

1 DELEGATE CHABOT: Mr. Chairman, other Delegates
2 can express better than I why it is humorous or sad that
3 this amendment comes up after the material that we have been
4 through and I am quite sure that some of the Delegates will
5 make such comments, so I will just speak to the merits of
6 this proposal.

7 The duty to sign or veto bills is one that is
8 both extraordinary and commonplace.

9 It is extraordinary because it is it is a clear
10 exercise of the legislative power by the Chief Executive,
11 and we recognize that it is extraordinary when we hedge about
12 the many details. In less than half the states, we permit
13 the people to exercise a similar power by referendum, but
14 there, too, in almost every case, it is hedged about with
15 many restrictions, because it involves overruling the work
16 of the elected representatives of the people.

17 I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that this is not a power
18 to be lightly tossed about.

19 At the same time, it is commonplace because in
20 49 states the Chief Executive has this duty, and, since the
21 adoption of our Federal Constitution, the United States'