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Report of the Legislative Committee...

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- E. Distintegration and confusion
- F. Passivity and disinterest
- G. Indecision and stalemate
- H. Static relationships of members
- I. Variable relationship of members
- 5. Personnel
 - A. Personal antagonism apparent
 - B. Non-participating members
 - C. Faculty intervention
 - D. Social groupings (male-female, race, creed, etc.)
 - E. Evidence of fatigue
 - F. Amount of information
- 6. General summary of procedures: _____/_____/_____

Report of the Legislative Committee . . .

The Legislative Committee consisted of five students who were assigned at the beginning of the Congress the purpose of analyzing how best to improve the machinery of the Congress. After its opening instructions, the Committee was left entirely to its own direction. The Committee set up the following agenda, which was carried out during the course of the Congress:

- Thursday evening: Held the opening discussion to decide on the objectives of the Congress. Visited the party caucuses. Visited the post-caucus sessions.
- Friday morning: Met to report on the information gathered Thursday. Attended the Assembly for the election of Speaker and Clerk. Met to decide who was to attend the different committee meetings. Visited the main committee meetings.
- Friday afternoon: Visited the afternoon sessions of the committees.
- Friday evening: Distributed questionnaires at the banquet. Visited the joint conference committee meetings.
- Saturday morning: Attended the General Assembly. Met to reach conclusions and to prepare the report.

During the course of the Congress, the Committee interviewed Professors Thorrel B. Fest, Warren A. Guthrie, J. Garber Drushal, John W. Keltner, and a number of the students.

The Committee, composed entirely of students, found it necessary to adjust to the absence of faculty direction. However, once adjusted to working on its own, the group found itself operating easily. Much of this adjustment took place Thursday evening when the group found it necessary to satisfy itself as to what the objectives of the Congress were before attempting to analyze its operation. These objectives, the group concluded, were:

1. To provide for study and participation by the delegates in discussion techniques.
2. To provide for study and participation by the delegates in legislative procedures.
3. To provide opportunities for effective public speaking.
4. To provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas among the delegates from differ-

ent parts of the country on questions of national importance.

With these goals in mind, the Legislative Committee reached agreement on a number of specific recommendations for improvement in the machinery of the Congress.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS:
 - A. It is unanimously recommended by this committee that future Delta Sigma Rho Congresses utilize the facilities of state legislative chambers where available. We feel that such chambers lend dignity and inspiration to student delegates and are, from the student's point of view, conducive to a higher level of accomplishment, greater feeling of responsibility, and a more realistic environment for legislative sessions.
 - B. It is recommended that a roster of experts who are available for testimony from the surrounding area be compiled for the use of the Congress in committee session.
 - C. It is recommended that an increase of one day be made in the time that Congress is in session if such a measure is practical and financially possible, and that this increase in time be apportioned to main committee meetings and joint conference meetings.
 - D. It is recommended that in order to increase the attendance of active chapters at the Congress, a system be adopted for sharing the cost in attending the Congress.
 - E. It is also recommended for future Congresses that the importance of a knowledge of Parliamentary procedure be brought forcefully to the attention of all delegates in pre-Congress literature. A representative poll taken by this committee during the Congress has indicated that over one-half of the participating delegates have had insufficient preparation on this matter. By having all delegates well acquainted with the Parliamentary rules of procedure, time spent on the acquisition of such information at this Congress could be more profitably
- (Continued on bottom of Page 77)

used in the discussion of the contents of the bills.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE PARTY CAUCUSES:

- A. It is recommended that immediately after the nominees for speaker of the Assembly have been selected by the caucuses, each nominee shall take over the position and duties of the chairman pro tem.
- B. It is recommended that after selecting their nominees at the preliminary caucuses, the delegates of the various party caucuses shall consider the advisability of determining their party's position on each of the questions to be considered in the committee meetings.
- C. It is recommended that for greater lucidity and in order to be consistent with Article VI, Section 3b of the Student Congress Rules, Article VI, Section 4a shall be amended by the addition of the following: "Candidates nominated from the floor shall be from schools not nominating candidates for the Speaker or Clerk of the Assembly".

3. RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING ADVANCE BILLS:

It is recommended that more adequate advance information be distributed to the attending delegates concerning the technical aspects of the drafting of bills. This information shall include the following: the proper form such bills are to follow, sample pieces of legislation with an accompanying analysis of the purposes of each section, and an additional list of the essential re-

quirements which should be taken into consideration in the formulation of the advance bills.

4. RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE WORK OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND THE EVALUATIONS COMMITTEE:

It is recommended by the Legislative Committee that in future Congresses the work of the Legislative and Evaluations Committees be combined into a single committee, in view of the similarity of the fields of study of the two committees. It is felt, however, that the distinctive features of the Legislative Committee in this Congress, of working together throughout the Congress as a separate part of it, and consisting entirely of students, have definitely been of value, and should be preserved in whatever form these analysis committees are continued in future Congresses.

It is felt by the members of the Legislative Committee that the Congress on the whole has been extremely well-planned and executed, and that it has presented a valuable opportunity to all the participants. The Committee feels that it has also benefited greatly from its specialized assignment in this Congress, and sincerely hopes that its recommendation will contribute to the improvement of future Congresses.

Respectfully submitted,
 The Legislative Committee:
 John L. Johnson, Oklahoma, Chairman
 Beberly Ann Marshall, Rockford
 Jerry Baldwin, Albion
 Ed Kendig, Colorado
 Jack K. Wirth, Michigan