

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Clagett?

2 MR. CLAGETT: Mr. Chairman, I expressed myself
3 quite strongly on this point when it came up for discus-
4 sion or partial discussion before, and I do feel that
5 it is quite important to have the judge a resident of the
6 circuit or of the county or of the district. The strength
7 of our whole court system is that we have grown strength
8 from the localities from which the judges have come who
9 have served on our courts. I feel the historic precedent
10 should not be ignored and should produce the same good
11 results in the future.

12 Therefore, I am very strongly opposed to the
13 amendment.

14 MR. HARGROVE: I think there are several con-
15 siderations of the Committee in this matter. One is that
16 we are now attempting to have a Statewide court system
17 and under this system, it is very likely that many judges
18 will be known in many areas throughout the State because
19 the chief judge has, as a matter of fact, the duty to
20 appoint a judge wherever he is needed and wherever he
21 might have been elected from. So we do not have under