

1 He is, as Delegate Cardin so well pointed out, the lawyer
2 for the State.

3 As Judge Henderson pointed out, his function is
4 largely judicial, quasi-judicial. It is the function
5 of the attorney general. His main function is to give
6 opinions on what he finds the law to be to any department
7 of the State, governor, legislature, as he finds the law,
8 not as the inquirer would like to have the law be.

9 If he is asked a question as to the constitution-
10 ality of an act going to the legislature, whether by the
11 governor or by either branch of the legislature or any
12 individual legislator, he must, after proper research,
13 give the same answer. Therefore, I feel it is imperative
14 that the Attorney General be entirely independent, and
15 that is the way it has been set up in the present Consti-
16 tution. It is not in any one of the other three branches,
17 but it is in the separate article VI, recognizing that
18 the attorney general is a unique officer. And that is
19 why, in my opinion, it has been separately set up.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason, you have about
21 a minute and a half to yield.