

1 I am not trying to speak for one or the other,
2 but leave it to the county. If we're going to say that
3 the county has to have an instrument of government, that
4 permits any kind of instrument of government, and indeed --
5 if they don't get any instrument of government, Legislature
6 will give them one, but then they can amend it and they
7 can amend it in the way I would presume that the Legis-
8 lature, by providing the methods of amendment, would
9 allow them to amend to that form which they find compatible.
10 So, as you say, if Garrett County wanted to have a Com-
11 missioner form of government, whether the rest of the
12 State thought it was better or not, it is compatible with
13 home rule.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: And against the term of 20 years
15 or 40 years, it is a requirement that that instrument be
16 ratified by the voters of the county.

17 DR. BURDETTE: Yes.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: So what you are saying is you
19 are not seeking to abolish the Commissioner form of govern-
20 ment. You are just trying to avoid using the dirty word.

21 MR. CLAGETT: Yes.