

The True Democrat.

ELRIE ROBINSON
MRS. MAY E. ROBINSON } Editors.

Official Journal of the Parish of West Feliciana, the Towns of Bayou Sara and St. Francisville, and of the School Board.

We also own and publish Slaughter Enterprise, a weekly newspaper for the town of Slaughter, La. Advertisers will do well to get joint rates for both papers.

Entered at the Post Office at St. Francisville, La., as second-class mail matter.

Subscription, \$1.50 Per Year in Advance.

Saturday, April 18, 1908.

A MOMENTOUS ELECTION.

Tuesday, April 21, the electors throughout the state will go to the polls to decide whom their state and parish officers shall be for the next four years. To the Democrat there can be no hesitancy. He has pledged himself to support the nominees, and he will do so. The man of honor though "he sweareth to his own hurt, changeth not." This principle of conduct will animate the Democrat. It should prevent him from absenting himself from the polls, and it should make him keep his pledges when he gets there.

Still another, and as important a reason why the voter should present himself at the polls is that the amendments are to be voter for. An opportunity is afforded him to save the State large sums and to enrich the treasury to like amount by Amendment No. 1, which reduces the number of tax-collectors in New Orleans from seven to one, thereby eliminating salaries that are sinecures, a useless tax upon the commonwealth. Amendment 5 will also tend to economy. It reduces the Secretary of State's salary and perquisites. This chance of economy in the state administration alone should bring out every voter.

The other amendments are good, but the best legal opinion is divided, as to their constitutionality owing to irregularity in their inception. They will probably cause litigation. The voter may decide for himself whether he will help to save this litigation by voting down these amendments. Later they can be placed before the people in a form beyond legal cavil.

For the reasons given it is a momentous election and no man truly imbued with his duties as a citizen will think of staying away from the polls, if he can possibly reach there.

In this parish still another reason makes this election especially important. The question of prohibition will be voted on. This will bring out the vote as there is strong opinion on both sides. The True Democrat is not a prohibitionist though always against drinking and the saloon evil. We think however that to successfully cope with this matter, there should be a large proportion of public sentiment favorable thereto. We fear that such preponderance of sentiment does not exist here, as yet, and that without it whiskey can be had so easily from the adjacent parish that the loss of revenue will be the only appreciable difference in the situation. But on this the voter will vote as his conscience or his self-interest dictates, and we have no hope of changing a vote, one way or the other, so powerful are the dictates of conscience on the one hand, so blinding the directions of self interest on the other. We have never believed that the voice of the people is always the voice of God, and we do not expect it to be shown in this instance. Only through much travail of spirit, through powerful awakening does God speak, as from Sinai, in the thunders of an election. But we do beg our voters to vote as they think best for the parish and people, on Tuesday, regardless of selfish motives. That is the highest citizenship.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

To Be Submitted to the Electors at the General State Election on April 21st, 1908.

ACT NO. 10.
Senate Bill No. 5.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, prohibiting the doing of business in this State by any foreign, federal or non-resident corporation which shall sue the State of Louisiana or any of its political subdivisions or public officers, or any citizen of this State in the Federal Court, or which, when sued, shall remove or petition for the removal of a cause into the Federal Court.

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 submitted to the electors of the State at the next general State election, to be held in April, 1908, to wit:

Any foreign, federal or non-resident corporation, operating, conducting or doing business in this State, which shall institute any suit or action at law or in equity against the State of Louisiana, or any of its political subdivisions, or any of its public officers, or against any corporation or citizen of this State in any other court or courts than such as may be created and organized under the Constitution and laws of this State, or which when sued by the State or any of its political subdivisions, or any of its public officers, or any corporation or citizen of this State, shall remove, or petition, or move to remove said suit to any other court than a court created and organized under the laws of this State, shall by this fact alone be debarred, prohibited and denied the right to operate, conduct, or do any business within this State and thereafter any contract, or agreement, engagement or undertaking with, or by, or to said corporation shall be utterly null and void.

Any foreign, federal or non-resident corporation, or any person acting as agent, servant or officer of such corporation who shall make or attempt to make any contract, agreement, undertaking or engagement for, with, by or in the name of, for the use and benefit of, such corporation, after the said corporation shall have violated any of the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined not less than One Hundred Dollars, nor more than One Thousand Dollars, and may also be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than twelve months, or both, at the discretion of the court; provided, that it is not intended hereby to interfere with or prohibit the transaction of interstate business authorized under the laws and Constitution of the United States.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election to be held on the 21st day of April, 1908, and on the official ballots to be used at such election shall be placed the words "for the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, prohibiting the doing of business in this State by any foreign, federal or non-resident corporation which shall sue the State of Louisiana or any of its political subdivisions or public officers, or any citizen of this State in the Federal Court, or which, when sued, shall remove or petition for the removal of a cause into the Federal Court," and the words "against the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, prohibiting the doing of business in this State by any foreign, federal or non-resident corporation which shall sue the State of Louisiana or any of its political subdivisions or public officers, or any citizen of this State in the Federal Court, or which, when sued, shall remove or petition for the removal of a cause into the Federal Court," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the provisions, "for" or "against," he votes for.

J. W. HYAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
J. Y. SANDERS,
Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved November 27th, 1907.
NEWTON C. BLANCHARD,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 12.
Senate Bill No. 6.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to Articles 81 and 82 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to fixing the salaries of the Auditor of Public Accounts, Treasurer and Secretary of State and providing that all fees received by the Secretary of State under existing law or laws which may hereafter be enacted, shall be covered into the State Treasury.

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 Articles 81 and 82 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, be amended so as to read as follows:

Article 81. The Auditor of Public Accounts shall receive a salary of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars per annum. The Treasurer shall receive a salary of Two Thousand Dollars per annum. The Secretary of State shall receive a salary of Five Thousand Dollars per annum. Each of the said officers shall be paid monthly, and no fees, or perquisites or compensation, shall be allowed them; provided, that the fees now, or which may hereafter be fixed by law to be charged by the Secretary of State, shall be collected and paid over by him monthly to the State Treasurer to be placed to the credit of the General Fund.

Article 82. Appropriations for the clerical expenses of the officers named in the preceding article shall specify each item of appropriation; and shall not exceed in any one year, for the Treasurer the sum of Two Thousand Dollars; for the Secretary of State, the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and the salary of the Assistant Secretary of State and all clerical force of the Insurance Department and all

other expenses of his office shall be included in this amount; and for the Auditor of Public Accounts, the sum of Four Thousand Dollars.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendments of the Constitution of the State, shall be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection, as required by Article 321 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and general election laws of this State at the general State election to be held in this State on the 21st day of April, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate.
J. W. HYAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Approved November 27th, 1907.
NEWTON C. BLANCHARD,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 14.
Senate Bill No. 9.
SUBSTITUTE B THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Article 286 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana.

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 286 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be amended to read as follows:

Article 286. If any railroad, express, telephone, telegraph, steamboat, or other water craft, or sleeping car company, subject hereto, directly or indirectly, or by any special rate, rebate, or other device, shall intentionally charge, demand, collect or receive from any person, firm or corporation, a greater or less compensation for any service rendered by it, than it charges, demands or receives from any other person, firm or corporation, for doing a like and contemporaneous service, or shall violate any of the rates, charges, orders, rules or decisions of said Commission, such railroad, steamboat or other water craft, express, telegraph, telephone, or sleeping car company, shall forfeit and pay to the State not less than One Hundred Dollars, nor more than Five Thousand Dollars to be recovered before any court of competent jurisdiction, at the suit of the State, at the domicile of the Commission.

Provided that every order or decision of the Commission, fixing and establishing a rate or charge for the transportation of passengers or freight, or for the transmission of messages or conversation by telephone or telegraph, within the State, shall go into effect at such times as may be fixed by the Commission, and shall remain in effect and be complied with unless and until set aside by the commission, or by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, rendered on final trial in a suit to set aside and annul the same.

Provided that, whenever any rate, charge, rule, regulation, order or decision of the Commission is contested in court, as provided by this Constitution, or by any amendment thereto, and the same is maintained on final trial, by a court of competent jurisdiction, the railroad, express, telephone, telegraph, steamboat or other water craft, or sleeping car company, or corporation, contesting the same, shall forfeit and pay to the State of Louisiana, the sum of not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars, per day, for each day that the putting into effect and operation of the rate, order, charge, rule, regulation, or decision, of the Commission may have been suspended by such suit, to be found and adjudged by the court in which such suit may be brought and, in all such cases, the said court shall, in its judgment, maintaining the said rate, charge, rule, regulation, order, or decision, enter up a decree and judgment against the plaintiff therein, condemning such plaintiff to pay the State of Louisiana the amount of the said penalty or forfeiture so found adjudged by it, which amount, after deducting therefrom, the attorney's fees provided by Article 288 of this Constitution, shall, when collected, be paid into the State Treasury, for account of the General School Fund of the State.

The power and authority of the Commission shall affect and include, not only the transportation of passengers, freight, express matter, and telegraph and telephone messages, between points within this State, and the use of such instruments within this State, but shall also affect and include all matters and things connected with and concerning the service to be given by railroad, express, telephone, telegraph, steamboat and other water craft, and sleeping car companies and corporations, in the State, and their operation within the State.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election to be held on the 21st day of April, 1908, and on the official ballots to be used at such election shall be placed the words: "for the proposed amendment of Article 286 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and the words "against the proposed amendment of Article 286 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 provisions, "for" or "against," he votes for.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
J. W. HYAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved November 28th, 1907.
NEWTON C. BLANCHARD,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 15.
Senate Bill No. 2.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to Article 288 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to Railroads, Express, Telephone, Telegraph, Steamboat and Sleeping Car Commission.

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 Article 288 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, be amended so as to read as follows:—

Article 288. The General Assembly may add to or enlarge the powers and duties of said Commission, or confer other powers and duties on them. They may also provide additional clerical, or other assistance that may be deemed necessary for the discharge of the duties of said Commission, and may add other penalties to make the work of said Commission effective.

It shall be the duty of the Attorney General, and the various district attorneys, to aid said commission in all legal matters, for which they shall receive not exceeding 25 per cent of all fines and forfeitures collected by them; provided the commission may employ other attorneys in lieu of these officers on like terms.

No person in the service of, or attorney for, any railway, express, telephone, telegraph, steamboat or other water craft, sleeping car company or corporation, or pecuniarily interested in such company or corporation, shall hold the office of commissioner.

The fees collected, after paying the attorney's fees and the costs in suits, in which the commission may be cast for costs, shall be paid into the State Treasury.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendment of the Constitution of the State, shall be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection, as required by Article 321 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and general election laws of this State at the General State Election to be held in this State on the 21st day of April, 1908.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
J. W. HYAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved November 28th, 1907.
NEWTON C. BLANCHARD,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 25.
House Bill No. 53.
Chairman of the Joint Judiciary Committee A, B, C: Substitute for House Bills Nos. 2, 3, and 26.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Louisiana relative to tax collectors for the City of New Orleans, providing for the election of one Tax Collector for said city, fixing his term of office, his compensation and the clerical and other expenses of his office and providing for the payment thereof.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each House concurring, That there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this State the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of Louisiana, to wit:

That there shall be one State Tax Collector for the City of New Orleans who shall be elected by the qualified electors of said city for the term of four (4) years. He shall receive a salary of Five Thousand (\$5,000) Dollars per annum payable monthly. The fees received from delinquent tax-debtors, as also the fee of \$1.00 charged for tax research certificates to the persons applying for same, shall be turned over to the State Treasury.

The Legislature at its first session, after this amendment shall have been submitted to a vote of the people, as herein provided, if the same be adopted,

shall appropriate such sum as may be necessary for the payment of the clerical expenses, rent, furniture and portage for the office of said tax collector; provided, however, that the total amount of said appropriation shall not exceed the sum of \$35,000.00, and provided further that said appropriation shall be by items showing the particular use to which such appropriation funds shall be applied.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That this proposed amendment be submitted to the electors of the State for their approval or rejection as required by Article 321 of the Constitution of Louisiana and the general election laws of this State, at the general election to be held on the Tuesday following the third Monday in April, 1908.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That all properly nominated candidates for the office herein provided for shall be voted for at said general election and the one elected shall be commissioned in the same manner, and enter upon the discharge of his office, at the time when the terms of office of the present tax collectors in said city expire, and he shall supersede the present tax collectors of said city, whose offices shall be abolished by the adoption of the amendment hereby proposed; provided, however, that should the foregoing amendment not be adopted, then the election of the Tax Collector herein provided for shall be null and void.

J. W. HYAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

J. Y. SANDERS,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved December 4, 1907.
NEWTON C. BLANCHARD,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

Notice to Banks for Bids for the Custody of State Funds.

BATON ROUGE, LA., March 4, 1908.
Whereas, by section 2 of Act No. 23 of the extra session of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, approved Dec. 2, 1906, it is made the duty of the Board of Liquidation of the State debt to advertise for and invite bids from the banks throughout the State, both State and National, for the custody of funds in their respective parishes belonging to or received in behalf of the State by sheriffs or tax collectors; and

Whereas, said Board of Liquidation at a meeting held Feb. 29, 1908, by resolution authorized the carrying into effect said section 2 of said act and authorized the Secretary of State to advertise for bids in manner and form as required by law.

Now, therefore, I John T. Michel, Secretary of State, by virtue of the authority vested in me by said resolution and in accordance with said act, do hereby give public notice to the banks in each parish that bids will be received from them by the Board of Liquidation of the State debt for the custody of the funds belonging to or received in behalf of the State by the sheriffs or tax collectors of the respective parishes in which said banks are domiciled after thirty (30) days advertisement of the notice as required by law. All bids shall be sealed and endorsed on the envelope "Fiscal Agency Bid," and addressed to the State Auditor at Baton Rouge, La., and be in his possession on or before April 18, 1908.

The letting or a warding of said funds will be made by said Board of Liquidation at its meeting called by the Governor at his office after April 18, 1908, due notice of which will be given.

The successful bidder or bidders shall as security deposit with the State Treasurer an amount of bonds of the United States, or of the State (except Baby bonds) or of any parish, city, town or levee district thereof (said bonds to have a market value at least equal to the par value thereof) equal to the estimated average deposits of such authority, as determined by the record of the year previous, shall give bond with a duly authorized surety company as surety for a sum not greater than 10 per centum of the capital and surplus of such surety company, or may deposit bonds aforesaid for part of the security at the surety bond for the balance in such proportion as said bank or banks may see fit. The Board of Liquidation reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

JOHN T. MICHEL,
Secretary of State.

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