



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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Col. Hls.  
file 38

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W.



WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MRS. JOHN G. LEE  
President

*Isene?*

June 30, 1953

Mrs. Harold Wilson  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
84 South Tenth Street, Room 406  
Minneapolis 3, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Wilson:

Thank you very much for your letter telling us the outcome of the Wermerskirchen affair. I think you handled it with great wisdom and tact.

Sincerely yours,

*Ann Kahn*

Mrs. Fritz R. Kahn  
Voters Service

AK:etw

File Copy

June 25, 1953

Mrs. Fritz Kahn  
League of Women Voters of U.S.  
1026 17 St. N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Kahn,

I am answering for Mrs. Young your letter to her of May 25, 1953. If you remember it was written as a result of a letter written to "the president" by Mrs. Wermerskirchen, formerly president of Columbia Heights League. She asked the League's stand on the ward system.

We were shocked to get the copy of her letter, although we have had some brushes with her before; we didn't realize she was as irrational as she seems to have become.

About the ward issue - I explained the League stand on that to Mrs. Ashford, present president of the League before the Candidates Meeting on May 27th, substantially as you explained it to Mrs. Wermerskirchen, although you had more information in your letter. So Mrs. Ashford explained the League stand to the audience at this meeting, so that cleared the League - that is, she it could very well be true that the League in other cities had worked for a system of "at large" elections, but that this particular League had no stand as yet, since they had only now put the item on their agenda for study. An interesting sidelight to all this is that Mrs. Wermerskirchen did not mention to anyone that she had your answer to her letter, no doubt because the weight of evidence in the letter was on the side of "at large" elections, while Mrs. W. is on the side of "ward" elections.

The other matters in her letter, the questions she raised, I told Mrs. Ashford about, not quoting verbatim (I couldn't bear to do that, and I didn't think anything would be gained by it) but telling her the questions she raised. I said I thought that if one person raised these questions, however unfairly in some cases, there probably were others with doubts. So I suggested a meeting of the membership with two or three representatives from the State Board to have a general discussion on orientation and policy.

We went last night. There were about fourteen there. First Mrs. Lufkin, who is vice president on the State Board in charge of Orientation, gave a short informal quiz on Orientation (saying she was testing out her questions because she was preparing them for the Articulate Voter). Then Mrs. Chapin, a member of the Organization Committee, and a member of the Kasson League, which is about the size of the Columbia Heights League, talk a bit about League procedure, Board organization etc. Before she started, however, we passed out pieces of paper and pencil and suggested that people write down questions that occurred to them, problems they had in their own League, or had heard of elsewhere, etc., suggested no names be signed. I wrote down some of the questions Mrs. Wermerskirchen had raised in her letter to you, wording them somewhat differently. She put some in, too, as did several others. It was really quite a satisfactory way of handling the meeting, I think. The meeting started out with a definite feeling of tension in the room. By the end of the evening, there was definitely a better feeling of cooperation and understanding. Everyone had learned something, I believe. The questions were asked by Mrs. Chapin reading them, we all answered them, referring to the Handbook when necessary, and it cleared the air. Sincerely, Mrs. Harold Wilson



File Copy  
Cal. Sts.

22

June 23, 1953

Mrs. W. H. Ashford  
3813 Hayes St. N.E.  
Columbia Heights  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Mrs. Ashford,

I was so glad to meet with your League last night. I think things are looking up for you. Compared to the visit I made with you two years ago, I can see that you have made progress, there are more young members to choose from in making assignments, even though your total membership is not larger, still the replacements have been on the young side, and that's good. I think that you should feel gratified. You stepped in at a period when the League needed you for its survival, even though you felt you weren't ready, and with your nice spirit and earnestness, you have helped the League along the way these last two years.

The very fact that you have problems of nonpartisanship in relation to board appointments is a tribute to the fact that the League has done its job -- that is, gotten women so interested in government, that they have plunged into partisan work. It makes it hard now, to make assignments, but I think it can be worked out.

As I understand it, this is the way it lines up:

President, Mrs. Ashford	---	could you also be ---	Program
Vice-Pres, Mrs. Miller	---	could she also be ---	Finance
Secretary, Mrs. Hilton	---	could she also be ---	Publications
Treasurer, Mrs. Hillen	---	she has consented to be ---	Local Study Chm.
Director, Mrs. Newcomb	---	she has consented to be ---	Voters Service
Director, Mrs. Tamm	---	is assigned to ---	Public Relations
Director, Mrs. Chirhart	---	is assigned to ---	Membership
Director, ?	---	she could be assigned to whatever field you most need help	

in, or the assignment need not be made until later. She could be State Resource Chairman, or National, or she could be all over Program Chairman, instead of you, or she could assist the Membership Chairman, that is really the place you need most to expand (if you did, your problems of nonpartisanship cutting down your people available for appointment or election to board would not be so acute) or she could assist the Vice-president in charge of Finance, so that next year, she could be in charge of the Finance Drive, or she could be in charge of developing new units, working in cooperation with the Membership Chairman.. White Bear Lake League has done a wonderful job this year in starting new units, orienting them, and integrating them into League as a whole. Mrs. L.W. Loucks, 1734 Stillwater St., is president, and Mrs. Shell, 544 Wildwood Ave., Birchwood, White Bear Lake, is the person who has done this particular thing so well in WBL. They'd love to be consulted, if you want to get in touch with them. Mahtomedi, also, does a wonderful job in a small community. They have worked out a slick system for a finance drive, that they would be proud to share with you, too. Mrs. M.E. Buzzell, Mahtomedi, is pres.



F.

**Program** - You will receive soon the proposed Calendar for the year, and if you sit down with your board, and work out your proposed Calendar for the year, using ours as a guide, it might be good for someone to run off a stencil and make copies for all your members, with perhaps also the names and addresses of Board members, for each member to have.

**Finance** - If your chairman reads the Handbook, and sees that she has the publications she needs for her job, she will have a good start on a drive. We will be glad to consult with her, in working out the letter, or laying the plans for the drive, or even better, it would be wonderful for her and her committee, and the president, as ex-officio member, to have an afternoon over coffee with the Mahomedis, or White Bear girls, to get inspiration, and enthusiasm, and different ideas.

**Publications** - Local Leaders Handbook has ideas, the Publications List both state and national is a tantalizing tempter, and the new publication "Putting Publications to Work" is swell. Your problem will be keeping her ideas down to what your budget can stand, I bet.

Your local study chairman should have a meeting soon, (will have, I should say, because I know they are already planning it) and make plans with her committee ~~with~~ on how they are going to go about their local study. Each one on the committee, I should think, should have a copy of the booklet, Know Your Town, and each member should either own, or have borrowed to read, the local Leaders Handbook. You as ex-officio member of committees, should attend. If the committee has plans to do very much active study and gathering of facts this summer, they should delay until their tentative plans have been submitted to your board for evaluation and approval. If they aren't going to be very active this summer, it could delay until your regular board meeting. You can tell what you need to do, if you attend their meetings. Your board will want to check the plans, so that they are assured that the gathering of facts will be done in such a way that the community, and the League members, will be assured of their reliability and their nonpartisanship. This local study is a wonderful thing. It can draw the attention of the community to the League, if you publish the results, it will be a good service to the town, it will provide good solid background of information for the League members on which to make decisions in the future on local agenda, it is a perfect way to draw new young members and prospects into the League. Go after some of these new prospects Mrs. Grinewski speaks of, sell them on the town survey, and put them on committees right now. Every one in the League could be on some committee connected with the survey. And visiting the boards and commissions and council regularly could be a most natural part of that study. Many Leagues find it wise to write a letter to the government body, they intend to visit, introducing their official visitor, telling the spirit in which the League is visiting (not to criticize, or speak, or interfere, but only to sit and listen and learn). Later on, when you have studied long enough, and the League has voted to take a stand on an issue, you may be invited to make a statement to the Council, or you may write a letter to the Council and the paper in the name of the League stating your position and the reasons for it. By the way,

I will enclose the carbon of the letter national sent to Mrs. Werner-skirchen about the League stand on the ward system. You'll want it in your files.

Membership -- this is really your greatest need and opportunity. I wonder what I can suggest. There is a new booklet coming out soon from national, How to Get and Keep Members in the League of Women Voters, the Handbook has many good ideas, which have not all been exhausted by your League, such as a survey of where you need new members for good geographical distribution, an analysis of groups within the community that are not represented in the League, (religious, political, occupational). I wonder if this would be a good suggestion. When you have completed your survey, would it be interesting to develop a panel of speakers, of women who had worked on the survey, and found it interesting, to offer their services to various organizations in town for programs. So many women's organizations are in need of programs -- mothers clubs, PWA, Church circles. Ostensibly you would be simply offering an interesting program on local government, what is exciting and interesting about it, how much it affects the everyday life of all citizens in Columbia Heights, and why it is important to be interested, to vote etc. Accidentally you may pick up some new members, but whether or not you did that, you would be fulfilling the large overall purpose of the League, increasing the participation of citizens in government.

Orientation - this could be included in the Membership committees job. To orient new members to the ways of the League, and then to place that new member in the best spot for her, whether it be on a local study committee, or Voters Service, or Finance, or whether she can best help by telephoning, or typing, or visiting city council, or as resource chairman, or committee member, on one of the national or state items. A card file of members talents, interests, training, experience is a very valuable thing for the membership chairman to have, and the president should call on her often for placement help.

Well, I have talked long enough. In case it would be helpful to you, I'll send a carbon of this letter to you, along with the original, so that you can cut it up and parcel the parts out to the chairmen concerned.

Good luck to you all in your year ahead. Call on us in the State Office any time. Write to Mrs. Chapin, Kasson, Minnesota, if you have a question for her, she will be glad to hear from you, as will Mrs. Lufkin, 2119 Iglehart Ave. St. Paul, Minn.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold Wilson, Organization Secretary



File Copy

Editorial from The Columbia Heights Record of May 21, 1953:

"Forward to four wards" is a slogan which needs a little examination. The slogan to be truthful should be stated: "Backward to four wards."

I am not concerned about individual candidates now seeking office nor am I interested in the generalities dished out in every political campaign. Economy, efficiency, lower taxes, more for your tax dollar, sound government are all terms used by all candidates, myself included.

For a candidate to say these things makes no difference in the outcome of the election. They all say it so you have to make up your mind from knowledge secured from other sources than political literature.

But a change from the "at large" to the ward system of electing councilmen is a backward step as anyone at all interested in municipal government must know.

All organizations in the country devoted to the progress and improvement of city government advocate the election of city councilmen at large. Every political scientist specializing in municipal management is for it. The League of Women Voters has been in the forefront in the struggle for good government and has successfully brought about the change from the ward to at large elections in city after city in all parts of the country.

Wherever inefficiency and corruption in city government has reached such proportions that citizens have become thoroughly aroused and demanded reform, in almost every instance the at large system has been adopted.

Not that there cannot be good government under a ward system. A carpenter can do a good job even if he has poor tools, but he can do a better job if he has up-to-date and better tools.

In some towns, where the ward system has been used for many years and tradition and habit are firmly fixed, there is no special reason why an upsetting change should be urged, but in our case that is equally true. How anyone can attribute governmental inefficiency to our method of election is hard to understand.

The arguments for the ward system are an acknowledgment that councilmen are not big enough men to sit on the council and handle the affairs of the city as a whole. Their business will be to plead for their own little bailiwick. They will regard a part as more important than the whole; to divide rather than to unify, to get things for their ward at the expense of others would be the measure of their success.

There are no purely sectional problems in Columbia Heights. Whatever decisions are made at the council table concern me personally. It may be the extension of a water main or sewer a mile from my home but my home is mortgaged to pay for it because the good faith and credit of the whole city is back of all bonds. I want to have something to say about everyone of those voting those bonds. Who are these people who want me to have full responsibility for all bonds voted But want to limit my vote to one out of four of the people who vote the bonds? Where do they get that stuff and how do they get that way?

It is a desperate search for some issue in a political campaign. If we now had a ward system the same people would be advocating an at large system. It's as simple as that.



File Copy 130  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**

OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W.



WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MRS. JOHN G. LEE  
President

May 25, 1953

Mrs. B. M. Young  
President, League of Women Voters  
of Minnesota  
84 South Tenth Street, Room 406  
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Young:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter and editorial which we received from Mrs. A. J. Wermerskirchen, who indicates that she is a past President of the Columbia Heights League. As you can see, we attempted to answer only the question on election of councilmen. It is difficult for us to evaluate the remainder of her letter, and therefore we pass it along to you for follow up. Will you let us know what comes of this? Thanks.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Fritz R. Kahn  
Voters Service

AK:ebw  
Enc.

C O P Y

File Copy

(Mpls) Columbia Heights, Minnesota  
May 21st, 1953

League of Women Voters, Wash. D.C.

Dear President,

Enclosed find a copy of an editorial that appeared in our local newspaper yesterday, and I request an answer or explanation to the Leagues stand on the ward system by return mail. Our State of Minnesota office has no record of any kind telling that the League has ever taken any stand on or in any way taken action against or in support of the ward system.

At the present time we are having a city election and the ward system is a very hot issue, as the majority of our citizens feel we should at least give it a try in hopes we could improve our city Gov. Of course I know the league is not concerned about our city government, I know I have been a league member for about 15 years and have continuously advocated study and action at the local level. Our league has always been used to support self interest if they were to promote our own political parties or the election of members in ones own family seeking election. I do not think that the chairman of the DFL for our county should go out and solicit funds for the League no more than should she come out and say her party works hand in hand with the league when she was only asked to explain party structure.

But this is a bit too much when the League is spose to be nonpartisian but comes right out in the open and takes stand in support of an issue in favor of certain candidates, and when we have never even studied the ward system in our city and have no knowledge of its workabilities.

Please let me know if this is the present policy of the League or if it is only used as a tool to encourage citizens against a candidate, and the league has permitted to be the goat.

I did not learn local Gov. in my league nor did I learn party politics or party responsibility, I had to leave my league to learn them, but I have been responsible for our wonderful candidates meetings, which is the only service our league has contributed to our city, I also have encouraged study of local Gov. and I was the only one to interest any study on United Nations. This winter a league member had been chosen by our mayor to serve on the Civil service police commission, because he felt her interest and abilities would meet the qualification requirements. One of the council men made a statement at a league meeting in the presence of this member that she did not qualify, he did not even know her and the reason she was not accepted by the council was that she was not their choice but the mayors, so the commission is not complete and has not been for years. Naturally this member defended her qualifications and what happened was that the President of our League went and oppoligized for the unladylike conduct of this league member. How stupid can you get?

I have always had the highest respect for the League of women voters and I am sure my record as secretary and president and always program chairman or committee chairman will show and prove my interest has been sincere. But now I feel like Paul Harvy, "I don't know".

Please understand I am fully aware that your leadership is it, and the present president was trained by me to begin with, but some of us believe in honesty and righteousness, and some of us have a mind of our own, others merely follow.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. A. J. Wermerskirchen,  
2018 41st Ave., N.E. Mpls. Minnesota

We are having a local Candidates meeting on Wed. May 27th, if you would send an answer of explanation it would save us a lot of embarrassment. And perhaps save the Leagues face locally. If at any time the league has studied the ward system some where else, it has not done so here in Columbia Heights, and therefore the League is not in a position to take stand against this issue and especially now at our election time.

/s/ Mrs. A. J. Wermerskirchen



Report of Special Board Meeting at Columbia Heights June 6, 1955

*E. Young*  
File - Col. H.S.

Purpose of Meeting:

To discuss and act upon charges made by Mrs. Wermerskirchen- member of important Local Govt. Committee--charges of partisan discrimination in setting the date of a local candidates meeting( in which primary, Mrs. W. was defeated); to consider also, the resignation of President Mrs. Nelson, and also the fact that Mrs. W. ( as Parliamentarian of this League ) had advised the resignation of a Board member due to this Board member's husband's activity on behalf of a candidate in this same local election.

Members Present:

Mrs. Lang	Vice-president amiable, harassed;
Mrs. Ashford	Public Relations former pres. reluctant to relinquish reins, yet fairminded.
Mrs. Newcomb	Voters Service capable--weary of having over-zealous pres. interfering with her job
Mrs. Tema	Publicity wife of local paper publisher fine person
Mrs. Hilton	Secretary conducted meeting capably--would make good president
Miss Callaghan	Treasurer quiet business woman good attitude

Accomplishments:

Good frank but fair discussion of personalities involved. Board deemed to understand their problems and began to get an idea of how to work around a pres. who does not allow her Board members to do their own jobs;

Drafted three important letters:

1. One to Mrs. W. asking for her resignation as a member of the Local Government Committee. Copy will be sent to Office.
2. One to Mrs. W. ( to be sent a little later ) answering her unfounded charges. Copy to be sent to State Office
3. One to Mrs. Nelson, refusing to accept her hasty resignation, assuring her of the Board's full confidence in her, and also assuring her of the Board's desire to do its full part in the work load.

Suggestions Made by me:

Full use of new Handbook. They will order some copies.  
Suggest consideration of new By-Laws  
Set regular date for Board meeting.  
also Board agenda a new idea apparently

## Comments:

Again, I was surprised and disturbed over the amazing difference between the true suburban leagues and these almost--in the city-- leagues like N. St. P. and C. Hts. They are pleased at having built this league way up to 28 members and seemed to feel that this was a goodly number. I pointed out the desirability of thinking ahead in terms of future leadership on the Board; said nothing about building up their membership since they were so happy over what they have now;. They seem to be alert, interested, willing to adopt new (to Them) techniques, felt that we had helped tremendously by being there; decided among themselves that none of them will answer Mrs. W when she calls (as she apparently does all the time) but will tell her that those are matters for Board, not individual member action; They were most charitable over what is apparently a difficult president; too, in the W. matter, they were polite, but extremely firm; they were determined to remove her from this committee, and after seeing the printed statements she had made, I could go along with them on that.

I felt that Mrs. Hilton is a natural leader with good common sense and the ability to lead this league; why won't she be president or hasn't she been asked?

*Dorothy A.*

3 June 1955

AA.  
E. Young

Dear Board Members,

I did not want to confuse Mrs. Nelson with my reasons for not having the League Picnic, therefore I have informed Mrs. Ashford who I am sure will clarify this matter at your meeting. It is understandable that Mrs. Nelson being a member of the league for such short duration before becoming President is not familiar with all of the problems that arise at election time.

Another problem or decision that has been of great concern to hundreds of voters in Col. Hights. was the Leagues open discrimination against four \$40 candidate by not allowing them to be heard with the other candidates. This action of the Col. Hights. League Board is an open violation of the National Policy. Therefore, no State League or board could rule otherwise.

I am sure that you agree that no League Board can vote not to have a Candidates meeting before a Primary Election with the intention of eliminating candidates which is exactly what the Col. Hights. League Board did since that was the announcement made at the May meeting by Mrs. Newcomb.

Your attention is invited to your Local League Handbook, Publication No. 41, dated 1955, League of Women Voters of the United States, 1026 - 17th Street N. W., Washington 6, D. C. I quote " Before a local League decides to hold a candidates meeting, it should be reasonably certain the candidates will attend and there will be a good sized audience. If a local Board knows sufficiently in advance that the candidates of only one party will attend, it should give careful consideration to the advisability of cancelling the meeting to safeguard the Leagues nonpartisanship policy. Such a decision should have



careful explanation in the public press. Plans for the meeting and invitations to the candidates need to be taken care of well in advance. The more important the office the greater the length of time needed before the meeting date. All candidates for the same office should be treated alike."

The question now before the board is; can the candidates meeting be held at all with out bringing direct reflection on the partisian stand taken by our own board.

*Elsie Wernerskirchen*

Elsie Wernerskirchen

Inc. Col. Rights. League, Sec.

Mpls. State League Board.



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
SAINT PAUL 1

OCT 23 1959

*accepted*  
*Oct. 25-*

ORVILLE L. FREEMAN  
GOVERNOR

October 16, 1959

Mrs. O. H. Anderson  
State President  
League of Women Voters  
15th and Washington Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Since 1955 we have had in process the Minnesota Self-Survey, a project that has greatly assisted us in improving the administrative operations of Minnesota state government.

We are now entering a new phase of this project in which we should like to involve representatives of the general public who can bring to the Survey their experience and knowledge in special areas.

Knowing of your interest in good government, I should like to invite you to participate as a member of the Constitutional Officers Task Force, which, as you will note from the attached roster, will include other public members, several legislators, and governmental personnel.

It is our hope that this phase of Self-Survey will require only a limited amount of time. We anticipate that most task forces will meet perhaps three or four times, although each task force will determine for itself how intensively it wishes to pursue its study.

Should you wish to have more background concerning the project, you will find the enclosed articles prepared by the project director, Commissioner of Administration Arthur Naftalin, helpful in acquainting you with its history and progress.

I do hope that you will be able to serve. The Task Force will hold its first meeting at 3:00 P.M., Monday, November 2, 1959, at 130 State Capitol, St. Paul. I am sure you will find the activity an interesting and rewarding one and an opportunity to contribute to an important public service project.

Sincerely,

Orville L. Freeman  
Governor

Encs

File

November 24, 1961

Mrs. Francis Douglas  
Congressional Secretary  
League of Women Voters of U.S.  
1026 17 St. N.W.  
Washington 6 D.C.

Dear Mrs. Douglas,

I have been trying to find an answer to Senator Hayden's question on petitions to Congress to enact the proposed Equal Rights Amendments to the Constitution. He understood that Minnesota was one of the five states, that have taken action.

I have checked with Secretary of the Senate and House, who could find no sign of such legislation; they then referred me to Attorney General's office. They checked back several sessions, and report that no such resolution has been passed. They did find that in the 1961 session a House File Bill, 747, was introduced, that abolished differences in wages based on sex; it was referred to a committee, but was not acted upon. They have no copy of bills that are not passed.

Sorry.....not really, though, for it would be too bad if it has passed!

Sincerely,

*Grove Wilson*

Mrs. Harold Wilson  
Organization Secretary



*Mr. Olson  
Attn: Sent Office*

*Share dr*  
NOV 9 1961



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
O F T H E U N I T E D S T A T E S

1026 SEVENTEENTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. NA 8-3684

Mrs. Robert J. Phillips, President

November 8, 1961

Mrs. O.H. Anderson, President  
LWV of Minnesota  
15th and Washington, S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

Senator Carl Hayden of Arizona, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and a long time friend of the League, has asked this office to supply him with a copy of a resolution passed by your state legislature. The resolution he wants petitions Congress to enact the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, which states that "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex".

This amendment, as you may recall, is sponsored by the Woman's Party which has, I believe, urged its passage by every Congress since the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. Each time it comes up for a vote in the Senate Senator Hayden has proposed that it be amended so that the laws now in effect which give women special protection would not be nullified. The Senate has always adopted the Hayden Amendment. The Woman's Party holds that this nullifies the Equal Rights Amendment itself, as indeed it does.

Recently a member of the Woman's Party urged the Senator to withdraw his objection but he again refused to do so. However, during their conversation he learned that the Party is now having introduced in state legislatures the resolution petitioning Congress to take action. He plans to send information to all state legislatures meeting next year about what the Equal Rights Amendment would do, in hopes of defeating the passage of these resolutions. But he learned that five states, of which yours is one, have already taken action. He wants to see exactly how these resolutions are worded, hence his request to us.

As you know, the League now has an historical position in opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. When the League Program was reorganized in 1954 League opposition was retired to the Program Record. But the Senator remembers that we led the fight against it in the early years, and because he thinks we are the one organization

OFFICERS

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Lakeville, Conn.

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Shaker Heights, Ohio

Mrs. Arthur E. Whittemore  
Hingham, Mass.

who can produce information and he trusts us, he has appealed to us for help.

Can you get a copy of the resolution from your Secretary of State or state legislative service and send it to us as soon as possible? The Senator wants it before Christmas!

We are sure he will be grateful for your cooperation, as will this office.

Sincerely,

*Betty J. Douglas*

Mrs. Francis P. Douglas  
Congressional Secretary

BD/ehg

*Mr. Olson*

*checked several sessions - Atty. Gen.  
nothing passed*

*HF 747 - abolish diff in  
1961 way based on sex*

*Ref'd Comm — not passed*

*L. Luther*

*don't circulate*

*Gover*

4428 5th St. N. E.  
Mpls. 21, Minn.  
Feb. 10, 1961

Dear Mrs. Janski,

Enclosed you will find the proposed new by-laws for the Columbia Heights League of Women Voters.

We will appreciate your checking them over, and returning them to me in the enclosed stamped self-addressed envelope by next Thursday, Feb. 16th.

Thank you for your help and suggestions.

Very sincerely,

*(Mrs) Gretchen Myers*



February 14, 1961

Mrs. Gretchen Myers  
4428-5th. St. N.E.  
Minneapolis 21, Minnesota (Columbia Heights)

Dear Mrs. Myers:

I received the proposed changes in the by-laws of the Columbia League of Women Voters; thank you for sending them to me. The proposed changes certainly do not reflect the optimism we felt the night we attended your board meeting. So, I have made some suggestions (with my orange pencil) that I think will be an improvement.

Art. IV, Sec. 1: Our provisional Leagues start with 5 officers and six elected directors, and add appointees as needed. You need at least, the number I indicated to carry on the work of the League.

Art. VII, Sec. 2: Gives more choice in meeting time, not so rigid.  
Sec. 3: I think that your quorum should be at least 12 or 13. If you can't get more than five people to an annual meeting, there isn't enough interest in Columbia Heights to have a League.

Art. X, Sec. 1, 2, and 3: In most cases, it seems best that the board decide on the delegates to the conventions and the council meeting.

I really do feel that these suggestions give you a little more space in which to grow; to be an effective League you must have more members to help carry the work load and to do the kind of community se that Leagues are organized to do. Good luck .

Sincerely,

Mrs. O.J. Janaki  
Organization Chairman

*Handwritten note:*  
I have made my suggestions  
in orange pencil  
to the by-laws

JUL 3 1962

June 29, 1962

To: National Board, League of Women Voters of the United States

In response to your request in the "National Board Report May 1962" concerning national Convention dates, the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota discussed the problems involved and passed the following motion for your guidance:

"The secretary be instructed to inform the national Board that the state Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is not in favor of changing the pattern of national Convention dates because:

1. A program deadline in November is more satisfactory than a December deadline.
2. The present pattern is more satisfactory for our state meetings.
3. A later date would present a problem for our local League delegates because of school closings, graduations, etc."

Respectfully submitted,

*Roberta White*

(Mrs. Dean M. White)

Secretary, LWV of Minnesota

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TO: Dorothy Anderson

FROM: Patty Wash

SUBJECT Kane-Frenzel

*Correspondence file*  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.  
MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE November 11, 1962

I am very sorry I will be unable to attend the board meeting this Thursday. However, I had promised a doctor friend of ours that I would work in his office for 10 days while his secretary was on vacation. At the time I did not realize that it would come over the week of the board meeting.

Roberta asked that I prepare a chronological listing of the events in the Kane-Frenzel correspondence. I am enclosing a copy of this listing. I feel that my inexperience in my job must have been the damaging factor if there is one. I have thought about this little affair more than I feel it merits and can really think of no way that we could have behaved differently except not to have gotten involved in it at all. The Crystal and Golden Valley Leagues should have handled the whole thing I guess. I am very sorry if anything that I have said or done, or written for publication has caused you any embarrassment.

Love and kisses--

*Patty*



November 11, 1962

To: Dorothy Anderson

From: Patty Wash

Subject: Chronological Review of Correspondence in re Mrs. Kane and Mr. Frenzel

September 1, 1962 Mrs. Anderson recieved a telephone call from Sue Sedgewick, saying that she had had a conversation with Mr. Frenzel at a party during which he made some remarks that led her to believe that he did not understand the non-partisan philosophy of the LWV; and that he did in fact feel that the LWV was supporting the candidacy of Mrs. Kane.

Mrs. Anderson referred this call to me as PR chairman. I called Mrs. Sedgewick and she repeated the same story to me. I discussed the matter with her and agreed to telephone Mr. Frenzel to offer to explain the non-partisan policy of the LWV.

I called Mr. Frenzel and had a conversation with him in regard to this subject. He seemed friendly and interested in what I had to say. I repeated the understanding that I have that the League does not support candidates, but that we do encourage partisan participation by all our members who are not currently serving on policy-making boards. He thanked me for explaining this policy.

September 2, 1962 Mr. Frenzel wrote me a letter with a copy to Mrs. Sedgewick. In this letter he enclosed a copy of a letter published in the Suburban press. He also requested a list of LWV members in both Golden Valley and Crystal. He also requested whatever LWV material we had available on Party Designation.

September 9, 1962 I replied to Mr. Frenzel's letter. In this letter I said that we had mailed him the Party Designation material he had requested. I also stated that our membership lists were not available. I also referred to Mr. Nadasdy's letter in the Suburban Press merely stating that I felt that there still must exist in Mr. Nadasdy's mind some misunderstanding about the nonpartisan policy of the LWV and offering to meet with them to further discuss this.

October 1, 1962 The "Valley Voter" of September 22 carried a letter from Mrs. Borchert, Golden Valley LWV president.

~~This letter was called to my attention by Mrs. Anderson~~

I recieved a letter from Mr. Frenzel on October 2 enclosing a copy of this letter. Mr. Frenzel suggested that he be given equal lineage in the Golden Valley Voter and again suggesting that he be furnished with membership lists from Golden Valley and Crystal LWV.

I conferred with Mrs. Anderson on the subject of my reply to this letter and drafted such a reply which was read to Mrs. Anderson over the telephone for her approval before it was

October 8, 1962      mailed. Copies of this letter were mailed to Mrs. Kane,  
and Mrs. Anderson, and Mrs. Borchert.

October 9, 1962      I had a telephone conversation with Mrs. Borchert in re  
the letter I had sent to Mr. Frenzel.

October 10, 1962      A correction in dates was found by the State Office and  
Mrs. Wilson sent Mr. Frenzel a letter correcting the dates  
with copies to Mrs. Kane, and Mrs. Anderson.

~~1/1/62~~  
~~1/1/62~~

October 31, 1962      The State office recieved a complaint that copies of my  
letter to Mr. Frenzel were being circulated throughout  
the Golden Valley League. I was never informed of what  
the reason for this was, nor do I now know.

SECTION D, PAGE 5

St. Louis Park Dispatch

Lake Harriet Courier  
Edina-Morningside Courier  
Hennepin County Review  
Golden Valley Suburban Press

# Betty Kane. .Why She Is A Liberal

Mrs. Betty Kane, DFL candidate for the legislature from District 30W, said last week that she announced as early as a year ago that she would run for the House seat and would caucus with the liberals.

measures that Governor Andersen asked for in his various messages last session, the Liberal House passed 49%; the Conservative Senate only 30%. Not a single measure was passed by the Conservative Senate, then





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WILLIAM E. FRENZEL  
233 JANALYN CIRCLE  
MINNEAPOLIS 16, MINNESOTA

-2-

Thank you for your continuing interest in my campaign.  
You may be assured of my continuing interest in  
League activities. I look forward to your early reply.

Yours very truly,

  
Bill Frenzel

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

433 WESTWOOD DR. NO.  
GOLDEN VALLEY 22, MINN.



Mrs. Harold Wilson

3932 Vincent Ave So

Mpls - 10 - Minn



Dear Golden Valley League Members

I wish to clear up some questions some of you may have had about a recent exchange of letters published in the Suburban Press. They concern one of the candidates for the State Legislature, Betty Kane, who is a member of the Golden Valley League. She has not been on the local board for many years so whether or not she had been active in politics was of no concern to our local league one way or the other. However, she has been on the State Board of the League from 1953 through 1961 and was League lobbyist for reapportionment during that period. It was the decision of the State Board to answer certain statements made which pertain directly to League policy.

A letter circulated in Golden Valley in August stated that Mrs. Kane is a "long-time DFL stalwart"..... Earlier, in July, the following quotation was published in a local newspaper article. "The people in our community are grateful that Senator Alf Bergerud and the Conservatives in the State Legislature provided us with a new district. We fully appreciate that it was their efforts which resulted in our new district rather than the political maneuverings by lobbyists who attempted to inject politics into the legislation". Both statements came from the same source.

This was objectionable to the State Board of the League because League Board Members at any level can not actively participate in party activity and lobbyists do so in a non-partisan capacity. League lobbying is based on study and consensus and is not partisan political maneuvering. The same problem would have confronted the State Board no matter what party the League State Board Member was affiliated with and for whatever office.

The State Board felt that these incorrect implications should be answered. Since they were circulated locally, it was decided that the answer should also be circulated locally, through the local League officers; and that was done.

Encouraging our members to be active in politics, while the League itself is non-partisan, makes a tight rope to follow. But it is necessary; since we are a political action group. And it is important for us to be able to work with all the candidates both before and after election.

We sincerely hope that our effectiveness in the community will not be jeopardized because the League happens to have a member running for office with members supporting both her and her opponent and officials in the community involved. Let's go ahead and do the kind of work we do best -- studying and presenting the issues -- introducing the candidates -- and working to make Golden Valley a better place to live.

Sincerely,

Jane Borchert

# LWV Letter 'Clears' Candidate Confusion

## TO THE EDITOR:

To prevent misunderstanding of the nonpartisan policy of the League of Women Voters, we must correct erroneous statements about a Golden Valley League member who is running for the State Legislature in District 30 West.

The following is in no way an endorsement of the candidate in question.

The chairman of the volunteer committee of Betty Kane's opponent claimed that reappointment was used by her for political purposes. This is to impugn the lobbying practices of the entire League since every decision on reappointment presented to the Legislature by Mrs. Kane had been made by the League.

Second, a widely circulated letter, sent out by the source described Mrs. Kane as a long time DFL stalwart.

As a state lobbyist for the League of Women Voters, she did not, and could not, have had any connection party up until a year ago. At that time she left League service and announced her candidacy for state office.

At the same time that the League of Women Voters demands complete nonpartisanship of all policy making members, (such as Betty Kane was for so many years) the organization encourages all other

members to affiliate with the party of their choice. The League is particularly proud that more women are running for the Legislature than ever before, and that most of them have become interested in politics through League experience in government.

MRS. JOHN BORCHERT,  
President, Golden Valley  
LWV  
MRS. DEAN MALMBERG,  
President, Crystal Lake LWV

WILLIAM E. FRENZEL  
233 JANALAN CIRCLE  
MINNEAPOLIS 16, MINNESOTA

September 2, 1962

Mrs. Allen J. Wash  
Public Relations Chairman  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th and Washinton Avenues S. E.  
Minneapolis, 14, Minnesota

Ke 7-1470

Dear Mrs. Wash:

Thank you for your phone call and letter regarding "League philosophy" and its position in regard to "non-partisanship" and "relation to candidates". At your suggestion, I called Mrs. Borchert and Mrs. Lahtinen to say I was available at any time for their meetings, but the earlier, the better.

I also asked Mrs. Borchert for a list of LWV of Crystal after her offer to help me to get LWV information, but she said she could not provide that information. Since I do not know Mrs. Malmberg, I would appreciate it if you would help me get such a list.

Thanks also for your offer to provide other information. I have most of your material on the amendments, but I would all of your hand-outs on Party Designation. This issue is becoming an interesting one in our District. Many of the voters and some of the candidates seem to find it confusing.

To keep you appraised of developments in the Legislative campaign on the 30th West, I have enclosed a copy of a letter published in the Suburban Press of Golden Valley two weeks ago. It has excited some comment in Golden Valley. Should there be any further published comment, I will try to pass it on to you.

Thanks again for contacting me on these matters. It is a pleasure to talk to those who share my interest in responsible government, and I think it likely that we will have further discussions in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

W. E. Frenzel

cc: Mrs. A. Sedgwick  
6905 Mark Terrace Drive



*office*

SEP 11 1962

*File -*

*P.R. letter*

*~~was sent~~*

September 9, 1962

Mr. William A. Frenzel  
233 Janalyn Circle  
Minneapolis 10, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Frenzel:

Thank you for your letter of September 2, I am sorry to be so late in replying but I have been out of town.

We are happy to have the opportunity to send you our material on party designation and I have asked the state office to send it to you under separate cover. I hope it will be helpful to you.

I am very sorry to not be able to provide you with a list of the membership of the Crystal LNV. This is a state policy--we do not provide membership lists to anyone; however we do feel that the Candidate's Meeting sponsored by the League's in your district will afford you the best possible exposure not only to League members but to the general citizenry.

In view of Mr. Madasdy's letter to the editor in the September 6 issue of the Suburban Press, I feel that there must still exist a basic misunderstanding of the non-partisanship policy maintained by the League of Women Voters. After our conversation, and your letter, I was sure that you did understand this basic philosophy. I am sorry if I have failed to make this clear to you. I would be very happy to discuss it with you and Mr. Madasdy at any time.

If there is anything further that we can do for you, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Allen J. Wash  
Public Relations Chairman

*a Duff has seen*  
*Sent Carbon To Mrs John Borchert*  
*Golden Valley*  
*from*

Mr. William Frenzell  
233 Janelyn Circle  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

*File*  
AUG 23 1962  
*ATM*

August 23, 1962

Dear Mr. Frenzell:

I was very happy to have an opportunity to talk to you yesterday about League philosophy and I do hope that our conversation has helped you to understand the position of the League in regard to non-partisanship and our relation to candidates.

We try to be alert to comments that are made by people who do not understand that the most basic principle of the League is its non-partisan character. It is most distressing to us when the League is accused of being partisan on the basis that one of our members has made the decision to run for office. Although individual members of any local league are not only free, but encouraged to work for candidates in the party of their choice I am sure you will find that no League board member or officer is working for any candidate.

As part of our obligation of service to the voter most local Leagues try to arrange candidates meetings in their communities. In order to be of service to the largest possible number of citizens these meetings are carefully planned as to time and place so that the largest number of candidates can be presented to the largest possible audience. Most leagues do not try to schedule candidates meetings before the primary election, for experience has taught us that it is difficult to interest enough citizens in a pre-primary meeting to make it worth the time and effort that the candidates must devote to such a meeting.

I hope that you will be able to participate in the candidates meeting that is being planned by the Leagues in Golden Valley, Crystal and Brooklyn Center. I am sure that Mrs. Borchert and Mrs. Lahtinen of the Golden Valley League will alert you to the time and place of the meeting as soon as they have been able to complete their plans.

We will be watching the progress of the campaign with great interest, but you may be sure that we will not be supporting any particular candidate.

If there is anything that we can do to assist you in providing material on the amendments, party designation, the amending process or human rights all of which are a part of our current program, we will be happy to do so.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Allan J. Wash, Public Relations Chairman

NOV 7 1963

D. J.

November 6, 1963

Mrs. L. C. Williams, Executive Secretary  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
c/o State Organization Service  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Mrs. Williams:

We are delighted to learn that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has selected the Radisson Hotel as the site for their annual convention scheduled for May 19, and 20, 1965.

A block of 75/100 sleeping rooms have been set aside for your out-of-town guests for arrival May 18, and 19, and departure May 20, 1965. We understand that the majority of the rooms will be twins and approximately 15 singles and four two-bedroom suites will also be required. A complimentary suite is reserved on the above dates for whomever you so designate.

The program is as follows:

Wednesday, May 19, 1965

Mezzanine - Registration - 8:00 a.m.-on  
Star of the North Hall - Meeting - 450 - 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Star of the North Hall - Reception (Cash Bar) - 200  
Star of the North Hall - Banquet - 300/350  
Star of the North Hall, Section I and II, and Gold Room - (These rooms maybe changed) - Three caucus rooms following banquet for approximately one hour - 50/100 persons each.

Mrs. E. C. Williams

- 2 -

November 6, 1963

Thursday, May 20, 1965

Star of the North Hall - General Meeting - 450 - 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon  
Star of the North Hall - Luncheon - 350/400 - 12:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Appreciating the opportunity of once again being of service to  
your fine organization, we remain,

Sincerely,

*Bill Rudin*

Bill Rudin  
Assistant Sales Manager

WR/mm



September 23, 1963

Mrs. Robert J. Phillips, President  
League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1026 Seventh Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Phillips:

It will be a privilege for me to serve on the national Budget Committee and I am looking forward to the meeting in Chicago, October 3rd and 4th, following the State Board Conference.

I do not know how much I can contribute but I appreciate the opportunity of helping to build a budget that means so much to the effectiveness of the League in all levels of activity. Is there "homework" that I should be doing?

Should I take care of my own reservation at the Blackstone for the night of the 3rd? I know the hotel is apt to be full at that time because the national convention of N.S.O.E.A. starts on the 4th at the Hilton and they overflow into the Blackstone.

This first week in October promises to be a busy and exciting League week for me -- the sort of thing that provides the inspiration and is one of the many bonuses in League leadership.

Thank you so much for asking me to serve.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
PRESIDENT

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September 24, 1963

Mrs. David Vail  
127-6th Street  
White Bear Lake 10, Minn.

Dear Joan:

Sue Murray reports that the amendment material should soon be ready for the final stages. This must have been an interesting research project for all of your committee.

Now that this League job is about completed we don't want you to sit back and twiddle your thumbs! We have another job we would like you to take on at this time....that is the chairmanship of the state budget committee for 1964-65.

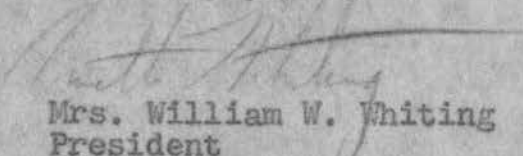
Sis Fenton with whom you worked on this last year's committee has recommended you and we know that with your experience as president of your local League you are well qualified to assume this important responsibility for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

It may seem early to appoint the committee but I would like to have the suggestions of the chairman as to size of committee and individual suggestions for membership if you have any. The size of the committee is not determined by the bylaws though the Treasurer is a member ex-officio. One or two other state Board members would also serve and then there should be three or four non-Board members.

December 5 has been set as Budget Building Day when representatives of the local Leagues (this year we plan to invite one from every local League) attend as observers to state Board discussion of plans and needs as they relate to the state budget and then stay for the actual budget making by the committee. The state Board will make preliminary plans on November 21 a meeting which you would want to attend.

We sincerely hope that you will accept this appointment for we all look forward to working with you in this very important role.

Sincerely yours,

  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

SEP 23 1963

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

ZIP CODE 20036

AIR MAIL

September 19, 1963

Mrs. William W. Whiting, President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
623 East School Street  
Owatonna, Minneapolis

Dear Mrs. Whiting:

Mrs. Phillips has asked me to write you to inquire if you would be willing to serve on the national Budget Committee, meeting in Chicago, October 3rd and 4th, following the State Board Conference which you will be attending in the Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel. The meeting will begin at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 3rd, and we expect to conclude by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 4th.

Each year when the national Budget Committee meets, it invites one or more state presidents to join them. They find the viewpoint and advice of the state people adds welcome insight and perspective to their decisions. Usually because of money, it has been necessary to limit the invitation to one nearby representative, but this year because of the State Board Conference they saw an unusual opportunity to invite more state people. So they are asking three state presidents to stay over an extra day to serve on the Budget Committee, and are hoping you will be able to be one of the three. Naturally, your added expenses for the extra period will be taken care of by the national office.

Would you please let Mrs. Phillips know (in c/o of the national office) as soon as you can whether you would be willing to undertake this assignment? We all hope you can.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Paul Cleveland  
Finance Secretary

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August 21, 1963

Mrs. Wright W. Brooks, Chairman  
Governor's Human Rights Commission  
Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Brooks:

As President of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota I will agree to serve on the steering committee of a Minnesota Women's Committee on Civil Rights.

My understanding from the August 13th luncheon that the primary purpose of this committee would be the dissemination of information as you have stated in your letter of August 17. I would not consider this an action group in itself so I would question how far we could go in urging the passage of ~~the~~ civil rights legislation.

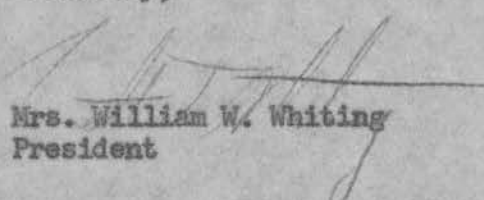
As you know the League as a national organization could not support the President's legislative program but we have already encouraged our local Leagues to build on the foundations they have already laid in study and action on the problems of discrimination in Minnesota.

Each women's organization has something to contribute particularly in our need for more community education. We in the League feel we have much to contribute in explaining Minnesota's ~~anti~~ discrimination laws throughout the state. Ignorance of these laws was apparent even among the group of organization representatives at the luncheon.

I am enclosing a copy of a memo sent to all of our local Leagues late last month. This gives you some idea of the background work we have done in this area and what we have asked our local Leagues to be prepared to do to assist in a state-wide program of citizen education to meet the crisis in civil rights in Minnesota.

If I am not able to attend the next meeting of the steering committee, I would like to have one of our state Board members represent the League.

Sincerely,

  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President



November 19, 1963

Mrs. Bruce B. Benson, President  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
41 Mt. Vernon Street  
Boston 8, Massachusetts

Dear Lucy:

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We are always glad to help other state Leagues with information about our set up at the University of Minnesota because we think we are so very fortunate. It has been several years since we have made a comparative study of costs so we are not able to state definitely that we are able to save a great deal of money through this arrangement but we do know that we save a great deal of stress and strain through our peak periods because of the services available to us.

I am enclosing a brochure printed by the State Organization Service which should answer most of your questions. As you see it is a part of the General Extension Division of our university. Until last May we were housed in a temporary building at the address given. In this building we had office space, storage space for publications, and the use of the World Affairs Center pamphlet shop for meetings. At present we are in a new Social Science building. Our office is about 14 by 20 and no extra storage space available for publications. We have free use of various size meetings rooms throughout the eight story building. The top four floors of this building are being completed at this time and we are hoping to have more adequate office space soon. There is also adequate parking at 15¢ a day and an automat cafeteria in the basement.

You see how easily we get carried away when we start on our arrangements with SOS. Good luck to you with your new university. If you feel you need more specific information, let us know.

Your comments on the national budget were mighty nice to have for we were not too sure how this second step forward would be received. With all your members you are asked to make one of the largest dollar increases. I hope you can influence others to feel as you do!

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

November 12, 1963

Mrs. Watson P. Davidson, Jr.  
Chairman, Region X Committee  
Girl Scouts of the United States of America  
1801 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis 3, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Davidson:

All Girl Scouts are to be congratulated on their "new look" and the big step forward they have taken this fall in the launching of their program change.

With the emphasis on the six foundation elements, one of which is citizenship, there will no doubt be increased opportunity for the Girl Scouts and the members of the League of Women Voters to cooperate. We are pleased to find as we work with the new handbooks so many references to the League.

Many of our members are also Girl Scouts recognizing the importance of helping girls to understand their responsibilities, encouraging them to become well informed and able to think for themselves and learning to make intelligent choices based on fact (hopefully developing future League members as well as future Girl Scout leaders).

We will alert our members to the new possibilities of working with the scouts, particularly those at the Cadette and Senior levels as they work on badges, challenges, major interest of community action or service projects.

We appreciate your continuing cooperation with the League of Women Voters.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

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October 15, 1963

Mr. Mel Hansen  
Senator 34th. District  
3837-44th. Avenue South  
Minneapolis 6, Minnesota

Dear Senator Hansen:

Thank you for your kind letter and for remembering the League of Women Voters. Our state president, Mrs. Whiting, will not be back from Italy until the latter part of the month. Since I am her assistant, I am taking care of her correspondence during her absence.

The film your mention is not familiar to us. Perhaps you would like to send us further information on it. Some questions that come to my mind are: Who puts it out? What is the basic message?

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

*O. J. Janski*  
Mrs. O.J. Janski  
1st. Vice President



*June - over please*

SEP 30 1963

MEL HANSEN  
SENATOR 34TH DISTRICT  
3837 44TH AVE. SO.  
MINNEAPOLIS 6, MINNESOTA



State of Minnesota  
SENATE

COMMITTEES  
CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS  
EDUCATION  
ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT  
GENERAL LEGISLATION  
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

September 29, 1963

Mrs. William Whiting  
President, League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
810 So. Sci. Tower  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Whiting:

To provoke discussion - and thought - on political matters is a goal of your organization. In a non-election period you probably find that even League members share some of the apathy - some of the "Let George do it" attitude that characterizes our affluent society.

A short time ago I saw a short documentary film that kept me and the rest of the small group viewing it on the edge of our chairs. What's more important, I haven't been able to forget it since. It started discussion and thought that has continued since. This letter is a direct action response to its impact.

The title is "The Ultimate Weapon; the mind of Man". The question it raises is why our prisoners of war in Korea reacted differently than POW's had ever before in history. Frankly, we came out a very poor second to Red China in the comparison.

Why, for the first time in history, did no prisoners escape,  
Why did we have no organized attempt to escape?  
Why was there not a single person among 40 Americans in one shelter to even raise his voice in protest when an American sergeant put three prisoners out into the sub-zero Korean winter to a sure death?  
Why did 3 POW's out of 10 die in captivity?

The answers are not implicit in the film. They will have to come out of the discussion it stimulates. This is why I think your group will find the film of interest.

Because I feel so strongly about the importance of stimulating discussion on motivation, I will be happy to show the film at one of your meetings. Should I have a previous commitment, I'll see that someone else who saw the film and shares my concern will bring it to you. If you prefer, you can get it and show it yourselves. There is no charge.

Will you please call me at RA. 22182 (home) or FE. 2 1406 (office) for more information?

Sincerely,

*cc Mrs Jerome Gray*

*Mel Hansen*  
Mel Hansen



MEL HANSEN  
SENATOR 34TH DISTRICT  
3837 44TH AVE. SO.  
MINNEAPOLIS 6, MINNESOTA



State of Minnesota  
SENATE

NOV 6 1963

COMMITTEES  
CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS  
EDUCATION  
ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT  
GENERAL LEGISLATION  
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

November 5, 1963

Mrs. O. J. Janski, 1st Vice President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th and Washington Ave. S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Janski:

Thanks much for your response to my letter to Mrs. Whiting when she was in Italy. I put your letter in my brief case, but didn't remember what I had done with it, when I sat down to respond. Here is the further information you requested about the provocative short film, "The Ultimate Weapon - the Mind of Man".

It is my understanding that the film was edited from a training film developed by the U.S. armed forces to help prepare our military men for the possible eventuality of capture. We wanted to prevent a recurrence of what happened to our men taken prisoners in Korea. The editing has made it acceptable in any group including church people.

*Personal  
get this information*

The film is made available at no cost through a non-profit foundation of which I have not heard and do not recall their name. It is available through the Elliott Film Co. at 1112 Nicollet in Minneapolis. They tell me that about 15 prints are there so there is no problem in getting one for showing to an adult group. Their phone number is Re. 6 2645, should you have any additional questions or want to know the name of the foundation paying for the film.

The basic message is to point up the existence of a real problem. They offer some suggestions on possible solutions, but I feel the net effect is more to make us aware of the problem. Any enthusiastic creative group will soon come up with ideas on possible solutions.

My own reaction is to feel that we should better understand our own system and what it has done for us. An eight week course titled: "The Economics of Survival" offered by the Chamber of Commerce is to me the shortest most direct route to a better comprehension of our free enterprise system. I would be delighted to tell you or your group more about the course or arrange to show the movie short. May I hear from you?

Sincerely,

Mel Hansen

*Mel Hansen*

*The film could be worked into an education program very effectively. It points up an area in which an educational plan may be deficient.*

AUG 22 1963

August 20, 1963

Mrs. Charles M. Osborne, President  
League of Women Voters of Missouri  
7374 Delmar Boulevard - *new address?*  
St. Louis 30, Missouri

Dear Esther:

We are always flattered when some other League inquires about one of our procedures because we feel we have so much to learn from the rest of you. I had a good chuckle when I read your letter for once an organization chairman always an organization chairman!

I am referring your letter to Mrs. O. J. Janski, 6500 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis 23, because she served as our organization chairman for 6 years before she became my administrative assistant. She is also chairman of our office management committee which committee just hired a replacement for our dedicated and talented organization chairman of many years.

I worked closely with Mrs. Janski as state finance chairman and then for two years shared the organization assignment on the state Board so I will try to give you the benefit of some of my experience.

So much depends upon the ability, talents, personality, and experience of your staff. Mrs. Janski will send you a job description we have for our staff which will show you how we have divided the staff responsibility. This is not ideal for it means that during the legislative session it is difficult to have the organization secretary out in the field. (What we hope to have before too long is an additional part-time staff member to work on Program promotion.)

Our workshops are planned and usually conducted by members of the Board. Our staff however takes care of the details of the workshops such as physical arrangements, correspondence, etc.. Most often this work is handled by the organization secretary. We feel that it is important for Board members to handle workshops as a service to the local Leagues and as a means of communicating with members.

We have recently developed an "adopt a League" program for starting new Leagues that Mrs. Janski will no doubt explain to you and she will also tell you about other procedures we have used for starting new Leagues. This is the fun and exciting part of League work that brings so much satisfaction.

I don't feel that an organization secretary can solve all of your problems--in other words we cannot hire someone to do the work of the volunteer on the state Board. She can be of real assistance to all

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Mrs. Charles M. Osborne

Page 2

August 20

of the Board as well as to the organization chairman and her committee. She cannot, however, interpret or transmit to you the real feeling of the member enrolled in the local League. Each Board member must have some personal contact with the local Leagues. If a state Board member is to represent the interests of the whole state, not just that of her local League she must have some contact with other Leagues. This is particularly true in Minnesota where half of our Leagues are in our metropolitan area and over half of our Board members come from this area.

In the next two years all of our Board members will be traveling and will become acquainted with more of our local Leagues for we have set up a system of consultants. Each Board member is a consultant for a number of Leagues. The number is dependent upon her Board assignment, her ability to travel, her League background, and geographical location of Leagues. Since this has just been started I cannot give you any reports on its success, though there are other state Leagues that have used similar procedures for some time. I do know that our Board members were a bit surprised and some reluctant when I first proposed this but they are now showing real interest in "their" Leagues.

Each consultant receives minutes, correspondence, etc. from her Leagues. She plans to visit them as often as possible (for some once or twice a year and for those remote perhaps once in two years). We are hoping these visits will not be confined to local Board meetings so that we get to know the member as well as her leaders. Through these contacts we hope to gain wisdom and understanding to better serve all of our members.

Our organization secretary will work with our organization chairman in coordinating this consultants program. So far we are trying to operate without an elaborate system of reports. We have a general report form we use for all local League visits. Our office continues to receive a copy of all local League minutes which are read by our organization secretary who briefs them for Board members other than their consultants and then they are read by our organization chairman, Mrs. Janski and myself.

I believe that much of our success as a state Board and also as the League of Women Voters of Minnesota depends upon our rapport with our members in our local Leagues.

Mrs. Janski, Mrs. Rothnem (our new organization chairman) and I will be at the Chicago conference in October. We certainly should find an opportunity then to talk more about organization with you and your other Board members. I shall look forward to seeing you then and hope that some of this will prove helpful to you as you work to organize and serve more Leagues in Missouri.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting, President

cc: LMV of the U.S.  
Mrs. O. J. Janski



File

January 6, 1963

Mrs. Abner I. Jacoby, President  
Deephaven League of Women Voters  
Route 4, Box 344  
Wayzata, Minnesota

Dear Barbara:

I just wish we would hear more voices "crying from the wilderness" so that we would have a better idea of what is actually being thought and said in our local Leagues. Your letter expressing concern about the League material for study being one-sided and slanted is important for this is one of the things on which we like to pride ourselves.

When member interest falls off it is indeed time to take a serious look at what is happening and what we might do to counter this trend. Has Betty Kenyon found anything specific within your League that has contributed to this decline in interest?

Though group thinking varies from one community to the next what is happening in your League may well be developing in other Leagues. It is important for all of us to give serious consideration to this problem. I am wondering if you and Betty and I might get together to discuss this at greater length and see what positive steps we can take at the state level which will help to improve member participation.

I will be in the state office on the 10th and will call you to see what arrangements we can make for such a meeting. I will not be able to meet until the week of the 20th. I shall look forward to seeing both you and Betty soon.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

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January 22, 1964

Mrs. Charles McCoy  
1035 Prentice  
Granite Falls, Minnesota

Dear Mary Ann:

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Welcome a-Board! Some might say that I was being premature in that greeting but I am not for yesterday I was able to contact most of the Board members so there is no question about your appointment becoming official--in fact it is so official that it is being announced in the BOARD MEMO that is going out tomorrow. Included will be the revised state Board organization list with committee assignments. Also included will be the revised list of state Board consultants for the local Leagues.

You may think we are moving mighty fast and that we are because we are so happy to have you and want you to get right in to all of our state activities just as quickly as you can. I might as well say right now that you may feel pushed and if it is more than you can take at one time just say so and we will understand--we are all human but we all have quite a bit of that "passionate intensity" for the League which drives us hard some times. The fun we have makes it all so much easier.

About the committee assignments--each Board member has a primary responsibility and for you that is chairman for voters service. In order to avoid the departmental approach and to make better use of the talents and experience of our Board members we also ask them to serve as Board members of other committees. I am therefore assigning you to publications, finance and Indians. Some of these committees have been more active than others but I hesitate to predict what activity you might expect because it varies so much by the time of year.

As for the consultant responsibilities, I expect Mardelle has told you something about this part of your Board work. She has been visiting her Leagues and getting acquainted with some of the members. I have assigned you to Mound, St. Louis Park, and New Ulm (Mardelle has had this last one and will probably enjoy filling you in on it!). We revised the consultant set up just this last month and decided then that our new Voter Service chairman, whoever she might be, would not have the time for too many Leagues this next year because of the activities in her major field and the need to orient herself in general Board procedures. Both Mound and St. Louis Park are on the west side of the metropolitan area so not too difficult to reach.

Mrs. Charles McCoy  
Page 2  
January 22

This letter could go on for pages because there are always so many things we like to discuss with new Board members but this is not the best way to do it. I am sure Irene Janski talked with you about our meeting with you as soon as possible for orientation. We can't do all the orientation or answer all your questions in one meeting--this would not be fair to you but we can get you started as a Board member and introduce you to your major responsibilities.

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I am asking the state office to send you general information such as the STATE BOARD HANDBOOK, General Information for State Board Members, past copies of minutes, BOARD MEMOS, etc. so that you can browse through them jotting down questions as you go. They will also send some background information on voters service to start you thinking in this direction. This will help prepare you for a meeting. When should we have it? I don't like to meet on Wednesdays if it can be avoided and February 7 is taken as well as January 30. You decide when you can come to Minneapolis and we will arrange for some space at the University (West Bank).

I will be anxious to hear from you....it is such a good feeling to know that though we waited a long time we now have such a dedicated, capable member to take care of our "other arm" as we so often refer to your portfolio.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

SEP 28 1964

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

September 22, 1964

Mr. & Mrs. Eric T. Nelson  
160 Edgewood Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Nelson:

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It is with real regret that we must say that there is no way that the League of Women Voters of the U. S. can be of help to you in your effort to improve safety precautions in the teaching of science in the schools. Issues for League study and action are chosen by the members at national Convention, and unless a topic is chosen in this way no work on it is possible. The enclosed copy of Facts About the League of Women Voters will explain briefly how we operate and will give League national Program for the next two years.

I have personally taken the time to read the many documents accompanying your letter and sympathize with the frustrations which have been heaped upon you because of your inability to get any action. Empty as they may seem to you, we cannot omit words of sympathy for your great personal loss.

Since producing the materials on the situation must constitute a considerable expense, we would be glad to return them to you on your request.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William H. Wood  
First Vice President

CDW:aml  
Encl.



file

June 19, 1964

Mrs. David Vail  
127 - 6th Street  
White Bear Lake, Minn.

Dear Joan:

Are you managing a little hammock time or are you having the same problem the State Board is having--sandwiching summer into all the other activities?

As you know we moved from our State Council right into our "outlook for work" and this past week the Leadership Workshops. The latter seemed to be well received and the attendance was excellent so all the effort was worthwhile.

I trust you feel the same way about your efforts as 1964 state budget chairman. What seems like many long years ago I served in that capacity so I am well aware of the frustrating feeling you have when the local Leagues fail to appreciate the need for financial support of the total League--but this is really a part of the whole government or democratic process we are organized to help all citizens appreciate!

Hopefully we learn from each year's experience. We have already decided to handle Budget Building Day in a different way but am sure you must have other suggestions or ideas for us. We don't want to get in any rut on finance because this would definitely result in dwindling support. I would appreciate your recommendations--they can be included when you return the file to the office.

Thanks again for another League job well done.

Sincerely,

Annette T. Whiting  
President



file

Same letter to Mrs. Allen (Nancy) Carlson  
10031 Emerson Ave. So.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Mrs. Robert Johnson  
3704 So. Arbor Lane  
Hopkins, Minnesota

Dear Betty:

One of the real joys of League leadership is working with people like you--who can step in and give us the helping hand in any emergency. We are all indebted to you for doing just this at our Leadership Workshops.

I appreciate what a real effort it can be to "pinch hit" using someone else's material but I trust the response from the participants gave you the kind of satisfaction we usually find in League activities.

I am sure Mary Ann McCoy would appreciate a summary report from you and any evaluation or recommendations you might have for her. This is an important period in voters service activity and it helps to anticipate any areas that might need further attention.

Thanks again for this "extra" contribution of yours to a successful workshop.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting  
President

ATW/mc

file  
June 19, 1964

Mrs. Allen Carlson  
10031 Emerson Ave. So.  
Minneapolis 31, Minn.

Dear Nancy:

One of the real joys of League leadership is working with people like you--who can step in and give us the helping hand in any emergency. We are all indebted to you for doing just this at our Leadership Workshops.

I appreciate what a real effort it can be to "pinch hit" using someone else's material but I trust the response from the participants gave you the kind of satisfaction we usually find in League activities.

I am sure Mary Ann McCoy would appreciate a summary report from you and any evaluation or recommendations you might have for her. This is an important period in voters service activity and it helps to anticipate any areas that might need further attention.

Thanks again for this "extra" contribution of yours to a successful workshop.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting  
President

ATW/mc



April 22, 1964

Dr. John O. Buxell  
Assoc. Professor, Environmental Health  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Buxell:

Thank you for your invitation to participate in the training course, "Urban Planning for Environmental Health" to be held in Rochester next fall.

I will be glad to present "The Role of Citizen and Civic Groups" on Thursday, September 24th.

Additional information will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William Whiting  
President

AW:rw



April 22, 1964

League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1026 17th Street N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Leaguers:

Mrs. Whiting, President of the LWV of Minnesota, has been asked to present "The Role of Citizen and Civic Groups" at a short training course sponsored by the U. S. Public Health Service. It will be held in Rochester in September.

Would you by any chance have copies of speeches already given by League representatives at similar Public Health Service meetings?

Thanks for any help you can give.

Sincerely,

Mrs. E. C. Williams  
Executive Secretary

Office

March 30, 1964

Mrs. Virgil Prieve  
Route 3  
Hutchinson, Minnesota

Dear Ruth:

Just a note to tell you how much we appreciate what you are doing to promote League program on the national level. Would that we could interest more of our members in assuming the kind of responsibility for program promotion that you are doing as a member of our foreign policy committee.

With your inspiration perhaps we can do just that for your letter was included in the February issue of the New Ulm LEAGUE NEWS AND VIEWS in its entirety. This kind of personal report after a personal interview should help to get the members better acquainted with their Congressmen. I thought your comments on the kind of letters and the importance of them was interesting. What further suggestions do you have for us to motivate more of our members to participate in this kind of action?

Did you know the personal tragedy facing Mr. Nelson? His son Richard who lives in Owatonna has an incurable brain tumor. His daughter-in-law Sally has been one of our more active League members until Dick's surgery this fall but expects to become active again soon.

I hope your own League appreciates you as much as we do, Ruth! I am looking forward to seeing you at the foreign policy meeting on April 30. Perhaps at that time we can visit a bit about furthering the kind of work you are doing with Congressman Nelson for as you know we are anxious to have this kind of approach on a state level but so far have not recruited enough "Ruth Prieves" to do the job.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

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Office

March 30, 1964

Mr. Robert W. Smith, Editor  
Editorial Pages  
Minneapolis Star and Tribune  
Fifth at Portland  
Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Smith:

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It was a pleasure to meet and visit with you at the Minnesota Poll dinner meeting. I have wondered what Professor Sepulveda thought of our table's conversation for it was interesting and lively as well as entertaining!

I appreciated Dr. Gallup's remarks for as you know the League of Women Voters has always been interested in election procedures and at various times here in Minnesota we have had specific programs on election laws including campaign practices.

This is just one of the items the League pursues as it works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is an organization of volunteers working to promote this purpose. These volunteers receive satisfaction when their work is recognized and praised as it was in the recent editorial in the Star on the Minneapolis League's new "Minneapolis is Your Business." Your acknowledgement of the value of this publication is one of the best "promotions" we could have and through this editorial many more Minneapolis citizens should become better informed.

Although Minneapolis is just one of our 61 local Leagues the recognition you have given this League will serve as an inspiration and a challenge to all of us. Thank you for your recognition of the true value of the League of Women Voters--may we "never shrink from taking our part in government or from illuminating government.... with a clear and searching light."

Sincerely,

  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President



March 14, 1964

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves  
716 Fourth Street Southwest  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Hargraves:

It is two months since you sent Roberta your interesting contribution to our League recollections so you must realize that this is definitely not a rejection slip. It is instead a very belated thank you.

We wish the League's history were about to go to press but it is one of the things that gets pushed aside as we try to keep up with the current things. We are continuing to collect and feel that we are so very fortunate to have contributions such as yours.

I was particularly delighted to read about your impressions of the transitions that took place during your terms on the Board because so much of it seems to parallel what has been going through the minds of many as we struggle once again with our Program structure. At times it seems as if some were still struggling with the transition you were involved in and here we are talking about another change. No doubt this is good for the League....at least we are not afraid of change.

We have recommended you to Governor Rolvaag for membership on a new Governor's Committee for Constitutional Revision. We had hoped he would appoint this committee along with a committee for reorganization. It looks now as if we would have neither so we will have to continue to work in other channels for constitutional revision. We would certainly appreciate any suggestions you might have in this or any other areas of League activity.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

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March 14, 1964

Raymond O. Mithun, Chairman  
Minnesota Committee for National Library Week  
Northstar Center  
110 South Seventh Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Dear Mr. Mithun:

Over 5500 members in 61 local Leagues have been alerted to the 7th annual National Library Week, April 12-18 as a climax of a year-round effort to promote a "better-read, better-informed America."

This special week was first called to their attention and suggestions for action were made in a bulletin from the League of Women Voters of the United States. This was followed up with further information from me with the suggestion that they might secure further information for bulletin articles from their local library or from the Minnesota Committee. Some local Leagues will do more than others at this time because they are actively involved in working to improve library facilities or are cooperating with their libraries in other areas.

As usual the Owatonna Public Library has excellent plans they are carrying out for this observation. They are conducting a series of reports on the plays included in the Guthrie Theater repertoire this season. Mrs. Donohue, our librarian, has made plans with the librarians in both the public and parochial schools to bring special significance to the role of the school libraries and the cooperative roles these institutions can play.

I have not received the additional material to support the National Library Week's goals. If there is something of value for each of our local Leagues, I would appreciate your sending it to the above address before March 20.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting



Office

March 5, 1964

Mrs. Roy C. Nelson  
4109 Hermantown Road  
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Nelson:

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Thank you for your comments on our VOTER article, "Come to the Party" relating to party caucuses. We know many of our members did attend their party caucuses and took husbands and friends with them. We continually try to impress upon our members that participation in the activities of the political parties is an essential part of citizen responsibility.

As you probably know the League of Women Voters takes action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. It does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The distinction between these two activities sometimes causes confusion on the part of the public. I am glad that you and other leaders in the Republican Party do understand and realize that we do urge our members, except those who are serving as League leaders, to work as individuals in the party of their choice.

Our current program includes items on constitutional revision, Indians, discrimination, election laws, lobby regulations and conflict of interest, and home rule. The two items on which we will put special emphasis during the campaign are party designation and the election law relating to new state residents voting for President and Vice President. We believe these programs to be in the public interest and they have had the support of both parties. We are hoping that the parties can elect the men whose commitments to their parties will <sup>make</sup> these items become a reality.

We look forward to working with you and other leaders in your party to promote our program.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President



*Office*

March 4, 1964

Mr. Vernon L. Erickson  
Community Services and Prevention Consultant  
Dept. of Corrections, State of Minnesota  
310 State Office Building  
Saint Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Erickson:

I appreciated the opportunity to meet with other organization leaders and state officials to discuss plans for the promotion and planning for observation of Delinquency and Crime Prevention Week.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has no program item in this area so we are not in a position to take action as an organization. We would hope, however, that with the training for active participation of citizens in government there would be a goodly number of League members who used this training for individual action in the area of crime prevention. We know that many League members participated recently at the university in a workshop on delinquency.

Unfortunately we were not able to inform them of the Governor's plans for this week because we did not have a mailing going out to our local Leagues until this week. Perhaps another year we can plan ahead so that we will inform our members of this opportunity for them as individuals to participate in this campaign against crime and delinquency in Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,

*William W. Whiting*  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

MAR 5 1964

March 3, 1964

Mrs. Lawrence Haner, President  
32 Powell Lane  
West Chester, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Haner:

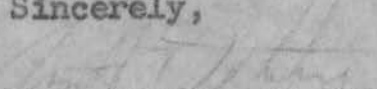
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In reply to your recent letter our state Board fit into the Minneapolis National Convention in a number of ways but our geographic situation is quite different from yours. Most of our Board members come from the metropolitan area so it was quite simple for those who wished to serve as ushers, tellers, etc.. Our staff members were also able to work at the Convention. All of our Board were in Minneapolis Sunday night before Convention for a dinner given for the national Board. This was jointly financed by the Minneapolis League and the state Board. Only four of our fifteen Board members were from outside the Minneapolis area of these four, one was a delegate and another was a visitor and the other two spent just a day at Convention. One of our members was on the steering committee which we found helpful. Does this answer your question? If not let me know and I perhaps can be more specific.

About our adopt-a-League program--to date we have used it only in forming new Leagues but we have considered it for helping an ailing League. We have not gone farther than this with the idea for right now we are trying a "team" approach with the state organization chairman working with these Leagues setting up coffee parties to attract and talk with new members and following up with a general meeting where the program is provided by state Board members. This is still in the experimental state so I can tell you results. The adopt-a-League program has definite advantages where you are widely separated but there is still a certain amount of traveling involved for state Board unless you can find a former state Board member in the area. We are trying to involve all of our state Board in field service work feeling that it is important for them to know some other Leagues beside their own and also to cut down on the traveling by the organization chairman and staff.

We are all looking forward to being in Pittsburgh next month. If you are not too busy perhaps we can talk organization for I would like to hear the results of your Board discussion next week.

Sincerely,

  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

State  
FEB 17 1964

ZIP CODE 20036

AIR MAIL

February 14, 1964

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Mrs. William Whiting, President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
State Organization Service  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota - 55414

Dear Mrs. Whiting:

Mrs. Morgan forwarded your recent letter to this office, with what we took to be an unspoken plea that we try our hand at explaining how national Board members feel about your proposal that suggested state pledges be listed in the Convention workbook. It isn't that Mrs. Morgan lacks words, for surely she's one of our most articulate Board members, but I know she felt she had clearly presented the reasons against so doing, when she replied to your suggestion last November. So now we'll try.

Just recently I read a fascinating article, "The Case For Bureaucracy" which had this to say about the decision making process: "the decision-maker must, in effect, recreate in his own office a microcosm of the real-world complexity to which this decision will apply. This is the only way he will be able not only to decide what is "objectively right" but answer to his own satisfaction those four questions that Paul Appleby, a former Under Secretary of Agriculture says should be asked before any political decision is taken: "Who is going to be mad? How mad? Who is going to be glad? How glad?"

This seems to me to describe quite well the decision-making process as practiced by the national Board. For they do (and perhaps they are the only ones who can) look at the real-world complexity of Leagues and ask themselves, if this decision is made, what will its effect be.

What they see, when considering your proposal to publicly list suggested pledges, is a real-world situation in which Leagues vary greatly in size and in the political, social and economic climate which nourishes them and enables them to attract members, develop leadership and become strong. They see Leagues with tremendous differences in the size of the problems they face in relation to their numerical and financial strength. For example, mere distance alone in the scarcely populated Rocky Mountain area makes the cost of a state Board almost



Mrs. William Whiting, Pres.  
LWV of Minnesota

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insupportable. It sees a Budget Committee which tries to take such variations into account in assessing pledges, but which for lack of time, valid information, or an easy, equitable formula -- or because of the pressure of national budgetary needs, does sometimes, make impractical suggestions. It sees some Leagues struggling and paying far above the national average (with few exceptions, these are small Leagues). It sees a great many making a valiant effort to catch up to the average. (These are mostly the big Leagues.) It sees a number -- some recently -- who have become defensive or desperate (mad is too strong a word) about being unable to meet their suggested pledges (again, these are mostly the same small Leagues who are pledging over the average). But to-date, this year, it sees only one large League which is proposing to pledge a smaller increase than the committee has suggested.

Frankly to follow your suggestion in such a situation would, it seems to us, result in more Leagues being mad than glad and with little if any real gain to be had from the whole procedure. While the present system denies to some the satisfaction of having available where all can readily see, the size of the great advance they have made, it does seem to us this is a pleasure most Leagues would willingly forego in the interest of good family relations. So bear with us.

You will be glad to learn I know, that we are scheduling a budget discussion period with all state League presidents on Tuesday evening at Convention. This idea offers an excellent opportunity we think for exchanging views on the national budget and for mutually acquiring a better sense of what we should aim for in future budgets and how to reach the goals we set ourselves.

Looking forward to seeing and hearing from you there.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Paul Cleveland  
Finance Secretary

MC:gb

October 1, 1964

M. Roxanna R. Ford, Assistant Director  
School of Home Economics  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear M. Ford:

Thank you for your letter following our telephone conversation. You have presented a challenging and interesting assignment for me.

I will be glad to meet with your group at 5:30 on October 22 and would appreciate your making a parking reservation for me.

I am looking forward to meeting with you and the members of Epsilon Chapter of Pi Lambda Theta.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting  
President

ATW/mc



October 13, 1964

Mrs. Cecil Hartung  
5800 Clinton Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Hartung:

As I said when I left our happy bus last Thursday you can be my tour guide any time! Such a perfect "go see" trip does not just happen — it was your careful planning that made it a success. Not only was our personal comfort so well cared for — you also had a well-balanced variety of things for us to see and people for us to meet.

I am sure those other Leagues who were able to take advantage of this opportunity will have renewed interest in our Indian item. It would not have been successful with many more people but I do wish more League members could have a similar experience for it was challenging as well as informative. I have just read Indians in Minnesota for the third time and find it has much more meaning to me now.

Irene Janski and I also appreciated this opportunity to travel with and get to know more League members — the fun part of League for us. Thanks so much for letting us be members of your Indian Tour.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. W. W. Whiting  
President

cc: Mrs. J. Gray



*Office*

October 26, 1964

Mr. Vincent K. Bailey, Chairman  
Minnesota Roadside Council  
1325 Bailey Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55110

Dear Mr. Bailey:

With the urgency of the activities relating directly to voter registration and voter information as well as League program promotion, I have not been able to reply to your letter of September 24 until this time--well past the October 15 deadline you had set.

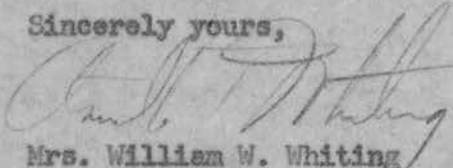
In answer to your questions I regret that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is not in a position as an organization to participate in your most urgent and worthwhile endeavor to unite all efforts to protect the beauty of Minnesota's roadsides.

The reason that we cannot join with the other groups in working on this project is that our state program is selected by our members at our biennial state conventions. (The next convention is May 1965.) The League of Women Voters functions on all three levels of government--the members selecting items for their study, discussion, decision-making and action. Therefore our program on the state level is limited to those items the members feel they have the time to understand and carry out action programs. Your project does not come under any of the present state program items.

Through our League program our members learn to become effective as individuals and to participate in the formation of public opinion. They belong to other organizations besides the League and use this "know how" in promoting the programs of other organizations which may be pressure groups interested in your program.

I would be surprised if you did not find League members working actively through these other organizations to promote the work of the Minnesota Roadside Council.

Sincerely yours,

  
Mrs. William W. Whiting  
President

JAN 20 1964

*Minn. State*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Zip Code: 20036

January 14, 1964

C  
O  
P  
Y  
  
Mrs. Oliver Jarvenpa  
League of Women Voters of Columbia Heights  
4340 Benjamin Street, N. E.  
Columbia Heights, Minnesota 55421

Dear Mrs. Jarvenpa:

We are in receipt of your publications order of January 6. The publications were sent to you January 9.

Before entering the names of the men listed to receive complimentary subscriptions to THE NATIONAL VOTER we want to be certain that there is no misunderstanding about the responsibility for the cost of these subscriptions. These subscriptions cost \$1 apiece. Since you did not list a price for them we thought perhaps you assumed that these would come out of the national budget. This is not possible. We think it is a splendid idea to promote knowledge of the League through such subscriptions and will be happy to enter the names and bill your League for the \$6 if you will please let us know that this is what you intended.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Mabelle M. Long  
Organization Secretary

MML/mw

cc: State LWV  
Miss Stuhler



~~Handwritten~~ office file

October 20, 1964

Miss Esther Petersen  
Asst. Secretary of Labor  
Department of Labor Bldg.  
14th St. and Constitution Ave.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Petersen:

Mrs. William Whiting, President of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, would like to have a copy of your speech "Women & Politics: Plus or Minus". This office had written the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts for the speech and they in turn wrote the Women's Bureau of Dep't of Labor in Boston, but we have not received the speech.

Mrs. Whiting is most anxious to read your speech, and if you haven't any additional copies, we would like to receive it, copy it for our files and return it to you, if this would be satisfactory to you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Margaret Cregger  
Executive Secretary



January 6, 1965

Mr. Ray Watson, Jr.  
President  
Kahler Corporation  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Watson,

The state Board of the League of Women Voters recently enjoyed a most successful day of meetings at the Minneapolis Inn Towne because of the generosity of the Kahler Corporation.

As you know, the League works in the public interest and depends upon community support for many activities, so it is only through special consideration of people like yourself that we have the opportunity to meet in such pleasant surroundings and to eat such delicious meals at a minimum cost to us. It's the occasional "extras" that help keep us going.

The members of the Board join me in expressing our thanks to you and to Mr. Rocznik for all the care he took in making the arrangements for us and being present to see that every detail was taken care of. This kind of experience makes us hopeful that we can make satisfactory arrangements for a state convention at the Kahler in Rochester by 1967.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William Whiting  
President

January 6, 1965

Mr. L. Rocznik  
Kahler Corporation  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Rocznik,

The members of the state Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota join with me in thanking you for the personalized service we received as well as the excellent arrangements you had made for us December 9 at the Inn Towne Motel in Minneapolis.

The meetings in the Futura Suite could not help but be successful in such pleasant surroundings (thanks, too, for the coffee and rolls), and the larger meeting in the Rochester Room was also productive.

There were nothing but compliments for the delicious lunch in the Wheel and Lantern Dining Room. We appreciated the fine service. The special dinner served in the Futura Suite was perfect in every detail.

We appreciate having all of this made available to us plus your being present to see that all went smoothly. I hope you won't have to change a tire again soon!

Because of the success of this day we hope we can soon clear up any question on price and type of rooms available at the Kahler Hotel and can then make definite arrangements to bring our state Convention to Rochester in the spring of 1967.

I hope the Clinic gave you a clean bill of health so you can enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William Whiting  
President

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
State Organization Service  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455  
373 - 2959

LWV of COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

Made by Rozycki

Date April 11, 1967

#### R E P O R T O F V I S I T

Be sure to keep the Recognition Standards in mind when you evaluate a local League you are visiting. It will help to remind you in what areas the League needs help, and in what areas the League is doing well, and should share its success stories.

Type of Meeting & Number Present: Membership        Board        Special Annual Meeting

Purpose of Visit: guest

List Important Points of Discussion:

This was the longest Annual Meeting I ever attended - 6:30-11:30. They apparently just discovered how much fun one could have at this sort of affair and they played bingo, had door prizes, performed skits and drank into the night. I had almost given up hope of any business meeting at all as we still hadn't eaten at 9 o'clock. But eat we did, and then came the meeting which lasted for about 30 minutes with a little advice from me. It didn't seem that they gave much thought ahead of time to that part of it. After the meeting came more games, and I'm sure everyone in Columbia Heights smokes, too.

Anyway, they seem to be doing all right and they do have a few new members. They do operate on rather a small scale, but their new budget is for \$734. They did do well on the finance drive and do some good VS projects for their community.

Your Recommendations to the Local League:

Competent persons for future state committees and Board:

(Use other side if Nec.)