

1 a unified and uniform system, thus eliminating the confu-  
2 sion of having variations of lower courts from one area  
3 to another. However, the committee's recommendation gives  
4 us an exclusive unified system, which vests judicial  
5 power in a four-tier system, fellow delegates; this word  
6 "exclusively", as provided in the committee's recommenda-  
7 tion, has me quite troubled.

8 We are writing a document which we intend to  
9 last at least as long as our 1867 Constitution. Then may  
10 I ask how can we project ourselves so far in the future to  
11 determine that new courts will not be necessary or needed  
12 in Maryland.

13 The legislature is given no flexibility with  
14 which to work. Of course, the committee feels the func-  
15 tional divisions can provide the flexibility which is  
16 needed in a four-tier unified court system. But I am  
17 afraid we are going to get so cluttered with functional  
18 divisions on our lower court level that divisions will get  
19 married within each other and cases will not get the  
20 attention they should have.

21 I visualize so many functional divisions forming