

If there are any questions that I can answer, I will be happy to endeavor to do so.

THE PRESIDENT: Are there any questions of the Committee Chairman?

Delegate Burdette.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: I should like to make just a little legislative history. About the intent of the Committee with respect to page 3 with the first resolve, the language empowers the President to employ an appropriate staff which will, under the direction of the President, conclude the business and including in that conclusion of the business, the compilation, the preservation, and the publication, where desirable, of its files, records, transcripts, histories, and journals.

Now, I hope, Mr. Chairman, and I am virtually sure that the intent of the Committee is that this language authorizes the President to decide what the Convention shall do with regard to preservation and publication so far as the Convention itself is concerned. I think it could be interpreted, however, to authorize that the Convention has an exclusive use or an exclusive power to determine what might be preserved or published.

I am hoping that the intent of the Committee, and if the resolution is passed, the intent of the Convention is that, of course, the Convention under the management of the President may publish under its auspices as it seems to be desirable, but that other people not involving the Convention may have full access to its records for research and that they may publish all or part of those records through private enterprise, that they may have the full access which American scholarship may need with respect to this Convention without any use of the interpretation that publication where desirable would leave the private publication to the determination of the Convention.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Dulany.

DELEGATE DULANY: These are public records. The purpose of the resolution is only to authorize the publication where we feel it would be necessary for us to publish the records.

It is not in any sense meant to be restrictive or limiting on the publication or study of these records by outside groups or agencies. This is only for the authority of the Convention to act. Not in any sense

is it meant to be a limitation on the authority to publish.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the President ought to add to that statement for certainty and for emphasis. All convention records in the opinion of the President, and this is the policy uniformly followed, are public records. The official journal, that is the original notes of the Journal Clerk, have been microfilmed each day and are in the Hall of Records where, of course, they are always available to the public. The files of the Convention and of all of the Committees will be turned over ultimately to the Hall of Records where they will, of course, always be available to the public.

The Archives has already put in motion plans to collect all of the documents from the various committees, all the files of the officers and all of the official papers of the Convention. These are being catalogued and boxed for delivery to the Hall of Records so that I would anticipate that within thirty days after the Convention had adjourned sine die, the records would all be physically in the possession of the Hall of Records.

The publication of these records, as that term is used in the resolution, would be construed by the President to mean publication under the auspices of or at the expense of the Convention, leaving it to private enterprise to publish as much or as little as might be desired.

I might add that in addition to the arrangements just outlined for the delivery of the records to the Hall of Records, we have made arrangements to deliver to a number of libraries throughout the State copies of all convention records that have been reproduced in quantity, not, of course, such things as correspondence, of which there may be only one copy, but we have been preserving for delivery to half a dozen libraries, including the State Library in Annapolis, the library at the University College, Johns Hopkins University, and other college libraries, Pratt Library in Baltimore, all proposals, committee reports, and every document that has been printed by the Convention.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Pullen.

DELEGATE PULLEN: Mr. Chairman, I did not know that you were a mind reader. You have just made what I think is a very practical suggestion. I am turning over all the material that I have, transcripts, and the like, to the law library