

question the Convention shall decide that the same shall not now be put, the main question shall be still under consideration, and if the previous question is sustained, the main question shall be on the adoption of the proposition under consideration, and in cases where there shall be pending amendments, the question shall be first taken upon such amendments in their order, and without further debate or amendment."

Mr. Biser moved to lay said amendment on the table;

Determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Johnson, chairman of the committee on the Legislative Department, submitted the following

#### REPORT :

Section 1st. The Legislative power of this State shall be vested in two distinct branches, the one to be styled the Senate, the other the House of Delegates, and both together "the General Assembly of Maryland."

Sec. 2nd. The Senators shall be elected by the qualified voters, for the term of four years, and the Delegates for the term of from the day of the general elections.

Sec. 3rd. The first election for Senators and Delegates shall take place on the first Wednesday of October eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and on the same day in every second year forever thereafter the general elections for Delegates; and for one-half of the Senators as nearly as practicable, shall be held.

Sec 4th. Immediately after the Senate shall have convened after the first election under this constitution, the Senators shall be divided by lot into two classes as nearly equal in number as may be, the Senators of the first class shall go out of office at the expiration of two years, and Senators shall be elected on the first Wednesday of October eighteen hundred and fifty-three, for the term of four years, to supply their places; so that, after the first election one-half of the Senators may be chosen every second year. In case the number of Senators be hereafter increased, such classification of the additional senators shall be made as to preserve as nearly as may be, an equal number in each class.

Sec. 5th. The General Assembly shall meet on the first Wednesday of January eighteen hundred and fifty-two, and on the same day in every year forever thereafter, and at no other time unless convened by the proclamation of the Governor, who shall have power to convene the same whenever he may deem it expedient and proper.

Sec. 6th. The General Assembly may continue their first two sessions after the adoption of this constitution as long as in the opinion of the two Houses, the public interest may require it, but all subsequent regular sessions of the General Assembly shall be closed on the tenth day of March next ensuing the time of their commencement, unless the same shall be closed at an earlier day by the agreement of the two Houses.