

I noted in the paper the other night — and you all have a copy of it — where Delegate Bothe claims the union has nothing to do with it. If anything, she said, it grew out of her work with the American Civil Liberties Union, a long-time backer of the bargaining concept.

We had the American Civil Liberties' spokesmen before our committee on another matter. They claimed, "We are in favor of this particular principle of abolition of capital punishment; we will try to get it through the Constitutional Convention and if we cannot get it there we will try through the legislature. If we do not get it there, we will try to get it through the courts, anywhere and everywhere we can."

I came down here not representing Catonsville, Maryland, not representing Baltimore County, not representing suburban or rural, black or white, or any other thing. I came down here representing all of the people of Maryland, and I think when we put something in here that divides the people, where there are some people who are in favor of it, some class that is protected against some other class, I say to you, ladies and gentlemen, we are not doing what the constitution really requires, and I have got to urge that you vote against reconsideration.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. President, and ladies and gentlemen, it seems to me today from watching the proceedings of this Convention that the weariness and fatigue is getting to us, and I regret that there appears to be lacking a sense of concern and a sense of compassion.

I do not think that we want to pass an antiseptic, sterile constitution; I think we want to pass a constitution that is meaningful to the people.

Now, it is pure folly for those who argue the case that we ought not to get into this because this is a private matter. The economics of the situation are quite obvious. Government has a legitimate interest in seeing to it that there is labor peace, and that there is harmony and mutual cooperation in the areas where economic stability is so important, and certainly bargaining done in a proper fashion is one of the best ways of getting economic stability.

I agree with Delegate Scanlan when he says it will need implementation, but I say to you that you would do a greater service to the State of Maryland and to the people of Maryland by writing the basic plank

into the constitution. I do think that in the midst of all our political science approaches we ought to remember that we are down here representing people, not just sterile machines. It seems to me, ladies and gentlemen, it is time for some compassion, it is a time for some heart, and I hope it shows in the way you vote.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Jett.

DELEGATE JETT: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, I think what we must remind ourselves is that we are writing a constitution for all the people. Leaf through your bill of rights and look at it in comparison with this item. Each other item in the bill of rights applies to most every man, woman, and child in this State. This would apply to one group, a divisive group, something that is going to divide us, something that is going to separate us.

I say to those who favor labor that management is to be represented here. Management has just as much right to come into this convention and ask for a right to work provision. I say to you that neither one of them belongs in this constitution.

I like to think that we here are writing a great anthem for the future. It is not an anthem that calls for solo work or choral groups, but it is an anthem that can be sung by all the people with all their voice and with all their might that with this instrument we are looking forward to a great future for all of the citizens of Maryland, with special privileges for none but equality for all, and with that I ask you please to vote against this reconsideration.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Kirkland.

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: Mr. Chairman, sitting here listening to some of these people expound with relation to what does and what does not belong in the constitution concerns me a great deal, because some of these gentlemen had the opportunity just the other day to express themselves quite clearly with relation to what does and what does not belong in the constitution.

Making particular note of the people who are speaking in relation to this proposal also concerns me. I happen to be a teacher. I happen to know that teachers throughout the nation are seeking this kind of legislation, this kind of constitutional right.

I think in time that they are going to achieve this, and I think it would be a credit to the State of Maryland to include such an article in the constitution in 1967.