

DELEGATE PULLEN: If you will give me a minute, please, Mr. Chairman, in all seriousness, let us look at this matter of suffrage.

In Maryland in 1800 Catholics could not vote. Now, they vote, and I suspect there are a few on this floor.

Women could not vote in 1800, could not vote until 1918. Negroes could not vote in many of the states. It does not make much difference what reason you give for excluding people, they are excluded. I note tonight the people who are speaking on voting at a youthful age are young people.

Mr. Chairman, I have the greatest confidence in them. In my experience I do not fear them. I would give them adulthood at eighteen. These people are far more, much more, mature than they were in the earlier days. I believe they are more interested than almost any other group of citizens. I think they can be trusted, sir, to take care of their duties and responsibilities.

One of the mistakes we are making is that we are treating them like children when they are really adults. We criticize them. We arrest them sometimes, not because of their acting unseemly, but merely because they are acting unseemly before the age we say they should act unseemly.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one-half minute, Delegate Pullen.

DELEGATE PULLEN: I thought I was going to get a minute, but that is all right.

Yesterday, Mr. Chairman, was the 191st anniversary of the founding of Phi Beta Kappa at the College of William and Mary. According to my recollection, everyone of those founders was a young man under the age of twenty-one. Wisdom is genius and youth. Let us give it a chance.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President, thirty-one years ago when I was just a young lawyer at the bar, I met a cousin one day downtown, and he said, what are you doing. I said, well, I am practicing law. He said, on whom.

*(Laughter.)*

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: I heard one of the delegates say we should let them vote at eighteen or nineteen so they would have a couple of years of experience. I assume that he meant, let them practice on

us. I heard some of the politicians with ambitions speak, and I know they are gathering votes for the next campaign, and I am reminded, "Gather your rosebuds while ye may, o' time is still flying. That same flower that blooms today, tomorrow may be dying". Then I heard some of the speakers expounding on this. They have given me words of wisdom, and I am reminded of another verse: "They wonder and still the wonder grew that one small head could carry all he knew".

But, Mr. President, it is a rather anomalous situation when we here today take those young ones who cannot carry their own affairs and yet we want to let them run ours.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

Delegate Hostetter?

DELEGATE HOSTETTER: Mr. President, someone said please vote. We are ready to do that, sir, but I raise a question of particular inquiry, sir, with respect to the pages. Two glasses of water or cups of water have been brought to me tonight, sir, and both of them have had the number nineteen marked on them.

*(Laughter.)*

Are they paid or unpaid, sir?

*(Laughter.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

Ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment 1-A to Amendment No. 1 to Committee Recommendation S&E-2. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment to the amendment, a vote in favor of substituting the age eighteen for the age twenty-one in the amendment. A vote No is a vote against the amendment to the amendment and will leave the age twenty-one in the amendment. Later, you will have the opportunity to vote on the substitution of the amendment to the Committee Recommendation. We are now voting on the Amendment to set the voting age at eighteen. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your vote.

Has every delegate voted?

Does any delegate desire to change his vote?