

# THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

## An Impartial Summary Prepared for the Voter By the Institute of Government

### I. Enlarging the Supreme Court and Permitting It to Sit in Divisions

**Explanation:** Since 1868, with the exception of the fourteen years from 1875 to 1889, the Constitution has limited the membership of the Supreme Court to five members, and by clear implication of the Constitution the intention was that the full membership sit in all cases, except in unusual emergencies.

The proposed amendment, if adopted, would (1) permit the Gen-

eral Assembly, when the necessity appeared, to increase the membership of the Court from five to seven, and (2) allow the Court to sit in divisions of less than full membership (except in passing upon constitutional questions), thus reducing the labor of the individual members or accomplishing the same work with greater dispatch. The proposal also embodies the requirement that at least four of the justices shall agree in any judgment

of the Court; there is now no such constitutional provision, although by statute three justices, as a quorum of the membership, may now sit as the Court, and by decision a majority of those sitting may render the judgment of the Court.

If the amendment is adopted, the increase in the membership of the Court would not be automatic; this would be left to the discretion of future General Assemblies.

### II. Limited Property Tax Exemption for Homes Occupied by Owners

**Explanation:** The present State Constitution requires that all property shall be taxed except such as is expressly authorized to be exempted by the Constitution. It does not authorize the legislature to exempt homes. The proposed amendment, if adopted, would authorize the legislature, in its discretion, to exempt from taxation, up to \$1,000 in tax valuation, each home occu-

pled by the owner. It is clear from the wording of the amendment that the legislature could not exempt to any extent homes which are occupied by tenants or renters. As to homes occupied by the owners, the legislature could exempt each to the maximum allowed. Thus, assuming that the legislature should, in the course of time, grant the full exemption of \$1,000, the home owner whose home is valued at \$1,000 or

less would pay no taxes on it, the home owner whose home is valued at \$2,000 would pay taxes on the remaining \$1,000, etc.

The legislature would not be required to grant the full \$1,000 exemption, either immediately upon adoption of the amendment or thereafter. It could grant an exemption of a lesser amount or could refuse to grant any exemption at all.

### III. Classification of Property for Taxation

**Explanation.** The present State Constitution requires that all property shall be taxed by uniform rule, in accordance with its true value in money. As applied to the property tax, this prevents the legislature from dividing the different types of property into various classes and levying different rates of tax on or applying different scales of valuation to each class.

The proposed amendment would, if adopted, require only that taxation shall be uniform on each class of property taxed. This would en-

able the legislature, in its discretion, to classify property for purposes of the ad valorem or property tax. Since the amendment does not specify any particular system of classification to be employed, it is impossible to say just what system, if any, would be followed. The legislature would have the power, if it so desired, to provide for the levy of one rate of tax on bank deposits and another rate on land and buildings. It could, if it wished, vary the tax rates on various classes of property in such a way

as to encourage soil conservation or reforestation or the establishment of wild life preserves or any other objectives it might consider socially desirable. However, it should be understood that these examples are given simply as illustrative possibilities and not as predictions. The legislature would not be compelled to classify property if the amendment is passed. If it decides to classify, it can classify in any way it sees fit up to the point at which our courts held the classification to be too arbitrary.

### IV. Raising the Maximum Income Tax Rate

**Explanation:** The present State Constitution provides that the maximum rate of tax which can be levied on net incomes is 6%. It also contains certain provisions with respect to the personal exemptions which shall be allowed in arriving at net taxable income, but these provisions would not be af-

fecting by adoption of the proposed amendment. The sole change which would be effected by the amendment, if adopted, would be to raise the maximum rate from 6% to 10%. The 10% rate would not be required. The legislature would be allowed complete discretion in fixing the rate actually levied, up to the 10%

maximum. Under our present revenue laws the present maximum rate of 6% is being levied on all taxable net income of corporations, while the rate on individual incomes is: 3% on the first \$2,000 of net income, 4% on the second \$2,000, 5% on third \$2,000, and 6% on any balance.

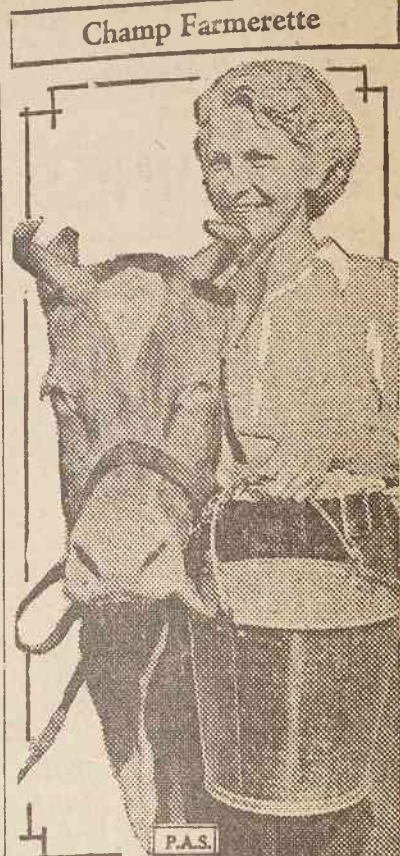
### V. Placing New Restrictions on Public Debt

**Explanation:** The present State Constitution provides that, without a vote of the people, the State may not borrow more than 7½% of the total tax valuation of the property within the State, except: (1) to fund or refund a valid existing debt; (2) to supply a casual deficit; or (3) to suppress riots, invasions or insurrections. The present Constitution contains no limitation on city, county and other local debt except the provision that no debt may be incurred, except for necessary expenses, without a vote of the people. This "necessary expense" provision would not be changed by adoption of the proposed amendment. The legislature has placed certain restrictions on county and city debts, but these are, of course, subject to legisla-

tive change at any time. The proposed amendment would, if adopted, repeal the above-mentioned provision with respect to State debts. It would also insert a new provision affecting both State and local debts. This new provision would allow either the State or a local unit to borrow, without a vote: (1) to fund or refund a valid existing debt; (2) to supply a casual deficit; and (3) to suppress riots, insurrections or invasions. It would also allow either to borrow, without a vote, (4) in anticipation of tax revenues payable within the fiscal year, to an extent not exceeding 50% of such revenues. Except for those four purposes the State could not borrow, during any biennium, without an approving vote of the people, more than two-thirds of the amount by which its outstanding debt was

reduced during the preceding biennium; and no local unit could borrow during any fiscal year, without an approving vote of the people, more than two-thirds of the amount by which the outstanding debt of the unit was reduced during the preceding fiscal year.

To illustrate the way this amendment would operate, suppose a county desired to erect a new court house at a cost of \$100,000 and wished to borrow the money with which to do it. Suppose that during the preceding fiscal year it retired \$100,000 in outstanding bonds. If the intention of the amendment is followed, this county could only borrow \$66,666 during the current fiscal year unless authorized to exceed that figure by a vote of the people. Consequently, the county would have to submit the issue of the court house bonds to a vote.



**Champ Farmerette**  
POMONA, Calif. . . . Miss Grette Ter Maaten, 15, American-born Dutch girl of Norwalk, Calif., (above), is the champion farmerette of the state. She pitched hay, churned butter and husked corn to defeat all contestants in the finals at the Fair here.

### Farmers Advised To Keep Their Best Turkeys

High turkey prices during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays often tempt producers to sell their best birds and keep slower developing turkeys for breeding purposes.

That's about the worst think they could do, commented C. F. Parrish, extension poultry specialist at State college.

Now that the holiday seasons are not far off, he said growers should classify their birds into three groups: breeders, market turkeys, and culls.

Although the very best birds should be saved for breeders, there will be many good birds available

for marketing, and growers make every effort to get market birds in good shape. Parrish pointed out.

Turkey meat is considered what of a luxury, he added, therefore quality birds will command higher prices than meat products of the same value.

Early hatched, well developed, quick maturing pullets and toms are given first priority. Consequently, these should be type selected for breeders. Breeders should also be healthy, well balanced, and free from deformities.

The market turkeys are divided into two two groups for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In the first group place birds that have large frames, reasonably free from pin feathers and appear ideal for marketing in November. Confine them to a place that is not too cold and feed them a fattening ration. Birds should be placed in the second group where they will have longer time to develop before being placed on the market.

Wash parsley in hot water. You want to improve its flavor. Make it easier to chop.

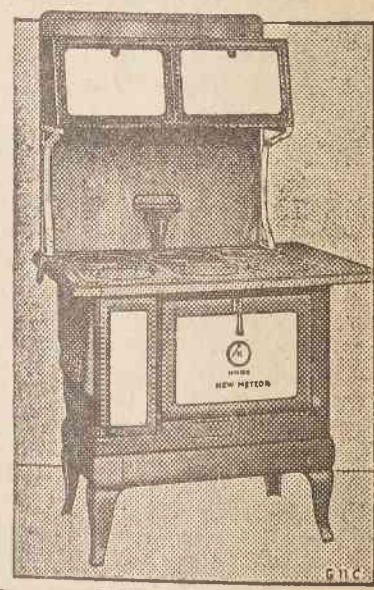
### Rid Yourself of Kidney Poisons

Do you suffer burning, too frequent urination, headache, dizziness, loss of leg pains, swellings and under the eyes? Are you nervous—feel all unstrung and know what is wrong?

Then give some thought to your kidneys. Be sure they function properly for functional kidney disease permits excess waste to stay in the system and to poison and upset the system.

Use Doan's Pills. Doan's Pills clean the kidneys only. They are recommended by the world over. You can get genuine, time-tested Doan's at any drug store.

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stand by their record of achievement. The records need no defense and no defense is offered.



## THE FAMILY DOCTOR

By JOHN JOSEPH GAINES, M.D.

### SUNSHINE A DRY HEAT—GOOD

The 'infra-red ray' is one of my stand-bys in giving local, office treatment where heat gives beneficial results. In long experience in the application of heat to the body, I am able to state the following facts.

There is a vast difference between LIGHT and DARK heat when applied to the body. There is also great contrast in the effects of CONTACT heat, and heat coming from a distance. Heat in contact with the body cannot be tolerated by the skin, if it is really hot enough to produce lasting effect; therefore I prefer heat coming from a luminant eighteen or twenty inches distant.

The infra-red ray is of positive value in treating diseases of deep-

seated glands. The heat should not come through a glass bulb in its passage to the patient, but should come from an electrically-heated body direct.

There is all the difference imaginable in DRY heat and MOIST heat. I prefer dry heat in reducing chronic inflammations of stubborn kinds, such as arthritis, and chronic congestions.

The heat-waves stimulate circulation locally, in organs over which they are applied. Fat patients with synovitis in the knee-joints are greatly benefited by DRY heat, from a distance of twenty inches, 25-minute sittings, daily. Wet heat in contact does little or no good. It is possible to heat tissues two and a half inches deep from the surface, with the infra-red ray apparatus. One cannot bear contact

heat with volume enough to reach deeper tissues.

Sunlight is dry heat, and is one of nature's greatest health-givers; it has a definite percentage of the ultra-violet ray. Modern apparatus gives sun-ray treatments on cloudy days.

### Banish Body and Perspiration Odors

with YODORA, the deodorant cream which conceals, absorbs and counteracts odors.

Yodora is a scientifically compounded white, soft cream—pleasant to use—acts promptly with lasting effect—harmless to the most delicate skin—will not stain fabrics.

For those who perspire freely whether under the arm, feet or other parts of the body Yodora is most valuable. It is a true neutralizer of body odors.

Yodora, a McKesson product, may be had in both tube and jar form and costs only 25¢.

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