

I understand that the California legislature has a 40-80 ratio.

DELEGATE JAMES: That is right.

DELEGATE BYRNES: I also understand they have a salary, in effect, receipt every year, of \$40,000. Am I correct on that?

DELEGATE JAMES: All I know is they pay \$16,000 salary. What the other benefits are I do not know.

I do know that they have provided constitutional requirements concerning ethics, which really bars a legislator from participating in private activities.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Case.

DELEGATE CASE: Mr. Chairman, have you made any studies to determine the efficiency of a House of Delegates composed of 105 members as opposed to one composed of 80 members?

DELEGATE JAMES: No. I have had a little personal experience. I think the 105 member house is an improvement. I think the 80 member house is better. I think this, that the sooner we are able to organize the committee structure of the Senate and the House along similar lines for the purpose of facilitating joint committee efforts, I think the better off we will be. I think the 80 member house would achieve this result.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Case.

DELEGATE CASE: The recommendation which you make, Senator James, represents a two-to-one relationship between the Senate and the House, whereas the majority recommendation is a three-to-one relationship. Do you have any comments with reference to the desirability of one over the other?

DELEGATE JAMES: I did not come here to flail the majority report, which I think is a reasonably good one. I simply feel that an 80 man house is a more manageable type of house. It would enable you to compensate better, would give you a better committee structure, and would be better from the standpoint of freedom of debate, which is a very important point.

In the Senate we do not have the motion for the previous question. We have full freedom of debate. When you get a house which is too large, you must of necessity curtail your freedom of debate. I think any legislative body which has to curtail freedom of debate by the motion for the previous question lacks something.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Case.

DELEGATE CASE: Senator James, was the 123 member house in which you served with such distinction too large to permit freedom of debate?

DELEGATE JAMES: I was always of the opinion that the house at 123 was too large. That was my personal opinion, based upon eight years of experience, and I might say that many of the other members expressed the same opinion to me.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: Senator James, I would like to know why the drastic reduction in the House, 62 members from the present House, and only a three member reduction from the present Senate.

DELEGATE JAMES: I thought I explained that at the outset. This might be regarded as a political decision on my part, but my experience based upon eight years in the Senate was that the 29-man Senate was a bit too small, and, therefore, had a tendency to create a very club-like atmosphere in which you found yourself, almost without noticing it voting for people instead of issues. This is the wrong frame of mind to be in when you are legislating. Moreover, it seems that the smaller the house, the greater the tendency to go along on the basis of personal relationship, rather than on the merits of the particular legislation upon which you are voting.

I found there was a big difference between the 29 member Senate and the 43 member Senate in this respect. The Senate became less personal, and I think it acted more on the issues that were before it. These are my personal observations, and the reason for my acceptance of the 40 figure.

Now, at 35, which is the committee recommendation, I think it is still able to retain the free committee structure which we have now. You would probably reduce it one or two members to achieve that purpose. I think probably the Senate could operate effectively with 35 members, and I have no very serious objection to the 35 member Senate. I do think, however, that the experience with the 43-man senate has been good, and something between 35 and 40—43 probably would be quite acceptable to me.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Bennett.

DELEGATE BENNETT: Senator