

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): The Chair recognizes Delegate White to allot some more time.

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. Chairman, I yield three minutes to Delegate Schloeder.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): The Chair recognizes Delegate Schloeder.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen: this is Delegate Scanlan's microphone. It is very well warmed up by the time I get to it.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Go ahead.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: Like Delegate Scanlan, I am originally a resident of New Jersey and not from the rolling hills of Union County, the way he is, but from Hudson County, which some of you may remember is the private barony of Frank Hague.

Frank Hague was an old political boss and the story goes that one time they found that Frank Hague copied down some names off the cemetery tombstones and that these people had voted or these names had been used as voters in municipal, state and federal elections, and when questioned about this procedure by the United States attorneys, he answered that these people were good Democrats in this world and there was no reason to believe that now that they had gone to their reward, that they had changed their political affiliation.

It seems to me that this goes to the whole concept of the extension of the right to vote. They certainly were property owners in the sense that they owned those cemetery plots. They were non-residents of a sort, not to get into metaphysical questions, but it seems to me to put this provision in our constitution is an archaic and undemocratic process. It has no constitutional place. It has no constitutional stature.

What we are doing here is turning back the clock 150 years or more and constitutionalizing the rotten borough system of the English parliamentary system of 1780 and 1790.

I think that there are a great many inconsistencies that Delegate Gullett has already pointed out. Section 9 of this article is inconsistent where it talks about not establishing a property test for public office, and yet we are going to establish a property test for voting, or certainly extend it.

We are also inconsistent. Some man might have an inventory of \$100,000 but

he rents rather than owns a store in Ocean City or somewhere else, and therefore he is not eligible to vote.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): You have thirty seconds.

DELEGATE SCHLOEDER: The main point that I would make here is that this has no constitutional validity and I do not think that this is something that we want to enshrine in a constitution.

We do not want this State or this Constitutional Convention that has made many reforms and many forward movements to enshrine in it the first property qualification in the first state constitution in over a hundred years.

If this is not in it, it seems to me that this will not affect those municipalities that already have this right.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Rybczynski.

DELEGATE RYBCZYNSKI: Mr. Chairman, before calling on the next speaker, I cannot help but wonder how a school teacher ever came up with a comparison of the rotten borough system to this system. This is truly amazing to me.

I call on Delegate Pascal to speak for three minutes.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding): Delegate Pascal.

DELEGATE PASCAL: Mr. Chairman, not only is my friend Delegate Schloeder talking from Scanlan's microphone but he is beginning to sound like him.

*(Laughter.)*

This particular Committee Recommendation which I stand to support was based on logic and nothing else. Let us take a look at the future municipalities in the local government article.

I doubt if they are going to expand as far as the local area is concerned. If they expand they will go up. This is the center of commerce. I would like to talk about the local businessman who lives outside the municipality but has his store or shop or what-have-you in the municipality.

This man pays a real estate tax not only to the municipality but to the county. He pays a personal property tax not only to the municipality, but to the county. And I suggest that to support the municipal government, they are going to come to him year after year. I want to draw the paral-