

# DANGER AHEAD!

In the Primary that will be held throughout Pennsylvania on Tuesday, September 17th, the most costly Administration in the history of this Commonwealth, for its own partisan, political advantage, will ask the people of this State to abandon their present Constitution in favor of one which would radically change the form of government in Pennsylvania.

The issue will be put squarely up to every voter in the form of a question upon a special ballot. You will be asked to vote YES or NO to a Constitutional Convention. Reduced to its simplest terms, the question is whether—

- (1) We shall retain our present Constitution, which for more than 60 years has kept this State out of debt and assured the people of Pennsylvania the widest latitude of self-government, with the largest degree of home rule—the American System; or
- (2) We shall substitute the kind of a Constitution demanded by this Administration, which would divest the people of Pennsylvania of many important rights now reserved to them, and perpetuate the present Administration in office, with unlimited authority to borrow upon the public credit, raise taxes, destroy home rule, and concentrate all powers in the Governor and a single-branch Legislature under his control.

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, the State Grange, the State Chamber of Commerce, numerous patriotic and fraternal organizations, and many thousands of individuals, are opposing the proposed Convention and new Constitution, for the following among many reasons:


1. The announced purpose is to bring the Constitution of Pennsylvania into line with the New Deal, whose costly experiments have piled up an unprecedented public debt, retarded recovery and are in conflict with the Constitution of the United States and the American form of government.
2. To further centralize all power and authority in Harrisburg, it is proposed to abolish the State Senate (which slashed more than 78 millions from the Governor's program for 203 millions of new taxes) and create a single legislative body subservient to the Executive.
3. Under the plan for consolidating local political units, Home Rule, as now carried out through local governments, administered by local officers, responsible only to the people, largely would disappear from Pennsylvania.
4. The Legislature would have power to abolish the Grand Jury, allow criminal indictments merely upon information, and provide for convictions upon less than a unanimous verdict by a jury.
5. The Legislature would have power to bring any branch of business or industry under complete State regulation; to go into the housing business; to charter and subsidize corporations to compete with private enterprise in housing projects; to consolidate and supervise local relief and charitable agencies; and to set up unemployment relief as a permanent dole in Pennsylvania.
6. A Governor, stumping the State as the chief exponent of a new Constitution, whose outstanding features would be the right of the Governor to succeed himself, and the removal of all limit on borrowing power, tells the story of this proposed revision. The assertion that the present Constitutional limit on borrowing requires a new Constitution is utterly without basis, first, because the Supreme Court has ruled that millions may be borrowed for any emergency upon a note issue against anticipated revenue, once the Legislature has provided for that revenue; second, because there is no provision in the present Constitution which cannot be changed by an amendment approved by the people of Pennsylvania.
7. Our Constitution is the basis of our whole social, political and economic structure, and every dictate of wisdom warns against completely rewriting it in any period of economic unrest and political instability such as exists at the present time. And especially is that true when the chief advocates of this revision would provide for waste and extravagance without limit, at a time when every need cries out for reducing the costs of government and keeping new taxes to a minimum.
8. While proponents of a new Constitution have baited their hook with "Social Security," exactly the same results can be obtained by an amendment of the existing Constitution; but we believe that the kind of social security every self-respecting Pennsylvanian wants is that which is to be had from industrial recovery resulting from the removal of governmental interference with business, thus providing good jobs at good wages, and the ability of each to provide for self and family, free of Federal, State or local charity.

This dangerous proposal is being advocated by the self-interested, free-spending, tax-raising Administration at Harrisburg as a means of continuing itself in office, with free access to the public credit.

**The Day to Defeat it is Tuesday, September 17th**

**THE WAY TO DEFEAT IT IS TO VOTE ON YOUR SPECIAL BALLOT AS INDICATED OPPOSITE** 

Shall a constitutional convention be called in accordance with and subject to the limitations contained in Act No. 212 of the one thousand nine hundred and thirty-five session of the Legislature to prepare a new or revised Constitution of this Commonwealth?	Yes	
	No	<b>X</b>



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