

passing position, agreeing with some of the sponsors of this bill on this amendment. In recent years seldom are we in agreement. I really and truly believe that such an amendment is not necessary. We should not have to have it, but I am not so sure, and I think we ought to have. I do not care what argument anybody gives, secret meetings are not necessary. In the twelve years I have been fortunate enough to be Chairman of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, the doors were always open. The press knows that. Sometimes I disagree with the press, but let me say to you, Mr. President pro tem, I believe the press should always be there, and I want to compliment the sponsors of this fine amendment to the rules, and I sincerely hope that it will pass.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?

All in favor of the adoption of the amendment say Aye. Opposed, No. The Ayes seem to have it. The Ayes have it. The amendment to the rule is adopted.

Any further amendments to the rules?

The Chair recognizes Mr. Willoner from Prince George's County.

DELEGATE WILLONER: I have an amendment to Rule 5. I believe the Clerk has it.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Secretary will read the proposed amendment.

THE SECRETARY: Introduced by Delegate Willoner. Amendment to Rule 5: On page 3 of the mimeographed proposed rules and in Rule 5, strike out all of the lines 1-7, inclusive, and insert in lieu thereof the following:

*"Rule 5. Appointment by the President and Vice-Presidents. The President, with the two Vice-Presidents, shall appoint the chairman and members of all standing committees. A majority of these three officers shall determine each appointment. All appointments shall be announced to the Convention and entered upon the Journal. Each committee shall elect one of its members to be the vice-chairman. The vice-chairman shall perform all the duties and functions of the chairman in the absence of the chairman."*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Willoner.

DELEGATE WILLONER: The amendment is self-explanatory. I submitted this amendment to the Rules Committee, and as was explained by the Chairman, this was

voted down. I resubmit the amendment in the hope that it will be voted on and that the majority of the people will feel this is appropriate. It is an attempt primarily to provide for a more representative selection of the committee. We feel that the Convention or the committee itself would be more soundly based if it were chosen with a committee of three, and we feel that this would be a great help in setting forth this proposal. I think it would be an improvement, to our public image, for the simple reason that these rules, as it is agreed by most delegates, are extremely flexible at present. I think this would indicate we intend to run a Convention fairly and serving the best interests of all the delegates to the Convention.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any discussion?

Delegate Sickles?

DELEGATE SICKLES: I would like to rise in support of the amendment proposed by Delegate Willoner of Prince George's County. I think there are two things that motivate my decision in this matter. One would be democracy, and two, criteria. We are a body elected to represent all the people of the State, and in their wisdom when it was decided there would be a Constitutional Convention, they did not decide that they would select one man to write a document, and then submit it to the people, but it was decided that all areas of the State would be represented and that we would be assembled to adopt our rules and then proceed to deliberate. One of the basic jobs that has to be done is the division of this entire body into smaller groups, for the purpose of this deliberation. It just seems to me that it would not be in line with democracy if we set the principle of having this authority alone without any restraints or restrictions; that if we were to allow two other elected officers who were elected today to form a committee of three, for this one function only, that of determining the makeup of the committees, and the chairmen of these various committees, that this would make it a more democratic decision. Now to go to my second point, that of criteria, I cannot reach into the minds of individuals that I do not know. Perhaps because of my past experience I am personally acquainted with as many delegates in this house as anybody else in the chamber, but I would have a very difficult time trying to decide who should be on one committee and who should be the chairman. Now, I do not know what is in the minds of these individuals who would be our president, and I just think that we