

DELEGATE WHITE: You vote in only one place, where your heart is.

DELEGATE MOSNER: You are not going to tell me where my heart is though.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Unless there is strenuous objection, I suggest we move on. We have an hour and ten minutes of scheduled debate on this subject before we can possibly vote on it and I think this is ample time to bring out the philosophies on the subject. Delegate White, if you return to your seat, you have charge of the first fifteen minutes of controlled time. The Chair recognizes Delegate Boyer.

DELEGATE BOYER: Mr. Chairman, with the indulgence of the Committee of the Whole and with permission of the Chair, I would like to call an extraordinary meeting of the model Committee on General Provisions. If the permission is granted, I suggest we meet immediately for a short ten-minute meeting in the Senate Lounge, which is in the rear of the Senate Chamber.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): If there is no objection, the Chair grants this permission and members of the committee will go with Delegate Boyer.

The Chair recognizes Delegate White on fifteen minutes of controlled time.

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. Chairman, I yield three minutes to Delegate Marvin Smith.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Fox.

DELEGATE FOX: A point of parliamentary procedure. I will not say I am opposed to Delegate White's amendment but he has not offered it. I think this is the time he has to offer it if he wants it to be considered.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): This is correct. Delegate White, you must offer your amendment at this time. Then it will be before us.

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. Chairman, on page 2, section 2, I call up S&E-2(C), amendment N.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Has that been distributed? The pages will please distribute amendment N. This will be Amendment No. 6. Mark it Amendment No. 6. Delegate White, you may proceed. The Clerk will read the amendment, please, first.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 6 to accompany Minority Report S&E-2(C), to Committee Recommendation S&E-2, by Delegates White, Byrnes, Chabot, and Schloeder:

On page 2, section 2, Eligible Voters in Municipal Elections, lines 7 through 9, strike out the words "and may by law extend the right to vote to non-residents owning taxable property within its limits."

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate White, you may proceed.

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. Chairman, I yield three minutes to Delegate Marvin H. Smith.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): The Chair recognizes Delegate Smith.

DELEGATE M. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I suggest to you, sir, that we have an obligation here to act responsibly and I do not believe that this provision extending the right of franchise to non-residents is responsible action.

If there are arguments to be advanced on behalf of voting by such individuals, then I submit to you that those arguments are equally applicable to the individual who may happen to own land in more than one county. The arguments would be exactly the same. If I happen to own a farm, which I do not, in the neighboring county of Dorchester, am I not concerned with reference to the tax policies of that county? Am I not concerned with the government of that county just as much as I am concerned with the policies of a municipality in which I may happen to own land?

This argument with reference to non-resident voters is not confined to resorts. There is a town approximately seven miles from us which for many years has had this non-resident provision. There are a number of towns in the State, I do not know how many, which have this provision.

It is in fact a dilution of the voting power of the residents within the community. Delegate Weidemeyer made a point with reference to the man who owned four million dollars worth of property or some such similar thing in Baltimore City. Then the arguments that might be advanced on behalf of the majority provision would certainly be equally applicable to the proposition that Delegate Weidemeyer made and yet under that majority provision this individual would not be permitted to vote.