

I do not think we should stick out our neck. What happens if the unicameral system does not work? Do we have a system that will last for many, many years, not as an effective system? I believe the bicameral system has been effective and we should stick with it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor?

Delegate Needle?

DELEGATE NEEDLE: Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in favor of the unicameral legislature. The arguments which have been well documented in Minority Report No. 1, and well-stated by all those who expressed their views here today. I will not express them again ad nauseum. However, since we have the unique opportunity in this body to take a giant stride into the future, one of the great opportunities for us to make a real advancement, I suggest to you that the General Assembly has recognized the virtues and desirabilities of a unicameral form of deliberative body.

I suggest that they now have the tricameral system by virtue of the conference committee, that all-powerful committee to which too many bills are referred. It is a single deliberative body.

This is also true with regard to the Legislative Council. I submit that if the General Assembly were so convinced of the virtues of the bicameral system, they would have created a bicameral Constitutional Convention. I shudder to think that this Constitutional Convention would have to labor under the disadvantage of having to go across the hall. I suggest to you that if you are convinced of the merits of that proposition, do not be inconsistent. Support the unicameral system.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment. I wish to comment briefly on two of the arguments by analogy that have been advanced by those in favor of the unicameral system.

First, the example of this Constitutional Convention. I doubt that any of those who have spoken for the unicameral system would say that we should do away with the gubernatorial veto merely because the governor cannot veto what we do here. I doubt that any of them would say every

enactment of the legislature must be subject to popular referendum willy-nilly merely because what we do here is subject to popular referendum.

As to the analogy of the business corporation, I think it should be clear that there are many different reasons for the existence of and different purposes of private business organizations and the running of government. Among those many differences is the concept that in the running of government the concern is what is best for the people and not in making money, and votes cast by the people and not by stock. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment? Delegate Winslow.

DELEGATE WINSLOW: Mr. Chairman, I rise with some trepidation for I am one of those political scientists that some delegates here distrust. Forty years ago, before most of the people in this assembly were appreciative that there was such a thing as a bicameral legislature, I spent some time in this building making a study of the system of legislation and its procedure.

Delegate Scanlan has suggested that what we ought to do is not live by theory but live by experience. I accept that. Forty years ago I came to the conclusion that the General Assembly of Maryland was not doing an effective job. I made a suggestion at that time that what we ought to do was to go to a unicameral system. This, I repeat, was 40 years ago. I have kept a weather eye on the General Assembly from that time to this and I have as yet no indication that I will change my opinion. The experience of the last 40 years in this State would indicate that there is something wrong in our legislative system and that we had better change it.

I was particularly entertained, I may say, by Delegate Gilchrist in his remarks about Nebraska. I shall not raise a question about the historical accuracy of some of his remarks, but I suggest two things: first, you will have noticed that before he sat down he introduced some of the reforms taking place in Nebraska and answered that the Eagleton Study will take care of that in Maryland. What has the Maryland legislature been doing for forty years that they have to wait for the Eagleton Study to do these things which the Nebraska unicameral legislature by his own statement has already done?

In connection with Nebraska—I do not