

retail and commercial employees, and another 170,000 in service industries.

These are all people that are not covered.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: In your experience with labor problems, for instance, you mentioned Church-Home Hospital employees, trying to select a unit representative.

Do you find that many of these employees not covered by this federal law receive a wage that is less than the federal minimum wage?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bothe.

DELEGATE BOTHE: The figures which I obtained, and they are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, indicate that the people who are in the uncovered industries are also for the most part — of course, I am not saying it is a one-for-one matter — the people who are receiving less than the federal minimum wage because they are not covered under it either.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor, do you have a further question?

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Just one other question. If the Convention decided to include this right in the constitution, do you think the public employees, for example, employed by the State of Maryland would receive better treatment and consideration in terms of their employment conditions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bothe.

DELEGATE BOTHE: I have not been a public employee and I am not too much aware of the conditions. I am sure they vary from place to place. Obviously public employees are interested in organizing because they have, in increasing numbers in recent years, joined labor organizations. Certainly I think the psychological effect is extremely important, because it gives them some ability to participate in the determination of things most important to them, their wages, working conditions, and other facets of their employment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Well, the reason why I asked that question is because I have a letter from the president of a local —

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor, this is only the time for questions, unless

this is a preface to another question. You will have an opportunity in debate to read the letter you speak of.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: I do not plan to read the letter. Delegate Bothe expressed the opinion that such a right was needed to be placed in the constitution. She said that many employees of state hospitals needed additional protection with this particular right being placed in the constitution.

I wanted to ask you, if you are familiar with a situation in Baltimore City where the employees in the school system were receiving less than one dollar an hour, and they had an agent negotiate for the employees and he was successful in obtaining a fair wage for the cafeteria employees?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bothe.

DELEGATE BOTHE: I am sure there are many instances, Delegate Taylor. I am not familiar with the particular ones, but I know of innumerable instances where people have not been able to effectuate their right to organize and bargain, which rights I am sure would have resulted in vastly improved conditions for them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions, Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: The point I was trying to establish was the fact —

THE CHAIRMAN: This is not the time for debate, Delegate Taylor. Do you have a further question?

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Well, Delegate Bothe, according to your study of the problem, with your contacts with labor people, have you gotten the impression that many public employees and other employees of private organizations are really demanding this right? I am speaking of the people not protected. Is this the impression you have received from your study of this situation?

DELEGATE BOTHE: I do not think there could be any question or doubt. All you have to do is pick up the evening paper several times a week and see another account of how people are trying to effectuate these rights against their employers, and I would certainly suppose that it is of prime importance to them.

I feel so convinced myself, or I would not be here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?