

How Candidates View 14 Major Con-Con Issues

To aid the voter in choosing his party's candidate to the forthcoming Con-Con Convention, The Eccentric presents views which 17 local primary candidates have on a number of important issues the Convention will have before it.

The voter will make his party selection next Tuesday, July 25. (See related story on Page 1-A.) Party candidates will face each other in an election Sept. 12. The Convention will meet Oct. 3.

PRIMARY CANDIDATES from the Third and Fourth districts of Oakland County were asked to express their views on 14 of the major issues involved in writing a new State Constitution.

(Third District includes Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Troy, Orchard Lake and the townships of Bloomfield and West Bloomfield. Fourth District includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin,

Lathrup, Southfield, Wood Creek Farms and the township of Farmington.)

Of the 17 candidates who must contest for their party nomination, two did not return answers to The Eccentric's questionnaire.

The Eccentric realizes that putting together a new state constitution is a monumental task. Delegates will spend long hours deliberating what they believe

should go into that constitution. They will obtain many new facts and hear many viewpoints.

Purpose of the following questions is not to commit candidates to a final determination at this time. However, it does provide an opportunity to state presently-held decisions or opinions if the candidates so choose.

Here is the compilation of their answers:

3rd District Candidates

Republicans

Republicans

4th District Candidates

Democrats

QUESTIONS	STANLEY FIOLE	JEAN KETCHUM	MARTHA KOHTE	RICHARD McMANUS	KENNETH WHITNER	HENRY WOLFENDEN	JUDSON G. GOLTRA	ASHLEY GORMAN	RICHARD VAN DUSEN	JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH	JUDSON G. GOLTRA	DAVID KAUFMAN	THOMAS K. KAVANAGH	LEO P. MEACHER	BRIAN MILLINGTON	HAROLD M. PROVIZER	JOSE SANTIAGO
1. Should the governor's term be two or four years?	4 years	4 years	4 years	See comment below	No Reply Received	4 years	2 years	4 years	No Reply Received	4 years	4 years	4 years	4 years	2 years	4 years	4 years	4 years
2. How should all other top state officials be chosen?	Elect Sec. of State, Aud. Gen.; appoint all others	Appoint 4 years	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	Legislator of State, Atty. Gen., Gov. appoint Sup. of P. Int. and OK others	Elect Sec. of State, Atty. Gen., Gov. appoint Sup. of P. Int. and OK others	Legislator of State, Atty. Gen., Gov. appoint others	Legislator of State, Atty. Gen., Gov. appoint others	Continue in office	Elect only Aud. Gen., Sup. of P. Int.	Appoint all	Elect only Gov. and Atty. Gen.	Continue to be elected	Appoint all	No answer	Continue to be elected
3. Should state senators' terms be two or four years?	4 years	4 years	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	2 years	2 years	2 years	2 years	No decision yet	2 years	4 years	4 years	2 years	2 years	4 years	4 years
4. Should state representatives' terms be two or four years?	No decision yet	No decision yet	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	2 years	2 years	2 years	2 years	No decision yet	2 years	4 years	2 years	2 years	2 years	4 years	2 years
5. Should state elections coincide with national elections?	No	No	No	See comment	See comment	No	No	No	Governor off-year vote for those with 4 year terms	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
6. Do you believe state senate districts need reapportionment?	Yes	See comment below	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	Yes, to protect minorities	No	No	Some, but minorities should be protected	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7. Do you believe state representative districts need reapportionment?	Yes	See comment	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	Yes, to represent majorities	No	No	Yes, to recognize population shifts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
8. Should the new constitution "sear" any revenues?	No	See comment	No	See comment	See comment	No	No	No	Some, such as highway	Yes: education, health, highways	Yes	No	No	Depends on what is done with reapportionment	No	Yes, school, highways, institutions	No decision yet
9. Should the new constitution specifically mention that a state income tax can be levied if necessary to obtain revenues?	No	See comment	No	See comment	See comment	No	No	No	No	No	See comment below	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
10. Regarding a tax limit on county and school revenues, the constitution should:	Elim. but amount undetermined	See comment	No decision yet	See comment	See comment	Remove any limitation	Keep 10 mill limit	See below	See below	Maintain present 10 mill	Keep 15 mill limit	Remove any limit	Remove any limit	Keep 15 mill limit	Remove any limit	Elim. but not over 21 mills	No decision yet
11. Do you favor more constitutional flexibility in operation of metropolitan gov't?	Yes	Yes	Yes	See comment	See comment	Yes	Yes	Yes	See below	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
12. Do you favor continued constitutional prohibition of lotteries?	No decision yet	See comment	No	See comment	See comment	No	Yes	Yes	Oppose lotteries, but not constitutional prohibition	No	No decision yet	No decision yet	No	No decision yet	No decision yet	No decision yet	Yes
13. Do you pledge yourself to vote that the Convention rules specify that there will be no secret meeting on Con-Con deliberations?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes for reasons; no for committees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	This is meaningless	Yes	No	Yes
14. Do you believe the Legislature should be the sole determinant of Civil Service schedules?	No	No decision yet	No	See comment	See comment	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No

Candidates also were asked 1) if they had any specific suggestions regarding improvement of state, county, township or municipal financing or organization, and 2) to amplify briefly any of their answers to any questions in the table above. Statements were received from the following candidates:

3rd District Republicans

STANLEY J. FIOLE: I believe if we are to have more than just a mouthpiece for government, we must give that office its proper authority and enough time to implement the program proposed in the platform. Believe State colleges should all be governed on the same pattern and not have special privileges for one and not another. We should improve the State atmosphere to encourage more advanced colleges. Local school boards should be adequately informed in the most efficient manner of using tax dollars. School buildings are becoming a thing of beauty and architecture rather than an instrument for learning.

JEAN KETCHUM: Answer 9—Kinds of taxes needed for state revenue should be decided by legislature. Answer 10—Favor a more realistic limitation than 15 mills. Answer 11—Decided about legalizing lotteries, but legislation should not be in constitution. Favor preservation and strengthening of local government units, and permissive metropolitan cooperation between them. All opinions expressed herein are my present beliefs. At convention I

will reserve right to consider all reasonable proposals on their merits. Answer 6, 7—Favor customary periodic reapportionment of both houses modeled on U.S. Congress—i.e., lower house based on population, and senate on population plus other factors (area, economic interests) to protect minorities. Answer 8—Will make no hasty decision on earmarking. With 60 per cent state revenues earmarked, legislature's normal disbursement prerogative seriously curtailed; yet needs of groups such as educators for guaranteed funds in bad fiscal years must be respected.

4th District Democrats

MARTHA KOHTE: If elected, I shall endeavor to persuade the convention to make provision in the state constitution which will enable local taxing authorities to levy land value taxation, where the local governing bodies so choose, or where the local citizenry so chooses. I understand the state government is making provision for a commission to study the constitution with facts and figures and to offer counsel when needed. If elected, I shall be grateful for such assistance and intend to weigh all issues carefully and as intelligently as I can.

RICHARD H. McMANUS: Answers to the above questions: I have been highly critical of dictatorial unionism and other puppet groups who have predetermined answers for their puppet delegates. This does not mean, however, that I have no opinions. As a matter of fact I have an opinion on each of the questions but feel that the correct answer should be arrived at only after thorough consideration of all facts by all delegates. The new Constitution should be greatly simplified and written in a way that it can be read and understood by all of us. Economy and efficiency in government (flow or

port) will hold the line on taxes and give us an educational system that will enable more students to be better educated at a lower cost. It must attract industry to Michigan and create a climate where labor and management can prosper together. **HENRY WOLFENDEN:** I firmly believe in strengthening local government including the rule for counties. I believe the judicial article of the Constitution should be redrafted to take the selection of judges of courts of record out of politics. Something comparable to the Federal system would be effective.

JUDSON G. GOLTRA: I believe that Home Rule should exist at all local levels. The people of any given area should best know the form and management of that area. All State offices of like functions should be grouped together in an attempt to reduce the total overhead. Some should be eliminated. I would like to see the State out-of-pocket business (State Income Tax) should be approached only through a popular vote. I don't believe in taxation without representation. Reapportionment must be on a straight and continued population basis. Earmarking of revenues should be limited and all surpluses should go to the General Fund. Policies should be removed from Civil Service to put an end to the Spoils System. It should be operated on a Corporation basis responsible directly to the Governor. An impartial Governor Board could survey and recommend corrections, in mismanaged taxes, and provide needed relief for the individual taxpayer.

ASHLEY GORMAN: Finance: A complete re-appraisal should be made of our present tax system. The proper location of tax funds to city, state and county is one of the most difficult tasks which the convention will face. Organization: State administrative boards need reorganization and simplification. Consolidation of county and township government should be studied. The legislature should be able to determine whether one type tax would be more suitable than another. Consequently, although the new constitution need not specifically mention income tax, it should not prohibit the legislature from considering one. Our present administrative organization is too complex, and our executive department not responsible enough. Concentrating more authority in the governor by giving the power of appointment of his "cabinet" would create a more responsible and efficient executive branch.

entative legislature. If we can accomplish this we will not need to limit the activities of the legislature by "ear marking" or limiting the power of the legislature to tax for the necessities of government, such as schools.

LEO P. MEACHER: Presently we have deputies (whose salaries are set by civil service) being paid \$4,000 a year more than the commissioner's salary, which is set by the legislature. On the one per cent basis, the more salaries that are paid to civil service employees the more money is appropriated to the civil service commission. Can you conceive just how long a private business would survive on that basis?

DAVID KAUFMAN: Constitutional restrictions should be removed on the debt limitation, on the mill limitation, and on the so-called "equal protection" limitation so as to provide the State and the local government with the necessary tools to implement a sound structure. In addition, the credit of the State must be permitted to be pledged to the State income tax and the temporary granting of tax privileges to such new business.

THOMAS K. KAVANAGH: In my opinion the most important task for the Constitutional Convention is to provide for a truly representative legislature. If we can accomplish this we will not need to limit the activities of the legislature by "ear marking" or limiting the power of the legislature to tax for the necessities of government, such as schools. Citizens are equal as individuals and hence each legislator should represent approximately the same number of people. Present unequal representation puts the interest of the majority of the population at the mercy of a minority. The present basis of apportionment fails to give fair representation to urban areas, while giving a definite advantage to less populated areas. To provide equal representation both houses of the legislature should be apportioned on the basis of population.

JOSE SANTIAGO: Regarding Question No. 8, this will be an area where some hard thinking will be necessary. There are many avenues of thought on this subject. Regarding Question No. 10, there are some good reasons for keeping the property tax down. However, we should come about through a property tax rather than an income and other taxes rather than a mill limitation.

BRIAN K. MILLINGTON: The unit or units for the effective administration of government on the local level requires considerable study. The ultimate goal to be achieved is the elimination of duplicated effort, with administrators who are not responsive to the will of the electorate. In that regard all levels of government should be predicated on the philosophy that those individuals responsible for general policy-making should be elective, and those positions which are charged with the responsibility of performing specific tasks be appointive. If this can be accomplished, the net result should be a more informed electorate and responsible administration.

HAROLD M. PROVIZER: Article X, Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Michigan Constitution should be revised to establish a more flexible framework within which a more sound and equitable tax structure might be provided. Revise Article X, Section 10 to allow an increase of the debt limitation (\$200,000) placed upon borrowing by the state. Revision of Article X, Section 12, to permit limited use of credit of the state for the purpose of granting assistance to or encouraging the development of public or private associations, corporations, or enterprises.

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