

the Whole—24 small powerhouses to try to run the State.

My powerhouse will be attempting to run the largest land area in the State albeit with a very scarce population of about 14 people per square mile.

To ask that the people attempting to run this area not be allowed to have representation in the General Assembly, just a simple representation, to bring to the General Assembly their problems, seems to me to be the height of lack of logic.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Grant, your time is up. We will pause a moment before recognizing Delegate Gallagher.

Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have left, please?

THE CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes to allocate.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: I yield three minutes to Delegate Hanson.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the recommendation of the Committee and to oppose the amendment. This amendment is an open invitation to warfare between the House and the Senate every time something has to be done over the question of what the size of either should be.

Since no ratio is fixed, the Senate has the option of voting to increase its size and the House has the option of voting to increase its size.

Legislative nature being what history demonstrates it to be, there is a strong likelihood neither house will run pell-mell toward the prospect of decreasing its size. Thus the Senate could desire to increase itself to 45, the only cost to it being the decrease of the House to 135, or the House could offer magnanimously to increase itself to 144, the only cost being seven senators in the process.

The job we have in this Convention as the Chairman of the Legislative Branch Committee pointed out earlier, is to reconcile several values. One of these is a representational value. How can we best represent the many interests that make up this state in the General Assembly.

A second value we have to reconcile with that is how we can have an effective legislature not only in terms of the size of the

respective houses to conduct business, but by removing from the legislative arena what is not a legislative but a constitutional problem, and that is what should be the sizes fixed for the House and for the Senate.

That is our job. That is the job of the Constitutional Convention. The Committee has deliberated long on these points. It has done what can be done in its judgment to reconcile these two sometimes conflicting interests.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one half minute, Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: There is no way under this plan, proposed as an amendment, that any county can be perpetually guaranteed a seat or even a seat in 1970. There is no way under the plan of the Committee that any person living in any county in any part of this State will be denied representation exactly equal to that of every other citizen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gilchrist, you have four minutes you can allocate.

DELEGATE GILCHRIST: I allocate two minutes to Delegate Bushong.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bushong.

DELEGATE BUSHONG: Mr. Chairman, we feel that this amendment is a shock absorber. It will give the people who are losing their representation some time to get over it.

We think that they should be treated with some consideration by this Convention. The legislature at any time it sees fit hereafter can change this under the amendment. But it cannot put it up.

I want to say to this Convention that we heard the 1966 legislature praised and praised on the floor of this Convention. They had 142. The only thing we are asking is to please not shock these little counties too fast and too often.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher, you have three minutes you can allocate.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: I yield that time to Senator James.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate James.

DELEGATE JAMES: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, in analyzing this proposal, it seems to me that all of the objections that have been hitherto made to the large house appertaining here; lack of visibility, inability to pay compensation, inefficient