

1 is to propose to the Commission the alternative of  
2 placing in the Legislature the power to merge and  
3 change, create, and dissolve counties. I think it  
4 fits in with the desire to create a strong Legislature  
5 that is necessary to give the Legislature the tools to  
6 deal with this most important problem and that to build  
7 in a parochialism into the Constitution is a big mistake.  
8 I think this is one situation where you are going to  
9 have to trust the Legislature because if you don't  
10 and you attempt to provide for what must be a local  
11 veto, at least to some extent you are going to make it  
12 impossible for the state to deal with statewide problems.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Bothe.

14 MRS. BOTHE: I wonder if Mr. Sykes would  
15 be interested in accepting an amendment requiring  
16 extraordinary vote of the Legislature.

17 MR. SYKES: That is a nice question. I am  
18 not prepared to accept it at this point but it is an  
19 interesting approach that I hadn't thought about.

20 MR. GENTRY: Might I ask a question here.  
21 By the deletion of this whole paragraph, we would have