

I would like to get rid of Mr. Goldstein by the ballot, not by the constitutional Convention, because I think we are only hurting the State of Maryland and neglecting the public when we take away from the public that elective office.

Now the comptroller's position was also recommended to the public in New York. If you will look at the proposal of the new constitution there, they recommend that the comptroller and attorney general shall be chosen at the same general election.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one-half minute.

DELEGATE DELLA: If you look at the various state constitutions, a great majority of those states provide for the election of the comptroller and the election of the attorney general.

If we are going to compromise on anything, I can see the area of compromise as to the Board of Public Works, or attorney general.

THE CHAIRMAN: Your time has expired, Delegate Della.

DELEGATE DELLA: I am for the amendment. I hope it is adopted.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Bennett.

DELEGATE BENNETT: Mr. Chairman, I have heard a great deal of talk here, conversation about the will of the people being expressed in this regard, and how important they consider the issue. I confess to you that I have not had a single letter from any one of the 175,000 people in the district that I represent expressing opinions as to whether or not the comptroller should be elected or whether or not he should be appointed, but for fear that I might have misunderstood my constituents during the recess here, I canvassed the attractive ladies who are members of the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County; some 80 of them have come here to see us, and I found not only that I think without exception they favor an appointive comptroller general, but in addition to that, they gave me a copy of the position of the League of Women Voters on this matter.

They represent more than 3500 very knowledgeable women interested in the well-being of their government, and this is what it says: "The League favors strengthening the office of governor. The governor should have the power to appoint and remove all

administrative heads of departments, including the comptroller and the attorney general. He should also have the power to initiate the reorganization of the executive branch."

It seems to me that that is a very important point of view, and it comes only after the League has carefully considered the issues.

Moreover, of course, the League favors, as I do, that Maryland have an elected lieutenant-governor. Now that issue has not been discussed here this morning as yet and it has a very important bearing it seems to me upon whether or not the comptroller and the attorney general for that matter should be appointed or elected.

If we have a lieutenant-governor, elected by the people, who has definite assigned duties that greatly minimizes the importance of an elected comptroller general and attorney general, I hope the report of the Committee will be supported.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Frederick?

DELEGATE FREDERICK: Mr. Chairman, I would like to clarify a statement made in error before our break. There was a question put to Delegate Sybert about the interest of our voters in the office of comptroller or attorney general, and Delegate Sybert, not knowing, said he realized there was a drop-off from the head of the ticket after it left the head of the ticket.

I would like to give you the figures from the book: First, in the last election, the winning governor got 455,000. The winning comptroller got 528,000, so there is a slight interest. The winning attorney general got 530,000, so rather than a drop-off, it is an increase.

Now, going back to 1962, where we had one of the finest governors this state has ever had, the winning governor, Governor Tawes, got 428,000, and he is one of our greatest. The winning comptroller got 434,000, an increase. The winning attorney general got 422,000, so rather than a decrease, we have an increase indicating that people of this State are interested in these two offices. It is not a question of a lessening in their interest. They have more interest, and speaking of the League of Women Voters, I am very well acquainted with some of the League of Women Voters and I was in contact with some of them