

over the past weekend, and I know of no petition, that was passed through the State of Maryland as to their position this weekend on the comptroller or the attorney general.

Thank you.

DELEGATE BENNETT: Here it is.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to oppose the motion, and I must admit to great disappointment with respect to the votes that we had yesterday. I say disappointment, but not surprise. I think the two themselves are quite awesome.

Dictatorship and integrity in government: I believe I share the concern of all of our citizens on these two very important aspects, but unfortunately there is an element here which even transcends these two basic elements, and I certainly want to treat this as kindly as possible. I am reminded of the poem that I am sure many of you have heard, "I am careful of the words I say, I make them soft and sweet, I never know from day to day what ones I'll have to eat."

So in sort of thrashing around looking for a phrase, I found one this morning in the *Washington Post*, and not on the editorial page, but if you will look at the article by Jack Eisen, his last sentence, and I think it sort of puts it all in focus. He says, "but as the talk and the shouting proved the last time around, all bets are off when they involve wounded office holders fighting for political survival."

I do not object to office holders fighting for political survival. I am human enough to think that I will be perhaps doing the same thing. So I fault no one, but I think it puts us all to a bigger test on this vote than any other test we have had before.

Many of you worry about the tyranny of the state executive. I worry about the tyranny of the national government, if we, in this State, do not continue to pull our share of the load. Some worry about a structure, which will be the appearance of integrity in government.

I worry about a system which will attract competent and honest men to do a good job.

Some worry about the destruction of our democracy by removing some office holders from the ballot books, and I would worry about the destruction of our democracy by

making those who are elected to office unable to perform.

I worry about a system that says that the governor is capable and able to appoint those people who are concerned with our health but cannot appoint the collector of taxes.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one-half minute, Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: A system that allows the governor to select those in whom we trust the lives of our children, but we cannot trust him to select the head book-keeper.

I think we ought to put all this in proper focus. I think we ought to look closely at the kind of functions that are being performed, and where they belong in our structure of government.

I agree to this compromise, rather reluctantly, but I think what it does is show that there is really no need for the comptroller to serve on that board, and that some of the other members of that board might perform the functions which are now lacking, of checking on the comptroller.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Beachley.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: I would like to tell you just how people in Washington County felt when there was a poll presented to them, in which they were to vote on whether they wanted the election or appointment of a comptroller and attorney general.

A poll was taken by the newspapers in the county, and the vote was three to one in favor of the election of the comptroller and also of the attorney general.

In addition, during the campaign prior to the Convention, there were very few persons who mentioned that they were in favor of appointed officials in their county. Since the Convention has been in session, I have spoken to several groups and I can only recall only three people who definitely spoke out for the appointment, so in our county, as I see it, from those two points of view, the results in the paper and also the contacts with the people, they are in favor of elected officials.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment, in favor of the Committee proposal?

Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: Mr. Chairman, very briefly I would like to suggest to the