

cession act of the General Assembly. I want to make it clear just what the federal Constitution provision is.

It is this: notice the peculiar language used here: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to exercise exclusive Legislation", "exclusive Legislation."

Now, I think it is important that we not consider the fact that the United States exercises jurisdiction, because they exercise jurisdiction all over the country, in and out of federal enclaves, but when we cede land to the federal government, they really frequently do not exercise any more jurisdiction over that land than they do over all the rest of the country, and the difference that has been recognized by the courts is, that if they are not exercising jurisdiction, there is no reason why Maryland should not exercise all of its regular jurisdiction over those people.

This will come up in a later amendment under GP-5, but I believe it is important that we make it clear exactly whom we are covering and that what we mean here is we are not going to deny to people the right to vote solely by reason of their living on land over which the United States has been ceded jurisdiction.

This has happened in the past. For example, Fort Detrick at present has no civilians, no people living on the post who are interested in voting, except the commanding officer's wife, and she was born an Army brat and she has never established residency anywhere.

But Fort Detrick has no one interested now, but they may be later. They were denied the right to vote because of an old divorce case. This will come out in more detail. This divorce case said that that was really foreign territory, outside of the State of Maryland and because it was outside of the State of Maryland, even though the federal government is not exercising any unusual jurisdiction over Fort Detrick, they do not provide for any of the services that the State ordinarily provides.

So I do think this is an important change to be made in this section.

We mean to include all people on federal enclaves whether the United States exercises jurisdiction or not, so long as we have ceded jurisdiction to them, so that they could, if they wanted to, exercise that jurisdiction.

If there are any questions, I will be glad to try to answer them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions of the sponsor of the amendment?

Delegate Hardwicke?

DELEGATE HARDWICKE: Mr. Chairman, I ask this question half seriously and half facetiously. Is Delegate Storm intending to include the District of Columbia which is a territory over which Maryland has ceded jurisdiction to the United States?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Storm?

DELEGATE STORM: Delegate Hardwicke, you know until the Committee on Suffrage and Elections called my attention to the Albaugh Case which definitely decided that there was a case in 1801 which made this impossible, I was worried for fear that the only ones we would enfranchise by having the word "exercises" were the people in the District of Columbia.

I was wrong, and they made that clear because the federal case has decided after they started exercising jurisdiction over the District of Columbia, that that changed our power to exercise any jurisdiction.

This will all be made clear later under discussion of GP-5. But believe me, we took into account and the Committee took into account the possibility that some of the voteless people in the District might ask to come back to Maryland.

We cannot take them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Hardwicke?

DELEGATE HARDWICKE: Then is the answer yes?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Storm.

DELEGATE STORM: I forget what your question was, but my answer I am sure will satisfy you; whether it was yes or no, whether you agree with it or not.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Marvin Anderson.

DELEGATE ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Delegate Storm a question.

THE CHAIRMAN: State the question.

DELEGATE ANDERSON: I am uncertain whether you are saying that every one at Fort Meade of proper legal age could register or not?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Storm.