

to sell or rent land on crop payments when any provision made for payment, must be subject to this lien for services rendered on this or any other land worked by the purchaser or tenant. This is exactly the effect of this law, and any crop security, even for future rent or payment, must be subject to these liens, which the farmer cannot waive. His wife or children assign or alienate. This law will in operation do away with anything except for cash, and with land sales, except for a large cash payment and mortgage for the balance. Will this help the farmer?

To pass this law, is for North Dakota to advise the outside world that in this, our time of financial stress, we have laid aside that moral sense which prompts men to pay their debts to their full ability. Nothing could so destroy the now needed credit of the farmer, or the credit of the state with the outside world; read and consider the measure and its effects before you vote for it. Vote "No"

**SECTION 2 OF CHAPTER 300, LAWS OF 1923**, is referred; the question is as to its ratification or rejection. By this section the Legislature ratified and confirmed the joint action of the Tax Commissioner and the several boards of County Commissioners, in making settlement with 95% of the banks in the matter of tax on bank stock for the several counties which our Supreme Court held that such stock was, with money and credits, exempt from taxation. Settlement was made on approximately the same basis as the tax on personal property; between a million and a million and a quarter dollars being voluntarily paid into the several treasuries: The banks taking the position that though this property was exempt, it was morally liable to contribute to the expense of government. Refusal to ratify this law and such settlements, means that having received and expended this tax money, it is now sought to repudiate these settlements; that those banks which refused to pay, will be afforded justification in further refusing payment; and could appear to place the banker which paid, payment being made as settlement in full of any possible claim, in position to demand the repayment of their money. A "YES" is a vote for ratification.

Of the Constitutional Amendments to be voted upon, one has to do with increasing the term farm loan bonds may be issued to run; from 30 years from the authorization thereof, to 30 years from date of issue; it being impractical, as each year passes, to issue bonds for a year shorter term. Economy suggests the other amendment, requiring that in the seven counties of less than 6000 population, the County Judge act also as clerk of District Court. A more workable farm loan law warrants a 'YES' vote on the one, and the saving to these counties a 'YES' on the other.

INDEPENDENT VOTERS ASSOCIATION  
Fargo, North Dakota.

# CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

## STATE BOND ISSUE

A Joint Resolution to amend Section 182 of Article 12 of the Constitution as amended by Article 31 of Amendments by omitting the words "passage of such law" and inserting in lieu thereof "date of the issue of such bonds," so as to read as follows:

Sec. 182. The State may issue or guarantee the payment of bonds, provided that all bonds in excess of two million dollars shall be secured by first mortgage upon real estate in amounts not to exceed one-half of its value; or upon real and personal property of state owned utilities, enterprises or industries, in amounts not exceeding its value, and provided further, that the state shall not issue or guarantee bonds upon property of state owned utilities, enterprises or industries in excess of ten million dollars.

No further indebtedness shall be incurred by the state unless evidenced by a bond-issue, which shall be authorized by law for certain purposes, to be clearly defined. Every law authorizing a bond issue shall provide for levying an annual tax, or make other provision, sufficient to pay the interest semi-annually, and the principal within thirty years from the date of the issue of such bonds and shall specially appropriate the proceeds of such tax, or of such other provisions to the payment of said principal and interest, and such appropriation shall not be repealed nor the tax or other provisions discontinued until such debt, both principal and interest, shall have been paid. No debt in excess of the limit named herein shall be incurred except for the purpose of repelling invasion, suppressing insurrection, defending the state in time of war or to provide for the public defense in case of threatened hostilities.

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## COUNTY OFFICIALS

A Joint Resolution to amend Section 173 of Article 10 of the Constitution by adding the words, "provided in counties having six thousand population or less the county judge shall also be the clerk of the district court," so as to read as follows:

Sec. 173. At the First general election held after the adoption of this Constitution, and every two years thereafter, there shall be elected in each organized county in the State, a register of deeds, county auditor, treasurer, sheriff, state's attorney, county judge and a clerk of the district court, who shall be electors in the county in which they are elected, and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected and qualified; provided in counties having six thousand population or less the county judge shall also be the clerk of the district court. The legislative assembly shall provide by law for such other county, township and district officers as may be deemed necessary, and shall prescribe the duties and compensation of all county, township and district officers. The sheriff and treasurer of any county shall not hold their respective offices for more than four years in succession.