

taining the office if he is defeated. I hold that if a man wishes to be elected to the Legislature, if he holds an office of profit, or profit and trust, he must strip himself of that before he asks the people for their votes. I am therefore opposed to the amendment.

Mr. BELT. Let me suggest a practical difficulty. The section now reads:

"No person holding any civil office of profit, or profit and trust, under this State, except justices of the peace, shall be eligible to the office of senator or delegate."

Take the case of a senator or delegate himself. Under a proper construction of that clause is any member of either house eligible unless he resigns?

Mr. STROCKBRIDGE. The remark of the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Belt) covers precisely the point to which I was about to refer. In many other offices the same thing occurs. A gentleman is State's Attorney, his term of office to expire after the election takes place. Is he eligible for another term? The amendment of my friend does not perhaps quite cover the difficulty. It provides that he shall resign. Is it not sufficient if the office becomes vacant? Does not his amendment need a slight modification to cover the purpose intended?

Mr. MILLER. As to the difficulty suggested by the gentleman last up, the same provision has existed in the old Constitution down to this time, and the point never was started before.

Mr. STIRLING. I believe the gentleman is correct about the fact that this construction has not been placed upon it. Gentlemen have been re-elected to various offices time and time again, when the term of his office has expired after the election but before he is qualified. You will recollect, Mr. President, that your namesake, Charles Goldsborough, was a senator here at the time he was elected. I certainly have no right to hold any seat here under that construction; but I do not think that construction was ever placed upon it.

Mr. MILLER. I never heard such a construction placed upon it; and it is precisely the language in the present Constitution of the State. I think the only class of persons to whom this applies is persons who hold other civil appointments, such as a judge upon the bench, or office of profit and trust under the Constitution and laws of the State. It does not mean a candidate for re-election, because in most of the provisions of the Constitution, as in the case of the office of Comptroller, State's Attorney, and such other offices, it expressly provides that the incumbent shall be re-eligible to the office. The difficulty therefore in that respect is got rid of. This is only for the purpose of preventing a man who desires an office entirely different from the office which he holds, and to which under the Constitution he is re-eligible, from

retaining his office while a candidate for the other.

The amendment was rejected.

No further amendments being offered to section 9,

Sections 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were read, and no amendment offered.

Section 15 was read as follows:

"Section 15. The style of all laws of this State shall be, 'Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,' and all laws shall be passed by original bill; and every law enacted by the General Assembly shall embrace but one subject, and that shall be described in the title, and no law or section of law shall be revived, amended or repealed by reference to its title or section only; and it shall be the duty of the General Assembly in amending any article or section of the Code of Laws of this State, to enact the same as the said article or section would read when amended; and whenever the General Assembly shall enact any Public General Law, not amendatory of any section or article in the said Code it shall be the duty of the General Assembly to enact the same in articles and sections, in the same manner as the said Code is arranged, and to provide for the publication of all additional and alterations which may be made to the said Code."

Mr. MILLER moved to strike out the words "or repealed" and to insert "or" before "amended," so that the clause should read: "No law or section of law shall be revived or amended by reference to its title or section only."

Mr. MILLER said: I wish to leave it in the power of the Legislature to repeal a law by reference to the title or section only; so that the provision may apply only to cases where a law is amended or revived having once existed and expired by lapse of time. Most of the laws to which this will apply will be local laws. Our system of codification is such that whenever a clause of the Code is touched it comes under a different provision of this section. Under the existing provision of the Constitution when you want to repeal a law, a merely local law, you must recite not only its title but all the provisions of the law, which I think is useless in a repealing act.

No quorum voting, the Sergeant-at-Arms was sent out after absent members.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. BELT submitted the following amendment:

Section 15, add the words: "And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at every regular session, to provide by law for the publication of a new edition of the Code of Public General Laws, which shall embrace all the alterations made in the same by law up to the time of such publication."

Mr. BELT said: The object I desire to accomplish by this amendment is the same indicated by the order which the Convention