

# Some State Legislators Would Like to Have Convention Soon

Washington (Congressional Quarterly)—The last time the United States held a constitutional convention was in 1787 when the founding fathers gathered in Philadelphia to draw up the Constitution of the United States. But if a group of conservatively oriented state legislators have their way, there will be another national constitutional convention soon.

The Constitution provides two methods of amendment. The only method used so far has been for the Congress, by two-thirds vote in both chambers, to approve a new amendment, after which it is submitted to the states and becomes effective if three-quarters of them ratify.

The Constitution also permits the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, by passing resolutions, to require Congress to call a constitutional convention to consider a specific amendment. If the convention should approve such an amendment, it would then be submitted for the approval of three-fourths of the states.

The second method has never succeeded in the past, either because the legislative memorials to Congress lacked uniform wording, or because the memorials were passed many years apart, destroying their effectiveness as a single mandate to Congress.

Backers of a limit on the income tax, for instance, claim that three-quarters of the states have submitted some type of memorial on this subject. But the record shows that the memorials date back as far as 1938, contain widely differing wording and provisions, and that some states have even attempted to rescind their resolutions.

Congress has never set down a policy as to how many years apart memorials must be, whether states can rescind memorial resolutions, how a constitutional convention would be organized, who would sit in it, and the like. But some Congressional committees are currently considering calling hearings on the subject this summer.

The specific impetus for a fresh Congressional look at the second method of amending the Constitution comes from the campaign recently initiated by the General Assembly of the States, a group of state legislators affiliated with the Council of State Governments. This group is seeking to persuade two-thirds of the states to memorialize Congress to call a constitutional convention to consider three states' rights amendments.

The General Assembly approved the three amendments at its Dec. 6, 1962 meeting in Chicago and recommended that "to the fullest extent possible" all state legislatures be in session in early 1963 for the purpose of passing the memorials in identical form, thereby avoiding the past defects of the little-used amending process.

The three proposed amendments and their success to date:

**Prohibit the U.S. Supreme Court or any other federal court from exercising jurisdiction in any case "relating to appointment of representatives in any state legislature."** This amendment is intended to nullify the effects of the March 1962 Supreme Court decision in the Tennessee apportionment case (Baker v. Carr), which has resulted in court cases in 36 states and reapportionments - almost all benefitting urban or suburban areas at the expense of rural counties - in 17 states.

The reapportionment memorial resolution was approved so far in 11 states - Arkansas, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. It was also passed in Nebraska but vetoed by Gov. Frank B. Morrison (D) who said it would weaken the U.S. Constitution.

Four states - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida and Wyoming - have asked Congress to call a constitutional convention to consider this amendment.

Change the amending process of the Constitution so that two-thirds of the states could directly propose constitutional amendments without obtaining, as is now required, the approval of Congress or a constitutional convention.

This amendment has been endorsed by the legislatures of 9 states in memorials to Congress - Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Concerted liberal opposition to the proposed amendments is just forming. The most sweeping condemnation of them to date came recently from Prof. Charles L. Black Jr. of Yale Law School who said they were "radical in the extreme" and "constitute, collectively, one more attempt, so late in the day, at converting the United States into a confederation."

Chief Justice Earl Warren recently said the proposals "would make profound changes in the judiciary, the relationship between the Federal and state Governments, and even in the stability of the Constitution."

States' rights defenders, however, say that resentment about encroaching federal power is building up in the states and that the proposed amendments cannot be dismissed as a concoction of reactionary groups.

George Pringle, staff man of the National Legislative Conference, says "we have steered clear of the 'isms' the citizens councils, that type of thing." Backers of the movement, he says, "sincerely believe in it as a matter of state independence."

State Rep. Warren Wood (R-Ill.) who originally proposed the "Court of the Union" amendment, says he supports it because the 10th Amendment, which reserves to the states or the people all powers not delegated to the Federal Government in the Constitution, has been "raped twice a day for ten years."

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## Knights of Columbus Hold Installation

Alex Austin was installed grand knight at a recent meeting of the Knights of Columbus council in their building on Black Oak dr., Medford.

Also installed by Robert Herbage, district deputy, and Stephen Ferche, grand knight, Roseburg, were Robert Knight, Roseburg, grand knight; Charles Moore, chancellor; Donald MacPherson, warden; Wilson Edinger, advocate; Iven Allen, recording secretary; Robert Messer, treasurer; Lee Pendergast, in-

## Residents Warned Of 'Notice' Mail

The Medford Chamber of Commerce has warned residents about the use of official-looking "public notice" mailings to sell so-called "distress" merchandise.

Don McNeil, manager of the chamber, said that the public notice headings are similar in style to legal notices and auction and bankruptcy announcements. The implication is that the merchandise is being sacrificed at a fraction of its worth to satisfy the claims of creditors.

In a typical example the mailing notes that several tons of brand new cookware with a "list price" of \$199.50 must be sacrificed for \$35, implying the need to satisfy creditors claims.

The merchandise is being regularly sold throughout the country in large volume for \$35 by means of this gimmick, McNeil said, noting that the list price of \$199.50 is "wholly fictitious."

**Fishers BISKIT MIX**  
40-oz. Pkg.  
**25¢**

**Standby SHORTENING**  
Pure Vegetable  
3-lb. Tin  
**49¢**

**Bordens EVAPORATED MILK**  
8 tall tins for 99¢  
Case of 48 \$5.89

**MARGARINE Sliced Cheese Salad Macaroni Marshmallow Potted Meat Potato Chips Corn, Payette Salad Oil Cheese Loaf**

**6 LBS 89¢**  
**4 FOR 99¢**  
**25¢**  
**23¢**  
**10¢**  
**59¢**  
**8 FOR 99¢**  
**39¢**  
**59¢**

## The Medical Roundup

by *Walter T. Sawyer*  
Emeritus Consultant in Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
Emeritus Professor of Medicine  
Mayo Clinic  
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1963)

**Anti-Tuberculosis Drugs Given Free**  
Dr. J. Arthur Myers of the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, one of the country's experts on tuberculosis, said in a recent release that tuberculosis is now costing the United States \$740 million a year, primarily because we are neglecting to use the methods of diagnosis and cure that we have available.

Tuberculosis is still killing 10,000 of our people each year and in 1962, 55,000 new and active cases of the disease were reported. Sad to say, some 43,000 of these were in an advanced stage, in which a cure is difficult to obtain. What is most distressing is that a large percentage of the infected people have not yet had the proper diagnosis made and they constitute a tremendous danger to their families and to the nation as a whole.

As Dr. Myers says, we should begin right away skin testing all children with tuberculin (like a vaccine) to see if they are infected. The menace of tuberculosis will not be eliminated until one generation of children after another has gone through life free from infection with tubercle bacilli. Such a campaign will cost money, but it will save us many millions of dollars in hospitalization alone.

A skin test provides information about the infection but it does not tell us whether in the individual there is active tuberculosis.

**WESTGATE 'OURS FRESHER BAKERY**  
**BANANA LAYER CAKE**  
Fresh Delicious, 7-In.  
**88¢**

**MAPLE BARS** each 5¢  
**LEMON MERINGUE PIE** each 49¢  
**ORANGE NUT BREAD** 15-oz. 29¢  
**FRENCH BREAD** 15-oz. 27¢

**Oregon FOOD STORES**  
MEDFORD—Westgate Center  
MEDFORD—13th and Central  
ASHLAND—Gateway Shop. Center  
We Reserve The Right To Limit  
Prices Effective thru Sunday, July 21

**STRAWBERRIES**  
More of Those Red Ripe Luscious Berries  
**4 Full Cups 98¢**

**TOMATOES** Extra Large Vine Ripened Slicers lb. **21¢**  
**GREEN BEANS** Snapping Fresh Locally Grown lb. **19¢**

**CUCUMBERS** To Make the Perfect Salad **3 for 21¢**  
**ZUCCHINI** Fresh Tender Green Squash **2 for 29¢**

**Large Red Haven Peaches** lb. **19¢**  
**Medium Red Haven Peaches** 20-lb. Lug **1.99**