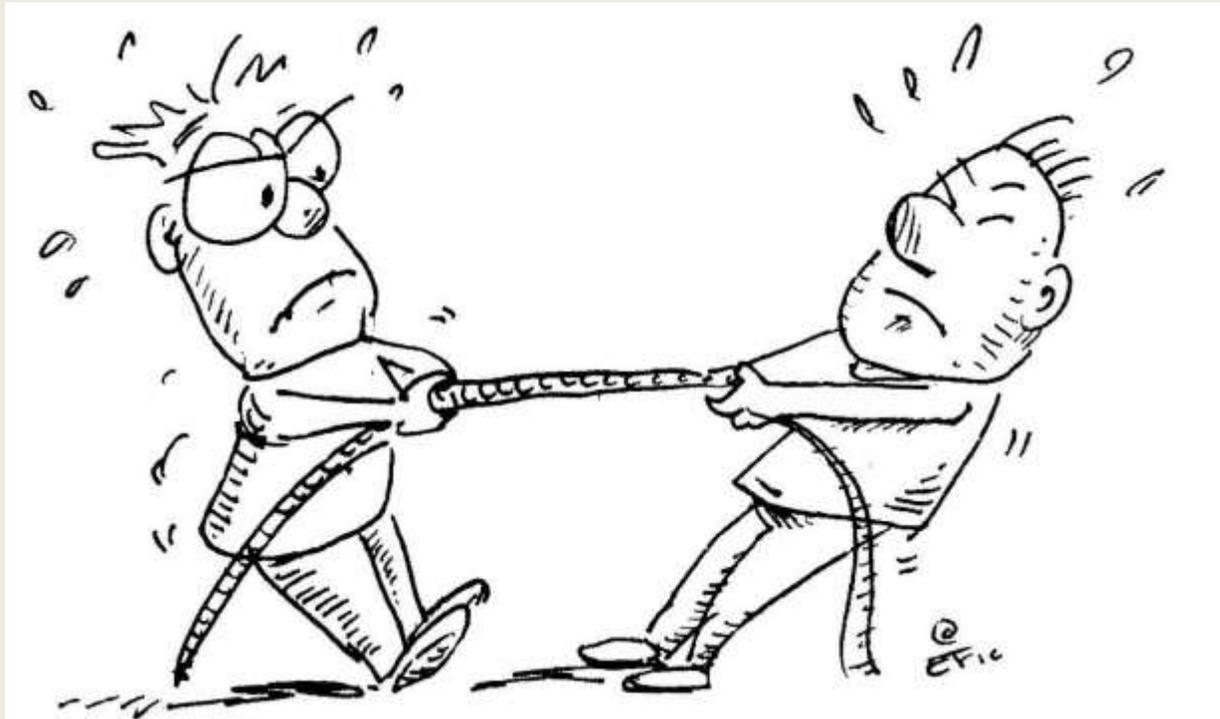


Making the Constitution: The Great Compromise





Americans got together to make a new Constitution in Philadelphia. They needed something stronger than the Articles of Confederation. They made the Constitution. In order to make the Constitution, they needed to make several compromises. Compromises are

agreements in which neither party gets exactly what they want. It's a little like a deal, except in a deal you usually get mostly what you want. The biggest compromise has to do with the problem of representation. Under the Articles of Confederation, each state got the same vote, regardless of size.

Complete

1. A _____ is a deal where both parties agree on something, even if it means giving up some demands.
2. The biggest compromise was about _____, or how many representatives each state got in Congress.
3. Under the Articles of Confederation, each state got the same vote, _____ of size.

Predict

What do you think the big states will want? (More representation or less?)

The biggest compromise involved how states were represented in Congress. At this time, Congress was the center of power. There were 13 states. They were very different in population. Look at the chart on the next page. It is of a census. A census is an estimate of the population. "Colored people" means blacks.

Complete

1. What are the three largest states?

2. Virginia has many free people but also many _____.

3. North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia have many _____.

| | C.C. Pinckney 's (SC) 1787 Estimates | | David Brearly's (NJ) 1787 Estimates | | 1790 Federal Census Report | |
|----------------|---|-----------|--|-----------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| | Total Population*1 | "Colored" | White Population | "Colored" | Free White Population | Slave Population |
| New Hampshire | 102,000 | | 82,000 to 102,000 | | 141,097 | 158 |
| Massachussetts | 360,000 | | 352,000 | | 373,324 | None |
| Rhode Island | 58,000 | | 58,000 | | 64,470 | 948 |
| Connecticut | 202,000 | | 202,000 | | 232,374 | 2,764 |
| New York | 233,000 | | 238,000 | | 314,142 | 21,324 |
| New Jersey | 138,000 | | 138,000 to 145,000 | | 169,954 | 11,423 |
| Pennsylvania | 360,000 | | 341,000 | | 424,099 | 3,737 |
| Delaware | 37,000 | | 37,000 | | 46,310 | 8,887 |
| Maryland | 218,000 | 80,000 | 174,000 | 80,000 | 208,649 | 103,036 |
| Virginia | 420,000 | 280,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 442,117 | 292,627 |
| North Carolina | 200,000 | 60,000 | 181,000 | | 288,204 | 100,572 |
| South Carolina | 150,000 | 80,000 | 93,000 | | 140,178 | 107,094 |
| Georgia | 90,000 | 20,000 | 27,000 | | 52,886 | 29,264 |

The big states, like Virginia, wanted more representation for their population. They wanted two houses, both depending on population. This is called the Virginia Plan. James Madison from Virginia came up with this plan. It is called the Virginia Plan. It is for a bicameral legislature based on population.

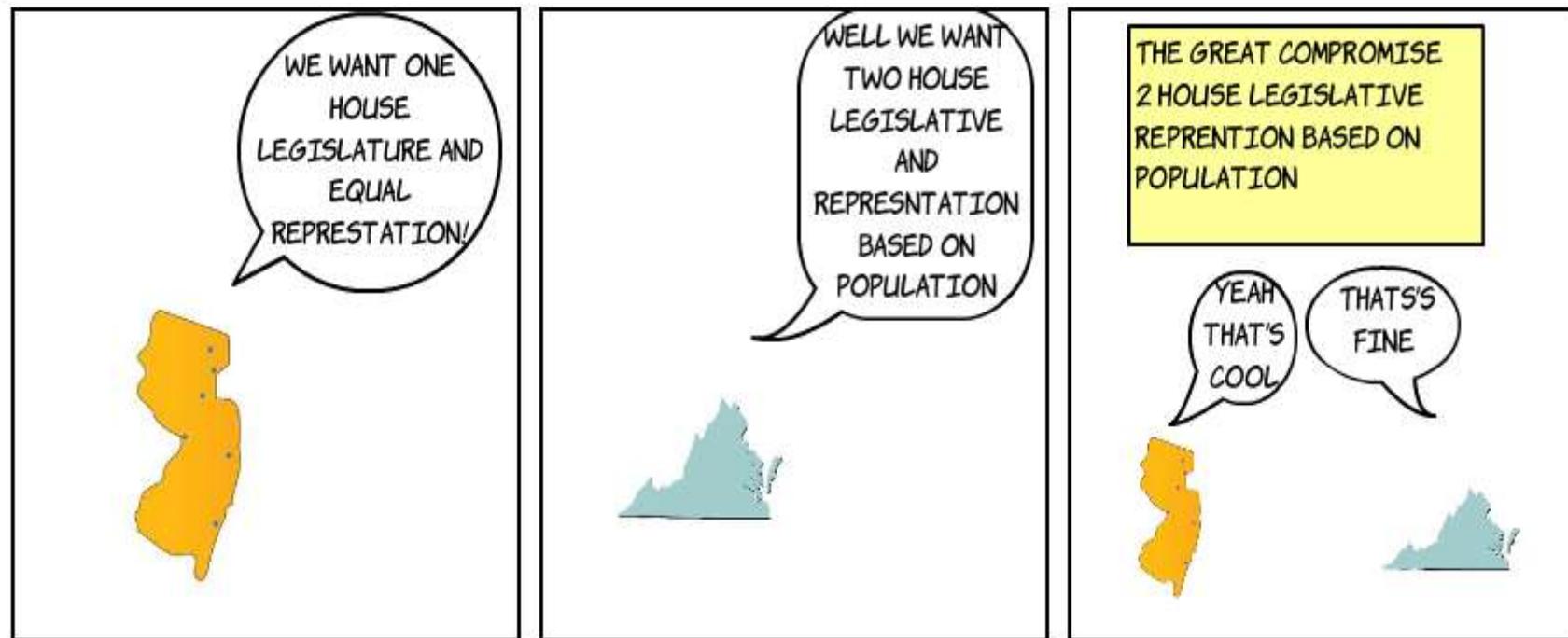
The small states, like New Jersey, wanted equal representation for each state. They only wanted one house. They wanted each state to get the same number of people in this house. This is the New Jersey Plan. It is for a unicameral legislature.

Label: (Virginia Plan, James Madison, based on size)
(New Jersey Plan, equal representation)
(bicameral legislature, unicameral legislature)

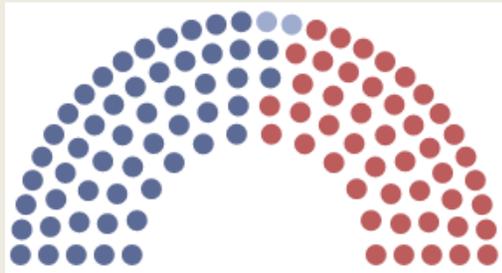


The compromise was called the Great Compromise. They combined the two plans. There would be two houses. So, it was a bicameral legislature. But, both houses didn't depend on population.

The House of Representatives depended on population. The Senate did not. Each state got two senators



Label (Great Compromise, Senate, 100, House of Representatives, based on population, equal representation, Congress)



Complete

1. How many Senators were in the first Congress? (Hint: there were 13 original states)
2. How many Senators are in Congress now? (Hint: how many states are there?)
3. Why do we have more Representatives than Senators?
-Because Representatives are based on _____, not number of states.

