

ignite the office of comptroller a principal department and have an elected official the head of a principal department.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Barrick?

DELEGATE BARRICK: You admit the governor will have control to appoint the head of his departments?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan?

DELEGATE MORGAN: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Barrick?

DELEGATE BARRICK: Then if he has that power, the General Assembly could not take it away from him. It is in the constitution, is that correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan?

DELEGATE MORGAN: It is in the constitution, there is no question about that, but I think I desire to make sure that the comptroller's office cannot be made a principal department of the state government.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Barrick?

DELEGATE BARRICK: Let's forget personalities for a moment, but is it possible that sometime we might have a comptroller who the governor might want to put the head of a department and this would preclude him from doing that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan?

DELEGATE MORGAN: It would.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Barrick?

DELEGATE BARRICK: I take it, then, the Committee would object to eliminating the last sentence?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan?

DELEGATE MORGAN: I believe it would.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any Delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Murphy, do you desire to speak in opposition?

DELEGATE MURPHY: I want to speak in favor of the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Robey?

DELEGATE ROBEY: Mr. Chairman, I am only too sorry that I cannot join the nineteen colleagues that I have on the Executive Branch Committee in this amendment, but there has occurred much today

within these halls, and outside the walls of this building, about which I as a citizen of Maryland and a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, cannot be proud.

I am opposed to the politics that have been played in the halls of this Convention and outside the State House today. There are many of us here who know of what I speak. I do not intend to soil the record of the Convention with all the gory details, but I am opposed, unalterably opposed to politics of the sort that places personal interest above the public interest, and that is what we have seen here today.

I would like it clearly understood that I am the son of an elected Democratic official in this State. If I am not mistaken, I believe he is the oldest elected Democratic official in this State, so I was born into a family of Democrats. I am a registered Democrat and I probably undoubtedly will die a Democrat, but I say this because I want this perfectly understood before I read the next statement.

I want to read a statement that Governor Agnew released to the public press and to the people of this State within the last hour:

"This Constitutional Convention has earned the respect and admiration of students of government all over this nation. It is indeed unfortunate that its recent deliberations have been more involved with present day politics and personalities than in the drafting of a sound, workable document of government for future generations. This is of grave concern to me and I am sure it will be to many citizens of Maryland. We are witnessing an effort to protect the jobs of elected office holders at the expense of establishing an effective executive branch of government that can cope with the multiplicity of problems which now faces the State and which undoubtedly will increase in the years ahead. The Constitution now being put together is more important than any present office or office holder. It should be a viable document that will function far beyond the lifetimes of those who drafted it and those who now hold the major state offices, and it seemed that the Convention was well on the way toward achieving this objective when it approved proposals strengthening the legislative and judicial branches. In one of these steps, the post-audit functions of the comptroller's office were transferred to the General Assembly, where, in my opinion, they properly