

1 It seems to me that the County Commissioners
2 might be given credit for proposing. They could get up
3 some and propose this to the electorate, which the elec-
4 torate could turn down, but there is no such constitutional
5 provision in Maryland now, save we do have on referendum this
6 fall what is called code home rule which might accomplish
7 that. I don't myself know how it will work out.

8 I am raising the question to you as to why it
9 is necessary to get involved in the charter business at
10 all. I certainly think we ought to be able to change the
11 nature of it. This is what we did with municipalities.
12 We said by 1954 amendment to the constitution of Maryland
13 that municipalities have home rule. They can adopt any
14 charter they please, but until they do something about it,
15 they have the charter which the Legislature enacted which
16 created them in the first place. Then the Legislature
17 created a model charter which they may adopt if they want
18 to.

19 Many have, a number have done so. Nothing to
20 require them to do so. A municipality by its own action
21 could change the name of the mayor to consul if it wanted
to, while under our constitution for counties, you must