

ALASKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

November 25, 1955

EIGHTEENTH DAY

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Convention will come to order. We have with us this morning the Reverend Richard Lambert of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church of Fairbanks. Reverend Lambert will give the daily invocation.

LAMBERT: Let us pray. Most gracious God, we humbly beseech Thee as for the people of Alaska, and so especially for the Constitutional Convention delegates here assembled that Thou wouldst be pleased to direct and prosper all consultations to the advancement of safety, honor and welfare of Thy people, that all things may be settled by their endeavors upon the sure foundation that happiness, truth and justice may be established. We humbly beg in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Chief Clerk will call the roll.

(The Chief Clerk called the roll.)

CHIEF CLERK: Five absent.

PRESIDENT EGAN: A quorum is present. We will proceed with the order of business. Does the Committee to read the journal have a report to make at this time?

KNIGHT: The committee on the journal reports just two minor corrections. Top of page 1 should be "November 22" instead of "November 18", and the last line on page 1 should be "November 22" instead of "November 18". At this time I ask unanimous consent that the journal be adopted.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Knight asks unanimous consent that the corrections as proposed by the committee to read the journal be accepted by the Convention. Is there objection? Hearing no objection it is so ordered and unanimous consent is asked that the journal of the 15th Convention day be adopted. Is there objection? Hearing no objection it is so ordered and the journal of the 15th day is ordered adopted by the Convention. Presentation of petitions, memorials, communications from outside the Convention?

SECRETARY: None.

PRESIDENT EGAN: There are none. Reports of standing committees? Reports of select committees? Introduction and first reading of proposals?

JOHNSON: I have a proposal.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Johnson has a proposal.

SECRETARY: "Delegate proposal No. 19, introduced by Mr. Maurice Johnson, DEALING WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Distribution of Powers -- the Committee on Executive? The proposal is referred.

JOHNSON: Mr. President, I believe that should be referred to the Committee on Bill of Rights.

PRESIDENT EGAN: If there is no objection then the suggestion of Mr. Johnson will be the reference of the Chair and the proposal will be referred to the Committee on Preamble and Bill of Rights. Are there other proposals?

SECRETARY: No further proposals.

PRESIDENT EGAN: We will revert back, if there is no objection, to the reports of select committees. Mr. Buckalew?

BUCKALEW: Mr. President, I almost forgot that our committee was a duly constituted and I wish to report along with Mr. Johnson that we have the gavels returned to the President with the necessary engraving.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Buckalew, the Chair would like at this time to express appreciation to the special committee to take care of these gavels. They have done a wonderful job in the opinion of the Chair. At this time, the Chair would like to ask the Sergeant at Arms to come forward and deliver this gavel which belongs to Mrs. Hermann, to her, at this time with very appropriate engraving on the gavel, and it is with pleasure that we present the gavel to Mrs. Hermann. Mr. Buckalew, perhaps you can read the inscription.

BUCKALEW: I was going to ask Mr. President to do it. I feel the Chair would have more dignity.

"Gavel used by Hon. B. Frank Heintzleman to open Alaska Constitutional Convention, University of Alaska, 1955, Mildred R. Hermann, President Pro tem"

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mrs. Hermann, we wish again to inform you that you really did a wonderful job as temporary Chairman of the Convention, and we are certainly happy to have that engraving inscribed on your gavel in appreciation of you. Mr. Hilscher?

HILSCHER: Mr. President, as a point of information, is there anything significant to the fact that Mrs. Hermann is not wearing a hat today? Does that mean she is going to stay until the Convention is finished?

PRESIDENT EGAN: Perhaps there is some significance there, Mr.

Hilscher. The President, in line with Mr. Buckalew's suggestion, will read the inscription on this gavel:

"Official Gavel, Alaska Constitutional Convention, 1955,
University of Alaska"

JOHNSON: Mr. President, you left out a line.

PRESIDENT EGAN: "William A. Egan, President". The President would also like to express his appreciation to the special committee for the wonderful letter opener that they have presented to the President.

BUCKALEW: Mr. Egan, would it be all right if I presented that letter opener to you on behalf of the Convention? Send it over and I will read the inscription. Delegates, we are presenting this to Mr. Egan. Somebody gave it to us and we in turn are giving it to Mr. President. It says:

"Presented to William A. (Wild Bill) Egan, President, Alaska
Constitutional Convention, by Delegates."

I wanted to put that "Wild Bill" on the one we put in the museum but I figured it would confuse the historians.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Are there any motions or resolutions to come before us at this time?

SECRETARY: None, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Is there any unfinished business? Are there any special orders of the day? Mr. Robertson?

ROBERTSON: Mr. President, I think the Chairman of the Recommendations and Resolutions Committee has a report to submit.

PRESIDENT EGAN: If there is no objection we will revert to the reading of committee reports at this time. Mr. Cross?

CROSS: I have been requested to delay this report for a day or two. If there is no objection I would like to delay the report.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Cross asks that the report be delayed for a day or two. The Chair would like to at this time ask that if members, as soon as they rise, they would speak out and address the Chair for the reason that the seating arrangement as it is now it is very hard sometimes if you are busy on the floor, and several people might be rising, to see right off to the direct right and left. The other day an occurrence happened where the Chair did not see a person who had risen before the other. Under those circumstances it would be well that as soon as you rise on the floor to address the Chair

so the Chair can hear someone is attempting to get the floor. Mr. Johnson?

JOHNSON: If a resolution which I was asked to present on the first day of the session had received a second and carried, that would be a regular rule of this Convention. You may recall that. It failed because of the want of a second. I do not know why.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Is there any other business to come before the Convention at this time? Mr. Collins?

COLLINS: I wish to announce Committee XIII, Direct Legislation, will meet on schedule.

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Committee on Direct Legislation will meet on schedule. Mr. Coghill?

COGHILL: The Committee on Convention Administration will meet on schedule. Mrs. Sweeney?

SWEENEY: The Committee on Legislative Branch will not meet at its regular time this afternoon but will join with the Committee on Apportionment at 11 o'clock this morning.

PRESIDENT EGAN: You have heard the announcement relative to the Committee on Legislative Branch. Are there other reports of committees? If not, the Chair will entertain a motion for recess.

DAVIS: Mr. President, I move we recess until 1:30 this afternoon.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Davis moves and asks unanimous consent that the Convention stand at recess until 1:30 this afternoon. Is there objection? There will be a meeting of the secretaries of the committees at 12:30 -- a no-host lunch. The Convention will come to order. There will also be a meeting of the committee chairmen at 1 p.m. If there is no objection the Convention will stand at recess until 1:30 p.m. The Convention is at recess.

RECESS

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Convention will come to order. Do we have any business to come before us at this time? Mr. Taylor?

TAYLOR: I would like to ask unanimous consent to revert to introduction of proposals.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Taylor asks unanimous consent that the Convention revert to the introduction of proposals at this time. Is there objection? Hearing no objection, Mr. Taylor's

proposal may be introduced. Are there other proposals?

SECRETARY: There are, Mr. President. "Delegate Proposal No. 20, introduced by Mr. Hinckel, TO LIMIT THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING, OCCUPIED BY THE OWNER AS A HOME AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The Committee on Finance.

SECRETARY: "Delegate Proposal No. 21, introduced by Mr. Harris, RIGHT OF SELF DETERMINATION."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The proposal is referred to Committee No. V on Preamble and Bill of Rights.

SECRETARY: "Delegate Proposal No. 21, introduced by Mr. Taylor, JUDICIAL BRANCH."

PRESIDENT EGAN: The proposal is referred to Committee No. IX, the Committee on Judiciary Branch. Are there any other proposals to be introduced at this time? If not, any other business to come before the Convention? Mr. Buckalew.

BUCKALEW: I move and ask unanimous consent that the committee on gavels, engraving and other trivia be dissolved as they have accomplished their mission.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Buckalew asks unanimous consent that the committee on gavels be dissolved. If there is no objection the Chair will order the committee dissolved. Is there any other business to come before the Convention at this time? Mr. King?

KING: The University of Alaska has a large oil painting of the Cathedral mountains in the Chilkat mountain range. I asked Dr. Patty this morning if we could use it here in Convention Hall. It has particular significance to the President of this chamber as the same artist painted the picture behind your seat as Speaker of the House. I have permission to use that here, with your permission.

PRESIDENT EGAN: What is the pleasure of the Convention as regards Mr. King's request? Is there objection to having Mr. King --

KING: Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Unanimous consent is asked by Mr. King that the picture in question be brought here and accepted from Dr. Patty for the use of the Convention while we are in session. Is there objection? Hearing no objection the Chair will appoint Mr. King and Mrs. Sweeney as a committee of two, to take care of that matter. Is there other business to come

before the Convention? If not, the Chair will entertain a motion for recess. Mr. Buckalew?

BUCKALEW: Mr. President, I move that we adjourn until 9 'clock tomorrow morning.

PRESIDENT EGAN: Mr. Buckalew moves and asks unanimous consent that the Convention stand adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow. Is there objection? Hearing no objection it is so ordered and the Convention is adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.