



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

### **Copyright Notice:**

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/copyright](http://www.mnhs.org/copyright).

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
January 12th, 1940

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, January 12th, at the Minneapolis Y W C A, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. New, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Waters, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Newhart, Miss Britts, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Kinyon, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Ewing, Mrs. Congdon, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Stakman. Also Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Mathys and Miss Sinclair, of the Minneapolis League. (1)

In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Winter was appointed secretary pro tem.

Inasmuch as the minutes of the December meeting had been mailed to all board members, the reading of the minutes was waived. 2

Finance

Mrs. Anderson gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance December first of \$680.69, receipts during the month of \$439.49, disbursements of \$679.90, leaving a balance December 31st of \$440.28, with bills payable during January estimated at \$1,036.78. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Congdon, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed. (2)

Miss Mitchell reported that for the first month since it was established there was no addition to the JGS Fund to announce. Mrs. Wolf reported that the St. Paul League is calling in its boxes on the 17th of the month.

Organization

Mrs. Congdon spoke in behalf of the invitation from the Duluth League to hold the state convention in that city. She reported that a registration of as many as 125 members of that League might be counted upon. It was agreed that the week of May 13th would be the best time for holding the convention. Inasmuch as the opinion of the board seemed to be evenly divided on the advisability of holding the convention in Duluth, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the decision as to date and place be left to the executive committee.

It was announced that the date for the mid-winter Presidents' Conference has been set for Thursday, February 8th, when Mrs. Walter Driscoll of St. Paul will be hostess.

Mrs. Waters, radio chairman, reported on her contact with WCCO, who had expressed a desire that the League present its radio series in the form of dramatic skits, emphasizing the entertainment angle. The consensus of the board was that the League should continue its usual type of broadcast, presenting facts in as interesting and informative a manner as possible, even if it meant broadcasting such programs over another station than W C C O.

#### Public Health Nursing

Mrs. Fraser reported on a letter received from Mrs. Madeline C Bradford, chairman of the legislative committee for the Minnesota Organization for Public Health Nursing, requesting that the League sponsor and support a bill for special aid to counties employing public health nurses. Mrs. Collins reported on the use already made by Leagues of the material prepared on Public Health Nursing in Minnesota, and that Mrs. Nelson is also preparing additional material on public health nursing in other states. Although under the legislative support policy, the League supported the principle of public health nursing by speaking in behalf of the bill presented at the 1939 legislative session at a hearing, it was agreed that no decision on support of a definite bill be made at this time, inasmuch as the subject would undoubtedly be included in the proposed program of work to be submitted for convention vote. It was agreed that educational work among the Leagues on this question should be continued, with the possibility of asking the Leagues to make a survey to bring out how their community would benefit by such legislation, to hold open meetings, etc.

#### Civil Service

Attention was called to the fact that Jan. 14 - 20 is Civil Service Week,



January 16th being the 57th anniversary of the signing of the Pendleton Act establishing the federal civil service. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Pearce, seconded by Miss Britts, that the letter, as drafted by Mrs. Newhart, be sent from the League to the Minnesota members of the House of Representatives, urging that the Ramspeck bill be passed on this day, such letter to be given publicity. Miss Mitchell reported that the Minnesota Editorial Association, meeting in Minneapolis during that week, might have a speaker on civil service. Other plans for observing this week included mention by radio commentators, broadcasts on civil service by Leagues having local radio stations. (4)

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Miss Britts, that Leagues in second class cities be encouraged to hold civil service meetings, similar to that held in Duluth.

Mrs. Newhart reported on the analysis of the civil service survey conducted by local Leagues during the past few months. Around 360 persons were interviewed by League members, outside of the Twin Cities, with 31 Leagues participating and reporting. It was agreed that the results of the survey should be sent to local League presidents in a letter.

Mrs. Newhart reported on recent developments in civil service, including two hearings on the rules and regulations that were attended by League members.

Mrs. Collins reported on the possibility of special releases on civil service by Vivian Thorp to be made available by the Civil Service Council. Local Leagues will be asked to contact their newspaper editors, accompanied by other local representatives of organizations on the civil service council, to urge the use of these releases.

It was agreed that local Leagues should be asked to do a second survey, as planned, and that a "penny sheet" might be prepared after the classification and compensation schedules are completed.

The secretary read a letter from the chairman of the Department of Governments and Its Operation of the Faribault League, reporting on their visits



to city boards, showing how successfully this can be done in a small community.

3 The problem of the Moorhead League in supporting two possible local projects - enforcement of the curfew law, and appropriation for local post office, were discussed.

19  
17  
3/6 It was reported that some of the department chairmen have already submitted their suggestions for "Jobs for Every Member", and Mrs. Musty and Mrs. Kinyon were appointed to put these suggestions into final form.

### Reciprocal Trade Agreements

39 Dec. 1939  
2 Mrs. Morin read two recent communications from Miss Wells. Discussion followed on what further educational work could be done by local Leagues in support of this question. A new flier from the National League was reported as available for widespread distribution, as well as a sheet prepared by the Minneapolis League Foreign Policy chairman on Benefits to Minnesota. It was suggested that the National League be asked to analyze the Brookings Institution report, which is at variance with figures used by the League on this question.

Mrs. Wright reported that she was prepared to lead discussion on a national public health program at the next board meeting, and that Board members would be sent material on this subject in advance of the meeting.

21  
5 Mrs. Fraser reported on her interview with the State Division of Social Welfare on the recent amendment to the Social Security Act requiring the merit system for employees administering social security services. The Division expressed the hope that the federal government would be "gentle" in its beginning enforcement of this provision.

119 Dec. 1939  
2 Following luncheon there was discussion of board responsibility. As to the question of the possibility of more frequent attendance and greater feeling of responsibility on the part of board members if there were fewer members, it seemed to be the consensus that members already attended as many meetings as

2 possible. Board members expressed a desire to continue receiving copies of all correspondence sent local League presidents and department chairmen. There was discussion of the division of responsibility between finance and membership chairmen, and treasurers, and the relationship of members of the state board to their local Leagues. Respectfully submitted, Marion D Winter, sec. pro tem

# STATE BOARD MINUTES

February 9, 1940

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held on Friday, February 9th, 1940, at the Minneapolis Y W C A, beginning at ten o'clock. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Luwe, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Grahame (representing Mrs. Wolf), Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Townley, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Huntley, Fraser, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Brodie, Mrs. McCaffrey, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Ewing and Mrs. Anderson. Also Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers, staff members, and as special guests Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Shapiro, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Nelson of Fergus Falls and Mrs. Goldberg of Winona.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Luwe, that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with as they had been mailed to all board members.

## Finance

Mrs. Anderson gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance January 1st of \$440.28, receipts during the month of \$960.89, disbursements of \$916.62, leaving a balance January 31st of \$484.55, with bills payable during February estimated at \$921.67. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Denny, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

It was announced that as most of the smaller leagues have paid their quota for the year, further financial responsibility rests upon the Leagues in the larger cities, for maintenance of the State League.

Announcement was made of a \$2.00 contribution from the South St. Paul League to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund. It is hoped to hear from the St. Paul League next month.

## Organization

The secretary read a letter of resignation as finance chairman from Mrs. New of Rochester. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Huntley, that this resignation be accepted with regret.



Miss Mitchell recommended that a temporary substitute be appointed until the spring convention, and proposed the name of Mrs. Musser. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Denny, seconded by Mrs. McCaffrey, that this recommendation be accepted.

It was announced that the executive committee, to whom the decision had been delegated by the board, had agreed to accept the invitation to hold the spring convention in Duluth, and had set Wednesday and Thursday, May 15th and 16th, as the dates. Mrs. Stakman has agreed to act as program chairman for the convention.

A report was given by Mrs. Huntley on the President's Conference held in St. Paul, February 8th, at the home of Mrs. Walter B Driscoll. It was a very satisfactory meeting, with presidents from 28 local Leagues attending. These presidents seemed to hold a broader view of their responsibilities than ever before, with the idea of not only getting members but of holding them, and not only getting dues but of getting contributions.

#### Requests for action

A letter from Miss Wells on the Far East situation was read by Mrs. McCaffrey. Suggestions were made in this letter as to various ways in which Japan might be punished for her aggression policy, and advisement given that a study was being made as to what stand the League would take, if any, on the question. It was decided that a copy of this letter should be sent to all local Leagues. Announcement was made of new material on the Far East question.

Mrs. Townley reported on a letter from Miss Wells, telling what efforts are being made throughout the country to present our stand on reciprocal trade agreements program. It was felt that we have a definite challenge as most of the opposition comes from the uninformed. It was suggested that the forthcoming issue of the Woman Voter contain an article on this subject.

The announcement was made that Mrs. A J McGuire is available to Leagues at no cost to speak on this subject.

Mrs. Newhart read a letter from the National League on qualified per-



sonnel in the federal government. The suggestion was made in this letter that we contact any big industries to obtain a favorable statement on personnel standards to be sent to members of Congress. It was decided to send requests to Austin, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, asking them to make these contacts and advising them to see their Chamber of Commerce for information on which industries to contact.

Mrs. Newhart announced the three day regional conference, sponsored by the National Municipal League, at the Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, February 19th 20th and 21st. The Minneapolis League will have charge of the program on civil service held on the second day. All local Leagues were urged to attend.

#### National Public Health Program

The meeting was taken over by Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Shapiro who gave a graphic picture of work already done on the question of government assistance in the public health field. No action was taken as to whether this subject should be proposed on our program as an item for study.

#### Cause and Cure of War Conference

Miss Sinclair, who attended this conference as a delegate from the Minnesota League of Women Voters, gave a report.

#### Civil Service

Following luncheon, Mrs. Beard gave a report on civil service. She discussed the progress of the classification plan, and said that undoubtedly there will be criticisms arising following the allocation of positions. The Board, in adopting the rules and regulations, is trying to reach a proper balance. In setting a retirement age, as stipulated in the law, she reported that it will be flexible and will work no hardship. With reference to seniority provisions in the law, a compromise will have to be worked out, and ~~that~~ it will probably be necessary for department heads to come to some understanding with their employees on this problem, inasmuch as uniform records are not available. The other chief difficulty is the setting of hours of work.

With reference to the recent attacks on civil service for bringing

"foreigners", she reported that only one came direct from Michigan, two were brought from California who had formerly worked in Michigan; there were no persons in the state available and qualified for the work they are doing; that all Minnesota applicants who were qualified are either working in the departments or have other positions nowp that there were no applicants from the three city systems in the state; that there are no permanent employees; and that these experts were available only because of the sabotage of the Michigan law.

Shereported that they do not as yet have their permanent quarters, and told of the request of the department to the Legislative Emergency Committee for additional funds, which had been temporarily refused. She reported that the only decision that has been taken to the courts has been upheld.

#### National Program of Work

Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Luwe analyzed the items under their departments (Economic Welfare and Legal Status of Women) proposed in the National Program of Work. There were no objections raised by board members to any new items so proposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L. Gruenhagen,

Secretary



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Wednesday, February 28th, 1940, beginning at 11 o'clock. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Keyes and Mrs. Duff. Absent - Mrs. Wolf and Dr. Boynton. Also present: Mrs. Stakman, program chairman for the convention, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins

#### State convention

It was agreed that the wording on the credential blank might be changed, inasmuch as every League member is eligible to register as a delegate, to read "is a duly accredited member of the \_\_\_\_\_ League of Women Voters." Also that these blanks might be printed without a date, with space left for it to be filled in, and then might be ordered in quantity and used for succeeding conventions.

There was then discussion on the timing of the convention, and the program. The convention will open Wednesday morning, following a meeting of the State Board the previous evening, and will officially close Thursday afternoon, to be followed by the Fireside Supper.

It was agreed that the two luncheons and the dinner Wednesday evening should be planned to attract Duluth residents, not necessarily League members. The Duluth League has suggested there be a civil service luncheon or dinner, and that Mrs. Thorp be asked to speak.

The suggestion was made that the dinner Wednesday evening be on a general theme, such as "America's Place in the New ~~Rock~~ World" - similar to the Minneapolis expansion dinner, with the possibility suggested of the Duluth League's having "cultivation" luncheons to stimulate attendance at this dinner.

It was agreed that a National Board member again be invited, with the consensus that Mrs. Fisher should be "sounded out" as to whether or not she would be available, to stress finance.

Mr. Arnold Zander, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, was suggested as a speaker on civil service, and the program chairman was authorized to find out if he would be available.

In the field of welfare administration, the question of the enforcement of the federal Social Security amendment on county personnel was felt to be the foremost question at the time, with the possibility suggested of asking Mr. Finke State Welfare administrator to ~~express~~ speak, either at a convention session or a luncheon meeting.

Speakers for the "feature" dinner suggested were William Allen White and Stanley High, and the program chairman was asked to determine whether either would be available and on what terms.

Program chairman was asked to determine whether Mrs. Banning would be in Duluth, and would preside at a luncheon or dinner meeting.

With reference to the presentation of the program - ~~the two main support items~~ - it was agreed that new subjects proposed for study should be presented by department chairman or some League member.

The possibility of an All-Department Conference, possibly held Thursday afternoon following the adoption of the program of work, was suggested. This would be in place of the Department Conferences, and would give all attending the



convention an opportunity to discuss how the program will be put into effect.

There was discussion on whether a luncheon should be devoted to a foreign policy question. No decision reached. Difficult to judge now what question would be of paramount importance.

It was agreed that a luncheon, or dinner, should definitely be devoted to civil service, with the practical problems covered.

Presidents' Conference could be during breakfast on Thursday.

#### March Board meeting

In place of the usual conference of department chairman, preceding the meeting of the state board at which the proposed program of work is adopted, it was agreed that this conference be omitted, and that the entire board be asked to take the responsibility for formulating the program.

In discussing subjects which have been studied during this year which are possibilities for support, the question of support of a legislative council was brought up. It was agreed that, if support is authorized by the convention, it should be understood that our continuing responsibilities for civil service and administration of welfare should take precedence.

A desire was expressed to have the subject of Inter-State Trade Barriers presented to the State Board prior to the National convention, so that delegates could be better informed on this subject.

There was discussion of questions on program-making procedure, and responsibilities of department chairmen, as brought out in a recent letter from a League member. Plans are under way for preparing instructions for department chairmen's use in keeping records to pass on to future chairmen, and it was agreed that an "instruction sheet" on responsibilities of department chairmen would be most helpful.

Miss Mitchell spoke of the annual reports to the National League, with special reference to the best "League story" of the year. It was agreed that the Duluth civil service dinner was the best example.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, ex. sec.

## STATE BOARD MINUTES

March 8th, 1940

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, March 8th, 1940, at the Minneapolis Y W C A, beginning at 10 a.m., Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Townley, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Cant, Miss Britts, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Waters, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Gruenhagen. Also Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins, Miss Sweeney and Mrs. Schutz, staff members.

IT WAS VOTED that the minutes be accepted without reading, inasmuch as they had been mailed to all members.

### Finance

Mrs. Anderson gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance February 1st of \$484.55, receipts during the month of \$1,243.77, disbursements of \$817.09, leaving a balance February 29th of \$911.23, with bills payable during March estimated at \$831.01. IT WAS VOTED that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

A contribution of \$6.50 from the Wabasha League to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund was announced.

Mrs. Musser, as chairman of the finance committee, reported that Mrs. New, Rochester, Mrs. Crane, Austin; Mrs. Swain, Winona; Mrs. Kinyon, Owatonna; Mrs. Congdon, Duluth, as well as the finance chairmen of the Minneapolis and Ramsey County Leagues have been asked to serve on this committee.

### Organization

IT WAS VOTED that the Waconia League be dropped from the list of local Leagues in Minnesota.

The secretary read a letter from Mrs. McCaffrey, inviting the State Board to meet in Wabasha for either the April or June meeting. It was agreed that the April meeting could not be held outside of Minneapolis, and final decision on accepting the invitation for June was postponed until the April meeting.

Mrs. Waters reported the status of an assignment of a radio period by W C C O. No definite period has been set, and it was agreed that if there is further postponement the radio chairmen be authorized to negotiate for time with W L B.

#### Convention

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Townley, that Mrs. Philip S Duff be appointed budget chairman, with the state-wide finance committee to work with her.

There was discussion of what is essential for a good nominating committee chairman, such as attendance at convention and ability to bring out other people's opinions. Several suggestions were made, with Mrs. H W Anderson of Grand Rapids and Mrs. Kurt Stai of St. Cloud agreed to as the best choices. A ballot vote was taken, indicating Mrs. Anderson as first choice and Mrs. Stai as second. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the recommendations submitted by the chair for representatives on the Nominating Committee from the seven districts outside the Twin Cities, be accepted.

Mrs. Stakman gave an outline of the tentative convention program. The convention is scheduled for two days only, to begin in the morning and to close officially the afternoon of the second day, to be followed by the Fireside Supper. It was agreed that the usual department conferences be eliminated, to be replaced by an all-department conference on methods of putting the program to work, and that this session might well be held the afternoon of the second day, following the adoption of the program of work at the morning session. Plans for luncheons and the dinner meeting were presented, with one to be on civil service.

#### Proposed Program of Work

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Wolf, that the first responsibility for the coming year should continue to be Minnesota's Civil Service Law. New means of making this an active item were discussed at length.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, that state and local administration of welfare be kept on as our second item of responsibility. It was agreed that



special attention be given to the establishment of the merit system for County Welfare Board employees administering Social Security services.

Following discussion of the possibility of recommending support of establishment of a Legislative Council for Minnesota, it was agreed, that, if such support is authorized, it should be with the understanding that the League would not initiate such legislation. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that A Legislative Council for Minnesota be the third item on the program for support.

Mrs. Wright brought up the question of the League's supporting an enabling act to establish a State Housing Authority. It was the consensus that until further information was obtained as to funds still available, no action be taken, with the possibility of board action recommending support at either the April or May Board meeting.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that a simplified statement of the legislative support policy be included on the program, to be decided upon by the executive committee. It was agreed that some continuing responsibilities which may become active at the coming legislative session be enumerated on the program.

It was agreed that there should be an explanatory statement, picturing possible activity on each item, sent out with the proposed program.

It was agreed that there should be a general introductory statement, similar to that in the California League program. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Wright, that the wording of this statement be left to the executive committee.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Townley, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the Development of Library Service in Minnesota be again included on the program for study. There was discussion of the limits of local League activity in relation to library service, with the point brought out that any activity must directly concern government.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Townley, seconded by Mrs. Musser that Special state and federal aids for public schools be again included on the program for study.

Mrs. Nelson spoke of the possibility of actively supporting state-wide public health nursing. She felt that while Leagues were ready for such support, it could not be considered a primary responsibility of the League, and that the appropriation involved would be a stumbling block to League support. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Nelson, seconded by Mrs. Wright, that state-wide public health nursing be again included on the program for study.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Anderson that public housing for low income groups be included on the program for study.

Discussion followed on continued study or possible support of questions brought out in the present study of prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. It was agreed that further focussed study was not necessary at this time, except possibly through "Jobs for every member" and department letter.

It was agreed that there was no necessity at this time for itemizing the direct primary on the program. Miss Britts reported that she is planning study material on the political party set-up in Minnesota, which will touch upon the direct primary law.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that the general subject of Public Health Administration be included for study. This action followed discussion of the possibility of studying the wider field of the role of government in medical care. It was agreed that the first step should be study of present public health administration. It was agreed that if Public Health Nursing is continued for study only by the convention, it would need to be itemized on the program as it would be covered by the broader subject of Public Health Administration.

It was agreed that consideration of whether the subject "State Trade Barriers" should be included for study be left until after national convention action had

been taken on this item.

Mrs. Nelson analyzed the proposed items under the Department of Government and Social Welfare in the national program, and Miss Britts those under Government and its operation.

There was discussion of presentation of opposition viewpoints on questions supported by the League. It was agreed that while the League should not put itself in the position of opening such a question to debate, it is sometimes most effective to present the arguments of the opposition. The necessary for continued background study of League support items, for the benefit of new members, was brought out.

The advisability of omitting the word "city" from the National proposed program item on slum clearance and public housing, was brought out.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, April 19th, beginning at one o'clock, at Miss Mitchell's apartment. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Duff, and Mrs. Keyes. Absent - Mrs. Cant. Also present - Mrs. Stakman, as program chairman for the state convention, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

#### National convention

It was agreed that Mrs. Musser should attend the pre-convention General Council meeting as the second member from Minnesota, and Mrs. Wolf the post-convention meeting.

It was agreed that the budget allotment for travel expenses to the National convention should be used to pay registration fees for members of the Minnesota delegation officially attending Council and Executive Department meetings, ~~plus any other members of the State Board who may attend.~~

#### State convention

Possibilities of speakers for the final dinner on Thursday evening were considered. Inasmuch as it has been impossible to secure a speaker from outside the state, local persons were considered, with Val Bjornson as the first possibility. Mrs. Stakman outlined the program as now planned. It was decided that Mrs. Anderson should be asked to take charge of the program for the Fireside Supper, when local Leagues will present stunts. It was agreed that the President's Conference should be restricted to local League ~~representatives~~ presidents. Department chairmen are to be urged to arrange for informal conferences with their local chairmen, inasmuch as there will be no separate department conferences.

#### State Board Appointments and Elections

Miss Mitchell reported that Mrs. Duff would be glad to be a candidate for treasurer. This would mean her resignation as third vice president, and appointment by the Board to fill such vacancy. Mrs. Gruenhagen has expressed her desire to be considered for the position as secretary, to which position she was appointed by the Board to fill an unexpired term. There was some discussion of the three directorships to be filled, with the suggestion made that the Nominating Committee be asked to consider carefully the advisability of continuing on the board as directors persons not members of a local unit. Possibilities of persons to serve as district directors, particularly in the First ~~and Ninth~~ district, where the present incumbent ~~is available~~ will not be up for re-election, were considered. It was agreed that, whenever possible, retiring board members be given some special responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, executive secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
April 12th, 1940

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, April 12th, at the Minneapolis Y W C A, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Kinyon, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. McCaffrey, Mrs. Luwe, Mrs. Ewing, Mrs. Waters, Mrs. Brodie, <sup>Mrs. Huntley</sup> Also Mrs. Mathys, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Finance

In the absence of the treasurer, Mrs. Musser gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance March 11st of \$911.23, receipts during the month of \$225.02, disbursements of \$883.93, leaving a balance March 31st of \$252.32, with bills payable during April estimated at \$706.29. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Morin, that the treasurer's report be accepted at the bills allowed.

Increases in the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund, from boxes turned in by Minneapolis and St. Paul members during the past month were reported as \$14.22, and \$14.16 respectively, the Fund now totalling \$1,679.99. Miss Mitchell reported that Mr. Henry S. Kingman, president of the Farmers-Mechanics Bank, Mrs. Ellwood H. Newhart and Mr. John Ireys, were willing to serve as investors for this Fund. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Huntley, seconded by Mrs. Workman, that they be so appointed.

Organization

Mrs. Waters reported on the three radio programs which have been completed, and on plans for the remaining programs in the series.

Mrs. Ewing reported the plans for "contest meetings" among the College Leagues and told of the two meetings which she had attended as judge - Winona

Teachers and Mankato Teachers Colleges, both of which are doing very well and show great promise. The Mankato group was commended particularly on newspaper publicity which they had obtained.

### Convention

Miss Mitchell announced that Mrs. H W Anderson, of Grand Rapids, had accepted the chairmanship of the Nominating Committee. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Denny, that the chair be authorized to select the committee to work with her. It was decided to wait on the appointment of parliamentarian as Miss Mitchell had been unable to contact Mrs. Mo to determine whether she would be able to serve.

The offices which are to come up for election were read by Miss Mitchell, with the request that the board study and make fitting recommendations for those offices.

Mrs. Stakman gave a report on the plans made thus far for the state convention. President Ford of the University had been asked as the principal speaker, and had regretted greatly being unable to come. After discussion, it was decided to leave the question of a speaker for the dinner meeting on Thursday to Mrs. Stakman and the executive committee.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that Mrs. A B Anderson be asked to take charge of the entertainment program for the Fireside Supper. Mrs. Waters expressed a willingness to assist her, even though she will not be able to attend the convention.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. McCaffrey that the registration fee be set at 50 cents. It was agreed that no limit be set on the number of credentials each League be allowed.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the election of officers submitted by the nominating committee be vive voce, unless there are nominations by petition.

It was agreed that consideration of Mrs. McCaffrey's invitation to the Board



tohold its June meeting in Wabasha be held over for decision at the pre-convention board meeting.

#### National convention

Miss Mitchell announced that consideration must be given to having responsible delegates representing the department chairmen at the convention. Some of the department chairmen are planning to attend, and it was agreed that the executive committee should recommend persons to represent other department chairmen, in consultation with the chairmen, and the second representative at the General Council meeting.

#### Proposed Program of Work

Mrs. Luwe reported that she had corresponded and talked with Judge Carroll, of Minneapolis, who has suggested the cooperation of the League with the State Bar Assn. in securing the passage of a law to abolish common law marriage in Minnesota. Mrs. Luwe pointed out that problems involving property rights, since passage of the Social Security Act, have made this question most important. No action was taken by the Board, inasmuch as this is a continuing responsibility, having been previously authorized by convention action, and board action is only necessary in considering active support during the legislative session.

Announcement was made that many local Leagues desire some study on care, management and control of the feeble-minded in the state. It was decided that this would come under the department of government and social welfare, and Mrs. Fraser was asked to present some facts on the situation for the next meeting when it will be decided whether the board wishes to recommend this question for study.

Mrs. Mathys spoke on the new pamphlet on civil liberties, as a background for considering the proposed new item on the National program of work on this subject.

Mrs. Fraser reviewed possibilities for League support of opposition to state trade barriers.

Mrs. McCaffrey announced the ratification of the Trade Agreements resolution

by the Senate, and stated that she had sent our Senators clippings from the newspapers showing satisfaction in the Act.

Mrs. Pearce reported no new items have been proposed for the National program of work under the department of Government and Education.

### Correspondence

A letter was read from the Minnesota Library Assn., asking the cooperation of the League in sponsoring a series of radio programs to further the cause of increased library service throughout the state. Gifts of money and of books will be asked. It was moved by Mrs. Pearce, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the League agree to sponsor this project. In the discussion, it was brought out that it is the function of the League to develop library services through governmental channels, rather than sponsoring book drives, raising funds, etc. The motion was not carried, but recommendation was made that the series be given as much publicity as possible.

Mrs. Fraser reported on a conference with Mr. Walter W. Finke, director of the Division of Social Welfare, with a group of League members, regarding the difficulties being faced by the department with reference to the establishment of the merit system for county welfare employees, following the recent congressional amendment to the Social Security Act. The problems that he brought up were the amount of federal supervision of detail of plans, the possibility of this provision acting as an entering wedge towards separation of welfare and relief services, inasmuch as relief employees would not be required to be under the system, and administration by the welfare division, rather than the civil service department, which is not at present equipped to handle this additional service.

At this conference the question of lay representation on welfare boards was brought up. Mr. Finke expressed the belief that opposition to such representation was dying down somewhat, but that local Leagues could be helpful in suggesting panels of names of qualified persons to their Boards of County Commissioners. It was agreed that local Leagues could be helpful by securing

publicity locally on the new merit system set-up.

Announcement was made of Child Health Day - May 1st.

Following luncheon, Mrs. Beard told of activities of the Civil Service Department. It was suggested that the department be asked to prepare a display for the state convention.

Miss Mitchell announced the National League's integration plan, which has resulted from the St. Louis convention decision that League finances - national, state and local - should be put on a firmer basis and more closely integrated, and from the "expansion" campaigns in many localities, such as was done in Minneapolis. A proposed "expanded" budget for the National League, based on increased pledges from State Leagues rather than direct contributions to the National League, would permit an every-member bulletin, additional field trips emphasizing finance methods, and a whole-time publicity secretary added to the National staff. A suggested budget for the Minnesota League contemplates a \$5,000 pledge to the National League for the coming year. After discussion of possibilities of increases in quotas from local Leagues in Minnesota, and in contributions, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Miss Knudson, that it be left to the discretion of the delegation from the Minnesota League to the National Convention, to assume a pledge to the National League, within the bounds of \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L. Gruenhagen, secretary



STATE BOARD MINUTES  
May 14th, 1940

-1-

The regular pre-convention board meeting of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Tuesday evening, May 14th, 1940, at the home of Mrs. Congdon in Duluth, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Miss Britts, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Pearce, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Huntley, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Luwe, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Congdon, and Mrs. Gruenhagen. Staff members - Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers. Guests - Mrs. Thorp, and Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Hanson of Duluth.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Miss Britts, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. (2)

Mrs. Anderson gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance April 1st of \$252.32, receipts during the month of \$2,009.13, disbursements of \$546.86, leaving a balance April 30th of \$1,714.59, and bills estimated for May of \$730.22. It was pointed out that the large balance is due to the fact that practically all quotas from local Leagues have already been paid, altho the new fiscal year does not begin until next October. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

A contribution of \$2.97 from the Lake City League to the Jane Grey Swiss-helm Fund was announced.

Mrs. Duff presented the proposed budget, which estimates an increase over the current budget as follows: receipts from local League quotas, ~~of \$2,000, xxxxx~~ ~~increase of~~ \$500; extra quota contributions, \$200; interest from Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund, \$10; and contributions, \$940, of which \$600 would be met by a contribution now going direct to the National League. Changes in disbursements include increasing the pledge to the National League from \$2,150 to \$4,000 (of which \$600 would be met by the contribution now going direct to the National League); \$50 increase in office maintenance, and a \$200 decrease in organization and field work. The budget item on the pledge to the National League is in line with the decision of the State Board authorizing the delegates to the

12 National convention to assume a pledge up to \$4,000. Mrs. Duff called attention to the inclusion of net receipts only under Woman Voter and educational material.

After discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that the proposed budget, totalling \$9,850.00 be recommended to the convention as a minimum, and that, in case receipts warrant it, budget allowances for salaries and office maintenance be increased.

7 Miss Horr reported that an attempt to organize a League in Pine City had not so far resulted in a permanent organization.

The secretary read a letter from Mrs. McCaffrey, offering her resignation as chairman of the department of government and foreign policy. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that her resignation be accepted with regret.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that Miss Gladys Sinclair be appointed chairman of the department of government and foreign policy.

#### Proposed Program of Work

Requests from the Fairfax, Olivia and Hutchinson Leagues for inclusion on the study program of the care of the feeble-minded were reported.

6 Mrs. Wolf reported on the discussion at the department conference of government and economic welfare at the National convention on the inclusion in the National program of opposition to interstate trade barriers.

The suggestion was made that during a legislative year the League consider the possibility of preparing non-prejudicial material on legislation of general social interest which may be subject to attack.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Luwe, that the State Board recommend for study "adequate state facilities for management, control and care of the mentally retarded".

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that the State Board recommend interstate trade barriers for study.

After discussion, it was agreed that it be left to the State Board to analyze legislation during the session and decide the possibility and the advisability of preparing and furnishing material on important legislative issues not directly on the League program.

The action of the National League in abolishing the Department of Government and Legal Status of Women was reported. After discussion of the importance in Minnesota of continued opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that the department be retained in Minnesota. (1)

Following discussion with reference to contacting political parties on civil service, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Wolf, that the three political parties in the state, and the Governor, be contacted with reference to the inclusion of planks on civil service in party platforms. (1)

The realignment of the Economic Welfare and Child Welfare Departments by the National League was reported, and it was agreed that the Minnesota League should adopt such realignment. 76

Meeting adjourned.

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary



STATE BOARD MINUTES

May 15, 1940

A special meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Wednesday, May 15th, 1940, at 4:30 p.m., Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Luwe, Miss Britts, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Congdon, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Workman, and Mrs. Gruenhagen. Also Mrs. Walter Fisher, national treasurer, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Miss Britts, that Mrs. Duff's resignation as third vice president be accepted.

Mrs. Fisher explained the Unified Finance Plan of the National League.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES

May 16th, 1940

A special meeting of the elected members of the State Board was held on Thursday, May 16th, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Congdon, Mrs. Peterson, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Keyes and Mrs. Gruenhagen.

This meeting was called to consider the appointment of department chairmen.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that Mrs. Nelson be appointed chairman of the department of government and social welfare.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Peterson, seconded by Miss Knudson, that Mrs. Fraser be appointed co-chairmen of the department of government and social welfare.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that Mrs. Wright be appointed chairman of government and economic welfare.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Congdon, seconded by Mrs. Gruenhagen, that Mrs. Musser be appointed Finance Chairman.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that Miss Britts be appointed chairman of the department of government and its operation.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that Mrs. Luwe be appointed chairman of the department of government and the legal status of women.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that the appointment of the chairman of the department of government and education be postponed until the June board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, secretary pro tem

26-5  
11-1  
83  
28

I, Dorothy L. Gruenhagen, do hereby certify that I am Secretary of Minnesota League of Women Voters, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota, and that the following is a true, complete and correct copy of resolutions adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of said Corporation duly and properly called and held on the fourteenth day of June, 1940; that a quorum was present at said meeting; that said resolutions are set forth in the minutes of said meeting and have not been rescinded or modified.

\* \* \* \* \*

RESOLVED, that Northwestern National Bank and Trust Company of Minneapolis be and it hereby is designated as a depository for the funds of this corporation and any officer of this corporation is hereby authorized to open or cause to be opened an account or accounts with said Bank on such terms, conditions and agreements as shall be required by said Bank, to endorse or cause to be endorsed, in the name of this corporation and/or to deposit or cause to be deposited in such account or accounts any money, checks, drafts, orders, notes and other instruments for the payment of money and to make any agreements deemed advisable in regard thereto.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that checks, drafts or other withdrawal orders issued against the funds of this corporation on deposit with said Bank may be signed by any two of the following:  
(Insert one or two)

President

First vice president

Treasurer

Chairman, Fifth Congressional District

and said Bank is hereby fully authorized to pay and charge to the account of this corporation any checks, drafts or other withdrawal orders, so signed, including those payable to the individual order of the person signing the same and including also checks or other withdrawal orders payable to the said Bank, in payment of any indebtedness due to said Bank from the person or persons who signed such checks or other withdrawal orders.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that any two of the following:  
(Insert one or two)

President

First vice president

Treasurer

Chairman, Fifth Congressional District

be and hereby are authorized to borrow money for and on behalf of and in the name of this corporation; to make any agreements in respect thereto; and to sign, execute and deliver notes and acceptances of this corporation therefor, or in renewal thereof, in such amounts and for such time, at such rate of interest and upon such terms as they see fit; and are hereby authorized to endorse, assign, transfer, mortgage, and pledge to said Bank the bills receivable, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, stocks, bonds or other property of this corporation as security for payment of any money so borrowed and to offer the bills receivable of this corporation to said Bank for rediscount, and to unconditionally guarantee the payment of any or all of the bills receivable so offered for rediscount, and to waive demand, protest and notice to this corporation of non-payment and to consent to extension of maturity of all bills so guaranteed.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this resolution shall continue in force until express written notice of its rescission or modification has been received by said Bank.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that all transactions, if any, in respect to any deposits, withdrawals, rediscounts and borrowings by or in behalf of this corporation with said Bank prior to the adoption of this resolution be and the same hereby are in all things ratified, approved and confirmed.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that any of the persons above named be and they hereby are authorized and empowered to make any and all other contracts, agreements, stipulations and orders which they may deem advisable, from time to time, with said Bank in respect to transactions between this corporation and said Bank in regard to funds deposited in said Bank, moneys borrowed from said Bank or any other business transacted by and between this corporation and said Bank.

\* \* \* \* \*

I further certify that the Board of Directors of this corporation has, and at the time of the adoption of said resolution had, full power and lawful authority to adopt the foregoing resolutions and to confer the powers therein granted to the persons named who have full power and lawful authority to exercise the same.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of this corporation this 17th day of June, 1940.

Ruth H. Mitchell

Attest by One Other Officer

Dorothy L. Gruenhagen  
Secretary

Imprint  
Seal  
Here



STATE BOARD MINUTES  
June 14, 1940

-1-

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the Hampshire Arms Hotel, Minneapolis, Friday, June 14th 1940, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Miss Britts, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Kinyon. Also Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Yandow.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Knudson, seconded by Mrs. Musser that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted without reading, inasmuch as they had been mailed to all members. (3)

Finance

It was reported that, for convenience, the bank account of the Minnesota League of Women Voters had been transferred from the Midland National Bank to the Northwestern Bank and Trust Co.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Miss Knudson, that signatures of any two of the persons holding the offices of president, first vice president, treasurer, and chairman of the fifth congressional district, be authorized. (a)

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Denny, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the attached resolution be adopted.

It was reported that a total of 74 cents was received in Jane Grey Swisshelm boxes at the state convention, and that Mrs. Luwe had made a \$5.00 contribution in behalf of the Mankato League to this fund.

Organization

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Denny, that Mrs. McGuire's invitation to the state board to be her guests for the August meeting be accepted. (3)

Miss Horr reported the organization of a new League at Birchwood, which is near White Bear, in Washington County. (2)

Plans for fall meetings were discussed. It was agreed that finance should be presented at each meeting, that there was no need for "outside" speakers, and that there should be a discussion of techniques. It was agreed that district chairmen should make it a point to attend the meeting to which her League is assigned.

There was discussion of the advisability of making the Presidents' Handbook available to local League presidents at no charge. It was agreed that the policy of selling these handbooks should be continued. Attention was called to the new publication of the National League on State Boards, and the value of this pamphlet to local presidents and board members. It has been called to the attention of local presidents.

A letter from President Ford of the University of Minnesota, reporting the award of the Clara Ueland Fellowship to Esther Leah Medalie was read. Mrs. Cant gave the background of the establishment of this Fellowship. It was suggested that there be an article in the Voter on the establishment of the Fund.

#### Party Planks

Reports were given on the contact made with Minnesota delegates to the National Republican convention. \ Those in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth are being interviewed personally, with letters being sent to the others. Miss Mitchell reported that she had tried, when in Austin, to interview Mr. Jay Hormel, who is the Minnesota member on the Resolutions Committee, but had written to him as he was out of town. \ It was agreed that a special letter from the State Board be sent to Mr. Hormel, with Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Kinyon appointed to draft such a letter.

There was discussion of what could be done in advance of the Democratic state convention on the League planks. A special committee, consisting of Mrs. Leonard Keyes, Mrs. A J McGuire, and Mrs. James Faricy of St. Paul, and Mrs. Allan Roth of Kasson was agreed upon to do whatever possible in this regard. It was agreed that, after election, delegates would be contacted, as usual, through the state president.

New material

There was discussion of study material on the various items on the state program of work. It was agreed that the first obligation was for material on "support" items, which should be ready late in the summer, and that material on "study" items might, when necessary, follow later.

The suggestion was made and agreed to that one page question and answer sheets be prepared on "What Every League Member Should Know" on each of the "support" items and continuing responsibilities which may become active, such material to be supplemented by more detailed study material.

Miss Britts reported on her plans for material on civil service, which would include, in addition to the single sheet mentioned above, a "Calendar" showing how the law is being put into operation, and a "they-say-we say" sheet, bringing out the answers to criticisms.

Mrs. Nelson discussed her plans for material on state and local welfare administration. The need for complete background information on the present administration was brought out.

In discussing material for further study of a legislative council for Minnesota, Miss Britts gave a brief analysis of the bill to establish such a council which had been introduced in the 1939 session. She felt that the bill was not entirely satisfactory, in that it provided for too small a council, had inadequate provisions for research staff, and had no provision for the Governor to use the research facilities. She is to interview Hon. Rollin G. Johnson, principal sponsor of this bill, to determine his attitude, and will report again. Her suggestion of a skit on the functioning of the Council was enthusiastically accepted.

Material on "study" items was reported as follows: Mrs. Fraser is to expand the one-page sheet on the mentally retarded; Mrs. Wright is preparing material on housing; it was agreed that, regardless of what material is prepared



24 by the National League on interstate trade barriers, a sheet should be prepared on such barriers existing in Minnesota statutes; Mrs. Nelson will prepare material on public health administration. It was agreed that additional material on library services is not needed as yet. Mrs. Musser agreed to clip newspaper articles on trade barriers.

Board appointments

148 IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Kinyon, that the same executive committee, consisting of Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Newhart, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Keyes and Mrs. Duff be re-appointed. There was discussion of the advisability of having a department chairman serve on this committee, and IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that Mrs. Fraser be appointed to the executive committee.

< There was discussion of the following appointments - chairman for the Department of Government and Education, third vice president, second district chairman, and special advisers for college league, Woman Voter and radio. Miss Mitchell read a recommendation from the radio chairmen that the League discontinue its policy of a weekly series of radio broadcasts each spring, and consider the possibility of sponsoring a series of broadcasts over the University station (WLB) given by a member or members of the University faculty and/or arrange for broadcasts on timely subjects or when special speakers on League subjects are available. || It was agreed that instead of a radio chairman, there be a special chairman appointed, whose responsibility would be public information, which would include radio as well as other methods for publicizing the League and its program.

7 IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that Mrs. Lyman L. Huntley, of Grand Rapids, be appointed chairman of the Department of Government and Education. In the discussion with reference to this appointment, the need for such a chairman from outside the Twin Cities, and who would have a layman's approach to educational problems was brought out.

Suggestions made for other appointments included Mrs. Gislason of New Ulm, as second district chairman, Mrs. David Bartlett of St. Paul as Voter editor, and Mrs. Arthur B. Anderson of St. Paul as College League Adviser. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that it be left to the discretion of the executive committee to determine whether Mrs. Gislason should be approached with reference to such appointment. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the executive committee consider recommendations for all appointments. (2)

Following luncheon, two letters from Miss Wells were read, with reference to the present responsibility of the League and what its program means. It was agreed that the text of these letters should be made available to all League members, that they should be printed in quantity and distributed to all local Leagues at no cost, it being the responsibility of each League to see that a copy is made available to every member. The cost of such printing to be charged against the Promotion account.

The letter to Mr. Hormel, from the State Board, as drafted by Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Kinyon was read. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the letter be sent as read. (3)

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance May 1st of \$1,714.59, receipts during the month of \$797.87, disbursements of \$599.14, leaving a balance June 1st of \$1,913.32, with bills payable during June estimated at \$1,345.26. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that the treasurer's report be accepted. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that the bills be allowed.

Mrs. Duff read a proposed letter to go from her as treasurer to all local League presidents, with reference to a 25 per cent increase in pledges from local Leagues paying full quota, and a minimum increase of 25 per cent in assumptions of Leagues not paying full quota. IT WAS VOTED on motion of

Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Wolf, that the proposed letter be sent.

Mrs. Musser reported on the decision with reference to the assumption of the \$4,000 pledge to the National League made by the delegates from Minnesota to the National convention, and gave all those present a very clear picture of Minnesota's responsibility for finance. She told of the plans of her finance committee for broadening the base for contributions to the League throughout the state, and plans for establishing a state-wide prospect file.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Wayne Peterson, secretary pro tem

39  
34  
6.3  
Quine

PERMANENT RECORD  
SOUTHWORTH COMPANY



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Tuesday, June 25th, 1940, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Keyes and Mrs. Fraser

Attention was called to the article about the League by Stanley High, appearing in the Christian Science Monitor and reprinted in the Readers' Digest. It was agreed that Miss Mitchell would ask Mrs. Bauman to call this article to the attention of Cedric Adams, columnist and commentator for the Minneapolis Star-Journal.

Miss Mitchell reported the request from Mrs. Brin for representation by the League at a meeting in connection with the Women's Centennial Congress. It was agreed that Mrs. Cant would represent the Minnesota League, and that she would ask Mrs. Bauman to represent the Minneapolis League.

Miss Mitchell read the letter from Miss Wells, asking for a list of Minnesota League members who might be interested in attending the annual Forum on Current Problems held under the auspices of the New York Herald-Tribune. Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Wolf are to give names of Mpls. and St. Paul members.

The wording on membership blanks covering subscription price for the National bulletin was reported. Inasmuch as the Minneapolis and Ramsey County League have just re-ordered membership blanks, they did not feel they could afford to reprint these at this time.

With reference to board appointments, Miss Mitchell ~~had~~ reported that she had been able to contact Mrs. Bartlett with reference to editing the Woman Voter.

It was agreed that ~~it should be determined~~ Mrs. A B Gislason of New Ulm should be recommended as chairman for the Second District, Mrs. Adrian Howard of Minneapolis as special adviser on public information, and Mrs. Cuthbert Carter of Minnetonka as third vice president. It was agreed that it be recommended to the board that Mrs. Harington Beard be appointed ~~special~~ special adviser on civil service.

Mrs. Newhart, as first vice president, will be acting president during Miss Mitchell's absence in July and early August.

A letter from Miss Wells, with reference to the William Allen White Committee was and other matters was read. Suggestions were made for increasing study and reading of the pamphlet "Safeguarding Our Civil Liberties," and the "ABC of the USA." Mrs. Cant agreed to determine whether a Minneapolis newspaper would consider reprinting the ABC.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, Secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES

August 9, 1940

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Mrs. A J McGuire, 444 Otis Avenue, St. Paul, on Friday, August 9th, 1940, beginning at 10 o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Miss Britts, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Luwe, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Keyes, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Kinyon, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Peterson. Also Mrs. Collins and Miss Stier, staff members, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Beard, as guests.

In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Collins was appointed secretary pro tem. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that the minutes be accepted without reading, inasmuch as they had been mailed to all members.

Organization

The dates and places of the eight fall conferences were reported, and board members present who are being asked to preside at luncheon sessions or to speak agreed to do so.

Miss Mitchell reported that the following persons had agreed to appointment by the Board, as authorized by the Board and the executive committee - Mrs. A B Gislason, of New Ulm, as chairman of the second congressional district; and the following special advisers - Mrs. A B Anderson, College League adviser, Mrs. David H Bartlett, Woman Voter editor, Mrs. Harington Beard, civil service. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Denny, that the aforementioned appointments be made.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's reports for June and July, showing a balance June 1st of \$1,913.32, with receipts during the month of \$1,842.15 (including transfer of funds to N W National Bank from the Midland Bank), disbursements of \$2,208.79 (including transfer), leaving a balance June 30th of \$1,546.68, with bills payable estimated at \$1,643.44; balance July 1st of

\$1,546.68, receipts during July of \$97.89, disbursements of \$517.84, leaving a balance July 31st of \$1 644.57, with bills payable estimated for August at \$1 784.67. This includes the pledge to the National League for the months of April to August inclusive, amounting to \$1 416.67. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that the report be placed on file and the bills allowed.

Miss Mitchell told of the improvements in office arrangements that have been made. Inasmuch as the League owns only one typewriter in good repair, she recommended that a second typewriter be purchased. The need for office chairs and a fan was also brought out. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Kinyon, seconded by Miss Knudson, that Mrs. Duff be authorized to purchase necessary office equipment.

Membership blanks, for use of local Leagues, which have been printed by the state league, were reported to be ready for distribution.

Miss Mitchell brought up the question of ordering appointment calendars again this year. It was agreed that approximately the same number be ordered as were last year, and that these be on sale at the fall conferences.

Mrs. Musser reported that the Albert Lea League had a \$10 contribution to send in for the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund, as the result of their showing of Mrs. Winter's houses.

Mrs. Musser reported on her work as finance chairman. She has written many letters to contributors for renewals, and has had some fine responses.

She requested that each board member, before the September meeting, make one contact for a contribution. There was discussion of the best method of approach to a prospective contributor. It was agreed that there could be no set rule, but that it was always necessary to bring out in the interview what the League is trying to do and that it is not just working for legislation. Sincerity and the belief that you have something worth while to "sell", are the most important factors. There was discussion of the



treatment of finance at the fall conferences, and it was hoped that board members would be able to report from personal experience.

It was agreed that the best use of reprints of an editorial on the League appearing in the National Municipal Review would be with contributors. Attention was also called to the article by Stanley High, reprinted in the July Readers' Digest, of which reprints are available. The use of these in local publicity was brought out.

#### Congressional Action

The request from the National League for active support of the resolutions pending in the House and Senate for constitutional amendment to grant federal suffrage to the residents of the District of Columbia was reported. // The Sumners Resolutions (HJ 257) had been reported by the House Judiciary Committee, with an amendment which would authorize Congress to allow the District to be represented in the House but not in the Senate. Letters have gone to Minnesota house members from the Minnesota League, urging them to vote their support this resolution in its original form; letters to the Senators have urged their support of the King Resolution (S J Res. 288) as introduced. Responses from two Minnesota members already received were read. The letter from Representative Knutsen brought up several questions with reference to this legislation. // It was agreed that a general request for letters should not be made of all Leagues, but that board members should write themselves and bring the matter to the attention of their local Leagues.

#### Analysis of Party Platforms

Mrs. Keyes gave a resume of the analysis made by the National League of the two planks proposed by the League on the merit system and tariff to the two national party conventions. There was considerable discussion regarding the responsibility of the League resulting from the inclusion in the Republican platform of a plank favoring an equal rights amendment. Miss Mitchell reported that the National League had refrained from offering a plank in opposition "out of respect for the national peril under which the country rests," and the possibility that the Republican Resolutions Committee, having no women members, did not fully

understand the nature of the plank they adopted. The National League, in view of the action taken by the Republican convention, did speak on this question before the Resolutions Committee of the Democratic convention.

There was considerable discussion of the danger and value of League work on this subject, and whether there should be active opposition at this time which might give rise to the impression of partisanship on the part of the League, <sup>and</sup> ~~or~~ whether such active opposition could be postponed until legislation was under consideration. It was felt by some that this would be a most important campaign issue and may well be used to "swing votes"; by others that it should be soft-pedalled by the League until after the election, as active opposition might be interpreted as taking a partisan stand. It was agreed that the advice of the National office should be asked on this question.

#### Party Activity by League members and officers

There was first discussion of how the League should further foster interest among its members in participation in party caucuses, and it was suggested that Leagues be asked to hold special meetings on this question before the caucuses are scheduled.

There was discussion of League policy with reference to active support of candidates by League officers, and it was agreed that an analysis of previous Board decisions on this question be sent to board members.

These are as follows:

1928 - Agreed that, while party work of a routine and spasmodic character was compatible with official responsibility in the League, it might be necessary occasionally to release a League officer to give her whole effort to party work.

1932 - Agreed that partisan activity should never be carried on along with her League office by those holding the presidency of the state or a local League. It was thot that for others the fact that some work for one candidate, some for another, is sufficient safeguard.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Stalman, that a letter be sent from the State Board to Miss Elizabeth Lamson, former

staff member, who has recently married. Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Stakman were appointed to draft such a letter.

#### New material

Mrs. Collins reported on new material from the National League now ready for distribution - the Awkward Age in Civil Service, the sixth Foreign Policy Report, as well as new study outlines for the ABC of the USA, and Safeguarding Civil Liberties.

The question of the ~~Nations~~ policy of the National League in using pamphlets published by other organizations was brought up, as to whether it meant League endorsement of the publication.

Miss Britts reported on the progress of new material on civil service, the legislative Council; Mrs. Fraser on the management and care of the feeble minded.

In connection with League support of a legislative council for Minnesota, Miss Britts reported on an interview she had with the author of a bill establishing such a council in the last session. She reported that the author had introduced the bill "by request", and apparently had no particular interest in it and probably would not take the initiative in sponsoring such legislation at the next session. It was agreed that the State Board should decide at the next meeting whether or not to take responsibility for having such a bill drafted and introduced. In the meantime, Miss Britts is to secure comments on the Kansas law and the bill introduced in the last session.

#### Campaign schools

Following luncheon, Miss Britts, Mrs. Workman and Mrs. Peterson led the discussion on the use that could be made by Leagues in Minnesota of the plans for campaign schools offered by the National League. These plans contemplate the discussion of three subjects - the representative function, the role of political parties, and the conduct of foreign policy - to be offered at three sessions. It was agreed that probably few, if any Leagues, in small communities could offer three sessions, open to the public, but various suggestions for using the



plans included discussion at public meeting, calling upon faculty members of local colleges, and discussion among League members, based on the outlines. It was agreed that a speakers' list should be made, if possible, of available speakers within the League, and among the various colleges throughout the state. The possibility of considering it for a course at the Continuation Center at the University was suggested.

Congressional and state questionnaires

Miss Mitchell reported that questionnaires, titled "Questions on public policy", prepared by the National League for congressional candidates, have been received, and candidates will be contacted as in the past. A special committee, consisting of Mrs. Stakman, chairman, Mrs. Beard and Mrs. Keyes was appointed to consider and recommend to the next Board with reference to questionnaires to and interviews with candidates for state office and the legislature.

The situation with reference to the suspension of a staff member of the Department of Education was reported, and its relation to civil service. Mrs. Beard discussed various criticisms of civil service that had been brought to the attention of state board members.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, secretary pro tem

171

53

The annual meeting of the Minnesota League of Women Voters, Incorporated, was held Tuesday, September 3rd, 1940, beginning at 11:00 o'clock, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel. Present: Miss Mitchell, president, Dr. Ruth Boynton, Mrs. Everett Fraser, Mrs. Elwood Newhart, and Mrs. Harold G. Cant. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Newhart, that the annual meeting be postponed until some date between April 1st and May 30th, 1940, the date to be set by the Board of Directors.

The meeting then adjourned into an executive committee meeting. Also present: Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

#### Board appointment

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Newhart, that the name of Mrs. John S Bauman, as special adviser on public information, be recommended to the State Board.

#### Continuation Course

It was agreed that a course be sponsored by the League at the Center for Continuation Study at the University of Minnesota, based on the suggestions for campaign schools as outlined by the National League. It was reported that dates are available for a two-day conference the week of October 28th, and it was agreed that the dates of Tuesday and Wednesday, October 29th and 30th, be confirmed. It was agreed that Mrs. Stakman be asked to be chairman of the League committee on program, or, if it were not possible for her to do this, that Mrs. Fraser so serve; and that Miss Sinclair be asked to serve. Possible participants that were suggested were John Gaus, and Mr. Christensen and Mr. Deitsch of the University of Minnesota.

#### Fall conferences

It was agreed that a letter should go from the treasurer to those Leagues not visited by Miss Horr before their fall conference, so that they will be ready to make their quota assumption after carefully considering the suggestions made for increased assumptions.

Board members presiding at luncheon sessions are to be asked to preside for the entire conference. It was agreed that there should be no limitation on attendance from Mpls. and St. Paul Leagues.

Equal Rights Amendment It was agreed that the League should give publicity to its long time opposition to this proposal, in view of the recent action of the Bus. and Prof. Women's group within the state, and that a statement be secured from Mrs. Luwe to be used in publicity in connection with the board meeting. It was suggested that she should use every opportunity to further acquaint the membership with the League's stand, via the department letter, the Woman Voter, and by other means. Any publicity should be divorced entirely from party platform statements on this question, or opposition of specific groups by name.

Pre-election It was agreed that special suggestions for pre-election activities should be made to local Leagues, and that Mrs. Winter be asked to do this, and make further suggestions on pre-election activities. The ~~possibility~~ <sup>suggestion</sup> of furnishing local Leagues with a questionnaire to be submitted to the candidates for county commissioner, together with a suggested publicity release, was agreed to. After consultation with Mr. Finke, Director of the Division of Social Welfare, it was agreed that such a questionnaire should be confined to biographical data, and one general question, such as "What is your opinion as to the place of the welfare program in relation to all county services?"

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinne K Collins

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
September 13th, 1940

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, September 13th, 1940, at the Minneapolis, Y W C A. The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Stakman, Dr. Boynton, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Miss Britts, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Luwe and Mrs. Dalrymple. Also Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been mailed to all members, were accepted without reading.

Finance

In the absence of the treasurer, Mrs. Collins gave the treasurer's report for August, showing a balance August 1st of \$1 126.73, receipts during the month of \$1 412.23, disbursements of \$1 971.24, leaving a balance August 31st of \$567.72, with bills payable during September estimated at \$660.20. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Winter, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the treasurer's report be placed on file and the bills allowed.

Mrs. Musser, finance chairman, reported that she had not had much success from letters written asking for renewals of contributions, and that no names had been turned over to her of prospective contributors. It was decided that where possible such contributions be followed up by suitable representatives from the local League. Each board member was again urged to contact at least one person for a contribution.

Mrs. Musser suggested that local Leagues be urged, when it is necessary to have money-raising activities, to follow programs that were educational along League lines. She is planning a letter to go to local finance chairmen. It was felt that finance should become a more definite department of the League, on a par with the program departments, and that a stronger state organization



organization should be built up. Board members from Leagues out in the state were asked to take the Finance Work Sheets, prepared by the National League, discuss them with their local president, treasurer and finance chairman, and recommend how they could best be used or adapted.

Miss Horr reported that at the one fall conference already held, all but one of the Leagues represented assumed the 25 per cent additional quota pledge that has been suggested.

A contribution to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund from Miss Margaret Beggin, former staff member, was reported.

### Organization

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Winter, that Mrs. John S Bauman of Minneapolis be appointed special adviser to the board on public information.

Miss Horr reported that she had visited 16 local Leagues to date, and attended one fall conference. A new League unit has been organized in Worthington. The Long Prairie League has written in that they may not continue, but it was decided to postpone any vote on dropping the group from the list of active Leagues until further contact could be made. If board members can make preliminary arrangements for calling an interested group together, it is of much help in starting new Leagues, and necessitates only one field trip for organization purposes. There were 82 persons at the first fall conference in Litchfield, with all Leagues invited attending, and good discussion.

The question of local Leagues taking out memberships in regional groups of the Minn. State Conference of Social Work was brought up. It was agreed that, as has been past policy, Leagues should not take out memberships in other organizations having a constitutional and by-laws, but that individual League members <sup>would</sup> should join.

Miss Mitchell called attention to the fact that department letters should be sent out soon.

### Pre-Election Activities

A two day course at the Center for Continuation Study at the University of Minnesota, to be sponsored by the Minnesota League, with discussion based on the Campaign School outline suggested by the National League, is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, October 29th and 30th. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the chair appoint a committee to confer with the Continuation Center on speakers and program for the course. Mrs. Stakman appointed chairman, with Miss Gladys Sinclair and Mrs. Everett Fraser serving on the committee.

Miss Horr reported that Leagues in smaller communities are making use of the campaign school outline for discussion in their own League meetings, while others will cooperate with colleges in their district in putting on such schools.

There was open discussion of how the state League can best help before elections. It was thought that information and help could come best via local Leagues before primaries, and via state League after election. Mrs. Beard reported on the recommendations of the committee appointed to consider questionnaires to candidates and other pre-election activities. It was felt that questionnaires have lost much of their effectiveness and that personal interviews in many cases would do more good. It was suggested that a letter be sent to all candidates for the legislature, stating that we are watching civil service, that we would rather give it a chance as it is for another four years rather than have any weakening amendments threatening it. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Miss Knudson, that this letter be sent to all the local Leagues to send to their candidates, signing it themselves to give it greater weight.

There was discussion of the need for giving leadership to local Leagues in contacting candidates for county commissioner. It was ~~was~~ suggested

that local Leagues be encouraged to interview such candidates. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Fleming, that plans be offered local Leagues for interviews with county commissioners. Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Fleming were asked to confer and give suggestions.

It was also suggested that a sheet be prepared of suggestions for pre-election activities, with emphasis on duties and qualifications of the offices to be filled, especially county offices. Mrs. Winter was asked to assemble such.

#### Foreign Policy

Miss Sinclair reported again on Miss Wells' analysis of the objectives of the Wm. Allen White Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, and how they coincide with the League program. Local branches of this committee are now being organized in Minnesota, and it was agreed that the heads of the Minneapolis and St. Paul committees should be sent the Foreign Policy program of the League, and if possible newspaper publicity be given to the League's foreign policy program.

#### Advance work on legislative program

Following discussion on League sponsorship of a bill to establishing a legislative council, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Britts, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that suggestions for improvements in the bill submitted by Mr. Rollin Johnson to the 1939 session be given to Mr. Johnson.

Mrs. Luwe reported that a letter from Judge Carroll has led her to believe that the Bar Association will have a bill introduced in the coming session to abolish common law marriage, and that the League should be prepared to support it if it is introduced. It was agreed that someone, in addition to Mrs. Luwe who might not be able to attend, be ready to speak for such a bill at a committee hearing.

It was agreed that the League should continue its educational work in opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment, without reference to party platform commitments or action of other organizations.



Following luncheon, Mrs. Beard spoke on the various criticisms that have been made against the administration of civil service in Minnesota, covering and salary schedules, allocation to positions, difficulties encountered with reference to qualifying examinations.

Miss Mitchell called attention to the Orientation Course prepared by Miss Roach of the National staff. It was agreed that this outline be sent to all local Leagues, and charged on their running accounts.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary

STATE BOARD MEETING  
October 30th, 1940

The members of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters ~~for~~ were called together/Wednesday noon, October 30th, 1940, at the Center for Continuation Study at the University of Minnesota, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Keyes. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, that the special meeting be adjourned to meet on the next regular date.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, secretary pro tem

STATE BOARD MINUTES

October 11, 1940

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, October 11th, 1940, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel, in Minneapolis, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Congdon, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Fraser, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Morin and Mrs. Kinyon. Also Mrs. Dike of St. Paul, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers, staff members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that they be accepted as corrected.

Organization

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Cant, that Miss Britts' resignation as chairman of the Department of Government and Its Operation be accepted with regret.

Miss Mitchell announced that the Long Prairie League, which had thought they could not continue as a League, had decided they would continue.

Mrs. Anderson reported on the College League Conference to be held October 18th and 19th at Mankato, at which she, Mrs. Gruenhagen and Mrs. Luwe are speaking.

Miss Struthers announced that she expects to complete the organization of a college league at the University of Minnesota the coming week.

Miss Horr reported on the eight fall conferences, stating that she felt they were unusually satisfactory. There was a 100% attendance of all Leagues invited (3 in the neighborhood of Duluth were not scheduled for a conference, and one League in process of organization - Worthington\* did not attend). Fourteen board members took part in these conferences, either speaking or presiding, and all but 9 members attended at least one conference. Between 700 and 800 members attended. Mrs. Musser and Mrs. Duff, between them, covered 7 conferences,

speaking on finance.

Mrs. Morin reported on the reorganization of the Albert Lea League, and Miss Horr requested that any board members in position to do so, help "stir up" group at Winona.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that the date of the November Board meeting be advanced and be combined with the Course at the Continuation Center.

Mrs. Bauman asked the assistance of other board members in her work on public information by making suggestions. She suggested that local Leagues secure editorials on campaign school discussions.

#### FINANCE

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance Sept. 1st of \$567.72, receipts during the month of \$1 168.84, disbursements of \$746.41, leaving a balance September 30th of \$990.15, with bills payable during October estimated at \$914.51. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Knudson, seconded by Mrs. Nelson, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

Mrs. Duff gave a brief analysis of the treasurer's report for the fiscal year ending September 30th, reporting that the budget estimates were underspent in most instances, the major exception being the pledge to the National League as the increased pledge began April 1st and was not allowed for in the budget; that quotas from local Leagues had been received approximately as estimated; that contributions direct to the State League fell below the budget estimate, but that the sale of educational material and income from Woman Voter subscriptions was above the estimate.

Mrs. Musser not being present, Miss Mitchell brought up the question of whether contributions solicited originally jointly by a representative from the State Board and a local League member and divided between the state and the local league might the following year be considered solely as contributions to the local League. This question had been brought up by the Winona League, where two contributions



were shared last year. The need for developing a sense of responsibility on the part of local Leagues in getting contributions was brought out. It was moved by Mrs. Wolf that contributions secured by local Leagues, even though "repeats" should go to the local League. Motion withdrawn. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Miss Knudson that the Winona League this year be allowed to follow up renewals of contributions originally shared with the State League, and apply on their quota. It was agreed that they suggest another possibilities of new contributions direct to the state league. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Winter that each League problem on finance be settled individually by consideration and recommendation of the finance committee.

An anonymous contribution of \$50.00 to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund was announced.

#### Campaign Schools

Mrs. Stakman reported that the plans for the course at the Continuation Center, based on two sections of the campaign school outlined furnished by the National League, were very stimulating, and that the fee was to be only \$3.00. A letter from the Northfield League telling of their plans for a campaign school was read. Miss Knudson reported that St. Cloud was cooperating with the Teachers' College for theirs. Miss Horr reported on the use of the plans by Leagues in smaller communities.

#### New material

Mrs. Nelson reported that the new packet, "Public Health" was now ready. Mrs. Collins reported on the large distribution of state publications this fall, several sheets already running over the 1,000 mark.

Mrs. Nelson reported that the outline has been prepared for use of local Leagues in connection with interviewing their county commissioners, and candidates for that position. With reference to suggesting qualified persons for

panels for selection of lay members, she cautioned that such suggestions should be made early, and will keep in mind the need for a letter calling this to the attention of local Leagues.

The question was brought up as to whether a local League could take action in the case of the removal or a qualified lay member of a county welfare board. The danger of giving the impression of working in behalf of an individual was brought out, but that there also was need to guard qualified persons. It was agreed that the local League facing this problem should be asked to write all details of the situation to Mrs. Nelson, who could then be more helpful in making definite suggestions as to what could be done.

#### Pre-election activities

With reference to the proposed constitutional amendment on publication of charter changes in certain cities, it was brought out that the state board has no power to authorize active support, inasmuch as there was no convention action covering this question. A Voter article giving information on this amendment is planned for the October issue.

With reference to the question of legislative support of county civil service systems, which will be under consideration for the three urban counties, Mrs. Cant brought up the question of the need for clearance. It was agreed that support of such legislation was the responsibility of the three local Leagues involved, but that advice and guidance would be offered.

It was reported that the letter, authorized by the September board, to be sent to local Leagues to send their candidates for the legislature, had been sent out.

The need for reiterating to local Leagues procedures that are recommended for candidates' meetings and other pre-election activities was brought out, as incidents which might be interpreted as partisan have been reported. It was

agreed that a general letter of warning on pre-election policies be sent to all Leagues.

There was discussion of the type of service the League can give in pre-election work, and the difficulty of supplying unpartisan information on candidates that satisfiesthe demand.

#### Ramspeck Bill

The recent action of the House in refusing to accept the conference committee report on the Ramspeck bill was reported, together with the fact that only one Minnesota congressman voted against acceptance of the report. Board members were asked to take back to their local Leagues the suggestion that they write their congressman, commending his vote, and if possible secure publicity and editorial comment.

Following luncheon there was discussion, led by Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart and Mrs. Cant, following the orientation course for new members prepared by the National League.

4 Meeting adjourned at two p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, Secretary

#### STATE BOARD MEETING

October 30th, 1940

The members of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters met Wednesday noon, October 30th, 1940, at the Center for Continuation Study at the University of Minnesota, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Keyes. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, that the meeting be adjourned to meet on the next regular date, November 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, secretary pro tem



# STATE BOARD MINUTES

November 8th, 1940

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, November 8th, 1940, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, beginning at ten o'clock, Mrs. Newhart presiding in Miss Mitchell's absence. Present: Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Gialason, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Fraser, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Congdon. Also Mrs. Mathys of Minneapolis, and Mrs. Schnobrick of New Ulm, local Government and Its Operation chairmen; Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins, staff.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, on motion of Mrs. Congdon, seconded by Miss Knudson.

## Finance

The treasurer's report was read by Mrs. Collins, in the absence of the treasurer, showing a balance October 1st of \$990.15, receipts during the month of \$811.27, disbursements of \$1,034.62, leaving a balance October 31st of \$766.80, with bills payable during November estimated at \$963.43. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed.

Report given by Mrs. Collins on sale of material to the effect that already a total of \$556.00 has been sold during the fall, with several <sup>penny</sup>/sheets prepared by the Minnesota League running well over one thousand copies; a total of 8 790 copies of 12 sheets.

Announcement was made of the new sheet being prepared by the Minneapolis League on federal civil service.

In the absence of the finance chairman, no report was given.

The National Finance Flash, consisting of a quotation from a letter from Miss Mitchell to Miss Wells telling about fall conferences, was read.

It was found upon discussion that the National Finance Sheets were not in use yet by the Leagues. It was suggested a discussion outline be prepared. It was

agreed that the whole sets were not so practical for smaller leagues, but that three or four pages should be selected and made into a simplified kit to be used by such smaller Leagues. Miss Knudson reported on St. Cloud League's work on finance. The visit of Miss Pabst, national finance secretary, was announced. She is to meet with the finance advisory committee, will confer with Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, and will be present at the December state board meeting. Mrs. Musser is planning to spend the entire week of December 9th with Miss Pabst when she is in the state.

It was reported that there was no contribution to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund during the past month.

#### Organization

The letter of resignation from Miss Britts was read, telling how valuable she had felt the League had been to her and how much she would miss it.

There was discussion of methods of carrying on the department of Government and Its Operation. It was felt that as the heaviest work of the department was already done and material out on the subjects, the department could be carried temporarily by the department's advisory committee. The members of this committee are Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Peterson, who are already members of the State Board, Mrs. Mathys of Minneapolis and Mrs. Watson of Northfield. It was reported that Miss Britts would still be able to give advice with reference to county civil service bills. In this fashion the Department's work could be carried on temporarily until Miss Britts feels able to come back.

Report from Miss Horr on new Leagues. Two recently organized Leagues in Springfield and Annadale brings the list of local Leagues up to 60. The Springfield Group was organized through the help of Mrs. Giaslson. Annandale is a small community, but important as it is the only League in Wright County. Towns are writing in asking how League groups may be organized, rather than being solicited.

Mrs. Fleming reported on the membership increase in the Red Wing League.

A letter was read from the Minneapolis, asking to have the 1941 state convention in Minneapolis. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that the invitation be accepted and the executive committee authorized to set the exact date.

There was discussion of the Members' Magazine. Board members felt it performs a service in drawing the organization together as a whole. The desire was expressed that it contain more information on how problems are met by various Leagues.

Announcement was made on the contemplated changes in the National News Letter which will be published at regular intervals.

#### Preparation for state legislation

Public Health Nursing A letter from the State Organization for Public Health Nursing, enclosing copy of the bill for state aid for county nursing service, which is to be sponsored by the American Legion, was read, as well as a letter commenting on this question from Mrs. Nelson. Discussed was deferred until the December board meeting.

Legislative Council In the absence of Mrs. Watson, who has been making an analysis of comments from various experts on the bill introduced in the 1939 session, Mrs. Newhart led discussion on this subject. Copy of the bill had been sent to Nebraska, Kansas, Illinois, as well as to Dr. Short, and many constructive comments had been made. The major suggestions were that the bill should provide for a larger council, and that citizens should not be able to appear to present suggestions without advance permission. It was agreed that it be left to the executive committee, with the advice of the GIO Advisory Committee, to determine what, if any, changes the League would wish to recommend. Mrs. Newhart explained that while no one seemed to know definitely the origin of the bill which was introduced in 1939, the suggestions had been made to her that it might have come from the administration, together with other bills streamlining state government, but was not pushed as it was felt it should come from the legislators as it directly affects that branch of



government. It was agreed that other influential legislators, in addition to Rollin Johnson, who introduced the bill in 1939, such as Mr. MacKinnon and Mr. Hall, should be contacted to find out if they would be interested in introducing and supporting such legislation.

It was agreed that recommended changes in the bill be reported to the December board meeting (or in advance of the meeting if possible), and that an analysis of the essential points in such a bill would be most helpful, particularly in interviewing legislators on the subject.

#### Ramspeck Bill

The effort immediately preceding the election to increase interest in the passage of the Ramspeck bill was reported. Mrs. Fleming reported on the interview with Mr. Andresen, made by members of the Red Wing League. Although Mr. Andresen (the only Minnesota congressman voting against this measure) could not be convinced of the League's point of view on this legislation, the interview was most friendly and worth while. Mrs. Cant reported on interviews made in Minneapolis with incumbents and candidates.

#### Continuation School

Board members attending the course sponsored by the League at the Center for Continuation Study at the University the last week in October reported that they felt it to have been better than any held previously. Thirty six persons attended, and it was agreed that attendance should not be too large for round table discussion. Miss Sinclair reported on the foreign policy dinner, which was attended by about 35 persons.

Mrs. Denny called attention to the Women's Centennial Congress, meeting in New York City the latter part of November. Board members were asked to give her the names of any persons whom they thought might wish to attend.

Following luncheon, methods of interviewing legislators on civil service were discussed, with sample interviews.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary

A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at Miss Mitchell's apartment in the Hampshire Arms Hotel, Tuesday, December 3rd, 1940. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Cant, Dr. Boynton, and Mrs. Duff. Absent: Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Fraser. Also present, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

#### State convention

The dates of Wednesday and Thursday, May 14th and 15th, 1941, were set. There was discussion of the Minneapolis League's holding its regular annual meeting to coincide with these dates, which may mean that it will be impossible to confine the State Convention entirely within these two dates.

#### Legislation

There was discussion of a letter from the Public Health Nurses Association with reference to a bill, to be sponsored by the American Legion, to give assistance to counties for public health nursing services. While decision on what support can be given to such legislation by the League must be postponed until the legislative session, it was agreed that advice and suggestions should be offered them.

Miss Horr reported on interviews with Lawrence Hall and George MacKinnon on a legislative council bill. Mr. Hall expressed the opinion that there was a chance for passage through at least one house of the legislature at the 1941 session. Rollin Johnson, Mrs. Paige and Mr. MacKinnon are to be asked to be authors. Senator Swenson has been written to, asking for an interview. Mrs. Newhart reported that she was working on essentials of such a law.

Miss Mitchell reported that Mrs. Mathys had agreed to serve as chairman of the advisory committee of the Dept. of Government and Its Operation.

#### Congressional interviews

There was discussion of such interviews, particularly with the two new members from Minnesota - Mr. O'Hara of the Second District and Mr. Gale of the Third. It was agreed that Mrs. Emil Nelson of Hutchinson should be asked to interview Mr. O'Hara, and that Mrs. Luwe should also be asked to write or interview him on the Equal Rights Amendment and Suffrage for the District of Columbia particularly.

Members of the Minnetonka League are to be asked to interview Mr. Gale. Miss Mitchell will write to Senator Ball.

Miss Mitchell reported that she hopes soon to have an interview with Governor Stassen on legislation in which the League is interested.

Miss Mitchell and Mrs. Cant reported on their interview with Mr. Adams of the Minneapolis Times-Tribune. He had suggested that a series of letters go to editors in behalf of civil service.

There was informal discussion of the representation of the State Federation of Labor on the Civil Service Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins



STATE BOARD MINUTES  
December 13th, 1940

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, Friday, December 13th, 1940, beginning at 10 a.m., Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Stakman, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Fraser, and Mrs. Morin. Miss Pabst, national finance secretary, and Mrs. P T Watson, of Northfield, member of the Government and Its Operation advisory committee, were present as guests. Staff members present: Mrs. Collins, Miss Horr and Miss Struthers.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected. The correction was that two of the members of the Government and Its Operation Advisory Committee, not already members of the state board, be asked to meet with the board.

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report for the month of November, showing a balance November 1st of \$766.80, receipts of \$1 017.01, disbursements of \$988.48, leaving a balance November 30th of \$795.33, with bills payable during December estimated at \$882.43. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bauman, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed.

Organization

The announcement was made by Miss Mitchell that the Long Prairie League would have to be dropped for the time being as they were not living up to requirements. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Miss Sinclair, that affiliation be withdrawn from the Long Prairie League.

It was announced that the executive committee, as delegated by the board, had set the dates for the 1941 state convention for Wednesday and Thursday, May 14th and 15th. The General Council meeting in Washington is scheduled for May 6th, 7th and 8th.

The recommendation of the executive committee that Mrs. Robert M Crounse of Minneapolis be appointed third vice president was reported. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that Mrs. Crounse be so appointed.

Miss Sinclair report on a letter from Mrs. Wright, national foreign policy chairman, urging study of relations with China. It was agreed that Miss Sinclair



should communicate with local foreign policy chairmen, urging immediate study of this question, even though many may have already begun study of Latin-American relations as recently requested.

The meeting was then turned over to Miss Bertha Pabst, national finance secretary, who asked Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Cent and Mrs. Wolf to give a short report of meetings with her during the week. They stated that they felt their Leagues had been exceedingly stimulated by their contact with Miss Pabst.

Miss Pabst explained in detail the National Finance Work Sheets, and then reported the suggestions she had made to the Leagues in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth that they meet their budget requirements, beyond membership dues, by contributions secured over a two or three weeks' period, leaving the rest of the year to be spent on program. This has been done successfully in other states. She reported on her meeting with the Duluth League, who are contemplating doubling their budget to allow for an increased payment toward the support of the state and national leagues and for office space and assistance locally.

There was discussion of the Members' Magazine, with suggestions for possible changes. There was also discussion as to whether the \$10,000 this magazine costs could better be spent in sending out field workers. It was also felt that the National League would help more by sending out more people and spending less on publications. Miss Pabst said that Miss Wells has always recommended this. She said that national publications receipts on the basis of prices charged do not come within a third of paying for themselves if all expenses of workers is figured. Board members were asked to send in comments from their members on the magazine.

#### Preparation for state legislation

Mrs. Fraser reported on a conference she and Mrs. Newhart had with Mr. Finke, director of welfare, on the new program of civil service for county welfare workers which is required by the federal government where social security funds are used. The Social Security Board has given final approval of the merit plan, which will not duplicate facilities of the state Civil Service Department but at the same time will not be merged with it. The Civil Service Department is to

give the examinations, set up classifications, and maintain eligible lists. The Division of Welfare will have the final approval of the rules and regulations, which will be submitted to the special advisory committee of County Welfare Boards. Personnel advisers will be appointed by the three urban counties, with one personnel person serving the other 84. One half of the cost will be refunded by the federal government. There was discussion of the League's responsibility, which was decided to be education of the public and watching the working out of the system throughout the state. It appears that no legislative action is needed.

Mrs. Fraser also reported on the survey made by the American Public Welfare Association at the request of Governor Stassen, with reference to welfare administration. This report recommends not having institutions separated from other welfare services, but coordinated under a single director. Mrs. Fraser is to make a careful analysis of the plan and the recommendations for legislative action before the January meeting, so that the board can consider whether active support should be given to any parts of the recommendation. It was suggested that the chart of the present set up might indicate proposed changes.

#### Legislative Council

Mrs. Newhart reported on the seven essentials to be included in a good legislative council bill, as recommended by herself, Mrs. Mathys and Mrs. Ewing, on the basis of all available data. It was agreed that these essentials should be sent to all local Leagues so that they may analyze bills that may be introduced on the basis of these essentials. It was agreed that pre-session interviews with legislators should cover only the need for further technical assistance, leaving discussion of these essential points until later. Miss Horr reported on progress in securing authors for this legislation, and that MacKinnon, Johnson and Mrs. Paige had already agreed to sponsor it in the House. Senator Oscar Swenson is to be interviewed with reference to introducing a bill into the Senate. Miss Horr reported on an interview with Senator Orr by herself and Mrs. Newhart. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs.

Duff, that the seven essentials as recommended be accepted and distributed to local Leagues.

Mrs. Beard reported on civil service, stating that the new county welfare system would require a great deal of their time and energy and that without a proper budget would be very difficult; also because of shortage of available personnel. She also gave a report of the Civil Service Board's action on the Carstater case, reporting that the Board found that the charges brought against him were not supported by the testimony submitted, and that they therefore had ordered him reinstated. There was discussion of the dismissal of Dr. Rockwell as head of the State Department of Education, whose position is not under civil service. It was agreed that Board members should urge attendance at the public hearing on his dismissal.

Mrs. Collins called attention to new League publications since the previous month.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, Secretary



STATE BOARD MINUTES  
January 10th, 1941

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the Hampshire Arms Hotel, Minneapolis, Friday, January 10th, 1941, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Grahame, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Nelson, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Luwe, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Musser; Mrs. Mathys and Mrs. Watson of the Government and Its Operation advisory committee, Miss Britts of Duluth, Miss Moskalik of Minneapolis, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Beard, seconded by Mrs. Dalrymple, that the minutes of the previous meeting, which had been mailed to all board members, be approved without reading.

In the absence of the treasurer, Mrs. Collins gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance December 1st of \$795.33, receipts during the month of \$1 633.23, disbursements of \$1 056.54, leaving a balance December 31st of \$1 372.02, with bills payable estimated at \$778.82. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bauman, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed. // Mrs. Collins reported an analysis of the treasurer's reports for the first three months of the fiscal year showed that 32.3% of the budget estimate of payments from local Leagues for the year had been realized, 8% of the estimate for contributions, with Woman Voter and educational material receipts and disbursements for the first quarter indicating an increase over the budget estimate for the year. Disbursement items are all running close to the budget estimates for the quarter. //

Miss Mitchell announced the regional finance meeting planned by the National League to be held in St. Louis on February 14th.

A contribution from Mrs. I M Nelson to the JGS Fund was reported. She turned

in to the fund her payment for expenses incurred in speaking at a fall conference. 2

### Organization

A letter from Mrs. Winter resigning as a director was read by the secretary. IT WAS VOTED that her resignation be accepted with regret. Miss Mitchell suggested three names for the board to consider - Mrs. Hedin of Red Wing, Mrs. Braasch of Rochester and Mrs. Dougherty of Austin. After discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Bartlett, that Mrs. Dougherty be appointed to serve as a director. 1

Announcement was made of the mid-winter Presidents' Conference to be held soon, and Miss Mitchell asked help from the board in securing a home in Minneapolis at which to hold this conference. 3

Announcement was made of the College League board meeting <sup>to be</sup> held in St. Paul on Saturday, January 18th, at the home of Mrs. Anderson. 2

Mrs. Anderson read a letter from the recently organized college league at the University of Minnesota, asking for affiliation with the Minnesota League. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Bartlett, that this group be granted affiliation. 4

The question of returning to the custom of having an open board meeting in February was brought up, but it was decided that it was not of sufficient value to entail the complications involved. 3

### Legislative Work

Miss Mitchell announced that she was very pleased with the graphic and vivid accounts of legislative interviews, and stated that the new Leagues had done a very good job. Ten Leagues with members serving on the state board had not yet reported on interviews, and board members were urged to check with their presidents to see that this was done. Miss Horr reported that there was much value in the interviews as they made her work easier. The legislators had been much friendlier, even though they did not all agree with our program. She felt that even the new legislators were friendly to the League and realized the value of our work. 10

Civil Service Mrs. Beard reported that she has heard no word of opposition to civil service as yet, but suggested that when complaints are made, we pin the person down to the exact complaint, check with her, and report back.

The first annual report of the Civil Service Department has been published and is available on loan at the League office. It may be possible for interested local Leagues to secure a copy by writing direct to the Department.

Mrs. Bauman reported on Civil Service Day, January 16th, and announced that there would be radio programs over at least three Twin City stations, and that local Leagues with local stations also had been asked to plan for special programs. (u)

Legislative Council

Miss Horr announced that five authors for the Legislative Council bill have been secured in the House, but in the Senate it is more or less tentative, although it is hoped that Senators Lightner and Swenson will agree to introduce it.

Attempts to determine the complete and exact cost of interim committees during the past ten years have not so far been successful, but will be continued. Inasmuch as the idea of such a council is new to many members of the legislature, interviews are most essential.

Welfare Administration

Mrs. Nelson reported on the recent Minnesota Public Welfare Study made by the American Public Welfare Assn., with particular reference to the recommendations that institutional and other welfare services be more closely coordinated. Board members were given mimeographed sheets outlining these proposed changes. It was reported that while the Governor is sympathetic to the proposed changes, it is not sure whether this is the best time to urge that they be made. Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Nelson are to interview Mr. Finke and other welfare workers before the next board meeting to get their reactions and report back to the board. Dr. Boynton felt that changes would be beneficial enough to make up for the confusion that would ensue for a time.



Miss Mitchell called attention to the legislative support policy which provides that there must be a two-thirds vote of the board, previous notice having been given, to authorize active support of measures previously supported by the League, but not enacted into law, and not appearing on the current program. Two legislative matters fall into this category - abolishment of common law marriage and extension of public health nursing services.

Mrs. Luwe reported that she had a letter from the State Bar Association, saying that the Association is to introduce bills on all the proposals on its legislative program, one of which is the abolishment of common law marriage. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Miss Sinclair, that authority be given ~~to the executive committee~~ to authorize support of such a bill.

Mrs. Nelson gave a resume of the proposed bill for state aid for public health nursing. The necessity for showing the economy of public health nursing service was discussed, and it was suggested that local Leagues get information as to what this program would save their individual counties. Mrs. Nelson is to prepare a letter on this subject to be sent to Social Welfare chairmen. The American Legion is sponsoring this legislation. Many Leagues are ready, through study, for support of this bill. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Denny, seconded by Mrs. Wright, to authorize support of the bill.

Discriminations against women One legislator has warned that many bills will be introduced to discriminate against women and that we must watch closely for these.

Senator Mullin has been requested by the Industrial Commission to introduce a bill on wages and hours similar to the federal act, and has asked to have this bill looked over by the League. Mrs. Fraser agreed to confer with Senator Mullin.

Mrs. Wright reported on her plans for new study packet on public housing for low income groups, which will be ready soon and which it is hoped will bring out all points of view.

The question was raised as to whether in public meetings on this subject

there must be speakers presenting both sides of the question. It has been found most difficult to obtain speakers against public housing. It was suggested that we must be careful in our publicity to show that we are only studying the subject, and Leagues were urged to present arguments against housing in some way, either by having their own members bringing out the questions or by an outside speakers.

14 6 1 8 7  
It was suggested that it may be necessary to consider the possibility of limiting the number of voting delegates from the "hostess" League at a state convention in order to more closely insure equal representation. This can be done by the State Board and does not need amendment of the by-laws. (4)

#### Congressional

Miss Sinclair read a letter from Miss Wells on the national policy in foreign affairs, advising that the national board will decide what proposals shall be selected for support or opposition, taking into consideration the preparedness of the League to support a given measure intelligently.

Statement by Senator Shipstead in response to inquiries from many Minnesota citizens on his stand on foreign policy was read. It was agreed that Miss Sinclair should write him that in view of his important position as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee he should be further advised of the League's stand which does not coincide with his. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Sinclair, seconded by Mrs. Denny, that such a letter be sent. Miss Sinclair called attention to the latest FPA bulletin on "Aid to Britain." (1) 49

Miss Mitchell read a letter from Miss Wells in which she suggested that every member in the League was working for defense merely by supporting the League and its program, and pointing out how the League can best cooperate with local defense organizations, and how the League's program already fits in with defense plans. It was agreed that the advice in this letter should be shared with local League presidents.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Dorothy L Gruenhagen, Secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
February 14th, 1941

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, February 14th, 1941, beginning at ten o'clock, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Stakman, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Fraser, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Bauman, Mrs. Morin and Mrs. Fleming. Also present Mrs. Watson of Northfield, Mrs. Mathys of Minneapolis, Mrs. Pearce of Red Wing, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Miss Knudson that the minutes be accepted without reading, inasmuch as they had been mailed to members.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance January 1st of \$1 372.02, receipts during the month of \$1 029.44, disbursements of \$842.95, leaving a balance January 31st of \$1 558.51, with bills payable during February estimated at \$859.71. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Miss Sinclair, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed. Mrs. Duff stated that Leagues were paying their quotas earlier and more regularly.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Crounse, that the fiscal year be changed to run from May 1st to April 30th, to coincide more closely with the fiscal year of the National League and with our state convention year.

No contribution was made to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund during the previous month.

Mrs. Cant reported on progress of the finance campaign in Minneapolis, stating that plans were well under way, one committee formed and already working for the larger contributions, and a large committee with about 100 workers will solicit the smaller contributions. Duluth and St. Paul plans not yet completed.



### Organization

Letter of resignation as state finance chairman from Mrs. Musser was read. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Newhart, to accept this resignation with regret. New appointment will be considered later. A letter was read from Miss Wells stating that the League had withdrawn from the Cause and Cure of War Conference, as it was felt that the League could work better for the same aims by concentrating on its own program. This action leaves local Leagues free to withdraw from local committees of the Conference.

Miss Mitchell announced that the mid-winter President's Conference is to be held at Mrs. Dalrymple's home on Monday, February 17th.

Mrs. Anderson extended an invitation to attend the dinner given by the Ramsey County League February 24th on the Legislative Council.

Mrs. Collins reported on News Letter subscriptions. According to the report of the National League, the Minnesota League has subscriptions for 9 per cent of the total membership, and ranks in tenth place in comparison with other Leagues on this basis. This is slightly more than the minimum requirement of 1 to 15 members. Miss Sinclair suggested that all foreign policy chairmen should take the News Letter as there is so much valuable information on foreign policy.

### 1941-42 Program of Work

There was some preliminary discussion of the program of work to be proposed for the coming year. Dr. Boynton suggested the need for an extensive study of the whole picture of health in the state. The suggestion was made that subjects dealing with structure and operation of government, which have been stressed so heavily recently, might give way to a comprehensive welfare and health study.

### Federal legislation

Miss Sinclair gave a report of the reactions of various Leagues throughout the state on the request for action on the lease-lend bill. While most of the

Leagues stated they had had heated debates on the subject, and reported individual members opposed to the bill, only one League, newly organized had "felt the bill should not pass."

It was suggested that Senator Shipstead should be kept informed of the League's stand on this legislation regardless of his disagreement with it.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Morin, that a letter be sent from the State Board to Senator Ball commending his stand on the lease-lend bill. Miss Sinclair was to write this, but it was also suggested that individual members write him and also to Mr. Pittinger of Duluth, who had voted for the bill.

#### State legislation

Mrs. Newhart summarized some of the amendments to the civil service law that have been introduced.

A report was made of the meeting of the Civil Service Council with the chairman and vice chairman of the House Civil Administration Committee, who expressed themselves as believing strongly that the civil service law should be given another two years trial before amendments are made, but that the greatest danger would come from an inadequate appropriation, and that compromise will be necessary. All civil service bills are being referred to a special sub-committee.

Miss Mitchell reported that Senator Rockne is giving the Civil Service Council an opportunity to appear before the Senate Finance Committee in behalf of the civil service appropriation.

Mrs. Beard reported that department heads, in asking for increased appropriations, give as their reason the fact that civil service is increasing their pay rolls. In fact, the total pay roll increase through the civil service pay schedule would be only \$22,000 out of a \$15 million annual pay roll. The apparent basis for the statements made by department heads are figuring in terms of the recommendations of the L E C for freezing in salaries (which would increase payroll costs about \$125,000); and assuming that salary increases are required rather

than permissive every six months. The Civil Service Department has not been asked to be present at these hearings on departmental budgets, and has had no opportunity to refute the claims made.

There was discussion of the need for expressions of general interest in civil service, and the suggestion was made that the Governor be reached to make him realize that we expect him to stand steady on civil service. Editorials might be clipped and sent to him.

Mrs. Mathys reported on her attempts to protest articles appearing in one of the Twin City papers, damaging to civil service as they offer only misrepresentations of fact and no refutation.

Mrs. Pearce called attention to the fact that the recommendations of the Interim Committee on Education are now completed. There was some further discussion of the League's interest in the Carstater and Rockwell dismissal cases. There is no responsibility in the latter case, inasmuch as the position is not under civil service, and in the former case, League members should feel an obligation to make it clear that the Civil Service Board conducted a fair hearing.

The action of the Mankato League in sending a letter to the Governor regarding the appointment of a woman member of the State Teachers College Board was reported and discussed. Decision made that such action should have been routed through the State Board.

Mrs. Watson analyzed the bill to establish a legislative council. She questioned the advisability of certain provisions, having to do with appointment of council members, and particularly the section giving the council investigative powers. It was reported that Dr. Short had been asked to comment on the bill, but had been unable to do so as yet. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Mathys, principal seconded by Dr. Boynton, that the authors of the bill be advised of the League's approval or disapproval of the various provisions.

Other legislation discussed included: the bill to prohibit employment



of married women, which had been killed in committee, and then brought on to the floor of the house through a minority report, which was also voted down. Miss Moscalik, legal status chairman for the Minneapolis League, had spoken against this bill at a committee hearing; the bill to increase county commissioner representation on County Welfare Boards, which will need much concentrated effort if it is to be defeated; the public health nursing bill, for which Mrs. Fraser has spoken before the Senate Public Health and House Public Welfare Committees and which is now before the finance committees where it is expected there will be real trouble, and the uniform licensing act which would abolish common law marriages.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that active support be given any of the above measures without executive committee action.

#### State Convention

Miss Mitchell reported that she had asked the Red Wing League to be responsible for the Fireside Supper program. Board members were asked to be considering program plans. The suggestion had been made that the final dinner be an analysis of legislation.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, that the executive committee be authorized to appoint the chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Bauman and Mrs. Crounse were appointed to serve on a committee to make recommendations to the next board with reference to the proposed program of work.

#### Membership

A letter from Miss Wells with reference to the possibility of doubling the League membership in Minnesota during the next sixteen months was read. Two problems were brought up in this connection - that of penalizing Leagues already showing large increases, and the problem of absorbing members, which was felt to be more important than securing them. The opinion was expressed that more

6  
lasting results are obtained if there is no straining, and a general feeling against "membership drives" as such, and in favor of a combination of assimilation and steady growth. Points to be considered are careful analysis of loss of members, some method of bridging the gulf between leaders and members, securing members in a way that will insure their remaining as members, older members feeling a definite and individual responsibility toward newer members. It was reported that this question of increasing membership would be brought up at the President's Conference.

The question of League representation on the Citizens Committee on Public School Finance was brought up. No meetings have been held recently to which the League was invited to send a representative, but a recent bulletin published by the Committee lists the League among the sponsoring organizations. There was discussion of the advisability of the League's protesting its inclusion inasmuch as no meetings have been reported to the League. The opinion was expressed that though many organizations have a definite responsibility for educational problems, it is not a prime responsibility of the League, although there is interest in it. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that because we have such a very limited program in the educational field, our name be withdrawn from the sponsorship of the Citizens' Committee on Public School Finance inasmuch as the program is so broad. 7

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Borothy L Gruenhagen, Secretary

168  
40  
128  
30  
98

A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Wednesday, March 5th, 1941, at Miss Mitchell's apartment in the Hampshire Arms Hotel. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Grahame, Mrs. Cant, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Newhart. Also Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that Mrs. Gruenhagen be named chairman of the Nominating Committee for the state convention. It was agreed that the selection of the remaining members of the committee representing by congressional districts be left to the president. Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Grahame were asked to suggest members from Minneapolis and St. Paul who might be asked to serve on this committee.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that Mrs. Musser be appointed budget chairman. It was agreed that the plan followed recently of having the State Finance Committee assist in the preparation of the proposed budget be continued.

There was discussion of convention fees for non-delegates. It was agreed that there should be a 25 cent admission charge for all non-delegates for convention sessions and to hear talks following luncheons and dinner, but that there should be no extra charge made on luncheon and dinner tickets for non-delegates. Mrs. Cant asked the privilege of bringing this decision before her executive committee to find out if there were any adverse reaction.

The most recent letters from Miss Wells with reference to the Lease-lend bill was read, as well as the suggesting that Senator Ball be commended for his stand. The need for letters to Senator Shipstead against filibustering was also brought out.

Members of the executive committee were asked to be giving careful thought to the question of candidates for the various offices to be filled at the state convention. Miss Mitchell reported that Mrs. Dougherty of Austin, who had been appointed by the board to fill the directorship now vacant, had first said she could not now accept the appointment, but later word had come that after her return from California she might feel well enough to accept. Miss Mitchell suggested that this be held open for the time being.

There was discussion of delegates to the General Council meeting in Washington the first week in May. It was reported that Miss Gladys Sinclair might be able to attend as one of the delegates, and Miss Mitchell, who is unable to attend herself, felt the other delegate should be a person well informed on general League problems and organization.

It was agreed that Mrs. Denny should be asked to go carefully through State Board minutes to determine the exact affiliation of the State League with the Citizens Committee on Public School Finance.

#### State Legislation

There was discussion of the possibility of a large public meeting on civil service. Mrs. Grahame reported that the St. Paul League did not feel that it could take the responsibility for the physical arrangements for such a meeting, inasmuch as so many of their members were working on the finance campaign.

Miss Mitchell asked the committee to consider whether the League should continue its extremely hard task to maintain County Welfare Boards under their present set-up. The proponents of the bill to put all five county commissioners on these boards are most active, and it was reported that members of the State



Division of Welfare had expressed themselves as believing the change unnecessary and not advisable, but not so serious as it might have been two years ago, or four years ago when these boards were first established. It was felt that League members throughout the state had a very sincere desire to see the continuance of the present arrangement, and that the League should not slacken its work against this proposal.

It was reported that the bill to abolish common law marriages was before the House this afternoon.

It was reported that Representative Hart was considering introducing a bill affecting the administration of the state minimum wage law for women workers. Mrs. Fraser agreed to discuss this bill with Miss Burton of the Industrial Commission. The bill is similar to that opposed by the League in the 1939 session. IT WAS VOTED that the bill be opposed by the League, but not as a primary responsibility.

There was discussion of the Legislative Council bill. It was reported that Dr. Short felt it should not be supported by the League if it included the clause giving legislative investigative powers to the Council, which would change the entire character of the Council, and make it an investigative rather than a research and fact-finding agency. It was agreed that a wire be sent to George MacKinnon, author of the bill, ~~saying that the~~ expressing the desire that he offer an amendment to change this section; otherwise the bill could not have the support of the League.

The best methods of refuting false and incomplete statements appearing in the press as made by various members of the legislature were discussed. The possibility of an informal meeting with members of the press covering legislative news was discussed. It was agreed that such a meeting should be with the Civil Service Council, rather than just the League.

There was discussion of state convention program. Dr. Boynton suggested Dr. Thos. Magath of the Mayo Clinic as a speaker on public health. The suggestion was made that Mrs. Baldwin of the National Board be asked to come for a meeting on the League and legislation, at which members of the Minnesota legislature would also be asked to speak.

Meeting adjourned.

Corinne K Collins, Secretary

## STATE BOARD MINUTES

March 14, 1941

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, Friday, March 14th, 1941, beginning at ten a.m., Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Cant, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Nelson, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Workman, and Mrs. Wright. Also Mrs. Grahame, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Grahame, that the minutes stand approved as mailed out. 2

### Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report showing a balance February 1st of \$1 558.51, receipts during the month of \$808.60, disbursements of \$921.75, leaving a balance February 28th of \$1 445.36, with bills payable during March estimated at \$799.44. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Knudson, seconded by Mrs. Crounse, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed. Mrs. Collins reported an addition of 50 cents to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund from the Fergus Falls League. The question was raised by Mrs. Cant as to whether it was wise to spend the interest from this fund for general expenses, or whether it should be added to the fund. This will be considered by the budget committee.

### Organization

Miss Struthers announced the organization of a new League at Le Sueur, from a contact originally made last fall.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the resignation of Mrs. Huntley as chairman of the department of government and education be accepted with regret. Appointment to fill the vacancy will be considered at a later meeting.

Proposed Program of Work

Dr. Boynton, chairman of the committee appointed to consider recommendations with reference to the proposed program of work for the coming year, said that she and her committee had studied items for the program in relation to national defense. It was their opinion that national defense meant health and security of the citizens as well as guns for the soldiers. They concluded that the program could be grouped into two major divisions, 1) Continuing responsibility, such as civil service and administration of welfare, and 2) emphasis on study items of public housing, social security, recreation, public health, and possibly labor relations and interstate trade barriers.

Open discussion followed, where it was generally agreed that this was a good approach to the program, and the suggestion <sup>agreed to</sup> was made that some general statement on the need for preservation of civil rights, or academic freedom, and for qualified personnel be included. Attention was called to the fact that there was no mention made of education which has such an important bearing on defense. There was general agreement that some mention of education should be included. It was pointed out that authorization for the subject of recreation does not appear on the program of the National League, and therefore no guidance from national headquarters could be expected. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Dalrymple, that the further study of interstate trade barriers be dropped for the coming year.

The suggestion was made that program department chairmen ask local Leagues to send back to them their conclusions on items for study.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Knudson, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, that the Board authorize the special committee of three considering program recommendations, to draw up the final wording of the proposed program taking into consideration the suggestions made by the board. Mrs. Bartlett added to serve on this committee.

The question was brought up as to whether, if an enabling act for local



housing authorities is passed by the present legislative session, local Leagues may support the establishment of such authorities in their own communities, inasmuch as public housing is not at present on the state support program. As this would be solely a local problem, it could be undertaken by local Leagues as a local project, but attention was called to the fact that if the convention decides to give emphasis to this subject, it would encourage and assist local Leagues in such projects. 8

#### State legislation

Mrs. Beard reported on the many threats being received by civil service in this session of the legislature, stating that there were two difficulties - certain leaders do not want civil service, and the mass of legislators have not studied the subject and can be convinced too easily that it isn't working and can't work.

She reviewed amendments that have been introduced, particularly one recommended to pass by the Senate Civil Administration - SF 611. This amendment in its original form was not objectionable, inasmuch as it put into effect the recommendations of the Legislative Emergency Committee with reference to wage cuts, but as amended it would delay the classification plan until voted on by the legislature which might mean such indefinite postponement as to cease operation of civil service entirely. She stated that civil service had many more friends in the House than in the Senate, as evidenced by the fact that the House Civil Administration Committee invited all department heads to appear before them, while the Senate committee invited only those who had some criticisms they wished to make. The Young amendment, to do away with the director and the Civil Service Board, was mentioned as being especially undesirable. 11

It was agreed that more and more letters to the legislators, getting as many men as possible to write, concentrated within the next ten days or two weeks, might turn the tide in favor of an adequate appropriation and against

amendments. Letters to the chairman of the House Appropriations Committee with reference to the appropriation are particularly desirable.

Miss Mitchell reported on a meeting of the Civil Service Council with representatives of the press, and urged board members to take back to their local Leagues the suggestion that they contact their editors so that they will surely print A P and direct releases on civil service which are being planned.

Miss Horr reported on the status of the bill to increase county commissioner representation on County Welfare Boards, and that tho the commissioners are working hard to get their increase through, it may be possible to defeat it yet. She said she felt it would be possible, if sufficient interest is shown and expressed to members of the legislature to retain the present set up.

The common law marriage bill has passed the House and been referred to the Public Welfare Committee in the Senate. It has a chance of passage.

An amendment to the present minimum wage law has been introduced, which would tie the hands of the Industrial Commission in investigating wage situations. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that the League should oppose such suggested changes, at least by appearing at hearings against them.

#### State convention plans

Miss Mitchell announced that Mrs. Musser had agreed to serve as chairman of the budget committee, as appointed by the executive committee, with the members of the state-wide finance advisory committee advising with her. Mrs. Gruenhagen will act as chairman of the Nominating Committee. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Nelson, that the other members of the committee from the congressional districts as recommended by invited to serve, with alternative selections to be made by the president.

Mrs. Collins gave the tentative schedule of the convention, and there was discussion of possible speakers. Mrs. Stakman agreed to serve as program chairman. She will consult with the Minneapolis League with reference to program

plans for the first luncheon meeting, which follows the Minneapolis League annual meeting. The possibility of a speaker on public health was considered with Dr. Magath of Rochester suggested. Tentative plans for the closing dinner are for a discussion of the League and legislation on the federal, state and local levels.

#### General Council Meeting

Miss Mitchell announced that we may have 2 accredited delegates and two accredited visitors at the Council meeting, and wanted suggestions of anyone able to go. Mrs. Bartlett read excerpts of letter from Miss Wells explaining that the national program may be altered upon 2/3 vote of the General Council. Proposed changes in the national program will be considered at the April meeting.

#### New material

Announcement made of the new Foreign Policy Quiz, and the suggestion made that it be adapted for radio programs. A new Foreign Policy Association pamphlet on America Re-Arms was also announced. Miss Mitchell reported that the League material on housing in the state had been used by committees in the House and Senate in considering the proposed enabling act.

The analysis of the proposed National budget will be made at the April board meeting.

It was suggested that local Leagues must write letters of commendation to their Senators who voted against the change in County Welfare Boards.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary



STATE BOARD MINUTES  
April 16th, 1941

The April meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held on Wednesday, April 16th, 1941, instead of on the second Friday in the month, in order not to conflict with Good Friday. The meeting was held at the State Capitol, and following a short time spent in the Senate gallery, was called to order at 11 o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding.

Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Workman, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Dougherty, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Keyes, and Mrs. Newhart. Also, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins, and Miss Struthers.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved without reading.

Mrs. Duff reported that the National League is asking the Minnesota League to assume again a pledge of \$4,000 for the coming year. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the Minnesota League of Women Voters again pledge \$4,000 toward the support of the National League.

Contacts for possible new Leagues were reported in Welker and Stillwater. Miss Horr is planning to go to Welker the latter part of the month and complete organization, and Miss Struthers has made preliminary contacts in Stillwater.

Miss Mitchell reported that the two delegates and two visitors to the General Council of the National League of Women Voters, from Minnesota, are not yet definitely determined, with the possibility of Miss Sinclair's driving and taking two or three others with her, in which event the budget item of \$50.00 would be used to meet car expense.

### Proposed Program of Work

It was agreed that all proposed changes in the program of work should be considered at the May pre-convention board meeting. Mrs. Peterson expressed the desire for study material on taxation. Some discussion of the possibility of a specific program item on this subject. Mrs. Fleming reported briefly on the findings of the Red Wing League in its study of household employment, and their interest in proposing the study of protective legislation for household employees. It was announced that notice of proposed changes will be given in the notice of the May board meeting.

Miss Mitchell reported that Mrs. Ireys of Minneapolis is planning to invite the State Board to hold its pre-convention board meeting, Tuesday evening May 13th, at her home.

### State Convention

Mrs. Stakman outlined the plans for the convention program. Mrs. Cheek, national economic welfare chairman, will speak at the luncheon meeting on the first day, following the Minneapolis annual meeting, and two other pre-convention sessions - Presidents' Conference and an all-department conference to be presided over by Dr. Boynton. The Red Wing League is taking charge of the program for the Fireside Supper, with the place for this supper not yet determined. Inquiries are being made to determine whether the University of Minnesota College League could sponsor such a meeting at the Minnesota Union. Plans for a luncheon meeting on civil service for the second day are underway. There was general discussion of plans for the final dinner, with the possibility of Dr. Herman Finer, of the London School of Economics, or a panel discussion on the trend of foreign policy, participated in by local persons with possibly one additional from Wisconsin or Illinois. There seemed to be general agreement that the discussion on foreign policy would be preferable.

Legislation

Miss Horr reported on the status of bill as follows:

The House is considering amendments to the Civil Service Law. No weakening amendments have been passed as far. In fact, the increase in the appropriation for the Civil Service Department recommended by the Appropriations Committee is the only amendment passed by the House.

Legislative Council bill has only a very slight chance of passage, even by the House where it is on General Orders. Work by the League in behalf of this bill was held up pending the removal of the section granting investigating powers.

County Welfare Boards The bill to place all five county commissioners on these boards has been adopted by both houses. It was agreed that it was increasingly important for local Leagues to submit panels of names for consideration as lay members, and to watch closely the functioning of these boards.

Common Law Marriage This bill, which has passed the House, and is on General Orders in the Senate, and may be reached before the end of the session. Letters to Senators in its behalf would be helpful.

Minimum Wage The bill changing the administration provisions for the present law for women and minors was finally indefinitely postponed by a close vote.

Aid to Dependent Children The status of the bill to re-apportion federal funds on the same basis of present apportionment of Old Age Assistance was discussed.

Meeting adjourned, with board members to talk with their own Senators and Representatives in behalf of legislation of interest to the League.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K. Collins,  
Secretary - pro tem



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held April 29th, 1941, at Miss Mitchell's apartment. Present: Miss Mitchell, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Duff. Also Mrs. Collins and Miss Horr, and Mrs. Stakman.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wolf, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that the registration fee for the state convention again be set at 50 cents.

There was discussion of the advisability of restricting the number of delegates. No decision reached with reference to any change at the present time. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that allotment of credentials be made as in previous years.

There was discussion of delegates to the General Council meeting in Washington. It was agreed that Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Brooks, members of the State Board, should go as delegates, with Mrs. Bartlett serving as proxy for the state president; with Mrs. McQuarrie and one other to go as visitors. It was agreed that the fund in the budget should be equally divided among those attending the Council meeting.

#### State convention

Program plans for the convention were outlined. Plans were reported nearly completed for the two luncheon meetings, but that the program for the final dinner was still indefinite. Inasmuch as several speakers from outside the state, such as Mr. Quincy Wright, and Mr. Clifford Utley, were not able to accept invitations to participate in the panel on the trend of foreign policy, it was agreed that Dr. Deutsch of the University of Minnesota, be asked to participate; that someone, with Mr. Upgren of the University of Minnesota mentioned as first choice, to present economic aspects; and that Mrs. Paul Douglas, of Chicago, foreign policy chairman for the Illinois League, be invited to speak from the point of view of the LWV.

#### Finance

There was discussion of the budget, and how the "expansion" item, included in the present budget might be met so that it could be drawn upon. The first possibility was felt to be that of bringing up to "full quota" those Leagues that have not yet been able to meet this responsibility. Another possibility is that of securing contributions from individuals through the local Leagues, such contributions to be over and above their quota pledges. A special campaign period in the fall might stimulate Leagues to secure such contributions.

Board vacancies Inasmuch as there are two vacancies in department chairmanships, Govt. and Its Operation, and Education, there was discussion of possibilities for these positions. It was suggested that some member of the Rochester League might be a possibility for the Education chairmanship, and that Mrs. Mathys be asked if she would consider accepting the GIO chairmanship. There are at present two vacancies to be filled by election - that of, second vice president, and one directorship. The possibilities of a candidate for the former position from St. Paul, were considered, ~~that~~ Miss Mitchell expressing the opinion that vice presidents who lived near state headquarters and could come in to the office easily, would be of the most assistance. Mrs. Carter of the Minnetonka League was mentioned as a possibility, with Mrs. Steele of Duluth as a possible director.

Program of Work Miss Mitchell asked members of the executive committee to be

considering changes which have so far been proposed, including the omission of recreational services, the addition of household employment, and the proposed constitutional amendment for publication of charter changes in home rule cities. There was considerable discussion of the relation of local programs of work to the state program of work.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
May 13, 1941

The regular pre-convention meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Tuesday, May 13th, 1941, at the home of Mrs. C G Ireys in Minneapolis, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Dougherty, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Congdon, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. Morin. Also Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Mathys and Mrs. Watson of the GIO Advisory Committee, Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins, Miss Struthers and Miss Smiley.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report for the month of April, reporting a balance April 1st of \$1 258.46, receipts during the month of \$1 162.32, disbursements of \$1 090.56, leaving a balance April 30th of \$1 330.21. The unusually large balance is accounted for by the fact that so many Leagues have already paid their full quota assumed for the year ending September 30th. Leagues paying more than 7/12 of their pledges have had that amount credited on their pledge for the new fiscal year beginning May 1st.

Mrs. Workman reported a \$5.00 contribution to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund from herself and the Tracy League.

Miss Mitchell reported that Mrs. Newhart was willing to accept the chairmanship of the Department of Government and Its Operation, resigning from her position as first vice president to do so; that Mrs. Morin would accept the chairman of Government and Education; and that Mrs. Musser was willing to be re-appointed Finance Chairman. She reported that other chairmen were willing to accept re-appointment: Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Fraser, Social Welfare; Mrs. Wright, Economic Welfare; Mrs. Luwe, Legal Status of Women, and Mrs. Brooks, Foreign Policy. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs.



Mathys, that these appointments be confirmed.

Mrs. Gruenhagen reported on possibilities being considered by the Nominating Committee.

Miss Horr reported the organization of a new League in Walker.

#### Budget

Mrs. Duff, at the request of Mrs. Musser, budget chairman, reviewed the budget that has been drawn up for presentation to the convention. While the total amount is only slightly higher than the previous budget, there is some difference in the allocation of items. All contributions from citizens in communities in which there are local Leagues will be credited to the respective League, over and above the quota pledge made by the League. This will give a truer picture of the financial support of the community. The proposed contribution item in the budget includes only contributions from persons outside the state or in places where there are no local Leagues. Mrs. Duff reported that less than ten Leagues have ever asked for contributions from citizens. The "expansion" item appearing in last year's budget was never drawn upon, and this item is allocated in the proposed budget.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Nelson, that the budget, totalling \$10 350.00, as proposed be submitted to the convention.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Musser, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that Mrs. Denny, be appointed an honorary director.

#### Program of Work

in relation to defense

The seven point program/program from the General Council was read.

It was reported that the Red Wing League and scattered League members elsewhere have requested that the study of Household Employment be included on the program. IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Wolf that "Improved conditions of work, wages and hours for household employees" be submitted to the convention for study during the coming year. After discussion, motion was lost. It was felt that this subject did not have much to do with government,

also that there was much work to be done in seeing that existing minimum wage and hour laws were enforced in the state. It was brought out that Leagues could study this question if they wished, and that it might well be considered in relation to extension of the Social Security Act.

A request from the executive committee of the Minneapolis League to consider the addition of an item which would cover the study of the question of federal aid for relief was present. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Fraser, seconded by Mrs. Dalrymple, that relief, recognized as a long time concern of government, with co-ordinated responsibility, federal, state and local, for financing and administration, be presented to the convention - with the understanding that a simpler wording be suggested.

The desirability of including authorization for study of the constitutional amendment with reference to publication procedure of proposed charter amendments in home rule cities, so that it might be supported at the next election, was discussed. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Crounse that this amendment be put on the program for study.

The request for a specific tax item, rather than the general statement under policy, was brought up. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Peterson, that taxation be added to the program for special attention.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that the item "Labor Relations Legislation" be changed to read "Labor Relations, Legislation and Administration."

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Stakman, that the establishment of a legislative council for Minnesota be included as a continuing responsibility.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Nelson, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that the words "and public recreational" be omitted from the item "Educational and public recreational services."

Mrs. Wright brought up the question of including the study of farm aids on the program, as being of particular interest to the state. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wright, seconded by Mrs. Musser, that this be added.

#### Convention

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Dr. Boynton, seconded by Mrs. Congdon, that the election of officers be vive voce unless there are nominations by petition. The convention program was reviewed, and special responsibilities were delegates to various board members.

#### General Council

Mrs. Musser, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Brooks, who had attended the General Council meeting in Washington, gave highlights of the meeting, and told of the campaign to arouse public opinion to "Win the Battle of Production."

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L. Gruenhagen,

Secretary



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Wednesday, May 21st, 1941, at ~~Miss~~ the Hampshire Arms Hotel. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Boynton, and the newly elected presidents of the Minneapolis and St. Paul Leagues - Mrs. McQuarrie and Mrs. Grahame. Also Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

~~There was discussion of the possibility of cooperation with the  
committees of the department of government and foreign policy.~~

"Battle of Production" campaign

Suggestions have now been received from the National League for putting on this campaign. Plans were reported already under way for six simultaneous meetings, set for June 3rd, when local Leagues would send representatives to discuss how campaign could be put on in their own communities. It was agreed that an intensive two week period should be set. Various possibilities for a state campaign chairman were considered, and it was finally left to Miss Mitchell to follow up these possibilities, although it was agreed that time should not be lost in securing a chairman but plans should be carried forward immediately.

There was discussion of the order of the items appearing on the program of work under "special attention", and it was agreed that insofar as possible these follow the same order as the items on the 7-point program agreed to at the General Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
June 13th, 1941

A regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, June 13th, 1941, beginning at 10 o'clock, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Witherstine, Mrs. Keyes, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Luwe. Present as guests were Mrs. Einar Anderson of the Minneapolis League, Mrs. Voss of the California League, Miss Esther Medalie, holder of the Ueland fellowship for 1940-41. Staff members - Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Struthers.

In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Collins was appointed secretary pro tem. Mrs. Duff read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Brooks, that the following special advisers be re-appointed: Mrs. Bartlett as Woman Voter editor, Mrs. Anderson, as College League adviser, and Mrs. Beard, civil service.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance May 1st of \$1 330.21, receipts during May of \$1 526.63, disbursements of \$1 255.49, leaving a balance May 31st of \$1 601.36, with bills payable for June estimated at \$856.20. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Brooks, seconded by Mrs. Carter, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed.

A contribution from the Wabasha League of \$5.00 to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund was reported.

Organization

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Brooks, seconded by Miss Knudson, that Mrs. Newhart's resignation as a vice president, in order to accept the appointment as Government and Its Operation chairman, be accepted. Miss Mitchell asked that board members make suggestions of possibilities to fill the vacancy.

There was discussion of the personnel of the executive committee. It was agreed that in addition to the presidents of the two large city Leagues, Minneapolis and St. Paul, it was advisable that either the treasurer or finance chairman be a member, that the two vice presidents should serve, and that one director and a department chairman serve. Suggestions made on this basis were as follows: Mrs. McQuarrie, Minneapolis president, Mrs. Grahame, Ramsey County president, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Newhart and Dr. Boynton. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Beard, that those named above serve as the executive committee, in addition to the president.

The advisability of continuing meetings at the Hampshire Arms Hotel was discussed and it was agreed no change should be made.

It was reported that invitations have gone out to seven Leagues, asking them to be hostess for one of the fall conferences.

The selection of Chicago for the next national convention, April 27th to May 1st, 1942, was announced.

A letter was read from the National League, requesting action with reference to a rider that had been attached by the House to the National Youth Administration appropriation bill, providing that none of its money shall be used for salaries for employees under civil service, in direct contradiction to the Ramspeck Act passed last fall. It was agreed that this request should be passed on to local Leagues, and that letters should go from the State Board, urging Senators to oppose the adoption by the Senate of this provision, and to Congressmen protesting the House adoption, such statement these communications to be given publicity.

#### Battle of Production Campaign

Various board members who had attended one of the six regional conferences held on June 3rd, to discuss plans for the campaign, reported on the several meetings. It was announced that previous to these meetings a special



radio talk had been prepared and sent to all Leagues in communities where there were local radio stations, with the request that the program be broadcast June 3rd, if possible. Reports indicate that in most instances this was done.

Mrs. Nelson reported that at the Springfield conference there was a need expressed for a background statement of the trend of the League's interest in foreign policy. Mrs. Anderson, campaign chairman for the Minneapolis League, reported that their interpretation of the campaign has been that its purpose was to educate people on the immensity and urgency of the defense program and the need for unity and civilian responsibility for the program.

There was discussion of the focus of the campaign. Difficulties encountered seemed to fall into two categories: danger of "taking sides" between capital and labor, and lack of sympathy with the principles of the lease-lend act. Only one community has been reported where feeling is so strong on the question of the lease-lend act that it is extremely doubtful whether the League should participate in the campaign.

The possibility of carrying on the campaign without tying it up with the lease-lend act was discussed. It was agreed that local League boards should use their own judgment as to how far this angle should be stressed in their own communities, but that emphasis should ~~should~~ be placed on those questions that unify us rather than those that separate us. It was brought out that while people may divide on what should be the next step, they can unite on the Battle of Production.

Some members expressed the opinion that they thought the flier was emotional and out of place. The point was made that the flier was more suitable for distribution after the necessary background has been laid.

There was discussion of plans for public meetings. It was agreed that a question period was probably inadvisable at large meetings.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that copies of the pamphlet be sent, at no cost, to state members.

### State convention

Suggestions made with reference to improving the convention included a more suitable room for discussion for business sessions, the Fireside Supper as the closing event, and the adoption of the program of work at a morning session. It was agreed that too many important proposals for changes in the program of work were brought up at the last minute, and that written ballots at the pre-convention board meeting would be advisable.

Mrs. Cheek's comment was read, as well as a letter from Mrs. Douglas with reference to the foreign policy discussion, which she felt unfortunate inasmuch as the League course has passed the discussion point. It was agreed that there might well be even more careful analysis made of participants in such a forum, with closer contact with the speakers in advance, and that it was inadvisable to have the closing session of the convention deal with a controversial subject.

The possibility of holding the convention outside the Twin Cities, and on an earlier date, was considered briefly - no decision made.

### Support material for Program of Work

Developments in civil service and welfare administration will be covered. It was agreed that further research might be done by the Government and Its Operation chairman on the subject of Legislative Councils, covering such questions as cost of present interim committees, type of reports made by such Councils in other states, before a definite decision is reached as to whether additional study material is needed, or whether suggestions included in a department letter would be sufficient.

With reference to those items under special emphasis, <sup>which</sup> ~~with~~ dovetail with items on the 7-point program selected by the General Council, it was agreed that definite plans for state publications might in certain instances wait until it was known what new National League publications in these fields would be available, and when, and probably supplement such material with facts particularly with reference to the local situation. It was agreed that a sheet on

qualifications of county superintendents would be useful, and Miss Knudson offered to assist Mrs. Morin in the preparation of such material. Mrs. Nelson is planning some question sheets on social security and public health services, which will tie together past study of these questions, particularly with reference to local communities. As the material on public housing prepared in the spring has not been widely used as yet, it was felt that further material on this question might be postponed. Mrs. Fraser reported that she is considering material which would give a background for understanding of federal, state and local coordination in financing and administration of relief. Mrs. Brooks will plan again to supplement National League foreign policy publications with any needed material of local significance, and to suggest special periodical references.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins,

Secretary pro tem



A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Wednesday, June 25th, 1941, at Miss Mitchell's apartment at the Hampshire Arms Hotel. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. McQuarrie, Mrs. Crounse, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Carter, and Mrs. Newhart.

During Miss Mitchell's absence during July, Mrs. Crounse and Mrs. Carter agreed to share executive responsibility.

A letter from Miss Wells, dated June 23rd, with reference to the particular responsibility of the League of Women Voters at this time and its relation to various civilian defense plans, was read. It was agreed that excerpts from this letter should be sent to all local League presidents, combined with information on the defense set-up on Minnesota.

It was agreed that the September issue of the Women Voter should be given over to an explanation of the items on the program of work for the coming year. Department chairmen are to be furnished with an outline to follow in preparing the explanation.

An invitation from Mrs. Carter to hold the August board meeting at her home at Northome was accepted.

There was discussion of division of responsibility among various board members. With reference to division of such responsibility on civil service, it was agreed that Mrs. Cant, as a director with the portfolio of civil service, would be responsible for general promotion of this subject, both within the League and with the general public, as well as representing the League on the Civil Service Council; that Mrs. Beard is a special civil service adviser; and that all material on civil service should clear through Mrs. Newhart, as Govt. and Its Operation chairman, even though she may not be directly responsible for the preparation of the material.

It was agreed that Mrs. Carter would serve in a public relations capacity, and that Mrs. Crounse would continue in her relationship with local Leagues. There was discussion of board members who might serve on the reading committee for all League publications, and it was agreed that Mrs. Stakman should be asked to read ~~it~~ all such material for policy, and that Mrs. Dalrymple should be asked to read it for timeliness clarity, etc. It was agreed that district chairmen should be assisted in taking responsibility for Leagues within their districts.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, Secretary.

STATE BOARD MINUTES

August 8th, 1941

The regular monthly meeting of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, August 8th, 1941, at the home of Mrs. Cuthbert S Carter at Lake Minnetonka, beginning at 10:30, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. McQuarrie, Mrs. Grahame, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Cant and Mrs. Luwe. Staff member - Mrs. Collins

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dalrymple, seconded by Mrs. Beard, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved without reading, inasmuch as they were mailed to all members.

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report for the months of June and July, as follows: Balance, June 1st, \$1 601.35, receipts during June of \$617.18, disbursements of \$798.91, leaving a balance June 30th, of \$1 419.62, receipts during July of \$402.15, disbursements of \$879.34, leaving a balance July 31st of \$942.43, with bills payable during August estimated at \$606.96. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Morin, that the reports be accepted and the bills allowed.

There was discussion of the advisability of investing the Jane Grey Swiss-helm Fund in defense bonds. It was agreed that the treasurer should discuss this possibility with the trustees. It was reported that one of the trustees - Mr. John Ireys - had moved from the state.

There was discussion of the relationship of the League to the promotion of the sale of defense bonds. It was agreed that the League might publish a "penny sheet" on the financing of defense, including defense bonds. It was agreed that local Leagues could cooperate in arousing interest in these bonds throughout their membership, but that it was not an obligation of the League to contact the general public.

A letter from Miss Wells with reference to "next steps" in the Battle of Production campaign was read. There was considerable discussion of the

effectiveness of the campaign in Minnesota, and the need for continuing. The difficulty of arousing interest in Minnesota was discussed, and the reason for such lack of interest. It was agreed that the fall conferences, scheduled throughout the state during September and October, would offer excellent opportunities for discussion of the points brought out in Miss Wells' letter.

#### Fall Conferences

Mrs. Collins read the schedule for fall conferences, the first to be held in Lake City on September 2nd, and the final one in Gaylord on October 31st. The plan to devote the morning discussion at these conferences to "clinics" on the Battle of Production was agreed upon, to be followed by concrete advice and illustration on how to apply the program. Board members were asked to signify their willingness to attend such conferences.

A recent letter from Miss Wells with reference to the National Board's decision on the question of joint income tax returns<sup>in the pending tax bill</sup> was read. Several board members reported that they had had inquiries on this matter, although only one communication on the subject has been received in the office. Mrs. Dalrymple reported on a letter on this subject from Senator Ball. Mrs. Luwe stated that she did not feel that joint returns were necessarily a discrimination against women, but that the family should be considered as the important unit. Copy of the letter is to be made available to Leagues where this question may come up.

#### New material on the Program of Work

There was further discussion on what material should be prepared. In this connection, it was felt that the programs of local Leagues should be kept most flexible this year, and that the Woman Voter should be used increasingly as a medium for getting information to members on program subjects.

The plan, proposed by the executive committee, for giving over the September issue of the Woman Voter for department chairmen to explain or interpret the items on the program of work was agreed to. Department chairmen



were furnished a skeleton outline to follow in covering their respective subjects.

It was agreed that material on the following should be prepared as soon as possible:

- Defense financing
- An insert on the State Labor Relations Act to be included, at no extra cost, in the National League pamphlet, "Strikes and the Citizen."
- Some information, either in chart form or an explanation, on the defense set-up in Minnesota.
- Qualifications for county superintendents of school.

There was discussion of how to promote the use of articles in the News Letter. It was suggested that department chairmen, in their letters to local chairmen, make specific mention of News Letter articles applying to questions in their department. It was agreed that the subscription year running from January to January was a handicap, particularly as new department chairmen, not already subscribers, could not receive copies until January. It was requested that the National League be asked with reference to the possibility of changing the subscription year.

The advisability of extending the running account service to local Leagues to include separate accounts for local department chairmen was considered. It was agreed that it was the responsibility of a local League to see that its chairmen were immediately furnished with new material as published, and that this responsibility should not be assumed by the state office.

It was agreed that the State League should order the usual number of appointment calendars from the Missouri League, to be shared with the Ramsey County and Minneapolis Leagues, with the possibility under consideration that the Minneapolis League order a larger supply than usual.

Board members were asked to suggest names of persons who might be interested in receiving invitations to the New York Herald-Tribune Forum to be held October 21st and 22nd.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Newhart, that Mrs. O S Jackson, of Northfield, be appointed to the unexpired term in the first vice presidency.

A report was made on congressional developments with respect to the Ramspeck Act.

Following luncheon, Mrs. Beard reported on decisions of the Civil Service Board with reference to changes in the compensation schedule to prevent pay cuts for certain employees, and changes in the rules made necessary by the shortage of recruits in certain fields, due to the defense program.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, secretary pro tem

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
September 12th, 1941

The regular monthly meeting of the state board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, September 12th, 1941, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, beginning at 10 o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Duff, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Grahame, Mrs. McQuarrie, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Witherstine, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Dalrymple. Staff - Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins, Miss Struthers, and Miss Nicholson of the Ramsey County League. Mrs. Rufer of Moorhead was a guest.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report showing a balance August 1st of \$942.43, receipts during August of \$443.10, disbursements of \$629.44, leaving a balance August 31st of \$756.09, with bills payable during September estimated at \$780.06. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Workman, seconded by Mrs. Grahame, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed. No increase in the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund was reported. Miss Mitchell announced that the Duluth League had started its finance drive and seem to be well organized.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Crounse, that the following policy with reference to League officers going to local Leagues on official business, be adopted: *as enclosed*

If the trip is made at the invitation of the local League, expenses are to be paid by such League.

If the trip is planned by the State League, the expenses shall be met out of the state budget.

Expenses may include:

Mileage at the rate of not more than 2 cents a mile  
Hotel room if it is necessary to remain overnight and other accommodations cannot be arranged for.

All accounts for expenses are to be submitted to the State office, for payment of relaying to the local League for payment.



It was pointed out that anyone wishing to "contribute" her expenses for such trips, as so many have done in the past, might still do so, but that this system would show on the books the real cost of such trips.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Stakman, seconded by Mrs. Brooks, that Mr. Kingman and Mr. Newhart be reappointed trustees for the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McQuarrie, seconded by Mrs. Duff, that Mr. Calvin Ireys be appointed the third trustee. With reference to the investment of this Fund in defense savings bonds, Mrs. Duff called the attention of the board to the fact that income from the Fund is included in budget estimated, and therefore advised against such investment.

#### Organization

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Mrs. Bartlett, that Mrs. Musser's resignation as finance chairman be accepted with regret. In considering appointment of such a chairman, the following points were made as to what such a chairman should attempt to do, in order to make a closer contact with local finance chairmen: 1) make local Leagues realize the "fun" of getting contributions; 2) keep finance active and in front of Leagues all the time, rather than at only certain times of the year; 3) help local Leagues by going with their members on finance calls and suggesting any other methods to raise money. After discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. Gislason, that the appointment be left to the executive committee.

Miss Mitchell urged department chairmen to move ahead on their letters to local chairmen.

Miss Horr announced the organization of a new League in Cass Lake - the sixty first in the State, and that other organization meetings are pending.

In the endeavor to increase League membership, as urged by the National League, eight new Leagues have been formed during the past year. At the presidents' conference last May it was decided to set aside two weeks, preferably September 15th to October 1st, for definite and concentrated attempt to secure

new members. A letter has gone to local Leagues, including some "membership axioms" drawn up by Mrs. Jackson. Special newspaper and radio publicity during this period was advised, with local Leagues to take responsibility for radio programs.

#### Fall Conferences

Two fall conferences have been held, and there was discussion as to wherein techniques could be improved. At these two there had been plenty of discussion and great interest shown. Discussion on the "battle of production" brought up many questions as to the "interventionist" versus the "isolationist" points of view, and the fact that it was not always possible to meet on common ground. It was felt that we must impress our members with the urgency of standing behind the government's task of the moment - to produce. It was agreed that the talk by Admiral Byrd be reproduced and distributed.

It was reported that the afternoon discussions on using the program of work were interesting, though not controversial, and there were several suggestions made for improvement, including a round-up of all points as a finale so that members would go back with concrete ideas.

Miss Mitchell asked that every board member go to at least one, if not more, of these conferences, and feel and responsibility for entering into the discussion. (3)

Defense Bonds It was the consensus that the Leagues should be informed and arouse interest in these, but had no responsibility for the actual selling of them.

#### Equal Rights Amendment

A letter was read from Miss Wells, asking for action on the Equal Rights Amendment, which has been reported favorably by the sub-committee to the Senate Judiciary Committee, where it is expected action will be taken this fall. It was agreed that this request should be passed on to local Leagues. There

was discussion as to the type of letters League members should write, and it was agreed such letters should be thoughtful and give reasons for opposition to the amendment, not just a request for opposition such as are sent by pressure groups. Inasmuch as Mrs. Luwe has had some correspondence with Senator Ball on this question, it was suggested that she be asked to summarize the most effective arguments, to be sent on to local Leagues for their assistance in writing such letters.

There was discussion of board planning, following a letter from Miss Wells asking that special care be taken in planning the year's work so that it will reach all members, rather than just a few doing all the work and study. The ultimate aim of a good board should be to reach each individual. The convention decides what the League shall do during the year, and the board puts that plan into action. Department chairmen were urged to bring before the board their plans for material and discuss its type and timing.

After luncheon, Miss Wells led discussion on foreign policy and the battle of production. She said the fundamental difficulty in securing national unity is lack of realization of the seriousness of the situation, that it is hard to convince people who believe that we can still get on if Hitler dominates the world. In answer to those who state they believe "we can live as well with Hitler ruling Europe as not", she said that if we cannot prove to these people that economically we would have no life at all, that businesses would have to close, that every person would be affected, then explain that the whole world is at a cross roads - either progressive civilization exists or Hitler's brutalism will prevail.

In reply to the inquiry as to how much League members should impose their ideas on other people, she replied that we should never impose our opinion, but that the world is faced with the worst danger ever encountered, that no past experience counts, that we must feel the urgency to convince people of the



dangers and then let them act accordingly - try to make everyone we come in contact with conscious of the broader aspects - that it is never smooth to turn from one way of life to another. Americans have a real responsibility to the world for its future as never before; are we going to let Hitler and his ideals stand and ours fall, or are we going to attempt, by getting behind the government on its present program, perhaps to avert the war in our own country. Miss Wells maintained again that the lease-lend policy can be a substitute for war for this country, if we can do our part through production. As long as it is possible to meet the situation without going to war, it should be done. Our biggest job now is to produce, and if we do it as planned, we have done a big task, perhaps even harder than jumping into war.

A united people on the present program is what is needed at this time, rather than debate on going to war versus not going to war. Regardless of any criticism one might feel as to the President and his actions, she called attention to the fact that he was elected in a democratic way, that he is there for four years, and we must get behind him and support the program for our own good and for the good of our country. With reference to the question of freedom of speech which might hinder the defense production program, she said she wouldn't do anything to prevent such freedom of speech, but would be very careful of what she said herself, and that undoubtedly wholesome changes in the defense organization set up have resulted from thoughtful criticism.

137

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, Secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
October 10th, 1941

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, October 10th, 1941, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Dougherty, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Witherstine, Mrs. Gislason, Mrs. Keyes, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Gruenhagen, and Mrs. Denny. Staff - Miss Horr, Mrs. Collins and Miss Struthers.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as mailed to board members.

Finance

In the absence of Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Collins gave the treasurer's report showing a balance September 1st of \$756.09, receipts during the month of \$564.66, disbursements of \$859.46, leaving a balance September 30th of \$451.29, with bills payable during October estimated at \$907.53. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Newhart, seconded by Mrs. Nelson, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

Mrs. Collins also reported that during the first five and a half months of the current year, payments for educational material and outstanding accounts total \$761.06, as compared with previous records of around \$700 for a full year.

No increase in the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund was reported.

With further reference to the policy adopted at the previous meeting, with references to expenses for officers making trips out in the state on League business, it was agreed that meals should not be included in such expenses.

Miss Mitchell announced that the Duluth League's finance drive was in full swing and that they had almost reached their goal, with good cooperation among members.

## Organization

Miss Struthers announced the organization of a provisional League at Sandstone. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Beard, seconded by Mrs. Dougherty, that the League at Arlington be dropped, as they cannot come up to League requirements. Some of the interested members are joining the Gaylord League.

Mrs. Anderson announced the College League Conference at St. Cloud on October 24th and 25th.

It was reported that four more fall conferences are to be held in Anoka, Willmar, Bemidji and Gaylord. Miss Mitchell urged board members to attend at least one of these conferences.

Open discussion was held by the board as to where we could do more with the "Battle of Production" and where we could really find the common ground on foreign policy. Among the ideas produced were 1) get the facts and think through until very sure oneself; 2) try to draw others out to find out what they think and then marshall forth your own facts; 3) be tactful and quiet - League members who think differently not to be regimented or forced but given facts and suggestions for reading; 4) urge that party lines be forgotten, personal sacrifices and taxation taken cheerfully; 5) keep clippings that have good information and give them to people to read, and 6) study carefully the explanation of the League's stand on foreign policy and how it evolved.

## Study material

It was brought out that supplementary reference material is needed on the subjects covered in the defense quizzes, published by the National League. While Leagues in larger cities can get such material through their libraries, it is more difficult in smaller places. It was suggested that department chairmen prepare lists of supplementary reading - books, pamphlets, periodicals - such as has been done for Taxation and Civil Liberties. The need for encouraging Leagues to break from their habit of depending on League material entirely was brought out.



Mrs. Nelson brought before the board her suggestions for study material on public health, which is planned to apply the work of the various divisions of the state department of health to the local community.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy LGruenhagen, secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
November 14, 1941

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, November 14, 1941, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, beginning at 10 a.m., Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. McQuarrie, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Workman, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Luwe, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Grahame, Mrs. Peterson. Also, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins.

In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Grahame was appointed secretary pro tem.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted without change.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report, showing a balance October 1st of \$451.29, receipts during October of \$2,077.81, disbursements of \$1 566.68, leaving a balance October 31st of \$962.42, with bills payable during November estimated at \$785.57. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Knudson, seconded by Mrs. Workman, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills allowed.

No increase in the JGS Fund, although it was reported that the South St. Paul League is having a silver tea for the benefit of this fund.

Mrs. Duff reported on the status of the deductibility of contributions to the League in computing state income tax. A letter from the State Income Tax Division has rescinded the previous ruling made by the Division in June 1938 that such contributions were deductible. This new ruling is retroactive. While it was not felt that a test case should be brought, in view of the decision made in connection with the federal income tax, it was agreed a personal call might be made on the Commissioner of Taxation to clarify the issue, particularly with reference to the retroactive effect of the ruling.

Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Duff were asked to submit suggestions

to the executive committee or the December board to fill the vacancy in the finance chairmanship.

In connection with the expenses for the tea during the afternoon for League members to meet Senora de Martinez-Guerrero, which has been opened by request to all League members, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Duff, seconded by Mrs. Carter, that such expense be met by the state League and charged against the promotion item in the budget.

Report was given of the plans made for the visit of Senora de Martinez-Guerrero, who is spending five days during this week in the Twin Cities, under the sponsorship of the National League of Women Voters.

Miss Mitchell reported on the request for cooperation by the League with the group sponsoring a mass meeting on national unity. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Mrs. McQuarrie, that the League so cooperate.

Mrs. Collins reported on the complimentary enrollment offered to the League for the Conference on Consumer Credit at the Continuation Center of the University of Minnesota the end of November. After conferring with Mr. Nolte, director of the Center, with reference to this conference, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, seconded by Dr. Boynton, that the League officially accept such enrollments. Mrs. Wright was asked to consider attending herself, or to secure someone in her place, in case she is unable to attend and only one enrollment is available.

Mrs. McQuarrie spoke about Dr. Edmundo O'Gorman, member of the faculty of the University of Mexico, who is giving a series of lectures at the University.

Miss Mitchell reported on a letter from Senator Almen, chairman of the Interim Committee on Education, asking the League's advice and suggestions on certain problems confronting the Committee. A special committee to answer this request was appointed, consisting of Miss Knudson, chairman, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Pearce, and Mrs. Stanley Peterson.

Mrs. McQuarrie spoke on the question of the appointment of the Minneapolis



superintendent of schools, and letters sent by the Minneapolis League to the Board of Education on the subject of the appointment. Action was taken by the Minneapolis League under its program item on qualified personnel. She reported that the protest was made before the appointment had been accepted, on the ground that it would not inspire public confidence, following the first letter from the League.

Mrs. Bartlett spoke to the importance of the written or printed word in relation to the public's interpretation of our policy as to support of candidates for any office. The importance of postponing action until the heat of argument is past, and the need for restraint and self-discipline was brought out. It was reiterated that the name of the League must be kept out of any support of opposition to a specific candidate, and that primary League officers wishing to take part in any political campaign should resign from their League office. As League members we must visualize ourselves as we appear to the public.

Miss Horr reported on the status of League organization throughout the state, selecting various Leagues as examples of problems met. She said that of the 61 Leagues in the state, only 19, including Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, - less than one third - were in towns of over 5,000 population; that 33 Leagues were in towns of from one to five thousand, and that of these 33, 11 were under 2,000; and that 9 were in communities of less than 1,000. About 60% of the total membership in the state is outside the three large cities. She reported on the large increase during the past nine years in the number of Leagues paying full, or more than full, quota.

It was requested by Miss Mitchell that every board member attend the meeting of one League other than her own during the year - as an observer not a speaker - that members coming from small Leagues visit larger Leagues, and vice versa.

#### Study material

There was discussion of the demand for more study material. It was brought out that the National League, in preparing the quiz sheets on the 8-point defense program, was this year furnishing "every member" material, as has been done in the

past through the State League's penny sheets, The value of the News Letter for supplying current information on these questions was brought out, as well as the necessity for using the Woman Voter as a channel for furnishing information. The difficulty of preparing material that would be valuable for any period of time, as events are changing so rapidly, was brought out. Suggestions were made for using material through preparation of maps and graphs, skits and dialogs. The purpose of "penny sheets" as offering a simplified and condensed presentation of a subject, obtainable from no other single source, was brought out.

It was ~~a~~ agreed that material on the pros and cons of health insurance be prepared, to aid in the wider study of this question before the next convention. It was agreed that the plan of supplying supplementary material on the quizzes, in the form of special penny sheets or Voter articles, lists of special references, be continued.

(2) A brief discussion of the Equal Rights Amendment centered on ~~the~~ "equal pay for equal work."

Mrs. Beard reported on civil service developments. The regular civil service examination schedule is being held up because of the examinations being given to county welfare employees, which must be completed by a certain date. Inasmuch as the Attorney General has ruled that the Civil Service Board has no authority to change salary schedules for any classification, many good employees are being lost to other positions.

Respectfully submitted,

M C Grahame, secretary

11/23/19

A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, November 28th, 1941, at Miss Mitchell's apartment. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Carter, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. McQuarrie and Mrs. Grahame. Mrs. Collins - staff member.

#### Study material

There was discussion of possible new material which might be prepared by the State League. Miss Mitchell presented the request of the Minneapolis League for current information on the Reciprocal Trade Agreements program, further than that reported in the National News Letter. It was agreed that a sheet, supplementary to the ABC of Trade Agreements, published two years ago, be prepared, including information on new agreements negotiated, and if possible the present effect of the trade agreements program on Minnesota.

In connection with the proposed material on the pros and cons of Health Insurance, it was pointed out that no simple statement was available on the implications of the federal study item on Federal Responsibility for Public Health. It was agreed that the National League be asked for some clarifying statement, possibly in the Members' Magazine, on this question.

Possible use of the new packet on Aids to Victims of Aggression, just furnished by the National League was discussed, particularly how it might be applied to the study groups in the Minneapolis and Ramsey County Leagues.

In this connection, there was discussion of the value of the News Letter and how the subscription list might be increased. Mrs. McQuarrie and Mrs. Grahame reported their difficulties encountered by the fact that News Letter subscriptions may begin only with the month of January, and are not transferable, and consequently are not as available to study groups as under a more flexible arrangement.

Miss Mitchell called attention to the fact that Miss Horr's time is now comparatively free, and suggested to the Mpls. and St. Paul presidents that they plan to make whatever use they wish of her time.

There was discussion of ways of developing responsibility on the part of state department chairmen, and how they could be given a closer contact with their respective local chairmen throughout the state.

It was brought out that the advisory committees, established two years ago, have not recently been re-appointed, although they have been called upon to assist in various ways, such as reading material, consulting with the department chairmen, etc.

It was agreed that in order to develop personal correspondence between local and state chairmen, that the former be asked, through their local presidents, to write directly to their state chairmen, reporting informally on meetings planned by them, covering such points as highlights of the meeting, value of the material available, any lack in material, interesting approaches to the subject, etc. State department chairmen would, in turn, be asked to report to the State Board on such meetings. The routine reporting, through the office, to department chairmen of meetings within each department, has been discontinued, due to shortage in staff. It was agreed that this new system be tried, and that it might result in closer personal contact than the previous system.

It was also suggested that separate department conferences be held at the time of the state convention.



It was suggested that the Minneapolis and St. Paul department chairmen, as well as State Board members, be asked to cooperate with state department chairmen in preparing a list of speakers available to local Leagues, especially for open meetings.

There was discussion of possible finance chairmen. Mrs. Swain of Winona was suggested as a possibility.

There was discussion of the responsibilities of a "program chairman" in a local League, pointing out that the various department chairmen were in reality "program" chairmen. The Mpls. League has a program co-ordinator, working with the various study groups, while the Ramsey County League's program chairman is in charge of the program for general League meetings.

Report was made of the series of radio programs, sponsored by the New York League of Women Voters, transcripts of which are available for re-broadcasting at \$10 for the set of six. It was agreed that Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Crounse would be responsible for determining whether any radio station would be interested in broadcasting the series, while Mrs. Duff offered to determine whether a contribution might be secured to meet the cost of the transcripts.

Mrs. Duff brought up the question of the advisability of a League's making contributions to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund, when the League is not meeting its full quota obligation. It was agreed that this was not advisable, but that it should probably be taken up in personal conversation rather than through correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, Secretary

STATE BOARD MINUTES  
December 10th, 1941

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, December 10th, 1941, at the Hampshire Arms Hotel in Minneapolis, beginning at ten o'clock, Miss Mitchell presiding. Present: Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Gruenhagen, Mrs. Duff, Dr. Boynton, Mrs. Dalrymple, Mrs. Stakman, Mrs. Kayes, Mrs. Grahame, Miss Knudson, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Beard. Staff members - Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins. Guests - Miss Mork of Owatonna, Mrs. Bixby of St. Paul and Mrs. Ralph Singleton of Hamden, Conn.

Minutes were approved as mailed to all members.

Finance

Mrs. Duff gave the treasurer's report for November, showing a balance November 1st of \$962.42, receipts during the month of \$1 011.60, disbursements of \$1 036.47, leaving a balance November 30th of \$937.55, with bills payable during December estimated at \$755.91. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Crounse, seconded by Miss Knudson, that the report be accepted and the bills allowed. Mrs. Duff reported that quota payments are coming in rather gradually.

A contribution of \$4.00 to the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund from the South St. Paul League was reported.

A letter from President Coffey of the University, with reference to the decrease in the Ueland fellowship grant was read. It was agreed that a short resume of this Fund and the holders of the fellowship be included in the Voter when space is available.

Organization

Miss Horr reported on the organization of Leagues in Glencoe and Chisholm, as well as a second group in the Minnetonka section, organized by Miss Struthers.

There was discussion of the best dates for the state convention, to be held in St. Paul at the invitation of the Ramsey County League. It was agreed

that ten days to two weeks should elapse between the national convention and the state convention. Dates for other state-wide conventions, and available dates at St. Paul hotels are to be determined by Mrs. Grahame and Mrs. Collins.

Miss Mitchell led discussion of the League's position at the moment with the country at war. After discussion and a point by point analysis of the eight-point defense program, and the state program of work, it was felt that the program was vitally important, that we must keep our country at home strong, and watch our continuing responsibilities. The only item considered perhaps not so necessary now was work on the establishment of a legislative council, although there was not entire agreement on this.

With further reference to League responsibility for direct sale of defense bonds and stamps, the board felt it was most important to spread knowledge as to what defense stamps and bonds are and why needed.

In analyzing the recent packet on "Helps to Understanding Aids to Victims of Aggression" Dr. Boynton said she felt that the League had much vision in seeing the need for unifying the country and doing away with "lags". While much of the contents of the kit is now out of date, certain parts are still vital. The quotation from Dorothy Thompson in the open letter from Miss Wells outlines the important job the League has before it right now - to stabilize the morale of our civilian population, and help people to think what we are fighting for.

Mrs. Bixby, foreign policy chairman for the Ramsey County League, explained her system for helping study groups understand the League point of view on foreign policy.

Mrs. Brooks called attention to the new study material on the Crisis in US-Japanese Relations, just distributed through the National League, which she recommended highly as excellent background for study of the present <sup>war</sup>/situation

A letter was read from Miss Wells, enclosing a suggested agenda for use of local League boards in discussing the place of the League in war time.



This question was again discussed, much on the line of the earlier discussion, again bringing out the feeling that the League still has a big job to teach reason and vision.

After discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Beard, seconded by Mrs. Grahame, that the League sponsor a course this spring at the Continuation Center at the University. Mrs. Stakman agreed to act as the League's program chairman for such a course, and the Far East was tentatively agreed upon as the subject.

#### Civil Service

Mrs. Beard reported that Mr. Pennebaker, civil service director, had been given a leave of absence, without pay, to act as personnel consultant in the Division of the Defense Housing Coordination of the OPM, his assistance having been requested to straighten out personnel problems. His leave is not to exceed 90 days.

#### Minimum Wage

Mrs. Fraser spoke of the present minimum wage law for women and minors, which has been attacked in the past two sessions of the legislature, and which is not entirely fair to employers. In discussing the possibility of proposing a model bill to the next session of the legislature, to prevent the passage of weakening amendments to the law, it was decided that a meeting of interested parties be held, after which amendments might be drawn up which would be fair to both employers and employees.

She also called attention to a case, which has been decided upon by a lower court, in which it was sustained that the minimum wage need not be paid, because as a married woman the plaintiff was not wholly dependent upon her wages. Because of the importance of the principle involved in the decision, she and members of the YWCA board have been attempting to raise a small fund to take the case to a higher court.

Mrs. Collins announced new material and called attention to the News Letter, subscriptions for which are now due. With reference to the possibility of preparing new material on trade agreements, particularly with reference to the Argentine agreement, board members did not feel there was any widespread need for such material at the present time.

Miss Mitchell reported on the discussion at the executive committee of ways of bringing state and local department chairmen into closer contact, and the letter that has gone to local presidents, asking their chairmen to write directly to state chairmen of anything interesting that occurs or any suggestions they may wish to make.

Meeting adjourned at two o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Gruenhagen, secretary

A meeting of the executive committee of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Tuesday, December 16, 1941. Present, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Newhart, Mrs. Crounse, Mrs. Duff and Mrs. Grahame. Also - Mrs. Cant, Miss Horr and Mrs. Collins. Absent: Dr. Boynton and Mrs. Carter

There was discussion of the Agenda for Use of Local League Presidents, in considering the necessity for League work in war time. While some parts of the agenda were considered excellent, it was agreed that in general it would not be particularly helpful to League boards in Minnesota, and that more concrete suggestions should be presented. It was felt that the limitation of one sixth of the membership to League work only would be subject to misinterpretation.

The advisability of a letter to the Governor and the State Defense Coordinator, offering the services of the League, was considered. It was agreed that such a letter be sent, and that publicity be given to it.

The inquiry from Mrs. Watson of the Northfield League, with reference to Consumer Information Centers as a local League project, was considered. It was agreed that it would offer the League a suitable project.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to local League presidents, to reach them shortly after Christmas, asking them to think how in their own communities they can help, and to analyze carefully their own responsibilities, and making suggestions as to definite things to do, such as organizing speakers' bureaus.

Following the decision by the State Board to sponsor a course at the Continuation Center, it was reported that either the first or the last half of the week of March 9th was available. It was agreed that Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 12th, 13th and 14th, be reserved, with the subject to be decided upon later, possibly by the January board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne K Collins, Secretary