

1 delegates have had in reaching a common understanding of
2 what constitutes lottery is striking evidence that the
3 Maryland Gambling Study Commission says that the subject
4 could more properly be treated by the General Assembly.
5 As it is now, the Constitutional Convention has tentatively
6 prohibited state or local governments from raising money
7 through lotteries, but let the bars down for private
8 entrepreneurs to conduct lotteries, or so the Commission
9 fears. Presumably, the business Convention delegates
10 could now reopen the lottery section and plug the hole to
11 which the Commission headed by Clarence W. Miles has called
12 attention, but a far easier and safer course is readily
13 available. Drop lotteries as a Constitutional issue
14 altogether, and leave the relatively inconsequential subject
15 to Maryland legislators whose actions would be subject to
16 public referendum, if they happened to go haywire.

17 "The Miles Commission suggests this easier
18 course not because it is soft on lotteries, it opposes
19 them, but because it has confidence in legislative wisdom.
20 That should be good enough for the Constitutional Convention
21 as well, and if you want to quote newspapers, quote our