

you the exercise of great care to the end that the mobility of government be not destroyed; as hard and fast rules frequently lead to greater hardships than existed before these apparent remedial and beneficial steps were taken.

It would seem to harmonize better with our system of government to vest this power of fixing a maximum amount of appropriations for various government purposes—that is an amount which the Legislature can appropriate according to its own discretion—in the hands of the Treasury officials, the Comptroller and the State Treasurer, who are supposed to possess that intimate and accurate knowledge of the State Treasury's possibilities and limitations necessary to best accomplish the desired result. The reason for not including the Governor as one of the Budget Commissioners is that by the exercise of his Constitutional right of veto he could exert an afterthought with more freedom and effectiveness than were he bound by the recommendations or suggestions of a body of which he was a member, namely, the Board of Public Works. Thus we would have two independent restraints upon the recommendations of the Budget Commissioners,—the Governor and the Legislature.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Many subjects upon which you will be required to act can probably be best accomplished through changes in the Constitution of our State. Nearly every Legislature for the past eight or ten Sessions has found that the progressive legislation desired was restrained by some Constitutional limitation. This has resulted in submitting to the people of the State for approval, at almost every general election, one or more amendments to the Constitution. This has brought about a condition where we now have much confusion and a lack of co-ordination in the organic law of our State.

In order to avoid the many recurring amendments and to bring our Constitution up to the requirements of the day, and immediately meet the present ideas of government, it seems that it would be wise and economical to provide for a Constitutional Convention to redraft the whole scheme and to form it into