

use Nebraska particularly because I think you can prove anything from one state to another, but to set the history straight—, in a recent article appearing in the magazine *State Government*, written by a man who moved to Nebraska, not a Nebraskan who grew up in the Norris tradition, if you please, a study, the most recent study of the unicameral system in Nebraska says this: "In Nebraska, the unicameral system enjoys overwhelming support from the public, from the leading newspapers, from the interest groups and from the State's political leaders."

This would seem to me to be an indication that in Nebraska the general population has pretty well accepted the idea that what they have there is better than what they had before.

What they have there now may not be better than what we have here. That is not the point. The point is that the unicameral system in Nebraska produced a better legislature than they had had before. My experience does not indicate that we should continue with the bicameral legislature.

In the third place, I would like to make allusion to this teacup. It is always brought up. Washington and Jefferson were great men, but they lived in the eighteenth century. We no longer pour the tea in the saucer. At least, I have not seen anybody pour tea in a saucer since I was a boy on the farm.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Winslow, you have one minute.

DELEGATE WINSLOW: Thank you.

The teacup theory in 1789 was expressed at a time when the philosophy of government was that government is best which governs least. We have long since discarded that theory. We no longer believe in that theory. If what you want is a government which can obstruct, if what you want is a legislature which can keep from legislating, for heaven's sakes, keep the bicameral system, add another house, and another, add as many as you please.

If you want a legislature which can work, which is visible, which is responsible, let's have the unicameral system.

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

Delegate Malkus, before I recognize you, since you have already spoken, let me see if anybody else desires to speak in opposi-

tion. Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Price?

DELEGATE PRICE: Mr. Chairman, it has been suggested that people of the State are not aware of what is happening. I would like to suggest that this is the fault of the people of the State and not of the Senate or the House of Delegates.

We spoke in terms of controlling the executive authority. I can think of nothing more horrible for the State than having an executive who would assume the posture of being a potter and one house that would allow itself to be the clay. I simply rise to support the bicameral system for fear that we may well cut down a tree that might better be left for shade.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mentzer.

DELEGATE MENTZER: I would like to offer my experiences during the campaign to be delegate here in support of a unicameral system. We had a fairly vigorous campaign. I think I spoke before 20 groups and nearly all asked about this question of a unicameral system versus a bicameral system. The first two times I spoke I discussed the theory; I gave all the reasons we have had here today, the increase in effectiveness of the legislature as a branch of government, the efficiency in use of time, taxpayers' money, the accountability of the legislators themselves, the visibility of bills to the citizen at large, but I would always retreat and say that for practical considerations I would probably withhold my support from it. Voter acceptability was questioned, the weight of the traditional system and the fact that politicians in general did not like it.

When I came to my third meeting a man from the audience challenged me and I have been very thankful to him ever since. He said, "You must have the courage of your convictions and vote your conscience. The people of Maryland want a new Constitution and want it to embody the best structure possible." After that, I did not have any other trouble with the other 17 meetings, at least when they asked about this question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegates other than Delegate Malkus desire to speak in opposition?

The Chair recognizes Delegate Malkus.

DELEGATE MALKUS: Thank you,