

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Lloyd Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: You stated that if public employees were included under this provision that this would endanger the right of the public.

Do you know that in the State of Maryland most of the state hospitals are organized?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: If they are organized now, there are certain pieces of legislation that protect the hospital and the State of Maryland. If you put this constitutional Amendment No. 21 in, as you have done, you have taken away the right of the legislature to restrict and legislate in those fields. I say that Amendment No. 21 is absolutely unnecessary because the legislature can act in those fields and here you freeze it in that they cannot act in all of those areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: I would like to have you answer this other question.

For instance, according to this union paper we have a listing of meetings of various locals at the various state institutions and, of course, we have included the Harbor Tunnel, Western Maryland College—

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor, Delegate Weidemeyer has only thirty seconds left, can you make your question short?

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Are you aware of this fact, that there are many organizations of unions at the state hospitals and other state institutions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer.

DELEGATE WEIDEMEYER: I recognize that they have their associations and organizations but I recognize also that there is no constitutional prohibition against the legislature making proper legislation to control certain areas and phases of it.

What you have done by Amendment No. 21 is close the door in the face of the legislature so they cannot legislate and if they do legislate it, it would make it unconstitutional.

If you will remember, I asked one of the representatives from one of the state in-

stitutions, supposing the employees of state mental hospitals would organize and the State could not regulate in those areas and the workers did not get what they wanted and they walked out? Who would take care of those mental patients? Who would feed them? Would they starve?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Weidemeyer, your time has expired.

Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: Delegate Weidemeyer did not answer the main question that I was trying to get at.

At the present time we have in the State of Maryland various unions—

THE CHAIRMAN: To whom is this question addressed?

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: This question is addressed to the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN: State the inquiry.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: We have unions located at Springfield Hospital, Baltimore City Police Department, Montgomery County city departments.

If Delegate Weidemeyer's amendment is adopted would it prevent these particular groups from their activities at these state institutions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor, the Chair has real hesitancy in even attempting to answer that question the way you put it, because I am afraid any answer I gave would be misleading to you.

I would answer it with a simple no, but that may be misleading to you. I do not think it is the kind of question that you should address to the Chair.

Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE L. TAYLOR: At the present time we have union organization representing state employees and Delegate Weidemeyer's amendment would prevent the state employees from being organized and this is what I asked the question about.

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not think, as the Chair understands the amendment and the explanation, that the amendment as it is drawn with the article that is added would bar anybody from doing anything.

That is why I answered you with a short no. The effect of it, as the Chair understands it at least, would be to take away from the class of employees mentioned in the amendment that is before you, Amend-