

ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

November 18, 1955

ELEVENTH DAY

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Convention will come to order. We have with us this morning the Reverend Robert Sheppard of the First Church of the Nazarene of Fairbanks who will deliver the daily invocation (9:00 a.m.). (Delegates stood.)

REV. SHEPPARD: Shall we pray. Almighty God and Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for this moment of worship at the beginning of this day's activities. We thank Thee for that precious knowledge that comes to us through Thy word that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom", and that as we pray for Thy blessing upon the assembled delegates today and their tremendous responsibilities we ask that there shall be an acknowledgment of Thee, a turning to Thee for Thou art the fountainhead of all knowledge and understanding and blessing. Guide, we pray, and make this a good day in the formulation of our state constitution. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Thank you, Mr. Sheppard. The Chief Clerk will call the roll.

(The Chief Clerk called the roll.)

CHIEF CLERK: Fifty-four present, one absent.

PRESIDENT EGAN: A quorum is present. Presentation of petitions, memorials, communications from outside the Convention.

SECRETARY: Communication from outside of the Convention. The manager of the Co-op Drug Store says he will open the lunch room daily at 7:55 a.m. for those who want morning snacks there.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The communication may be filed. Are there other communications?

SECRETARY: There are none.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Are their reports of standing committees? Reports of select committees? Are there proposals to be introduced at this time? Mr. Johnson?

JOHNSON: Mr. President, I have a proposal.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The messenger might pick up the proposal. Are there other proposals? If not, the Secretary may read, may proceed with the first reading of the proposal by Mr. Johnson.

SECRETARY: "Delegate Proposal No. 7, introduced by Maurice T.

Johnson, DEALING WITH WILD LIFE CONSERVTION."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The proposal is referred to the Committee on Resources. Are there any motions or resolutions to come before the Convention at this time? Is there any unfinished business? Any special orders of the day? Any general orders of the day? If there is nothing else to present to the Convention at this time -- Mr. Davis?

DAVIS: Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Style and Drafting will meet at the usual place at 11 o'clock. The Committee will meet a few minutes as a Committee before breaking into subcommittees.

PRESIDENT EGAN: You have heard the announcement by Mr. Davis. Mr. Cross?

CROSS: Committee No. XIV will meet immediately after the special recess.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Committee No. XIV, the Committee on Resolutions and Recommendations, will meet immediately upon recess. Miss Awes?

AWES: Committee on Preamble and Bill of Rights will meet immediately after recess.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Committee on Preamble and Bill of Rights will meet immediately upon recess. Are there any other announcements? Mr. McLaughlin?

MCLAUGHLIN: The Committee on the Judiciary Branch will meet today at the established time.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Committee on the Judiciary Branch will meet today at the established time. Mr. McNealy?

MCNEALY: Committee No. IV on Ordinances will not meet until Monday.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Committee No. IV on Ordinances as announced by the Chairman, Mr. McNealy, will not meet until Monday. Mr. Victor Rivers.

V. RIVERS: The Committee on the Executive will meet immediately after this meeting adjourns.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Victor Rivers announces that the Committee on Executive will meet immediately upon recess. Mr. Smith?

SMITH: The Committee on Resources will meet at the scheduled time.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Committee No. X, the Committee on Resources will meet at the scheduled time. Mr. Rosswog?

ROSSWOG: Committee No. XII, Local Government, will meet at our regular time at 3:30 this afternoon. At our yesterday's meeting we continued our study of the staff papers, and we agreed to join in on the TV program and we have asked for a consultant, Mr. Weldon Cooper, of the University of Virginia to help us at a later date.

PRESIDENT EGAN: You have heard the report of the Chairman of Committee No. XII. Are there other committee reports? Collins? Mr.

COLLINS: Committee No. XIII, Direct Legislation, Amendment and Revision, will meet Monday on schedule.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Collins announces Committee No. XIII the Committee on Amendment and Revision will meet Monday on schedule. Mr. Buckalew?

BUCKALEW: Mr. President, I move we adjourn then until 9 o'clock on Monday morning.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Unanimous consent is asked that the Convention adjourn at this time.

MCLAUGHLIN: I object. May I inquire, is it Mr. Buckalew's intention we not hold an afternoon session?

BUCKALEW: That is sure what it sounds like, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Objection is heard. You will have to put your proposal in the form of a motion, Mr. Buckalew. There is nothing before us at this time.

BUCKALEW: Mr. Chairman, I move we adjourn until 9 o'clock Monday morning.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Buckalew moves that the Convention stand adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning.

V. RIVERS: Second the motion.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Victor Rivers seconds the motion. The motion is undebatable. The question is, "Shall the Convention stand adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning?" All those in favor of the motion will signify by saying "aye". All opposed to the motion will signify by saying "no". The "noes" have it and the motion is lost and the Convention is still in session. Mr. Barr?

BARR: I ask unanimous consent that we recess until 1:30 this

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Barr asks unanimous consent that we recess until 1:30 this afternoon.

TAYLOR: I object for the purpose of a point of information. Is it not a fact that we acted upon this motion the other day and agreed to recess until 9 o'clock Monday morning?

PRESIDENT EGAN: That was the agreement as of the time the Convention might deem it to be proper, Mr. Taylor.

TAYLOR: I believe it would be in order would it not to rescind that former action of the Convention?

PRESIDENT EGAN: No, it would not, because the Convention has not signified its intention of not adjourning at this time, until later in the day evidently.

TAYLOR: I withdraw my objection.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Barr asks unanimous consent that the Convention stand at recess until 1:30 p.m. Hearing no objection the Convention is at recess until 1:30 this afternoon.

RECESS

PRESIDENT EGAN: The meeting will come to order. Is there anything to come before the Convention at this time? Mr. Robertson?

ROBERTSON: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to revert back to the introduction of proposals. I would like to introduce a proposal that I had on my desk this morning and mislaid.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Robertson asks unanimous consent to revert back to introduction of proposals at this time. Is there objection? There being no objection, Mr. Robertson's proposal is received.

SECRETARY: "Delegate Proposal No. 8, introduced by R. E.

Robertson. LEGISLATURE: TO CREATE A LEGISLATURE WITH QUALIFICATIONS OF ITS MEMBERS, AND TO ESTABLISH LEGISLATIVE AND SUBLEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS, AND REPRESENTATION THEREFROM, AND TO REQUIRE DECENNIAL REAPPORTIONMENT."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Committee on Legislative. Is there anything else to come before the Convention at this time? Mr. Hellenthal?

HELLENTHAL: Point of order. Perhaps the resolution should be jointly referred to two committees, because apparently it

deals with two topics. I am sure Mr. McCutcheon and I can work this out among ourselves but apparently it deals with composition of the legislature and secondly with a method of apportionment, which would be under the jurisdiction of committee VI.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Hellenthal, your point of order is well taken, and perhaps Mr. McCutcheon's committee, No. VII on the Legislative Branch, could take the proposal first and refer it later to the Committee on Suffrage, Elections and Apportionment. It is so ordered. We have before the delegates a very important item of business -- the receipt of the first paychecks to Convention delegates. Five days of your salary is covered in that. Perhaps the Chief Clerk could explain that situation so there will be no question in anyone's mind as to what this is.

CHIEF CLERK: This is for the first five days, starting with last Tuesday through Saturday, and from now on you will get a weekly check for salary which has all the withholding tax taken out, and then you will get a per diem check. The first per diem check should be here Monday I think if the planes fly, according to how long it took to get the voucher down and back with the checks -- it was about five days. I think you will get a per diem check on Monday and then next week you will get another salary check and another per diem check. So next week will really pay off.

MCNEES: May I ask the Chief Clerk if this check is large enough to hold us over until Monday.

CHIEF CLERK: I hope. (laughter)

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Convention will come to order. Mr. Coghill.

COGHILL: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to revert to the order of committee reports.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Coghill asks unanimous consent to revert to the order of committee reports. Is there objection? Hearing no objection, Mr. Coghill, you may proceed with your report.

COGHILL: Administrative Committee Report No. 3. Mr. President, your Committee on Administration respectfully submits the following report for the week of November 14 - 18, 1955: The officers of the Administrative Committee consist of Herb Hilscher, Vice president and Dora Sweeney, Secretary. The Committee felt that it would be advisable to dress up the Constitution Hall -- the Convention Hall -- and therefore, has ordered additional American flags and Alaska flags. The Administrative Committee will make weekly reports to the

Convention on finance, personnel, etc. The Committee wishes to report that the secretariat is completely organized. Job descriptions have been cared for by the Committee and Tom Stewart is in charge of the mechanics and operation of the secretariat. Memorandums have been distributed to the delegates concerning the use of the library and securing the use of consultants. The Administrative Committee wishes to advise the delegates that a clip file of items of Territorial newspapers is being kept at the library. The Administrative Committee has worked out with the Secretary a method of supervision of official business long distance calls and telegrams and memorandums to that effect are forthcoming.

PRESIDENT EGAN: What is your pleasure with regard to this report, Mr. Coghill?

COGHILL: I will move and ask unanimous consent that it be accepted.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Coghill moves and asks unanimous consent that the report of the Committee on Administration be accepted by the Convention. Is there objection? Hearing no objection it is so ordered and the report is ordered accepted by the Convention. Is it the desire that reports of this nature go in the minutes in their entirety? If it is not the desire of the Convention that reports of this nature go in their entirety the Chair will instruct that a summary of the report be placed in the minutes of today's proceedings. Is there objection to that?

MCNEES: I would like to suggest that the report be filed, however.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The report will be filed, Mr. McNees, but a summary of the report will go in the journal. Is there anything else to come before the Convention? Mr. Rosswog?

ROSSWOG: I would like to make a committee announcement at this time.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Rosswog requests permission to make a committee announcement at this time. Hearing no objection, Mr. Rosswog.

ROSSWOG: Committee No. XII, Local Government Committee, will hold our regular meeting at 3:30 and will have an extra meeting tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock in Apartment 6 of the Alaskan Inn.

PRESIDENT EGAN: You have heard the report of Mr. Rosswog. He plans to hold a special meeting of the Committee on Local Government at 1 o'clock tomorrow afternoon in Apartment 6 of the Alaskan Inn.

ROSSWOG: We wish to finish our consideration of the staff reports at that time.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Victor Rivers?

V. RIVERS: Mr. Chairman, this doesn't have to appear in the journal but I did want to ask, in connection with the payment of salaries, the salary checks show the deductions withheld, Social Security and other deductions from the total, so we will have a record. In other words, we have to have that in keeping, at least we do in our office, to keep books in that manner. We then know what parts have been distributed to each part of the monies paid in full and what has been deducted for what purpose.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Will the Chief Clerk answer that question?

CHIEF CLERK: That cannot be done under the Territorial setup. But at the end of this period of your service you will get a statement which will cover that. You mean you want it weekly?

V. RIVERS: That will be sufficient. A summary will be sufficient. If we get it in a file at the end, that will be all right for our purposes.

PRESIDENT EGAN: That answers the question for Mr. Victor Rivers. Mr. Hurley?

HURLEY: Mr. Chairman, a minor point, but we will need it before the first of the year.

CHIEF CLERK: You will get it.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Secretary has some communications. You may proceed.

SECRETARY: The hosts at Ladd Field wish that the request be placed as to whether any other persons might be going on the morning tour than had yesterday indicated their intention. If anyone who did not so indicate, could notify the Chief Clerk at the end of the meeting, please.

PRESIDENT EGAN: You have heard the request of the Secretary. If anyone else who did not originally signify to go to Ladd Field in the morning wishes to do so, please notify the Secretary at the end of this meeting. Did you have another announcement Mr. Secretary?

SECRETARY: The room at the end of the hall, the far end of the building upstairs has been set aside as a typing room for delegates. There are now two typewriters and tables and we can provide more there if you wish to use them. The doorkeeper has been designated to act as a sort of clearing house on

transportation, so if any person going to town and has available transportation would notify him, and vice versa, if you need individual transportation, he may have the information for you as to who is going and when and where. I wanted to say that on the newspapers, the newspapers that were being received by the Statehood Committee in Juneau, are going to be sent here three times a week. They include all the daily newspapers of the Territory plus the principal weekly newspapers. We intended to put them in the library for the delegates' use but after a few days to use them for the maintenance of a clip file, so they need to be kept there in order for that to be performed.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Riley.

RILEY: Mr. President, there will be a brief meeting of the Rules Committee in the rear of the gallery space following adjournment.

PRESIDENT EGAN: There will be a brief meeting of the Rules Committee following adjournment. Mr. Johnson.

JOHNSON: Mr. President, it occurs to me that we have done nothing about the minutes of the meeting for yesterday.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Johnson, in accordance with the action taken yesterday, it was decided that the journal would be approved every other day, which in this case with the adjournment decided upon, will not be until Monday. On Monday we will have yesterday's journal and the journal of today to approve. Mr. Knight.

KNIGHT: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak to a personal privilege. I ask unanimous consent today to say a very, a day which is a very auspicious one for one of our delegates. However, he has one failing, that of not wanting to reveal when he first saw the light of day, and today after only 39 summers, so at this time I would like this Convention to extend hearty congratulations to our beloved Maurice T. Johnson because it is his birthday.

(Mrs. Sweeney brought Mr. Johnson to front of hall.) (Cake brought in at this time.)

JOHNSON: Holy smoke.

SWEENEY: You know, Mr. Johnson, it is quite an achievement for a man to reach 39 and not get beyond that so this is a plain white carnation, consider it a Legion of Honor or decoration of some kind.

PRESIDENT EGAN: If there is no objection, let the record show

that it was Mr. Johnson's birthday, and immediately following adjournment, the delegates partook of a delicious birthday cake in honor of Mr. Johnson's birthday. Mr. Gray.

GRAY: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me in order to move that the Convention adjourn until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

PRESIDENT EGAN: If there is no objection the Convention is adjourned until Monday at 9 a.m. The Convention stands adjourned.