

law for a uniform registration of the names of all the voters in this State who possess the qualifications prescribed in this Article".

It could very well be that the Court of Appeals has changed this meaning, but I should submit that generally in the country there is a constitutional distinction, and I am wondering if we ought to depart from it here without knowing a little more than I do just at the moment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions for the purposes of clarification? Delegate Macdonald.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: I would like to ask the spokesman for the minority a question. Mr. Chabot, how is this done in other states? Do they use as their base the number of voters voting in the last gubernatorial election, or do they use your suggested base? Do you know the answer to that question?

DELEGATE CHABOT: In all of the states that I have been able to examine or that we have received reports about, the base is either the number who voted for governor, or the number who voted for some other specified officer, or the total number of persons who cast votes in that election. What I am suggesting is that in this one small matter we be a bit more rational and practical.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: In other words, in other states they always use the number of votes cast?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes, sir.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Schloeder.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: Would the speaker for the Minority Report yield for clarification?

THE CHAIRMAN: Will the delegate yield?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Certainly.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: As a matter of fact on two points: to Delegate Burdette the term qualified voters is used in the Constitutions of Arizona, California, South Dakota, Alaska, New Mexico, among others; and to Delegate Macdonald, in the present Michigan Constitution, they speak of registered voters.

THE CHAIRMAN: For what purpose does the delegate rise?

DELEGATE BRADSHAW: Will the delegate yield?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes.

DELEGATE BRADSHAW: I would like to know to what extent would your proposal increase the number of signatures that would be required in the event that this Convention reduces voting age to nineteen?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Since this proposal would be based on the number that would be registered at the last gubernatorial election. At that point, if we lowered the voting age to nineteen, and if nineteen-year olds registered in the same proportion as persons twenty-one and over, it would increase the number of signatures necessary by approximately 6 or 6½ per cent.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Storm.

DELEGATE STORM: If the Chairman will yield for a question.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chairman of the Minority.

DELEGATE STORM: The Minority. Your proposal appeals very much to me, and I like the idea of increasing both the time and the number required. You have very convincing arguments on the registration, but I was wondering if your proposal should fail, if a decent compromise would be to make it "persons qualified to vote", not for governor, but for attorney general, if this would be an acceptable amendment to you?

THE CHAIRMAN: A point of inquiry. Delegate Chabot, are you going to answer that question?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes. I respect the political sagacity of the delegate who made the proposal, Delegate Storm, but regret fully I must disagree at this point, and I think that my proposal would not be assisted by entering into that dispute at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are these papers readily available on the qualified voters?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes. We were presented with the current registration figures from the office of the secretary of state, and prior figures are available in the Maryland manual. They are broken down on a county by county basis, so that any effort to use the same procedure for legis-