

ment No. 22, the right that is granted in the amendment adopted, but it does not bar them from acting to organize or to be represented.

At least that is the Chair's understanding. Any delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Vecera.

DELEGATE VECERA: No, Mr. Chairman. I just want to amplify a point.

THE CHAIRMAN: I want to find out of any delegate desires to speak in favor?

*(There was no response.)*

If not, the Chair recognizes Delegate Vecera to speak in opposition.

DELEGATE VECERA: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask Delegate Weidemeyer a question on this point. That was on line 7, I think he intended this—

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a second. He does not have the floor.

Delegates desiring to debate have priority over delegates desiring to ask questions. Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Vecera.

DELEGATE VECERA: I am debating it.

On line 7, what Delegate Weidemeyer is intending to do, I think, is to make the scope wider by saying "those indirectly employed under contract". That would take in a wider scope. He wants to do away with all the private as well as state employees.

I think he did not intend that and perhaps he might want to modify that section, Mr. President.

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

Do you desire to speak in favor of the amendment, Delegate Mitchell?

DELEGATE MITCHELL: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in favor?

*(There was no response.)*

Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate White.

DELEGATE WHITE: Mr. Chairman,

and members of the Convention, I have listened very carefully to the presentations which have been made this morning. I have listened intently to the remarks which are made by my delegate friend to my right and, no doubt, if I had had his same experiences I would share his fears of what might occur if we sustained the vote which was taken this morning by the majority.

I can see where he stands but, Mr. Chairman, America has come a long way in the area of employee management relations since the 1930's. It was in the 1930's that the Wagner Act was passed which extended to employees in America the right to organize under certain conditions and to choose their own representatives for the purposes of collective bargaining.

But this great act did not cover federal employees. It was some years later that executive order 10988 was issued by the president of the United States which authorized federal employees to organize and to bargain collectively and to sign contracts.

It would seem to me that there is no reason to fear that municipal employees and employees in other governmental units if permitted to organize would not conduct themselves in the same responsible manner which their brothers and sisters do at the federal level.

The President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, took another great step when he issued an executive order to apply equal employment opportunity to females and of course we have retreated from that at the present time.

Yesterday, Mr. President and members of this Convention, on the way back to Baltimore, I listened to that great President of the United States and he stated in part in an appearance before a labor convention that labor and management are the same as two fingers on a hand; in fact what they do is mutually compatible.

Mr. President, I suggest that we should vote down this amendment and give employees in local units of government in Maryland an opportunity to organize and select their own representative because it is only with their own chosen and selected representative that workers can deal on a basis of equality with members of management and I ask you to vote down this proposal.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?