

1 are saying by majority action then can call an entirely new
2 Constitutional Convention.

3 I think it is time that Maryland came in the
4 mainstream of the thinking of this country, and I urge that
5 this amendment be adopted.

6 DELEGATE JAMES: Any further discussion? The
7 Chair recognizes Delegate Gallagher.

8 DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. President and ladies
9 and gentlemen: May I point out the effect of this
10 amendment is to remove from the General Assembly the
11 power of on its own volition calling for a Constitutional
12 Convention. The question of limiting the General Assembly
13 to merely submitting the question to the voters is a very
14 interesting one. Those students of history will remember
15 when the 20 year question was put in 1950 to the voters of
16 Maryland, the voters overwhelmingly, approximately 2.5 to
17 1, voted for the calling of a Constitutional Convention,
18 but because the number of votes cast in the affirmative did
19 not equal at least 50 percent of the total votes cast
20 for governor, the General Assembly, in its wisdom at that
21 time, decided that there would be no Constitutional