

THE CHAIRMAN: There is a period now available under the debate schedule for uncontrolled but limited debate.

Does any delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Marvin Smith?

DELEGATE M. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I have been thinking about this thing in how it might affect our small counties from our parochial point of view.

At the risk of being called inconsistent with reference to some of the things I said yesterday and the day before, it seems to me this amendment would make for good government.

I tried to think this thing out in terms of redistricting. I can see it might—let me make plain, I have no intention as far as I know of running for public office; the only time other than this that I ran, the voters of Caroline County rejected me—I can reason this thing out in terms of where I live very possibly being put over in Fred Malkus' district. I live a half mile from Dorchester County, yet contacts might very properly exist in the center part of the Eastern Shore, which conceivably would be yet another senatorial district, or another delegate district. By this device if I had some ambitions, which I do not have, it might well be that I would have a better chance for running for office in that area than in the other fringe area where I might live, but not be as well known.

It is bad, of course, to use a personal example in connection with such a situation, but it seems to me at this time when the State is about to be cut up more than it has been before, that this device would make for a good government.

I am not afraid of the carpetbaggers or the sundowners, if the people with their eyes open elect them, so be it. I do not think we are going to elect anybody who comes across the Bay Bridge.

*(Laughter)*

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Henderson?

DELEGATE HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I rise largely for the purpose of clarification.

Delegate Hanson has referred to the English practice under which members of Parliament have no residency requirements. I think the import of his remark was that

that was such a good thing that we ought to follow it.

My reading of one of the main criticisms of the English system, which is the so-called rotten borough business, has been addressed to that very fact. It has led there, I believe, to the old pro who is beaten in one section, turning around and running in another. This would permit that very thing, it seems to me, that once we depart entirely from residential requirements, we might put it in the hands of the strong partisan party member. The door is open to them to run anywhere they please.

It seems to me the concern for the incumbent, which is a proper concern, is sufficiently protected except perhaps in some marginal cases in the proposal put forward by the Committee.

For those reasons, I shall vote against the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate James Clark.

DELEGATE J. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, in answer to the last gentleman who spoke, I would like to make the observation that we never would have had the services of Winston Churchill if those conditions had not prevailed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason is recognized to speak in opposition to the amendment.

DELEGATE MASON: Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in opposition to the amendment.

I think this amendment is at variance with the single-member district proposal that we voted on yesterday. The proponents of the single-delegate district proposal urge that this would encourage the election of minority delegates, ethnic and political. But if we permit this amendment, if we pass this amendment, we could have people who do not live in the senate district, but live in the counties coming to Baltimore City and running.

The question is not whether or not they would be elected, but it certainly would do violence to this concept of single-member districts.

I will vote against the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

*(There was no response.)*