

seems to them to be the best procedure, and as all of you know, these debate schedules are worked out only after a conference with committee chairmen and minority spokesmen.

If the Convention at any time desires to change the procedure, and amend the debate schedules, then within the limits fixed by the Rules, it has every right to do so. I am trying merely to state to you as clearly as I can the understanding that the Chair has as to the procedure on this Committee Report, and as to the effect of the Debate Schedule upon it. The pending motion is a motion that further consideration of Recommendation No. 1 of Committee Report EB-1 be made the special order of business at the next sitting of the Committee of the Whole after this evening.

Delegate Malkus.

DELEGATE MALKUS: Mr. President, I rise upon a point of inquiry.

THE PRESIDENT: State the inquiry.

DELEGATE MALKUS: In my absence this afternoon, I understand there was a vote of 68 to 68 on a matter of whether or not there should be written in the constitution of Maryland a Board of Public Works.

My question is, is my observation correct?

THE PRESIDENT: That is correct.

DELEGATE MALKUS: If we do nothing, Mr. President, where do we stand?

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair does not understand your inquiry, if we do nothing as to what?

DELEGATE MALKUS: I mean if the matter now dies as it is, and it is dead, 69 to 67, or whatever the vote might be on the question of abolition of the Board of Public Works, if we do nothing on it, where do we stand?

THE PRESIDENT: As the Chair has indicated, if the final action of the Committee of the Whole is neither to approve nor to disapprove Committee Recommendation No. 1 as it stands or as it is amended, the whole subject will be open to the Committee of the Whole on amendment to Committee Recommendation EB-1. Delegate Malkus.

DELEGATE MALKUS: Can you hear me now?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I can hear you.

DELEGATE MALKUS: When would that time occur?

THE PRESIDENT: Just as soon as we can get on with the business and move to it. That is the next item on the Agenda, after consideration of the Committee Report now under consideration.

DELEGATE MALKUS: And at that time everybody would have an opportunity to be heard, would they not?

THE PRESIDENT: Assuming that the action of the Committee of the Whole was as indicated, that is correct.

DELEGATE MALKUS: You would have no objection to all of us being heard, would you?

THE PRESIDENT: No the slightest.

Is there any further discussion? Delegate Hardwicke?

DELEGATE HARDWICKE: Mr. President, I submit that we heard debate and discussion all afternoon on the subject. It occurs to me that if we postpone this important matter until tomorrow, the nature and the force of the arguments would be lost; and we have a very limited time schedule here and we have already involved half a day in the matter. If we postpone it, that half day's discussion would not be available to us at a later time. It seems to me that we ought to go ahead with the thing and vote it up or down this evening.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion?

*(There was no response.)*

Are you ready for the question?

DELEGATE BEALL: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: The question arises on the motion that Recommendation No. 1 of Committee Report EB-1 be made a special order for the first sitting of the Committee of the Whole after this evening.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of that motion. A vote No is a vote against. Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

I think we had better take a recorded vote. Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.