

Thank you.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding):
The Chair recognizes Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: Mr. Chairman, I yield three minutes of the majority time to Delegate Marvin Smith.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding):
Delegate Marvin Smith.

DELEGATE M. SMITH: Let me say at the outset that the present comptroller and treasurer of Maryland is my good friend from college days, who even then was treasurer of every organization on the college campus. I talked with him as recently as Saturday night, and I promised myself when I came over here that I was going to do my best to act in accordance with what I conceived to be in the best interests of the people of the State of Maryland, and not on the basis of personal friendship.

Delegate Finch has in effect said that we should have four branches of government, the legislative, the judicial, and one part executive, which administers the law and another that collects the money.

This is a new concept, and I should like to point out two things to you, sir:

(1) Basically and fundamentally the comptroller of the treasury of Maryland has not been selected by the people of Maryland. Now, go back and check it out. I looked this morning at the Maryland Manual. It must have gone from 1919 on, with the possible exception of 1938—and I am not knowledgeable enough with reference to that particular election to know how people lined up—but moving from 1919 on, the comptroller of the treasury of Maryland has been hand-picked by the establishment in this State, despite the fact that in a number of recent years the person who has been elected comptroller has not been of the same party or of the same faction as all of the group that ultimately ended up with the nomination or the election insofar as governor was concerned.

The duties are ministerial, and if you will examine section 2 of Article VI of the present Maryland Constitution you will find that the duties set down there are ministerial, such as preparing estimates of revenue to adjust and settle on terms prescribed by law with delinquent collectors and so forth.

I submit to you, Mr. Chairman, that it is the duty and the responsibility of the executive to be responsible to the people of Maryland on such things as this.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding):
You have thirty seconds.

DELEGATE M. SMITH: I would go one step further and point out to you that even in this matter of independence, the comptroller has failed. I would point out to you two counties, side by side, with relatively similar population, clerk's offices with approximately the same income, and one ending up with a \$6,000 profit, the other a \$900 loss.

DELEGATE J. CLARK (presiding):
Your time is up, sir.

Delegate Sybert.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Mr. Chairman, I thank the last speaker, Delegate Smith, for pointing out that the present comptroller began, even in college, in his tender years, to train himself as fiscal officer by building the treasury of that building committee. I now yield three minutes to Delegate Catherine Robie.

DELEGATE ROBIE: Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates:

I would like to ask your support to retain the comptroller and attorney general as elective officers. I hate to disagree with Delegate Boyce when he said that the people do not know what they want, because I found that this was not true in Prince George's County, when our campaign for delegate to this Convention was being waged. We went into that campaign saying that we were to come to Annapolis with an open mind, and we found very soon that that was not going to work. In our area, which is the southern part of Prince George's County, the people had one real interest in this Convention and, of course, we hoped that they would have many more interests, but the one thing that they were adamant on was that when we came to Annapolis we would see to it that their vote was retained for the comptroller and the attorney general.

I would say that we ran into this attitude at least 100 to 1 in the part of the county from which we come, and I would say that we would not be here, those from our area, if we had not said that we stood for this position.

This official performs a vital administrative and policy making function which is far from non-technical, as it has been described. It has worked well over these many years. The supervision and control of over \$1 billion of State funds annually is certainly important. Regardless of what we have heard, I believe that the checks and