

1 people, you are going to abolish some cities that perform
2 very essential governmental services in what are still
3 predominantly rural areas of the State of Maryland and
4 will continue to be so. I am talking about the far
5 western part of the State and the Eastern Shore.

6 The question on mandatory home rule is a diffi-
7 cult one. There will be obviously political opposition to
8 it, perhaps from some of the smaller counties. Yet, when
9 they gave it to the city, they gave it to all of them in
10 one fell swoop, and I think it has worked reasonably
11 satisfactory. In other words, what you are trying to do,
12 you will never achieve to any great degree, the uniformity
13 of the State, dealing with its political subdivisions un-
14 less you give them all home rule at one time. As long as
15 you continue to have ten with home rule and thirteen
16 counties operating with another system, you are still
17 going to come up with a continual hodgepodge of local
18 exemptions, county exemptions and the like.

19 Also, I think the feeling in the small counties
20 has changed with reapportionment. Today they are very
21 gun-shy of loosing their senator and having all their