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PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

The time for adjournment of the first convention of the Professional Rehabilitation Workers with the Adult Deaf is at hand. I must say that this first convention has been successful far beyond our expectations. To have nearly one-half of the membership present is nothing short of fantastic. This is meaningful. It reveals that there is a need for PRWAD, that state and private agency administrators will sponsor our members to attend conventions, and that PRWAD members are dedicated individuals. It is nearly 3:00 p.m. We have been in session from 9:00 a.m. without taking time out for lunch in order to complete important business matters — particularly the By-laws Amendments. I commend you as a cooperative and diligent group; it has been a pleasure to serve you as the Chair for the conduct of business matters.

A few words of commendation in addition to those given last night at the banquet are in order. Alan Jones has done a tremendous job taking care of local arrangements and as emcee of last night's banquet. His efforts are worthy of your highest praise. The Resolutions Committee has worked hard and diligently during the convention; unfortunately, time does not permit us to deal with these resolutions at this convention. However, this Committee deserves your recognition. The members of the By-laws Committee and those assisting them have served you far above the call of their assigned responsibility. Their preparation and visual presentation of the By-laws during our business session just concluded made it easy for the Chair to conduct the business and for you to respond. The following persons are deserving of your most sincere praise for working with the By-laws: Bob Lauritsen, Roger Falberg, Al Pimentel, Glenn Lloyd and Bill Woodrick.

Our interpreters have been Mr. Wagenknecht, Mr. Bunde, Mrs. Lang, Mrs. Doerfler, and Mrs. Pacetti. There was a time when any handy person was used to do interpreting and they were expected to serve with little if any financial remuneration. These people who have interpreted for our convention are true professionals whose time is worth money. Yet they have served without pay and have served well. We appreciate their work and commend them for their dedication. Mrs. Pacetti should receive a little extra recognition for two

additional things: 1) she has come to the convention from Houston, Texas, at her own expense; 2) when she learned that the By-laws Committee ran into a snag on some typing, she quite willingly volunteered to help, missing the social hour last night and putting time in at the typewriter that she had hoped to spend visiting with participants of the convention and interpreting for convention sessions.

There is always the danger of not naming those who should be named and commended for outstanding services. I have gone into making the commendations above with some apprehension and fear that I would overlook many who have worked hard to make this convention and PRWAD a success. I hope you will forgive me if you are one of those persons.

Certainly Boyce Williams is the most widely recognized promoter, consultant, and dedicated member of PRWAD. He provided a great deal of consultation during the preparation of the Convention program; all of us are indebted to him for his outstanding leadership in the area of deafness and in PRWAD matters.