

upper area of the Shore a sufficient majority in any one county to elect people from that county for four slots. I believe that there is a built-in residual vote in each of the counties that will in the course of nature take care of a good bit of this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sollins.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: If we had 144 delegates in the house in 1970, how many counties would have a delegate?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: In all probability every county would have a delegate. I do not by this pretend to say that every county will have a delegate.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sollins.

DELEGATE SOLLINS: As I see the figures, and I want to get clarified, If I am wrong, Delegate Gilchrist, at 144 members in the House, eight counties will still not have enough people in them to justify a delegate. Is that correct or incorrect?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: This is incorrect.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

DELEGATE SOLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I just dispute the figures.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is just a question period. You can dispute the figures in the debate period. Are there any further questions?

Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Delegate Gilchrist, would you tell us what would be the range of populations in the districts? What would be the population of the smallest and what of the largest?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: I can tell you precisely in senatorial districts. You understand this was not done with census tract maps. This was done on an estimated population basis, so we have the 1970 estimate. The low group in the senatorial district is 102,000 in Washington County. The high in it is 114,000 in the combination of Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: The average is 110,800.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Would it be

fair to assume then that your proposal would contemplate that where a senatorial district would include several counties, that in all probability the house districts would not be single member districts?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: I do not think this is necessarily the case. They could be multi-member districts, or the legislature could adopt the slot system. The legislature could adopt cumulative voting, or it could use single member districts.

DELEGATE CHABOT: But based upon your answers to Mr. Sollins and your answers to me, I assume that we could not have each county having at least one member of the House of Delegates if we had single member house districts, is that correct?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: You can come pretty close, depending upon the way you district.

For example, there are now in Kent County, or there are estimated to be in Kent County in 1970, 17,900. One-fifth of the average population in that district would be about 21,000 people, so in all likelihood this would be the bulk of Kent County; and the bulk of the house district would be in Kent County.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: What would be the range of populations in house districts, assuming that you had the maximum number of house districts permissible under your proposal, if we had single member districts?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: If we had single member districts—I have not attempted to single-member the district for house purposes, because this is obviously impossible on a state map and without census tract figures—but you would have an average figure of roughly 22,000, or roughly 27,000 people in each district.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: But you indicated, Kent County was expected to have approximately 17,000 to 18,000 people.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Yes.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Could you explain then how Kent County, with a population of 17,000 to 18,000, could have one delegate, if the average size of the delegate district was approximately 27,000?

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: Because 17