

are two points, and I think these points should be borne in mind by everyone. First of all, this report does not advocate constitutional autonomy for higher education. It advocates legal autonomy, and it specifically says that the Committee recommends either a constitutional amendment or a statute that would include the following provisions.

Now, we of the minority cannot understand why in their memorandum and in their presentation today this is cited as authority, because it simply is not; if we carry this to its logical extreme, the University of Maryland makes no case whatsoever by citing this authority, because it has the very thinking that is recommended in this booklet.

Now, secondly, and more importantly, when considering the community colleges and the state colleges, certain standards are set out in here for what types of institutions should be given this statutory or constitutional autonomy, and I will read from a footnote on page 30:

"Some state-supported institutions because of inadequate staff or the inability to guarantee a program and staff of excellence may not be prepared for legal, I repeat, legal autonomy, but in all cases autonomy should be the ultimate objective, and states should actively work to strengthen the managerial and educational capacities of smaller institutions so that they can assume their place as institutions of higher learning worthy of the name."

Now, in addition to not being authority for the principle of the constitutional autonomy, the report makes it clear by this language that it is simply not authority for across-the-board autonomy for everyone.

Let us apply the standards, and these standards are the ones that the majority must agree to or it would not have cited this report to this Board of State Colleges. This board has been in existence for exactly four years. It has never requested statutory autonomy from the legislature. It comes to this Constitutional Convention for the first time and requests constitutional autonomy for all time.

The board has a staff, and a total budget of \$80,198; it has one executive director and three staff specialists to run six full-blown colleges in this State. They simply do not meet the requirements set out in the Eisenhower Report. Perhaps some day they will, and we of the minority certainly hope that when they do, they will present their

case to the General Assembly, where certainly it would be appropriate, and will withdraw this rather vague pie-in-the-sky notion that this Convention will see fit to incorporate in the constitution — autonomy for these types of institutions. The idea for the Board of State Colleges came out of the famous Curlett Commission Report in 1962.

Now, what is does, is take all of the old teachers' colleges or normal schools and create State colleges out of them. The progress has been astonishing in the four years. They are not research institutions. They do not have the problems that begin to measure up for even making a case for statutory autonomy, and I would hope that nothing more need be said on the subject.

We do move even to a slightly more difficult area with the community colleges. Once again, this is very difficult to understand because community colleges are not state institutions. They are creatures of local boards of education. They are springing up all over the State to meet the need of people who want more education after going to high school, but for some reason do not want to attend the college or a university.

(President H. Vernon Eney resumed the Chair.)

THE CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes, Delegate Lord, for your presentation.

DELEGATE LORD: Nine counties and the City of Baltimore now have these institutions. I would like to read from the report at page 7 of the Majority Report. It says:

"The public community colleges by whatever name they may be hereafter known shall be controlled by local boards in accordance with law, and shall be under the general supervision of a State board. The local board of trustees shall have general supervision over local institutions and control and direction of all expenditures from the institutions' fund."

This is the same autonomy that has been given to the other two branches of the state system of higher education. It is just plainly unjustified at this point. Not only is there a Legislative Council bill to be reported out in the next session of the General Assembly favoring the creation of a statewide, more or less coordinating board for higher education, and certainly this board if it were created might, after a period of years, be able to make a case for some sort of a statutory autonomy; but