The Need of The Hour Is A New State Gonstitution

The State of North Carolina of 1921-22 is not
Commonwealth we knew in 1875 when the last the Commonwealth we knew in 1875 when the last
Constitutional Convention was held. It was then simply an agricultural State, the industrial expan-
sion pressing slowly under the handicap of war imsion pressing slowly under the handicap of war im-
poverishment. Reconstruction and war had left their marks; but the spirit and courage of the people had not been broken. The men and women of that generation quailed before no hardship and
met every demand to preserve the integrity of the met every demand to preserve the integrity of the
Commonwealth and the civilization upon which the larger development and greater progress rest.
$\ln 1875$ a Constitutional Convention was held, but nearness to the war and war issues, and the lack
of a real working majority in either party composing the body, prevented the writing of a new imperative conditions of that day, but did not embrace the needed declarations in the fundamental
chart of the State. Since that time there has been much tinkering with the Constitution, not a few
amendments to meet the changing conditions, but the Constitution of today in its essence is the Convarious other dates. The 1868 document contained sections which should not be changed, and some
of the more recent amendments should be incorporated, at least in spirit in the new Constitution
which the State needs in the new day upon which it has entered.


The State has outgrown its present Constitution. It has moved to higher levels, but in its fun-
damental charter it is still living in a "low-vaulted past," and in a large sense the need a "temple, nobler than the last." There are three most thoughtful men of both parties, which call for a new constitution. They are the questions of
taxation and the limitation upon bond issues and the educational policy.
was made that the gross increase in taxation would not exceed ten per cent. When the slump in agricultural products made itself felt in the slump of the value of land, the attempt was made to make the valuation speak the truth." Conditions have
brought about higher rates of taxation, in some counties many times more than the ten per cent. Bond issues on cities and towns and other sub-
divisions should be limited, and there is need of wiser constitutional provisions than now exist which safeguard. The Constitution requires a six months' school which cannot be carried out within the limitation of taxation. This conflict should not exist in the written Constitution of the State, leaving it to judicial interpretation, another name for judicial stitution? Are there not other great things which will be unfettered by a new Constitution?
At the last ression_ofo the General Assembly
the Senate, by arf almost unanimous vote of both political parties, voted in favor of submitting the question of a Constitutional Convention to the people of the State. The House did not then concur. stitutional Convention but it failed by default.

Today taxation, policies of educational ad-
ace, bond issues and other questions which legislation finds it difficult to adjust all demand for the best settlement the calling of a Constitutional Convention and the writing of a new State Constitution.
The special session of the Legislature can serve
the State today and tomorrow by calling an election the State today and tomorrow by caling an election tion of a Consturs tion of the molding a Convention. It will put in the approve holding a Convention. It will put in the
best way the,solution of many difficult and vexed best way

Unless this special session submits the question, no Convention can be had before 1925. If it tion can be held in the spring of 1923 .

To Legighatore:

[^0]FOUR POWERS FORMALLY OF COWTY SCHOOL ACCEPT NEW AGREEMENT;

## Measure Introduced In House Would Withdrew

 Would Withdraw RightMandamus


reserve Peace in Thement To Pacific is AnnouncedTo The World SENATE MUST RATIFY NEW TREATY IN ORDER
TO MAKE IT BINDING
 greement Is For a Period of Entirely To The Pacilfo; Terms Provide That Four Powers Are To Respect Each Others' Island Pos sessions and Are To Meet Event of a Dispute The Threat; Is Expected To Ratio and Questions: Delegatertant
gard It As Putting The of The Hill

EANUT ASSOCIATION NOW IN OPERATION

## FOR SHAME!

(Monroe Journal)
a bill reducing the personal property exemption from $\$ 300$ to $\$ 100$. Whether it will pass the House or not at the last regular session but the House refused to
This is peanut business of the smallest kind.
The same forces that are demanding that we retum to The same forces that are demanding that we retum to
the old syatem of levying no tax upon thousands of acres of unused land in esstern North Carolins and clsewhere held by speculators are demanding that the tax
assessors be required to ransack the home of every poor

$\qquad$


[^0]:    kingidom for such a time as thia)"

