

stress is made about the efficacy, about the important decisions of the attorney general.

It seems to me that this is where the problem is. In the day-to-day operations of the executive department there are many problems, and most sticky problems are legal problems. We have a situation where the department head must turn to an employee who is not his to give him some advice, and he is bound by it; so with these fingers reaching down into these various departments, you have dual leadership with respect to the key issues.

Also, as one who has had a long background of private involvement in administration, I suggest that it is impossible to supervise those who are not directly in your control. The concept that the assistant attorneys general around the State have any direction or leadership must in itself be omitted. Common decency dictates that we never wash our linens such as this, and I would behave as others have.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Would you yield for a question?

DELEGATE SICKLES: I have a limited amount of time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles has not yielded.

DELEGATE SICKLES: But at least, all has not been well in the State of Maryland. Although we have great cities in this State, we still have slums here in Maryland. We have great wealth in this State, and we still have poverty. We have good police systems, and we still have crime in our streets.

We have a good education system, and we still have ignorance, and yes, we have a democracy, and we still have bigotry in this State. Not all is well in the State of Maryland.

Let me remind you of a very popular song. There is just one line in it, one line that I ask you to remember: "How many times can a man turn his head and pretend that he just doesn't see?"

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason, you have a little less than seven minutes to allot.

For what purpose does Delegate Weidemyer rise?

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Does Delegate Sickles have any more time?

DELEGATE SICKLES: I will be glad to yield.

THE CHAIRMAN: He has one more minute.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: I gather, being on the Washington scene for some years, that you approve of appointing the attorney general, rather than having the people elect him?

DELEGATE SICKLES: I do, indeed.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Did you approve of a president appointing his brother as attorney general, a lawyer who had never appeared in court until after he was appointed Attorney General of the United States?

DELEGATE SICKLES: I might say to the gentleman I expressed great displeasure when he did it, but after he did it and I saw the job his brother did, I was very pleased with the job.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: I yield two minutes to Delegate Agnes Smith.

DELEGATE A. SMITH: Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen of the Convention: In my opinion, the voters of Maryland should not have any more of their rights stricken from the constitution. In 1962, 422,135 voters voted for the successful attorney general, 256,515 voted for the unsuccessful attorney general.

In 1966, 530,000 voted for the attorney general and 265,000 voted against the attorney general; a total of 795,000 voters who knew what they wanted.

There is a serious danger in reducing the scope of participation by the people in their government. Our actions here at the Convention should reflect our deep concern for those responsible for our being here. When we take away the privilege of voting for a high office like that of attorney general, we are destroying the right of the people.

This is a very important issue to the taxpaying voters of Maryland. I strongly feel the interest of the present and future generations of Marylanders will be better served by a constitutionally elected attorney general.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: Mr. Chairman, I yield two minutes to Delegate Sybert.