Confidence Key Word to Writing of Constitution--Knowles

amendments passed in 1967 permitting a governor consecutive terms "was pretty much a referendum" on what the public thought was a good first administration by ex-Gov. John J. McKeithen.

McLeod also called for constitutional provisions which would make possible open primary voting. He said it would lead to competition in the Legislature, contribute to the growth of a second party, and would be "a tremendous" benefit to the people.

He also called for a prohibition against legislators serving on executive boards and commissions.

James R. Friesen, president of the Calcasieu Farm Bureau Federation asked that the convention retain in the constitution tax advantages farmers presently enjoy, such as exemptions on tractor fuel, and ad valorem taxes on farm implements and livestock. Friesen also called for farm land to be taxed at use value rather than potential value and urged environmentalists to "proceed extremely cautiously" because, he said, "agriculture can be seriously hurt.

Friesen pressed the ad valorem taxing system as the key word to the writing of the constitution. The Lake Charles lawmaker said he has found in his own eight-parish tour voters are most concerned with the projected status of civil service, retention of the two-thirds vote to increase taxes, continued election of the superintendent of education, and the prospect of elimination of some state elected officials.

Knowles said, "too much power in either branch (legislative or executive) creates problems." He said people are concerned that provisions regarding civil service would mean the system "would end up in name only. Obviously they like it the way it is. They don't want to water it down.

As for elected officials, he said sentiment seems to be to retain the elective posts of superintendent of education, commissioner of agriculture, controller, and voting machine custodian—all of whom had been singled out as possibly being eliminated in the new constitution.

AGREEMENT SEEN

 Asked if he thought the public might agree to combining some of these officials, he said, "I'm sure they would. I don't think it would lead to defeat of the constitution."

Rep. William McLeod, Lake Charles, urged the convention to consider limiting a governor to one term. McLeod said the

model for other states.

—John Woodard, representing the Council on Development of French in Louisiana, urged provisions for official recognition of the French language as an alternative language.

—Dr. R. W. Levardis, of the McNeese faculty, suggested the constitution of the present share of the gasoline tax allocated to the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District because of its present dedication to bonded debts.

In the Texas border

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