

1 either the Constitution or the General Laws of the State.

2 I think it is fair to state that as of the
3 present time, there has been no definitive judgment on
4 this vital question by the Commission. Certainly, there
5 has been none by the Committee on State Finance and
6 Taxation, so what we are here today to talk about is
7 whether or not there should be a department recognized
8 in the Constitution which would have the duty of, or
9 obligation of gathering in the money or perhaps paying
10 it out on warrants stated through the statute laws or
11 otherwise, and just what function this office should play.

12 I should say one or two other things which
13 I think you ought to know. There has been some discus-
14 sion that the constitutional office of Comptroller and
15 State Treasurer should no longer be retained in the basic
16 document. I don't think this is exactly news to you be-
17 cause it has been reported in the press. The reasons for
18 this are not necessary to go into now, but I think it is
19 fair to say, and I again want to repeat, that as far as
20 our Committee is concerned, this is not a definitive
21 judgment and one which we all have very open minds on,