

Kent County, Queen Anne's, Somerset, and although some of those sound like small communities, so did Baltimore City by a few thousand majority.

At a time as we are going to have a low turnout, do not let the wonderful document we have drafted hang up on a pocketbook issue. Many of you will argue we have to pay realistic salaries. You are giving the legislature the right to set the salary of public officials hereafter. Do not confuse the issue over something which can best be emotional and does not affect the pocketbook of the incumbent governor.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan, do you wish to respond on behalf of the Committee?

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I think the governor should be the highest paid man in the State, and when the judges of the Court of Appeals get \$35,000, I think that the governor of the State ought to get at least \$40,000. I really think he ought to get more than \$40,000, but it just seems to me that \$40,000 is a very reasonable salary for the governor and if the people of Maryland are going to turn down this constitution on the \$40,000 salary of the governor, why then I do not think that the people have very much confidence in the electorate of Maryland. I am all in favor of the \$40,000 figure and I hope this amendment is defeated.

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

Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: Mr. President and Fellow Delegates, I think it would be shameful to set up a new structure for a strong executive branch of government and an improved judicial branch, and a strong legislative branch and not face the hard question that in Maryland we have paid our public servants such ridiculously low salaries that we have opened wide the doors to corruption. It is as simple as that, and we must give leadership to the people of the State if we want clean government as well as efficient government. We have got to pay our public servants according to the jobs which we expect them to perform.

Further, as far as the salary to the chief executive of the State, if we do not pay a decent salary then we are going to discourage men of modest means with superior ability from running for public office. I think it is a disgrace to now say

that after we have spent all of these months and weeks in devising a new structure to improve the efficiency of government, to cut down the salaries so that we leave to the next generation the doors open for the corruption we want to clean up, is a disgrace which I think we do not owe the state leadership. We have all been elected to this Convention on non-partisan and non-political grounds, and it is our responsibility from that standpoint to give leadership to the citizens and the voters of the State.

I hope we will vote down this amendment and begin to pay the public servants of Maryland such salaries that they will not have to go outside of their office in order to exist.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

Delegate Boyles.

DELEGATE BOYLES: Thank you, Mr. President. I will say just a few words. I oppose this amendment and speaking for myself and the five other members of my family, I will be glad to contribute the extra three cents in tax dollars the six of us will have to contribute to pay this extra fifteen thousand dollars. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Hardwicke.

DELEGATE HARDWICKE: There are certain transitional reasons that we need to put this amount in here and that is the constitutional prohibition against raising or changing the salary of an incumbent when he is in office. Unless we do it this way, it would be very difficult for the legislature to do it at all with regard to the incumbent.

Secondly, I think we occupy a peculiar position with regard to the people of the State of Maryland. We are more or less their direct representatives. It is easier and more non-political for us to take care of this matter than it is for the legislature to attempt to do it.

For that reason I think the amendment should be voted down.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Kathleen Robie.

DELEGATE ROBIE: Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen, I will not belabor this issue, but I would like to point out that I do not believe the man in the street would be able to see the sense of our putting forth a document giving the