

1 to speak against the amendment or for the amendment?

2 DELEGATE MACDONALD: I do, Mr. Chairman,
3 against.

4 DELEGATE JAMES: The Chair recognizes Delegate
5 Macdonald.

6 DELEGATE MACDONALD: Fellow delegates, please
7 don't adopt this amendment. This would be the greatest
8 step backward that this Convention has taken to date.
9 Right at the present time there is an unqualified right
10 of removal in the constitution, and it is used as a process
11 for delay, it is used all the time, it is a gimmick, and
12 it is one of the worst things we have in the Constitution.
13 This matter can be taken care of by the rule of the
14 Court of Appeals, but do not put it in the Constitution.
15 Hundreds and thousands of cases in Maryland are delayed
16 by utilizing this gimmick, and that is what it is. All
17 a person has to do at the present time is to file an
18 affidavit of removal the morning of trial and then the
19 case must be removed to another county.

20 DELEGATE JAMES: Delegate Chabot.

21 DELEGATE CHABOT: Will Delegate Johnson yield