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State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

JOURNAL OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Providence, Rhode Island

March 1, 1965

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, at 2:16 P.M.

INVOCATION

The Chairman presented Rev. Charles McCollough of Barrington Congregational Church, for the purpose of giving the Invocation. The Invocation was given.

The roll of delegates was called; there were 88 present, 11 absent. A quorum was present.

Absentees were Messrs. Appolonia, Belhumeur, Colbert, DeCiantis, Fanning of Providence, Foster, Kiernan, LaSalle, McGrath, Parrillo and Stapleton.

The names of the absentees were called.

Mr. Cannon, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved the reading of the journal of the previous day be dispensed. The motion was adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mrs. Foster for the Committee on Resolutions reported back Resolution #5, as amended, with recommendation of adoption as amended. Mrs. Foster moved that the recommendation of the Committee be adopted. Mr. Cote and Mr. Chaharyn seconded the motion. Mr. Wexler offered the following as a written motion to amend Resolution #5 as amended.

Constitutional Convention
Re: Committee on Style &
Drafting

"On comparing Michigan rule from which R.I. rule was obviously copied we find that on line 4 after the word drafting there has been deleted the following: 'and shall consider and make recommendations on any differences, conflicts or unresolved matters of substance.'

"In line 8 after word empowered there has been deleted the following language: 'to recommend referral of proposals submitted to it to any committee which may have an interest in the proposal.' and the following language substituted: 'without reference back to the convention to confer with any committee which may have an interest on the proposal.' "

Mr. Matzner seconded the motion to amend.

Mr. DiLuglio, seconded by Mr. Martin, moved that the motion to amend Resolution #5 as amended be laid on the table. The motion to lay on the table was adopted on a voice vote.

Resolution #5 as amended was adopted on a division vote; 74 delegates voting in the affirmative, 0 delegates voting in the negative.

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland for the Committee on Administration of the Convention reported back that the Committee had established the lower floor of 95 Davis Street, Providence as permanent headquarters and office of the Convention, adopted an organizational and personnel plan, authorized purchase of furniture, equipment and supplies, approved expenditure of \$1,566.15 for services, equipment and supplies, established a compensation plan for some Convention employees, and appointed or engaged the following persons for the following duties:

Mr. Edward P. Conaty, Executive Director;
Mr. Paul B. McMahon, Journal Clerk and Parliamentarian;
Miss Ann-Marie Hughes, Stenographer;
Mr. Vincent Murray, Convention Reporter; and
Mrs. Margaret Hammann, Duplicating Machine Operator.

The report was read and accepted on motion of Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mr. Murphy of Tiverton, on a voice vote.

Mr. Murphy of Tiverton for the Committee on Public Information reported back that the Committee had initiated a program designed to inform the public on Convention business.

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

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSALS

The Chairman announced receipt of the following proposals:

Proposal No. 46 offered by Mr. Gorham of Foster entitled "Of Local Government". The Proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

Proposal No. 47 offered by Mr. Belhumeur entitled "Municipal Elections." The Proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote.

Proposal No. 48 offered by Mr. Cochran entitled "Legislative Department." The Proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Legislative Department.

Proposal No. 49 offered by Mr. Murphy of Tiverton entitled "Restricting candidates to one place for each office on any ballot." The Proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote.

Proposal No. 10001 offered by a qualified elector, Howard R. Haronian of Warwick entitled "To amend Article XIX of the Amendments of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island by the Annulment thereof and in its Place Providing the Following: Composition of Senate." The Proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Legislative Department.

Proposal No. 10002 offered by a qualified elector, Andrew T. Dennehy of Pawtucket relative to teaching, study and reading of the Constitution in schools. The Proposal was referred to the Committee on Education.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland offered Resolution No. 9 entitled "Resolution proposing an amendment to the Rules." The Resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

On suggestion of Mr. Willey, the delegates extended Rev. McCollough a unanimous rising vote of appreciation for his kindness in giving the Invocation.

Mr. Gallogly offered Resolution No. 10. The Resolution was referred to the Committee on Administration of the Convention.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland announced that the Committee on Administration of the Convention would meet at the rising of the Convention.

Mr. Wexler announced that the Committee on Style and Drafting would meet at the rising of the Convention.

Mr. Corcoran welcomes a group of students as guests at the Convention.

Mr. DiLuglio announced that the Committee on Legislative Department would meet at the rising of the Convention.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Murray offered Resolution No. 11 entitled "Proposed Amendment to Rule 9c." The Resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DiLuglio, seconded by Mr. Cochran, moved that the Convention adjourn to meet on Monday, March 15, 1965 at 2:00 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House. The motion to adjourn passed on a voice vote at 3:05 P.M. and the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, March 15, 1965 at 2:00 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives.

August P. LaFrance
Secretary of the Convention