

ceived word five minutes ago that he passed the Bar Examination. (*Applause.*)

Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President, members of the Convention, I think congratulations are in order for Atlee Wampler on our staff and our good Sergeant-at-Arms, Richard Rothenburg.

THE PRESIDENT: Correct, and also a third member of the staff, Thomas McCarty, who is one of the draftsmen in the Chief Clerk's office helping you draft proposals. Three members of the staff—Sergeant-at-Arms, Richard Rothenburg, Atlee Wampler, administrative assistant to the Committee on Personal Rights, and Thomas McCarty, draftsman in the Clerk's office—have also passed the bar examination.

We are very fortunate today in having with us the Honorable Alfred E. Driscoll, former Governor of the State of New Jersey, who served two terms from 1947 to 1954. Governor Driscoll very kindly consented to come down to the Convention today, where he appeared before the Committee on the Executive Branch and testified at length, at such length because of the questions asked him, that he had to cut short his lunch hour in order to be here for the 2 o'clock session of the Convention.

We are particularly pleased to hear from Governor Driscoll because he was Governor of New Jersey prior to and during the Constitutional Convention of New Jersey held in 1947, following which New Jersey's new Constitution was overwhelmingly adopted by the voters of that state in November, 1947. I present to you Governor Alfred E. Driscoll of New Jersey. (*Standing ovation.*)

GOVERNOR DRISCOLL: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Convention, you are engaged in an historic assignment. You are engaged in the task of constitution-making at a time when the world is beset with doubts, misunderstandings, preoccupied with the clash of apparently conflicting opinions.

Nonetheless, the future of our federal system is largely dependent upon the virility of component parts, namely, the 50 states. It may be said of you that you have, when your work is concluded, deserved the favorable opinion of your fellow citizens. Based upon my own experience in 1947, when our convention began in June, in no small measure was the success of the convention due to the fact that citizens of great importance and great dignity and great in-

tegrity hammered out a constitution that their fellow citizens recognized was not one of compromise but one based upon their beliefs, their convictions.

It is easy sometimes to weaken in the presence of pressure. There will be pressures, I am sure. But the path that follows that of conviction and integrity is the path that leads to success. It is hardly necessary to emphasize the far-reaching importance of the work you have undertaken.

The American people, foremost among the world's populations in their veneration of a written constitution, look upon a constituent assembly chosen for the specific purpose of making a constitution as an expression of basic sovereignty.

The making of a modern constitution is a difficult process, the more so when we seek agreement upon the complex issues of modern society in a popularly elected assembly such as yours.

The course of your work will undoubtedly be trying. It will test your capacity for statesmanship. It is part of our tradition, however, and a valuable tradition it is, that when we revert to fundamentals in government, we look to the highest form of representative democracy as well as the ultimate consent of the governed, expressed through the process of free elections.

I am sure that your fellow citizens expect a great work from you. While your state has lived under its present Constitution, I am told, for a considerable period of time, I know from my own experience they are now looking for something better, not changed for the purpose of change alone, but changed for the purpose of bringing your fundamental doctrine in line with modern society and capable of permitting your representatives, be they in the judiciary, the executive branch of the government, to better cope with those issues.

It is your task to appraise the forces that are for and against this and that issue. It is your task as I see it to develop a constitution that may very well exist for another hundred years, even though I would recommend that provision be made for the calling of a constitutional convention periodically at regular intervals, so that an audit may be made of your basic document. This provision might very well include calling of such a convention by the legislature and in the absence of the legislature calling the convention, then having the governor call it.

I would hope that you would strive for a simple constitution, one that more nearly