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December 1964

## Journal of the Constitutional Convention, 1964 Dec 8

August P. LaFrance

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# JOURNAL OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Providence, Rhode Island

December 8, 1964

The Convention was called to order by Honorable Francis B. Condon, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, at 10:20 A.M. in the State Auditorium in the Veterans' Memorial Building in the City of Providence.

Honorable August P. LaFrance, Secretary of State, serving as Temporary Secretary of the Convention read the call of the Convention and the certification of the results of the voting by the qualified electors on the question which was as follows:

APPROVE	158,241
REJECT	70,975

The roll of delegates elected to the Convention as certified by the Board of Elections was read and constituted as a temporary roll call of the delegates as follows:

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

To the Honorable President  
Constitutional Convention to be held December 8, 1964

Sir:

WE HEREBY DECLARE that at the Election held on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November A.D. 1964, the following persons were elected a DELEGATE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION to be held on December 8, 1964:

From Barrington	Grafton H. Willey III 4 Stratford Road
From Bristol 1st District	Anthony F. Principe 2 Third Street
2nd District	Domenic C. Canna 117 Beach Road
From Burrillville	John W. Laporte Centennial Street, Bridgeton

## From Central Falls

1st District

Norman E. Bizier  
54 Fletcher Street

2nd District

Arthur A. Belhumeur  
250 Shawmut Avenue

3rd District

Harry J. Dyl  
199 Cross Street

4th District

Edward J. Mulligan  
157 Hedley Avenue

## From Charlestown

William J. Gmelin  
Bradford, R.F.D.

## From Coventry

James F. Murphy  
22 South Main Street

## From Cranston

1st District

A. Marion Hager  
108 Fort Avenue, Edgewood

2nd District

Theresa F. Pulner  
780 Pontiac Avenue

3rd District

Aurora Castiglia  
147 Flint Avenue

4th District

David J. Colbert, Jr.  
16 Oakwood Drive

5th District

Epifanio F. Macari  
1340 Plainfield Street

## From Cumberland

1st District

Stephen A. Fanning  
116 Dexter Street

2nd District

Edward P. Manning  
Nate Whipple Highway

## From East Greenwich

Robert F. Pickard  
59 Rector Street

## From East Providence

1st District

Charlotte H. Webster  
70 Greenwood Avenue

From East Providence-continued 2nd District	Charles C. Viall 45 James Street
3rd District	Augusto W. Sao Bento 685 Warren Avenue
4th District	William A. Feeney 30 Howard Street, Riverside
From Exeter	Edwin J. Moon Slocum, R.F.D.
From Foster	Bradford Gorham Plainfield Pike
From Gloucester	George D. Greenhalgh Douglas Hook Road, Chepachet
From Hopkinton	Lloyd R. Crandall 69 Broad Street, Ashaway
From Jamestown	James A. Gallagher 31 Clinton Avenue
From Johnston	Thomas R. DiLuglio 934 Hartford Avenue
From Lincoln 1st District	Jeannette M. Lacroix 27 School Street, Albion
2nd District	Howard Randall Smart, Jr. 76 Grandview Avenue
From Little Compton	Alfred B. Stapleton West Main Road
From Middletown	Edward B. Corcoran 5 Longmeadow Avenue
From Narragansett	Domenic A. DiSandro, Jr. Pettaquamscutt Lake Road
From Newport 1st District	Robert J. Delehanty 25 Bedlow Avenue

From Newport-continued 2nd District	William J. Champion, Jr. 25 County Street
3rd District	Paul K. Murray 2 Kay Street
4th District	Nuala O'D. Pell Ledge Road
From New Shoreham	John C. Dodge Connecticut Avenue
From North Kingstown	Millicent S. Foster 750 Stony Lane
From North Providence	David D. Warren 42 Belcourt Avenue
From North Smithfield	Owen V. Sherry 22 Birch Hill Avenue
From Pawtucket 1st District	Vincent P. McKinnon 890 Roosevelt Avenue
2nd District	Samuel J. Kanakry 68 Gooding Street
3rd District	Roger A. Beauchemin 923 Newport Avenue
4th District	August P. LaFrance 58 Felsmere Avenue
5th District	Matthew C. Cunningham 263 Prospect Street
6th District	Francis H. McCabe 167 Dexter Street
7th District	Frank A. Martin, Jr. 25 Nathanael Avenue
8th District	Osias Cote 817 Main Street
9th District	Ernest A. Foster 23 Utton Avenue

From Pawtucket-continued 10th District	Raymond E. Jordan 262 Hillside Avenue
From Portsmouth	Edward M. Dolbashian 600 Boyds Lane
From Providence 1st District	Frederick A. Lawrence 24 John Street
2nd District	William I. Matzner 204 Butler Avenue
3rd District	Dennis J. Roberts 234 Irving Avenue
4th District	Michael A. Gammino, Jr. 140 Prospect Street
5th District	John P. Cooney, Jr. 2 Catalpa Road
6th District	Hugo L. Ricci 78 Commodore Street
7th District	John A. Parrillo 340 Woodward Road
8th District	Thomas D. Pucci 40 Brentwood Avenue
9th District	Stephen A. Fanning, Jr. 67 Tyndall Avenue
10th District	Samuel C. Kagan 161 Orms Street
11th District	Thomas F. McGrath 78 Elm Street
12th District	Vincent J. Baccari 80 Vinton Street
13th District	James H. Kiernan 122 Beaufort Street
14th District	Robert S. Ortoleva 18 Ridgeway Avenue

From Providence-continued

15th District

Anthony Giangiacomo  
24 Melissa Street

16th District

Joseph A. Bevilacqua  
125 Pocasset Avenue

17th District

Arthur Merolla  
56 Oak Street

18th District

Anthony Tarro  
262 Knight Street

19th District

John J. Wrenn  
177 Bellevue Avenue

20th District

Jeremiah H. Cannon  
62 Alvin Street

21st District

Eugene F. Cochran  
87 Princeton Avenue

22nd District

Edward P. Gallogly  
179 Ontario Street

23rd District

Edmund Wexler  
38 Pearl Street

24th District

Donald E. McKiernan  
121 Harriet Street

25th District

Demetra Lambros  
334 New York Avenue

From Richmond

John J. Toolin  
Wood River Junction

From Scituate

John Gorham  
Silk Lane, North Scituate

From Smithfield

Anthony Vacca  
43 Maplecrest Drive

From South Kingstown

Robert B. Gates  
66 Silver Lake Avenue, Wakefield

From Tiverton

William F. Murphy  
3 Bobbin Hill Road

From Warren	James E. Murphy 906 Main Street
From Warwick	
1st District	Thomas H. Bride 138 Ann Mary Brown Drive
2nd District	A. Normand LaSalle 3217 West Shore Road
3rd District	Charles Nathanson 109 Timberline Road
From Westerly	
1st District	John F. Lallo 5 Pierce Street
2nd District	Jane H. Barber Watch Hill Road
From West Greenwich	Bradford H. Kenyon Fish Hill Road
From West Warwick	
1st District	Felix A. Appolonia 16 Alden Drive
2nd District	Michael DeCiantis 45 Greene Street
3rd District	Fulda E. Geoffroy 46 West Street
From Woonsocket	
1st District	Claire Capuano 139 Valley Street
2nd District	Kevin K. Coleman 63 Bernice Avenue
3rd District	Orist D. Chaharyn 35 Lyman Street
4th District	John F. Doris 268 High Street
5th District	Antonio Prince 179 Prospect Street



From Woonsocket-continued

6th District

Paul A. Fontaine  
81 Wood Avenue

7th District

Adrien Bissonnette  
58 Annette Avenue

8th District

Noel A. Giguere  
342 Paradis Avenue

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused our seal to be affixed in the City of Providence this First day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Albert J. Lamarre

Chairman

S E A L

George M. Westlake

Harry F. Curvin

James T. Lyman

ATTEST:

Peter J. Pimental

Secretary

Absentees were Messrs. Canna, Chaharyn, LaSalle and Merolla.

Communications from the League of Women Voters were read.

The Temporary Chairman appointed the following Delegates as a Temporary Committee on Credentials:

- Kevin K. Coleman of Woonsocket
- James F. Murphy of Coventry
- Paul F. Murray of Newport
- Robert F. Pickard of East Greenwich, and
- Alfred B. Stapleton of Little Compton.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Foster, moved that the Temporary Roll as certified by the Board of Elections be made the Permanent Roll of the Convention. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

The Temporary Chairman administered the oath to the Delegates with the exception of Millicent S. Foster of North Kingstown who thereafter made affirmation thereto.

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland, seconded by Mr. Manning, moved that the temporary rules be adopted as follows:

"1. Until rules of order are adopted, rulings shall be in the discretion of the presiding officer, subject to an appeal to the Convention.

"2. The president shall appoint a Temporary Secretary and a Temporary Recorder.

"3. The election of permanent officers of the Convention - the person receiving the largest number of votes cast shall be declared elected to each office being balloted upon.

"4. The Certificate of Election by the Board of Elections shall constitute the Temporary Roll.

"5. Until rules are adopted, all action of the Convention shall be by majority vote."

Mr. Doris, seconded by Messrs. Foster and Beauchemin, moved that Rule No. 3 of the proposed Temporary Rules be amended to read as follows:

"3. The election of the permanent officers shall be by a majority vote of those elected Delegates present and voting."

The motion to amend was adopted on a voice vote.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved that the Temporary Rules, as amended, be adopted. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

#### ORGANIZATION

The Temporary Chairman declared that the election of a Permanent Chairman was in order.

Mr. Bride nominated Mr. Dennis J. Roberts of Providence to be Permanent Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Messrs. Pickard, Fanning of Cumberland, Coleman, Murray, and Warren and Mmes. Capuano and Webster.

Mr. Appolonia nominated Mr. John F. Doris of Woonsocket to be Permanent Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Messrs. Cote, Bizier, Sao Bento, Beauchemin, Ricci, Wrenn, Belhumeur, Cochran, Dyl, Kagan and Kanakry.

Mr. DiLuglio suggested that the vote for Permanent Chairman be made by Roll Call.

Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved that the vote for Permanent Chairman be made by ballot. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

The Temporary Chairman ruled that the Delegates deposit their ballots in the container in person as each name is called. The Delegates balloted for election of the Permanent Chairman.

The Temporary Chairman named the following Delegates as Tellers: Messrs. LaFrance, Appolonia and Fanning of Cumberland. The count of the ballots was reported as follows:

TOTAL VOTES CAST	95
Dennis J. Roberts	62
John F. Doris	33

Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Foster, moved that Mr. Dennis J. Roberts of Providence be unanimously elected Permanent Chairman of the Convention. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

The Temporary Chairman appointed Mr. Doris and Mr. Fanning of Cumberland as a Committee to escord Mr. Roberts to the rostrum. The Temporary Chairman yielded the rostrum to Mr. Roberts as Permanent Chairman.

On suggestion of Mr. Fanning of Cumberland, the Delegates extended to the Temporary Chairman a rising vote of appreciation for his kindness in serving the Convention.

Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Beauchemin, moved that the Convention present to Honorable Francis B. Condon a suitably engraved gavel as a momento of the Convention. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Doris, moved that an invitation be extended to His Excellency, John H. Chafee, Governor, to address the Convention. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved that the Chairman appoint a committee to extend the invitation to His Excellency, the Governor. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

The Chairman appointed the following Delegates as a Committee to extend the invitation to His Excellency, the Governor: Messrs. Coleman, Doris, and Pickard; Mmes. Pell, Webster and Capuano.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Cote, moved that the Convention proceed to elect a Permanent Secretary. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Doris nominated Mr. August P. LaFrance of Pawtucket to be Permanent Secretary of the Convention. The nomination was seconded by Messrs. Foster, Fanning of Cumberland, Warren, Cote, Bizier, Cochran, Beauchemin, Wrenn and Kagan.

Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Fanning of Cumberland, moved that nominations be closed. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Mr. LaFrance was elected Permanent Secretary of the Convention unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Coleman reported that His Excellency, the Governor, will address the Convention at 1:45 P.M.

Mr. Manning, seconded by Mrs. Capuano, moved that the Convention recess until 1:30 P.M. The motion was adopted on a voice vote at 12:05 P.M.

RECESS

The Convention was called to order by the Chairman at 1:52 P.M.

The Chairman presented His Excellency, John H. Chafee, Governor, who addressed the Convention.

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland offered proposed rules for the Convention.

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland moved, seconded by Mr. Foster, that the Chairman appoint a temporary rules committee. The motion was adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Sherry, moved that the Convention recess for fifteen minutes. The motion was adopted on a voice vote, at 2:05 P.M.

RECESS

The Convention was called to order by the Chairman at 2:22 P.M.

The Chairman appointed the following delegates to be members of the Temporary Rules Committee and designated Mr. Fanning of Cumberland as Chairman.

Stephen A. Fanning, Chairman  
John F. Doris  
Grafton H. Willey  
David D. Warren  
Edward P. Gallogly  
Thomas D. Pucci  
Thomas R. DiLuglio  
Edward B. Corcoran  
Domenic A. DiSandro, Jr.

## Temporary Rules Committee-continued

Millicent S. Foster  
James F. Murphy  
Theresa F. Pulner  
Edward M. Dolbashian  
Paul F. Murray  
Kevin K. Coleman  
Osias Cote  
Thomas H. Bride, Jr.  
John P. Cooney, Jr.

The proposed rules were referred to the Temporary Rules Committee.

Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Murray, moved that the Convention elect two Vice-Chairmen.

Mr. Matzner moved that the election of further officers be postponed until permanent rules are adopted. Mr. Matzner withdrew his motion.

Mr. Matzner moved, seconded by Mr. Doris, that the motion of Mr. Coleman be laid on the table.

A roll call was requested.

The roll was called and the motion to elect two Vice-Chairmen was laid on the table by the following vote: 47 votes in the affirmative, 44 votes in the negative, 5 delegates not voting and 4 delegates absent.

Mr. Doris, seconded by Mr. Foster, moved that the Convention recess until January 11, 1965.

Mr. DiLuglio, seconded by Mr. Foster, moved to amend the original motion by adding thereto the following:

"or sooner upon call of the Chair at 10:00 A.M. in the State Auditorim in the Veterans' Memorial Building in the City of Providence."

The motion to amend was adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Ricci suggested that copies of the proposed rules be transmitted to the Delegates by the Secretary of the Convention.

Mr. Fanning of Cumberland announced that a meeting of the Temporary Rules Committee would be held in Room 313 at the State House on Saturday, December 12, 1964, at 10:00 a.m.

The amended motion to recess was adopted on a voice vote and at 3:00 P.M. the Convention recessed until January 11, 1965 at 10:00 A.M., or sooner at the call of the Chair, in the State Auditorium in the Veterans' Memorial Building in the City of Providence.

August P. LaFrance  
Secretary of the  
Constitutional Convention