

delegates on their proposals, particularly on higher education, amendments to the Constitution, oaths, militia, and one or two other things.

I believe all the individual delegates have invitations.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Moser?

DELEGATE MOSER: Mr. President, the Committee on Local Government will meet fifteen minutes after this session and adjourn in time for the boat ride and will meet tomorrow at 9:00 A.M. The subjects will continue to be units of county government and municipal corporations, local legislation and classification.

THE PRESIDENT: Are there any other announcements by committee chairmen?

(There was no response.)

Any announcements by other delegates?

(There was no response.)

Are there any delegates present now not present at roll call who desire to indicate their presence?

(There was no response.)

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Delegate Powers, Chairman of the Committee on Calendar and Agenda.

DELEGATE POWERS: Mr. President, I have another birthday to announce; one of our very efficient pages, Miss Susan Mester is celebrating her birthday today. It is now quite clear that the pages proportionately are having birthdays more frequently than the delegates. *(Applause.)*

I move we adjourn until 2:00 P.M. tomorrow.

THE PRESIDENT: All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; contrary, No. The Ayes have it. It is so ordered.

(Whereupon, at 2:28 P.M., the Convention was adjourned to reconvene at 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 18, 1967.)

PLENARY SESSION

OCTOBER 18, 1967 — 2:00 P.M.

**PRESIDENT H. VERNON ENEY,
PRESIDING**

THE PRESIDENT: The Sergeant-at-Arms will clear the aisles and close the door.

The Convention will please come to order.

The invocation today will be offered by the Reverend William W. Beale of the United Methodist Church at La Plata. Reverend Beale.

REVEREND BEALE: Let Us Bow Together In Prayer:

Eternal and All Wise God, Thou Who Art Creator, Controller and Sustainer of all the universe, we enter into Thy gates with thanksgiving and into Thy courts with praise, for Thou art God.

Thy Mercy is everlasting and Thy truth enduring to all generations. Hear us this day, our Father, as we call upon thee. Hear us this day, our Father, as we call upon thee. We pray that Thy blessing may be upon us as we continue our labors in this Constitutional Convention. Our task is difficult; our frustrations are many. The daily pressures are great and our thoughts and desires are oftentimes so different that confusion and contention hinder the progress that we ought to be making. Oh, Thou Who are the Great Law Giver, fill us with wisdom, prudence, foresight, sincerity, justice, concern, faith, hope, and love, as we seek to draft guidelines that will hasten the day when Maryland may become a true commonwealth; when all men work and worship in brotherhood and peace. Guide all, Oh, God, who sit in seats of government or who stand in places of authority in these days of unrest, upheaval, misunderstanding and strife. Send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead us. Oh, let them lead us to Thy Holy will. Inspire us in this special task for which we have been called and to which we have been elected by people who have faith in us.

Let our best efforts come forth in these grueling days that the fruits of our labors may give birth to a new constitution worthy of the hard work and total expenditures it has required of us all. Forgive us, if in moments of weakness, we have deviated from what we knew to be holy, right, and true. Let not expediency replace honest evaluation nor pressure groups subdue honest conviction but grant us the courage and strength to stand steadfast for what we know to be right in Thy sight.

Take us now and use us, each one, as we continue the drafting and discussion, the debates, and decisions of life as a whole. And, when we have completed life's journey, may this world be a better place because we have lived in it.

In Thy Holy Name, we pray.