

1 DELEGATE HARDWICKE: Mr. Chairman, ladies and
2 gentlemen, I have to oppose this amendment as a transitional
3 provision. First of all, if it is only an attempt to con-
4 tinue the powers of municipalities as contained in Article
5 23A, Sections 12 and following of the present annotated code,
6 it is unnecessary, because we are preserving all of the
7 existing laws of the State of Maryland which are not in
8 conflict with the new Constitution, and consequently we
9 preserved all of the provisions of Article 23A, with regard
10 to the rights of municipal corporations to amend their
11 charter and to repeal charters.

12 Section B of this amendment seems to give the
13 municipalities the right to adopt a new charter, and under
14 our new concepts this kind of adoption is a matter for the
15 counties to determine whether or not new charters, new
16 municipal corporations, will come into existence and con-
17 sequently it is contrary to the philosophy of the new
18 Constitution, and I must oppose this amendment as being
19 either unnecessary or pernicious.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gullett.

21 DELEGATE GULLETT: Mr. Chairman, I rise to