for Delegate Storm's amendment at the proper time, if he desires to offer his amendment.

Delegate Storm, do you desire to offer your amendment AI?

DELEGATE STORM: Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: The pages have already distributed the amendment AI. It will be marked Amendment No. 7.

Delegate Gullett, is it your intention to offer Amendment P as a substitute for amendment AI?

DELEGATE GULLETT: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will the pages please distribute the amendment marked P for Paul? Amendment No. 7 will be the amendment that you have marked AI. The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 7 to Committee Recommendation S&E-2 by Delegate Storm:

On page 2 section 2 Eligible Voters in Municipal Elections strike out all of lines 4 through 9, inclusive, and insert in lieu thereof the following words: "shall be determined by the charter of the municipal corporation."

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment is submitted by Delegate Storm. Is there a second?

(The amendment was duly seconded.)

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment having been seconded, the Chair recognizes Delegate Storm to speak to the amendment.

DELEGATE STORM: Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, I believe we can compromise our differences by the adoption of this amendment. If there has been one principle which has been clearly established by this constitution, it is the principle that we recognize home rule.

We do not therefore want to put into this constitution any language which would be unacceptable to some towns so that they would immediately come in and ask for a constitutional amendment.

Now, I can see why the last sentence in the Committee Report as recommended would be particularly upsetting to some people. I submit that if the Committee Recommendation in its first sentence states that the qualifications for municipal elections shall be the same as those for state elections, it will eliminate the possibility of

Garrett County towns enabling Pennsylvania and Ohio persons who are domiciled in Pennsylvania and Ohio from being qualified to vote in the municipal elections.

Likewise, the District of Columbia people who have summer cottages in summer towns would be ineligible to vote.

Now, I ask you to consider first the principle of home rule. Consider second, the functions of a town government and consider third, the fact that no government, not even a town government, may discriminate or violate the civil and constitutional rights of its residents, so I think we can assure any minority group that it will be protected by the United States Constitution and by this new Maryland constitution.

I think you eliminate the words in the original committee report which are upsetting to you. I think we accomplish the main purpose that the Committee Recommendation really aimed at and, above all, we have adopted and maintained the principle of home rule. So I respectfully suggest that you give this careful consideration.

I believe as Senator Della said, we should leave it up to the towns to govern themselves. Only then will the real processes of democracy be maintained.

Please adopt this amendment. I am sorry I cannot go along with the Committee Recommendation. I do not believe that that really accomplishes their objective. This can be a common meeting ground for all.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, I too am very sorry that Delegate Storm cannot go along with the Committee Recommendation.

Certainly we are sympathetic and support the principle of home rule for municipalities. But at the same time it seemed to us that there are certain standards, in terms of the eligibility for voting, that municipalities should have to honor.

One of them is that qualifications could not be established, say, that did not pertain to age, residence or the exceptions which we have granted. We have recognized the principle of home rule and the right of the municipalities to determine, within certain limitations granted, what they need to best meet their needs.

Now, as far as residence is concerned, the Committee was fully aware that under