

the Board of Public Works after there had been a determination of the other issues involved in this Committee Report.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any further question, Delegate Sherbow?

DELEGATE SHERBOW: No.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Churchill Murray.

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether this has to be in the form of a question, but prior to leaving here just before dinner, a delegate who is very much interested in one side of this asked if I would, and others, agree to a postponement until tomorrow morning, saying that some of the delegates would not be here tonight.

Now, is this a bona fide effort, or is it a maneuver to strengthen one side or the other?

THE PRESIDENT: To whom is your question addressed?

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: I see Delegate Powers standing. Perhaps it should be addressed to him.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Powers.

DELEGATE POWERS: I will be glad to attempt an answer on it for Delegate Murray, and that is, I do not know which side would be benefited by it, and I do not know the effect of this except for the fact that there are some inquiries; and it is the intention that we would go on with the other items involved on this same Report so that it would not be a matter of delaying the entire proceeding, but only the consideration of the question of the report on the Board of Public Works.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to amplify that reply to this extent: A number of delegates spoke to the Chair during the dinner hour recess to ask whether or not the Debate Schedule could be amended so that this question could be deferred. Two reasons were advanced: one, that some delegates were attending the Morgan State College Centennial banquet tonight and would not be here; secondly, that many delegates felt that they would be able to vote more intelligently on the first recommendation after there had been action on the second, third and fourth recommendations.

The Chair advised them that the matter was entirely up to the Convention; that a motion to make it the special order of business would be in order, and it would

be up to the Convention to decide whether it wanted to postpone consideration of the matter until tomorrow morning.

I think the Chair should announce that if the motion is carried, and consideration of this particular matter is postponed, it will, when it comes on for further discussion at the meeting of the Committee of the Whole tomorrow, be in the same status it is now. The motion to reconsider the vote by which the Recommendation failed after approval and the motion to reconsider the vote by which it was amended will be before the assembly.

I think while the Chair is speaking to this point it may be worthwhile, if I may, and before you vote on the question, so that everyone will be fully informed, to amplify what was said before recess as to the rulings of the Chair.

The Parliamentarian and the Chair have spent a good portion of the dinner recess hour in checking the rulings of the Chair prior to recess. As a result of that checking, the Chair is disposed to adhere to its previous rulings, because it believes they were correct. Jefferson's Manual contains no reference to a verification of the vote. Neither does Roberts Rules of Order. Roberts Rules of Order contains one provision in a footnote, suggesting that a secretary should be instructed to retain paper ballots so that if a recount is ordered by a majority of the Assembly, it would be available.

These references clearly indicate that it would not be possible to change a vote on such a verification.

The Senate of the United States Manual refers to recapitulation by which it obviously means the same thing that we have been saying by the term "verification", as does also Cannon's Rules for the House of Representatives. Both state quite unequivocally that it is not possible on such a recapitulation to change the vote. However, the Chair feels the matter is set beyond any doubt at all by the Rules of this Convention which state quite clearly that a delegate may change his vote at any time before it is recorded and clearly indicates that a vote may not be changed after it is recorded.

One further matter that I want to mention in that connection, and that is that reviewing the Rules of the House of Delegates of Maryland and of the Senate of Maryland, we were unable to find any reference to a verification or a recount of the vote.