[illegible]

THOMAS C. BARRET, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
L. E. THOMAS, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Approved: August 24th, 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.

[illegible]

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

ACT NO. 7.

Senate Bill No. 4. By Mr. Burke.

[illegible]

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

ACT NO. 8.

Senate Bill No. 5. By Mr. Wolf.

[illegible]

... property in respect to municipal taxation.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., that there shall be printed on the ballots to be used at the said election the words: "For the proposed amendment authorizing the exemption of homes from taxation," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment authorizing exemption of homes from taxation," and each elector shall indicate as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

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

ACT NO. 9.

Senate Bill No. 6. By Mr. Barrow.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution providing for referendum to the people of each parish to determine whether cities and incorporated towns and villages or any one or more of them shall be free from taxes and licenses levied by parochial authorities for parochial purposes, subject to the obligation to make certain contributions to the parishes.

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 through its Police Jury shall have the right to submit and, upon the petition of one-fourth of the qualified electors therein shall submit to the qualified electors of said parish, at an election to be called and held for that purpose after thirty days published notice, the question of whether or not all or any one or more of the cities, incorporated towns and villages within the limits of the parishes (unless already exempt) shall be free and exempt from all taxes and licenses levied by parochial authority for parochial purposes, provided that whenever such exemption is granted, each city, incorporated town and village so exempted shall contribute to the parochial authorities its fair proportion of all parochial burdens, debts and expenses common to both. Such proportion to be adjusted between the Police Jury and the municipal authorities, and in case of disagreement such apportionment to be made by the State Tax Commission.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That there shall be printed on the ballots to be used at the said election the words: "For the amendment to the Constitution establishing a referendum to the people of each parish to determine whether or not cities and incorporated towns and villages shall be released from parochial taxation and licenses, subject to the condition of contributing to parish expenses," and the words: "Against the amendment to the Constitution establishing a referendum to the people of each parish to determine whether or not cities and incorporated towns and villages shall be released from parochial taxation and licenses, subject to the condition of contributing to parish expenses," 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 24th, 1912.
L. E. HALL, Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy: ALVIN E. HEBERT, Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 10.

Senate Bill No. 7. By Mr. Shaffer.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana, at the congressional election to be held in November, 1912, an amendment to the Constitution of the State exempting from taxation for ten (10) years from the date of completion the capital stock, franchises, and certain property of all corporations constructing, owning and operating within the State a combined system of irrigation, navigation and hydro-electric power, using fresh water streams and water sheds, provided that such system be completed and in operation within five (5) years from January 1st, 1913, and providing further that not less than five million dollars shall have been expended in the construction of such system.

Whereas, the State of Louisiana has large areas comprising millions of acres of land that can be reclaimed and brought into cultivation by irrigation, whereby large additions will be made to the population and the assessed value of the State; and,

Whereas, canals can be constructed so as to provide irrigation, navigation and power, and it is the State's duty to encourage and promote the organization of such concerns;

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 be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their adoption or rejection at the congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November, 1912, as follows:

There shall be exempt from taxation for ten (10) years from the date of completion, the capital stock, franchises and property of all corporations constructing, owning and operating within the State a combined system of irrigation, navigation and hydro-electric power, using fresh water of Louisiana streams, and water sheds, provided that such system shall be completed and in operation within five (5) years from January 1st, 1913, and provided further that not less than five million dollars shall have been expended in the construction of such system. No real or corporeal property shall be covered by this exemption except that which is necessarily connected with and appurtenant to each canal system and forming part thereof, nor shall this exemption extend to the assessed value that such real estate had at the time it may be acquired by the company; provided that the right of the State to regulate the discharge of its public waters from their natural beds shall not be waived by this amendment.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana exempting from taxation for ten (10) years from the date of completion certain new canals for irrigation, navigation and power purposes to be completed within five (5) years with a capital of not less than five million dollars," and the words: "Against the amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana exempting from taxation for ten (10) years from the date of completion certain new canals for irrigation, navigation and power purposes to be completed within five (5) years with a capital of not less than five million dollars." And each elector shall indicate as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

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

ACT NO. 11.

Senate Bill No. 8. By Mr. Voegtle.

Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana exempting from taxation the legal reserve of life insurance companies organized under the laws of this 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 the following amendment to the Constitution of the State be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their adoption or rejection at the congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November, 1912, as follows:

There shall be exempt from all taxation the legal reserve of life insurance companies organized under the laws of this State.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana exempting from all taxation the legal reserve of life insurance companies organized under the laws of this State," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana exempting from all taxation the legal reserve of life insurance companies organized under the laws of this State." And each elector shall indicate, as provided by the general election laws of the State, whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

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

ACT NO. 12.

House Bill No. 2. By Mr. Roberts.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution reorganizing and remodeling the State's system of assessment and taxation.

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, in the year 1912, to-wit:

ARTICLE I.

1. The taxing power shall be exercised by the State and by its sub-divisions for public purposes only.

2. The taxing power shall never be surrendered, suspended, given, commuted or contracted away; but where parishes or municipal corporations shall grant exemptions from parish or municipal taxes for a period not to exceed ten years from date of completion to encourage the establishment of industrial enterprises, or a similar exemption to immigrants of the value added by them to vacant property owned and occupied as a homestead, such exemptions shall not be withdrawn either as to enterprises established or substantially begun in good faith, or as to immigrants who have actually acquired and improved or in good faith begun to improve their homesteads, since the granting of the exemption. The General Assembly on behalf of the State, and the governing authorities of all subdivisions of the State on behalf of such subdivision, may defer for not more than three years the collection of taxes in localities subjected to overflow or other public calamity.

3. The General Assembly shall have power to classify all property for taxation, and to adopt different rules and rates for different classes, but such rules and rates shall be equal and uniform on all subjects of the same class throughout the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax. All such classifications shall be based on the characteristics of the property itself or its use, and never on persons or ownership.

4. Except in case of foreign invasion or domestic revolution, the General Assembly shall not have power to levy any ad valorem property tax in excess of four per cent; but the General Assembly shall not exceed the rate of two and one-half per cent except by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house thereof.

ARTICLE II.

1. The sources of State and local revenue shall be segregated and, except as hereinafter specified, or as may be hereafter permitted by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each House of the General Assembly, each taxing authority shall be restricted in taxation to its own sources of revenue as herein assigned.

2. Until otherwise provided by a vote of two-thirds of all of the members elected to each House of the General Assembly, the following shall be the sources of State revenue:

1st. The special taxes hereinafter provided for.

2nd. All corporations, private persons and unincorporated associations that operate any railroad falling under the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission of Louisiana; street railroad; combined street railroad and electric light and power business; heating or refrigeration plant, (not inclusive of cold storage plant); telephone line, telegraph line, whether wireless or otherwise; express line, dining car, sleeping car, oil car, refrigerating car, or cars for any other purpose operating upon railroads in this state; steamboat, motor boat, steamship, ferry, barge, and tug, or other water craft, where operated for hire, canal for transportation or irrigation, and pipe line for oil or gas. When the electric light and power business conducted in conjunction with any street railroad can be practically severed from the street railroad business for purposes of assessment then such severance shall be made by the Tax Commission and such electric light and power business shall not be a source of State revenue.

3rd. All banks, State and National, including savings banks, trust banks and trust companies, and all private bankers, whether individuals or partnerships, save that the real estate of all banks and bankers shall be locally assessed and taxed. The assessments of the real estate of banks and bankers shall be equalized annually by the Tax Commission to the basis established and in vogue in each locality where such real estate is located.

4th. All insurance companies including bonding and surety companies, foreign or domestic, and all persons and partnerships engaged in insuring persons or property, save that all the real estate and corporeal property of such companies, persons or partnerships shall be locally assessed and taxed.

5th. All sugar refineries, rice mills, cotton seed oil mills, cotton seed oil refineries and refineries of petroleum and its products. A sugar refinery is hereby defined to be a concern that buys and refines raw sugar exclusively, or a concern that buys and refines more raw sugar than the aggregate of the sugar produced by it from cane grown and purchased by it.

6th. All mines of sulphur, salt or other minerals, all oil or gas wells, all stone quarries, sand, gravel and shell pits.

3. Only the operative property of state sources of revenue shall be segregated to the State. The General Assembly shall define, in a manner not inconsistent with any provisions of this amendment what the operative property of each such source is. Real estate and the improvements thereon forming part of any railroad terminal, depot or yard or warehouse or shop, acquired after July 1, 1912, even though it may form part of the operative property of any railroad, shall not be considered a source of state revenue except by constitutional amendment, unless such property had been, prior to said date, part of a railroad terminal, depot, yard, warehouse or shop.

4. All other property subject to taxation, except as herein specified, or except as may hereafter be directed by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house of the General Assembly, shall be sources of local taxation.

ARTICLE III.

The General Assembly shall have power to levy for State purposes the following taxes:

1. A tax on the transfer of stocks in corporations not to exceed 2 cents a share.

2. A tax on the organization of domestic corporations, organized for profit, excepting banks, fraternal insurance companies, and building and loan or homestead associations, not to exceed ten dollars flat, plus not to exceed one-twentieth of one per cent of the authorized capital stock and surplus, which tax shall be levied upon increase of capital stock as well as upon original issues.

3. A tax on private corporations, organized for profit, for the privilege of exercising corporate functions, not to exceed one-twentieth of one per cent per annum on the outstanding capital stock and surplus, excluding banks, fraternal and life insurance companies and building and loan or homestead associations; no such tax to be less than five dollars. On foreign corporations this tax shall be levied on such proportions of their capital stock and surplus as is used in this State in intra-state business. In lieu of the franchise tax on capital and surplus, life insurance companies, foreign and domestic, not including fraternal insurance associations, shall pay annually a flat fee of $150.00 plus $2.50 on each $10,000.00 of premiums collected in Louisiana during the preceding year.

4. An annual ad valorem tax on all automobiles and taxicabs, and also on all other auto-driven vehicles used for transportation of persons or freight for hire, with permission to the local government of the residence of the owner to levy an annual license tax not to exceed $5.00. One-half of the proceeds, of this State tax collected from each owner shall go to the State good roads funds; the remaining moiety of such tax shall be paid over by the State to the governing authority by the locality from which the machine is registered, to be devoted exclusively by such governing authority to the improvement of the public highways within its jurisdiction.

5. A tax on cotton future contracts, in lieu of all licenses to future brokers, of not more than fifteen nor less than ten cents on each purchase and sale of each 100 bales, to be paid on each transaction, one-half by the buyer and one-half by the seller.

6. A tax on grain, coffee, rice and sugar future contracts, in lieu of all licenses to future brokers, of not more than one and one-half per cent nor less than one per cent on the commissions paid on each transaction. Each unit contract as established by the rules of the respective exchanges shall be the basis of the tax, to be paid, one-half by the buyer and one-half by the seller.

7. A true, progressive inheritance tax for the benefit of the General Fund, and if such a tax is levied all beneficiaries shall be divided into the following classes with the following maximum exemptions for each class:

First, ascendants, descendants, and spouses, with an exemption of $2000 each, except as to the widow, when the exemption shall be $5000, and except as to children under the age of sixteen, when the exemption shall be $3500 each. The widow's marital fourth shall be exempt.

Second, collateral relations of the second degree, including nephews and nieces and their descendants when the estate is divided by roots, with an exemption of $1000 to each root, and daughters-in-law with an exemption of $1000 each.

Third, collateral relations of the third degree, excluding nephews and nieces and their representatives, with an exemption of $500 each.

Fourth, all other collateral relations within the sixth degree inclusive, with an exemption of $250 each.

Fifth, strangers and all collateral relations beyond the sixth degree, with an exemption of $100 each.

The maximum rate of the progressive tax shall not exceed eight per cent for the first class, twelve per cent for the second class, sixteen per cent for the third class twenty-five per cent for the fourth class, and thirty per cent for the fifth class, maximum rates to be attained when any inheritance, legacy, or donation exceeds a half million dollars.

And the minimum rates of such tax shall be one per cent for the first class, two and one-half per cent for the second class, three and three-fourths per cent for the third class, seven per cent for the fourth class, and thirteen per cent for the fifth class. Whenever the rate of assessment levied against any inheritance, legacy, or other donation, when deducted from said inheritance, legacy, or other donation, would leave the beneficiary a smaller net amount than he would have received had the inheritance, legacy, or other donation fallen into the next lower class in the classification according to amount of actual cash value, then the rate of taxation shall be first calculated upon the maximum amount in said next lower class, and the remaining amount of the inheritance, legacy, or other donation shall be taxed at the rate fixed for the higher class into which the inheritance, legacy, or other donation falls.

Duplication of inheritance taxes as between this State and other States, foreign and domestic, shall be avoided by the exemption of corporeal property belonging to a decedent of this State, and situated outside of this State, to the extent of any inheritance tax of such other State; and by the exemption of incorporeal rights belonging to non-resident decedents, such as shares of stock in Louisiana corporations, notes, bonds, and evidences of debt due by Louisiana debtors or bearing on Louisiana property, to the same extent.

This tax shall also be applied to all donations inter vivos, the donees to be divided into the same classes hereinbefore defined. All donations inter vivos to the same person within a period of five years shall be taxed as if together constituting a single donation.

Legacies and donations inter vivos to educational, religious, or charitable institutions, or to trustees for educational, religious or charitable purposes, shall be exempt from this tax, unless such donation, or legacy, shall be more than half of the disposable portion of the testator's, or donor's estate, in which case the tax shall be imposed upon the entire legacy or donation and the legatees or donees shall be considered to be within the third class.

8. Such other special taxes as the General Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of all the members selected to each house may from time to time prescribe.

ARTICLE IV.

1. The General Assembly shall have power to levy license taxes only on persons, partnerships, associations and corporations engaged in business or occupations that fall strictly under the domain of the police power, and for that purpose to classify all such businesses and occupations, and to graduate the tax within each class.

2. Local subdivisions of the State government shall have the power to levy licenses on businesses and occupations falling strictly within the domain of the police power as provided in the foregoing section for the State, save that such local licenses as may be levied on traffic in malt, vinous and alcoholic liquors shall not be less than those levied by the State nor less than those now or hereafter to be prescribed by the General Assembly as minimum local licenses.

3. Such local subdivisions, as each may determine for itself, shall also have the right to levy license taxes, classified and graduated with due respect to equality and uniformity within each class, on all businesses and occupations not covered by Section 2 of this article; save and except licenses on corporations, persons, firms and associations whose property or business is among the sources of revenue reserved to the State, and save and except licenses on individuals engaged in trades, occupations and callings involving the personal labor or skill of the person to be taxed, and not falling within the domain of the police power; and save and except corporations, associations, partnerships or individuals engaged in manufacturing or industrial pursuits whose capital stock, or capital in business, is less than five thousand dollars, and not falling within the domain of the police power; and save and except persons, firms and corporations engaged in agricultural or horticultural pursuits. In no event shall any such local license exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the gross receipts of the licensee, provided that no license shall be less than $5.00, nor shall the licenses provided for in this section be levied unless the general property tax of each taxing locality, when exercised to sixty per cent of its limit, shall not be sufficient to pay the expenses of its government. Whenever a municipal license equals the license levied by the parish, only the municipal license shall be due and collectible.

ARTICLE V.

1. All assessments of property for State purposes shall be made by a State Tax Commission, composed of three members to be elected, not later than July 1st, 1913, by a Board composed of the Governor, the State Auditor and the State Treasurer from among the qualified electors of the respective Railroad Commission Districts, as constituted at this date, and they shall not be subject to removal except for the causes and in the manner provided for the removal of district judges.

2. The terms of the first commissioners shall be for two, four and six years. The period each is to serve shall be determined by lot. At the expiration of such terms, election shall be for the period of six years; and commissioners shall be elected and vacancies filled for any unexpired term by the qualified electors of the respective Railroad Commission Districts at the regular congressional elections held in this State the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years; and at the said congressional election held just prior to the expiration of their respective terms.

3. The Commission shall maintain an office and have its domicile at Baton Rouge, and the members shall reside in Baton Rouge and devote their time exclusively to the discharge of their duties.

4. They shall each receive a salary of Five Thousand Dollars per annum beginning January 1, 1914, and their traveling expenses, not exceeding a maximum amount to be fixed from time to time by the General Assembly, an itemized account of which shall be rendered in an annual report.

5. The chairman of the first Commission shall be named by the appointing Board and serve until the expiration of his term of office, and thereafter the Commission shall select its own chairman.

6. The Commission and the individual members thereof shall perform such duties in respect to assessment and taxation as are herein prescribed, and such other and further duties as the General Assembly may from time to time prescribe.

7. The General Assembly shall provide said Commission with an adequate clerical force.

8. The Commission shall have power to adopt and enforce such reasonable rules, regulations, and modes of procedure, not inconsistent with law, as it may deem proper for the discharge of its duties, and to hear and determine complaints that may be made against assessments, and other of its acts, required or authorized by law.

9. The Commission shall have power to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses, to swear witnesses, and to compel the production of books and papers, to take testimony under commission, and to punish for contempt, as fully as is provided by law for the district courts. The General Assembly may provide other penalties for violating the orders of the Commission.

10. If any person, firm, association or corporation shall be dissatisfied with the assessment made or action taken by the Commission, such party may file a petition setting forth the cause of objection to such assessment or action of the Commission or to either or both in a Court of competent jurisdiction, at the domicile of the Commission, against said Commission as defendant. Either party may appeal to the Supreme Court of the State without regard to the amount involved; such appeals to be returnable within ten days after the date that the decision of the lower Court becomes final. All such cases, both in the trial and appellate court, shall be tried summarily, and by preference over all other cases. Such cases may be tried in the court of the first instance either in chambers or at term time.

11. No bond shall be required of said Commission in any case in any court, nor shall advance costs, or security for costs, be required of it.

12. It shall be the duty of the Attorney General, and the various district attorneys, on proper request or direction by the Commission or the Governor, to aid the said Commission in all legal matters, and to prosecute and defend all cases in accordance with such requests and directions. A failure on the part of such law officers, when so requested or directed to perform the duties here imposed upon them, shall constitute misfeasance in office.

ARTICLE VI.

1. After January 1st, 1914, all assessments for all State purposes, except as hereinafter provided, shall be completed on or before April 1st in each year, and the taxes shall become due and payable on the first Monday in June of each year, and shall become delinquent on the first Monday in September in each year. Each parish and municipality shall have the right to fix the date for the completion of its local assessments, and the payment of its local taxes and licenses general and special, until otherwise prescribed by the General Assembly. Until otherwise provided, existing laws on these subjects shall be operative. Levee district taxes and forced contributions, exclusive of produce taxes, shall be assessed and become delinquent coincidentally with parish taxes.

2. Public service corporations shall be assessed on their physical property and on their franchises separately, but the General Assembly shall have power to direct the Tax Commission to assess the property of such corporations at a valuation including both physical property and franchises, to be determined by gross receipts, or by dividends on stocks and interest paid on bonded debt, or by any other available method.

3. Incorporated banks shall be assessed by assessing the stockholders on the book value of the stock, i. e., capital stock, surplus and undivided profits less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed, and less such further deductions of not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deduction shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits; all taxes to be paid by the banks and charged to the stockholders.

4. Individual bankers, banking firms and unincorporated banking associations, domiciled in this State, shall be assessed on the amount of capital, surplus and undivided profits actually employed in their business, less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed, actually and exclusively used and employed in their business, and less such further deductions not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deduction shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits.

5. Foreign banks, and individual bankers, banking firms and unincorporated banking associations, domiciled out of the State but doing business in this State, shall be assessed on such proportion of their capital, surplus and undivided profits as is actually employed in this State, less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed actually and exclusively used and employed in their business in this State, and less such further deductions, not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts, to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deductions shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits.

6. Insurance, bonding and surety companies, and persons, firms and associations engaged in the insurance, bonding and surety business, excluding, however, fraternal insurance companies and associations, shall be taxed on a percentage of their gross premiums received upon their business done in this State, less return premiums and reinsurance in companies or associations authorized to do business in this State. The percentage aforesaid shall not exceed three per cent for all branches of insurance, bonding and surety business, except life and industrial insurance and shall not exceed two per cent for life and industrial insurance. The special taxes to support the office of fire marshal and fire prevention bureaus shall not be deducted from the premiums hereby authorized to be taxed. When by the laws of any other state or country any taxes, fines, penalties, licenses, fees, deposits of money or of securities, or other obligations or prohibitions are imposed on insurance, bonding or surety companies of this State doing business in such other state or country, or upon their agents therein in excess of such taxes, penalties, fees, licenses, deposits of money, or of securities, or other obligations or prohibitions imposed upon such insurance, bonding or surety companies of such other State or country, so long as such laws continue in force the same obligations and prohibitions of whatsoever kind may be imposed by the General Assembly of this State upon insurance, bonding or surety companies of such other state or country doing business in this State.

7. Irrigation canals shall be taxed on a percentage not to exceed two per cent of their gross receipts, only such real estate and the buildings and structures thereon, rights of way, machinery, tools and implements as are necessary to the operation of any canal shall be included in and covered by this tax on gross receipts. All other real estate and personal property of the owner of any canal shall be locally assessed and taxed.

8. All sugar refineries, rice mills, cotton seed oil mills, cotton seed oil refineries and refineries of petroleum and its products shall be assessed on the fair market valuation.

9. Until otherwise provided by the General Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, all the operating mines of sulphur, salt or other minerals, all oil or gas wells, all stone quarries, sand, gravel and shell pits shall be taxed upon a percentage of the gross value of the product at the mouth of the mine, well, quarry or pit. This percentage shall not exceed five per cent for sulphur; three per cent for salt; two and one-half per cent for oil and gas, and two per cent for rock and other minerals, inclusive of gravel, sand and shells. This tax shall not apply to the product of any mines, quarries or pits or oil or gas wells, where the owner, other than public service corporations, uses the same for his personal purposes and does not sell the same or its products or manufacture the same into another product for sale. Where gravel, sand or shells are taken from the beds of public waters, or from shores not subject to private ownership, the General Assembly may levy special taxes per cubic yard of material taken out and may levy a different special tax for each of said objects of taxation. The Government of the United States for any purposes, and contractors engaged in the construction of any public work for the State or for the United States solely for the purposes of such public work are authorized to take free from taxation gravel, shell or sand from the beds of public waters and the public shores of the State. Every citizen of the State shall have a similar right to take such materials for his own personal use free from taxation, unless they are taken for sale. All real and personal property of the owners of such mines, wells, quarries and pits except machinery, tools and implements absolutely essential to the operation of any mine, oil or gas well, stone quarry, sand, gravel or shell pit, and except the products themselves while in the hands of the producer, shall be locally assessed and taxed.

10. All real and personal property reserved for local taxation shall be assessed at such percentage not to exceed 100 per cent of its fair market value as each local governing authority may establish, and a lower percentage may be established for personal than for real property or for the values of improvements than for land values.

11. In all assessments of real property whether for local or for State purposes, the value of the land shall be assessed separately from the value of the improvements; but railroad, pipe line and canal rights of way, whether held in fee or under easement, may be assessed separately from, or together with, the improvements thereon as the Tax Commission may deem most practicable.

12. Assessments shall be arranged geographically as far as possible either upon the roll or upon separate records and the General Assembly shall pass laws providing for the printing and publication in pamphlet form of the records, showing such geographically arranged assessments, and for the sale of such pamphlets at a small price.

13. Every taxpayer shall have the right of testing the correctness of his assessment in the Courts within such time as the General Assembly may prescribe; and no property shall be assessed for a sum in excess of the percentage of its fair market value, as prescribed by the governing authority.

14. State licenses and special State taxes shall be due and payable at such time as the General Assembly may prescribe.

ARTICLE VII.

1. Every municipality shall have the right to provide, at its discretion, by ordinance of its governing authority, the officer or officers, who shall collect its taxes, and to fix the compensation to be paid such officer, or officers, and the mode of their election or appointment; and every Parish shall elect by a vote of its qualified electors the officer, or officers, to assess its property for taxation, the compensation of such officer or officers to be fixed by the Police Jury not less than ten months before the election, and not subject to change during the elected officer's incumbency. This power shall not be exercised in the Parishes, nor in the Parish of Orleans as to assessors, until the terms of office of the present incumbents expire. After January 1, 1914, and until the expiration of the terms of said officers, all local assessments shall be made by the assessors of each Parish and the assessors of New Orleans at the present rate of compensation. All local taxes and licenses except those levied by municipalities, shall be collected by the Sheriff of each Parish, except the Parish of Orleans, at the present rate of compensation unless such compensation shall be changed by the General Assembly. After January 1, 1914, Parish Assessors shall be compensated by the Parishes and the Assessors of the Parish of Orleans by the City of New Orleans. If under the referendum amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted providing a way to relieve municipalities from general parish taxes, subject to an obligation to contribute to certain funds, is adopted, then each municipality so relieved from such taxation, shall have the right by its governing authority, to provide for the appointment or election of its own assessor or assessors and to fix their compensation.

ARTICLE VIII.

1. In order to reimburse parishes and municipalities now free from parish taxes for loss of revenue caused by the withdrawal of the sources of state revenue from parish or municipal taxation, there is hereby granted to each parish and to each such municipal corporation the right to levy an additional tax of six mills on unsegregated property.

2. In order to similarly reimburse municipalities not now free from parish taxes each parish shall levy annually for eight years after January 1, 1914, the six mill tax aforesaid, or so much thereof as may be necessary, and out of the proceeds of this tax each parish shall, under the supervision of the Tax Commission, compensate each such municipality within its limits for loss of revenue caused by such withdrawal. Such compensation to be made on the basis provided in the following sentence for compensation by the state to parishes. If the proceeds of such tax remaining to each parish, added to the proceeds of the levy of the one per cent tax now permitted to be levied, after making the compensation aforesaid, shall not be sufficient to repay to said parish the sum it would have received by the levy of its present one per cent alimony tax on the basis of the assessment rolls of 1911, plus an increase of five per cent on the amount of said tax, then the state shall compensate each parish the amount of such deficiency as fixed and reported by the Tax Commission.

3. Any municipality now free, or hereafter made free, from parish taxation which is not reimbursed by the levy of the additional six mill tax, the power to levy which is hereby granted to it, shall be compensated by the General Assembly on the basis above provided for compensation by the State to the parishes, the amount of said compensation to be fixed by the Tax Commission.

4. The obligation to make the compensation herein provided for shall be mandatory on the General Assembly, but no such compensation shall be made after the year 1921.

5. After the year 1921, no parish shall levy any part of such six mills within the limit of any incorporated municipality and said municipalities shall be entitled to levy and collect such six mill tax for their own account.

6. The claims of each parish and municipality for compensation shall be presented to the Tax Commission, which shall examine such claims and report the facts and its conclusions to the General Assembly on or before the first day of each regular session.

7. In reimbursement for the state sources of revenue herein withdrawn from her assessed values, and for the joint benefit of her alimony and her existing one per cent debt tax, the city of New Orleans, after January 1st, 1914, is hereby granted the right to levy annually and shall levy annually as long as said one per cent debt tax is required by law to be levied, an additional tax of six mills. Out of the proceeds of this tax, there shall be paid by preference annually to the Board of Liquidation of the City Debt, for the benefit of the one per cent debt tax, a sum equal to that which said tax produced in the year 1912 on the segregated sources of state revenue situated within the city limits, and the balance of the proceeds of said six mill tax shall go the alimony fund of the city.

8. The two mill ad valorem special sewerage and water tax of the City of New Orleans shall continue to be levied as long as required by law on the sources of State revenue subject to an ad valorem tax.

9. In case the referendum amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted providing a way to relieve municipalities from general parish taxes subject to an obligation to contribute to certain funds, is adopted, then the power to levy six mills of additional taxes is hereby granted to all parishes voting for such release to be levied on property outside of the municipalities, and the power to levy six mills of additional taxes is hereby granted to each municipality so released to be levied on the property within its corporate limits, the obligation of the State to make compensation remaining the same. Whether said amendment shall be adopted or not the power to levy the extra tax of six mills, hereby granted to all municipalities that are now exempt from parish taxes shall remain undisturbed.

10. And whether said amendment shall be adopted or not adopted, the police juries of the several parishes and the governing authorities of cities (the Parish of Orleans excepted), and towns not subject to parish taxes, shall levy and collect and turn over to the duly constituted school authorities under the supervision and control of the State Board of Education, an amount equal to at least three-tenths of the gross amount of ad valorem taxes, which they levy and collect, provided that such amount shall never be less in any parish or municipality than the greatest amount due from such parish or municipality to the school board from the constitutional three mill school ad valorem tax collected for either the year 1911 or 1912, taking the year which yielded the highest amount. Provided further, that cities and towns that are not exempt from the payment of parish taxes shall not be required to pay this ad valorem tax if it be already imposed by the parish authorities; provided further, that this ad valorem tax shall not be imposed to the maximum whenever the school board certifies that a smaller levy shall meet the needs of the schools.

11. All property the taxation of which is reserved to the State, except products of mines, of stone quarries, of sand, gravel or shell pits, and of oil or gas wells, as well as all other property which may not be specially exempted from such taxation, shall continue to be subject to special taxes now in force, and shall be liable to such special taxes as may be imposed by local, special districts and political subdivisions in the future in accordance with law; provided that no parish or incorporated municipality shall levy a special tax for the support of any purpose which it is obligated to take care of out of its ordinary alimony, until it shall have first exhausted its ordinary taxing power, upon an assessment of at least fifty per cent of the market value of the property subject to its taxing authority.

12. Levee District taxes and forced contributions shall continue to be levied within each district on the sources of State revenue situated in each levee district, and all levee taxes and contributions shall be collected by the sheriff of each parish, under existing law, and in New Orleans by the State tax collectors until June 30, 1916, and thereafter by the collecting officer of the City of New Orleans.

13. The taxes mentioned in the foregoing sections 8, 11 and 12, as to property reserved for State revenue, shall be based on the assessment made by the State Tax Commission for State purposes, equalized annually by said Tax Commission in each parish or municipality to the basis of assessment therein locally established.

ARTICLE IX.

1. All revenues received by the State from all sources shall go into a fund called the General Fund, and the General Assembly shall apportion said fund among all the public purposes for which taxation is levied, setting aside, however, each year, the following:

A. For the General Public School Fund not less than one-fifth of the gross revenues of the State from all sources provided that such apportionment shall never be less than One Million and Thirty Thousand Dollars ($1,030,000.00).

B. For the General Engineer Fund not less than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars ($400,000.00).

C. For Confederate Pensions not less than the amount provided or to be provided by the Constitution.

D. For the Good Roads Fund, not less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000.00), plus the whole proceeds of the State's moiety of the special automobile, taxicab and auto-driven vehicle tax.

E. For the Public Debt Fund not less than Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($525,000.00), or not less than Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($650,000.00) if the Public Debt amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted is adopted.

ARTICLE X.

1. All State taxes and licenses except as hereinafter provided shall be collected by the State Treasurer. The General Assembly shall provide such additional clerical force in the Treasurer's office as may be necessary to enable him to perform the duties herein prescribed.

2. The General Assembly shall have the power to provide for special Revenue Agents, not to exceed three in number, to assist the Treasurer in collecting all licenses, and taxes, and to assist the Tax Commission in gathering information for levying assessments, and shall fix the compensation and duties of such agents.

ARTICLE XI.

1. All articles and parts of articles of the Constitution of 1898 on the subject of assessment and taxation, and all amendments thereto on said subjects contrary to or in conflict with the provisions of this amendment be and the same are hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE.

1. No part of this amendment to the Constitution shall go into effect until January 1st, 1914, except that the provisions of sections one, two, five, six and seven of Article III, as to special taxes shall go into effect as soon as the General Assembly shall pass laws carrying them into effect, and the provisions of sections three and four of said article shall go into effect on January 1st, 1913, provided laws carrying them into effect shall be passed on or before March 1, 1913; provided further, that laws carrying them into effect may be enacted at any later date.

2. On and after January 1st, 1914, the office of the State Board of Appraisers and the office of State Board of Equalization shall be abolished, but the present incumbents shall hold their offices at the present rate of compensation until their present terms shall expire and they shall aid the Tax Commission in putting the system provided for in this amendment into operation, and in that connection they shall perform such duties as the Tax Commission and the General Assembly may prescribe.

3. The license tax authorized by the present Constitution to be levied on the severance of natural resources from the soil, shall be superseded by this amendment as to the severance of minerals, oil and gas, and shall be levied only on the severance of forest products.

4. When this amendment goes into effect on January 1, 1914, the special state taxes levied for good roads and for Confederate Veterans as now established or as may be established, by the amendment to be submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted, shall cease, and the General Assembly shall make provision out of the General Fund for the benefit of each of these special funds as hereinabove provided.

5. All State taxes and licenses uncollected on January 1, 1914, for 1913 and previous years, shall be collected and accounted for, under existing laws, by the sheriffs in the parishes, and the State Tax Collector in New Orleans, but all such collections must be completed by June 30, 1914, up to which date the State Tax Collector of New Orleans shall remain in office. He shall also collect all State licenses levied in the Parish of Orleans until said date and the General Assembly shall provide for a reduction of his clerical force to take place on June 30, 1914. After June 30, 1914, any State licenses and taxes then remaining unpaid, shall be collected by the State Treasurer. The General Assembly shall by appropriate legislation provide compensation on an equitable basis to the tax collectors and assessors of the several parishes for the sums they may lose after January 1st, 1914, to the date of the expiration of their terms of office in commissions on the State taxes that would have accrued on the sources of revenue segregated to the State, provided that the State shall be under no obligation to reimburse them in any greater amount than will guarantee to them a sum equal to the total of the commissions of their office for the years 1911 or 1912, taking the year which shows the highest amount, and the General Assembly shall at its regular session in 1914 and 1916 make an estimate of the probable amount needed for such purpose, and make appropriation to cover the same; and at the biennial sessions of 1916 and 1918 it shall make a further appropriation to cover any deficiency.

6. The amendments to the Constitution submitted to the people at the same time that this amendment is submitted, proposing to exempt from taxation the objects therein specially set forth, if adopted, shall not be affected by the provisions of this amendment; nor shall this amendment be construed as affecting any property now exempt from taxation under the Constitution of 1898 and its amendments.

7. The Public Debt Amendment, submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted, if adopted, shall be superseded by this amendment in respect to the mode of providing the public debt fund guaranteed by such amendment.

Prior to January 1, 1914, the General Assembly shall pass proper statutes to carry this amendment into operation; and the Governor shall call an extra session of that body for that purpose as soon as convenient after this amendment is adopted.

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 amendment to the Constitution reorganizing and remodeling the State's system of assessment and taxation";

And the words—

"Against the amendment to the Constitution reorganizing and remodeling the State's system of assessment and taxation."

And each voter shall indicate on his ballot, as provided by the general election laws of the State, whether he votes for or against said amendment.

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

Succession de Emile C. Sundstrom.

COUR CIVILE DE DISTRICT POUR LA paroisse d'Orléans—No 101,[?]—Division C—Attendu que E. H. Henrick a présenté une pétition à la Cour à l'effet d'obtenir des lettres d'administration dans la succession de feu Emile C. Sundstrom, décédé intestat; avis est par le présent donné à tous ceux que cela peut concerner d'avoir à démontrer dans les dix jours les raisons pour lesquelles il ne serait pas fait droit à ladite pétition, et pourquoi la description et l'évaluation de la propriété de cette succession ne seraient pas approuvées et homologuées. Par ordre de la Cour. THOMAS CONNELL, Greffier. E. M. Stafford, avocat.
20 août—sept 1[?]