion to reject the proposal prevailed."

Mr. Murphy of Warren, seconded by Mr. Gorham of Foster, moved that the proposal be rejected.

On a division vote, the motion prevailed, 62 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 170, 'Religious Freedom'.

"The Committee on Personal Liberties did not recommend. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, a motion to reject the proposal prevailed."

Mr. Murphy of Warren, seconded by Messrs. Dolbashian, Gallogly and Beauchemin, moved that the proposal be rejected.

On a division vote, the motion prevailed, 67 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 135, 'Capital Punishment'.

"The Committee on Personal Liberties did not recommend. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates voting, a motion to adopt the proposal failed."

Mr. Murphy of Warren, seconded by Messrs. Dolbashian, Gallogly and Gorham of Foster, moved that the proposal be rejected.

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

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 154, 'Freedom of Political Activity'.

"The Committee on Personal Liberties did not recommend. On a voice vote a motion to reject the proposal prevailed".

Mr. Murphy of Warren, seconded by Messrs. Dolbashian and Gallogly, moved that the proposal be rejected.

On a division vote, the motion prevailed, 60 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 157, "Executive Amendment"

"The Committee on the Executive Department did not recommend. On a voice vote a motion to reject the proposal prevailed."

Mr. Gallogly, seconded by Mr. Canna and Mrs. Pulner, moved that the proposal be rejected.

On a division vote, the motion prevailed, 64 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Also "The Committee considered Proposal No. 10013, 'Powers of the Governor.'

"The Committee on the Executive did not recommend. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, a motion to reject the proposal prevailed."

Mr. Gallogly, seconded by Mr. Warren and Mrs. Pulner, moved that the proposal be rejected.

The proposal was read.

On a division vote, the motion prevailed, 58 delegates voting in the affirmative and 0 delegates voting in the negative.

#### GENERAL ORDERS

Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mrs. Pulner, moved that the Convention resolve into a Committee of the Whole upon the General Orders of the Day.

The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

(For Journal of the Committee of the Whole see appendix, this journal.)

Upon the rising of the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman again called the Convention to order.

On suggestion of Mrs. Pulner, the delegates extended a rising vote of appreciation to the League of Women Voters of North Kingstown and Cranston, for their kindness in providing the refreshments.

Mr. DiLuglio announced that the Committee on the Legislative Department would meet on Monday at 7:30 P.M.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Cochran, Principe and Sherry, moved that the Convention adjourn to meet on Monday, January 10, 1966, at 2:00 P.M. in the chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House.

Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mrs. Barber, moved that the motion to adjourn be amended by substituting 1:00 for 2:00.

The motion to amend prevailed on a voice vote.

At 4:09 P.M., the amended motion to adjourn prevailed on a voice vote, and the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, January 10, 1966 at 1:00 P.M. in the chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary  
Constitutional Convention

A P P E N D I X

Journal of the Committee of the Whole

January 3, 1966

Upon the resolving of the Convention into a Committee of the Whole, the Chairman called the Committee of the Whole to order.

At 2:18 P.M. the Chairman yielded the rostrum to Mr. Warren, First Vice-Chairman.

GENERAL ORDERS

The Committee of the Whole proceeded to consider and act upon the General Orders of the Day.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Proposal No. 160 "Item Veto"

(The Committee on the Executive Department does not recommend.)

The Committee of the Whole continued consideration of the proposal.

Motion that the Committee of the Whole recommend adoption of the proposal had been made and seconded at the previous session of the Committee of the Whole.

The proposal was read.

The motion was debated.

Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mr. Matzner, offered the following written motion to amend:

"I propose the following amendments to Proposal No. 160 'Item Veto':

"In line 11 substitute the words 'a majority' for the words 'two-thirds'.

"In line 6, after the word 'objects' add ' and the reasons therefor'."

Edmund Wexler

The motion was read.

The motion was debated.

On a division vote the motion to amend prevailed, 66 delegates voting in the affirmative and 5 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Viall offered a written motion to amend.

Mr. Viall withdrew his motion.

Mr. Viall, seconded by Messrs. SaoBento and LaSalle, offered the following written motion to amend:

"I move to amend Proposal No. 160 by striking the words 'a majority' in sentence four (4) and inserting the words 'three-fifths'; and by inserting after the words 'General Assembly' in sentence four (4) the words, 'present and voting'."

Charles C. Viall

The motion was read.

Mr. Gallogly, seconded by Mr. Doris, moved that the motion to amend be laid on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was withdrawn.

On a division vote, the motion to amend did not prevail, 28 delegates voting in the affirmative and 43 delegates voting in the negative.

The motion that the Committee of the Whole recommend adoption of the proposal as amended did not prevail on a division vote, 36 delegates voting in the affirmative and 42 delegates voting in the negative.

Proposal No. 161 "Expenditures"

(The Committee on the Executive Department does not recommend.)

The proposal was read.

Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. McKiernan, moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend adoption of the proposal.

On a division vote, the motion did not prevail, 12 delegates voting in the affirmative and 38 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Beauchemin, Kagan and Bizier, moved that the Committee of the Whole rise.

On a division vote the motion prevailed, 39 delegates voting in the affirmative and 25 delegates voting in the negative.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary  
Constitutional Convention

# RHODE ISLAND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

ROLL CALL .....

DATE ..... 1/3/66 .....

AYES ..... 99 .....

NOES .....

ABSENT ..... 17 .....

PRESENT AND NOT VOTING .....

		AYES	NOES	ABS.	N. V.			AYES	NOES	ABS.	N. V.
Mr. Felix A. Appolonia.....	West Warwick	✓				Mr. Raymond E. Jordan.....	Pawtucket			✓	
" Vincent J. Baccari.....	Providence	✓				" Samuel C. Kagan.....	Providence	✓			
Mrs. Jane H. Barber.....	Westerly	✓				" Samuel J. Kanakry.....	Pawtucket	✓			
Mr. Roger A. Beauchemin.....	Pawtucket	✓				" Bradford H. Kenyon.....	West Greenwich	✓			
" Arthur A. Belhumeur.....	Central Falls	✓				<del>" James H. Kiernan.....</del>	<del>Providence</del>				
" Joseph A. Bevilacqua.....	Providence	✓				Mrs. Jeannette M. Lacroix.....	Lincoln	✓			
" Norman E. Bizier.....	Central Falls	✓				Mr. August P. LaFrance.....	Pawtucket			✓	
" Adrien Bissonnette.....	Woonsocket	✓				" John F. Lallo.....	Westerly	✓			
" Thomas H. Bride.....	Warwick	✓				Mrs. Demetra Lambros.....	Providence			✓	
" Domenic C. Canna.....	Bristol	✓				Mr. John W. Laporte.....	Burrillville	✓			
" Jeremiah H. Cannon.....	Providence	✓		✓		" A. Norman LaSalle.....	Warwick	✓			
Mrs. Claire Capuano.....	Woonsocket	✓				" Frederick A. Lawrence.....	Providence			✓	
" Aurora Castiglia.....	Cranston	✓				" Epifanio F. Macari.....	Cranston	✓			
Mr. Orist D. Chaharyn.....	Woonsocket	✓				" Edward P. Manning.....	Cumberland	✓			
" William J. Champion, Jr.....	Newport	✓				" Frank A. Martin, Jr.....	Pawtucket			✓	
" Eugene F. Cochran.....	Providence	✓				" William I. Matzner.....	Providence	✓			
Miss Elaine C. Colaneri.....	Providence	✓				" Francis H. McCabe.....	Pawtucket			✓	
Mr. David J. Colbert, Jr.....	Cranston	✓				" Thomas F. McGrath.....	Providence	✓			
" Kevin K. Coleman.....	Woonsocket	✓				" Vincent P. McKinnon.....	Pawtucket	✓			
" John P. Cooney, Jr.....	Providence	✓				" Donald E. McKiernan.....	Providence	✓			
" Edward B. Corcoran.....	Middletown	✓				" Arthur Merolla.....	Providence	✓			
" Osias Cote.....	Pawtucket	✓				" Edwin J. Moon.....	Exeter			✓	
" Lloyd R. Crandall.....	Hopkinton	✓				" Edward J. Mulligan.....	Central Falls	✓			
" Matthew C. Cunningham.....	Pawtucket	✓				" James E. Murphy.....	Warren	✓			
" Robert J. Delehanty.....	Newport	✓		✓		" James F. Murphy.....	Coventry	✓			
" Michael DeCiantis.....	West Warwick	✓				" William F. Murphy.....	Tiverton	✓			
" Thomas R. DiLuglio.....	Johnston	✓				" Paul F. Murray.....	Newport	✓			
" Domenic A. DiSandro, Jr.....	Narragansett	✓				" Charles Nathanson.....	Warwick	✓			
" Harry J. Dyl.....	Central Falls	✓				" Robert S. Ortoleva.....	Providence	✓			
" John C. Dodge.....	New Shoreham	✓		✓		Dr. John A. Parrillo.....	Providence	✓			
" Edward M. Dolbashian.....	Portsmouth	✓				Mrs. Nuala O'D. Pell.....	Newport	✓			✓
" John F. Doris.....	Woonsocket	✓				Mr. Robert F. Pickard.....	East Greenwich	✓			
" Stephen A. Fanning.....	Cumberland	✓				" Antonio Prince.....	Woonsocket	✓			
" Stephen A. Fanning, Jr.....	Providence	✓				" Anthony F. Principe.....	Bristol	✓			
" William A. Feeney.....	East Providence	✓				" Thomas D. Pucci.....	Providence	✓			
" Paul A. Fontaine.....	Woonsocket	✓				Mrs. Theresa F. Pulner.....	Cranston	✓			
" Ernest A. Foster.....	Pawtucket	✓				Mr. Hugo L. Ricci.....	Providence	✓			
" ..... ..	.....	✓				" Dennis J. Roberts.....	Providence	✓			
" ..... ..	.....	✓				" ..... ..	.....	✓			