

Mr. President. I had hoped I would not have to speak twice on the subject matter, but those three minutes ran out very quickly. I would just like to leave this with the Convention. I asked our research bureau of our fine Committee headed by a fine Chairman, how many states have rewritten or attempted to rewrite their constitution since the historic decision of *Baker v. Carr*. The answer was eight. Eight states have either rewritten or have attempted to rewrite their constitutions. I think five of those constitutions have been ratified by the people.

My next question was how many of these states since that historic decision and since the rewriting of their constitution have provided for the unicameral system? The answer was none. I know that Maryland should not follow the footsteps of other states for the sake of following their footsteps. But you are a great lawyer, Mr. President, you believe in precedent, and all other lawyers believe in precedent. If you do not have any law at home, Mr. President, you go ahead and look for law elsewhere and argue your cause to the court. My argument to this Convention is this: the best precedent we have is a hundred years old in Maryland, 1867 is the last time the Constitution was written, and other states, the eight that have attempted to rewrite their constitutions, have not provided for the unicameral system.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Cleveland.

DELEGATE CLEVELAND: Mr. Chairman, I am not going to make a speech or repeat any arguments. I merely wish to present myself as a living witness.

I came here in favor of the bicameral system. I am now going to vote for the unicameral system.

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

Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak in opposition to the amendment. I feel that many of the arguments which have discussed Nebraska in urging that we entertain unicameralism have been invalid in that Nebraska represents a homogeneous group. None of these arguments are relative to a heterogeneous State such as Maryland. For this reason I oppose the unicameral system.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate White, do you desire to speak in favor of the amend?

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. President, I rise to make a simple statement, that I listened four or five hours, and I was able to make up my mind during the last four minutes.

(Laughter.)

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

Delegate Stern.

DELEGATE STERN: Mr. President, I speak against the amendment and for many reasons, but the basic reason is tradition. We have learned a lot from it. This past weekend I was in New York and saw a play in which tradition was personified. If that is the case in these two chambers, I vote to keep the fiddler on the roof in honor of tradition.

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

Delegate Harry Taylor.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, I rise to speak in favor of unicameralism. Bicameralism reminds me a little bit of a football game where the quarterback snaps the ball to the halfback, he runs and gives it to the other halfback, the fullback finally gets it, and he ends up under a pile of players, and none of the spectators know who has the ball.

I served in the legislature for four years and even on the inside you have trouble knowing who has the ball. There is a lot of good legislation that goes down the drain. There is a lot of bad legislation that slips through. The voters as spectators when the game is over should have a right on election day to determine what players should be traded off before the next game. If we have unicameralism I think the spectators, the people of Maryland, will know who has the ball, and will know who to trade come next election.

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

Delegate Kirkland.

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: Mr. Chairman, I might say this: having been an old football coach, I would sure like to know where Harry Taylor learned his football.

(Laughter.)

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: I am one