

being partial towards a question which may come before the house. If he casts a vote on any side of an important question his opponents will immediately say that he is partial. I think it would be a decided loss if Mr. Bradley could not express his opinion as he would like.

Mr. Penney As I understand it, we are talking about the appointing of a member of this Convention as Chairman, and it seems to me that two outstanding matters should concern us most. One is the qualifications of the Chairman, and the other is his impartiality. In regard to the member of this Convention named, all members here present know that we had differences in debate, but as far as I am concerned, it is over and forgotten. I listened very attentively to the eloquent tribute which Mr. Bradley made to the late Judge Fox, and I do not think any man of good common sense could make the statements that Mr. Bradley made in a public session unless he meant it sincerely. Apart altogether from the voting matter, I do not feel myself competent to discuss that at this time. If the feeling of the Convention is unanimous, I rather think that Mr. Bradley would make a suitable and satisfactory Chairman.

Mr. Hillier When I spoke just now, I had no idea that any member would take that responsibility. I am glad that one of us is prepared to take that responsibility. A good many of you have known Mr. Bradley a long time; I have known him only since I came here to this Convention.... Should he be appointed, he will not be able to enter as fully into debates on the various questions as he would like to, but maybe Mr. Bradley would be in a position to forego some of these things. I do not think it would be amiss if Mr. Bradley would express himself on this particular point. Personally, I am prepared to vote for Mr. Bradley.... I would like to see everything working in harmony, and I do not see any reason why a member of this Convention, who is capable, could not be appointed as chairman to guide our destinies in a satisfactory manner.

Mr. Chairman Are you ready for the question? It is proposed by Major Cashin and seconded by Mr. Ashbourne that Mr. Bradley be recommended for Chairman and that the Commission of Government be advised to change the act.

[The motion carried unanimously]

¹Volume II:1.

Mr. Smallwood This question of the Chairman voting. The act, in addition to providing for the appointment of a Supreme Court judge, provides also that judge shall not have the right to vote, and in accordance with the act the standing orders of the Convention also provide that that Chairman shall not vote. So in order to enable the Chairman to vote, it is necessary first to amend the act, and second to amend the standing orders. That ought to be taken care of. The motion merely recommends that Mr. Bradley be appointed Chairman and that the section of the act be repealed.

Mr. Cashin And also that he retain his vote. That was my motion.

Mr. Chairman My understanding of it is that paragraph one will be wiped out and the government will insert other words.

Mr. Vardy I would like to be placed on record as wishing to thank the Commission of Government for giving us the privilege of appointing our own Chairman.

[The Chairman read paragraph 2 of the National Convention Act¹]

Mr. Cashin If they amend the act, we will appoint him. My motion was that we appoint Mr. Bradley and that the Commission of Government be advised to change the act — that section 2 be amended, and that the National Convention as it exists, be empowered to appoint a Chairman. We have already done that. Now we want to change the act to cover that.

Mr. Smallwood We have not done that. What we have done in adopting Major Cashin's motion is that we have notified the government that we want them to repeal that part of the act which forbids the appointment of a Chairman who is not a judge of the Supreme Court, and to appoint Mr. Bradley at our request. We cannot appoint him. We recommend that they appoint him at our request. A motion could be put that the act be amended by the government ensuring that the new Chairman so nominated shall have the right to vote and subsequently that our standing rules be amended, if necessary, to ensure that he has a vote.

Mr. Newell We should add, "and also that he have the right to speak."

Mr. Job Would it not be better to do all that in one motion?