

small county representatives would like to have, I feel I would like to offer it as an amendment and add Delegate Grant and Delegate Ritter to it.

Since it is not the will of the Committee, I should like to step down as Committee Chairman and have either the Vice Chairman or one of the other members of the Committee speak against it because in offering it I go against the Committee wishes with respect to this matter. Nevertheless, I feel strongly about it and would like to have it offered for consideration to the Committee of the Whole.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher, who were the additional sponsors?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Messrs. Grant and Ritter. It would be the one that is marked JQ.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 12—

THE CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 12 to Committee Recommendation LB-1. Please distribute the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 12 to Committee Recommendation LB-1, by Delegate Gallagher, Chairman of the Committee of the Legislative Branch, and Delegates Ritter and Grant: On page 2 Section 3.04, Composition of the Legislature, line 6, after the period insert the following:

“Any county which is not entitled to at least one delegate elected completely within the boundaries of the county shall be entitled to a non-voting legislative agent in the House of Delegates.”

THE CHAIRMAN: Is the amendment seconded?

Delegate Gleason seconds?

DELEGATE GLEASON: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Gallagher to speak to the amendment.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Very briefly, Mr. Chairman. the amendment would provide that any county which is not entitled to at least one delegate elected completely within the boundaries of the county shall be entitled to a non-voting legislative agent in the House of Delegates.

This proposal is prompted by the desire

to enable those counties which do not have a member in the House of Delegates to have someone represent them on their own behalf in the General Assembly and be entitled to all the privileges of membership in the House of Delegates, other than voting in Committee and on the floor of the House.

In other words, they would be privileged to introduce legislation, to speak to it in Committee, and to speak to it on the floor, although they could not vote either in Committee or on the floor.

This legislation, or this proposal, might be accomplished by legislation rather than by Constitutional inclusion.

Nevertheless, I feel that it should be given consideration on a Constitutional basis, and I would urge its adoption.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Della is the Vice-Chairman of the Committee. I have sent out to see if he is nearby to find out if he wants to speak in opposition.

Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: I would say, Mr. Chairman, that Delegates Hanson and Scanlan, who were usually with the chairman in most matters, were very vociferous against him with respect to this proposal, and either one of them could do a decent job of trying to shoot this down.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Scanlan, the Chair would prefer to give Delegate Della, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, the first opportunity to speak.

DELEGATE DELLA: Do you desire to speak in opposition to Amendment No. 12?

DELEGATE DELLA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do.

Mr. Chairman, this particular proposal was presented to the Committee and by a 15 to 5 vote was rejected.

I find myself somewhat in the embarrassing position of seeming to be against small counties, but in reality, I am not.

We have a legislative agent by this proposal who has no voice and no vote. I do not know who is going to pay him, whether the county is going to pay him or the State, or whether he will become a candidate for that particular office, as a representative of any given political subdivision.

We can not know which county will be denied a representative by the vote. It could be possible for a delegate to repre-