

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee of the Whole rise and report back to the Convention that the consideration of GP-1 Recommendation has not been completed, and further recommend that consideration of GP-1 be made a special order of business of the Convention at a later date.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Convention, or this Committee?

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: This Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there a second?

*(The motion was duly seconded.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Henderson.

DELEGATE HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me if I understand the matter correctly that we are postponing action on this merely to take care of a supposed question as to what happens to the national guard in the event they are not brought within the scope of the term militia.

This whole debate has concerned the militia. If the national guard is a member of the militia it is covered by the present language. If it is not, I suggest that it is a matter which is dealt with separately by the Legislature, and as to which the legislature can provide its own rules. I see no occasion to delay the action of this Convention and require further consideration of a matter which seems to me to be outside the scope of our present discussion. I would, therefore, oppose the postponement of our final action today.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Carson.

DELEGATE CARSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to speak against the motion and read from section 5 of Article 65 of the Maryland Code.

"The militia of this State shall be divided into two classes, the organized militia and the unorganized militia. The organized militia of the State shall consist of officers appointed and commissioned by the governor and of such able bodied male citizens of this State and such able bodied males of foreign birth as have declared their intentions to become citizens of the State, resident therein, as shall be regularly enlisted therein, including the national guard, the state guard, and the reserve militia (Minutemen)."

This makes it very clear that the national guard is part of the militia.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion?

Delegate Pullen.

DELEGATE PULLEN: Mr. Chairman, I find myself in great confusion. The same seems to be true with others. I cannot understand why we go to a great deal of trouble to provide that the governor shall be the commander in chief, shall appoint its officers, and may order out the militia, and spell out certain other things for something that may never happen because we may not have a militia.

It seems to me that if we are going to write anything, and I think Delegate Fox was right, probably two lines are sufficient. I feel that we have accomplished one purpose this afternoon; we know more about this than we did before. I, therefore, suggest, sir, that we approve the recommendation or the motion of Mr. Wheatley so that we can come back and make up our minds definitely whether we want a militia or not, and settle it on that one point.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Wheatley.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, I originally stated the proposition that it was the understanding of the Committee in its action that the National Guard was the organized militia, as stated by Delegate Carson. The purpose in making my motion was to allay the fears of some that this was not the case. I certainly would have no objection to voting on this at this time, if it is the intention of the Committee of the Whole that this is the meaning of the words themselves.

I again would ask the question, if I might, of Delegate Schneider, if he is agreeable.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will Delegate Schneider yield for a question?

DELEGATE SCHNEIDER: Yes.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Delegate Schneider, are you agreeable that this is the interpretation to be given to the word "militia"?

DELEGATE SCHNEIDER: I would have to take it on faith. I see the militia and the Maryland national guard as sort of like the Committee of the Whole and the Convention. It is the same people, but it is two different functions, and maybe it is different. We sit with two different hats