

Now, we all know as a practical matter, no contributions are made to political parties by a judge with no purpose whatsoever.

It is our desire that when a judge takes office that he be completely removed from the political arena, and we feel that to remove him means to remove him completely; to create a suspicion by the mere payment of funds into a political party is something we do not desire to attach to this judicial article. For those reasons, we suggest that the amendment be defeated.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Johnson, you have a little less than three minutes.

DELEGATE JOHNSON: I yield that time back, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yield what?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: I yield the time back to the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd?

DELEGATE MUDD: May I yield two minutes to Delegate Hodge Smith?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate J. H. Smith.

DELEGATE J. H. SMITH: I shall be very brief. I think that the purpose of this provision is obvious. Suppose a Democratic governor appoints a judge and then the next time an election comes around, this judge is besieged with requests for contribution for no other reason than that he happened to get his original appointment from a governor who happened to be of one party.

We think this is a good thing, to keep them as far away from partisan politics as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd, do you desire to have any further time allocated?

DELEGATE MUDD: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Available time on control but limited debate, does anyone else desire to speak to the amendment? Delegate Dukes.

DELEGATE DUKES: Will Delegate Mudd yield to a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd?

DELEGATE MUDD: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Dukes.

DELEGATE DUKES: I was in sympathy with the proposal. I do not see a limita-

tion of contribution to a political party. At least in Prince George's County the primary action is the entire campaign. Why did you limit it to a party and place no other limitations that would seem to me to be more serious?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd.

DELEGATE MUDD: It was our view, Delegate Dukes, this was the most comprehensive language we could use without spelling out a lot of particular matters. Not being an experienced politician, it may not have occurred to me how many escape hatches we left.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is not limited to political parties. It says political party or organization.

DELEGATE DUKES: I understand the intention of the language is to cover political contributions to persons other than himself, I guess.

DELEGATE MUDD: Yes. I made it as broad as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot, did you desire—Delegate Dukes asked the first question. Would Delegate Mudd yield for another question?

DELEGATE MUDD: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: I am also concerned about how wide the words "political party or organization" run. If an organization is formed to support candidates in a school board election, would this prohibit the judge from making contribution to such an organization?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd.

DELEGATE MUDD: In my personal view an organization set up to foster the candidacy of a slate for a school board election would be a political organization if they were running for office, yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions? Are you ready for the question?

DELEGATE GRANT: I have a question for Delegate Mudd if he would yield.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd, would you yield?

DELEGATE MUDD: I may have to turn to a politician, but go ahead.