

really knows what that will be, it will depend on how long the Convention goes, how wordy we are, the form of the transcript, and other matters.

The journal, of course, would be a less expensive proposition, but there again the total amount of the journal is uncertain. We have never had a journal for a constitutional convention unlike the annual journals of the legislature where there is recurring experience which would give you some reasonable estimate of the printing costs. It may turn out that the figures for printing are understated.

It is apparent that the major mistake in the wisdom of hind sight was that perhaps we should have asked for more money. Not that we do not have enough if the budget is adhered to as proposed by the officers and recommended by your committee, not that we do not have enough to continue the convention in operation on a very efficient basis, and giving everybody what they really need to do the job, but due to the fact that if we go the full 120 days, we will not have a great deal left over for the purpose of post-Convention expenses, especially publicizing the work of the Convention.

Originally when the legislature appropriated the \$2,000,000, it broke it down as follows: \$20,000 to wind up the work of the Constitutional Convention Commission, \$750,000 as the state's contribution to the localities for the cost of conducting the special election on May 18, with the remainder to be allocated to the operation of the Convention. The thought being that this is \$1,230,000 left, with \$230,000 left for public information expenses at the end. But if we go the full 120-day session, if the budget we have presented to you is even reasonably reliable, it is fairly clear there will be very little, twenty-two or twenty-three thousand dollars or so, left over to use for public information purposes, which would mean in that situation that the General Assembly of Maryland would have to appropriate any additional funds that might be required to distribute the proposed Constitution and the commentary and information about it to the voters of Maryland before they are asked to accept or reject it.

The recommendation of your committee is that the budget as presented to you today be approved, but that this committee be authorized by the Convention to review the budget periodically in relation to the expenditures being incurred to see if the budget is being adhered to and to report

back to you if, in its judgment, further action of the Convention is required.

I think I had better read the recommendation because of the mistyping in one word, which is a critical word, last page, six, last paragraph: "The committee recommends that the Convention approve the estimated budget attached to this report, but that it authorize the Committee on Rules, Credentials and Convention Budget to periodically review operations under the budget and, in the Committee's judgment, to report to the Convention regarding expenditures incurred." here it is, "or any other matters affecting the budget of the Convention."

THE SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT: Are there any questions? The Chair recognizes Delegate Della.

DELEGATE DELLA: Will the Chair answer a question?

THE SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT: If he can.

DELEGATE DELLA: Can you tell me how much we have spent out of the \$2,000,000?

DELEGATE SCANLAN: I can tell you as of October 23 with a slight allowance made for the fact that we do not have the delegates' salaries and per diem expenses of that day, we have it for the 18th. It looks like as of October 23rd, slightly underestimated because we just have salaries as of October 18, we have spent \$292,756 out of the \$1,230,000 allotted for the Convention. Remember, as I said, Senator, \$750,000 has been allocated for the conduct of the election and \$20,000, I believe, to wind up the affairs of the Constitutional Convention Commission.

DELEGATE DELLA: Are these estimated figures you are giving me?

DELEGATE SCANLAN: No.

DELEGATE DELLA: Actual costs?

DELEGATE SCANLAN: These are figures supplied by the comptroller's office and are reflected in the memorandum distributed by the secretary.

DELEGATE DELLA: Because you put in here estimated \$7,000 for monthly telephone.

DELEGATE SCANLAN: Yes, but —

DELEGATE DELLA: Ordinarily, Mr. Chairman, our telephone bill for the legislative session is approximately \$50,000.