

1 conclude consideration of Committee Recommendation R&P-1.

2 The Chair recognizes Delegate Willoner to present
3 the Minority Report and suggests that he come forward.

4 DELEGATE WILLONER: Members of the Committee,
5 I am presenting the minority report "Freedom of Information",
6 and I would like to quote from James Madison to begin that
7 report:

8 "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance. And
9 a people who mean to be their own governors, must arm
10 themselves with the power knowledge gives. A popular
11 government without popular information, or the means of
12 acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy,
13 or perhaps both."

14 Our committee had hearings on a problem which
15 is the secrecy of governmental proceedings. This body has
16 on several occasions addressed itself to similar proceedings,
17 consid eration by the legislature of appointments, and the
18 Board of Public Works, and has affirmatively stated that
19 secrecy in governm nt sha-l not be a practice.

20 I will not detail the many reasons why this
21 provision is proposed because I am sure that you are aware