

1 THE CHAIRMAN: In other words, if the Legis-  
2 lature created a regional governmental agency or a sub-  
3 division out of the present nine Eastern Shore counties or  
4 the four or five Southern Maryland counties, this could be  
5 done without referendum, except the general referendum  
6 provisions of the Constitution.

7 MR. CLAGETT: That is correct, beginning with  
8 the addendum, provided it did not affect the existing  
9 county lines.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: If the Legislature decided to  
11 abolish the county as a unit of government, could it do  
12 so under this Section, or is it intended that it could do  
13 so under this Section without a referendum?

14 MR. CLAGETT: It is intended that it could do  
15 so, but it would have to do so by referendum where it af-  
16 fected more than three counties, and if it affected less  
17 than three counties, it would be a referendum, but a ref-  
18 erendum of the affected area only, the first one being  
19 statewide and the second one being only in the affected  
20 area.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not sure I follow that. If