

Q. Governor, Mr. Shay, Chairman of the Liquor Board, said he was anxious to put the employees under civil service. Are you in favor of putting employees under this system?

A. Well, I'm very much in favor of putting the Liquor Board employees under the merit system if it's done in such a way, intelligently and gradually, so as not to adversely affect people of long tenure who have served well in their positions. As far as the election supervisors are concerned, I've gone on record during the last campaign very thoroughly against it. I think this is an office that is political in nature. The very makeup of the election supervisors which requires one member to be of the minority party attests to the political nature of the makeup of the election board. Since it is a political makeup and it's there to reflect partisan considerations on both sides of the fence, I don't think it logically belongs to the merit system.

Q. How about Liquor Board employees?

A. I think they should all be placed under the merit system.

Q. Governor, it has been your position in the past to endorse Republican nominees for office. I was wondering if you were endorsing Mr. Lively?

A. He's the candidate that has been voted on by the Republican committee of the district he represents. He has their endorsement and approval, and he has mine.

Q. On another subject Governor, you told the Executive Committee today that they must look out for the powerful forces of the status quo that oppose the ratification of the Constitution after the Convention.

A. Yes, there are a few around.

Q. Are you getting concerned that there's enough of this opposition to hurt the chances of it being ratified?

A. No, but I do think they're a factor. I don't think that there are enough of them around to stop the progress of the offering of an intelligently reformed document to the people. But I do think that there are certain proponents of the status quo who are very strong, and I don't say they are entirely wrong in every instance. I think some things in the status quo are good. However, there's a balance between those who seek change and those who resist change just on the basis that it is change. And I'm concerned that we don't reject an improved document simply because it represents a departure from established procedures.