

not to defer formulation of their reports. I suggest to you that if the Convention, as is contemplated, adopts a motion at the conclusion of the session on Thursday to recess until Monday, you will have a long weekend in which to diligently apply yourselves to preparation of your minority reports.

Are there any announcements by committee chairmen?

*(There was no response.)*

For what purpose does Delegate Wheatley rise?

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. President, I have one possible correction for the record. I am not sure whether I am correct, but on Delegate Proposal No. 405, the Clerk read line 8, as: "but not adapted to reflect necessary differences." The "not" should be omitted. If I am in error, this correction would be unnecessary.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Proposal—

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: 405. The tape will probably show this. If a correction is not in order, it will not be necessary, but I think it is important that the record show that.

THE PRESIDENT: If so, your statement on the tape will take care of it.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Point of parliamentary inquiry. Since committees will be reporting out, as indicated today, the question has arisen in our committee, by members of the committee and staff, as to a ruling that would affect the recall of a committee report once it has been submitted to the floor, as one has been today. We would like to get a ruling at this time from the Chair, as to whether or not the committee continues to exercise revisory power, and if so, at what point does this revisory power cease?

THE PRESIDENT: Answering you just offhand and subject to correction on more careful study of the rules, I would say that the committee does not have revisory powers. There is a provision in the rules that the Committee of the Whole may not re-refer a proposal to another committee. However, this problem, or at least the problem I think you have in mind, was discussed by the chairmen of the various committees, because they all recognize the problems that would arise if amendments were offered in the Committee of the Whole to committee recommendations and submitted for debate without opportunity for the committee to consider them again.

The answer to the problem seems to be this. First off, there will not be, initially at least, such a pressure on the order of debate, as will make it impossible for the committee members to confer among themselves as to an amendment being discussed on the floor. In all probability, most of the committee recommendations will embrace much more than one section. It is the plan to have these discussed in the Committee of the Whole seriatim, so that as each section is discussed and amendments to it considered, it is not a final action on the committee recommendation. Final action on the committee recommendation would not come until after all of the sections had been discussed and amendments to it considered and acted upon seriatim. This would afford an opportunity for the committee to consider any such amendments, because as I am sure the delegate realizes, the debates on any committee recommendation are apt to be a matter of days rather than a matter of an hour or two.

In addition to this, the Committee on Rules has under consideration, but has not yet reported, a rule governing the making of amendments. If what they are considering is adopted by that committee initially, and by the Convention itself subsequently, the probability is that there would be ample time for a committee to consider any amendments which might be offered, first because most amendments would be printed and on the desks of delegates before the debate on the committee recommendation started, and secondly, because of the requirement that amendments not so printed in advance must be printed and on the desks of delegates before they can be voted on.

Your problem is one which has the consideration of the Rules Committee, and I think if you will wait until their report, you will see much more clearly what the answer will be.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Johnson.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Mr. President, did I understand the Chair to recommend that the majority report not be held up while the minority report is being prepared?

THE PRESIDENT: I certainly do so recommend and the reason I do is because the indications which the Chair has received from the committee chairmen is that the committee reports will very shortly be ready. They are to be accompanied by supporting memoranda. These require study.