

1 associations was organized here in Maryland, but unfor-
2 tunately the trend of reform soon swung in the other
3 direction, so that by the year 1860 there was serious
4 discussion within this state on the process of expelling
5 free Negroes and re-enslaving them, and in 1860 the
6 General Assembly of this state enacted a law that forbade
7 a slave owner from freeing a slave, even if he so
8 desired.

9 Now, during the Civil War, the pendulum swung
10 the other way, so that through the Constitution of 1864
11 the state of Maryland became the first border state within
12 this country to abolish slavery and in the first sentence
13 of that Constitution, you will find the Constitutional
14 Convention delegates of that period stirringly proclaiming
15 a variety of rights and freedom.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: You have three-quarters of a
17 minute.

18 DELEGATE WAGANDT: It looks like I will have
19 to skip a little.

20 I would mention some of the problems of racism
21 in the early nineteen hundreds when we tried to