

ment now before us? The Chair recognizes Delegate O'Connor.

DELEGATE O'CONNOR: I find the amendment of Delegate Sickles lucid and explanatory. I think it has a good effect on one man rule.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chairman of the Committee.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: The motion now pending before you was the same one that was introduced by Mr. Sickles at the meeting of the Committee where again, with great lucidity and considerable earnestness, he argues in its behalf. The feeling of twenty-one members of that Committee, however, was that they were unconvinced. In the first place, neither Mr. Sickles nor anyone else in this room can cite any precedent in a prior successful Constitutional Convention where that system was used. In fact, where the triumvirate was used in Missouri in 1938, and in Michigan in 1961 and '62, it gave rise to considerable problems. In Missouri, just as Judge Henderson suggested would be the case here, there were considerable two to one selections of committee members, with the two vice-presidents outvoting the president. In Michigan, the president left the appointment of the committee chairmen and members to a triumvirate of three vice-presidents, two Republicans and one Democrat. It should come as no surprise that not a single Democrat became a chairman of any standing committee in the Michigan Convention; from the days of Pompeii, Caesar and Brutus, right up to present times, the triumvirate theory is no way to run an organization, and it is certainly not a way to run a Constitutional Convention that has three, possibly four months in which to do its work. There is a place for democracy, also a place for executive leadership. The Enabling Act says nothing about vice-presidents. It speaks of the president, who is to be the chief officer, and if we elect the right chief officer, and if he does his job well, he will consult with his vice-presidents. It would be inconceivable to me that any reasonable man enjoying the confidence of this delegation and this Convention and elected to the highest office we can bestow upon him would be so indifferent to the feelings, to the views of the many talented people who sit at these desks, including the two men who would be elected vice-president, that he would not consult with them. I suggest this amendment is a departure from the rule of practically all bodies; any organization I have ever been associated with, if you elect the president

and have confidence in him, you permit him to pick the committees. Here we have changed and recommended that the vice-chairmen be elected, which is a democratizing influence, but in the end it has to be the president who is going to show the course of this Convention, and if we have confidence in the men we elect, it is an insult to adopt this amendment. I urge its rejection.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, the Rules Committee will remember that Friday night when we discussed this issue, we attempted to inject an element of more liberal democracy by providing that each committee would elect its own vice-chairman, and I feel, as has been expressed by the other speakers against this amendment, if we start out with a man who has at least 72 votes and has the confidence of the majority of this delegation for this Constitutional Convention, that we can expect fair and reasonable treatment. I never heard when I was a member of the House of Delegates that the Speaker, or that the President of the Senate was ever unfair in allocating committee chairmanships or memberships to committees.

I feel that this Convention has so little time with so much work, that we simply cannot allow personalities to become injected, because if it's a two to one decision, the person who gets the one vote is going to feel somewhat put out, somewhat at ease, and we're going to have ten sets of personality conflicts starting from the beginning.

I urge you, therefore, to reject the amendment and put your faith in the president of this Convention by allowing him after consultation to appoint the chairmen, and then allow each committee to elect its own vice-chairman. I join with Delegate Scanlan in urging that the amendment be rejected.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President, members of the Convention, I have always been willing to yield to the will of the majority, and it seems that the majority here very strongly were opposed to any secret sessions, any secret ballots, even for the voting of officers of the Convention. I am in sympathy with the amendment that has been offered here. It has a far-reaching effect on the organization of this Convention