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State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

**JOURNAL OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

Providence, Rhode Island

July 19, 1965

The Convention was called to order by Mr. Dennis J. Roberts, Chairman, at 2:25 P.M.

INVOCATION

The Chairman presented Reverend Dean Stenning of the Cathedral of St. John, Providence, for the purpose of giving the Invocation. The Invocation was given.

The roll of delegates was called; there were 71 present, 28 absent. A quorum was present.

Absentees were Messrs. Appolonia, Baccari, Mrs. Barber, Messrs. Beauchemin, Bizier, Bride, Mrs. Capuano, Messrs. Cunningham, Delehanty, DeCiantis, Dyl, Dodge, Dolbashian, Fanning of Providence, Feeney, Fontaine, Gallagher, Gates, Giguere, Kagan, Kiernan, Martin, Matzner, McCabe, Merolla, Murphy of Warren, Murphy of Coventry and SaoBento.

The names of the absentees were called.

OATH OF OFFICE

Notification by the Board of Elections of election of a delegate was received as follows:

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
50 BRANCH AVENUE, PROVIDENCE

Honorable August P. LaFrance
Secretary of State
State House
Providence, Rhode Island

Honorable Sir:

We have the honor to notify you that in the Special Election held on June 24, 1965 in the 18th Representative District of the City of Providence ELAINE C. COLANERI of 34 Dexter Street was Elected a DELEGATE to Represent said 18th Representative District in the Constitutional Convention now being held:

The vote being:

ELAINE C. COLANERI.....404
ALBERT E. DE ROBBIO.....171

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have
hereunto set our hands and caused our
seal to be affixed in the City of Provi-
dence this Second day of July in the
year of our Lord one thousand nine
hundred and sixty-fifth.

Albert J. Lamarre, Chairman

George M. Westlake

Harry F. Curvin

John Conley

ATTEST:

Peter J. Pimentel, Secretary

The Chairman appointed Messrs. Champion and Cochran as a
committee to escort Miss Elaine C. Colaneri, Delegate from the 18th
Representative District of the City of Providence, to the rostrum
for the purpose of administering the oath of office.

The delegates attend as the oath of office is administered to
Miss Elaine C. Colaneri by Honorable August P. LaFrance, Secretary of
State, Secretary of the Constitutional Convention.

The Chairman presented Mr. Frank Grad, Professor of Law at
Columbia Law School. Mr. Grad addressed the Convention.

On suggestion of Mr. Wrenn, the delegates extended Reverend
Stenning a rising vote of appreciation for his kindness in giving
the Invocation.

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

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Belheumer, for the Committee on Local Government, reported
back that by a vote of 12 to 1, together with a minority report, the
Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 18 "Abolishment of City and Town Governments"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee
of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Cannon, for the Committee on Local Government, reported back that by a vote of 12 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 101 "Alcoholic Beverages"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Cochran, for the Committee on Local Government, reported back that by a vote of 12 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 122 "Personal Liberty"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Coleman, for the Committee on Local Government, reported back that by a vote of 12 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 102 "Information from Holders of Alcoholic Beverage Licenses:

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. DiSandro, for the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote, reported back that by a vote of 8 to 2, the committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 6 "Of Suffrage"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. DiSandro, for the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote, reported back that by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 17 "Means Qualifications"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. DiSandro, for the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote, reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the Committee recommended the following proposal:

Proposal No. 22 "Of the Qualifications of Electors"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. DiSandro, for the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote, reported back that by a vote of 10 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 49 "Restricting Candidates to One Place for Each Office on any Ballot"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mrs. Webster, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 111 "General Auditor"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mrs. Webster, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 112 "General Treasurer"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Warren, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 53 "Protection of Salt Water Resources"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mrs. Pulner, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 43 "Civil Service"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Macari, for the Committee on the Executive Department,

reported back that by a vote of 11 to 0, the committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 121 "Attorney General"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Crandall, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 9 to 2, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 134 "Governor's Mansion"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Nathanson, for the Committee on the Executive Department, reported back that by a vote of 9 to 1, the Committee did not recommend the following proposal:

Proposal No. 158 "Attorney General"

The proposal and report were accepted, referred to the Committee of the Whole and placed on the General Orders.

Mr. Murray, for the Committee on Rules and Credentials, reported back that the determination of the qualified electors' status of the sponsors of the following qualified electors' proposals had been made and reported back for reference to committees the following proposals:

Qualified Elector's Proposal No. 10011. The proposal was referred to the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote.

Qualified Elector's Proposal No. 10012. The proposal was referred to the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman announced receipt of a communication relative to constitutional declaration of freedom of religion and the communication was referred to the Committee on Elections and Right to Vote.

INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSALS

The Chairman announced receipt of the following proposals:

Proposal No. 168 offered by Mr. Willey, entitled "Proposed Amendment to Rhode Island Constitution outlining Veto Procedure in the General Assembly, and memorandum concerning same." The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Legislative Department.

Proposal No. 169 offered by Mr. Willey, entitled "Proposed amendment to the Constitution limiting the legislative power of the General Assembly over cities and towns." The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

Proposal No. 170 offered by Mr. Toolin, (by request). The proposal was referred to the Committee on Personal Liberties.

Proposal No. 171 (Committee Proposal) offered by the Committee on Resolutions, entitled "Of Amendments". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Proposal No. 172 offered by Messrs. LaFrance and Gallogly, entitled "State Bond Referenda". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Executive Department.

Proposal No. 10013 offered by a qualified elector, John M. Sherman of Providence, entitled "Powers of the Governor". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

Proposal No. 10014 offered by a qualified Elector, John M. Sherman of Providence, entitled "Citizens Rights". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

Proposal No. 10015 offered by a qualified elector, John M. Sherman of Providence, entitled "Citizens voting rights". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

Proposal No. 10016 offered by a qualified elector, John M. Sherman of Providence, entitled "Citizens rights...the right of Initiative". The proposal was read by title and referred to the Committee on Rules and Credentials.

GENERAL ORDERS

On motion of Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Cannon, the Convention resolved into a Committee of the Whole upon the General Orders of the Day, 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.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Chairman, as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on June 21, 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 considered the following proposal:

"Proposal No. 28 "Distribution of Powers"

"The Committee on the Executive Department recommended that the proposal be adopted and on a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, the Committee of the Whole recommended to the Convention that the proposal be adopted."

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

Also, "the Committee of the Whole considered Proposal No. 10 "Acting Governor".

"The Committee on the Executive Department recommended that the proposal not be adopted. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, the Committee of the Whole recommended to the Convention that the proposal not be adopted."

Mr. Gallogly, seconded by Messrs. Cochran and Warren moved that the Committee recommendation be adopted and that the proposal not be adopted.

Mr. Murray discussed the proposal. The roll of delegates was called and the motion passed, 67 delegates voting in the affirmative; 2 delegates voting in the negative; and 31 delegates absent as follows:

AYES - 67

Joseph A. Bevilacqua - Providence
Adrien Bissonnette - Woonsocket
Domenic C. Canna - Bristol
Jeremiah H. Cannon - Providence
Aurora Castiglia - Cranston
Orist D. Chaharyn - Woonsocket
William J. Champion, Jr. - Newport
Eugene F. Cochran - Providence
Elaine C. Colaneri - Providence
David J. Colbert, Jr. - Cranston
Kevin K. Coleman - Woonsocket
John P. Cooney, Jr. - Providence
Edward B. Corcoran - Middletown
Osias Cote - Pawtucket
Lloyd R. Crandall - Hopkinton
Raymond E. Jordan - Pawtucket
Samuel J. Kanakry - Pawtucket
Bradford H. Kenyon - W. Greenwich
Jeannette M. Lacroix - Lincoln
August P. LaFrance - Pawtucket

Thomas R. DiLuglio - Johnston
Domenic A. DiSandro, Jr. - Narragansett
John F. Doris - Woonsocket
Stephen A. Fanning - Cumberland
Ernest A. Foster - Pawtucket
Millicent S. Foster - N. Kingstown
Edward P. Gallogly - Providence
Michael A. Gammino, Jr. - Providence
William J. Gmelin - Charlestown
Fulda E. Geoffroy-West Warwick
Anthony Giangiacomo - Providence
Bradford Gorham - Foster
John Gorham - Scituate
George D. Greenhalgh - Glocester
A. Marion Hager - Cranston
Robert S. Ortoleva - Providence
Dr. John A. Parrillo - Providence
Nuala O'D. Pell - Newport
Robert F. Pickard - E. Greenwich
Antonio Prince - Woonsocket

AYES - 67 - CONTINUED

John F. Lallo - Westerly
Demetra Lambros - Providence
John W. Laporte - Burrillville
Frederick A. Lawrence - Providence
Epifanio F. Macari - Cranston
Edward P. Manning - Cumberland
Thomas F. McGrath - Providence
Vincent P. McKinnon - Pawtucket
Donald E. McKiernan - Providence
Charles Nathanson - Warwick

Anthony F. Principe - Bristol
Thomas D. Pucci - Providence
Theresa F. Pulner - Cranston
Hugo L. Ricci - Providence
Dennis J. Roberts - Providence
Owen V. Sherry - No. Smithfield
Howard R. Smart, Jr. - Lincoln
John J. Toolin - Richmond
Anthony Vacca - Smithfield
Charles C. Viall - E. Providence
David D. Warren - No. Providence
Charlotte H. Webster - E. Providence
Edmund Wexler - Providence
Grafton H. Willey, III - Barrington
John J. Wrenn - Providence

NOES - 2

A. Norman LaSalle - Warwick

Paul F. Murray - Newport

ABSENT - 31

Felix A. Appolonia - West Warwick
Vincent J. Baccari - Providence
Jane H. Barber - Westerly
Roger A. Beauchemin - Pawtucket
Norman E. Bizier - Central Falls
Thomas H. Bride - Warwick
Claire Capuano - Woonsocket
Matthew C. Cunningham - Pawtucket
Robert J. Delehanty - Newport
Michael DeCiantis - West Warwick
Harry J. Dyl - Central Falls
John C. Dodge - New Shoreham
Edward M. Dolbashian - Portsmouth
Stephen A. Fanning, Jr. - Providence
William A. Feeney - East Providence

Paul A. Fontaine - Woonsocket
James A. Gallagher - Jamestown
Robert B. Gates - S. Kingstown
Noel A. Giguere - Woonsocket
Samuel C. Kagan - Providence
James H. Kiernan - Providence
Frank A. Martin, Jr. - Pawtucket
William I. Matzner - Providence
Francis H. McCabe - Pawtucket
Arthur Merolla - Providence
Edwin J. Moon - Exeter
Augusto W. SaoBento - E. Providence
Alfred B. Stapleton - Little Compton
James E. Murphy - Warren
James F. Murphy - Coventry

Mr. Corcoran recognized on a point of order submits that a vote is not necessary to reject a proposal.

The Chairman ruled that Rule 67 required a vote on every proposal except qualified electors' proposals.

Also, "the Committee of the Whole considered Proposal No. 11 "Executive Department".

"The Committee on the Executive Department recommended that the proposal not be adopted. On a division vote, with a majority of the delegates so voting, the Committee of the Whole recommended to the Convention that Proposal No. 11 not be adopted."

Mr. Gallogly, seconded by Messrs. Cochran and Wrenn, moved that the committee recommendation be adopted and that the proposal not be adopted. The roll was called and the motion passed, 64 delegates voting in the affirmative; 3 delegates voting in the negative; and 33 delegates absent as follows:

AYES - 64

Joseph A. Bevilacqua-Providence	John F. Doris-Woonsocket
Adrien Bissonnette-Woonsocket	Ernest A. Foster-Pawtucket
Domenic C. Canna-Bristol	Millicent S. Foster-N.Kingstown
Jeremiah H. Cannon-Providence	Edward P. Gallogly-Providence
Orist D. Chaharyn-Woonsocket	Michael A. Gammino, Jr.-Providence
William J. Champion, Jr.-Newport	William J. Gmelin-Charlestown
Eugene F. Cochran-Providence	Fulda E. Geoffroy-West Warwick
Elaine C. Colaneri-Providence	Anthony Giangiacomo-Providence
David J. Colbert, Jr.-Cranston	Bradford Gorham-Foster
Kevin K. Coleman-Woonsocket	John Gorham-Scituate
John P. Cooney, Jr.-Providence	George D. Greenhalgh-Glocester
Edward B. Corcoran-Middletown	A. Marion Hager-Cranston
Osias Cote-Pawtucket	Raymond E. Jordan-Pawtucket
Lloyd R. Crandall-Hopkinton	Samuel J. Kanakry-Pawtucket
Thomas R. DiLuglio-Johnston	Bradford H. Kenyon-W.Greenwich
Domenic A. DiSandro, Jr.-Narragansett	Jeannette M. Lacroix-Lincoln
August P. LaFrance-Pawtucket	Robert F. Pickard-E. Greenwich
John F. Lallo-Westerly	Antonio Prince-Woonsocket
Demetra Lambros-Providence	Anthony F. Principe-Bristol
John W. Laporte-Burrillville	Thomas D. Pucci-Providence
Frederick A. Lawrence-Providence	Theresa F. Pulner-Cranston
Epifanio F. Macari-Cranston	Hugo L. Ricci-Providence
Edward P. Manning-Cumberland	Dennis J. Roberts-Providence
Thomas F. McGrath-Providence	Owen V. Sherry-North Smithfield
Vincent P. McKinnon-Pawtucket	Howard R. Smart, Jr.-Lincoln
Donald E. McKiernan-Providence	John J. Toolin-Richmond
Edward J. Mulligan-Central Falls	Charles C. Viall-E. Providence
William F. Murphy-Tiverton	David D. Warren-North Providence
Charles Nathanson - Warwick	Charlotte H. Webster - E. Providence
Robert S. Ortoleva-Providence	Edmund Wexler-Providence
Dr. John A. Parrillo-Providence	Grafton H. Willey, III - Barrington
Nuala O'D. Pell-Newport	John J. Wrenn-Providence

NOES - 3

Stephen A. Fanning-Cumberland	A. Norman LaSalle - Warwick
Paul F. Murray-Newport	

ABSENT - 33

Felix A. Appolonia-West Warwick
Vincent J. Baccari-Providence
Jane H. Barber-Westerly
Roger A. Beauchemin-Pawtucket
Arthur A. Belhumeur-Central Falls
Norman E. Bizier-Central Falls
Thomas H. Bride-Warwick
Claire Capuano-Woonsocket
Aurora Castiglia-Cranston
Matthew C. Cunningham-Pawtucket
Robert J. Delehanty-Newport
Michael DeCiantis-W. Warwick
Harry J. Dyl-Central Falls
John C. Dodge-New Shoreham
Edward M. Dolbashian-Portsmouth

Stephen A. Fanning, Jr.-Providence
William A. Feeney-East Providence
Paul A. Fontaine-Woonsocket
James A. Gallagher-Jamestown
Robert B. Gates-So. Kingstown
Noel A. Giguere-Woonsocket
Samuel C. Kagan-Providence
James H. Kiernan-Providence
Frank A. Martin, Jr.-Pawtucket
William I. Matzner-Providence
Francis H. McCabe-Pawtucket
Arthur Merolla-Providence
Edwin J. Moon-Exeter
James E. Murphy-Warren
James F. Murphy-Coventry
Augusto W. SaoBento-East Providence
Anthony Vacca-Smithfield

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:30 P.M., on motion of Mr. DiLuglio, seconded by Messrs. Cochran, Foster, Parrillo, Toolin and Murphy of Tiverton, the Convention adjourned to meet on Monday, August 2, 1965 at 2:00 P.M. in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the State House on a voice vote.

August P. LaFrance, Secretary
Constitutional Convention

A-P-P-E-N-D-I-X

Journal of the Committee of the Whole

July 19, 1965

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

The Chairman inquired if there was a motion to reconsider any of the action taken at the last meeting of the Committee of the Whole. There was none.

Mr. Wexler, seconded by Mr. Cannon, moved that the Committee of the Whole rise. The motion prevailed on a voice vote.

August P. Lafrance, Secretary
Constitutional Convention