WORK IS ENDED
By Committee

Reduced Official Journal Costs Explored

By C. M. HARGRODER
(Times-Picayune Staff Correspondent)

BATON ROUGE, La. — With the appointment of members of the eight substantive committees of the Louisiana constitutional convention and the four procedural committees Thursday afternoon, the committee on committees completed its work and disbanded as a committee.

Earlier, the executive committee of the convention voted to explore possibilities the Division of Administration will be able to print the journal of the convention at possibly a 30 per cent reduction under the cost it does by the official state printer.

The executive committee also voted to pay a $19,568 bill of Gulf South Research Institute for pre-convention work on printing as contracted by Gov. Edwin W. Edwards, conditioned on receipt of an itemized bill.

Wrestling with the problem of who should be on which committees (although convention rules said the preference of the delegate should be used as well as consideration of experience and residence), the committee on committees eventually adopted as chairman E. L. Henry said they probably would at the outset Wednesday — essentially the original preferences designated by each delegate.

MEMBERS NAMED

Additionally, the committee named the members of four previous committees, litigating on rules, credentials and ethics.

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After extended discussion the committee voted to postpone action on the Jenkins resolution and, instead, named a subcommittee to draft appropriate resolutions to present to the full convention Tuesday to make the convention subject to appropriate regulations of the Division of Administration relative to purchasing procedures.

Although the committee received an opinion from the attorney general that a printing contract with Thomas J. Moran Inc. for the legislative journal also applied to the convention and was binding on the convention, Commissioner of Administration Charles E. Roemer II said he has interpreted that printing contract to mean that the state could do its own printing, but not seek any other outside printer.

Roemer assured the committee that the state could, without adding new equipment, print the convention journal if there was a change in format from the five columns used by the Legislature to a new three column publication.

Herman “Monday” Lowe told the executive committee as it began discussion of the Jenkins resolution that he had done a “limited amount of research” on the present state contract and it appeared to say T.J.M. would have a right to serve our people, “especially if it saves money,” said Frank Fulco of Coushatta.

Roemer continued that the publication could be printed each day “without any additional expense,” of new equipment. He said “we can do it cheaper than T.J.M.”

Roemer added “my people say we could effect a savings of 30 per cent” if the state did the printing of the daily journal. He said it would mean changing the publication from the five column format used by the Legislature to three columns.

That would serve the purpose, “especially if it saves money,” said Frank Fulco of Coushatta.

E. L. Henry said they probably would at the outset Wednesday — essentially the original preferences designated by each delegate.

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Here are the members of the substantive, or article-drafting, committees of the Louisiana Constitutional Convention.


Judiciary — John Avant, Baton Rouge; Clyde E. Bel Sr., New Orleans; Philip Bergeron, New Orleans; James Burns, Covington; Judge James Dennis, Monroe; Errol Deshotel, Oberlin; Rep. R. Harmon Drew, Minden; Wendell Gauthier, New Orleans; Donald Kelly, Natchitoches; Richard Kilbourne, Clinton; Ambroise Landry, Thibodaux; Gordon Martin, Apulia; Jassle Ousso Sr., Piaquinermine; Lawrence Sanzo Jr., Opelousas; Justice Albert Tate Jr., New Orleans; Max Tobias Jr., New Orleans; Anthony Vesich Jr., New Orleans; and W. Burton Willis, St. Martinville.


The work of the committee on committees was ratified by the convention which returns Tuesday for a 4 p.m. session, and the new committees named are expected to organize Wednesday and select their own officers.

The executive committee, considered a resolution by Rep. Louis “Woody” Jenkins of Baton Rouge that the convention subject its purchases to central purchasing on low bid basis and repudiate any contract made in their name before the convention began.