

ticket with the governor and the attorney general, committed to a common program of effective action against crime and lawlessness.

It seems to me that if we are going to have effective state's attorneys, they need to be, they desperately need to be integrated in the total governmental and political framework.

I am not afraid of politics. It seems to me that politics is the way in which we achieve the objectives we want in a civil society. If we are going to elect state's attorneys, let's elect them in an open and above-board process. Let's not have a situation in which we are trying to put together a program in a county to fight crime, and we go to a man who wants to run for state's attorney and say to him, "John, I cannot do that, you know I am a non-partisan official and I certainly would not jeopardize my chances of election by joining any other candidates."

I would like to see us defeat this amendment, Mr. Chairman, because in spite of the pleasant air that surrounds it, it seems to me that basically it is unsound as a method of meeting the problem.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other delegate desire to speak in favor?

Delegate Schneider.

DELEGATE SCHNEIDER: Mr. Chairman, I speak in favor of this. I submit that at least around election time, to have a partisan election of state's attorneys often is a conflict of interest.

It seems to me that quite often around election time, and we have had this in our county, you have allegations arise and quite often these allegations concern members of a particular slate or particular party.

How does it work out if we have a state's attorney running on that ticket? How is he going to prosecute the member of that ticket without cutting his own throat?

You put him in a very bad position there. You find you have a situation of allegations which should be investigated and perhaps lead to prosecution, and rather what turns out is that you have the state's attorney issuing press releases calling allegations such as these hogwash. This is the situation we have had in the past in our county.

I think the further we can take our state's attorneys from politics, the better

chance we are going to have at least of cleaning up the political scene in the State.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, all these arguments that are being made here sound as if we were a legislative body rather than a Convention to draft a constitution.

With regard to the circuit court judges today, the requirement of cross filing and running without party designation, are not in the constitution. That is a legislative requirement. Why put a requirement like this in the constitution for a state's attorney and leave the judges to the state legislature?

It seems to me that this ought to be a legislative matter, and decided by the legislature, not be decided by this Convention. I hope the amendment is defeated.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bennett.

DELEGATE BENNETT: May I ask Chairman Morgan a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan, do you yield for a question?

DELEGATE MORGAN: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bennett.

DELEGATE BENNETT: Knowing, Chairman Morgan, as you do, of my interest in bringing the state's attorneys under some sort of supervision, from some central office, and also providing them with aid and help, is there any possibility that when you bring in your article defining the powers and duties of the attorney general, this point will be covered?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Delegate Bennett, I think an answer to that question would be premature at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bennett, do you desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

DELEGATE BENNETT: Yes, sir, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: You may proceed.

DELEGATE BENNETT: I would like to commend my friend Royce Hanson for the great deal of literature dealing with the crime problem, whether it be in New York City, or Cook County, Illinois, the