

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Sherbow, do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE SHERBOW: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Bothe.

DELEGATE BOTHE: Is it your intention by this amendment to say that the nurses at the University Hospital can't strike, but that the nurses at Johns Hopkins or other private institutions may?

THE PRESIDENT: Delegate Sherbow.

DELEGATE SHERBOW: I can only say this, that if they are employees of the State they should not legally have the right to strike. If you are going to give them the right to strike, everybody else has it, but I do not know how to write into a constitution that employees of private corporations shall not have the right to strike as long as you have this provision in the constitution that you are voting for. Maybe they will not have the right. The kinds of nurses that I have known, dedicated ones, I do not think would ever strike, but when these pressures get to what they are, I do not know what they would do. I can only say that when the legislature gets to the point where it passes laws dealing with private employees it will make sure they cannot strike, but what I am saying to you where you represent the State of Maryland you make sure in the constitution that as to the State of Maryland and its subdivisions and its agencies employees cannot legally strike.

THE PRESIDENT: Any other delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Kirkland.

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: Mr. President, certainly over a period of days, weeks, and months, I have listened to Judge Sherbow with relation to this, and he certainly has an emotional appeal anyhow, but up to this point he has not gotten to me and I am not going to let him get to me at this time.

I feel very strongly that this amendment is entirely out of order. It is not needed. He does not realize it. I think that section 1.17 will minimize the possibility of strikes. I think one of the reasons why we have had strikes on the part of public employees today is because of the fact that they have not had the opportunity to bargain collectively. Therefore, I see this thing working in favor of the public. I see it minimizing the opportunity for a strike from the standpoint that if they can bar-

gain collectively, they will not want to strike.

It is because we have had autocratic boards of education throughout the nation who were unwilling to sit down at the table and bargain collectively with teachers that you have had as many teacher strikes throughout the nation.

I would say this. I am extremely opposed to Judge Sherbow's amendment.

THE PRESIDENT: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Harry Taylor.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen, first I want to wish you all a Happy New Year and to tell you that I took the President's advice and I made resolutions concerning love and kindness and sweetness and I resolved to come down here to love labor and to love management and to do the best I could to work with you in drawing a constitution for the people of Maryland that all of us can be proud of.

I think of this constitution as a beautiful woman and I think we all have a part in keeping her beautiful, but I think what we are about to do is to put a wart on her nose by putting something in the constitution that may allow public employees to strike.

Somewhere I heard that the links lie so close near the mill that almost every day the little children look out at the men at play.

We have come a long way. Profit is the reason we had organized labor because people were being exploited for profit. There is no profit in governmental operations. When you organize government employees, you do not organize against an exploiting profiteering robber baron such as we have been brought up to think of as the reason for the existence of units. You organize against the tax-payer.

Now, people have a right to go into private enterprise or they have a right to go into government and I submit to you that there is certain security, there are certain benefits in public employment whether it be in a county or a federal government. Each man has a right to make this selection.

Now, if they elect to go into the government employ, then they elect not to have a right to strike, not to join unions. This