

wanted to get straight whether you agreed with that or not.

Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: With respect to your response to Delegate Robey concerning the practice we have had in this State of allowing a gentleman who is a member of a banking firm to hold this office, your answer was that we should not give up this experience. I think I would go along with this, that we have, as you indicated, and I quote you, "you said we should have an experienced man of honor and trust. I assume that we want a paragon of honesty and I think the incumbent certainly is and I will not quarrel with any of the treasurers that I have known about; I assume that they are.

I wonder if we do not establish a principle in that we allow a public servant handling state funds to put the funds in his bank and then we allow him to participate in awarding contracts. If we allow the first principle to stand, then isn't the necessary result of that principle that a contract could be awarded to one of the members of the board or to a firm in which they have an interest, because the principle seems to be that it is all right to have the State doing business with a firm of the officer involved.

DELEGATE JAMES: If the treasurer deposits funds pro-rated on a non-discriminatory basis in qualified banks, and I understand that this is what is done, there is no favoritism and why should a person be discriminated against just because he is in public office? This is the vicious thing I am against, disqualifying a man because he happens to have certain private interests.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: I do not mean to belabor that point, but I do not think the response goes to my basic question, mostly to the impression that is created.

I would assume they would not give contracts to themselves. I have no evidence that they have. I think you have established the principle—

DELEGATE JAMES: I do not think this principle has been established. I am a member of the legislature and I am a practicing member of the bar. The question is, should I as a member of the bar accept any legal work, no matter how small a per-

centage from the State, because I am a member of the legislature.

The attorney general's rule is perfectly proper. Should any person in public office almost avoid any contact with government simply because he is in public office. This is a broad question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: It did raise another question in my mind. Was there not some practice for some time of awarding insurance commissions to members of the state legislature for no services performed? Was that not actually within the discretion of the state treasurer to make that award?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate James.

DELEGATE JAMES: It is under the Board of Public Works; I believe the state treasurer. I think you are right. It is not on the basis of a formula as I understand it. It is awarded to people who are in the insurance business on the basis of total volumes of insurance they write in the State and then I think they get the percentage which the total volume of their work bears to the total percentage.

I think that is the way it is done.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Do you think this is a desirable practice of the state legislature for no work performed?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate James.

DELEGATE JAMES: I am not defending them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Raley.

DELEGATE RALEY: Senator James, something that has concerned me is the setting up of the duties of the treasurer. You have the treasurer investing state funds, you have the Board of Public Works selling bonds, you have the comptroller managing the finances, and this has always given me some difficulty about this lack of coordination and management. I know that you have probably given some thought to this.

What do you consider would be the duties of the treasurer in coordinating some of these activities that are so very multiple which can lead to some serious problems?

I would like to know if we put in the the constitution that there is going to be