

G.O.P. CONVENTION GOES TO SAN DIEGO

National Committee Votes,
119-12, Despite a Strong
Bid for Miami Beach

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DENVER, July 23—The Republican party agreed tonight to hold its 1972 presidential nominating convention in San Diego, over the objections of leaders who want to return to the 1968 site in Miami Beach.

The decision came on a vote of 119 to 12 by the Republican National Committee after a half-hour of debate, during which the Florida State Chairman, L. E. Thomas, declared that Miami Beach could provide a better convention than any other city in the country.

The Republican National Committee's site selection committee, after two days of contentious meetings, agreed this morning on San Diego. The National Chairman, Senator Robert Dole, said the decision had been unanimous, but other sources reported a close vote.

Earlier, the Republican convention reform committee quietly postponed action on a recommendation that members of ethnic minorities be given proportional representation in state delegations. Senator Dole said yesterday that such representation would be part of today's report.

The recommendation for "numerical equity" for minority groups at the national convention was in a news release issued by the Republican National Committee this afternoon but it was not in the reform committee's report upon which the release was allegedly based. The committee chairman, Mrs. M. Stanley Ginn, said the issue would be considered at another meeting this fall.

Although Republican leaders repeatedly denied that the President had been the major influence behind the selection of San Diego, it was clear that the successful drive to send the convention to California had had his blessing and had been engineered over some party reluctance by White House agents.

Miami Beach supporters had several major arguments for their cause: The city proved itself in 1968; it clearly had a larger supply of first-class hotel rooms, and it could easily be sealed off for security purposes if there were threats of demonstrations.

Among the advertised political assets of San Diego were its 55-mile proximity to the summer White House in San Clemente and its location in the nation's most populous state, one that Mr. Nixon carried in both his Presidential campaigns and must, almost certainly, carry again if he is to win re-election next year.

Goldwater's View

Earlier, Senator Barry Goldwater, the party's 1964 Presidential nominee, gave a qualified endorsement to the Administration's emerging China policy, maintaining that "the differences which exist within our party are not vital enough to run the risk of putting the alternative to Nixon in the White House."

The Senator told the Republican conference that he did not oppose Administration efforts "to improve the dialogue and the channels of communication through which some of our ideas can be placed realistically before Peking's rulers."

"But I am deeply concerned," Mr. Goldwater added, "lest left-wing agitators and some elements of the communications media should try and convince the American people that there no longer exists any reason for us to suspect the motives and aims and purposes of Communist China."

Calling it "dangerous" for editors to have decided to publish the Pentagon papers, the Senator said he hoped "that before too many days the Justice Department will throw the book at [Daniel] Ellsberg and the people who run The New York Times."

Rockefeller Speaks

Governor Rockefeller of New York, sharing the meeting's keynote assignment with Senator Goldwater of Arizona, gave a strong personal endorsement to President Nixon and called for a unified party in 1972 that could still accommodate diversity of Republican belief.

"We have a dedicated proven leader," the Governor said. "Let's give him the support he deserves, from coast to coast. As a long-time party leader in New York, I pledge my full support to him and to you in a united effort to win again in 1972."

Mr. Rockefeller called the President's proposed trip to China "a bold and daring initiative which could well change the course of history." He also praised Mr. Nixon at some length for the President's recommendations in the areas of welfare reform and revenue sharing.

The Republican National Committee received, without taking any action, a report from its convention reform committee that proposed giving women half the delegate seats at conventions and allocating to young people and members of minority groups representation proportional to their party participation.

Mrs. Rosemary Ginn, chairman of the committee on delegates and organization, emphasized, however, that the 1972

convention would make its own rules, independent of what her committee or the national committee might decide. She said her group would urge the state parties to adopt its new procedures, however.

Democrats' Plan

The Democrats have adopted a convention reform program that makes state delegations to their 1972 convention subject to challenge and disqualification if they are not representative of the state's Democratic membership in race, sex, age and Presidential candidate preference.

The Republican recommendations also covered the enlarging of the four standing committees of the 1972 convention — rules, platform, credentials and arrangements — to include on each from each state one man, one woman, one person under 25 and one minority-group representative.

Under the Democratic reforms, that party's convention committees will be revamped, but on a considerably different basis. They will become roughly representative of each state's Democratic population, rather than including two members from each state as has been true in the past.

Mrs. Ginn also called on the Democrats to eliminate "automatic delegates" who qualify to go to the convention with-

out election by virtue of party office. She also urged the elimination of "the sham of split votes," which she said were designed to display "various political segments" without giving them real voting power.