

Februa ry 12th, 1947

Mr. J. T. Norris  
% Ashland Daily Independent  
Ashland, Kentucky

Dear Sir:

I was specially interested in a news item appearing in the February 11th edition of the Independent, relative to your address before the Ashland Lions Club, relative to the needs of a revised constitution for Kentucky, and especially so wherein it was stated that you proved conclusively that such a change was necessary because of the change that has taken place since the formulating of the present instrument.

I am wondering if this address was written in advance, and if a copy of it would be available; and if so I would very much like to have such a copy.

Frankly I am very much interested in this question; I have been a member of the committee of the State Bar Association upon the State Constitution, and have studied the constitutions both of the Federal Government and of the State Government very extensively, and think that I have read practically every decision which has arisen upon the State Constitution, as well as the Federal Constitution until about the "New Deal" constructions. I realize that there are probably about a dozen amendments to the present constitution which would be advantageous, but have had in mind that such amendments could be had by first revising Section 256 of the constitution, so as to permit any number of amendments to be submitted at one and the same time, and then the twelve or other necessary amendments be submitted to the voters at one time, all of which I believe could be done at a very limited expense, probably not over \$25,000.00, while the convention would probably cost a matter of \$400,000.00 or \$500,000.00. Of course this cost would be governed substantially by the per diem compensation fixed by the act calling the convention, to be paid to the one hundred delegates, plus the additional expense of other employes than the delegates, stenographic work, printing, etc.

I further have in mind that many of the suggestions made by those sponsoring a new constitutional convention have been embraced in the twenty-five amendments which have heretofore been proposed to the existing constitution, sixteen of which have