

wishes to offer the amendment and obtains recognition from the Chair for that purpose, the Chair will ask him to send the amendment forward to the desk to be read. While that is being done, the chief page will see that the copies are distributed to the desks of the delegates. So that by the time the Reading Clerk is reading the amendments, the pages hopefully will have them in the hands of the delegates.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: Mr. President, thank you. I have a second question, if I may ask it.

In the debate the other day, if my memory is correct, we introduced what I thought was salutary informality in making technical improvements. I believe the word "in" was changed to "of" almost by general agreement. There was a second method of introducing amendments in reality. That was that a delegate rose and asked a mover if he would accept a change of a word. This informality permits a very ready interchange if it does not involve a long amendment.

If we were to interpret the rules literally, an amendment would have to be printed to change a typographical error that turns up or is noted on the floor. This would delay the proceeding. Could we get an interpretation from you?

THE PRESIDENT: Again, if I may undertake to answer in lieu of the Chairman of the Committee, and state the interpretation which I think the presiding officer should give to the rule, it would be this: If a printed recommendation or printed amendment contains a typographical error, such as occurred the other day, an error in one word, I would take it that the typographical error could be corrected without being reprinted, in the absence of objection.

If a delegate desired to suggest to the sponsor a modification of the printed amendment, I take it that the modification, if accepted by the sponsor, could be made to the printed amendment if it was accepted by the sponsor and if there was no objection. Obviously if the modification was long and detailed, there would be an objection or the Chair itself would require that the amendment be reprinted.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: Mr. President, I would think also if the modification to be suggested is long and involved or modestly so, it would still be possible to have the change printed or Xeroxed or some other interpretation of printing very quickly.

THE PRESIDENT: A matter of fifteen or twenty minutes, I think so.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Any further questions of the chairman for purposes of clarification?

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Wheatley.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, I was questioning the language on page 7 of the report, not as to objection, but for clarification of the procedure for amendments. As I understand it would first have the opportunity to present amendments. As I understand it we would in the page we point out the commentary. This means that there will be two opportunities to prepare and offer it.

I wonder about the thinking of the Committee as to, A, whether or not we can afford this luxury and, as we get further along, B, if the Chairman could refresh my memory as to amendments at the time of second or third reading in the Convention, what is the provision relative to that?

DELEGATE SCANLAN: Answering your first question, are we indulging in a luxury we cannot afford by following traditional parliamentary procedure? The committee felt not. We felt this would be a fair opportunity to give a delegate who had not thought of an amendment a chance to offer it on the floor. An amendment could be offered by a delegate the first time when the particular section of the main question was being amended and finally when the last call came on the question of the whole main question, he would have another opportunity. Of course, he could not offer it twice except maybe under reconsideration.

I am sure there is a possibility of abuse here, but I think that we wanted to be sure that the administrative procedures established by the president and the officers really gave a delegate a chance to get his amendment printed and distributed in time. I think the procedure of the other day shows this can be done realistically, at least with reasonably short amendments. I suppose we will have longer ones later on.

In that connection, might I transmit to you what one of the members of the Rules Committee suggested would be a good thing. That is that anybody who is contemplating an amendment to a committee report should first consult with the chairman of the committee to find out if his