

1 By comparison, the right to organize and bargain
2 collectively is a most real and most operative provision
3 in which this Constitution can accomplish something for
4 the people of the State that is meaningful and that has long
5 been neglected.

6 The amendment which the Minority will propose to
7 you will read as follows:

8 Employees shall have the right to organize and
9 bargain collectively through representatives of their own
10 choosing,

11 The concept of the right of employees to organize
12 and to bargain collectively has evolved painfully through
13 many years. At the time that our last Constitution was
14 composed, quite the opposite view prevailed and it was felt
15 that the employer had the absolute right to do what he
16 pleased with his property, including his employees.

17 I would like to read to you one paragraph which I
18 took out of the Dred-Scott case which was decided in
19 1857, just ten years before our present Constitution was
20 written, in which Chief Justice Taney, in that very famous
21 opinion, said, "That the right of property in a slave is