

DELEGATE MORGAN: I yield.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: If you will yield I want to announce first that I am having trouble with my seatmates justifying what we did in the Committee. I ran out of arguments.

I wonder if you could help me. The arguments given by the Committee of the Legislative Branch as well as some that have not been expressed yet, but may — we may spend all night talking about this — I think, are quite persuasive.

What really kept us from allowing this sort of residual sending of the bills back to the General Assembly at the next regular session? I cannot see that it does any harm.

Can you shore me up, reassure me and my friends too?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Delegate Sickles, we had a meeting with the legislative liaison committee that was established by the General Assembly, acting in a liaison capacity with the various committees of this Convention.

We had a meeting with that committee and they expressed the opinion that it was quite awkward in a new session of the General Assembly to start right off reconsidering bills that had been vetoed at the last session.

Then we thought it might be possible to go to the New Jersey plan. Under the New Jersey Plan you have an automatic veto session of the General Assembly 45 days after the sine die adjournment of the regular session; that is because the governor has 45 days within which to veto bills.

At that special session all the vetoed bills are returned to the General Assembly and then it acts on them one way or the other.

We asked the legislative liaison committee about an automatic session or discretionary session and they said that if any member was interested enough and wanted a vote on his vetoed bill, the leaders of the General Assembly would call them back anyway. The majority of that committee at least, felt you might just as well make it an automatic recall, so we made it an automatic recall, that is, in the draft that we proposed to the Executive Branch Committee. When the automatic session came

up before the Legislative Branch Committee, I think it was Governor Tawes who called attention to the fact that sometimes there might be only one bill that was vetoed and it might be vetoed because the attorney general had given an opinion that it was unconstitutional, and there would be no sense in having the General Assembly come back to reconsider that bill.

So then we went back to the discretionary session, and that is how it all came out.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: I wonder if the Chairman of the Committee on the Legislative Branch would yield to a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher, do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Did you notice the comment of the Chairman of the Committee on the Executive Branch, that there seemed to be concern by this legislative liaison committee that there was a burden on the next regular session of the General Assembly. I think perhaps that is because in the past, as you will recall, it had to be the first order of business.

Now, is it the purpose of your amendment that there be a constitutional requirement that these vetoed bills be considered as the first order of business at the next general session?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: There is nothing in there to that effect but that is certainly the way I would anticipate it would be handled, because the more time that elapses between the time the governor vetoed it and the time it is taken up for reconsideration, the less accurate people are going to be about why they would override it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Would it not be better to leave flexibility so that those who come back from far reaches of the State would have a little time to look at it, to consider the problem again.

It seems to me your language would allow this latitude.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: The language would allow it. I state my own per-