

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
C O N S T I T U T I O N A L
C O N V E N T I O N
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RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
The State University of New Jersey
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May 19, 1966

Volume IX

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1966

MAY 19, 1966

(The session began at 11:45 A. M.)

PRESIDENT ADRIAN M. FOLEY, JR.: Ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to please take your places.

The ninth meeting of the Constitutional Convention of 1966 will now come to order.

As our first order of business we will commence our proceedings with the invocation. This morning, coming to us from the Passaic Diocese, is the Most Reverend Stephen J. Kocisko, Bishop of Passaic.

The Bishop, who was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1915, is a product of the Minneapolis School System and completed his college studies at Nazareth Hall Preparatory Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was sent to Rome in October of 1935 where he completed his philosophical and theological studies at the Pontifical University of the Propagation of the Faith and was ordained to the Priesthood on March 30th, 1941. St. Stephan's Byzantine Catholic Church in Detroit, Michigan was the Bishop's first assignment, where he served from 1941 until 1947. From 1947 until 1956 he was assigned to St. John's Byzantine Catholic Church in Lyndora, Pennsylvania. He was consecrated Bishop on October 23, 1956, in the Cathedral of St. Paul, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Our Bishop served as Director of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, and Vicar General and Chancellor of the Byzantine Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.

He was installed as the first Bishop of the new Byzantine Catholic Diocese of Passaic, New Jersey, on September 10, 1963, at the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel in Passaic.

Your attention, please. We are greatly indebted to have the Bishop with us and I would ask the Bishop to now give the invocation.

BISHOP KOCISKO: Oh Almighty and Eternal Father, Sovereign King of the Universe, who in Your wisdom has chosen these, Your servants, to enact a responsible role in the civic destinies of men, be pleased to look favorably upon them and to direct them in bringing to a rightful conclusion the problems and issues confronting them in this hour. Sustain the members of this Convention with courage and integrity and inspire them with wisdom, understanding and justice so that in all their deliberations and actions they may remember that You are the divine and supreme lawmaker and thus may be inspired to have as their common goal the juridical, social, cultural and religious betterment of the State of New Jersey and of its citizens.

We pray to You, Oh All Powerful King, to aid them in fostering unity of purpose for the common good of the citizens who have bestowed upon them the sacred trust of civic leadership.

Assist them in their deliberations; shield them from all contention; enlighten and guide them by your saving grace and blessings, through the merits of Your Divine Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and Your life-giving

spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

PRESIDENT: May we thank you, Bishop, in the name of the Convention, for your most inspiring message. If our deliberations follow the suggestions and dictates of your words, we cannot help but succeed.

You have before you the minutes of the eighth session of the Constitutional Convention. Are there any additions, omissions or corrections?

(Silence)

Hearing none, may I ask, what is your pleasure as to the reading of the minutes of the last session?

MR. C. ROBERT SARCONI: Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and that they be accepted.

MR. J. EDWARD CRABIEL: Second the motion, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: A motion has been made and seconded that we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last session.

Any discussion?

(Silence)

We will move the question.

All those in favor signify by saying "Aye."

(Chorus of "Ayes")

Those opposed, "No."

(Silence)

The motion is carried.

Mr. Secretary, would you please call the roll.

(The Secretary called the roll and the following Delegates answered as their names were called.)

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Lilienfeld, Ponzio, Bozarth, Farley

BERGEN COUNTY

Andora, Becton, Borg, Durkin, Inglema, Jones,
Peer, Sammartino, Weber, Woodcock, Bartoletta

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Belopolsky, Dimon, Kelley

CAMDEN COUNTY

Bennie, Malandra, McCord, Scholz, Thatcher,
Perry, Weinberg

CAPE MAY COUNTY

Perskie, Sandman

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Horuvitz, Lupton

ESSEX COUNTY

Bate, Clapp, Cohen, Duff, Fernicola, Foley,
Handler, Kimmelman, Lynch, Sarcone, Stiles,
Tate, Tompkins, Van Riper, Hume, Dunn

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Connery, Hunt, Caulfield, Cotton

HUDSON COUNTY

Castano, Dugan, Gaulkin, Glauberman, Kelly,
Koch, MacPhail, Musto, Roth, Phelps, Roberson, Grossi

HUNTERDON COUNTY

Lance, Rittenhouse

MERCER COUNTY

Bash, Goldberg, Hollendonner, Weinroth,
Lockard, Pierson

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Borst, Crabel, Evanko, Gallagher, Jacks,
Metzger, Willis, Yelencsics

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Beadleston, Gross, McGann, Reilly, Sterner,
Stout

MORRIS COUNTY

Georges, Hillery, Manahan, Maraziti, Roach,
Thomas

OCEAN COUNTY

Cucci, Novins

PASSAIC COUNTY

Biber, Dunn, Evers, LaCava, Roemer

SALEM COUNTY

Davis, Leap

SOMERSET COUNTY

Meredith, Ozzard, Shaffer

SUSSEX COUNTY

Hollander

UNION COUNTY

Bailey, Cawley, Dietz, Gannon, Jamison,
McDonough, McGowan, Schreiber, Orkin, Pfaltz

WARREN COUNTY

Curry, Dumont

SECRETARY JOHN E. DIMON: Mr. President, you have
a quorum and you may proceed with the agenda.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

Are there any reports of standing committees?

(Silence)

Are there any motions or resolutions to be presented to the Convention?

The Chair recognizes Delegate Perry from Camden County.

MR. ELIJAH PERRY: Mr. President and Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, we are all aware of the fact that the very reason for our being here is to provide for the State of New Jersey proper representation of all of its people. We will someday, as leaders ourselves, hand our mantles to the young people of the State of New Jersey.

We have with us this morning young people from Pine Point Junior High School and their Principal, Mr. Conwell, who have come to watch this government in action. But I would like to have the Chairman of our Delegation from Camden County, the Honorable Angelo Malandra, welcome these young people to our Convention.

The Chairman has bowed to me.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like for this Convention to give to these young people who are academic students at their high school, college prep students, and are interested in government, a vote of confidence for their coming here to view our procedure.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT: We are happy to welcome the students from Pine Point Junior High School and to record in the minutes their interest in our work.

Their Principal, I understand, Mr. Josiah Conwell,

is also present and I see the Principal with the group.

The Chair wishes to announce that at the next meeting of this Convention, one week hence, - as you know, under a rule change effected at a past session, all committee reports - report or reports of each committee - will be made no later than May 26th, a week from today. Therefore, with the knowledge that these committee reports will undoubtedly comprehend a great deal of material which will be the subject matter of floor discussion, debate and, perhaps, action, the hours for our meeting of May 26th will be both morning and afternoon. The morning session will not adjourn but rather will recess for lunch. There will be further committee hearings, committee meetings, and the Convention will reconvene in the afternoon, after lunch.

This is stated for your guidance.

The assignment of rooms:

Room A, at 2 o'clock the Committee on Apportionment, Democratic Members, will meet.

At 2 o'clock, also, in Room C, the Committee on Scope of the Convention will meet.

Room D, at 2:15 the Committee on Operation and Organization will meet.

And the entire Committee on Apportionment will meet in Room A at 3 P.M.

Is there any unfinished business to come before the Convention?

(Silence)

There is an additional announcement. The Committee

on Structure will meet in the Gymnasium at 2 o'clock.

We have been asked to amend the minutes to reflect the additional names of Delegates Saul Orkin and Joseph Gannon as sponsors for Proposal No. 16.

Mr. Secretary, are there any Proposals which have not come to the consideration of the Delegates?

SECRETARY: Proposal No. 44, introduced by Delegate Cawley, Union County:

A PROPOSAL providing for a General Assembly in which each member represents a unit of population to be determined by this Convention, and a Senate in which each member represents a certain number of registered voters to be determined by this Convention, with a self-executing formula for future reapportionment.

Proposal No. 45, introduced by Delegates Goldberg from Mercer County, Crabel from Middlesex County and Keegan from Passaic County:

A PROPOSAL providing for a Senate of not more than 40 senators apportioned among Senate districts composed of 1 or more counties and a General Assembly of not more than 70 members apportioned among Assembly districts composed of 1 or 2 counties, and providing for the at-large election of senators and members of the General Assembly from their respective districts.

Proposal No. 46, introduced by Delegate Goldberg of Mercer County:

A PROPOSAL providing for a unicameral legislature of 100 to 120 members apportioned among the counties according to Equal Proportions and elected at large from the counties except that in counties allotted 8 per cent or more of the total members some shall be elected at-large from the counties and the remainder from 2 equal-population districts.

Proposal No. 47, introduced by Delegate Evanko
of Middlesex County:

A PROPOSAL to amend Section III of Article IV of the State Constitution, providing for a General Assembly composed of (120) members apportioned among the several counties according to equal numerical proportions and that the members be elected at large within multiple member districts within contiguous municipal and county lines.

Proposal No. 48, introduced by Delegate Glauberman
of Hudson County:

A PROPOSAL revising Sections I, II and III of Article IV of the State Constitution to provide for a bicameral legislature with a Senate having between 35 and 40 members elected, for two-year terms, from multi-member districts consisting of not less than one county nor more than three, contiguous counties, and with a General Assembly having between 110 to 120 members elected, for two-year terms, from the counties, some according to a specified scale elected at large and the remainder elected from single-member districts in the counties.

Proposal No. 49, introduced by Delegates Scholz, Weinberg, McCord and Thatcher of Camden County; Hunt of Gloucester County; Leap of Salem County, Novins of Ocean County; Evers of Passaic County; Willis of Middlesex County; Woolfenden of Sussex County; and Evanko of Middlesex County:

A PROPOSAL providing for a Senate of 28 senators and an Assembly of 112 members to be elected from single-member, equal-population districts, with each Senate district divided into 4 Assembly districts.

Proposal No. 50, introduced by Delegates Scholz, Weinberg, McCord, Thatcher, Hunt, Leap, Novins, Evers, Willis, Woolfenden and Evanko:

A PROPOSAL providing for a Senate of 30 senators and an Assembly of 120 members to be elected from single-member, equal-population districts, with each Senate district divided into 4 Assembly districts.

Proposal No. 51, introduced by Delegate Skevin of Bergen County:

A PROPOSAL providing for a bicameral legislature composed of a Senate of 30-40 members elected at large from Senate districts comprised of 1-4 whole counties and apportioned among the Senate districts according to the Method of Equal Proportions, a General Assembly of 60 members, 4 each elected at large from each of 15 equal-population Assembly districts and a specific 33 member Senate and 60 member Assembly for the Legislature to be elected in 1967 and until the 1970 census.

Proposal No. 52, and the last one, gentlemen, introduced by Delegate Maraziti of Morris County:

A PROPOSAL that the Senate shall be composed of 40 Senators apportioned among Senate districts as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants, which Senate districts shall be composed of whole counties, and that the Senate to be elected in 1967 and thereafter until the 1970 census shall be composed of 40 Senators.

PRESIDENT: Proposals 44 and 45, assigned to the Committee on Apportionment.

Proposal No. 46, referred to the Committee on Structure with an additional reference to the Committee on Apportionment.

Proposal No. 47, referred to the Committee on Apportionment.

Proposal No. 48, referred to the Committee on Apportionment, as is Proposal No. 49.

Proposal No. 50, referred to the Committee on Apportionment.

Proposal No. 51 also referred to the Committee

on Apportionment.

Proposal No. 52, referred to the Committee on Apportionment.

The Chair wishes to record in the minutes the thanks of the Delegates to its Research Staff, Mr. Samuel Alito and Mr. Lewis Thurston, not only for the outstanding support they have given all the Delegates in the formulation of the various proposals but in the digest of all proposals which you find on your desk this morning.

Is there any further unfinished business to come before the Convention this morning?

Mr. Crabiel?

MR. CRABIEL: Mr. President, if there is no other business, I would move that we adjourn until 11:00 A. M., Thursday, May 26th.

MR. SARCONE: Second the motion.

PRESIDENT: Motion made and seconded that this Convention adjourn until May 26th at 11:00 A.M.

All those in favor, signify by saying "Aye."

(Chorus of "Ayes.")

Those opposed, "No."

(Silence.)

The motion is carried and the Convention is adjourned.

(The session adjourned at 12:07 P.M.)