

policies which a governor may have been elected to put into effect. We can hold such a chief executive responsible for his actions and those of his appointed subordinates provided we give him power to appoint the competent and to remove the incompetent.

Our increasingly difficult problems of crime and juvenile and adult delinquency will not be solved by the constitution we draft, but we can in the constitution provide the cornerstone which will form a basis for the solution of those problems. I firmly believe that crime and delinquency can be controlled if we have widespread respect for the law by citizens in every social and economic strata.

We can have such widespread respect for the law if we provide in the constitution for a judicial system capable of administering justice—justice as between the state and the individual and justice as between man and man—speedily, efficiently and with finality; but, to do this, we must provide at every level of the judicial system judges who are trained in the law, judges who are not only not mediocre or barely qualified, or even highly qualified, but judges at every level of the judicial system who are the best available—the best of the best.

We must provide a system which will create courts that are unmistakably courts so that every person knows when he enters the courtroom that he is in a court of law of the State of Maryland, regardless of whether it be the lowest court of our system hearing a traffic case or the highest court of our State hearing argument on an intricate question of law. If we do this, we will go a long way towards inculcating in every citizen a deep and abiding respect for the law.

We must also bring the government responsible for supplying the everyday needs of the citizen—police protection, fire protection, schools, water, sewers, garbage collection and similar needs, closer to the people, and at the same time we must recognize that the needs for these services transcends local and artificial geographic boundaries, and that local government encompasses much more than the municipal and county governments with which we are familiar. We can do this by providing in the constitution the means by which other local governments capable of solving these problems can be formed and established and be granted the necessary powers.

We must also not forget the individual and his rights and liberties. Many say that

a declaration of rights in a state constitution is an anachronism, that the needed protection of the individual is furnished by the federal constitution and need not be reaffirmed in a state constitution. From this I dissent. It seems to me that it is essential that the document which creates and defines and provides the power of our state and local governments should also define and state with clarity and directness and emphasis those individual rights and liberties which those governments cannot and shall not transgress.

Now, how can we achieve these lofty objectives? Certainly they cannot be realized merely by their enunciation. The inspired speech, the neatly turned phrase, the eloquence of an earlier Webster or Clay or a modern-day Churchill, the profundity of a Burke, or even the inspired genius of a Madison, a Hamilton, or a Jefferson alone will not achieve these objectives or write a constitution for this Convention. The task can be performed, the desired result can be achieved only by the unremitting, grinding, grueling, exacting, time-consuming toil of each and every one of the 142 delegates to this Convention.

To aid in accomplishing this purpose, the Convention has been divided into committees as provided by the Rules adopted on July 11, 1967. I have to the best of my ability made assignments to these committees with the single-minded purpose of providing the best possible committee organization for the Convention. In doing so, I do not doubt that I have irritated some and disappointed other delegates. For this I am sorry and I sincerely trust that any of you disappointed in receiving the committee assignment which he sought will nevertheless put his shoulder to the wheel and give his all, and I am confident that you will.

To assist the committees as much as possible, we are in the process of providing as capable a staff as we can recruit. Each committee will have assigned to it a full-time staff adviser—a person who has the educational background and the practical experience to enable him to assist the chairman in planning and guiding the work of the committee and to counsel with and aid the committee in its hearings, in its deliberations and in its drafting. There will also be assigned to each committee a full-time administrative assistant whose duties will be to relieve the chairman and the staff adviser of the purely administrative functions such as scheduling hearings, notifying persons of postponed hearings,