

at 10:00. Some of them are. I would hope they will be on your desk by this afternoon. They will not be considered by the Convention until this afternoon.

Delegate Malkus.

DELEGATE MALKUS: I understand if they are not on our desk by 10:00 you will not take them up until the next day?

THE PRESIDENT: I just indicated to the contrary. There are reports that are on your desk, that will be on your desk this afternoon that I hope we will reach this afternoon.

Delegate Malkus.

DELEGATE MALKUS: My next question is, if we sit in our seats, which you know I do not do too much of the time, and if we sit here and listen to these talks, when will we have time to read them and have time to prepare the necessary amendments? Heaven knows there are going to be a lot of amendments necessary on the second readers.

We want time to legislate in a good and sound manner. I ask you to give us enough time at home to read these, this important subject matter, and get our amendments in.

THE PRESIDENT: The whole conduct of the Convention has indicated that every effort has been made to give delegates ample time to consider and debate and discuss all matters before the Convention and the Committee of the Whole.

One thing that must be kept in mind is that we do have a date by which the labors of this Convention must be concluded.

Delegate Chabot, do you have a question?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes, sir, I would like to understand just how the three-hour rule applies. Let us assume that the other—

THE PRESIDENT: Three-hour rule means that the amendment in written form is in the hands of the Chief Clerk at least three hours before the convening hour of the session.

DELEGATE CHABOT: With regard to reports that we will get this afternoon, does this mean before 7 a.m. tomorrow or if the reports are to be taken up in the afternoon, does it mean at least three hours prior to the time that the afternoon session begins?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it would be three hours before the afternoon session, but I would suggest to you that the reports

that are under consideration which are going to be distributed today for consideration tomorrow are such that you could certainly consider any amendments that you may have with respect to them this evening.

Do you have a further question?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes, sir. With regard to the automatic movement of the previous question, will there be any opportunity for those who were not present who have amendments either to have them distributed or to briefly indicate what the amendments are before a vote is taken on the previous question?

THE PRESIDENT: I cannot answer that, Delegate Chabot, without knowing more about it at the time.

The whole purpose of this is to permit and encourage orderly consideration of amendments and discussion.

Now, quite obviously, if you are going to have a flurry of people suggesting last minute amendments, it would defeat that purpose.

The question of whether the motion for the previous question is adopted is, of course, for the Convention or the majority of the delegates.

Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes, sir, but the motion for the previous question is not debatable?

THE PRESIDENT: That is correct.

DELEGATE CHABOT: I did not want to suggest that there be an opportunity for debate but simply that the people could have some opportunity to at least look at the alternatives that would be foreclosed if the previous question were adopted.

Would there be some opportunity?

THE PRESIDENT: I should think that the delegates would be able under the rules laid down to have their amendments printed except in the most extraordinary circumstances.

I think you know the attitude of the Chair well enough to appreciate that under extraordinary circumstances, there would be no desire to shut off amendments or debates.

Delegate Marion.

DELEGATE MARION: I understood you to say that at some point in the debate on each of these reports the Chair