

presence in the rear gallery of 15 members of the Covenant Guild, Inc. of Baltimore and their President, Mrs. Melvin M. Katz.

I am delighted that they took the interest to come down and observe our deliberations here. Thank you ever so much for coming. (*Applause.*)

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Dorsey.

DELEGATE DORSEY: I would just like to add to what my good friend Delegate Willis has said about Miss Mary Risteau. I had the pleasure of serving in the General Assembly with her many years ago, and I know no one in public life in Maryland who has contributed more to the good government of this State than Miss Mary Risteau. (*Applause.*)

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Pullen.

DELEGATE PULLEN: Mr. Chairman, I should like especially to pay tribute to Miss Risteau, too. One million children in the State of Maryland owe a great deal of respect to this educator. Truly her life has been a gracious benediction upon them. (*Applause.*)

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Sybert.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask a few clarifying questions of Delegate Case.

Delegate Case, with reference to section 8.02, is it your understanding of the wording in section 8.02 that that will mandate the legislature to set up more than one class of assessable property?

DELEGATE CASE: That is correct.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Would it not be clearer if the word "may" were changed to "shall"?

THE CHAIRMAN: You mean in line 6?

DELEGATE SYBERT: Yes, so as actually to mandate the legislature to set up more than one classification.

DELEGATE CASE: Well, the word "may" probably was suggested by the word surgeons as relating to the word property, taxpayers, and events, but if it makes it clearer to you, I would have no objection to it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sybert.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Can we understand that the word "may" in line 6 is being changed or has been changed to "shall"?

DELEGATE CASE: If Delegate Penniman and the others in the Style Committee feel it is necessary to make this clear, I would not have any objection to that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will Delegate Penniman please note that section 8.02 is intended to impose upon the General Assembly the obligation to make classifications of property for the purposes therein set forth, and the Committee should determine whether the word "may" in line 6 should remain "may" or whether it should be "shall."

DELEGATE SYBERT: With the section being understood in that manner, it would mandate the legislature to make more than one classification.

DELEGATE CASE: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sybert.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Now, getting down to the last three lines in section 8.02, that wording would—the whole section would permit the legislature to delegate to the State Department of Taxes and Assessments the job of setting up these classifications and establishing the rules which will govern in those classifications. That is correct, is it not?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Case.

DELEGATE CASE: Subject to criteria, Delegate Sybert, which must in every tax statute be stated. You cannot have a law which merely says in effect the General Assembly hereby delegates to the State Department of Taxation the right to do things. There has to be criteria in which the administrative agency is to act. After these criteria are established, then the administrative agency can, as I said earlier, fill in the details.

DELEGATE SYBERT: We understand that there are standards governing such rules and regulations must be provided in the enabling statute. Would this not permit a situation like this to arise: We all know that developers of land must look ahead for properties to develop after the property or development on which they are working has been fully developed and maybe sold off.

Sometimes developers must look years ahead in purchasing property to develop so that they can stay in business. Could a situation not arise in which a developer in order to keep himself in business buys a piece of property that he may not want to develop for two or three or five or 20 years,