

as a member of the General Assembly voted to create, or whose salary you voted to increase.

If you can get elected to it, so be it.

Turning now to section 3.10, Immunity of Legislators, this section is different both from the present Constitution and from the Constitutional Commission draft. It reads: "Words used by a member of the General Assembly during any of its proceedings, including the proceedings of any committees and subcommittees, shall be absolutely privileged, and a member shall not be liable therefor in any civil action or criminal prosecution."

We tried to enlarge this protection, both civilly and criminally, to cover a legislator who would be working throughout the year during times when the regular sessions were not in effect in committees and subcommittees. Consequently you will find that the language is somewhat expanded to try to take care of every conceivable situation in which a legislator could be discharging his duties and in which he ought to be afforded the protection which prompts him to be fearless and bold, as the case may be, in speaking in his capacity as a member of the General Assembly.

I would like to recognize Delegate Gullet.

*(Second Vice-President William James, assumed the Chair.)*

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Delegate Gullet.

DELEGATE GULLET: Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of personal privilege.

I would like to recognize the presence in both galleries of a great many Maryland mayors and councilmen. They have been attending the annual Convention of the Maryland Municipal League in Baltimore and bused down to watch the workings of the Convention. I would appreciate giving this group a nice hand.

*(Applause.)*

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): I would like to include President Purdie, the president.

Delegate Boileau.

DELEGATE BOILEAU: I rise to a point of personal privilege.

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): You may proceed.

DELEGATE BOILEAU: Also present is the distinguished senator from the first dis-

trict of Prince George's County, Senator Edward T. Conroy.

He is behind the President's rostrum.

*(First Vice-President James Clark, assumed the Chair.)*

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): We would like to welcome him.

*(Applause.)*

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Section 3.13 pertains to the organization of the General Assembly and has within it a fair number of components. Many of them are contained in the present Constitution and some are new. The provision providing that each house shall be the judge of the qualification and selection of its members is continued; each house shall elect its own officers and provide for its own rules, that is also continued.

The new section that I would call to your attention is:

"Each house by the affirmative vote of the majority of all of its members present and voting, a quorum being present, may compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of records and papers either before the house as a whole or before any of its committees, provided that the rights and the records and papers of all witnesses in such cases shall have been protected by law."

This section contains a number of new features not contained in the prior Constitution.

First of all, in requiring the vote, we have departed from the traditional Maryland use of the so-called constitutional majority in determining what majorities shall be. The constitutional majority heretofore and presently is a majority of all members elected to the House. We have departed from that in three places in this particular report, and there will be a minority report which challenges this departure.

I point out first that each house shall elect its own officers and set its own rules of procedure; and the second point, for the first time in the constitution the legislature is given the power to compel the presence and testimony of witnesses, and also the submission of documents and records.

Now, this power existed in a limited fashion or exists in a limited fashion in the present Maryland Constitution, as it pertains to grand inquests. However, there