

when a hundred years ago it must have been a burning issue of the Convention.

For those reasons, I ask you to support the principle and leave out the word and to support the constitution which I hope we all will do and perhaps even in the next few months the legislature will see fit to do that which we have not seen fit to write in the basic words of the Constitution itself.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: Mr. President and fellow delegates, I rise to pay tribute to the principles upon which the Convention was founded and to the quality and character of the delegates who were elected from across the State to this Convention which vindicated the kind of elections which were held. We were supposed to be elected on a non-partisan basis with the interest of welding here the kind of principles, basic principles, into a new constitution which would move this State forward.

I have turned the half century, so I have lived a little longer. I am an old warrior against injustice, but what has sustained me in my long struggle as a human being for justice has been my faith in the Constitution and the kind of government that we have in this country. Sometimes our young people will become very impatient, but I am happy to say that the faith of my ancestors and my contemporaries in the kind of government that we have in this country and the principles on which this government was founded has been vindicated again and again.

That is not always enough to sustain our young people as we point to the fact that man once he sees the problem and understands, responds, but I have been heartened in this Convention as I have seen how our delegates, many coming from various areas of life who had no understanding of some of the problems, have responded to the basic needs and the principles here. I commend that and I say that in the remaining years that I have for public service it has been an enriching and heartening experience.

I want to say that I saw the faith that I have, I have faith in the goodness of man. I think that is what our founding fathers had, but they set up a Constitution and a government to protect man against himself and his weaknesses and that is

what this constitution does. It protects man against his own inhumanity to himself.

Certainly the whole area represented by this principle of collective bargaining is a very vital one to our domestic peace in this State and in this nation, as well as the problem of peace abroad.

I can only say to the representatives of the business community who rendered such a disservice to the principles upon which the Convention was founded and who violated the will of the Convention by the organized campaign to thwart that will once it had been expressed, that I hope they will learn from history. I say this factually because in time after time when we have come down to the legislature for legislation to eliminate injustices, the business community has been on the opposite side opposing. But now in communities they are seeing what these practices have done. There is an old saying you cannot keep an old fellow in a ditch without staying there to keep him down. The business community has come to us in Baltimore City through the urban coalition asking us to help them rebuild the inner cities because the practices which they have fostered have caused the great deterioration and loss.

I only hope and only wish that more of them could have been at this Convention because I think they would have responded and been as moved to do the fair and just thing as our delegates here and I want to pay tribute to the delegates here who have represented business interests who have voted, when the Convention first considered this problem and after fair debate, voted with us on this matter.

I, too, want to say that we have done a number of good things here and I think that the constitution which we have evolved is too important to not take the leadership in getting it adopted and so I hope that business will be on our side in the legislature since they say it is a statutory matter to correct the injustices which now abound in the economic field.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Mr. President and fellow delegates: I rise first to congratulate the two ladies, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Bothe, for their wisdom in taking the course of action which they have selected for today and also to thank all of you for your patience in listening to those of us who feel so strongly on this one issue that we requested time to address you for just a few moments.