Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the next election for Representatives in Congress to be holden on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1912, and on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words "For the proposed amendment to Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the propositions, "for" or "against" he votes.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy.
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 203.

House Bill No. 433.
By Mr. Fontenot.

A JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, amending Article 46 of the ana, amanding Article 46 of the Constitution of 1898, as amended by Act No. 303 of the Acts of 1910, ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, so as to authorize the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt to issue new bonds to retire or refund the State Bonded Indebtedness due January 1, 1914; to provide for a tax for the payment of the interest on said bonds and a sinking fund to retire the same; to provide for the payment out of the said sinking fund of an indebtedness due by the State to the United States, and of certain other claims against the State.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That an amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1898, as amended by Act No. 303 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana at its session held in the year 1910, ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their approval or rejection at the Congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November of 1912, said proposed amendment to read as follows:

"Article 46. The General Assembly shall have no power to contract or to authorize the contracting of any debt or liability, on behalf of the State, or to issue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness thereof, except for the purpose of repelling invasion or for the suppression of insurrection. Provided, that for the purpose of retiring, liquidating or refunding the present State Bonded Indebtedness of Eleven Million, One Hundred and Eight Thousand, Three Hundred Dollars, maturing January 1, 1914, and bearing four per centum per annum interest, the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of Louisiana is given authority to issue Eleven Thousand One Hundred and Eight new coupon bonds of the State of Louisiana of $1000 each to be numbered 'No. 1' to No. 11,108,' bearing a rate of interest not exceeding 4 per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, and to be due and paid in 50 years from January 1, 1914. The form of said bonds shall be prescribed by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt and they shall be signed by the Governor, the Auditor and the Treasurer of the State. Said bonds shall be sold to the highest bidder at not less than par after three months of advertisement by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt in New Orleans, Chicago and New York; and in case said bonds cannot be sold they may be exchanged at par by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt for the bonds due January 1, 1914. The excess of Three Hundred Dollars of the bonds due January 1, 1914, over the bonds authorized by this article, shall be paid in cash out of the current interest funds of the State. The cost of engraving and advertising said bonds shall also be paid out of the said fund.

"In all other respects not herein specified, the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt is hereby given full power and authority to carry out the provisions of this amendment.

"Beginning with January 1, 1914, there shall be and there is hereby levied on all property on which general State taxes are levied an annual tax of one and two-tenths mills, the net proceeds of which shall be devoted to the payment of the interest due on said bonds, to the payment of the interest due on the indebtedness of the State to the Free School Fund, to Seminary Fund and the Agricultural and Mechanical College Fund, to the payment of the proper expenses of the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt, and the residue to the constitution of a sinking fund to be applied annually except as hereinafter provided, to the purchase of said bonds by said Board at a price not to exceed One Hundred and Three and accrued interest. If bonds cannot be purchased as aforesaid, the sinking fund shall be invested by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt in sound, interest bearing securities, producing not less than four per centum per annum interest on the amount so invested, or deposited in solvent banks furnishing adequate security to the State, to be approved by the said Board, at a rate of interest not less than four per centum per annum. Said tax shall be levied until all of said bonds shall have been retired, but after the assessments of the State reach the sum of $650,000,000, said tax shall be reduced to one mill and shall thereafter be reduced to two-tenths of one mill for each One Hundred Million Dollars increase in assessments until the said tax shall be reduced to six-tenths of one mill. The said tax shall constitute a part of the six mills of taxation permitted to be levied by the Constitution.

In case the present system of taxation shall be changed before the said bonds shall have been paid, there shall be levied annually a tax sufficient to produce a gross sum of not less than Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars to take the place of said tax of one and two-tenths mills and its reductions.

"The Board of Liquidation of the State Debt shall have power to settle under the conditions and limitations hereinafter provided, the following claims of indebtedness made by various persons against the State, to-wit:

1. The outstanding bonds known as Baby Bonds excluding all Baby Bonds fraudently issued by any official of the State."

2. "Auditor's Warrents issued for school certificates of indebtedness under Act 126 of 1880.

3. Certificates issued under Act 93 of 1880 for costs and fees due to the officers of the State.

4. Warrants drawn prior to 1880 and fundable but not funded into Baby Bonds.

5. Warrants drawn after January of 1880 against 1878 and previous years.

Provided, however, that the owners or the duly authorized trustees of the owners of said claims may prior to January 1, 1915, but not thereafter, proceed against the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt by rule, solely and exclusively in the district court of the parish of East Baton Rouge, to have the said claims examined and their validity and the indebtedness due thereon determined, which court is hereby given jurisdiction for that purpose.

This jurisdiction shall extend not only to the determination of the mere legal liability of the State on any of said claims, but also to the determination of any equitable liability of the State thereon and the extent of such equitable liability. Appeal shall lie in all cases, irrespective of the amounts involved, on the original record, to the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana. The definitive decrees of said courts shall not have the effect of judgments against the State or the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt. The Board of Liquidation of the State Debt shall have the exclusive power to settle the claims, thus approved by the courts of the State, out of the sinking fund above provided for as funds are available, but they shall not be paid otherwise or out of any other fund.

Nothing in this amendment shall be construed as a recognition by the State of any liability, whether legal or equitable, to the owners or the holders of any of the said above designated bonds, warrants or claims and the burden of proof shall rest throughout on each of such claimants to show such liability.

Out of the first surplus accruing in the sinking fund, there shall be paid in full the amount of principal and interest due on the bonds of the State, the face values of which aggregate Thirty Seven Thousand Dollars, and which are held by the United States as trustee for certain Indian funds.

"This article, as amended, shall be deemed to be self-acting and directly to confer the power and authority herein gratned without an enabling act of the General Assembly."

Section 2. Be it further resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each house concurring, That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed have thereon the words:

"For the proposed amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to the refunding and settlement of the indebtedness of the State."

And the words:

"Against the proposed amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to the refunding and settlement of the indebtedness of the State."

And each elector shall indicate on said ballot, as provided in the General Election law of the State, whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy.
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 230.

Senate Bill No. 139.
By Mr. Amacker.

JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, providing for the exemption from taxation for a period of ten (10) years from the date of its completion, of all railroads or parts of railroads, constructed subsequently to June 1, 1912.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring therein, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the next election for Representative in Congress, to be holden on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1912, to-wit: There shall be exempt from taxation for a period of ten years from the date of its completion, any railroad or part of railroad that shall have been constructed and completed subsequently to June 1, 1912, and prior to January 1, 1917. This exemption shall include and apply to all rights of way, road bed, sidings, rails and other superstructures upon such rights of way, roadbed or sidings; and to all depots, station houses, buildings, erections and structures appurtenant to such railroads and the operation of the same; but shall not include the depots, warehouses, station houses and other structures and appurtenances nor the land upon which they are erected at terminal points, and for which franchises have been granted and obtained, whether same remain the property of the present owner or owners, or be transferred or assigned to any corporation or corporations, person or persons whomsoever, and provided further that this exemption shall not apply to double tracks, sidings, switches, depots or other improvements or betterments which may be constructed by railroads now in operation within the State, other than extensions or new lines constructed by such railroads Provided, further that when aid has heretofore been or which may hereafter be voted by any parish, ward or municipality to any railroad, such railroad shall not be entitled to the exemption from taxation herein established.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the official ballots at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to exemption from taxation for ten years from the date of completion, of all railroads or parts of railroads, constructed subsequently to January 1, 1913," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to exemption from taxation for a period of ten years from date of its completion of all railroads or parts of railroads constructed subsequently to January 1, 1913," and each elector shall indicate as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he voter for or against the amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy.
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 236.

Senate Bill No. 161. By Mr. Mouton

A JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to Article 291 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to taxes for the construction and maintenance of public roads.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That Article 291 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be amended so as to read as follows:

Article 291. The Police Juries of this State may form their respective parishes into road districts; and in order to raise funds for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and repairing the public roads and bridges of their parishes, they are authorized to set aside at least one mill per annum of the taxes levied by them, and to impose a per capita tax not more than one dollar per annum upon each able bodied male inhabitant of the parish between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five years, and to levy an annual license of not less than twenty-five (25c) cents nor more than one dollar per annum upon each vehicle, including bicycles, kept within said parishes or within a municipality thereof whether or not exempt in its charter from parochial taxation, and used for locomotion over public roads, in their respective parishes; which license shall be graduated. The provision to this article relative to the per capita tax, shall not be operative in incorporated towns and cities that maintain their own streets.

To carry into effect the provisions of this Article the Police Juries may enact such ordinances of a civil nature as may be necessary to enforce the property and license tax, and of a criminal nature to enforce the per capita tax.

Police Juries and municipal corporations in the several parishes of this State may levy other taxes for the construction and maintenance of public roads and bridges within the territorial limits of said parishes, and may incur debt, and issue negotiable bonds therefor in the manner and to extend authorized under provisions of Articles 232 and 281 of the Constitution and the Statutes adopted to carry them into effect. Other taxes may be levied by the Police Juries for road and bridge purposes not to exceed five mills for five years on the property of the parish, or any ward thereof, whether the rate of taxation and the purpose thereof shall have been submitted to the property tax payers of the said ward or parish entitled to vote under the election laws of the State, and a majority thereof in number and value of those voting at said election shall have voted in favor thereof. That this Article shall be self operative.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment shall be submitted to qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection at the Congressional election to be held in November, 1912, and, if adopted, the same shall take effect immediately thereafter.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be issued at said election there shall be placed the words "For the proposed amendment to Article 291 of the Constitution of Louisiana," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to Article 291 of the Constitution of Louisiana," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State which of the propositions, "for" or "against," he votes.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy.
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

Extra Session, 1912

ACT NO. 4.

Senate Bill No. 2. By Mr. Voegtle.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution authorizing parishes and self-taxing municipalities to exempt new industrial enterprises and also improved value, inclusive of structures added to unimproved lands by immigrants into the State, who occupy said lands as homesteads from local taxation for a period not to exceed ten (10) years.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be and the same is hereby submitted to the qualified electors of the State at the Congressional election, to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November of the year 1912, to-wit:

Every parish and self-taxing municipality shall have the right to exempt new industrial enterprises and also the improved value added to unimproved lands, including all structures thereon, by immigrants into the State who occupy said lands as homesteads, from local taxes for a period not to exceed ten (10) years by the vote of 2-3 in number of all the taxpayers, who are qualified electors, including resident women taxpayers, holding at least 2-3 of the property subject to local taxation within the taxing locality at a special election called for that purpose, at which special election members of partnerships, associations and heirs of estates, otherwise qualified, shall be entitled to vote their respective pro rata of the assessed valuation of said partnerships, associations or estates. Each enterprise so exempted must be situated within the limits of the exempting authorities and be established after the exemption is granted.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That there shall be printed on the ballots to be used at said election the words "For the constitutional amendment authorizing parishes and self-taxing municipalities to exempt new industrial enterprises and also improved value, inclusive of structures, added to unimproved lands by immigrants into the State who occupy said lands as homesteads from local taxes for a period not to exceed ten years," and "Against the constitutional amendment authorizing parishes and self-taxing municipalities to exempt new industrial enterprises, and also improved value, including structures, added to unimproved lands by immigrants into the State who occupy said lands as homesteads, from local taxes for a period not to exceed ten (10) years," and each elector shall indicate on his ballot as provided by the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against the said amendment.

THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Approved August 24, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy.
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 6.

Senate Bill No. 3. By Mr. Burke.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution exempting from taxation for twenty (20) years corporations organized to lend money on mortgages on country property at not more than six (6) per cent interest, net to the borrower, with power to negotiate bonds and securities of local taxing districts.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each house concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be and the same is hereby submitted to the qualified electors of the State at the Congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November of the year 1912, to-wit:

The capital, surplus and personal estate of every corporation hereafter organized in this State for the sole purpose of lending money on mortgages on country property situated in Louisiana at a rate of interest not to exceed six (6) per cent net to the borrower, with power to negotiate and handle bonds and securities issued by the various parshes and local districts and municipalities of the State of Louisiana, shall be exempt from taxation for twenty (20) years from the date of the organization of each of said companies, provided that each of said companies shall have a full paid cash capital stock of not less than $250,000 and provided further that in case any such corporation shall on any loan charge the borrower more than six per cent interest, whether by way of commission, discount or otherwise, it shall forfeit the entire exemption herein granted, and be subject to taxation from the time it makes such loan; and any such corporation handling or negotiating any securities other than those hereinabove mentioned shall incur a like forfeiture.

No such corporation shall have power to receive any money on deposit or to do a banking business of any sort, but all such corporations shall be under the control and supervision of the State Bank Examiner, whose duty it shall be to report to the Attorney General and the State Tax Commission any violation of the condition of this exemption.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That there shall be printed in the ballots to be used at the said election the words "For the amendment to the Constitution exempting from taxation for twenty (20) years corporations organized for the sole purpose of lending money on country real estate situated in Louisiana at not more than six (6) per cent to the borrower, with power to negotiate and handle local securities," and the words "Against the amendment to the Constitution exempting from taxation for twenty (20) years corporations organized for the sole purpose of lending money on country real estate situated in Louisiana at not more than