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## THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

In the General Assembly of 1913 more than twenty amendments to our Constitution were introduced. This gives an idea of the demand for changes in the Constitution. As that General Assembly did not have time to consider these amendments, it authorized the appointment of a Commission of twenty citizens to carefully go over the present Constitution and to prepare and report to the General Assembly in special session such amendments as they might deem good and sound. This the Commission did.

The General Assembly, in session in the Fall of 1913, carefully reviewed the report of the Commission, and after thorough discussion, passed for submission to the voters the amendments now before us. The fact that these amendments received almost unanimous support in the General Assembly is one of the best assurances that each of them is calculated to advance the interests of the people of North Carolina.

Further evidence to the same effect is the fact that these amendments are heartily endorsed by the Governor and leaders of the principal parties, the State Press Association and official leaders of the Farmers' Union, who declare that if adopted they will "make for progress in this State and for the advancement of our farming interest and all other worthy interests in the State." These leaders especially endorse the taxation amendment because it "sets free our people to work out necessary reforms in taxation while leaving in force the present restrictions in rate."

Another fact of great significance as to the merits of the proposed amendments is this: That notwithstanding that they were proposed by a General Assembly overwhelmingly Democratic, they have received the emphatic endorsement of the Republican State Convention.

So much in general. We propose now to briefly set forth the meaning of each of the ten amendments in the order in which they will be voted upon, for the purpose of informing the reader:

1.

The first amendment proposes to strike out the Constitution the phrase "Insurrection or rebellion against the United States," and to substitute for that odious characterization of the civil war, the phrase, "War Between the States."

This will appeal to every patriotic North Carolinian.

2.

The second amendment proposes to increase the pay of members of the General Assembly from four dollars per day to six dollars per day, and of the respective presiding officers of the Houses thereof from six dollars per day to eight dollars per day.

It is hoped thus to make it possible for more of our people to afford the expense of being members of the General Assembly, as the present compensation does not begin to meet the necessary campaign expenses, board bills, and the time a citizen must lose from his regular duties.

3.

The third amendment has for its object the restriction of local, private and special legislation, with the two-fold view of (1) having many of these matters referred to

boards of county commissioners and the governing bodies of our towns; (2) of affording the General Assembly liberty to engage in the consideration of matters of State-wide importance.

Every session of the General Assembly is congested with thousands of bills of no general importance; matters that should be the subject of uniform legislation, on the one hand, or local self-government on the other. If this amendment shall be ratified by the people they will emancipate the General Assembly from its present bondage of local and special legislation and endow it with liberty to attend to matters of interest to all the people.

This amendment gives the General Assembly power to "pass general laws regulating the matters set out in this section;" this is, local, special and private matters; and if it is ratified all these smaller matters will be disposed of once and for all in general acts.

Let the reader consider what it will mean to the Commonwealth to have its General Assembly rid of the thousands of little bills of no general value in order that it may treat the matters of great concern to all the people.

4.

The fourth amendment changes the date of the inauguration of the Governor from the "1st day of January" to the second Wednesday after the first Monday in January.

This is to correct an error in the present Constitution and to fix the date of the inauguration subsequent to the canvassing of the election returns by the General Assembly.

5.

The fifth amendment empowers the General Assembly to provide for the selection of special or emergency judges of the Superior Court. As matters now stand, if a judge of the Superior Court falls sick the Governor has to call in a judge from another district, or court is suspended. This amendment will enable the General Assembly to relieve against this—thus saving time and money and making for the general public convenience.

6.

The sixth amendment merely strikes from the Constitution certain obsolete articles.

7.

Article seven strikes out the present Article on Revenue and Taxation and substitutes therefor an article designed to give the General Assembly power to reform our present inequitable, burdensome and inefficient taxation system.

This new article holds the present rate of taxation at 66 2-3 cents on the \$100 for State and county purposes. It also fixes the rate in cities and towns for all purposes at 75 cents on the \$100. The only way to increase the rates so fixed is by popular vote.

There is now no constitutional limit upon the tax rate a city or town may fix. Under the proposed amendment the limit would be fixed at 75 cents on the \$100.

So much for the rate. It is further proposed to enable the General Assembly to classify subjects of taxation—all subjects of a class to be uniformly taxed; and to separate subjects of taxation for State and local purposes, that is, assigning one sort of property for local taxation and another for State taxation.

Now the effect of this provision is to free the hand of the General Assembly from the paralyzing ef-

## TO ASSIST IN CHOLERA EPIDEMIC.

Messrs. Tom Moore and Holmes Bryson of the Daniel K. Moore Co. left Monday for Jones, Duplin and Onslow counties, where an epidemic of hog cholera is raging. These gentlemen expect to aid greatly in stopping the spread of the disease and in saving the animals already affected, through the use of the preventative and cure recently patented by Mr. Moore.

The News and Observer says of the prevalence of the disease:

A government expert is today at Richlands investigating an epidemic of hog cholera of alarming prevalence in Jones, Duplin and Onslow counties. Fifteen hundred animals have succumbed to the disease in the vicinity of Richlands alone. The loss to the stockholders is enormous.

The owners of hogs in the infected district will be urged to use serum for the temporary prevention of the disease in healthy animals, or the virus for permanent immunity. The vaccination of all healthy animals is regarded as the only successful means for combating the epidemic. In Lenoir county, where more progressive methods have prevailed, the cholera has spread to only a few scattered localities and no alarm is felt.

In some sections of the three counties where the cholera is most prevalent there is danger, unless the spread is checked, immediately that the farms will be swept entirely bare of hogs. The Lenoir County Live Stock Association, the only organization of the kind in this part of the State, is expected to take steps to immunize the county and may lend aid to the neighboring counties. Veterinarians are in close touch with the situation and are ready to flock into the cholera district as soon as some organized method is decided upon.

fect of the present requirement of uniformity.

As matters now stand, the burden of taxation falls upon the small property holder. His property is assessed at full value and he pays the full rate. He cannot hide his property. The land-owner's land is always in view. The burden of taxation under the present constitution now falls in North Carolina on land and the small personal holdings. The large holdings of cash in banks, solvent credits, and bonds are notoriously untaxed. They are in hiding—at least they are known of all men not to be on the tax books. As a consequence the burden falls upon the land and the small property owners.

The object in giving the General Assembly broader powers is to enable it to bring about a more just and a more efficient system of taxation—to distribute the burden of our taxes more equitably.

It is further observed that this proposed amendment declares that in case "subjects of taxation shall be separated for State and local purposes, no part of the ad valorem tax on real estate (except the real estate of public service corporations) shall be applied to State purposes." Clearly this section contemplates having county land taxed only for county purposes, and city land taxed only for town and county purposes—relieving lands of State taxes, and putting it up to the State to

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## THE BIGGEST THING.

The Atlanta-Asheville highway is one of the biggest things for this section that has ever been undertaken and from the interest being manifested all along the proposed line it will be built in the near future. Mr. D. Tucker Brown who is working in the interest of this highway was in the city today and a meeting of the business men of the town was held in the Masonic hall. This meeting was well attended and from the interest taken by our people it is evident that they are deeply interested. Let every man in this whole section do all in his power to aid in this great work.—Andrews Sun.

## QUALLA.

The farmers have begun to gather corn and sow wheat.

Messrs. J. B. Former, G. W. Moody, W. L. Enloe, John Allison and Luch Hipps left Monday for a bear hunt at Hornbuckle.

John Bird left Wednesday for Los Angeles, Cal.

Cnap Bradburn has returned from Tennessee. He says he can't stay away from Wilmot.

Bob Raby was driving some nice calves through Qualla this week.

Ernest Bird, Myrtle Wells, Roy Bird, Maud Worley, Edmond Battle, Annie Worley, Erastus Parlou, Annie Bird, David Flinton, and Mary Bird, of the Cullowhee Normal and Industrial School, were visiting Mr. C. A. Bird and family Saturday and Sunday. Sunday evening they all went to Parker's Peak. Every one seemed to enjoy the occasion.

S. L. Teague, Bessie Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Wilson, Lloyd Tague, of Bryson City were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Moore Sunday.

Dixon Hyatt and Miss Ethel Bradburn were the guests of Willie Moore and wife Sunday.

The choir at Worley's Chapel met Sunday and the singing was enjoyed by many.

Jess Lambert who cut his leg is improving nicely, after being in the Mission hospital at Asheville for some time.

Best wishes for the Journal and its readers. WILLIE WILLIE.

## INDUSTRY IN JACKSON

Asheville, Oct. 17.—A new industry has been established in western North Carolina and one which officers of the company state will develop into one of the largest plants in this section. It is the Daniel K. Moore company of Dillsboro, manufacturers of a hog and chicken cholera remedy and preventive.

Walter E. Moore, formerly speaker of the state legislature, is the president of the company; Daniel K. Moore, farmer and stock raiser and father of Judge Fred Moore of Asheville, is the vice-president; Holmes Bryson, secretary, and Tom Moore, treasurer.

The manufacture of the products of the company has already been started and preparations are under way for the free distribution of several thousands of gallons of the remedy in many sections of the United States to advertise it.—Greensboro Daily News.

Miss Rebeckah Cathey is visiting relatives in Murphy and Andrews.

## ASHEVILLE-TO-ATLANTA

There was a speaking in the court house Wednesday by D. Tucker Brown of Chapel Hill, in the interest of the Asheville-Murphy-Atlanta Highway. A number of business men attended and many more would have been present had it not been for the very heavy rains. A number joined the road association and there was much interest manifested in the proposed highway. Murphy has her part of this highway finished practically. This township has been building roads for the past two years, and Valleytown and Notla Townships are the ones that will have to connect with this road if it is built.—Cherokee Scout.

## COURT ADJOURNED.

Jackson County Superior Court adjourned Saturday afternoon after being in session only a week.

A number of minor criminal and civil cases were disposed of and a number of civil cases compromised.

Four men drew road and penitentiary sentences. Joe Zachary, convicted of manslaughter for the killing of John Brown at Hog and Hominy School House, last February, was given three years in the State Prison.

John S. McMahan, convicted of burning a residence belonging to Judge Geo. A. Shuford, was given two years in the State Prison and Lee McMahan his accomplice was sent to the Haywood County roads for six months.

General Queen was given ten months on the Haywood County roads for an assault with a deadly weapon.

## "GRAVE JOKES."

N. C. Health Bulletin

There is a whole quart of truth in that old jingle about "A little nonsense now and then," etc. If it were not for this occasional nonsense the vital statistics recorder would have a dry time indeed. Here are samples of some of the things he finds on death certificates under the heading Cause of death.

"Went to bed feeling well, but woke up dead."

"Died suddenly at the age of 103. To this time he bid fair to reach a ripe old age."

"Do not know cause of death, but patient fully recovered from last illness."

"Deceased had never been fatally sick."

## FARM FACTS

By Peter Radford, Lecturer National Farmers' Union  
Agriculture needs all the great men it can get

In union there is strength and in co-operation there is profit.

The farmer can neither help himself nor be helped by others until he organizes.

The economic distribution of farm products is today the world's greatest problem.

Our transportation system are the dray carts of agriculture and can be made capable peddlers of farm products.

The middleman is nothing more than a farm hand but he is able to fix his own wages and to collect them and to multiply his transactions as he pleases.

Bumper crops without market facilities have sent more farmers staggering down the back alleys of agriculture than all the pests and droughts that ever cursed the nation.