

compile, document and preserve all proceedings of the Convention and its several committees.

Now, Senate Resolution No. 14 does this; it just asks our Honorable President to tell us why the law has not been complied with—a progress report. There are some of us, some of you, that believe that we do not have to comply with the law. I moved around the boat yesterday. I found out this Constitutional Convention is in some cases above the law. I am not one of those that share that opinion; so in answer to the Chairman, he said that it is evident that things are not going to be bottled up. He personally, the first time in twenty-two years I have ever seen a chairman do this, made a motion to lay the matter on the table. The motion failed, I think, a 3-to-3 or a 4-to-4 vote. The next day one of his close colleagues accomplished the same purpose on a 6-to-4 vote.

So much about the report. The reason, Mr. Chairman of the Rules Committee, that I brought this matter into this debate here today is because you brought it up to start with.

Now, again, referring to the law, some of you may have not read House Bill 28, which is now Chapter 4 of the 1967 laws: It says, "The Convention may make such other expenditures"—I am reading now from paragraph 11—"as it deems proper to carry out its work." Now, listen to this—"but shall not authorize total expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated by law for its expenses."

This portion of the law did not give me too much concern until on the 15th day of September, three days after we are in being. I found out that we are broke, or about to go broke, and I for one did not want to be accused of violating any portions of this law that gives me concern, and for that reason, I wanted to know what we are talking about as far as money is concerned. The resolution I introduced is very simple. There is no gingerbread in it. I will read it to you:

*"RESOLVED: By the Constitutional Convention of 1967 that the President of the Convention is directed within five days after the passage of this resolution to give to each delegate in the Constitutional Convention of 1967 a general summary and report of the money spent and encumbered to date by the Constitutional Convention."*

The President has asked the comptroller's office to give a report of moneys spent, but that is not the big point, ladies and

gentlemen. We should also talk about moneys encumbered.

As I told you before, I am a member on the Committee of Rules, Credentials and Budget. This committee has never considered a budget for this Convention until September 26, which was some fourteen days after we were in being, and after it had already been stated that we were going to go broke. Is this the image that this Constitutional Convention would create? I have heard from time to time you have got to better the image of the General Assembly. Mr. President, if we are going to act in this, in my mind, irresponsible manner, our image at the end of this time will be a whole lot worse than that of the General Assembly. Again, Mr. Chairman, this is on the point: I introduced a resolution about "The Mighty Oak." That was Resolution No. 5, and if you know by its low number, it was early in the session. In that resolution I asked, among other things, that we be given a transcript. I was satisfied when the Chairman of the Rules Committee stated, after the President had made the announcement, that a film would be available. I had already seen it. And then the Chairman of the Rules said, "we will also have a transcript."

That has been some days back. I went to the Secretary of the Convention today and asked him: "When am I going to get the transcript?" He said: "They are in the process of typing it up."

I presume I will get it on January 13.

I am not going to take any more of this Convention's time. I have been here a long time, and I know when I am beat; and I appreciate the Chair giving me this opportunity. I have a soft spot in my heart for him because of that, because I like Vernon Eney, and I believe that he likes me. He told me so last night, and I believe almost anything he tells me.

So, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of this Convention, I hope that you will look at this little resolution, and I hope that you will want to know what is going on. After the Convention is adjourned, and we have spent more money that we are authorized by law, a taxpayer's suit might be in order, and I do not want to be a defendant. Thank you very much. Any questions?

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion?

Are you ready for the question? Delegate Weidemeyer?