

legislature some people might expect me to be in favor of this amendment, but I am very much opposed to it, because to me, by voting for this amendment today we are abandoning one of our primary and obvious reasons for being here. We must shoulder up to the responsibility that is so obviously ours, and that is to set the size of our General Assembly in the future. I would certainly urge each of you to vote against this amendment and let us face up to the problem which we must do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Boyer, do you desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

DELEGATE BOYER: Yes, sir, I do, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: You may proceed.

DELEGATE BOYER: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of this Committee of the Whole:

We have been down here in Annapolis since September 12. Four days, and we will have completed two months of solid and very important deliberations.

I think that this Convention is a pivot in Maryland history. I think that we are standing on the threshold of history, and I think that each one of us is extremely proud of our State of Maryland, that it can be truly said that we are America in miniature.

We have some divergent and diverse interests from the coal mines in Western Maryland to the tobacco farms in Southern Maryland, the apple orchards in Western Maryland to the seafood on the Eastern Shore. This, according to the law, goes for naught, that the representation of our General Assembly shall be based not on seafood or tobacco or apples or mining coal in Western Maryland, but on the people.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Boyer, there is left just one minute of uncontrolled time, and half of that should go to the opposition. Please limit your remarks now to a half-minute, please.

DELEGATE BOYER: I guess I will have to, Mr. Chairman.

I have so much to say, but let me say this, quoting one of our distinguished colleagues who quotes continuously one of his heroes, Justice Holmes, yesterday saying that the life of law is not logic, it is experience.

We have heard in this body less than two months of deliberations on the need of

the composition and size of the General Assembly. I earnestly urge you to let the experience of the legislature guide you. Conscientious legislators will not shirk their duties, and I have more faith in the elected representatives of the people than evidently those who say that the legislature will grow so large the halls will not hold them.

I do not agree with this. We who are about to be obliterated support your amendment.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot, you have one-half minute to speak against the amendment.

DELEGATE CHABOT: One-half minute is not very much time. I am one of the overflow that Delegate Malkus spoke about.

The one-man/one-vote question has been brought up here. I understand that there will be another part of the Constitution dealing with that matter.

The question is whether or not we should have a General Assembly of 140 members to be decided by voting on that number or voting on another number, without having to eliminate all limitations. The question of flexibility, which was argued so much by Mr. Gleason, sounds nice, but the amendment would leave within section 3.04 two very substantial restrictions on what the General Assembly may do: single member districts and the three-to-one ratio.

All in all I think the only question is whether or not we are willing to let the legislature go through the agony that it has gone through, the same sort of agony that the United States Congress goes through every ten years, as it did this past ten years, and which was so great that when Congress first faced up to the question of a limit on the size of the House of Representatives after the 1910 reapportionment, it threw up its hands in 1920 and simply did not reapportion at all.

THE CHAIRMAN: The time allowed by the debate schedule for debate having expired, the question before the Committee of the Whole is the adoption of Amendment No. 4.

For what purpose does Delegate Gleason rise?

DELEGATE GLEASON: Mr. Chairman, in line with our discussions of yesterday or the day before that, I wonder if it would