

1 That brings us to Rule 20(a) which is a proposed
2 substantive change. Without reading the entire proposed
3 new rule, that the Committee rules have offered for your
4 consideration, I would like to say this. It is a rule
5 that would put a limit on the length of time that a
6 delegate can hold the floor in a discussion or debate.
7 The limit would be fifteen minutes. However, there are
8 a number of conspicuous exceptions to what at first blush
9 might seem to be a restriction on free speech.

10 The first conspicuous exception is that at any
11 time a majority of the delegates present voting desire
12 it, a delegate can extend his remarks. The second impor-
13 tant exception to it is that a chairman of a committee
14 present presenting his report can speak longer than the
15 fifteen-minute interval. Obviously some committee reports
16 will be very lengthy, and require extended explanation
17 and discussion.

18 A similar privilege is afforded the minority
19 spokesman in defending a minority report of a committee
20 of this Convention.

21 I think in point of fact, it is a rule that