

1 allow them; a lapse of four years, to allow any form
2 government they want. What we are saying is, they must
3 have a framework. They can't go without a framework.
4 The form can be whatever the County wants.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Further discussion, Judge
6 Adkins?

7 JUDGE ADKINS: I would think the term, charter,
8 properly interpreted after adoption of this Constitution
9 would necessarily, in view of the history, mean a charter
10 adopted pursuant to Article 11(a), whatever it is of the
11 Maryland Constitution, as it existed prior to the adop-
12 tion of this Constitution and would not have, would not
13 be a generic work. It is a specific word of art in
14 terms of modern, in terms of current Maryland thinking,
15 relating to a specific type of document adopted pursuant
16 to a specific provision of the existing Constitution.
17 I think if you use the term charter, there is danger that
18 it will be so interpreted. If you mean a broader con-
19 cept as I do, and as I believe the Chairman has indicated,
20 involving not only a charter but also a Commissioner
21 form, subject to only the will of the people, then that