

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

- 1- Revenue & Finance
 re Possibilities of tax reform
- 2- Water rights
 re what is 'beneficial' public use?

Dear Mr. Scanlin:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

- 3- Ballot
 re how to vote on
 Unicom. & gambling?
 O.K.?

RER:gn

Don,
 Don S.

Please give me a hand by sending on
the questions you're getting in your area.

Thanks & best personal
regards,
 Rich

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

Dear Mrs Bates:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rush

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

RER:gn

Grace -

*would you jot down the questions you've
been getting in your area?*

Thanks,

Is it better than what we have now?

Is it as good as the old?

What's different?

Some General Section involved us!

Grace Bates

April 5, 1972
Great Falls, Montana 59405
26 Prospect Drive

Dear Dick,

Hope you get the tabloid supplement going soon for the momentum of "need" is growing also, I believe. We 4 gals in GF have been out already speaking to groups about 3 times each. The fellows I think are reluctant. However, we got together for breakfast just yesterday morning to formulate a plan for local TV, radio and speaking engagements without duplication and to be able to cover all requests. We also discussed the information you are requesting as an assist to ourselves, so here it is:

1. The rural towns and people seem to have on their minds "Was it in the old Constitution" "Is it different from the old Constitution". We feel they have never read the constitution, and aren't curious beyond what we reply, but guess you know it is time consuming for us to look up in the Constitution and make an on the spot evaluation if it was in the constitution, or which sections were included in one - the use of the yellow book seems to quell some fears more than our referral to the comments from our workbooks from the convention. We even feel they aren't to interested in the section proposed, as the fact was it, or wasn't it in the old constitution. It would seem this comparison would be valuable, and especially help the delegates.
2. We all have learned, as perhaps you have, that the few minutes of personal conversation we can have in our businesses, socially or walking down the street when we are asked "Do you think it is a good constitution" - or "do you recommend voting for it because I don't understand this stuff" - or "if you say it's good good, I'll vote for it because I voted for you" - would indicate to us that perhaps a statement "Talk to your delegate" would be a good inclusion (altho I realize the rural people might frankly be told by the Archie Wilsons and Kamhoots to vote "No" - so evaluate that one. It does appear the rank and file citizen, however in the urban area are being convinced by the few personal conversations with a delegate they know.
3. Again among the small towns and rural people, the letter under Joe Eskildsen's signature that went out from the Board of Examiners telling them their taxes could go up 2000% is a real problem. The heads of the farm organizations have really spread the word locally at meetings and by letter to each individual member, and they do have confidence in their organizations it appears. We do create a doubt in their minds as delegates whom they apparently trust, and appreciate the logic of the commissioners and Board being the judge and jury as versus the proposal we make - so some inroad is being made, but it might be a good one for you to include comment on. The urban people think the change is great!
4. Other than the engineering firms who are involved in the Highway Dept., the anti-diversion section sounds good to the average citizen. They all have their peeve with the Dept. and apparently the building proposal of the Highway Dept. was just going too far. We find the idea of accountability of funds to the people through the Legislature appeals, as well as the idea we should be thinking eventually in terms of "transportation" as versus earmarked funds for highways alone. The contractors come back with the comment that when the time comes for other transportation the Legislature should set up more earmarked funds for airports, mini-rails, or whatever. They apparently are continuing to get influencing letters from the Highway Dept. Since we have an engineering and architectural supply store, we have practically everyone of the contractors in the state in frequently, and it occurs to me they don't want to change their minds about the accountability part of it, altho they admit they don't like having to give the cash donation with the bid and it is kept whether they

get the bid or not - seems this is an innovation of Gov. Anderson - it used to be the kickback was made only by the successful bidder. I have told them it must be their conscience then, that determines their vote - whether they supported me for efficient government or want the system they now have. Think some of the contractors are aware the average citizen is becoming aware of the Highway operation as it now exists, and they might get caught in their own trap as far as their integrity is concerned. I know most of this isn't pertinent to what you can include in the brochure, but maybe as background it will have some value. ^{to} It is a subject that can't be overlooked, I feel, to encourage the average voter. know that for total accountability, financially, the anti-diversion section is a step forward, for they have the bulk of the votes.

Local Govt. seems to please everyone, both the elected officials and the people, small towns, who feel they will be left alone, and the city for relief. Don't think there is any problem there - it is received enthusiastically wherever we have spoken.

Again, the urban area thinks the Revenue and Finance article is great, but the small towns and rural people think it is opening up a Pandora of taxes - somehow the story has gotten to them that if the 2 mill levy had been officially included in the new proposal, it would have made them secure for the future, but now they think "will my taxes go up 5 times next year" (actually one question asked).. Maybe you can work on that.

It seems to us there won't be too much problem in our urban area - for the attitude is that the new constitution must offer some relief if the delegates say so, and be better than the one we are using now. It appears the rural and small town folks are fearful, of course, of anything, mostly because of their lack of knowledge of the whole operation of government, and pride themselves on knowing personally an elected official to whom they can go with their problems - and how you can cope with that I wonder!

The other big question asked is if we are going to vote on each section, and why the special election (our clerk and recorder aired his ire about the extra "work" etc. in the Sunday paper, leaving people wondering why the convention choose to make the election separate, etc) The answer that the organic act requires it be handled this way, and the convention had to tailor the ballot and election to meet these requirements, seems to be a satisfactory answer. The people are as confused as the delegates it seems about the fact they must vote on each of the four items and not overlook voting for any one of them etc., etc. It would seem important to point out this fact, that everyone must vote "no" or "yes" on each item. City people immediately understand the physical impossibility of voting on each section in the voting booth, and are interested to know they will have a copy of the proposal mailed to them officially if they are registered to make their decisions before they go to vote. Most leave this conversation with "if there is something I don't understand I'll phone you". In the city, the people's attitude is optimistic - but the rural attitude is fearful from the communications they have received and they are confused.

I am hopeful the Extension Service will do the usual good job they have been in the past on Interlocal arrangements, and think if they would devote their next brochures to the revenue and finance article particularly, it would counter-balance some of the information they are getting from the farm organizations. Clyde Jarvis at lunch the other day to Forward Great Falls made quite a speech about the good proposal we had produced, and heartily approved it to them. I am hoping he will do something like that within his organization - will ask him the next time I see him.

I know I have been wordy, Dick, but hope I have conveyed the attitude as we see it to date, and I am sure you will hear about the same from the other delegates.

Hope some of this is helpful - have written off the top of my head, as I am sure you are gathering, to get an answer to you promptly, for I know time is of the essence.

Best regards -- how does it feel to be back in the "real" world?

Fondly,

Virginia

Mrs. Carroll C. Blend
26 Prospect Drive
Great Falls, Mt. 59405



ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 1080 • Office Phone 442-5643
Helena, Montana 59601

April 4, 1972

Professor Richard B. Roeder
Department of History, Government & Philosophy
Montana State University
Bozeman, Mt. 59715

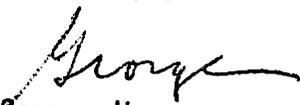
Dear Rich:

In answer to your question: people here in Helena don't seem to be asking many questions at all about the Constitution. I get one stock question: do you think it's a good Constitution?

I do get a lot of questions about the unicameral vs. bicameral issue, but that may be because they know I have a great interest in that particular side issue. Some people have expressed concern about the gambling issue. Some have expressed their opinions on the executive article, usually to say that they think we should have gone for the short ballot. Some have raised questions about the J.P. section, and all were glad to know we will have fewer JP's than before and that small claims courts will now be possible. This is about all I have heard.

Perhaps the fact that there is not much questioning or controversy indicates acceptance here of the new constitution.

Sincerely yours,


George Harper
/ms/

H'w

BRUCE M. BROWN
DEWEY M. HUSS
ASSOCIATE

LAW OFFICES
BRUCE M. BROWN
14 NORTH 9TH STREET
MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301
April 4, 1972

TELEPHONE 232-3054

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Department of History, Government & Philosophy
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick:

Thank you for your letter of April 3, 1972. Most of the people in this area have little or no knowledge of what was done at the convention. They usually ask did I enjoy it, was it non-partisan and did you write a good constitution. If I tell them that I think it is going to be a good constitution then they seem satisfied. Those that have asked about the constitution I find the following are the most common questions:

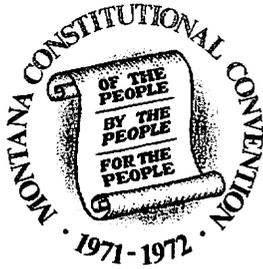
1. What are the advantages/disadvantages of a unicameral legislature compared to a bicameral legislature. Incidentally there is a great deal of interest in the unicameral legislature.
2. Will it be possible under the new constitution to consolidate city-county government or counties.
3. What changes, if any, were made in the justice of the peace court system.
4. What will the new taxation article do to farmers and ranchers.

It was a pleasure serving with you, Dick.

Best personal regards,


Bruce M. Brown

BMB:sms



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

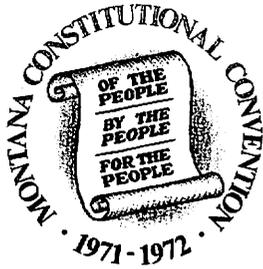
C. Hester, Montana
April 5, 1972

Dear Rich,

You inquired as to the most frequently asked questions regarding the proposed Constitution. My contact with the public has not been too extensive as yet but I will pass on to you what people in this area are concerned about.

The changes in taxation ~~are~~ naturally concern rural people and they are worried that farm land may be taxed at market value instead of productive value. There is also considerable apprehension over the lifting of the 2 mil restriction on state wide property tax. The entire revenue and finance article should be fully explained along with the reasons for the changes adopted by the Convention.

People are also interested in the status of the justices of the peace courts. (more so than the district and supreme courts). An explanation of the change to two boards of education and the rationale for delegating considerable independence to the board of regents would be useful.



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

STATE CAPITOL

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

I have had questions on water rights. One person asked asked us on a radio program, how people would be able to irrigate if all the water belonged to the state as it says in the proposed constitution. On this same program one listener asked what the changes in state government would cost the state in additional funds.

These are some of the questions I have been getting. Hope it is of some value to you. Good luck on your work of informing the public.

Should you ever pass this way - please look us up.

Sincerely
Lorman

LUKE McKEON
MIKE McKEON

McKEON & McKEON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
124 OAK ST.
ANACONDA, MONTANA 59711

TELEPHONE
(406) 563-5201

Dear Rich,

I have been out of the state since adpurnment
since die & have just returned. Since my
return I have been generally questioned
with emphasis on the Taxation aspect of
the Constitution.

From the passage of the document
looks good. But assured the gambling issue
will bring out the voters in this area.

I look forward to seeing you soon. As Per
Harper says: "Praise the Lord & Pass the Constitution".
But what's - Mike



ROBERT KELLER
PUBLISHER

RUSS WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

FRED J. MARTIN
EDITOR

PHONE (406) 222-2000 POST OFFICE BOX 665
LIVINGSTON, MONTANA 59047

April 5, 1972

Hi, Rich:

Questions I run into most:

1. Why do we have to vote for Unicameral or Bicameral?
2. Why did Con Con not retain the Anti-Diversion amendment?
3. Why a long ballot?
4. Why didn't Con Con retain the state debt limit?
5. Why wasn't the two-mill state levy ceiling retained?
6. Does the new Constitution permit state aid to sectarian schools?
7. What new articles are in the Bill of Rights?
8. Can 18 year olds run for office? Why can't they run to state offices?
9. Will annual sessions lead to professional state legislators and thus prohibit ranchers, business and professional people, business men and others from participating in the legislative process?
10. Why did the Constitutional include provisions for a Legislative Audit committee and also continue as a constitutional officer the office of State Auditor. Does the State Auditor audit?
11. Is it easier to put on the ballot the initiative, referendum or a constitutional amendment than under the 1889 constitution?
12. Since the new constitution contains less than 12,000 words and the old had 26,000 or 28,000 what was left out and what was left in?
13. What new powers have been given local governments to adjust to changing times? Will it mean that counties will have to consolidate?
14. Why wasn't the State Board of Equalization retained? Does this grant of power to the state supercede the powers of the county assessors?

(over

I know you have your problems with the tabloid and I'm sure you've already had these questions in mind but I'll send them anyway. We had an enjoyable trip to Billings, but did miss you. Hope Pierce and Dick enjoyed the dinner at the Sport in Livingston and Dot and I wished we could have joined them.

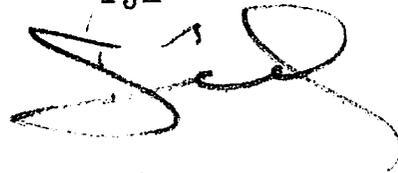
Am going to Billings Saturday to get a treatment for income tax itis from my accountant.

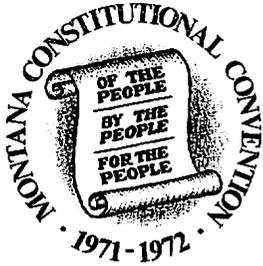
Have been on the speech circuit and today address the Methodist Evangelical United Brethren's Women's Society for Christian Service. Mason Melvin is all excited over Crosby's anti-constitution propaganda.

But, there'll be a lot of that.

Hi to Pierce and the best of luck to ou
and the TABLOID

fjm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'fjm', written in a cursive style. The signature is located below the typed name 'fjm'.



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 6, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Department of History,
Government and Philosophy
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick:

The most frequently asked questions in my area are:

Will the death penalty be abolished if the new Constitution is accepted?

What is the effect of the proposed environmental provision in the Constitution?

Would the side issue eliminate all statutes on gambling?

When will the registered voters receive their copies of the proposed Constitution?

Since there is not enough reform would it be better to vote against the new Constitution and hope for another Constitutional Convention in eight years?

Why did the majority of delegates prefer the one-house system?

What effect will the local government provisions have on city-county consolidation?

Why wasn't the anti-diversion amendment removed entirely?

Why wasn't the executive article shortened in the number of offices mentioned therein?

Yours very truly,

Robert J. Campbell
501 Western Bank Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

RJC:w

Delegate, District 18

APRIL 6, 1972

Hi Dick,

I MUST CONFESS THAT NOT THAT MANY PEOPLE ARE KNOCKING ON MY DOOR TO ASK ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION...HOWEVER.... I DID TALK WITH THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS WHO WERE IN TOWN FOR A MEETING A WEEK OR SO AGO...SOME OF THEIR QUESTIONS WERE RELATED TO THE EDUCATION ARTICLE... (1. & 1. MONEY...HOW WILL IT BE DISTRIBUTED...SINCE THE AGE 6-21...CENSUS HAS BEEN DELETED?...WHAT ABOUT ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS?...WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE "COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION" NAMED IN THE SECTION THAT DEALS WITH REGENTS...IS HE A CHANCELLOR?... IS HE CONSIDERED TO BE ON AN EQUAL PLANE WITH THE SUPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION?... SOME BIT OF INTEREST AND CONFUSION IN THE STATEMENT OF GOALS IN THAT EDUCATION ARTICLE...REGARDING CRADLE TO GRAVE EDUCATION FOR ALL...TO LIMIT OF POTENTIAL...ETC.

I FOUND NONE OF THEM WERE HOSTILE TO WHAT WE CAME UP WITH IN THIS ARTICLE... AND THEIR QUESTIONS WEREN'T REALLY PRESSED...AFTER I SHARED WHAT MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION WAS....BUT POSSIBLY SOME BIT OF EXPLANATION IN THIS ARTICLE WOULD HELP...I THINK THE PROVISION FOR SHARING FEDERAL PROGRAMS WITH NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS...CAN BE UNDERSTOOD IF WE LET THEM KNOW THAT THIS IS ALREADY THE WAY THE SYSTEM IS WORKING...WE'RE NOT OPENING VAST FLOOD GATES OF PUBLIC MONEY...ETC.

GAMBLING IS ONE MANY ARE INTERESTED IN...AND THE ONES WHO HAVE TALKED ABOUT IT WITH ME SEEM TO WANT THE MORE FLEXIBLE POSSIBILITY...

I DON'T THINK ANY VERY GREAT EXPLANATION FOR EITHER THE DEATH PENALTY OR GAMBLING NEED BE MADE...THEY SEEM RATHER SELF-EVIDENT...

RURAL PEOPLE SEEM MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THE 2 MILL LIMIT ON ^{PROPERTY} TAX ...AND ON THE FACT THAT CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICES AREN'T FIRMED UP FOREVER BY THIS CONSTITUTION... I DO THINK THE MAIN TREMBLING COMES FROM CURRENT COURT HOUSE CREWS...THE CONSTITUENTS AT LARGE AREN'T TROUBLED ABOUT HAVING THE OPTION OF CHOOSING FORMS OF COUNTY AND LOCAL GOVT.

SOME FEARS ABOUT THE URBAN PEOPLE SOCKING IT TO THE RURAL ARE ABOUT...BUT THE SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT...IS AN OFFSETTING FACT THEY ARE GRATEFUL FOR...

MOST SEEM TO BE INTERESTED IN MY CANDID OPINION ABOUT THE PRODUCT...IT'S OBVIOUS THEY HAVEN'T READ IT...THEY WANT TO KNOW WHETHER I FEEL IT'S A WORTHY EFFORT...SO SOMETHING SHOULD BE MADE OF THE FACT THAT WE SIGNED THE THING...100 STRONG...ALL WITH SOME RESERVATIONS...BUT ALL WITH A FEELING THAT IT WAS BETTER THAN TRYING TO HACK IT WITH THE '89 VERSION....

HOPE THIS IS HELPFUL...I MISS ALL THE GOOD TIMES IN CONVENTION HALL...AND THE WITTICISMS OF STYLE AND DRAFT DAYS!

SEE YOU,



CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

Dear Mr. Burkhardt:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

RER:gm

Bill

Please help out by letting me know what's going around Helena.

Thanks & best regards

Rich



Eastern Montana College
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59101

Division of Social Science

April 6, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
History Department
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

Dear Dick:

In response to your memorandum of April 3, I would like to point out that the following kinds of questions concerning the Constitution have come to my attention:

1. What are the provisions concerning natural resources?
2. Why weren't the provisions dealing with natural resources and environment stronger?
3. Why did the Convention decide to submit alternatives to the people and how were these alternatives determined?
4. Why was so much attention paid to the Bill of Rights and why was the wording of the Bill of Rights in the present Constitution preserved in the new document rather than being simplified and shortened as has been the case with other provisions?
5. How will the adoption of the new Constitution affect state or local officers whose terms have not expired at the time the Constitution is adopted?
6. What will be the consequences if the proposed Constitution is not ratified?
7. Why were the present county officers retained and listed in the new Constitution?
8. What is the distinction between constitutional and statutory matters?

Richard B. Roeder - Page 2.

If I encounter other questions I will submit them to you as quickly as possible. I suppose by now you are back in the academic harness and if your feelings are like mine you are glad to be back. I certainly enjoyed my associations with you at the Convention, and I hope our paths will cross many times in the future. If and when you come to Billings, please be sure to contact me.

Best regards,



George W. Rollins, Chairman
Social Science Division

GWR/bm

**FARMERS STATE BANK
OF
CONRAD, MONTANA**

April 6, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

I have listed the five questions most asked of me in the order of the frequency with which they were asked.

- (1) Will the taxes on my land be greater under state appraisal and equalization?
- (2) What "other classes of property" were intended under Sub. (c) of Section 5, Article VIII?
- (3) Why can't we have "Bingo" and "Raffles"?
- (4) Why do we need a "Clerk of the Court" in every county?
- (5) Why do we still have overlapping of services and functions in our cities and counties?

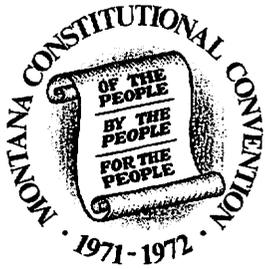
Yours very truly,



E. M. Berthelson

EMBSrn





MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 7, 1972

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick:

Thanks for your letter of April 3rd in regard to the Constitutional Convention booklet. The main problem in regard to the new Constitution in our area is misinformation on the part of the press and public. I hope you will be able to get your booklet out in the near future so that some of the misinformation can be corrected. I would think that the main thing to stress in your booklet is for the people to sit down and read the new Constitution and the explanations of each section before they make a decision and before they go out and criticize it. We have had a number of newspaper people commenting on it and every item they mentioned was incorrect. I have written one letter to the editor and I guess we will have to continue to do so to keep everything straight.

The biggest anti-segment we are running into in our area also is on the revenue and finance article. Ranchers and Farmers and all taxpayers are all concerned over the article and some of the information they have received. They think all assessment of property is going to be changed completely and taxes are going to go skyhigh. I try to point out to them that all assessment and taxation will be in the hands of the Legislature and they may adopt a system very similar to the one we have now. I also advise them that agriculture is one of our largest industries in Montana and I don't think the Legislature is going to take out and try to break them. I would think that a fairly good and full explanation of the revenue and taxation article in your booklet would certainly be of some help and possibly calm their fears.

Mr. Richard B. Roeder

April 7, 1972

Page 2

Incidentally, did you see the article in Time magazine on the Convention? I thought it was very well written and should help in the educational program.

In trying to analyze the situation, I would say that we received a lot of bad publicity early in the Convention when the papers were publishing some of the nutty proposals that were introduced. I feel that a lot of the people think that we adopted some of these proposals and until we convince them we didn't they will probably be opposed to the Constitution. This is some of the feeling we run into in this area.

I enjoyed working with you at the Convention and I think you added a lot of thought and information to all of the delegates on various articles that we covered.

Best of luck in your new undertaking.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,



THOMAS M. ASK

Robert L. Kelleher
Attorney at Law
2108 Grand Avenue
Billings, Montana 59102

Area Code 406
Phone 656-6622

April 7, 1972

Our File No.

Hon. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

Dear Richard:

Because the ballot provides that a vote for the new constitution means a vote for bicameralism, my 16 year old daughter asked me ". . . should I vote against the constitution and for unicameralism on the first alternative?"

I discussed this matter with Jack Schiltz and some of the other Delegates at a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting and Schiltz says that this was a good point. It is going to be difficult to explain to people that they have to vote for bicameralism and then against it on the first alternative. I think this is going to be a very serious problem because many people in Billings want to get rid of the present, antiquated system of bicameralism.

I am speaking to the Breakfast Optimist Club in Billings at 6:30 a.m. Friday.

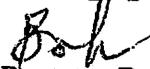
Yesterday Lyle Monroe called me on the telephone to say that he has moved his family and trailerhouse to Billings where he will be employed as a field agent for Dick Dzivi who, as you know, is running for Governor against Tom Judge. Monroe wanted me to invite him to any of my speaking engagements so he could speak as a Con-Con Delegate on the Bill of Rights (his committee) but make contact for his employer.

I explained to him that I had already refused to go to dinners for Tom Judge and that I was not going to take any active part in partisan politics until after June 6. My first love will be the new constitution.

I am still talking about my Parliament and find a tremendous amount of interest in it. As you can see, I am getting ready for the next convention 22 years hence. Good luck on your project.

I am looking forward to being on the faculty next Fall. I was almost tempted to tell Monroe that I have a conflict of interest in that if Judge does not get through the primary I won't have a job next Fall.

Sincerely yours,



4/7/72

Dear Rich -

Agreed on the iteming first importance -
the drink.

As for the questions most frequently asked -
nobody seems to be asking any. I have spoken
(a) to the local Democratic Club (75 present) and
to a Regional Conference of Demo Women (75 present).
No real questions but all very attentive and
interested.

I have been stressing the Bill of Rights,
the Legislative Article, an apologia for the
diversion of highway funds, and concluding
with (a) the dedication of the delegates whatever
their stripes and (b) that the stressed
subjects merit voting for the Const.

Today's Supreme Court hearing will
probably render it all moot. We didn't do anything
to cure that problem - clearly the greatest
problem we have, but it's impossible to impart
the message to 100 delegates, let alone the
public. One day the pendulum will swing far
enough for public outrage to develop.

Regards,
Jack

Schultz



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

1201 North Excelsior
Butte, Montana
April 8, 1972

Professor Richard B. Roeder
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

Dear Rich:

Thank you for your letter.

The majority of questions I have been faced with concerning the Constitution deal with the gambling issue, and changes in the Judicial and Executive branches of the government.

The sections on Revenue and Finance dealing with anti-diversion have been of interest to many, as well as, the statewide property assessment.

The Right-to-Know section has stirred a great deal of interest.

The people seem quite favorable to what we have done and I have felt no great opposition from any area.

If there is anything else I can do for you, please let me know.

Best personal regards,

Daniel W. Harrington

DWH/ph

Rich,

I've been so swamped since I got home this is the first chance I've had to answer.

Mostly, people want to find out if I support the proposed constitution. What I think is good about it, & what I think is bad about it.

The legal profession doesn't seem very fond of the judge selection process

Most farmers appear reluctant to trade the property tax ~~for~~ protection in the present Constitution for a state wide property tax.

People are interested and open minded and thinking. I doubt if it would pass around here right now but people haven't decided for sure —

Regards,

Mark.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

Dear Mr. Etchart:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

REK:gm

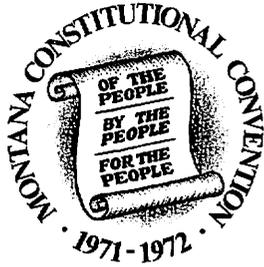
Mark,

Please give me a hand by jotting down questions you've been getting in your area.

Thanks,

Rich

(over)



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

Dick:

Questions:

Does the state now own the water?

Why were 2 mill levy and debt limits removed?

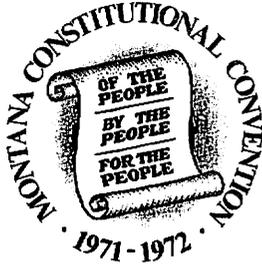
If one votes against the const., can he then disregard the rest
of the ballot?

How much politics in the Convention?

Is there only 1 Justice of Peace in each county?

Isn't there too much left to the Legislature?

Mason



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 8, 1972

Dear Dick,

I am very pleased with the acceptance of the work of the convention. I have spoken ~~at~~ⁱⁿ 5 different places to groups of 20 or more and there have been few questions. At the Kiwanis and the Exchange Clubs I passed out copies of the constitution and they carried them home.

Revenue and Taxation: Sonny Hanson who is running for Lt. Gov. seems to think the Leg. will give away all those gasoline taxes. I suggested he read the whole constitution before deciding to vote against it.

Natural Resources: One person has been concerned about the ~~way~~ the water section is written. He was afraid the state could take the water from a private well.

Local Gov't: Glad it will be easier for cooperation and consolidation between gov't units.

Pleased with self gov't charter writing

Leg. Article: Concern from present legislators about the annual sessions. How to get unicameral?

I have had some comment ¹ about the unlimited amendments and people are happy about this.

On the radio we got some concern about when they could get their copy of the proposed constitution.

I do my own typing. Good Luck. You probably know the voter education committee is meeting in Helena on the 14th. Bob will have the film ready for a viewing.

Sincerely,
Katie
Katie Payne

BITTER ROOT VETERINARY CLINIC

ROUTE NO. 2, BOX 2073

Hamilton, Montana

59840

J. K. WARD, D. V. M.

CLINIC PHONE: 363-1123

RESIDENCE: 363-2663

April 9, 1972

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF EQUINE PRACTITIONERS
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF BOVINE PRACTITIONERS
PRACTICE LIMITED TO
EQUINE AND BEEF
CATTLE CONSULTATION

Richard M. Woeder, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

Dear Dick;

Many people have inquired about the constitution and I have been busy talking to individuals and also groups - about 3 per week.

The questions usually asked are:

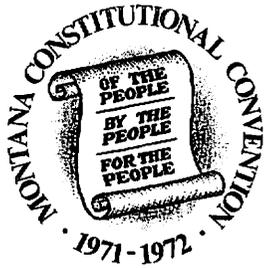
1. What do you think of the proposed constitution yourself?
2. Are you home for good? They are apparently surprised we are finished.
3. What did you do over there in Helena?
4. Should we vote for the proposed constitution?
5. How does it differ from the old one?
6. What new laws did you pass? Usually with reference to people who think it is still another legislative session.

Hope this will help you. I'll say one thing - there's enough conversation pertaining to our work and most people are interested.

Sincerely,



J.K. Ward, D.V.M.



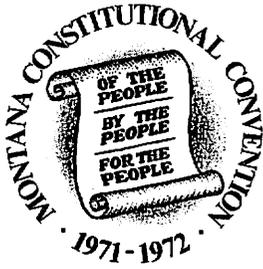
MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 9, 1972

Dear Dick,

Here are just a few of the questions asked.

1. Why must voting be on separate paper ballots?
2. Would it be possible to have wide open Nevada type gambling if the side issue passes?
3. Does the Revenue & Finance article open the door to unlimited taxation and spending by the legislature?
4. Does the Constitution leave the Divinity system unaccountable?
5. Why was such an important office such as the Treasurer left out of the Constitution?
6. Why are so many legislators against the proposed Constitution?



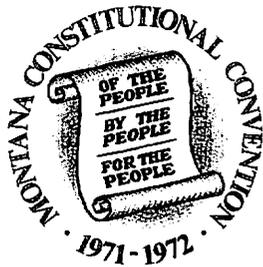
MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

7. Why were earmarked Highway funds done away with when are roads are in such poor condition?
8. Will my farm or ranch now be assessed and taxed on market value instead of present use?
9. What is the advantage of single member districts over multi member? Won't gerrymandering take place by the party in power if this comes about?

These are just a few but I hope it gives you an idea.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Woodman



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

Antelope, Montana
April 10, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I
Bozeman, Montana 59715

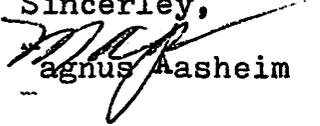
Dear Dick,

I have had three official gatherings now; two of them were fifteen to twenty and the third consisted of about seventy-five very interested people.

The following questions seemed to come up at one time or another:

1. What happens if the Constitution is voted down?
2. Since the two-mill levy restriction was removed, how high can our property taxes go?
3. What will the Lieutenant Governor do and what will his salary be?
4. When will we get a copy of the document?
5. How many changes have been made?
6. Are you going to vote for it?

Most people I have talked with don't know enough about it to ask any questions. However, I hope these will be of some help to you.

Sincerely,

Magnus Aasheim

April 10, 1972

List of Enclosures in First mailing to Delegates after Sine die:

1. President Graybill's Memorandum re: law suit.
2. Dorothy Eck's Memorandum re: what's happening.
3. John Hanson's Memorandum re: voter information.
4. Jim Garlington's Memorandum re: unfinished business.
5. Newspaper clippings written by Chuck Johnson since adjournment.
6. Article appearing in Time Magazine, April 10 issue.
7. John Toole's speech which you requested printed.
8. Last (5) Resolutions introduced, to complete sets.

mm



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 10, 1972

Leo Graybill, Jr.
President

To: All Constitutional Convention Delegates
From: Leo Graybill, Jr., President

As you probably are aware from the press the Voter Education Committee has been sued by Oscar Kvaalen, a State Representative. His intent, apparently, is to stop the Convention from spending the funds appropriated for Voter Education.

The Supreme Court ordered us to appear April 18, at 2:00 p.m. And so, I called an unofficial meeting and invited all the attorneys in the Convention to attend if they wanted. A few could not be reached, but ten attended the meeting at the Capitol at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, April 9, and we discussed the suit thoroughly. The attorneys present divided up the work and agreed to handle the defense themselves.

We certainly want each of you to feel included in the discussion and proceedings. If any of you have any viewpoints or ideas about the suit please write me, addressed to the Capitol, and the attorneys, along with the Voter Education Committee will review your ideas.

My personal belief is that we can consider this legalistic attack the main method planned by those objecting to the Constitution. However, we will present to the court what we intend to do and the objective approach we intend to take and let them decide.

Meanwhile, the work laid out by the Voter Education Committee has been proceeding well and the delegates I talked to seem encouraged by the public response.

LG:mm

TO Delegates
FROM Subcommittee on Delegate and Citizen Participation
RE: What's happening

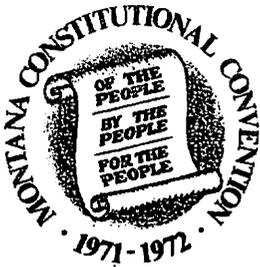
Over 100 Montana organizations which testified or sent letters to the convention and many other organizations with some interest in the new constitution are being contacted. We are setting up meetings with organization officers or staff members to discuss the new constitution, answer question, provide data for their newsletters or publications, secure speakers for any state meetings prior to the election and encourage their support and endorsement of the proposed constitution.

It would be helpful if you would send us notice of local groups which have issued statements of support or endorsement and also quotes from letters or speeches which we might use as resource data for other delegates or for news releases.

John Hanson, the convention's chief clerk, is continuing with our staff as voter education coordinator. He is enclosing some suggestions for delegate participation...compiled from the discussion of the brief meeting of our subcommittee on March 23 and suggestions of delegates.

The subcommittee on delegate and citizen participation will meet again on Friday April 14th in conjunction with a meeting of the voter education committee. For that meeting we'd appreciate a brief report on your activities since the convention adjourned...meetings attended with an indication of the type of audience and their response..radio or tv appearances..news coverage, etc. We especially need to know what is concerning people...what questions they're asking...and who's opposing the constitution.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Smith", is centered on the page.



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 10, 1972

To: All Convention Delegates
From: John Hanson, Voter Information

The many hours of laborious study, debate, and draft have now ended with the adjournment of the Convention, but ahead lies the imminent task of ratification. To fulfill that task will require that information be provided on the proposed constitution so that voters may express themselves when they vote. The major negative factor, which must be combated, is lack of knowledge and understanding by the general voters about the proposed document. The other negative factor is that there will be some active opposition, although this does not seem to have arisen in a positive way as yet.

There are many areas which may be dealt with to provide information to the public; outlined below are some suggestions for action:

1. Meet with the Citizen Corps in your area and find out how much help you can count on for the voter information effort in your area. You should receive considerable help from the Citizen Corps.
2. Dozens of groups have heard speeches on the proposed Montana Constitution, but we need to reach hundreds more. It will be necessary to provide speakers for all state meetings and conventions, should they request, and to cover the hundreds of local clubs and organizations. Actively seek invitations from all organizations to include a speaker on the subject of the constitution in their programs and prepare yourself to give such a speech. A list of organization meeting dates can probably be obtained from your local Chamber of Commerce. Speeches should be followed by a request that the group issue a statement in support of or in opposition to the Constitution or on any particular issue. Make arrangements with news media so you will have adequate coverage.
3. Arrange and take part in panel discussions to discuss the merits of the proposed constitution. Arrange to answer questions on one of the local radio "talk" shows.

page -3-
Memo to delegates

A survey on the Illinois Constitutional Convention Call showed that over 40% of the voters made their decision on how to vote on the Convention Call in the last three weeks before election day. It was also found that most voters made their decision at the same time they initially became aware of the issues, and there was very little switching once the decision was made. Your activities should build up to a climax during this time period.

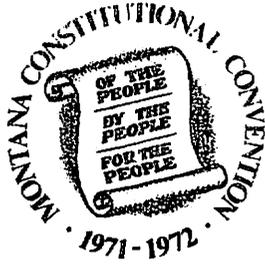
The suggestions listed are but a few of the things that can be done to inform the voters. An effort concentrated in these areas, however, would provide a good beginning.

In the near future we shall be sending resources which may be used in writing speeches and in all the other areas. We hope to include such things as quotes, news articles, and any material either pro or con concerning the proposed constitution and its issues.

It would be appreciated if each of you would send us a brief summary of what you have been doing. Please include such things as: names of organizations you have talked to, the number of people present, response received; panel discussions, "talk shows", etc. that you have participated in; questions asked of you by various interested groups or persons; and, details of any novel ideas you think may be effective.

Please do not hesitate to write and express any thoughts or suggestions. We certainly invite all suggestions and comments.

mm



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

March 28, 1972

Montana Constitutional Convention
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a memorandum of certain unfinished items of business which the writer will not be able to attend to further.

- 1- Individual photographs of signing -- The understanding we have with Marvin Kalland, State Highway Photographer (Phone 2432) is that he is going to make available individual black and white negatives of his photograph of each delegate as he sat at the table and signed the original constitution. The thought is that if the negative is sent to the delegate, he can then make such duplicates, enlargements, etc., as suit his particular desires, all without further expense to the State.
- 2- Reproduction of constitution -- It was our thought that in due course arrangements could be perfected at the State printing office for the duplication in original size of the signed constitution in sufficient numbers for each delegate to order as many thereof as he might desire. We believe that each delegate would be personally willing to pay the full cost and postage of such duplicates as he might wish to order, so that this item would be primarily a source of economic satisfaction to the delegate without any loss or cost to the State. If the facts concerning this matter could be included in the transmittal of the negative referred to in paragraph 1 above to each delegate, there would not need to be a separate mailing on this item. This subject was discussed with the President, who was going to inquire into the possibilities of its being accomplished, but nothing further was definitely ascertained prior to adjournment.

- 3- Duplicate original constitutions -- Preparations were made for signature pages of the original document, so that duplicate originals could be prepared on the same paper and made available for display as such duplicates, one at perhaps the State Museum or State Historical Library, and one perhaps at the Governor's Office. Mr. Brooks was in charge of obtaining the signatures to the duplicates, and we were not able to ascertain whether these were successfully completed. The purpose of this memorandum is to call attention again to this matter, so that if duplicate originals are desired and can be completed, the necessary arrangements therefor can be made.

Respectfully submitted,


J. C. Garlington

JCG/gms



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

March 28, 1972

The Honorable Forrest Anderson
Governor of Montana
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Governor Anderson:

On behalf of the Delegates to the Montana Constitutional Convention, I extend to you our sincerest appreciation for your willingness to participate in our closing ceremonies. We realize this was an imposition on your time, but it did contribute greatly to the public understanding of the significance of the event.

Trusting we may all see this first effort confirmed by early ratification, and with best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

For the Convention

JCG/gms

See reverse for mailing list

The Honorable Forrest Anderson
Governor of Montana
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601

The Honorable David James
State Senator
Joplin, Montana 59531

The Honorable Thomas Haines
State Representative
Western Bank Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

The Honorable Earl Old Person
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
Browning, Montana 59417

The Most Rev. Raymond Hunthausen
Bishop of Helena
Helena, Montana 59601

Mrs. Firman Brown, Jr.
Wildcat Road, East Rattlesnake
Missoula, Montana 59801

Miss Elaine Koyama
Governor, Girl's State
Hardin, Montana 59034

Mr. Chris Mildoragovich
Lt. Gov., Boys' State
3949 Gladstone Avenue
Butte, Montana 59701

Mr. John Elliott, President
YMCA Youth Constitutional Convention
431 No. 9th
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Mr. Joe Holland
School of Mines
West Park
Butte, Montana 59701

The Honorable John C. Harrison
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
Helena, Montana 59601

The Rev. H. R. Anderson, Jr.
First Presbyterian Church
Great Falls, Montana 59401



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

March 28, 1972

Mr. Eugene H. Mahoney
P. O. Box 38.
Thompson Falls, Montana 59873

Dear Gene:

On behalf of the Delegates to the Montana Constitutional Convention, I want to state our regret that you could not be present to participate in our closing ceremonies.

Your long and unselfish interest in Constitutional improvement is well recognized, and it would have been most fitting to have you there to see it take a step nearer to realization.

We enclose a copy of the final document, with a brief explanatory comment. A more complete presentation of the entire subject matter is under way, and will be distributed to all the voters late in April.

Trusting we may have your constant assistance in the next step, ratification, and with appreciation for all your past contributions to good government, I am

Sincerely yours,

For the Convention

JCG/gms
enc.

See reverse for mailing list



Mr. Eugene Mahoney
P. O. Box 38
Thompson Falls, Mntana 59873

Mr. Dave Manning
Hysham, Montana 59038

Mr. James E. Murphy
1 Main Building
Kalispell, Montana 59901

Mr. Alex Blewett
1st National Bank Building
Great Falls, Montana 59401

Senator Jack McDonald
Belt, Montana 59412

1409 Fourth Avenue South
Great Falls, Montana 59405
April 11, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Rich:

Now that my post-Convention emotional let-down has let up...I'll attempt to respond to your request.

I've been literally running in circles talking to groups, appearing on TV and radio and meeting the demands of family and job. I'm grateful for the opportunity to talk to people though...it's been generally satisfying.

On Sunday, I spoke to a group of about 200 National Guardsmen. When I asked for a show of hands of those who felt the Constitution would pass...a healthy majority responded. There were many questions...most relating to the Revenue and Finance Article. Those who live in small towns or rural areas are deeply concerned about their property taxes. I tried to allay their fears and explained that if the new Constitution passes the people will be able to make desired changes through initiative instead of having to wait for the legislature. I think that the single most attractive feature of the new Constitution is the Constitutional Revision provision. Of course, I think the single most important feature is the Legislative Article...with a Unicameral...naturally.

Here are some of the questions I've been receiving:

Why must I vote on all 4 questions on the ballot?

Why couldn't the voters have more choices -- i.e. why couldn't the Constitution be presented in sections?

Aren't the "right to know" and the "right to privacy" mutually exclusive?

How much money will the unicameral save?

Why are the legislators so critical of the new Constitution.. that is, many of them?

ROCKWOOD, MURRAY, DONAHUE & DALEY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
240 FIRST AVENUE WEST

KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901

FORREST C. ROCKWOOD
MARSHALL MURRAY
NORBERT F. DONAHUE
JOSEPH F. DALEY

April 12, 1972

TELEPHONE
406-756-9022
P. O. BOX 899

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
and Official Historian & Rapporteur
c/o Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana, 59715

In Re: Constitutional Convention Booklet

Dear Dick:

The only questions that I have been asked in this area so far are:

- (1) Is it a better document?
- (2) What does it do for me?
- (3) How does it compare to the existing Constitution with respect to readability and clarity?
- (4) How much trouble will Montana be in if we adopt it?
- (5) What do you think of it?

I guess that's about all that anybody has ever asked me, although I have spoken to several meetings.

The public doesn't know enough about what it contains at this stage to discuss it in detail or ask very many pointed questions unless they have been particularly involved in some aspect of it.

The public is looking forward to any type of explanation that can be made, and I am sure that yours will be very good.

I really enjoyed the Constitutional Convention and had hoped that it was over. The two lawsuits pending are requiring my appearance before the Supreme Court on Tuesday and much additional research and effort, so I guess my hopes were in vain. Give my regards to all the Bozeman delegates.

Best wishes,



Marshall Murray

MM/hrm

BRAZIER, DOWLING & ERICKSON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1230 ELEVENTH AVENUE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

GEOFFREY L. BRAZIER
THOMAS F. DOWLING
LEIF B. ERICKSON

PHONE 442-9000
AREA CODE 406
LEIF ERICKSON, SR.
OF COUNSEL

April 12, 1972

Hon. Richard B. Roeder
Asst. Professor of History, etc.
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick:

Please forgive me if I misdirected this letter.
Your return address was lost.

Please be advised that question about the constitu-
tional convention most frequently asked me was, "What the
hell are you guys thinking of?"

Seriously, the following questions have been most
frequently asked of me.

Are you going to vote for the document?

Why?

Please explain the ballot and what the implications
of the alternatives are?

Please explain the relative merits of a unicameral
legislature.

Why weren't more elective officers removed from the
executive branch?

How can we get out of it if the unicameral experiment
doesn't work?

Why did we propose a whole new constitution, as opposed
to enhancement of the existing one?

What are the tax implications of the revenue and
finance article?

What is this going to cost me?

Doesn't the Federal Constitution have some bearing

on some of the issues?

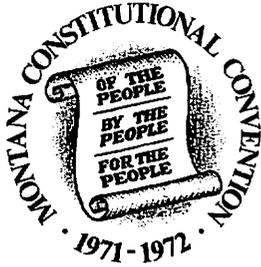
I trust the above suits your purposes and that this finds your feet back on the ground and your color returning, now that you are back in real life.

Respectfully,

JEFF

Geoffrey L. Brazier

GLB:sm



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 12, 1972

OTTO T. HABEDANK
Delegate, District 3
Box 44, State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601

HOME ADDRESS:
Box 751
Sidney, Montana 59270

Committee:
General Government and
Constitutional Amendments

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick:

Thank you for your note.

Other than the effect of the vote on the alternate questions, which I am sure you are aware of, the principal questions I have been receiving are:

1. Does Section 4 and the provision that "Neither the state nor any person, firm, corporation, or institution shall discriminate against any person in the exercise of his civil or political rights on account of race, color, sex, culture, social origin or condition, or political or religious ideas" allow paupers to demand admission to dues-paying organizations, Democrats to serve in Republican organizations, or vice versa, communists to be admitted to any organization, and Methodists the right to be employed by the Catholic Church, or vice versa? My answer to this has been that the explanation on the floor made by the Chairman of the Bill of Rights Committee is that it was not the intent of the Bill of Rights Committee to permit such demands to be successfully made. The response to this answer is that "What is there to prevent an ultra-liberal court from doing as the United States Supreme Court has done in the past and construe wording of this kind differently than the Committee intended it to be construed?"

2. In connection with Section 29, Article II, what is the determining factor as to whether or not the private property owner prevails so as to be entitled to be reimbursed for necessary expenses of litigation?

3. What effect will the removal of the 2-mill property tax and the transfer of the burdens to the State in connection with public welfare and education have on property taxation?

4. The statutes of the State of Montana presently provide for property to be taxed at full market value. Will Section 4 of Article VIII require assessment of all property at market value, or will the assessing authorities be allowed to take into consideration the earning capacity of the property rather than its market value?

5. Will Section 10 of Article VIII allow the legislature to limit the bonding indebtedness of school districts at a point lower than limited by the present Constitution?

6. What effect will Section 3, Article X, have upon the present Foundation program?

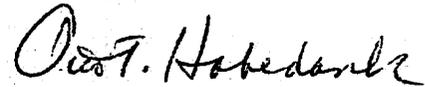
7. Under Section 9, Article X, what, if any, control, will the people through the legislature have over the University system?
what will prevent the Board of Regents from creating a new location or branch?

8. Does Article XI give to local government all powers not prohibited to it by the legislature?

At a recent Kiwanis meeting, Ed Smith, Republican candidate for Governor, stated, in response to a question as to whether or not he would support the proposed Constitution, that while his mind was not completely made up, on the study he had made to this date, he was forced to state he would not vote for the proposed Constitution. He based his objections principally on the Revenue and Finance Article, and, in his opinion, the pressures that would be brought to bear upon the legislature to appropriate money without means of financing the appropriations other than by a property tax.

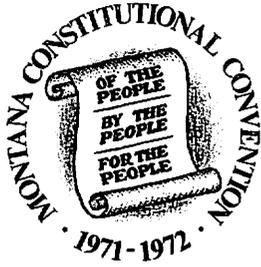
Arleen joins me in sending her best regards.

Sincerely,



Otto T. Habedank

OTH:aw



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 12th, 1972

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur Title I
Department of History, Government, &
Philosophy
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Dick;

Your letter of April 3rd, 1972 is received and I have had enough feedback from the Constitution to be able to answer some questions and inquiries that we are getting.

In our area there seems to be particular concern about the Revenue and Finance Article and the items that concern them the greatest in the order of inquiry are; the elimination of the two mill property tax levy for general state government purposes and the ability to divert some of the gas tax revenue by a 3/5 vote of the legislatures.

I thought that we would have quite a few inquiries about the State making evaluations; taking the County Commissioners out of the equalization process. I have only received one inquiry about this, and that was when I met with the County Commissioners for about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours shortly after I returned home from the Convention.

In all but a very few instances, the removal of the two mill property tax maximum has been able to be satisfactorily explained. The approach that I have been using is, in all fairness, how could one type of taxation be given constitutional preference over any other. The present limitation of two mills is on per dollar of evaluation and when this is explained and the people assimilate this, I have received no objections in most cases.

The Highway Revenue or gas tax diversion clause is not causing any concern except where people have been reached by some group. I have had three inquiries in this regard and all of them are from either automobile dealers or gasoline dealers and they were adamant in that they did not want any gas tax diverted to other uses.

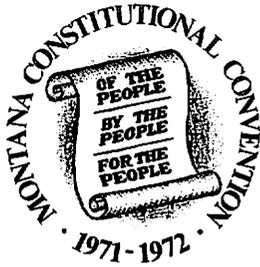


MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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The other area that seems to be causing some concern is in the Bill of Rights and it is mostly in being able to interpret those items and see what the courts are going to do with them. There is some concern about the necessity of all members of a Justice or Police Court having to concur before a guilty finding can be made. This might lead to additional expenses inasmuch as more people will ask for jury trials. Many of the other sections in the Bill of Rights needs explanation, however, by going over some of the rights that were not previously enumerated and are very specifically set forth in the proposed Constitution such as the right of privacy and the right to know, people have mostly remarked that they were very happy to have these explained and they can see merit in the greater portion of the Bill of Rights.

The approach that I have been using is to listen to these people's inquiries and objections and try to give them the body's rationale in the adoption of the various sections and then point to some of the other improvements that have been made in the Legislative Process, the Executive Article, the Judiciary, Local Government, Education, General Government, and the general make-up of the Constitution, the improved amendatory process and the number of articles and sections that are vastly improved over the old Constitution.

There have been several instances where people have told me that they were going to vote against the Constitution and in those instances I have inquired as to whether they had a copy of the Constitution. In all but one instance they said that they did not have one and I furnished them a copy to study and read, along with the information pamphlet. I have about 20 of them out now and I have had about an equal number that have had this for awhile and then returned them. About 7 or 8 of them have left the copies when they returned them with my secretary and remarked that, "Well this doesn't look so bad or this is different than I thought," and 4 or 5 of them have brought them into me and said they were



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very happy to get a chance to look at them but would need to study it out some more and asked how soon they would be getting their copies of the Constitution so that they could then make additional studies. It appears to me, Dick, that these people that have taken a stand are somewhat adverse to publicly changing their stands and I wish that there was some way to get the copies of the Constitution in all of the voters hands as rapidly as possible as it appears that the few opponents are making more noise than their proponents and then we have to go and try to put out a fire that should have never been started in the first place.

I am going to try to get into the Voter Education meeting at Helena on this coming Friday and no doubt we will all try to get as much information into that committee as possible.

Yours very truly,

Oscar L. Anderson
Delegate Constitutional
Convention District #3

OLA/do

April 12, 1972

Prof. Richard Roeder
Dept. of History
M.S.U.
Bozeman, Montana

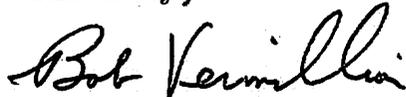
Dear Richard:

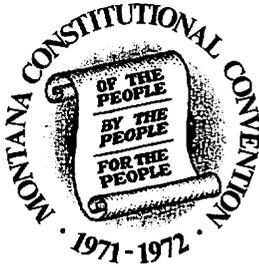
I hope this isn't too late to do you some good. Actually, there are few questions being raised as yet that you have not already considered. However, I do hope that your material will cover two areas of especially great interest to the rural areas: 1) property taxes and 2) property rights. I have been getting favorable response to the sections on Eminent Domain and the Right to Sue the State in the Bill of Rights. This area is mostly dry land farming but many areas in the state would undoubtedly be interested in knowing more about how the proposed new constitution will affect water rights now and in the future.

Perhaps for those groups or individuals who feel the new document has somehow left them out, it might be well to point out the new methods of amending the constitution. Even the gun people have a "shot" at their favorite proposition in the new constitution, if they get the petition signed.

To borrow a phrase from Rev. George, "Praise the Lord and Pass the Constitution."

Sincerely,


Bob Vermillion



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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Forsyth, Montana

April 12, 1972

Dear Rich,

I have made five appearances speaking on the proposed constitution to date. There really havent been very many questions asked. People just dont have enough knowledge about the new document to even ask questions . I have been hoping the~~se~~ tabloids that were authorized to be distributed by the Clerk and Recorders would be in the voters hands before now. But are these the tabloids you are working on? If so I didn't realize this was the plan. In fact I have put off several appearances in the outlying Counties until after the twentieth of April for this reason.

I have had a few on Revenue & Finance about the State Bd. of equalization & and net proceeds plus the 2 mill levi. One on the Right to Know section of B of R. Several on the method of voting such as "do we have to accept all of it or none? I believe the Torrey Johnson resolution to have all articles separate may have been a better method. However we would have to of planned for this method from the start to make it workable Im sure.

I hope the others will be of more help to you Rich than I am on this and I know you will do an outstanding job on the tabloid.

Sincerely yours

A. W. Kamhoot

Drawer K, Forsyth, Mont.

®

BUTTE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER
404 SOUTH WYOMING
BUTTE, MONTANA
59701

MAURICE DRISCOLL
Director

MELVIN COTTRELL
Asst. Director

DAVE KELTZ
Asst. Director

PHONE 723-4882
AREA 408

April 13, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Rich:

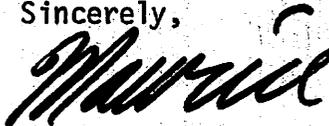
I have not been receiving very many questions regarding the Constitutional Convention, however, those which I have been receiving are the following:

1. Taxation - basically concerning removal of limitation on property taxes.
2. Does the Constitution make it possible to tax large corporations-farmers, etc., in other words tax equality.

Other questions concerning single member districts and unicameral versus bicameral. Most of the people who query me are concerned with gambling and most are pro-ponents, at least from the Butte and Anaconda area.

Best wishes and I hope you are successful in your project.

Sincerely,



Maurice Driscoll
Vocational Director

MD/es

Memo

From
R. K. HANSON
Manager

April 13, 1972

To: Rich -

Sorry for the delay but
I am just starting to get
comments -

The most criticism in
this area is on the revenue
and finance proposal and
the education article.

They don't like the removal
of the debt limit and the
2 mill state property tax provision.
They also have serious questions
on the provision for
over

SUN RIVER ELEC. CO-OP INC.
Box 217
FAIRFIELD, MT. 59436

state assessments & taxation.
There is some concern on
the 3/5 vote of the legislature
being able to divert highway
funds.
In the education article
no definite concern over

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

Dear Mr. Hanson:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

RER:gn

Red

Please give me a hand by letting me know what's cooking in your area.

*Thanks,
Rich*

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION POKKLET-OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS FOR MONTANA CITIZENS

April 3, 1972

Dear Dick:

I have waited because I haven't had any specific questions to speak of. Most of the time they ask me what I think of it. I have had 3 or 4 questions, the gist of which is as follows: "Just what does the Constitution specifically say about environment."
Sweede

Dear Mr. McDonough:

As you know, there are those of us at Montana State University who are working on a tabloid supplement to provide information on the Constitution. We would like to devote the bulk of the text to providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the proposed constitution. Would you please help us by jotting down some of the questions you have been getting so that we can include them in our text?

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History and
Official Historian & Rapporteur
Title I

RER:gm

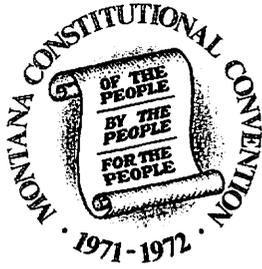
Sweede,

Please give me a hand by sending me the questions you've been getting way over in your area.

Sincerely & best personal regards,

Legislature

Rich



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

Walt Mont
4-13-72

Mr Richard B. Roeder
Bozeman, Mont.

Dear Richard:

Your letter received, We went back to the
Mad-west a couple weeks so havent made too many
contact.

I do have several meetings lined up so will
be getting a lot of questions.

Most frequent question is "did you do any good?"
Our people are concerned over state wide assessments
and taxation, Clerk + Recorder concerned over poll
booth registration, altho we may never have it.

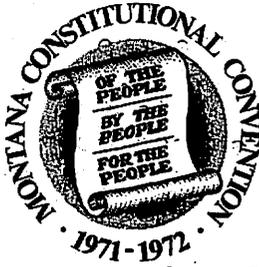
In general I believe people are quite receptive
to the new proposals.

Personally, I am proud of our work and pleased
to have been a part of the Convention.

Maybe I'll have more later.
It was a pleasure to
serve with you.

Sincerely

John H. Lenthold



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LOUISE CROSS
Delegate, District 3
Chairman:
Natural Resources and
Agriculture Committee

Box 1388
Glendive, Mont.
April 13, 1972

Richard B. Roeder
Associate Prof. of Hist.
M S U
Bozeman, Mont.

Dear Rick:

This will acknowledge your letter of April 3, and give you the information requested. So far I have spoken on the proposed Constitution four times, and have a full schedule of meetings during the next two weeks. Generally I have been requested to speak on the Constitution as a whole, but after the first two talks, it was apparent that the "whole bale of hay" was impossible to digest in an hour or so.

Since then, I have tried to find out what each group is specifically interested in, and have used this as a nucleus for prepared remarks. A short summary of the major points of each article makes for over-all information, and acts as a point of departure for questions. Personal reflections and experiences add a bit of flavor and interest, and these I usually save for the informal presentation during the question period.

Questions have related to:

1. Explanation of the unicameral legislature. What are the changes in the new article in addition to the one or two house system.
2. How will two boards of education work? (There seems to be a need to explain the powers of the Board of Regents. How much actual control will the legislature have after the money is appropriated? If appropriated funds fall short of requested funds, who makes the determination of where this money is to go and for what purpose?)
3. Explanation of the selection of supreme court and district judges proves interesting.
4. The side issues on the ballot generate discussion. How will each work if approved?
5. What is my opinion of the constitution, and specifically, my feelings about the article as produced by my committee?

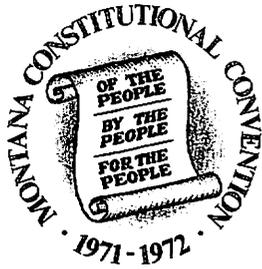
I have not concentrated on the work of my committee in the speeches already given, however, in three that are coming this week, these will be on environment and natural resources.

I have found a generally favorable reaction to the proposed constitution, and a feeling of respect for the delegates. Perhaps it is a reflection of my own feelings, as that is the way I feel. With the exception of two cancellations because of illness, I have appeared before groups when asked and have expressed a willingness to do so at any time.

Sincerely,

Louis Cross

Typed name or address, mostly illegible.



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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Friday 4-14-72

Dear Rich:

Thank you for your letter and I'm sorry to be this late with answering it.

The cowboys in the Powder, Tongue, and Little Big Horn River country are very interested in the new constitution.

Following is the order in which they ask questions usually:

1. When do I get to see a copy of this new Proposed Constitution?
2. Are you going to vote for it yourself?
3. What is going to happen to Montana's basic tax structure?
4. Will the education department under the new Constitution cause a large increase in taxes? I see improvement in administration, but am apprehensive about the cost.
5. How come we need annual sessions of the legislature? With all other improvements in that department, annual sessions aren't needed, and should be taken out until a later date.

People here wish that it would not be on the June 6 ballot, but instead on the November ballot in order to give ample time for study and consideration.

Also there is strong feeling that we should have presented the ballot listing each article separately. People here are especially concerned about this aspect.

I guess that is really the average thought and question in the minds of folks here.

Good luck in your work, and am surely looking forward to seeing you again---hope it won't be too long.

Yours,

Tarney

April 15, 1972

Dear Dick,

Went to Helena on Friday and talked to all voter education committee and asked if there were questions that they had not sent in and got the following list:

Explain why we eliminated 2 mill levy.

What about removal of sovereign immunity?

Anti-diversion amendment, why:

Some take exception of children being adults for all purposes. Like one lawyer said, how about serving on jury for these people?

Why did we remove state board of equalization?

Our county commissioner, Ed Shubat, said that it was unrealistic for the county commissioners to serve as such a board because they employed the people to set values and they would support their employees or get new ones. He said an appraisal board of citizens would serve a much better purpose.

Why did we remove \$100,000 debt limit?

Limitations on cities, counties, school districts?

Why did we remove clerk of supreme court and treasurer?

Why did we leave the longer ballot? (You sure can answer this!)

Much flak on constitution not being available to everyone as yet.

Oil rich counties resent school and welfare financing.

What is the relationship between two school boards and the supt. of public instruction?

Does the legislative auditor still remain?

Why did we change our form of govt? Did we?

What's so bad about present constitution?

Many people don't like highway department and want to know if the new constitution assures them that the highway dept. will be more responsive.

What is the most important article or change? Is it the legislative article?

Lots of confusion on the ballot because they can't see why we put both of each issue down below.

One county commission, John Stephens of Elaine County has sent a letter to all County Commissioners belaboring the constitution and using the same words that our friend Archie uses that there are many ramifications that could jeopardize our state.

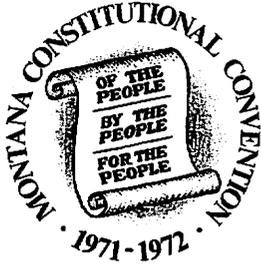
I dreamed that we were out covering the state with speaking engagements in every town in Montana talking about the tableid. How's that for dedication to the project?

Dick, did I ever thank you for the evening that we lost the battle for the short ballot? I've often thought about it and feel that this was one time that I really needed a sympathetic friend.

Getting very excited about the tabloid. The objectivity committee was looking over the stuff Friday and I said to mail it directly to you because it would save a few days.

L and K,

Margaret



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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JEAN M. BOWMAN
District 8 Delegate
Secretary to Convention
Phone: 449-3764

HOME ADDRESS:
2244 Fairview Place
Billings, Montana 59102

Sat. Apr. 15

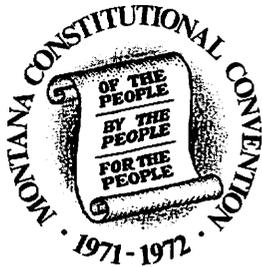
Dear Dick -

I have been jotting down questions for you, but didn't realize how quickly you needed them. Sorry. I gave my list to Margaret Warden yesterday & she incorporated them in a list for you. So far things look good. No real organized opposition.

It would be impossible not to respond to a request from me who says so many nice things!! Good luck on your project.

Sincerely,

Jean B.



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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April 17, 1972

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana
59715

Dear Dick,

Sorry to be so long in getting this reply back to you, but I have been gathering some questions from various groups. Here is a list of some of the more frequent questions and concerns that have been addressed to me in regard to the proposed constitution:

Why wasn't unicameral included in the body of the proposed constitution? (many have the impression it was the most popular proposal among the delegates.)

Why was the two mill levy taken off, and what will this do to our property taxes?

What happens to present statutory laws which might be in conflict with the proposed constitution if it is ratified?

What will the proposed constitution say if the issue AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY is ratified?

Does the proposed constitution protect people from having to join a union?

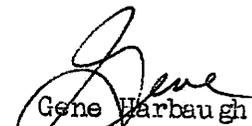
What happens in an eminent domain proceeding where the individual rejects the state's offer under the proposed constitution?

Are election of judges to be contested elections only in the primary election, or will they also be contested at the general election under the proposed constitution?

Will we have wide-open gambling if the proposal "for gambling" is ratified? (this question is often confused in the minds of the asker...to the effect that one of the proposals offered will actually legalize all or various forms of gambling.)

This group of questions constitute some of those that I have encountered...I trust that along with others that you have already collected it might be of some help. When your question and answer summary is ready I'd appreciate a copy.

Many thanks...and keep the faith!


Gene Harbaugh

SCHULZ AND DAVIS
LAWYERS

LEONARD A. SCHULZ
CARL M. DAVIS

122 EAST GLENDALE STREET
DILLON, MONTANA 59725
AREA CODE 406
683-5851 • 683-2363

April 18, 1972

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Rich:

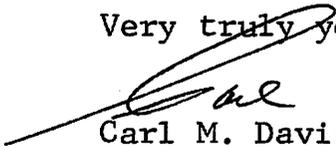
I trust I am not too late in answering your letter of April 3 regarding comments on the constitution. We have not really had too many questions in this area, but I have had some complaints on the removal of the two mill levy, removal of the State Board of Equalization from the constitution and making all assessments down at the State level, and, of course, numerous comments on changing the anti-diversion amendment to permit the legislature to tap the funds.

I spoke last week at the Rotary Club, a regional meeting of the Democratic Women, to rural teachers of Beaverhead and Madison Counties, and to the Southwestern Montana Stockgrowers Association. They all were quite interested but really didn't present many questions. The biggest surprise of all came from the fact that the president of the Democratic Women for the State, one Lorraine Twedt, seems opposed to the new constitution and objected particularly to the single member districts--can you beat that!

As long as I am writing, you undoubtedly observed in the highlights of the proposed constitution on page 3, under Number of Justices of the Peace, that it should be there will be not less than one per county, rather than restricted to one per county.

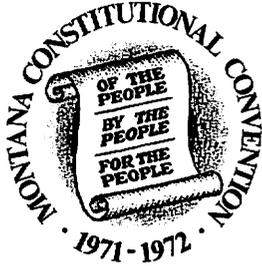
Please advise if you have further information and with kindest personal regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,


Carl M. Davis.

CMD/rb

cc: Montana Constitution Convention
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59601



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

April 19, 1972

Dear Richard;

Sorry it has taken me so long to get to this but I have been very busy getting back into the swing of things. In answer to your question there seems to be about four general questions that most people are asking;

First, what does the new revenue and finance article mean in terms of how taxation is going to change in the future.

Second, will this new form of taxation mean that we will be paying more in the Flathead or less.

Thirdly, why haven't you eliminated more of the offices. I am sure that you will love answering that one.

Fourthly, why didn't you delegates decide on such things as gambling, eliminating the death penalty, etc.

We, all the delegates up in this neck of the woods, continue to work to get the document passed. I expect that it will pass by a very large margin up here in the Flathead. Hope this helps.

Your friend,

STATE OF MONTANA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

HELENA 59601



April 19, 1972

DOLORES COLBURG
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

To: Delegates to the Constitutional Convention

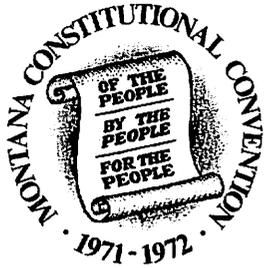
From: Cheryl S. Hutchinson *Cheryl S. Hutchinson*
Assistant to the State Superintendent

Enclosed are materials to update your "Montana Constitutional Convention Instructional Idea and Resource File" which this office has been distributing to schools on request since January. On January 25, the first 14 inserts were mailed to you at Convention Hall.

As you will note, we have deleted from your packet any attachments that would duplicate materials with which you already are familiar.

As further materials are produced for inclusion in the "File," they will be mailed to your home address. Please advise me, however, if you do not wish to receive additional materials or if you wish to record an address change.

Enclosures



MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
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CEDOR B. ARONOW
Delegate, District 15
Judiciary Committee

HOME ADDRESS:
Box 651
Shelby, Montana 59474
HELENA ADDRESS:
Coach House Motor Inn

April 21, 1972

Mr. Richard B. Roeder
Associate Professor of History
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Rick:

Excuse the delay in replying to your letter of April 3rd, but on Easter we left Shelby and went over to our place on Whitefish Lake and spent a couple of weeks recuperating from the Convention. Natalie and her two children arrived up at Whitefish on April 5th, so we had a delightful time with her and the two grandchildren. Between making speeches on the proposed Constitution and trying to get caught up in the office, I neglected your letter for which I apologize.

Most of the questions that I get in this area have to deal with the elimination of the limitation of the two mill levy and objection to no debt limitations and the rather loose free-wheeling provision of the article on finance and revenue. Many of the people in this area are not enamored with the idea of the legislature meeting every year.

We have been getting some questions on water rights and the provision that the waters belong to the State of Montana for the use of its people. This question arises primarily because of the newspaper articles on public trust and access to private lands which were all defeated and, of course, everyone has not had an opportunity to read the Constitution and even if they did, a lot of people don't quite understand. There is also some question as to the provision requiring all assessing and equalization of property values to be done at the state level. I have been able to answer this pretty effectively by stating that the State Board of Equalization is doing that presently and it probably will not be too much different under the proposed Constitution than it is at the present time.

Page Two
Richard B. Roeder
April 21, 1972

I trust the above will be of some help to you, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



CEDOK B. ARONOW

CBA:sb

April 21, 1972

Dr. Richard Roeder
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59715

Dear Rich:

I've been hoping to come up with some penetrating questions from the "politically alert" people in Missoula. What strikes me everywhere is the almost complete ignorance of what's in the proposed constitution. It seems as though the people just ignored all the good reporting of it by the press and decided to get it straight from the horse's mouth when the delegates got home. Missoula delegates are being invited to clubs, special groups, etc., ad infinitum, and we're now soliciting meetings with groups like low-income, senior citizens, etc.

Generally, people are interested; but, I repeat, they're uninformed. They simply want to know what the provisions of the proposed constitution are and what changes were made. The legislative article seems to be major concern. There is considerable interest in unicameral legislature -- whether it would be more efficient and whether it would be less expensive. No one asks about single-member districts, but the idea seems to be acceptable when explained. Some question, too, has arisen as to whether the reapportionment commission of only five members would not be subject to special interest pressures. There is some concern that unicameralism as well as longer legislative sessions would eliminate the citizen legislator.

I don't find concern about the statutory degradation of the new constitution, as Franklin Arness complained in Sunday's papers. On the contrary, some have asked why the convention left so much to the legislature -- suggesting that we didn't do our job.

My contact with campus have been few since I got home, and I have the impression that faculty aren't excited about the proposals, even the education article. Edmund Freeman commented that the national and international crises of the last decade have left people too numb and weary to get worked up over a new state constitution! As I've gotten back into the real world and caught up on events of the last three months outside Convention Hall, I've had some of that feeling. Dick Chapman (political science) is disappointed and I understand Ellis Waldron is going to put out a rather critical brochure.

Naturally, the environmentalists (including most of campus) are disappointed. On the other hand, two senior citizens wanted to know if the provisions on natural resources would prevent them from cutting trees on their ranches or would take away their "rights" to streams starting on their land!

Labor leadership appears to have two main objections: change in anti-diversion provisions and autonomy for the Board of Regents. They also objected to absence of the recall provision.

Labor people show more interest in the proposed constitution than other segments of the community, probably for two reasons: their close ties with some of the delegates and the leadership of the executive board. The call for a state convention on May 6th to decide the AFL-CIO position on the proposed constitution has stimulated local interest. In spite of the objections I've mentioned, I have the strong impression that Jim Murry and Ernie Post, the real decision-makers, will support ratification. The natural resources and environment article doesn't disturb them, which probably shows how innocuous it is.

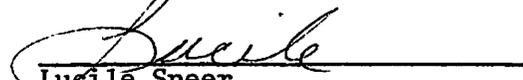
They like the sound of some new provisions in the Bill of Rights -- the right to basic necessities of life, the right to know, and the right to sue the state and local government. I believe that they sincerely feel that the proposed constitution shows a new concern for people and will probably make government more responsive to their needs.

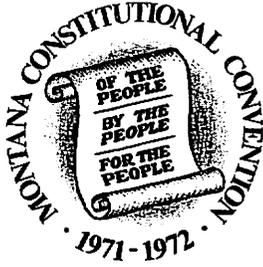
I've found general acceptance of the shift from local to state control in taxing property. Unless called to their attention, the Revenue and Finance article changes have not roused opposition -- except in the anti-diversion section.

Many people are disturbed by the form of ballot. They object to nullification of their vote on 2, 3, and 4, if there is not a majority vote on the proposed constitution. Even when explained, they seem to feel it's unfair to cancel their votes on the three separate propositions. Is this Montana individualism, or an echo from the cowboys of Powder River country? One person asked me, seriously, what the pressure group from Powder River country represented!

Calls for talks are coming in fast, now that ballots are going to voters. Edmund Freeman thinks Missoula County will carry three to one.

Best regards,


Lucile Speer
1529 Helena Avenue
Missoula, Montana 59801



Most frequently asked questions

1. What will happen if Const. is defeated?
2. Are the side issues amendments to the new Constitution?
3. Why did Convention skirt controversial issues and put them on ballot for people to decide?
4. Does the Revenue & Taxation article allow or require statewide property taxation.
5. Does the new Constitution jeopardize existing water rights or rights of farmers and ranchers.
6. What is the Lt. Gov going to do, if he is a full time officer and doesn't preside over leg.?

7. Do eighteen year olds have the right to hold any public office?
8. What were the most controversial issues of Constitutional Convention?
9. Make it clear that just because we have eliminated the mention of a great many things from the Const, we haven't done away with them. They're still on the statutes.
10. Why is 8. Friday in Const.?
11. How much did it cost?

Dickie baby,

These are the main questions - hope this helps I hope you will emphasize that while we've got everything they wanted and the Const will be perfect - the real selling point is its ability to be amended - by the people - this is really a selling point.

I am in pain - just walked 20 miles for Project Concern - sheer misery.

DEAR DICK

HERE ARE COMPLAINTS I HAVE RECEIVED SINCE COMING HOME.

ARTICLE 3

Section 9 - WE SHOULD HAVE HAD THE GUTS TO TAKE GAMBLING OUT OF THE CONSTITUTION ALTOGETHER INSTEAD OF PASSING THE BLANKET TO THE VOTERS.

ARTICLE 5

Section 14 (1) SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS HAVE REELED OUT SOME OLD HACK POLITICIANS.

ARTICLE 8 (3) CONCERN ABOUT INCREASED PROPERTY TAXES DUE TO STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT AND EQUALIZATION.

SECTION 6 (2) THE HIGHWAY PROGRAM WILL BE WRECKED BY THE LEGISLATURE UNDER THE $\frac{2}{5}$ PROVISION

SECTION 13 (1) CONCERN ABOUT UN-CONTROLLED INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR RETIREMENT FUNDS.

ARTICLE 9

SECTION 1 NO TEETH. SHOULD HAVE PASSED PUBLIC TRUST.

ARTICLE 10

SECTION 6 (2) MILITANT TEACHERS MAD ABOUT SUPPORTING ANY PUBLIC AID TO PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS, FEDERAL OR OTHERWISE.

(2) (a) School administrators worried about losing vo-tech to univ. system.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:

① LIBERAL TYPES GRUMBLE THAT REFORMS DIDN'T GO FAR ENOUGH. SUGGESTED ANSWER: "BETTERN' NOTHIN'!"

② LEGISLATORS SEEM SULKILY HOSTILE. JEALOUSY, I EXPECT.

③ AS OF THIS MOMENT THIS COUNTY IS IN GOOD SHAPE. NO APPARENT RESISTANCE FROM MOST LABOR OR BUSINESS GROUPS. AGRICULTURE GENERALLY UNFAVORABLE BUT NOT AN IMPORTANT FACTOR HERE. ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FROM U OF M STUDENTS AND FACULTY. INFLUENCE OF CARLINGTON WILL BRING MANY CONSERVATIVES INTO CAMP.

MOST SERIOUS THREAT — HIGHWAY USERS AND OPERATING ENGINEERS UNION.

BUT BARRING AN UNFORESEEN CALAMITY THIS COUNTY (27,000 REGISTERED VOTERS) WILL CARRY THE CONSTITUTION.

Sincerely,

John Toole