

ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

JOURNAL OF THE TENTH CONVENTION DAY, November 17, 1955

The Convention was called to order by President Egan at 9:00 o'clock A.M.

The Invocation was given by Reverend A. E. Purviance, Minister of the First Methodist Church of Fairbanks.

Roll call showed all present except Mr. R. Rivers. The President declared a quorum present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Telegram from C. E. Peck, Grand Secretary, Alaska Native Brotherhood sending greetings to the delegates from the delegates seated in the Forty-third annual convention of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood at Petersburg, was read and ordered filed.

Communication from the President of the University of Alaska calling the delegates' attention to a special lecture series at the University Gymnasium Thursday evening November 17--the speaker to be Dr. Thomas R. Davis of the Arctic Aeromedical Laboratory was read.

Announcement of the Music Department's fall concert at the University Sunday, November 20, at 3 P. M. was read.

Resolution from the League of Alaskan Cities extending greetings to the Constitutional Convention, stating its interest in a good and equitable solution to the local government needs of Alaska and offering its help in every possible way, was read and ordered filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Cross, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions and Recommendations submitted the following report:

"Whereas the Convention on November 14, 1955, referred to this Committee for action the following motion, which was made by R. E. Robertson and seconded by Maurice T. Johnson, namely:

'I move that it is the intent of this convention that the Constitution should be a document of fundamental principles of basic law, and contain only the framework for state government, with all the details to be ordained in the discretion of future legislatures.'

"Now, upon consideration of said motion,

IT IS RECOMMENDED that it be adopted and enacted by the Convention in the following amended form, viz.:

'I move that it is the intent of this convention that the Constitution should be a document of fundamental principles of basic government, and contain the framework for state government.'

Mr. Robertson moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Johnson seconded and asked unanimous consent. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Mr. Collins, Chairman of Committee XIII, Committee on Direct Legislation, announced that the Committee had met and elected Mr. Taylor, vice chairman and ~~Mr. Metcalf~~, secretary.

Mr. Hellenthal, Chairman of Committee VI, Committee on Suffrage, Elections and Apportionment, announced that the Committee had met and elected Mr. Cooper, vice chairman and ~~Mr. Gray~~ secretary.

*appointed*  
INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF PROPOSALS

Proposal No. 4 by Mr. Robertson, entitled FINANCE: TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF CURRENT, BONDED, AND OTHER INDEBTEDNESS TO WHICH THE STATE, MUNICIPALITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS, AND OTHER TAXING AUTHORITY DISTRICTS SHALL BE SUBJECTED OR WHICH THEY MAY INCUR was introduced, read the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance and Taxation.

Mr. V. Rivers asked in regard to Proposal No. 4, and with reference to the resolution just adopted, whether it was a fundamental ~~proposal~~ of basic government to limit debt. *principle*

The President pointed out that the resolution states "it is the intent" and that the outcome of any such proposal will be left to the judgment of the membership of the Convention.

Proposal No. 5, by Mr. Robertson, entitled DEFINITION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THEIR CONTROL was introduced, read the first time and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Proposal No. 6, by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Coghill, entitled EDUCATION was introduced, read the first time and referred to the Committee on Direct Legislation.

The privilege of the floor was granted to Colonel Sawtelle of Ladd Air Force Base who discussed the plans for the tour of the Base to be conducted on Saturday, November 19. Colonel Sawtelle also extended greetings to the delegates from Lt. General Joseph H. Atkinson and Brig. General T. Alan Bennett.

Mr. Hellenthal moved that the Convention adjourn Friday until Monday morning at 9:00 o'clock for the purpose of attending the Saturday activities planned at Ladd Air Force Base. Mr. Buckalew seconded. The motion was adopted by voice vote.

Mr. Johnson asked unanimous consent for a two-minute recess. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

#### AFTER RECESS

Mr. Knight moved and asked unanimous consent that the Secretary be instructed to write a letter of thanks to the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce for the wonderful party given in honor of the delegates Wednesday, November 16. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Mr. Cooper moved that the Rules be suspended and that reconsideration be given to the vote for adjournment of a full day on Saturday.

The President announced that the maker of the original motion planned to amend his motion ~~of~~ <sup>at</sup> the afternoon session.

Mr. Cooper withdrew his motion.

The Secretary announced a change in the schedule for the Ladd Field activities in that a bus would leave Ladd Field for Fairbanks at 10:00 p.m. instead of midnight.

#### COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Davis announced a meeting of the two subcommittees of the Committee on Style and Drafting at the scheduled time of the full Committee's meeting.

Mr. Coghill announced a meeting of the Committee on Administration at the usual time.

The President announced a meeting of the Committee Chairmen at 1 p.m. this afternoon.

Mr. Gray moved and asked unanimous consent that the Convention recess until 1:30 p.m. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

#### AFTER RECESS

The President called for the report of the Committee assigned to read and correct the Journal.

Mr. Doogan reported the following corrections *to the Journal for the 9<sup>th</sup> day*

On page 2 it should be noted that it is Mr. R. Rivers, every other time Mr. Rivers is mentioned it should be Mr. V. Rivers. On page 5 change "paid salary and per diem" to "shown present on roll call" and delete the next two sentences. On page 6 add "the following morning" to the sentence before Committee Announcements.

Miss Awes pointed out that the secretaries of committees are appointed and the Journal should be corrected accordingly.

There being no further corrections, Mr. Doogan asked unanimous consent that the Journal be approved as corrected. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Mr. White asked unanimous consent for the adoption of the following report of the special committee in charge of reading the Journal:

"CONVENTION POLICY AS TO READING AND CORRECTING THE JOURNAL

1. That copies of the journal be placed on delegates' desks as soon as possible.
2. That the journal be read for approval at the opening session of the second day following the date of the journal.
3. That delegates be responsible for reporting errors and changes to chief clerk's office prior to one-half hour before the convening of the opening session of the second day following the date of the journal.
4. The report of the committee on reading the journal be accepted as final subject to ruling by the chair.
5. That it shall be the policy of the committee to dispense with the reading of the journal except for changes, except when otherwise requested. That two copies only--one in possession of the Secretary of the Convention and one in possession of the committee--be corrected, except in cases of important changes, when such changes will be re-mimeographed."

Mr. Hellenthal objected. Mr. White moved. Mr. Doogan seconded. Mrs. Sweeney objected. On voice vote the report was adopted.

Mr. Hellenthal asked that the record show it is in the interest of this convention and of matters properly before this convention that the delegates visit Ladd Air Force Base on Saturday, November 19. He added that there are many problems involving the military which will come before virtually every committee and it is the proper business of the convention to visit this military installation.

Mr. Hellenthal asked unanimous consent that a summary of his remarks be included in the Journal. Mr. Buckalew objected. Mr. Hellenthal moved. Mr. Barr seconded. Discussion followed.

Mr. Hurley rose to a point of order on the propriety of a motion to adjourn at a future time.

The President ruled that this Convention could decide almost anything it wanted relative to the Convention.

Mr. Davis moved the previous question. Mr. McCutcheon seconded. On voice vote the previous question was ordered.

By voice vote a summary of Mr. Hellenthal's remarks was ordered placed in the Journal.

Mr. Gray moved that the Convention rescind its action taken earlier on the motion to adjourn on Friday until Monday morning. Mr. Cooper seconded.

Mr. McCutcheon requested a roll call:

The question being "Shall the Convention rescind its action on the motion to adjourn on Friday until Monday morning?"; the roll was called with the following result:

Ayes: 18 - Coghill, Cooper, Doogan, V. Fischer, Gray, Harris, Hinckel, Hurley, Johnson, King, Laws, Lee, McNees, Peratrovich, Poulsen, Smith, Sweeney, Mr. President

Nays: 33 - Armstrong, Awes, Barr, Boswell, Buckalew, Collins, Cross, Davis, Emberg, H. Fischer, Hellenthal, Hermann, Kilcher, Knight, Londborg, McCutcheon, McLaughlin, McNealy, Marston, Metcalf, Nerland, Nolan, Nordale, Reader, Riley, V. Rivers, Rosswog, Stewart, Taylor, VanderLeest, Walsh, White, Wien

Absent: 4 - Hilscher, R. Rivers, Robertson, Sundborg

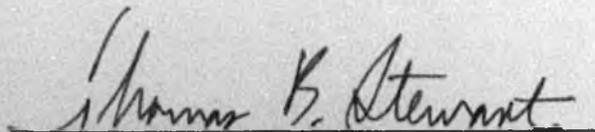
and so the motion to rescind action failed.

Mr. Davis called to the attention of the President the fact that the roll call should be rotated according to Rule 27.

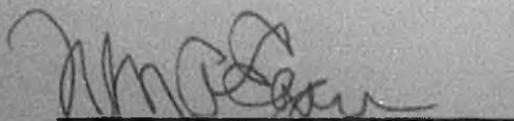
Mr. Coghill rose to a point of order regarding amending a motion to adjourn.

The President ruled that this motion was not amending the motion to adjourn.

Mr. Johnson moved and asked unanimous consent to adjourn until 9 o'clock A.M. Friday, November 18.

  
THOMAS B. STEWART  
Secretary

Attested:

  
WILLIAM A. EGAN  
President