

1 less than 5 per cent of people in the mental institutions  
2 would be disenfranchised under this category if the  
3 General Assembly so chose to legislate.

4 The other 95 per cent of those so incompetent  
5 as to require hospitalization in a ~~mental~~ hospital would  
6 remain eligible to vote.

7 As to the category of people who have committed  
8 crimes, we had some discussion on this floor about that  
9 yesterday. As you know, the present Constitution  
10 disenfranchises people who have committed infamous crimes  
11 and obviously the committee did not intend that the  
12 new Constitution be that stringent.

13 I suggest to you, as a number of delegates did  
14 yesterday, that the automatic disenfranchisement of  
15 anybody because of his acts is an extremely dangerous  
16 precedent. I think if we are going to put categories  
17 for disqualification in the Constitution, there are a lot  
18 more sensible ones we can set forth, such as take a person  
19 with an IQ under 70 should vote or as one delegate  
20 proposed that people over a given age be automatically  
21 disenfranchised, rather than do any such thing, I think