

ments being to substitute a single section for all three sections.

One of these substitutes is offered, or intended to be offered by Delegates Macdonald and Fox and the other one by Delegate Macdonald alone.

The Chair would like to inquire of Delegate Macdonald whether one of these is intended as a substitute for the other or just what the situation is.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: Mr. Chairman, we are not going to offer the first two which we have mentioned, just the last one, which is designated "L".

THE CHAIRMAN: The ones designated "L" and "O" will not be offered?

DELEGATE MACDONALD: The one designated "L" will be offered. The other two will not be offered.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thinking this was a multiplicity, the Chair was going to suggest that we take then up one after the other. In view of the situation, and in order to avoid the necessity of reconsidering, the Chair suggests that you now offer this amendment as a substitute for the pending Amendment No. 8, if that is agreeable to you.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: I will offer the amendment which has been designated as Amendment No. L as a substitute for Amendment No. 8.

THE CHAIRMAN: The clerk will read the amendment. This will be Amendment—I think it would be simpler for uniformity to call it Amendment No. 9.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 9 to Committee Recommendation LG-1, by Delegate Macdonald: On pages 3 and 4 of Committee Recommendation No. LG-1, strike out all of sections 7.07, 7.08 and 7.09 start on page 3 line 50 and extending through page 4 line 27 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"Section 7.07. Municipal Corporations.

A county by law may establish, merge and dissolve municipal corporations within the county, may alter their boundaries, and may grant and withdraw from them any and all powers of the county. No municipal corporation existing at the effective date of this article may be dissolved, have its boundaries diminished or have withdrawn any of its existing powers as set forth in its charter, without the consent of its governing body or the consent of the General Assembly by public general law.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is Amendment No. 9 seconded?

*(Whereupon, the amendment was duly seconded.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment having been seconded the Chair recognizes Delegate Macdonald to speak to Amendment No. 9.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: May I inquire, Mr. Chairman, how much time I have?

THE CHAIRMAN: You have ten minutes under the debate schedule, including the time spent in answering any questions put to you.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee of the Whole:

It is a pleasure to be able to offer an amendment which addresses itself to a matter which is completely devoid of emotion and which we may look at with easy objectivity.

We have in the State of Maryland 152 municipal corporations. They vary in size, but all totaled, the population of municipal corporations outside of Baltimore City is approximately 15 percent of the population of the State.

Most of the area of the State is served by county government. The municipalities comprise only a minority of the area of the State. In some areas, the municipal corporations duplicate the services of the counties. This is particularly true in the counties which have become urban in nature. In some other areas the municipalities do perform very valuable services, which are not available from the county government. Nevertheless, the county is the basic unit of local government in the State of Maryland. This is our tradition. It has been thus for a long period of time. The counties perform services and functions which are not performed by the municipal corporations. They are the arm of the State insofar as appropriations for schools are concerned. They handle assessments for the State. They handle welfare matters for the State, and in addition, they perform other services of local government.

I give you this background to put this subject in proper perspective.

This brings us to the matter of the Committee's recommendation in sections 7.07, 7.08, and 7.09. In section 7.08 the Committee recommends that new municipal