

tion that it provide also for the revenue which the accomplishment of its purpose necessitates.

Fourth—We have not attempted in the amendment proposed to deal with existing continuing appropriations. We have felt that it would be improper to repeal such appropriations by constitutional provision. Indeed, so far as a continuing appropriation is a part of a contractual obligation, as for example, a continuing appropriation for interest and sinking fund for the State debt; a repeal of such an appropriation in the State Constitution would be unavailing, since it would contravene that provision of the United States Constitution which forbids a State to pass any law impairing the obligation of a contract.

We have, however, provided in the amendment submitted that the Legislature may from time to time enact such laws not inconsistent with the amendment as may be necessary and proper to carry out any of its provisions. Under this clause the Legislature may repeal all continuing appropriations not of a contractual character. Such a policy it is to be remembered is approved by the platform of the party under the instructions of which this Commission has been working. It is, however, a policy which would be realized rather by legislation than by constitutional provision.

Out of abundant caution and in order to carry out the purpose of the platform to protect the "State's outstanding obligations," we have left it in the power of the Legislature to pass at any time and in the usual manner an Appropriation Bill for the payment of all the State's obligations protected by the provision of the Constitution of the United States forbidding a State to pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts.

In conclusion, we beg to emphasize the fact that in the opinion of the Commission the proposed amendment is in all its details in exact accordance with the provisions of the Democratic platform.

FRANK J. GOODNOW, Chairman,  
JAMES ALFRED PEARCE,  
JOSEPH D. BAKER,  
B. HOWELL GRISWOLD, JR.,  
PHILIP D. LAIRD,  
WILLIAM M. MALOY,  
F. NEALE PARKER,

*Commission.*