

THE PRESIDENT: The amendment is submitted by Delegate Grant, and seconded by Delegate Byrnes.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Grant.

DELEGATE GRANT: This amendment probably deals with the longest section of the constitution which starts on line 45 on page 8, and runs to line 12 on page 9. It deals with some eight different subjects. The effect of the amendment is to simply do what was done in one of the earlier drafts of this, and that is to put in the numbers 1 to 8 before the eight different subjects.

This section as indicated by the amount of debate, and also by the remarks of the President, is probably going to become one of the most referred to sections in the constitution since it contains the authority for the legislature to act by other than general public laws in certain specified areas.

As such, you will have to refer to certain exceptions. Rather than having to spell the section out in detail, they can simply refer to exception 1, exception 3, exception 5, and so forth. It will make the section much easier to understand in the future.

I think it would even make it easier to understand the debate at this time. I hope that the Convention will go along and adopt this amendment.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Penniman.

DELEGATE PENNIMAN: I do not have any strong feelings on this matter. I do point out that in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, there is a listing of eighteen grants of power to the Congress of the United States, and we have managed to get by with that even without a number.

However, I do not personally strongly object to the numbering, if it would simplify it for my friends among the lawyers. After last night's discussion anything that will simplify the matter for them seems to me would be well worth doing.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any other discussion?

Delegate Gallagher, do you have any comment?

Are you ready for the question? The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 17. 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?

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 82 votes in the affirmative, and 8 in the negative, the motion is carried, and the amendment is adopted.

The next amendment is Amendment 18. Will the pages please distribute Amendment Y. Y for Yoke.

Delegates Clagett and Case and Moser, will you join me in the office for just a few moments, please?

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

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Amendment No. 18, designated as "Y"; does everyone have a copy of the amendment designated as "Y"? Will the pages please distribute the amendment.

The Clerk will read Amendment No. 18.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 18 to Committee Recommendations GP-1, LB-2, LB-3 as amended by Style Committee Report S&E-16 by Delegates Boyles and Fox:

On page 9, section 3.23, General Application of Laws, in line 19 after the word "is" add the words: "or can be made".

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): The Chair has not had a chance to look at these in advance.

Delegate Fox.

DELEGATE FOX: This is Delegate Boyles' amendment, but he asked me in his absence this morning to introduce it for him, and to say a word of explanation in regard to it.

I see no reason why this section that we are dealing with now should be confusing. I am afraid some people would rather be confused than not. It is merely designed to prevent the General Assembly from indulging in the practice of enacting laws for each county on the county by county basis.

The idea behind this is that the General Assembly shall be restricted to enacting general laws which are uniform throughout the State, and allow the counties under the home rule given to them to run their own show, and enact their local laws.