

Constitutional Convention Committee on Ordinances and Transition December 8, 1955

R. J. MoNealy, Esq. Chairman of the Committee on Ordinances and Transition

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and Elections

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The court construing the effect of the ordinance stated on Page 894,

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"Section 1 of Art. 22 (Schedule appended to the Constitution) of the Constitution declares 'that all laws in force at the adoption of this Constitution, not inconsistent therewith, shall remain in full force and effect until altered or repealed by the Legislature; and all rights, actions, prosecutions, claims, and contracts of the State, counties, individuals, or bodies corporate, not inconsistent therewith, shall continue to be as valid as if this Constitution had not been adopted'. And Section 3 of the same article provides that 'all courts now existing, save Justice's and Police Courts, are hereby abolished; and all records, beoks, papers, and proceedings from such courts as are abolished by this Constitution, shall be transferred on the first day of Jamuary, eighteen hundred and eighty, to the courts provided for in this Constitution; and the courts to which the same are thus transferred shall have the same power and jurisdiction over them as if they had been in the first instance commenced, filed, or lodged therein'.

"On the 1st day of January, 1880, the County Court of the City and County of San Francisco went out of existence, the Superior Court succeeding to its powers and jurisdictions. The case now under consideration was then properly before the Superior Court, and that Court had the same power and jurisdiction over it as it would have had if the case had been in the first instance 'commenced, filed, or lodged therein'."

The importance (when framing the ordinances, schedules or for that matter the fundamental articles incorporated in the constitution proper) and following the principle of stare decisis particularly in adopting wording of other constitutions was borne out in the case of Stine v. Morrison 9 Idaho Reports 26 where the Court held as follows:

> "Where any constitutional provision or wording is borrowed or adopted from another state the courts of which have placed a construction on its language it will be presumed that it was taken in view of such judicial interpretation and with the purpose of adopting the language as the same had been interpreted by the courts of the state from which it was taken.

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ELECTIONS

The case of <u>State ex rel. v. Moores et al. 7 Nebraska 48</u> involving dispute over an election of a City Judge and resulting in the institution of a peremptory writ of mandamus, the court held that an election provided for and required to take place by the adoption of the Consti-tution is self-operative. The court quoting Section 18, Article 6 and Section 13, Article 10 of the Constitution relating to the general elections to be had under the new constitution stated as follows: (Page 1014)

> "that the relator having been elected for a term of two years, to commence in January, 1895, at the regular election held in 1895, regular elections for police magistrate in the district comprising the city of Omaha should be held every two years thereafter; that the office and the district still existed in 1901; that the above-quoted provisions of the Constitution are so far self-enforcing that an election held to fill such office, participated in generally by the people of Omaha at the general election in 1901, was a valid election for that purpose."

I have analyzed and made a list of a great deal of cumulative material enunciating some of the doctrines held by the courts on various subjects. A great deal of the material <u>is purely cumulative</u> and I wish to solicit an expression of an opinion from your Committee as to whether you desire such additional material and also any other questions not covered in the submitted memoranda.

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