

This is a Constitutional matter. This has to do with the future success of the General Assemblies of the State of Maryland. This has to do, ladies and gentlemen, with whether or not the people who come down here will attend to matters which they ought to attend to, and not to matters of internal concern.

I submit to you that this is not a question of whether a small county will have a voice or not. The small counties may be few in number, but I notice they have very effective voices, as is evidenced by some of the people in this General Assembly.

I say to you further that our Committee had before it a proposal that each county which did not receive a delegate under any reapportionment scheme or plan would have a non-voting delegate, and I am sad to say that the representatives from the small counties, with an opportunity to vote for a voice if they did not have one, voted against that proposal. I regret to tell you.

So I am not carried away by the idea that we are deciding here and now whether or not there shall be a voice. Everyone shall be represented.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher, you have just a little over a quarter of a minute.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee: we will rue the day that we decided that we could not face up to this problem if we do not set the number. I urge you to vote against the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: The time of debate having expired, the question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 4 to Committee Recommendation LB-1. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the adoption of the amendment. That is, to leave—

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me state the question.

A vote No is a vote against the adopting of the amendment.

For what purpose does Delegate Wheatley rise?

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: A parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: State the inquiry.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: So we are abundantly clear on the vote, if we pass

this particular amendment, would it then, (a) preclude putting any further limitation as to number; or (b) would it preclude an amendment that would specify exact numbers without provision under law?

THE CHAIRMAN: As the Chair announced at the beginning of the consideration of this Committee Recommendation yesterday, we will proceed to a consideration of all the amendments submitted by the various Committee reports. There are amendments substituting other numbers. That is the procedure that we will follow. The answer to your question is yes.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of Amendment No. 4. A vote No is a vote against.

Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

Roll call vote. Cast your vote.

Has every delegate cast his vote? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 46 votes in the affirmative and 92 in the negative, the motion is lost. The amendment is rejected.

The next item on the debate schedule is a consideration of the Minority Report LB-1(C). The Chair recognizes Delegate Gilchrist for the purpose of presenting the Minority Report LB-1(C).

Delegate Gilchrist.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Convention:

I think I might almost start this with, "Blessed be the peace makers, for they shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

Minority Report LB-1(C) is the result in part I think of having 11 lawyers and 3 Ph.D.'s on a single Committee. It is an attempt to resolve a series of very divergent points of view with respect to the size of the General Assembly.

Boiling those points of view down, the questions which are raised are these: shall we discard our traditional county representation completely and move into a totally new system, or shall we cling to what we have had and let the legislature grow without hindrance, and let the future take care of itself?

There is a middle ground which this Minority Report proposes.