

a proposal that debate be permitted on final reading. Some members felt that this should not be done. Other members felt it should be limited to an hour. This, too, was to be held over until September 12.

Finally, the rules are very easy, as they are proposed, to amend or suspend, and there should be no real problem in the way of substantial improvement, modification of the rules in early September if that is desirable.

I do not mean to suggest by anything I have said that important amendments, some of which are already on the delegates' desks, should not be considered today. There may be others. I merely mean to suggest that there may be some proposal for amendments to the rules that could be held over until September without doing any disadvantage to the rules as proposed and the business of the Convention.

Having said that, I just want to touch briefly on the chapters. I think Chapter I speaks for itself. Chapter II, Officers and Employees: There was an amendment proposed in the Committee that there be a secret ballot for the office. I gather this is now a suggested amendment and has been distributed. The Committee, by a very substantial vote, rejected that amendment, not being able to see any real reason why the delegates should vote in secret for the men whom they wish to have be their president and vice-president, et cetera.

Now, in Rule 5, dealing with the appointive powers of the president, there is one change from the original draft of the rules. The Committee recommended unanimously that the vice-chairman of each committee would be elected by the members of that committee. The chairman and members of the committee would be appointed by the president. There was a motion made in the meeting of the Rules Committee that the president and the two vice-presidents together as a triumvirate, as it were, make the appointment to the committees, and make the appointments to the chairmanship of the committee. This was defeated in the Rules Committee by a vote of 20 to 1, though I understand the matter is here in the form of amendment and has been distributed to the delegates.

I think the various duties of the officers are set forth, and I hope you have read them. I will not take up your time.

I would like to turn now to the question of the committees. There are nine sub-

stantive committees and three procedural committees.

The Rules Committee was of the unanimous view that every delegate should be entitled to serve if he wishes on at least one substantive committee, and the Committee's recommendation in that respect is found on the first full paragraph on page 8.

One of the matters that I am sure was brought to the attention of the public press was the question of whether the committee meetings should be open at all times. As originally proposed and as the draft had been recommended by the subcommittee of the Constitutional Convention Commission, all meetings were to be public, except if a majority of the delegates at this Convention gave the approval to that particular committee to hold an executive session. That particular language was stricken by a motion made and carried in the Friday night meeting of the Rules Committee. There was a fairly, I will not say close division of the Committee, but it carried. I think it was the universal feeling on the part of the Committee that so far as possible all meetings of the committees at all times should be public, but there might come a time, for reasons of protecting a man's reputation or for reasons of getting candid testimony that might not be otherwise forthcoming, that there might come a time when it would be permissible to have an executive session, a prerogative of all legislative bodies in the Anglo-Saxon world, but the problem was in capturing that idea in language. We thought that the way that was originally recommended was all right, but we felt that that was too strict a prohibition. The rules now say nothing about it, and I gather there is at least one proposal that has been distributed to delegates that would deal with this matter in the form of an amendment to the Committee's report.

Rule 30 [32] is an important one, the discharge rule, which would make it impossible for committees to bottle up proposals or resolutions or motions of the delegates if it is a significant rule. Again, the Committee felt strongly about it. We have not said anything specific about the limitation of debate but left that language open for insertion with language that would satisfy everyone.

I think an important recommendation, something that was not in the proposed recommendations, is Rule 29 [31]. It may be that there would come a time, when tempers were short, people were tired, when there would be an attempt to adjourn the