

we felt that since this was a Constitutional Convention, that we ought not approach it in that way, and we arrived at the best bi-partisan commission composition we could contemplate.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: Is there not a possibility of a neutral chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes, if you bring him in from Mars, but I cannot see him coming from any other place.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: I might suggest for example political science professors.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: They are the most partisan creatures I have ever met.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further questions, Delegate Byrnes?

DELEGATE BYRNES: Delegate Bamberger suggested the President of the Junior College of Baltimore.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: He is the most partisan creature I have ever met.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: A second question, Delegate Gallagher. On page 1, section 1, the section referring to the requirement that the natural boundaries be followed, et cetera, would this not prove to be immensely difficult in the future because would not at least 80 percent of the population be in approximately seven counties?

Would this not be extremely difficult to follow?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: You are suggesting it would be difficult in the large urban areas. The principal difficulty will be there, but on the other hand, the vast land area of the State is elsewhere and it certainly ought to be an easier job to follow the subdivision lines and the natural geographical boundaries.

I do not envisage, for example, in Baltimore City that they will say that everybody from the first to the tenth floor of the apartment house will be in District A and those on the eleventh to twentieth will be in District B.

New York's Constitution had a provision that you could not split a block in drawing lines, but we did not feel we had to go into that detail.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions, Delegate Byrnes?

DELEGATE BYRNES: I have this one final question, sir.

Some people are concerned, as you know, about the possible consequences of single member districts being a parochial influence, and we recognize that we have now given home rule to the counties; we also recognize that at least in the House of Delegates we will have at worst parochial single member district interests, and at best perhaps county-wide interests, but nowhere in the entire Constitution do we find a formula which will encourage a metropolitan or regional perspective.

I am suggesting the possibility that at least one house might be so oriented, and I submitted that idea to you many weeks ago in a suggested amendment. I was curious whether or not your Committee had the opportunity to review that and what your own opinion was.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: You offered an amendment, which I asked you to hold until we came to this, because that was contrary to what I knew the Committee wanted. The Committee did not adopt it, but if you will offer it I am sure we will have an opportunity for debate.

I would hope that those areas that do find good reason for the formation of regional governments, would not find this particular guideline an obstacle, and I do not think that they should.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Clagett.

DELEGATE CLAGETT: Delegate Gallagher, with respect to section 3.16 I want to be sure I understand really in terms of arithmetic the effect of what the Committee has provided there.

In order to suspend and have action by one house after action by the other house, as I understand it, your requirement here is only that there be a three-fifths vote of the members present and voting, a quorum being presented?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Clagett.