

1 to the constitutionality of this particular clause. Not
2 that it will affect the Constitution itself, but it
3 would affect this particular oath.

4 Second, we had struck out Article 37 that
5 required no religious test other than the declaration of
6 belief in the existence of a God from our previous
7 Constitution because we were instructed to by the Supreme
8 Court.

9 Third, the Committee on Declaration of Rights
10 did not report this oath out with the belief, or the
11 affirmation of God even in parentheses. It was included
12 in an amendment and not part of that Committee report.

13 I could be facetious and say that after the
14 last time this was discussed, I received many oaths, many
15 of which said "In the presence of" and fill in the blank,
16 and the blanks were numerous.

17 There are many who believe in other forms of
18 a Supreme Being than we do, and I feel that this could
19 be a reflection on the one who may refuse to use these
20 parenthetical words. That is the reason that I felt
21 that I should bring this up this last time before the