

of the financial plans of the Governor. It has accordingly framed the proposed constitutional amendment in such a way as to permit the Legislature by a three-fifths vote, and subject to the usual provisions with regard to the approval of the Governor, to appropriate money for a purpose not included in the Governor's estimates, on the condition that provision is made in the act of appropriation for the levy of a tax sufficient in amount to defray the expenses necessitated by such act of appropriation.

Apart from this power of initiating appropriations the Commission has believed that the example offered by city charters might be followed. It has accordingly, and in compliance with the Democratic platform, provided that as a general thing the Legislature may not alter the estimates of appropriations submitted by the Governor except to strike out or reduce them, and it has confined the power of the Legislature at a regular session to initiate an appropriation to the period of the legislative session subsequent to action upon the estimates submitted by the Governor.

It is further to be noted that the Commission has felt that the separation of the three great departments of government, which is such a characteristic feature of American political organization, makes it desirable to treat the estimates for the legislative and judiciary departments differently from the other estimates. The estimates for the Legislature and judiciary are not to be subject to the revisory powers of the Governor. Those for the Legislature and judiciary are to be certified to the Governor, and are to be transmitted by him without revision to the Legislature. The estimates of the judiciary as provided by law are to be certified by the Comptroller, and the Legislature may increase them, but not reduce them. The effect of this method of treating the estimates for the judiciary will be that no reduction in the provision made by the law for the judiciary may be made in an Appropriation Act. The Legislature may, however, by an Act, not an Appropriation Act, but subject to the limitations of the Constitution, change the provision made by law for the Courts. In case it should do so, the Comptroller must, the next time a Budget Bill is presented, certify the estimates for the judiciary, as provided by the law.

The estimates for the Legislature are to be certified by the presiding officer of each House for transmission without revision to the Legislature, which may increase or reduce them.

In order to carry out the spirit of the provision of the platform which seeks to protect "the State's outstanding obligations," and in order to preserve as far as possible un-