

THE CHAIRMAN: Does your amendment have a letter?

DELEGATE STERN: AU.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair suggests Delegate Stern that this is properly a matter for the Committee on Style. If you wish, I will put the amendment.

DELEGATE STERN: Mr. Chairman, I thought of that and I thought since this is a change, that some people may object to—

THE CHAIRMAN: I will put the amendment. Will the pages please distribute Amendment AU. This will be Amendment No. 11.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 11 to Committee Recommendation EB-1: Wherever the word "comptroller" appears in Committee Recommendation EB-1, it shall be spelled "Controller".

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment, having been seconded by Delegate Willoner, the Chair recognizes Delegate Stern to speak to the amendment.

DELEGATE STERN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, one of the reasons for this change, as you just heard the amendment being read, is it is read and pronounced incorrectly. Both words in quotations are pronounced identically the same.

I have here WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY: the usage of both terms are identical. The pronunciation of both terms are identical, but we are down here to write a modern Constitution and the modern usage of the word "Comptroller" should be to go along with the modern spelling of it. In the last 30 years, the word "Controller", by businesses, has come into usage, and it has been spelled and shown here the latter way, C-o-n-t-r-o-l-l-e-r.

I call the attention of the Committee, also, that in the dictionary, both terms are listed. Both terms are cross-referenced as having the same meaning. I would like to read a couple of the definitions because I think it would be quite helpful.

The first definition of "Comptroller" is, "a royal house official, who examines and supervises expenditures," and yesterday in Mr. Weidemeyer's remarks as to the definition of what we establish as Comptroller, I would like to read the second definition: "A public official, audits government accounts, and sometimes certifies expenditures."

This is truly what we established yesterday as the Controller.

Really, what I am saying is, we are not changing pronunciation since they are both pronounced identically. We are just taking out an archaic spelling and putting in a modern spelling. It becomes quite confusing because, for quite a few people, in fact, the office holder is the one who mispronounces this more than anyone else, but it is correctly pronounced, "Controller", and in writing a modern Constitution, we should have modern language.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. President, I would have to defer to some of the experts on this Convention as to whether "Comptroller" or "Controller" is the more common term today. It just seems to me, as long as the person Comptroller is spelled, C-o-m-p-t-r-o-l-l-e-r, I don't see particularly any need for changing it to a different spelling, unless it has become an archaic spelling. I will defer to some of the CPA's in this room.

Delegate Finch, you are a CPA.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gill has the floor.

DELEGATE GILL: May I ask Delegate Stern a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you yield to a question, Delegate Stern?

DELEGATE STERN: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gill.

DELEGATE GILL: I was wondering if he would amend it to eliminate one of the "L's"?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Stern.

DELEGATE STERN: Again, going to the WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY, which I used as reference, the WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY uses two "L's". I would not accept it. May I answer, also, there are only two CPA's in this body and that is Mr. Finch and I. Mr. Finch, I guess, would answer the same way I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Finch.

DELEGATE FINCH: I agree with Mr. Stern, that his suggestion is a very fine one and that is the way it should be spelled.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Penniman, as Chairman of the Committee on Style, Drafting and Arrangement, do you have any comment for the enlightenment of the Committee of the Whole?