

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Churchill Murray?

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: I rose to ask a question but the question has been answered.

However, I would like to speak, if I may, in favor of the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: You may proceed.

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: The motion appears to be a sincere effort to compromise a situation that has bedeviled all of us for two or three days. I have the good fortune not to know what goes on, if that which goes on outside is disadvantageous or disgraceful. I rise solely upon the basis of the piece of paper that is in my hand, completely satisfactory, no, but what compromise is?

I feel that those who differ with this have gone a long, long way to reach a compromise, and I favor it.

While I am on my feet, do I have another minute, sir?

THE CHAIRMAN: You do.

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: I would like to say this: The last speaker referred to his race. I want to say that I am proud of the attitude of the members of his race whom I have met in this Convention, and the positions they have taken. I think that they are making tremendous and remarkable progress in catching up with much that they have been denied in the past. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Weidemeyer?

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: Mr. President and members of the Convention: I am sorry that I cannot share the optimism that my fellow delegates from 6-C in Anne Arundel share. Whenever a compromise is made, somebody gets some benefit on both sides, and this looks to me like one side is getting all the benefit and the other side is getting royally skinned.

As I see it, and as I suggested to the good Chairman, we should change the name of comptroller in this amendment to paymaster, because if you look at this, what duties does he have except to pay out checks? What duty is there in there? Now, if there is another amendment to put him on the Board of Public Works, that does not appease me either because the purpose

in having a comptroller on the Board of Public Works was to include on the Board an elected official who had to collect the taxes and deal with the public. He had to listen to their gripes, and it was for that reason that we held that when it came time to expend money he probably would be a little more conservative. This amendment takes the heart out of everything. You talk about compromise, but I do not call it a compromise; I say it is a complete defeat. To put an officer like this in the state constitution is going against every precept and concept that we had in formulating a constitution. Just giving us the sap and saying he is a constitutional officer, Mr. President and members of the Convention, does not please me. You are going against everything that you stood for when you said that you should not have anything in the constitution that did not constitutionally belong there and have constitutional dimensions. The governor and the legislature of this State can create this paymaster that you create by this amendment and you are not preserving the office of comptroller as an elected official except somebody in name. We do not need an elective paymaster for the State of Maryland. I will have to go against this amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins?

DELEGATE ADKINS: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Convention: I have had occasion at another time during the deliberations of this group to make known my views regarding the questions which have been under debate here for the last couple of days. Those views were not then lightly held, nor indeed are the views which I now hold lightly held.

There comes a time, however, in the basic debates on any major problem of this magnitude when emotions are aroused, when sides are chosen, when it becomes necessary for reasonable men if progress is to be made to attempt a sincere and deliberate reconciliation of those various, widely held, strongly held, views.

I suggest to this Convention that that time for us has come. We have all debated these matters. We each know how we feel. I suggest probably that none of our views have basically been changed by anything that has been said. What has been accomplished is the fact that this Convention has been brought face to face with the fact that it has not been able to agree. We have not been able, as my Quaker friends say, to arrive at a sense of the meeting. It has, therefore, been necessary to reduce these views on each side to the minimum on