

1 of the Calendar and Agenda Committee presents it.

2 Yesterday, in the Committee of the Whole, the
3 question was asked whether or not the prior Constitutions
4 of Maryland made any reference to God in the provision for
5 the oath, and I indicated that a very quick glance at the
6 copies of the four previous Constitutions indicated that
7 in the oath section, there was no reference to God.

8 This was partially incorrect in that the 1776
9 Constitution in prescribing the oath does indeed not make
10 any provision to God or any Supreme Being, but in the same
11 section, following the provision for the oath, is a pro-
12 vision that the person taking the oath shall also subscribe
13 a declaration of his belief in the Christian religion;
14 similarly, the subsequent Constitutions did not make in the
15 oath section itself any reference to a Supreme Being, but
16 each of them in a provision in the Declaration of Rights
17 did require in varying terms that elected officials indi-
18 cate their belief in a Supreme Being.

19 I make this statement merely so that the record
20 will be correct.

21 Delegate Beatrice Miller?