

THE SENTINEL

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The delegate from Orange, Mr. Turner, has furnished us the following synopsis of the 33 proposed amendments to the constitution:

- 1st Amendment: That section 4 of article 9, be struck out and two new sections be substituted. The section to be struck out is in regard to lands given to the state by congress and the appropriation of fines, penalties, &c. The section to be substituted gives all lands and proceeds of lands, given by the United States to the state, to educational purposes; and all swamp lands, fines &c., are to be used for purposes of education.
- 2nd Amendment: strikes out section 17, article 3, and substitutes a section providing for the establishment of a bureau of agriculture, immigration and statistics, and the protection of sheep husbandry.
- 3rd Amendment: adds to section 23, of article 1, that "secret political societies are dangerous to the liberties of a free people and should not be tolerated."
- 4th Amendment: section 16, article 3, by providing that the governor, with the advice of the senate, shall appoint all officers whose appointments are not otherwise provided for.
- 5th Amendment: amends section 15, 16 and 17, of article 4, and allows the general assembly to allot and distribute all judicial power among the several counties except that of the supreme court, which is fixed by the constitution itself.
- 6th Amendment: strikes out sections 1 and 2, of article 13, and forbids calling a convention without first consulting the people at the polls.
- 7th Amendment: Provides for submitting the amendments to the constitution to the people, at the polls, Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November, 1877. The amendments will be ratified or rejected together.
- 8th Amendment: Provides for publishing the ordinances for the information of the people.
- 9th Amendment: Requires the judge to reside in the district for which he is elected, and forbids his holding court in the same county more than once in four years.
- 10th Amendment: Reduces the number of judges from 12 to 9, and authorizes the legislature to increase or diminish the number.
- 11th Amendment: Provides for the assembling of the legislature in January instead of November.
- 12th Amendment: Gives civil rights on the head by forbidding white and black children going to the same school, and providing that no discrimination shall be made to the prejudice of either race.
- 13th Amendment: Fixes the pay of members of the general assembly at \$4 a day and 10 cents mileage, and limits the session to 60 days. If the session is prolonged beyond 60 days, members receive no pay.
- 14th Amendment: Provides that the term of office for senators and members of the legislature shall begin at the time of their election.
- 15th Amendment: That section 29, of article 2, is amended to allow the general assembly to change the time of holding elections for the general assembly.
- 16th Amendment: Strikes out the constitution section 4, of article 2, which is the old republican gerrymander of the senatorial districts in 1868.
- 17th Amendment: Reduces the number of supreme judges from five to three, as our fathers had it.
- 18th Amendment: Declares the judicial power shall be vested in a court for the trial of impeachments, a supreme court, superior courts, courts of justice of the peace, and such others inferior to the supreme court as may be established by law.
- 19th Amendment: Establishes the supreme court in Raleigh, until otherwise provided by the general assembly.
- 20th Amendment: Strikes section 8, article 2, from the constitution. This section was the old republican gerrymander of the house of representatives, and the people can do without it.
- 21st Amendment: Forbids vesting any office or term of office now existing under the constitution.
- 22nd Amendment: Provides for the election of judges of the supreme court and superior court, by general ticket, or vote of all the people; but allows the general assembly to change the mode of electing superior court judges from general ticket to district elections.
- 23rd Amendment: Requires 12 months' residence in the state, and 90 days in the county, before a man can vote, and excludes felons and ex-penitentiary convicts from holding office or voting until restored to citizenship by due process of law. There was two days' debate on this ordinance, Messrs. Barringer, Dockery, Alberson and Buxton, with all the negro delegates, speaking against it and declaring it was aimed at the negro.
- 24th Amendment: Provides for the removal by the legislature of any judge of the superior court, for mental or physical disability. It also provides for the removal of clerks of the supreme and superior courts by the same reason. Appeal in case of removal is allowed as in other cases or suits.
- 25th Amendment: Provides that article 7 of the constitution be amended by adding that the general assembly shall have power to modify, change or abrogate any and all of the provisions of the article, and substitute others in their place, except section 7, 9 and 13. This allows the legislature to appoint magistrates as under the old constitution.
- 26th Amendment: Gives jurisdiction to justices of the peace over civil actions founded on contract, when the sum does not exceed \$200; and allows the justices to call in a jury of six men in certain cases.
- 27th Amendment: Authorizes the employment of convicts on public works and highways.
- 28th Amendment: Adds the following new section to article 4: "In case the general assembly shall establish other inferior courts, the presiding officers and clerks thereof shall be elected in such manner as the general assembly may prescribe."
- 29th Amendment: Forbids marriage between white and black and all persons of negro descent to the third generation.
- 30th Amendment: Adds to article 1, section 34: "Nothing herein contained shall justify the practice of carrying concealed weapons or prevent the legislature from enacting penal statutes against said practice."

1st Abolishes section 31 of article 4, and provides for filling all vacancies in offices provided for by this constitution by the governor not otherwise provided for.

2nd Provides for paying officers and members of the convention.

3rd Gives power to the supreme court to try issues and questions of fact as under the old constitution.

4th Delegates to the Supreme Court the power to issue writs of Habeas Corpus, Quo Warranto, Prohibere, and Certiorari in all cases where the writs are not otherwise provided for.

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