



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

726 JACKSON PLACE

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.



September 5, 1946

MISS ANNA LORD STRAUSS  
President

*AIR MAIL*

SEP 6

Mrs. H. R. Simmons  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
832-33 Lumber Exchange Building  
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Simmons:

This is a reply to your letter of August 15 inquiring about the Women's Joint Congressional Committee. I am glad to give you information about it although we have serious questions as to its value as I will explain later on in this letter.

The organizations which constitute the present membership are: American Association of University Women, American Dietetic Association, American Federation of Teachers, American Home Economics Association, American Medical Women's Association, American Nurses' Association, American Physiotherapy Association, Association for Childhood Education, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Girls' Friendly Society of the U. S. A., National Association for Nursery Education, National Board of Young Women's Christian Association, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, National Consumers' League, National Council of Jewish Women, National Education Association, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., National League of Women Voters, National Service Star Legion, National Women's Trade Union League of America, United Council of Church Women and Women's National Homeopathic Medical Fraternity.

The Committee meets on the first Monday of every month at 10:30 in the Y.W.C.A. At this meeting there are reports by the various standing and legislative committees. The principal standing committee is the Look-out Committee whose function it is to report on all bills which have been introduced in Congress during the preceding month in which any of the member organizations might be interested. In each case the bill number and a brief <sup>description</sup> ~~discussion~~ of the contents is given. Legislative committees are set up whenever five of the member organizations have taken a stand in support of or in opposition to a specific piece of legislation. For example, during the past year there were legislative committees on federal aid to education, suffrage for the District of Columbia, international relations, price control, housing, social security, school lunch legislation, F.E.P.C., etc.

*Send copy to  
Mrs. H. R. Simmons  
+ go over one  
to Mrs. Medeiros  
9-18-46*



When a legislative committee is set up it elects officers and calls meetings independent of the W.J.C.C. whenever the legislative situation warrants. In these meetings pertinent information is made available to member organizations and usually a general plan of procedure in support of or opposition to the legislation is planned. At no time, however, is legislative action taken in the name of the W.J.C.C.

I understand that in times past the W.J.C.C. was quite an effective organization. However, at the present time there are many national organizations in Washington which either because they are not women's organizations or for some other reason are ineligible to membership in the W.J.C.C. but are much more effective in their legislative work than many of the W.J.C.C. organizations. Therefore, during the past year, we have found ourselves attending one set of meetings with the various women's and non-women's organizations that have joined together to work on a specific bill and then attending another series of meetings for W.J.C.C. members many of whom are not particularly active.

For the above reasons we are inclined to question very seriously the present usefulness of the W.J.C.C. We find ourselves giving a considerable amount of time to it without receiving appreciable advantages. We are at the present time discussing the advisability of withdrawing from the Committee.

If you would like any additional information about the Committee, please do not hesitate to write us.

Sincerely,

*Muriel Ferris*

Muriel Ferris  
Congressional Secretary

MF/a

Dec. 12, 1948  
Mr. York Langton, *President*  
Minnesota United Nations Committee  
~~Minneapolis, Minnesota~~

316 New Tm Bldg, St. Paul

Dear Mr. Langton

Arrangments have been made for the use of the stencils of the Minnesota League of Women Voters on the addressograph in the ~~W~~ office of the Minneapolis League Room 407, 84 South Tenth Street, to enable you to distribute to members material on the Unoted Nations.

As you know, strengthening the United Nations has been on our national program since the world organization was formed. During the last few months we have been preparing our membership to go to the public with an intensive educational campaign on understanding the functions and potentialities of the United Nations. It would, therefore, be inconsdistent to refuse your request to send to League members additional information on the subject of their present major emphasis.

We cannot, of course, allow our members to be solicited by another organization, nor can the League as an organization solicit funds for another group. I am sure that you understand that, although sometimes we seem inflexible, ~~that~~ we are more effective in building ~~XXXX~~ <sup>well</sup> opinion for the United Nations, <sup>as</sup> and in our other endeavors because of strict adherence to ~~long~~ established League policies. *We appreciate your offer to be a source of United Nations information for our membership*

Sincerely yours,

this is a copy  
sent off Sunday by air mail



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

417 Essex Building

July 29, 1948

Mrs. S. C. Lawton, Secretary  
Minnesota Jewish Council  
125 South 5th Street  
Suite 616  
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Lawton:

The League of Women Voters does not send its membership lists to other organizations. We shall, however, be glad to cooperate with you in governmental matters pertaining to League program.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves  
President

# MINNESOTA JEWISH COUNCIL

NEW YORK LIFE BUILDING • 125 SOUTH FIFTH STREET • SUITE 616 • MINNEAPOLIS 2, MINN. • GENEVA 9355

## OFFICERS

Chairman  
LOUIS GROSS  
Vice-Chairmen  
JACK MACKAY  
ERWIN ORECK  
Secretary  
MAX J. LEVINSON  
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Assistant Executive Director  
ANNA K. SCHWARTZ

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DR. MOSES BARRON  
BENJAMIN BERGER  
CHARLES I. COOPER  
AMOS S. DEINARD  
HYMAN EDELMAN  
HARRY FITERMAN  
WILLIAM F. FRIEDMAN  
RABBI MORRIS GORDON  
LOUIS GREENE  
LOUIS GROSS  
LOUIS S. GROSSMAN  
HARRY H. ISAACS  
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IRVING EPSTEIN  
DR. IRVING EPSTEIN  
MILTON P. FIRESTONE  
ALBERT H. HELLER  
DR. MILTON HURWITZ  
ISRAEL KRAWETZ  
IRVING LEVY  
JACK MACKAY  
SAMUEL R. MILLER  
DAN S. ROSENBERG

## AUSTIN:

PAUL GENDLER

## ALBERT LEA:

CHARLES UPIN

## DULUTH:

CHARLES EISENBERG  
ERWIN ORECK  
RABBI REUBEN SIEGEL  
RABBI WILLIAM SILVERMAN

## HIBBING — CHISHOLM:

LOUIS STEIN

## MANKATO:

LARRY HIRSCHBERG

## ROCHESTER:

SAM GOLOB  
MARVIN PERLMAN

## VIRGINIA — EVELETH:

HOWARD SCHIEEL

## WINONA:

B. A. MILLER

JUN 22 1948

June 21, 1948

Minneapolis League of Women Voters  
832 Lumber Exchange  
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

Dear Mesdames:

We would very much appreciate your forwarding to us an up-to-date list of members in the League of Women Voters for the year 1948 which we would like to have on file as reference material.

Thank you for your kind cooperation in this regard.

Very sincerely yours,

*Mrs. S. C. Lawton*  
Mrs. S. C. Lawton  
Secretary

/scl

*Dear Mrs. Lawton;*  
*The L.W.V. does not send its*  
*membership lists to other organizations.*  
*We shall, however, be glad to cooperate*  
*with you in governmental matters*  
*pertaining to League Program*  
*Sincerely,*

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in harmony"

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

2

417 Essex Building

July 29, 1948

Mr. Harry W. Zinsmaster, State Chairman  
American Overseas Aid - U.N. Appeal for Children  
Syndicate Building  
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Zinsmaster:

We have written to the presidents of our local Leagues calling attention to the importance and urgency of the American Overseas Aid - United Nations Appeal for Children. Many of our members are participating in this campaign as individuals.

The League of Women Voters cannot spend its own funds for other than League purposes, nor solicit funds for another organization. However, we feel that our long support of the United Nations and its agencies and our wide dissemination of information on its functions has helped prepare the public for cooperation in this campaign and has trained some of those who are furnishing its leadership.

Two of our members have volunteered to use the addressograph machine to address your envelopes. The machine is at the Minneapolis League office room 407, Essex Building, 84 South 10th Street.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves  
President



**CRUSADE  
FOR  
CHILDREN**

# American Overseas Aid- United Nations Appeal for Children

June 21, 1948

Dwight D. Eisenhower  
National Honorary Chairman

Lee Marshall  
National Campaign Chairman

Governor Luther W. Youngdahl  
Congressman Walter H. Judd  
Minnesota Co-Honorary Chairmen

**State Officers**

Harry W. Zinsmaster  
Chairman

Arthur C. Regan  
Treasurer

Mrs. A. J. McGuire  
Secretary

**State Committee**  
(partial list)  
Minneapolis  
Harry A. Bullis  
Mrs. F. Peavey Heffelfinger  
Co-Chairmen

St. Paul  
Valentine E. Blaque  
Chairman

Winona  
Mrs. Ward Lucas  
Robert L. Bank  
Co-Chairmen

Red Wing  
Judge Charles P. Hall  
Chairman

St. Cloud  
Mrs. Nellie Rathbun  
Mrs. Frank Murphy  
Co-Chairmen

Rochester  
Dr. R. L. J. Kennedy  
Mrs. Lucy Wilder  
Co-Chairmen

Duluth  
Harry W. Zinsmaster  
Chairman  
Charles Liscomb  
Asst. Chairman  
Paul Van Hoven  
Vice Chairman  
Judge Edward Freeman  
Chairman, St. Louis County

Northfield  
Miss Marie A. Plesinger  
Chairman

Mankato  
Mrs. A. W. Mollison  
Chairman

Faribault  
Mayor Clarence Peterson  
Chairman

Laverne and Rock County  
R. H. Creeger  
Chairman

Granite Falls and  
Yellow Medicine County  
Kenneth Shegbeby  
Chairman

Mora  
Dr. Earl C. West  
Chairman

Pine County  
J. D. Brennan  
Chairman

Grand Rapids  
Mrs. C. H. Griffith  
Chairman

Owatonna  
Mayor Harold A. Kind  
Chairman

Edward W. France  
State Director  
Miss Florence Lehmann  
Public Relations Director

Mrs. Malcolm Hargraves, Pres.  
League of Women Voters  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Hargraves:

This is an emergency appeal to you for help and advice in a critical situation. I'm not asking for money so much as I am for some personal, thoughtful, practical suggestions from you.

This is a long letter but it has to be to tell the story, so please take a few minutes to read it and give it some thought and then write me, will you?

Here in Minnesota, as everywhere else in the world, we've been asked to do our part to help relieve the desperate distress of starving children in lands across the world. When I say 230,000,000 children face death by starvation unless help reaches them in the next few months, it doesn't mean much. It's too big a picture to take in. It's too far away. If we had one starving child next door to us, we'd do something about it—quick. Somehow we have to do something about this, too, and that's what the Crusade for Children is all about.

The United States promised to raise \$60,000,000 in private gifts from the people of the country to relieve this immediate starvation this year. Every nation—even those with little or nothing—made similar promises. Our \$60,000,000 is just a small part of it, but actually, and is our face red—we're falling down on our part. We promised and we aren't delivering. That \$60,000,000 simmers down to about 40 cents per American. Canada has raised more than this already and expects to double it; Norway has raised more and is still doing it; Iceland's people have contributed more than \$3.50 per person. But 1948 is half gone and the United States is barely started.

(Incidentally, this doesn't have anything to do with money the government is spending through ERP or in any other way—because that money won't be available until late in 1949 or 1950 and these children will be dead by then. If you're starving to death, government moves too slowly. It takes neighbors to help—and its neighbors around the world who have to help on this one.)

Well, here's our problem. We have to raise \$1,050,000 in Minnesota to do our part. It's a tough job but not impossible. The catch is: we

**CRUSADE  
FOR  
CHILDREN**

# American Overseas Aid- United Nations Appeal for Children

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Mrs. Lucy Wilder  
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Duluth  
Harry W. Zinsmaster  
Chairman  
Charles Liscomb  
Asst. Chairman  
Paul Van Hoven  
Vice Chairman  
Judge Edward Freeman  
Chairman, St. Louis County

Northfield  
Miss Marie A. Plesinger  
Chairman

Mankato  
Mrs. A. W. Mollison  
Chairman

Faribault  
Mayor Clarence Peterson  
Chairman

Laverne and Rock County  
R. H. Creeger  
Chairman

Granite Falls and  
Yellow Medicine County  
Kenneth Shegby  
Chairman

Mora  
Dr. Earl C. West  
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Mrs. C. H. Griffith  
Chairman

Owatonna  
Mayor Harold A. Kind  
Chairman

Edward W. France  
State Director  
Miss Florence Lehmann  
Public Relations Director

-2-

must do it quickly. What it really amounts to is giving everyone in the state a chance to give. Most people are willing—it's getting to them that is important.

We can't take time to organize county by county in an orderly way. There just isn't time for that. We can't spend the money to send out a lot of field men to get every community going.

Would you be willing to help us get to people through your organization—just to give them a chance to give? For example:

1. Would you write a letter to your members on this subject and enclose one of the coupon pads we are enclosing here and let us stand the expense of mailing it?
2. Would you let us write a letter to your members and have you address the envelopes on your addressograph or let us address them from your lists? You nor the organization would be mentioned, but it would help us get to people.
3. Do you have a meeting or state convention coming up to which we might send a speaker or at which we might show a film we have available?

Do you have any other suggestions from your wide experience in organization and administration? You see the problem we are up against—getting to people with this critical call. Actually, the future of the world can well depend on America's response to just such appeals as this. Certainly if we fail on a promise we have made in United Nations where other nations are carrying on—well, the implications can be very grave.

I'm sorry to burden you with such a long letter but I will appreciate any advice you can give and your concrete help in one of the ways outlined above.

Cordially yours,

*Harry W. Zinsmaster*  
Harry W. Zinsmaster  
State Chairman

FL-MA



# Memorandum

726 Jackson Place - Washington 6, D. C.

February 17, 1948

To: Presidents

From: Anna Lord Strauss

A nationwide campaign on international trade, entitled "Part of every dollar you get comes from world trade," will be getting under way shortly. It is sponsored jointly by the Advertising Council, the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Twentieth Century Fund. (This is a separate campaign from World Trade Week, May 16-22, sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce, about which we wrote you in December.) Leagues which wish to participate should contact their local Junior Chamber.

\* \* \* \* \*

You will be hearing in February a good deal about American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children. This is a joint money raising drive to support the International Children's Emergency Fund as well as the work of several outstanding private relief agencies.

The International Children's Emergency Fund is the only relief operation now carried on by the United Nations; it is supported by both governmental and non-governmental contributions. The present appeal is for money from individuals. I have agreed to serve on the United States Committee for the ICEF, since this does seem to come very definitely within the League program of supporting the United Nations. We have made clear, however, that Leagues cannot be expected to participate in the drive for private funds.

The March issue of ACTION will contain a note on the subject. Many League members will doubtless want to work as individuals in the campaign.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. Dyke says, "A note in ACTION telling local Leagues to whom they should address letters to the national office. It seems many local Leagues refrain from writing to the President feeling they should not bother her with anything not too vital. I told her that the thing to do was just write to the national League and a local president standing with us said, but then how should she address it, "Dear Madam"? When I suggested the memo form To National League From Troy League etc. that seemed to solve the problem and hence the suggestion that it would help all local Leagues to know this.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
84 South Tenth Street  
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota  
September 22, 1948

MEMORANDUM AS TO POLICIES OF STATE BOARD WITH  
RESPECT TO STAFF MEMBERS, MILEAGE  
ALLOWANCES, ETC.

This memorandum states in general the present policies of the Board of Directors of THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA. Such policies may of necessity be revised with changing conditions.

OFFICE HOURS

The regular business hours are from 9 O'clock A. M to Four Thirty O'clock P. M., with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday. The office is closed on Saturday. Punctuality and regularity of attendance are important factors when considering increase in salary and in responsibility. Habitual tardiness cannot be permitted. Every staff member is expected to give full time service during the working hours. Excessive overtime is compensated for by reasonable time off when required.

ABSENCE  
AND SICK  
LEAVE

The policy will be to allow occasional absence as needed for illness. Necessary absence for other reasons will be occasionally granted in the discretion of the president. In the event of absence for illness or otherwise the employee shall notify the office or the president.

For a longer period of absence, due to serious illness, in view of the month's paid vacation allowed each full-time employee, the policy shall be to pay regular salary for a period of not exceeding two weeks in addition to the month's vacation allowance.

VACATION

Each full-time staff member shall be allowed one month's vacation with pay.

HOLIDAYS

The following holidays shall be observed: New Year's Day; Christmas, Washington's Birthday, Good Friday from 12 O'clock on; Decoration Day, Fourth of July; Labor Day; Thanksgiving; Armistice Day, Nov. 11th.

SALARIES

Salaries are paid bi-monthly.

The work of each staff member will be reviewed annually and if the budget permits an increase of not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars will be granted until the maximum for her position is reached. Special consideration will be given to salary adjustments when new responsibilities are assumed. Factors to be considered in making salary increases shall be: quality of work, industry, initiative, cooperative spirit, regularity and promptness of attendance, and personal impression given.

With respect to Miss Barbara Stuhler, Organization Secretary, who assumes her duties on October 4, 1948, it is the present intention of the Board that at the beginning of the next fiscal year she shall be granted a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) per month increase, and that at the beginning of the next fiscal year a Fifteen Dollar (\$15.00) per month shall be granted her, if in the opinion of the then Board such increase is merited and the budget and the expansion of League work warrant granting such raises.

TRAVEL  
EXPENSE OF  
ORGANIZATION  
SECRETARY

When working in the field the Organization Secretary shall be paid in addition to her regular salary the expenses of transportation (see below if using car) and hotel, plus One Dollar (\$1.00) per day to cover additional food costs when travelling. No personal expenses incurred by the Organization Secretary in travelling shall be allowed by the League.

Travel advances may be made the Organization Secretary but should be kept as small as possible without making it necessary for the secretary to draw upon her personal funds. At the end of her term of service the secretary should return the advance in full to the Treasurer.

MILEAGE  
ALLOWANCE

Mileage at the rate of eight cents (8¢) per mile shall be paid the Organization Secretary as transportation expense if she uses her own car for League travelling.

Mileage at the rate of five cents (5¢) per mile shall be paid Board members using their cars for League work.

RESPONSI-  
BILITIES  
OF ORGANIZA-  
TION SECRE-  
TARY IN THE  
FIELD



DUTIES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES  
OF ORGANIZATION  
SECRETARY WHEN  
IN THE OFFICE

The Organization Secretary shall answer letters on organization and program when in the office. Letters on policy should be referred to appropriate officer.

She shall also write her own letters in preparation for and as follow-up of her visits to local Leagues.

She shall plan her visits in advance and shall leave in the office a written schedule of her visits, where she may be reached, etc. for use during each trip.

She shall submit written report of visits to local Leagues at least bi-weekly.

She shall present expense vouchers at least bi-weekly.

She shall keep a complete file of what all Leagues are doing, as to meetings, membership, and pledge toward support of state and national League services.

She shall keep a prospect file for new Leagues.

She shall help plan convention, conferences, regional meetings, etc. and share responsibility with the Executive Secretary for their execution.

She shall secure information (train, bus etc.) for scheduling visits to local Leagues of National Organization visitors - and set up schedule, after consultation with president, Organization Chairman and executive secretary.

She shall familiarize herself with office material so that she can wait on herself.

She shall fill all publications orders given her verbally while visiting a League.

She shall advise Executive Secretary of any changes in officers, etc., of which she was informed by a League while visiting.

In emergencies she shall, if possible, assist with assembling material and mailing.

She shall assist with office routine when not occupied with the above.

She shall attend Board meetings when possible.

She shall report to the Board when requested.

DURING THE STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION she shall:

1. Prepare daily written report for office on progress of bills in which League is interested, committee meetings, etc.
2. Supply office with copies of House and Senate Journals, copies of bills, etc.

DUTIES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES  
OF EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARY

The Executive Secretary shall:

Open, read, stamp and check all INCOMING MAIL and refer it to proper person. She shall note contents carefully as to how they can be used in publicity, Voter, passed on to national or local Leagues, etc.

See that all mail is answered promptly by proper person.

See correspondence of Organization Secretary and see that President has a chance to scan all except those routine in character. The President and Executive Secretary exchange correspondence for the information of each; and care shall be taken that the Organization Secretary sees all correspondence that may give her an understanding of program, policy and procedure.

Handle routine and other correspondence, referring to President, Board member or chairman when necessary.

Order publications from National, after consultation with President.

Do routine purchasing of supplies, stamps etc.

Fill publications orders promptly or explain any necessary delay; bill and collect moneys due.

Enter checks and cash in day book and various ledgers (publications, pledge etc. - not Treasurer's)

Keep generally informed on League Policy, Program and Procedures.

Answer Telephone

Work with President, Chairmen and others in preparation of material and projects.

Maintain files of Local League correspondence  
Reference material  
State and National Program Items  
Various Chairmen and officers

Maintain file of Articulate Voter subscribers

Order voter stencils for new members and changes of address

Run or supervise running of addressograph for Voter  
and arrange for getting Voter to post office  
and execute

Help plan/convention, conferences, regional meetings, etc.

Type League letters and material for Board members. Except in cases of emergency, such communications should reach the office in time to be handled in an orderly and routine manner. All official League communications should be cleared through the President or Executive Secretary.

Attend Board Meetings.



League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1626 K Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

December, 1949  
Price: 1¢

## IS IT DEMOCRATIC TO PRESENT A SINGLE SLATE OF OFFICERS IN THE LWV?

In order to protect democratic procedures in the League, certain safeguards are provided in the By-laws. First, the Model Local League By-laws provide that a majority of the members of the nominating committee are elected by the members at one Annual Meeting, giving them a full year to consider candidates for election to the board the following year. The nominating committee is responsible directly to the membership, not the board.

Then, through a membership letter, a bulletin, or an announcement at a general meeting, the individual members are urged to make recommendations to the nominating committee of candidates they wish to propose.

The Model Local League By-laws require that a list of the slate of officers and directors presented by the nominating committee be sent to the membership at least one month before the date of the Annual Meeting.

The Model Local League By-laws also provide that the members be allowed to make additional nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting, if they have secured the permission of the person to be so nominated.

In a political party election, there is a difference between the policies of the party as well as between the candidates. In the League, on the other hand, the policies are laid down by the members in conventions and in annual meetings. Whoever is elected is pledged to follow those policies.

Since the League of Women Voters is a volunteer organization, seldom embarrassed because of too much available leadership, the single slate with the above safeguards to make it completely democratic, is the accepted procedure.

Barbara,

Will you turn this  
over to Mrs. Livingston  
asking whether she can  
be our representative  
on this Committee? We are  
involved in a somewhat  
ambiguous way with  
the St. Louis Library  
Services and continually  
receive requests from  
the Association, which  
require interpretation of  
our Program. Before I  
can decide whether we  
may or may not.

M.H.

she said, "yes".

# *Minnesota Library Association*

RUTH M. JEDERMANN, SECRETARY-TREASURER

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINNESOTA

May 31, 1949

Mrs. Malcom Hargraves, President  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Hargraves:

The State Legislature recently authorized a survey of public libraries throughout the state. It is hoped that it will lead eventually to a program of library service for over a million of Minnesotans without the benefit of any libraries whatsoever, and to better service for a million more with only inadequate library facilities available to them.

The survey is in the hands of the Legislative Research Committee, an interim committee appointed from the membership of the State Legislature.

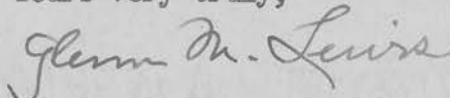
The Minnesota Library Association invites you to be a member of a Library Survey Committee which will be organized to aid the Legislative Research Committee by making recommendations for the conduct of the survey. Among its members, the Library Survey Committee will include librarians and library trustees, educators, individuals interested in the promotion of library service, and representatives of state-wide organizations.

Since you undoubtedly have many future commitments, I can assure you that meetings of the Library Survey Committee will not be numerous. A smaller executive committee will carry on the detailed work. Meetings will be at a time and place convenient for a majority of members.

Since the Legislative Research Committee is now in process of organization, may I ask you to let me know by June 6 that you will accept the appointment.

Librarians and an interested public feel that the projected survey is very vital to the future welfare of public library service throughout the state, and we bespeak your cooperation.

Yours very truly,



Glenn M. Lewis  
President, M.L.A.

GML:mli

League of Women Voters of Kasson  
Kasson, Minnesota

March 27, 1952

Mrs. Kenneth Mc Millan  
84 So. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Room 406  
Minneapolis 3, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Mc Millan,

The first week in May, the State Board of Health is sponsoring Health Day in Kasson. Local organizations have been asked to help with the work and the expense, which will evolve from distributed pamphlets.

As a League, can we contribute from our own funds to this expense?

Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

if concerned  
w. govt. can coop. Eloise Reynolds  
don't collect funds  
for use as a <sup>Secretary</sup> <sup>item?</sup>  
consider <sup>local agenda</sup> <sup>public relation?</sup>  
does it contribute <sup>is it</sup> <sup>your</sup>  
how important



*Policy*

March 31, 1952

Mrs. George Reynolds  
Kasson, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Reynolds,

I'll answer your letter because Mrs. McMillan won't be in the office until this Friday, and you may be in a hurry.

It will be up to your board to decide whether you should cooperate with the State Board of Health with effort and money. However there are several things for them to consider in making the decision.

1. Is the project ~~is~~ concerned with government?
2. If you cooperated, would it help to achieve one of the aims of your current agenda?
3. Would it harm your public relations with the other organizations in town, if you didn't cooperate?
4. If the answer to these three questions is "yes", then you should hesitate a moment longer, and remind yourself that the money you painfully collect and earn to put into your League treasury, is hardly ever adequate to do the many things you think are important, and when people give to the League, they do so because they want it to go to League work, and then try to decide how important it is to donate time and money to this Health Day Project.

Does this help you decide? Hope so.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harold Wilson,  
Organization Secretary



Mrs. Russell T. Lund  
State Chairwoman  
Minnesota Republican State Central Committee  
685 Endicott-on-Robert  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Lund,

Mrs. John Donohue, President of the League of Women Voters of St. Paul, tells me that she has reported the facts of the "St. Paul incident" to you. We are very grateful that you brought it to our attention for we try to be jealous in the protection of our reputation for non-partisanship. Unfortunately, during an election year, the "incidents" multiply, and the League suffers from a rash of mostly unintentional partisanship. We take some comfort in the fact that there always seems to be an equal number of Republican and Democratic "incidents" so that at least we can claim to be bi-partisan which is probably a more accurate representation of our membership.

Again, thank you for your concern over something which is our primary concern. Please do not hesitate to let us know of any similar occurrences. I hope you understand the difficulties we have in handling these matters - a denial often has the opposite effect of implying support for the other side or other candidate. We try to go the middle way and as you know, this is the most difficult way of all.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Stuhler  
Vice President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

cc: Mrs. Young, Mrs. Donohue, Mrs. Bohm

July 29, 1954

Mrs. Russell T. Lund  
State Chairwoman  
Minnesota Republican State Central  
Committee  
686 Endicott-on-Robert  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Lund:

Thank you for your letter of July 28th calling my attention to the fact that someone has been using the name of the League to secure endorsement of Eugene McCarthy for Congress.

I have called Miss Barbara Stuhler, first Vice-President of the State League, and she will look into the matter, and get in touch with Mrs. Bohn and Mrs. John Donahue, St. Paul president.

It most certainly is contrary to the policy of the League to promote candidates, and we maintain the utmost vigilance to see that this policy is understood and respected.

We appreciate very much your referring the matter to us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young  
President

cc: Barbara Stuhler  
Mrs. John K. Donahue  
Mrs. Harold Bohn

C  
O  
P  
Y

July 28, 1954

Dear Mrs. Young:

Mrs. Harold Bohn, 892 Osceola, St. Paul, called me this morning. She has been a member of the League and for two years was Treasurer of the Ramsey County League of Women Voters. Mrs. Bohn informed me that a woman was going door to door in her block and all through the neighborhood, saying that she represented the League of Women Voters and Mrs. June Boranian in a "get out the vote" drive. This woman asked Mrs. Bohn to sign a paper and send it in. When Mrs. Bohn read the paper it was an endorsement of Eugene McCarthy for Congress.

Can you do something to prevent people using the League to promote candidates since I know that it is contrary to the policy of the League?

Sincerely,

Rhoda Lund  
Mrs. Russell T. Lund  
State Chairwoman



*File  
Corresp--*

September 22, 1954

Mr. P. Kenneth Peterson  
1750 Hennepin Avenue, Room 310  
Minneapolis 3, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Replying to your letter of September 20th, I am indeed sorry not to be able to comply with your request for a list of our members. It has always been a rigidly adhered to policy of the League of Women Voters not to make its membership lists available to other groups or individuals, and, in the case of a candidate for office, I'm afraid our non-partisan policy would also be involved.

I do hope you will understand, and want to re-assure you that the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will always be deeply appreciative and grateful for the promotion and support you have given the issues on our program in the Legislature. Those of our members who have had contact with you on these items have repeatedly spoken very highly of your splendid help and encouragement, and we are most grateful.

Very sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young  
President



# P. KENNETH (P.K.) PETERSON

for

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

1750 Hennepin Avenue • Room 310 • Atlantic 7904 • Minneapolis 3, Minnesota

### VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

#### STATE OFFICERS

##### CHAIRMAN:

E. C. Duncanson, Spring Valley

##### CHAIRWOMAN:

Mrs. Margery Dworak, Richfield

##### TREASURER:

Robert P. Boblett, Minneapolis

##### SECRETARY:

Mrs. David Burlingame, Stillwater

#### DISTRICT SPONSORING COMMITTEE

##### FIRST DISTRICT

George Waters, Rochester

Mrs. Walter Dokken, Faribault

Arthur Swan, Rochester

##### SECOND DISTRICT

Rep. Walter Crosswell, Lake Crystal

Ed McLain, Mankato

Henry N. Somsen, Jr., New Ulm

##### THIRD DISTRICT

Forst Lowery, St. Louis Park

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Fairbanks, Anoka

Vincent Dworak, Richfield

##### FOURTH DISTRICT

S. A. Bertelsen, St. Paul

Robert Alm, St. Paul

Mrs. John R. Gehan, St. Paul

##### FIFTH DISTRICT

John M. Diracles, Minneapolis

Mrs. A. N. Bessesen, Jr., Minneapolis

Jack Dodd, Minneapolis

##### SIXTH DISTRICT

Mrs. Kay Strommen, St. Cloud

John Bailey, Elk River

Mrs. E. E. Atkinson, Litchfield

##### SEVENTH DISTRICT

Lucille Telkamp, Montevideo

Dr. Rudy Ehrenberg, Granite Falls

Sylvia Hartzell, Montevideo

##### EIGHTH DISTRICT

S. J. Balach, Duluth

Al Turbutt, Meadowlands

Mrs. Clarence Hager, Hibbing

##### NINTH DISTRICT

Dr. C. W. Moberg, Detroit Lakes

Mrs. Eskil Erickson, Halstad

Harold & Roy Sellin, Hawley

September 20, 1954

Mrs. Basil Young, President  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Young:

As you know I am the Republican nominee for Lieutenant Governor. During the past 8 years I have worked closely with the League of Women Voters, and have been the author of their major proposals in the Legislature, which included among others, Constitutional Revision, Reapportionment, Party Designation and Employment on Merit.

I would now like to reach as many members of the League as possible to acquaint them with the issues in this campaign and would appreciate very much to receive a list of the members to whom I could address this material. I would, of course not imply that the League of Women Voters are endorsing my candidacy and would, if you like, permit a copy of a proposed letter to you.

This letter is written to request a list of your members. I will appreciate whatever you can do to assist in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

*P. Kenneth Peterson*  
P. Kenneth Peterson.

**"P.K." Has the Experience Minnesota Needs!!**



July 29, 1954

Mrs. Russell T. Lund  
State Chairwoman  
Minnesota Republican State Central  
Committee  
635 Endicott-on-Robert  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Lund:

Thank you for your letter of July 28th calling my attention to the fact that someone has been using the name of the League to secure endorsement of Eugene McCarthy for Congress.

I have called Miss Barbara Stuhler, first Vice-President of the State League, and she will look into the matter, and get in touch with Mrs. Bohn and Mrs. John Donahue, St. Paul president.

It most certainly is contrary to the policy of the League to promote candidates, and we maintain the utmost vigilance to see that this policy is understood and respected.

We appreciate very much your referring the matter to us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Basil Young  
President

cc: Barbara Stuhler  
Mrs. John K. Donahue  
Mrs. Harold Bohn



# Minnesota Republican State Central Committee

685 ENDICOTT-ON-ROBERT • ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA

• CAPITAL 2-1889  
• NESTOR 1405

July 28, 1954

GORDON YOCK  
Clara City  
Chairman

MRS. RUSSELL LUND  
Edina  
Chairwoman

H. E. WESTMORELAND  
Duluth  
1st Vice Chairman

MRS. ARTHUR OLSEN  
Owatonna  
1st Vice Chairwoman

DR. EARL WEST  
Mora  
2nd Vice Chairman

MRS. CONNIE SIEMSEN  
Alexandria  
2nd Vice Chairwoman

THEODORE ROWELL  
Baudette  
3rd Vice Chairman

MRS. H. A. JOHNSON  
St. Paul  
3rd Vice Chairwoman

MRS. C. R. BEATTIE  
Red Wing  
Secretary

WALTER J. FRANZ  
Mountain Lake  
Treasurer

GEORGE F. ETZELL  
Clarissa  
National Committeeman

MRS. ELIZABETH HEFFELFINGER  
Wayzata  
National Committeewoman

Mrs. Basil Young  
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Young:

Mrs. Harold Bohn, 892 Osceola, St. Paul, called me this morning. She has been a member of the League and for two years was Treasurer of the Ramsey County League of Women Voters. Mrs. Bohn informed me that a woman was going door to door in her block and all through the neighborhood, saying that she represented the League of Women Voters and Mrs. June Boranian in a "get out the vote" drive. This woman asked Mrs. Bohn to sign a paper and send it in. When Mrs. Bohn read the paper it was an endorsement of Eugene McCarthy for Congress.

Can you do something to prevent people using the League to promote candidates since I know that it is contrary to the policy of the League?

Sincerely,

Mrs. Russell T. Lund  
State Chairwoman

RSL:ea

CC Mrs. Harold Bohn

League of Women Voters of St. Paul

123 W. Fifth Street  
Saint Paul 2, Minnesota



August 3, 1954

Mrs. Basil Young, President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Ethyl:

I am in receipt of copies of Mrs. Russell Lund's letter to you of July 28th, your answer to her dated July 29th, and your note, also of July 29th, referring the matter to me. I am making the following report.

I talked with Mrs. June Boranian who gave me the following information. It seems as though the Seventh Ward DFL was conducting an "Operation Leaflet" in the 15th precinct of that ward in the hope of getting workers for the DFL Party in the coming elections. Mrs. Boranian tells me that ten people,-- six men and four women-- went from house to house in an effort to get out the vote and to distribute literature for the DFL Party. As Chairwoman of the 7th Ward, her name was on the literature, and if there were any volunteers who wanted to work in the coming elections, they were to call her. She further tells me that all of the people made it very clear that they were from the DFL Party and also, she named off the people who worked with her, none of them being League members, or even names that I recognized. Mrs. Boranian is not a member of the League. Mrs. Boranian also said that she was familiar with the non-partisanship policy of the League of Women Voters, and was at a complete loss as to how to explain any use of the League's name in connection with their operation. She did suggest, that Mrs. Bohn possibly connected the phrase "get out the vote" with the League. Mrs. Bohn is not now a member of the League.

Mrs. Lund called me on the telephone about this matter. I gave her all the information I had. I also suggested that in the future she should feel free to call on us in connection with these matters. I told her that this was one of the election hazards, and that I was sure that before the election was over, this same sort of thing would be repeated time and time again, since it had happened with both parties in the past. But, if we take each instance individually, and work it out, we always have been able to reach a satisfactory conclusion. Mrs. Lund seemed satisfied with this arrangement and seemed to understand our delicate non-partisan position.

Sincerely,

*Mari*

Mrs. John K. Donohue,  
President



Policy - sent

February 9, 1954

Miss. Muriel Ferris  
Executive Secretary  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
1026 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Miss Ferris:

I now have the information for you in connection with the little incident you mentioned in your letter of November 19th with respect to Senator Humphrey's office.

I am enclosing note from Mrs. John Gruner, Civil Rights Chairman on our State Board, which she said I might send on to you, and which I believe is self-explanatory.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Basil Young  
President



11/10/54

On November 12th, 1953 I heard Senator Humphrey speak at the NAIRO (National Association of Intergroup Relations Officials) convention here in Minneapolis. He described his new and less controversial approach to fair employment legislation on the national level through his bill to establish a Permanent Commission on Civil Rights. He then spoke of the collaboration of Senator Ives and said that they would continue to work together--. He said that there had first been a Humphrey-Ives bill and later an Ives-Humphrey bill--that the time might come when there would again be a Humphrey-Ives bill. Their objective, he said, was to win bipartisan support.

I was interested in the possibilities of a less controversial bill with bi-partisan support and wished to see a copy of it. Since we were to discuss possible items for the national Current Agenda at our state board meeting on November 19th, and the revision of the national platform at our December board meeting, it seemed to me that we should be informed with regard to any promising new and less controversial approach to Civil Rights legislation.

Before telephoning Senator Humphrey's headquarters I consulted Grace Wilson in the Minnesota League Office, who referred me to Barbara Stuhler, state vice president. Barbara thought it would be all right to request a copy of the bill and information with regard to its sponsorship. She thought it should be made clear that this was a personal request on my part and did not in any way commit the League. When I asked her whether it might be helpful to suggest that copies might be sent to other state leagues she said it would have to be done very carefully--that they should be sent by Democratic and Republican members jointly, if possible.

All of this I emphasized in talking to Miss Orton at Senator Humphrey's headquarters in the St. Paul Hotel. She did not know who the authors of the bill were, but wired to Washington and had Mr. Simms telephone me the information at the board meeting on November 19th. At that time I learned that the less controversial bill for the establishment of a permanent commission on Civil Rights is sponsored by seven Democratic senators and Senator Morse, and that the Ives-Humphrey bill is an FEPC bill.

Miss Orton asked me, "Where can we get the addresses of the state leagues?" "I don't know", I replied. "It may be that our state office has them; if not, the national office certainly does. So far as I can recall, nothing was said about the availability of such a list, and that problem had not crossed my mind.

I am sorry if I have done anything which has created any unpleasantness for the League. I believe thoroughly in the League policies and wish to abide by the rules at all times. I am fully aware that the individual member cannot always see, until she is instructed, the necessity for safeguards which the long and wide experience of the national organization has shown to be necessary.

Sincerely, *Opal Gruner*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W.



WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MRS. JOHN G. LEE  
President

November 19, 1953

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

Dear Mrs. Young:

I think I should report to you on something that happened yesterday with respect to Senator Humphrey's office.

Around noon time our switchboard received a call from a secretary in Senator Humphrey's office requesting a list of League presidents. Assuming that she was referring to a list of local League presidents in the state of Minnesota, I told the operator to say yes (it is our custom, as you may know, to make available to Representatives and Senators lists of Leagues in their district or state, this being the single exception to our policy of "non-disclosure"). A subsequent call revealed that what the Senator wanted was not a list of Leagues in Minnesota but a list of the presidents of all the state Leagues. I thereupon told the girl that such a list was not available.

Later in the afternoon came a telephone call to me from Mr. Simms who, I believe, is Administrative Assistant to the Senator. Mr. Simms took exception to our refusal and explained that what the Senator had in mind was mailing out to our state presidents a copy of his bill to establish in the federal government a Commission on Civil Rights. I explained our policy to Mr. Simms at some length, outlining the reasons why we had had to be quite strict in making no exceptions. He then inquired whether the Senator could submit the matter to the national Board with a request that it be made available to the state presidents. I told him that of course he was at liberty to do that or to take any other steps he desired but indicated that it would be most unusual if an exception were made in this case.

Mr. Simms was obviously not satisfied with our conversation and ended by saying that "At least he understood better why we were taking the position we did" which I gathered was not an over friendly remark.

Still later in the afternoon Mrs. Katie Louchheim, Director of Women's Activities of the Democratic National Committee, telephoned Mrs. Guyol at her home (Mrs. Guyol is in the office each day until 12:30 and then goes home) to request from her a list of our state presidents! Mrs. Guyol did not know of my conversation with Mr. Simms but, knowing the policy, she indicated that she felt we could not furnish such a list. Her inquiry of Mrs. Louchheim and the answers she received made it obvious that she was

Mrs. B. M. Young - 2

November 19, 1953

requesting the list on behalf of Senator Humphrey's office. Mrs. Louchheim told Mrs. Guyol with a trace of impatience that "this request comes from a good Senator that the League ought to be supporting." Mrs. Guyol told Mrs. Louchheim that so far as she knew the answer was still "No" but she would check with me. This she did and after our joint agreement that in the absence of both Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Leonard from the office there was no one here who would be authorized to make an exception, She notified Mrs. Louchheim's secretary to that effect (Mrs. Louchheim being tied up on the telephone).

That's all there is to the story so far but I thought you should know what had transpired. It is my own feeling that Mr. Simms hasn't the vaguest notion as to how the League operates and that it might be worth while for someone from the Minnesota League to explain us to him. We will endeavor to have Mrs. Lee explain same to Mrs. Louchheim.

Sincerely yours,

*Muriel Ferris*

Muriel Ferris  
Executive Secretary



## IX-A. NATIONAL RESOURCE CHAIRMAN ON THE STATE BOARD

A National Resource Chairman on the state Board is a middleman - or middlewoman - between the national Board and the local League, helping both to carry out the League's primary aim of developing responsible citizens.

The national Board needs the help of state Boards to reinforce its guidance to local Leagues on national Program. Local Leagues receive information and publications pertaining to the national Program directly from the national Board. This may be sufficient for local Leagues with strong leadership, deep-rooted League experience, and adequate community research facilities. But for the many Leagues not so fortunate, additional help is often needed to implement national suggestions and materials.

State Boards can be of invaluable aid in keeping the national Board up-to-date on the status of the national Program in their local Leagues and communities. Their suggestions and ideas to improve national materials are always welcomed by the national Board. Although many local Leagues communicate directly with the national Board, many do not. Supplementary information from the state Board rounds out the picture for the national Board.

These pages contain many suggestions for carrying out this responsibility. It is up to each state Board to decide, on the basis of its personnel and financial resources and its local Leagues' needs, how much it should do.

### THE NATIONAL RESOURCE JOB AT THE STATE LEVEL

A National Resource job entails keeping abreast of developments in the Program item. This includes familiarity with subject matter, League background in the field, how the item got on the Program, and what has developed under it.

In order to cover the national Program effectively, one National Resource Chairman is needed for each national Current Agenda item.

#### Planning

As early as possible in the League year, the state Board outlines a plan of work for the months ahead. Each state Board member takes part in all Board discussions and decisions. A National Resource Chairman shares in this over-all planning by helping to decide how the state Board can fulfill its responsibility in each phase of work - program, voters service, finance, organization, public relations, publications, and bulletin. (See section "Working Together on the Board" in the State Leader's Handbook.)

Her special responsibility is to propose a plan for her item for Board consideration, possible

revision, and approval, in the light of the total work load for the year.

As a background to presenting her plan, a National Resource Chairman should brief the Board on the subject matter of the Program item, pointing out that both state and local Leagues should know and be willing to listen to varying points of view. The national Board's plans for publications, suggested projects, conferences and other activities should be reviewed. Information on these plans may be found in national publications and in letters from the national President to state and local presidents which are sent to local Leagues following the national Convention, Council, and each national Board meeting. Customarily, this letter is accompanied by "Outlook for Work" for each national item. If the state Board has Standing Orders for Leadership Material, a copy of the publication or letter should have been forwarded to a National Resource Chairman by the state Publications Chairman in advance of the planning meeting; if the state Board has provided a Special Subscription Service for a National Resource Chairman she will receive the material at the same time the president does. A National Resource Chairman cannot do an intelligent job of previewing and planning work ahead in her pro-

gram field unless she is thoroughly familiar with information sent out by the national Board.

Next, a National Resource Chairman should summarize for the state Board the status of local League preparation in the national Program field, pointing out local needs and special problems with suggestions for meeting them. As far as possible this should be done on an individual local League basis. If the Board's planning meeting comes too early in the year to permit a National Resource Chairman to obtain this information, she should outline how she proposes to get it in the near future.

In drawing up a proposed plan for helping local Leagues with the national item, a National Resource Chairman might consider area conferences or joint workshops of neighboring Leagues, assistance to new Leagues, cooperative projects among local Leagues, contacting state-wide organizations, speakers, bulletin articles, help in appraising community thinking, steps in responding to a Time for Action.

#### Periodic Review

A National Resource Chairman should report frequently to the state Board on how local Leagues are progressing in the Program area and how state Board plans are being carried out. She should keep the state Board up-to-date on subject matter, legislation, and information about attitudes of Congressmen in their state. New national materials, suggestions, and plans as set forth in letters from the national President, should be reviewed. An occasional assessment of public opinion within the state regarding the national Program and an evaluation of League consensus is helpful both to state and national Boards. A good way to keep in touch with local Leagues is by reading their bulletins and Board minutes. In the light of developments general plans made earlier may be modified or firmed up.

#### Training Sessions

Many state Leagues hold conferences, workshops, or training days once or twice a year, all or part of which may be devoted to the national Program. Geographically small states may have one such meeting for all Leagues in the state; large states may find it necessary to have several in different places. Some states hold meetings for Leagues of similar size or characteristics. The training session should combine both content and techniques for reaching the membership and the community. This is a good time to review local library and resource facilities. If they are inade-

quate in some communities, plans should be made to fill the gaps.

The state Board's job is not finished once a training session is out of the way. Unfortunately, some Leagues will find it impossible to attend, and a National Resource Chairman, together with the Board, should plan to reach those Leagues. It may be that a personal visit by a National Resource Chairman or one of her committee members will be needed. Such a visit may cover not only national Program, but also other phases of League work on which the League might need help, and on which the National Resource Chairman should be briefed.

#### Provisional Leagues

A National Resource Chairman should help the Organization Committee assist provisional Leagues in national Program work. The Recognition Standards require provisional Leagues to review national Continuing Responsibilities. They should understand how the national Program is made. They will need help on how and where to begin work on the national Program, how to set up Resource Committees and briefing meetings, obtain materials, and develop unit discussion outlines adapted to their needs. Many Organization Committees find it extremely helpful to have a National Resource Chairman, or a member of her committee, visit a provisional League to help it start its work on the national Program.

#### Cooperation among Local Leagues

In some years the national Current Agenda might be carried out most effectively if several local Leagues work together on a project. A National Resource Chairman may suggest this to the state Board and help coordinate efforts of local Leagues in a county, area, congressional district, or the state as a whole. It should be remembered, however, that the state Board cannot insist that a local League Board participate in such a plan. The local League Board decides how it will carry out its Program responsibility within the framework of good League practices and procedures.

#### In Non-League Areas

Some states have substantial areas with no local Leagues. The state Board should occasionally reach into these sections with releases to newspapers or should send informational material to organizations in order to build support for League Program issues and knowledge of the League itself. Giving national Program material a state or

local tie-in can be particularly effective. The Public Relations Chairman on the state Board should be able to furnish a list of organizations and daily and weekly newspapers in the state.

#### Time for Action

In carrying out a national Time for Action, a state Board may take advantage of a National Resource Chairman's knowledge of the subject and ask her to draft communications to members of Congress. The letter or telegram which is sent in the name of the state League should always be approved and signed by the president. The national Board would like to have a copy of each such communication so that it can keep abreast of state League activities.

It is often helpful for a state National Resource Chairman to remind local Leagues that the national Board has sent out a Time for Action. Local Leagues are urged to send to the state and national Boards copies of their letters to members of Congress.

If a local League feels that it cannot follow through on a national Time for Action because its members are not prepared or not in agreement with the national stand, a National Resource Chairman on the state Board should help it become prepared and develop understanding of the League's position. It is very useful to the national Board for a National Resource Chairman to summarize local League responses to a Time for Action insofar as she is aware of them. This helps the national Board keep in touch with member thinking throughout the country.

#### Program Making

A National Resource Chairman can provide valuable help to local Leagues at program-making time. She should remind local Leagues that it is a Convention year, call attention to any national Board material and suggestions, prod local Leagues to reserve adequate time for membership discussion, provide suggestions for ways local National Resource Chairmen can help in furnishing background material, and emphasize the importance of local Leagues' sending delegates to national Convention. In short, a National Re-

source Chairman on the state Board should promote local participation in the national program-making process so that each local League can feel it has helped select the national Program.

#### Publications

The National Resource Committee, working with the Publications Chairman, can suggest local League use of national Program publications both in and out of the League. Suggestions of ways to adapt national publications to meet local situations are important also. Sometimes the state National Resource Committee may feel it necessary to prepare "technique" material on the best method of handling the national Program in the state. At other times an account of the effect of the national Program on the state may appear to be a good idea. All such supplementary material should be cleared with the national Board if it is intended for public distribution.

A National Resource Chairman should check the availability of publications included in national bibliographies and suggest ways of obtaining them if they cannot be found locally. Informing local Leagues of other resources, such as universities and other organizations, can also be helpful.

#### Other Activities

At the request of the state Board a National Resource Chairman may be asked to present an estimate of expenses to carry out the national Program in the coming year . . . . A plan for sharing local League ideas and materials may be set up . . . . Occasionally an article in the state bulletin on the effect of a national Program item on the state, or some phase of national Program activities in the state, is appropriate, although general subject matter articles on national Program are unnecessary because they appear in THE NATIONAL VOTER and other national publications . . . . A speaker's bureau for local Leagues and non-League organizations may be set up with the cooperation of the state Public Relations Chairman . . . . A National Resource Chairman may find out whether there are other organizations in the state interested in the national Program item and suggest some form of cooperation.



## THE NATIONAL RESOURCE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE

A National Resource Chairman becomes well-grounded in her subject. She develops ideas for taking the information to League members and communities in the state, or she knows where to find someone adept in doing so. Smooth working relationships with other Board members and local Leagues are important.

A National Resource Chairman needs a committee to share the work. The size will depend on the scope of the Program, the size of the state, and, of course, the amount of leadership available.

The number of committee meetings will depend on Board plans for the item, the scope of the subject, the size of the state, and the amount of travel money available in the budget. A careful account of all committee expenses should be kept. If the state budget does not support all necessary expenses, a careful account should be kept and reported to the membership when new budgets are being considered.

Frequently the state Board will assign to a National Resource Committee responsibility for keeping up-to-date on one or more of the national Continuing Responsibilities. This will influence the size of the committee. It should always be remembered that one important reason to have a committee - or at least to have a vice chairman - is to help someone develop into a leader in the program field. It has been said that the mark of a good chairman is that there is someone to

succeed her when she can no longer serve.

Representation on a National Resource Committee from all parts of the state is most desirable and should be followed if feasible. But the very fact that members are distant from one another leads to problems in communications. Attendance at meetings becomes arduous and costly. Some Leagues have found that a committee can be more active if it is made up largely of members near the home community of the chairman. If other chairmen on the Board follow this procedure too, and they live in different sections of the state, all areas will be represented on some committees of the state Board.

A National Resource Committee of the state Board made up of National Resource Chairmen from each local League is not so effective as it may seem at first glance. In states with a great many Leagues it is of course impossible. In a state with few Leagues, it may be temporarily the only answer, but the disadvantages should be recognized. Local chairmen are chosen for the work they are able to do locally. Many times they do not have the time to participate in state activities or to leave home. However, past local National Resource Chairmen, individually selected by the state Board, with an understanding of what the state job involves, can be valuable members of a state resource committee. This procedure also helps to build up a nucleus of "experts." The League needs to keep and develop good program leadership through its resource committees.

*Polig - misc*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W.



WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MRS. JOHN G. LEE  
President

June 23, 1955

Mrs. B. M. Young  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
117 $\frac{1}{2}$  W. Howard Street  
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Young:

We have your request to add two names to the mailing list of THE NATIONAL VOTER and you list them as honorary life members.

There is no honorary life membership category in the League of Women Voters. Please see the national By-laws, Article III, Section 2. The only way we can add the names of Professors Short and Anderson to the free list of THE VOTER is if they meet the qualifications of membership in one of the four categories mentioned. Any type of membership, of course, requires the payment of dues.

We are sorry to have to be so strict in our interpretation, but as the League has grown so has the expense of printing and mailing THE VOTER. We are continually tightening our rules in this connection, in order to hold down expenses. The sole exception in the past was that it was possible to designate contributors as associate members for the purpose of their receiving THE VOTER, but even that policy has been changed.

THE VOTER is completely a "debit item" - and a large one - on our ledgers but, we hope, a "credit item" in its usefulness to members and friends of the League. Many Leagues which, like you, would like for friends of the League to receive THE VOTER, enter prepaid subscriptions at \$1.00 a year. Would you care to do this? We will hold your request a reasonable length of time and then, if we have not heard from you, file it. Sorry we cannot comply with your request.

Sincerely yours,

*(Mrs.) Dorothy F. Girton*

Dorothy Felker Girton  
Editor, THE NATIONAL VOTER

DFG:pg

*Who wrote about this? I should think we would have to pay for these - they are our members.*

*E. Y.*

*Policy - Misc*

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W.



WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MRS. JOHN G. LEE  
President

March 11, 1955

Mrs. Basil Young, President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
84 South 10th Street, Room 406  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Copy to Mrs. Young, Hibbing, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Young:

I did enjoy our visit in Milwaukee and was sorry not to see you again before you left. I never did find Betty Grindlay. Mrs. Lee said the Chicago meeting turned out well but I didn't get a chance to ask her about details. I hope things were worked out to your satisfaction.

I know state presidents are not responsible for the lack of judgment shown by local Leagues and I hesitate to write you about the following matter but we were disturbed by the article "L'Affaire Girl Scout Handbook" in the Duluth League's March newsletter. The material in Mrs. Lee's memorandum of January 25 was designed for guidance, not for reproduction. Because of its confidential nature the Board decided not to send it out on Standing Orders or make copies available for sale.

Unfortunately also the article in the newsletter is not correct. The LWV was the only organization mentioned in the Handbook and, as Mrs. Layton's letter indicated, the League was omitted because of the protests from other organizations which were also helping the Scouts. Incorrect also is the implication that the AAUW and the other organizations were "described in 'Human Events.'" They were not referred to at all in Mr. LeFevre's article which was included in the "Human Events" mailing.

If you have an opportunity perhaps you can point out that when quotes are used it is important to quote accurately, if not in full, indicating omissions by dots. In short, such loose reporting can prove to be very bad public relations and opens the League to the very criticisms we make of other organizations which are not careful with their facts. Looking forward to seeing you at Council,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert F. Leonard*  
Mrs. Robert F. Leonard  
First Vice President

ZL-a



Sept. 27, '56

Dear Ethyl,

I sent you a letter from Mrs. Harding, yesterday, re TV "slip" of Mrs. Winston.

Today I got a phone call from Mary Everson, who added these facts.

Mrs. Winston was not the moderator, but it was Mrs. Watson of St. Paul, for it was one of the programs handled by St. Paul LWV.

The script was written out "Democratic-Farmer-Labor".

The script did not give the names of the next candidates to appear, so that was added ad-lib.

Mary felt that if there was a slip of the tongue, it was due to nervousness, and she understands in fact that Mrs. Watson is a democrat.

Mrs. Harding is former head of the University of Minnesota Press, now retired and putting good deal of energy into DFL party. At the Fair, Mary understood that she felt League was "stuffing ballot box" for DFL candidates on poll. I don't know what you want to do about this from Hibbing. I showed Elsa the first letter before I sent it to you. Maybe you want to wait to answer till you get down, or until any further checking you think should be done, is done. Could be delicate...

Sept. 28, 1956

Mrs. S. B. Harding  
58 Orlin Ave. S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Harding:

We deeply regret the unfortunate slips of the tongue which occurred on our television program Saturday, September 22. However, the tone of your letter to our state office, of which you were kind enough to send us a copy, frankly surprised us.

As a long-time League member we hope you would agree that the record of the League for accuracy and fairness is well above average. But we are human. We are not professionals, and for that matter, even professionals pull the occasional boner. To suggest that our moderator, consciously or unconsciously, meant to "follow the Joe McCarthy line" seems uncalled for. Though it is relatively unimportant, she happens to be a Democrat. What is important is that she was willing to take on a difficult assignment and do her best. As you undoubtedly have found, volunteer work in a good cause is often a thankless task, but at least a degree of forbearance on the part of fellow-workers seems reasonable to expect.

For your information, our moderator on September 22 was Mrs. Dennis Watson of the St. Paul League of Women Voters, not Mrs. Winston as your letter stated. Perhaps this only proves how easy it is for anyone to make a mistake.

Please be assured that we share your dismay at what happened. We certainly will continue to do our utmost to avoid further slips, Freudian or otherwise. As you can see from the enclosed working script, which was being used by the station personnel and Mrs. Watson, the much-publicized "ic" was there. The script did not call for the use of the gubernatorial candidates' names, but split-second timing at the close of a program often makes slight variations necessary. If you have ever served as a TV moderator, you will appreciate the stress one is under, particularly in the last few moments of the telecast.

We are happy to know that League members are watching the series and only hope that when a program meets with their approval they will let both the League and the station know. Because of the station's confidence in the League, the candidates are really getting an hour's free time since the telecasts are being taped and broadcast on KSTP Radio the same night, 8:30 p.m. (9:10 p.m. for the September 29th program).

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Frederick E. King, President

Mrs. T. O. Everson, Television Chairman

Encl.

cc: LWV of Minnesota

Mrs. Don Y. Moore, President, St. Paul LWV  
Mrs. B. F. Fuller, TV Chairman, " "

Monday, September 24, 1956

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

T S Mc 115, Washington and 15th Aves. S.E.

Minneapolis 14, Minn.

Ladies!

I am a long-time member and contributor to the League of Women Voters. I thoroughly approve of its policy of presenting rival candidates for office on the same platform. It is often the only way a newcomer to politics can get a hearing.

However, the League will lose its reputation for non-partisanship if the League moderator continues to follow the Joe McCarthy line. On the Saturday ( September 22) TV program on which the 4th District Congressional candidates appeared, Mrs. Winston announced that next week the League would present Anchor Nelson and the "Democrat"-Farmer-Labor candidate Orville "Friedman".

Perhaps these were "Freudian slips". If so, the moderator should be warned to guard her tongue.

Sincerely,

*Margaret S. Harding*

Mrs. Margaret S. Harding (Mrs. S. B. )

58 Orlin Ave. S.E.

Minneapolis 14, Minn.

*Copy to the board of the Minneapolis League*



F2D+E3

*Wm. Kaehle*

November 8, 1936

Mrs. Basil Young, President,  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota,  
117-1/2 West Howard Street,  
Hibbing, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Young:

We have had an unfortunate incident here in Duluth in regard to the election which I would like to bring to your attention and ask for your advice.

Three weeks ago I was asked by a member of the Republican Women's Club if the organization could have a quantity (approximately 1,000) of our broadside on the three state amendments. After conferring with the Voters Service chairman we decided that we probably could not use all 5,000 broadsides in our voters service booths and that it would be better to have them used. However, an equal number should be offered the Democratic-Farmer-Labor women; I contacted them but they could not make use of them, hence declined. This whole matter was discussed informally among Board members before our Board meeting on October 18 but no official action was taken on it; this I now regret.

Monday night, election eve, Republican precinct workers in an eastern section of the city were distributing our broadsides along with campaign material about their candidates. Two League members in this area called to protest this use of our broadsides.

This whole incident will be discussed by the Board at a meeting on Thursday, November 15, for no doubt we will wish to consider if we should give our non-partisan material to the political parties or other organizations in the future. If we do, are we to control its use and are we responsible as to how it is used by other organizations?

Voters Service has done an outstanding job in this election and it is unfortunate that this one incident may be held against us.

I would appreciate any comment or suggestion you may have for us.

With best regards,

*Dorothy von Glahn*  
Mrs. Gerhard von Glahn  
President

2105 Vermilion Road,  
Duluth 3, Minn.

*Copy of letter sent to Mrs. Young*

*Called her on phone  
+ explained*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Young Non-Part.  
State Pol.

F2D1E3

January 3, 1957

Mrs. Robert M. Kanter  
38 East Kent Road  
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Kanter:

Mrs. Dyke has asked me to reply to your letter of December 15 about the nonpartisanship policy.

The national Board, as you know, recommends that no member of any League Board engage in partisan activity during her term of office. It is the responsibility of the local Board to interpret this national recommendation (pages 3 and 4 of the Local League Handbook) and also any other local nonpartisan situations which may arise, just as you say your Board did in the case of the unit leaders.

Many factors enter into a consideration of the nonpartisanship policy -- the type of League job, whether the position appears to the public to be one involving League leadership, the degree of political activity contemplated, the age and strength of the League, the community understanding of the League and the political tenor of the community. A local Board, understanding and appreciating the purpose and philosophy of the League's nonpartisanship policy, must weigh these points before arriving at a decision.

We have heard that a few local Leagues have attempted to write down policy statements on nonpartisanship. Mrs. Horner tells me that the Minneapolis League has done this and you may wish to write them for a copy. Some Leagues include in the "vulnerable" list positions that are in the public eye or appear to put the League member in the role of being a representative of the League. I refer to such positions as finance solicitors, membership recruiters, members of a speaker's bureau, or certain voters service positions that involve direct action to get out the vote.

Many Leagues consider the position of unit leader of sufficient importance to be a "vulnerable" one as far as the nonpartisanship policy is concerned. Certainly it would appear very doubtful that a unit leader should continue in her League position while

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. Robert M. Kanter  
Duluth, Minnesota

1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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1/3/57

running for office or immediately following the announcement of her intention to run. I should think the same would hold true for "active" party work. Whether a unit chairman "identified" with a party should be a unit leader is a matter for local Board deliberation. Certainly, we recognize that party affiliation is usually necessary if a citizen is to be politically effective. Therefore, it would seem that mere "identification" should not deprive a League member from being a unit leader. If this were so, the League of Women Voters, which is made up, we hope, of citizens trying to be effective, would never be able to have sufficient leaders. The answer probably depends on local reaction to party identification, the degree of identification, and the ability of the member to be objective in spite of her party affiliation.

Sincerely yours,

Christine Urban  
Program Organization Secretary

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C O P Y

38 East Kent Road  
Duluth, Minnesota  
December 15, 1956

League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1026 Seventeenth Street, Northwest  
Washington 6, D. C.

Attention: Mrs. Harold Dyke  
Vice President, Organization

Dear Mrs. Dyke:

There has been some misunderstanding on the part of our local membership as to our policy of nonpartisanship, specifically as it pertains to unit leaders. If I am addressing this letter to you in error, will you please refer it to the person who could best help us.

The situation which brought this misunderstanding out into the open occurred this fall when I, as Units Chairman, asked a newly appointed unit leader to resign because she had just made public her intention to run for office in the State Legislature. The local board at the time interpreted the policy of nonpartisanship for persons on the Board and in positions of leadership to include unit leaders.

Because of this and other similar questions which arose during the recent election, our November general meeting was devoted to questions and answers about League itself -- organization and policies.

As an outcome of this meeting and the open discussion there, it was decided to have a local committee review our general policy of nonpartisanship as it pertains to unit leaders in particular. Specifically, where do we draw the line for a unit leader? May she run for public office? May she hold an office in her political party? May she work actively and be identified with a political party?

Before considering these matters, we would like to know whether there is any statement or background information which would help us in this matter. Since the misunderstanding exists in our League, it is likely that it exists elsewhere, and we should appreciate any help you could give us in clarifying the matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Hommey Kanter  
(Mrs. Robert M. Kanter)  
2nd Vice President, Units Chairman

*mine*

F2D1E3

Mahtomedi 15, Minnesota  
January 24, 1957

Mrs. Robert M. Kanter  
38 East Kent Road  
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Kanter,

I am inclosing copies of the Minneapolis' Policy of NonPartisanship.  
I think it might be helpful in your discussion in Duluth.

Sincerely,

*Dorothy Anderson*

Organization Chairman--State Board

*Spive*

F2 D1E 3

Mahtomedi 15, Minnesota  
January 24, 1957

Mrs. Paul Boyer  
1713 Shryer  
St. Paul 13, Minnesota

Dear Lyda,

I am inclosing copies of the statement on Nonpartisanship which Minneapolis worked out in 1953; I thought it might be helpful to you and your Board if there is any further discussion of Roseville's "mincrity" opinion. It appears to me that both you and your Board have shown great courtesy and understanding in dealing with your critics. Rest assured that we know that you will come through stronger than ever.

Sincerely,



*you*  
*gave*

RED WING  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
— RED WING, MINNESOTA —

F 2 D 1 E 3  
JAN 10 1958

January 6, 1958

League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
15th and Washington Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Board Members:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the minutes of a special meeting of the Red Wing League. We feel that they may be of special interest to you and perhaps to other Leagues, and that Mrs. Anderson may perhaps be especially interested, inasmuch as she was called about the subject discussed at the meeting.

Since the minutes were written, it has come to the attention of our League that one or more Minneapolis units have sponsored or are arranging to sponsor one of these "Report to the People" meetings. If such is the case, we would like very much to know how the meetings will be carried out, and how the details which posed a problem in Red Wing were successfully dealt with there. We would be pleased if you would answer this directly, or forward our request to whichever League can answer it for us.

Thanking you for your consideration, I am

Yours truly,

*Louis Ode*

(Mrs. Louis Ode)  
Secretary, Red Wing League

820 West Avenue  
Red Wing, Minnesota

*This requires an answer - let's also take it up at Council meeting as ex in workshop*  
*GW*

JAN 10 1958

Red Wing League of Women Voters  
December 30, 1957

A special meeting of the Red Wing League of Women Voters was held Monday afternoon, December 30, at the home of the president, Mrs. Miller. Board members present in addition to the president included Mesdames Bunn, Hosking, Konsella, Ode, Robinson, Usem and Watson. Also present in an advisory capacity at the invitation of the president were Mrs. Albert Marshall and Mrs. Frank Chesley, each having been formerly president of the League and each being presently active in her own political party. The purpose of the meeting was to decide whether or not to accept the suggestion offered to Mrs. Miller by John B. Friedrich, Goodhue County DFL Chairman, that the League sponsor Governor Freeman's "Report to the People" speech to be given in Red Wing on January 16 at 3:30 P. M. Because the minutes of this meeting may be of interest beyond the Red Wing League, they are given more in detail than usual.

The Governor is making several speeches each day over an eight-day period, throughout the state, and the proposal was presented to the group as an opportunity to be of community service, inasmuch as the address will be nonpartisan in nature. Mr. Friedrich felt in making this suggestion that the governor would reach a larger group through nonpartisan sponsorship, and that with such an arrangement the high school auditorium might be available, with a chance for senior high school students to hear the talk. He did not give the president an outline of the speech, but it was believed that in addition to the interim report, Mr. Freeman would touch on his reorganization program for state government, in which the League is interested, and also on his recent trip to the Far East.

The president opened the meeting for a discussion, emphasizing that not only was the group making an immediate decision, but also forming a policy to which the local League would have to conform in the future. Most of the members present expressed a feeling that it would be desirable to sponsor such a meeting if it could be arranged, both as a service to the community and for the prestige which it would give the League. However, the point was made at once that such an action might be considered to be partisan in nature by the community, and what good we might accomplish might be negated by the adverse publicity which might arise and endanger both the local and State leagues' reputation for nonpartisanship. Suggestions were made as to how the appearance of partisanship could be avoided. It was first suggested that a prominent Republican be invited to share the platform and be given an opportunity to speak. This was not felt to be desirable, as it would give the appearance of a candidate's meeting, and doubtless would not be acceptable to the governor. There was also the limited amount of time to consider, as the governor would arrive at 3:30 from a luncheon meeting at Rochester, and have to leave no later than 5:00 to address another group in the Twin Cities in the evening. It was also suggested that arrangements be made to sponsor a leading Republican for a nonpartisan speech, releasing the publicity for both events at the same time, and presenting the two speeches as a series of talks by persons in government. This suggestion was not acceptable to the group. It was further suggested that a cosponsor might be found, such as a service club or the AAUW. However, Mrs. Miller had promised to give Mr. Friedrich a reply within a period of time embracing the holidays and now expiring, and it was felt that there would not be sufficient time to make the arrangement. Then, too, the hour of 3:30 in the afternoon made it unrealistic for the sponsorship by a group whose members would find it awkward to attend the meeting.

It was suggested that if the contents of the speech were known it

might be less hazardous to risk the effect of the speech on the League's public relations, and that perhaps if the invitation had come from the League on a topic it had provided, that the situation might be different. The group in general seemed to feel that the governor would not make a partisan speech, and indeed might feel inhibited by his League sponsorship, but that those of the public who did not attend the meeting and hear his remarks might assume that the talk was of a partisan nature.

The point was underscored that financial support for the annual fund drives and for the forthcoming "Know Your Town" booklet would be endangered by adverse public relations. Some members felt that we would lose contributors by sponsoring the governor; others felt that there was the possibility of losing support from those who would feel we should sponsor him.

Several persons outside the Red Wing League were consulted concerning the matter. Mrs. Miller asked Mrs. Anderson, State President, for advice and a precedent; Mrs. Marshall spoke with her sister, Mrs. Guyol, who is *working* <sup>with</sup> on the national board; Mrs. Chesley phoned Mrs. Hargreaves, formerly a member both of state and national boards. All these women consulted felt that the matter should be approached with caution, and their suggestions for tempering the partisan appearance of the sponsorship were among those outlined hereinabove, i. e., sharing sponsorship, having a second meeting, etc.

After discussion in which all participated, it was the consensus that the Red Wing League could not safely sponsor the governor's talk without endangering its nonpartisan reputation; that more harm than good for the government's reorganization plan might result; that the fund drive and other financial backing would be imperiled; that the governor would be coming in any case and that League members should be urged to attend; and finally, that there should be no effort to present him unless the League could go whole heartedly into such a step with the membership feeling that it was a completely desirable step to take. While this was the consensus, it is only fair to report that there was a strong minority feeling that the League was missing an excellent opportunity to give community service, and that by being apprehensive about such a meeting that the League was seriously limiting the prestige and purpose of the League, and that local policy thus being made would prevent the League's ever sponsoring anyone of stature in the future, except at candidate's meetings.

It was decided to refuse Mr. Friedrich's suggestion, and the meeting was adjourned.

The president asked the secretary to editorialize briefly here to express a feeling generally shared by the group - that it is unfortunate that the League could not feel that its position was strong enough nor its prestige sufficient to present the highest ranking official in the state on a non-partisan basis without fearing that its motives, and his, would be misinterpreted. It is the wish of the group that the State Board could make a policy ruling in the matter applicable to any League, with advice as to how such a presentation could be made without detriment to a local or state League. The refusal of this offer has put the president and the Board in a difficult position in respect to those persons in the community who do not understand how the decision was arrived at, and it would be of great assistance to present and future boards to have available a specific method of handling such a situation.

*[Signature]*  
(Mrs. Louis Ode) Secretary



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA  
15th and Washington Avenues S. E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota FE 8-8791

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DATE: October 21, 1958

TO: ~~Mary Mantis~~ and Mary Evenson and Dorothy Anderson

FROM: Grace

SUBJECT LWV of Virginia writes appreciation of our Bulletin, especially liking the  
DA column on nonpartisanship; Betty Farwell, President, wquoted it at  
2 fall program conferences. She finds bulletins from other states give  
her a good feeling of solidarity, as well as being excellent sources of  
information.

League of Women Voters of Virginia

OCT 15 1958

Box 188, Rt. 2  
Vienna, Virginia  
October 11, 1958

Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President  
League of Women Voters of Minnesota  
University of Minnesota  
15th & Washington Ave., S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Anderson,

Just a note to tell you how much I appreciated your column on Non-partisanship in your July-August Bulletin. I was, at the time, helping plan our two Fall Program Conferences and had been asked to speak on non-partisanship. I was much impressed with the way you expressed the importance of this League characteristic, as you put it, so quoted from your article at each of my conferences.

I find that Bulletins from other Leagues give me a good feeling of solidarity as well as being excellent sources of information. I hope that Virginia will soon have its Bulletin on a regular basis, which has not been true in the past.

Thanks again for the help you gave me without knowing it!

Sincerely,

*Betty Farwell*

Betty Farwell  
President

*Council*

July 21, 1959

MEMO TO MRS. LAVES, 2)1 701 South Ballantine Road, Bloomington, Indiana

FROM Grace Wilson and Roberta Williams, secretaries, Minnesota L-V Office

RE: The conversation we had with you in the spring, about the place of a state-or national League Board at a state convention, state board at local meeting. We wrote as you suggested to national, and here is a copy of the answer from Mabelle Long; you said you would be interested in seeing it.

"It is really easier to answer your second question first, so why don't I?

The relationship between a state Board member and her local Board is most valuable if the state Board member fulfills her function as a representative of all the state rather than the representative of her local League, and if the local Board thinks of the state Board member as a source of help but not as a monitor keeping an eye on the progress of her local League. The state Board member's function is not that of a "go-between" (in either direction) between the local League and the state Board. With this in mind it is certainly not advisable for the local League to feel they must invite the state Board member and it is equally inadvisable for the state Board member to always attend local Board meetings no matter how genuinely welcome she may be. I could say it another way, the local League should receive help from the state Board through the channels open to all local Leagues and should communicate to the state Board by means used by all local Leagues (whether or not their local League is represented on the state Board). The state Board member can do a lot to help her local League by making certain that the local Board understands her willingness to be of assistance. The League will develop maturity by learning how to make use of her in this permissive sense rather than on a regular formal basis which, on occasion, has been known to strain local-state relations. Leagues (like people) like to be free to make their own mistakes.

Now to return to question number one, the philosophy governing state-local relations applies as well to national-state. It seems to me that a national Board visitor to a state convention should have a badge designating her as a Special Guest much as is done at national Council and Convention. For example, Special Guest badges are given to non-Board members of the Nominating Committee on those occasions. The badge could designate that she was a member of the national Board. It would seem to me that she would definitely not have a vote. The delegates could vote to give her the privilege of the floor just as they may make any convention rule. If the state Board knew in advance that the national Board member was prepared to give answers not otherwise available to questions which would be under discussion, they might alert someone to make such a motion. In general since, of course, the state Board is making every effort to make the delegates the masters of the Convention, it does not seem to me much leeway should be given to others no matter how distinguished their qualifications and that the national Board members would be the first to recognize this and not feel any exclusion from vote or discussion an impoliteness.

Miss Drake is on vacation! I will bring your note and my answer to her attention on her return. Should she see the need of corrections or additions you will hear from her.



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TO: Dixie Drake, LMV of U.S.  
FROM: Grace Wilson, Org. Sec'y.  
SUBJECT: National Board Member at a  
State Convention

*Policy*  
*copy to DA*  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

JUN 12 1959

DATE 6/6/59

*Grace let Mrs.  
Laves know*

*The answer*

*done 7/22/59*  
At Mrs. Laves suggestion (who was here lately for an afternoon, and we asked her advice on this point), we are writing you to ask a question about the status of a national board member at a state convention.

We find no guidance in the local or state handbook, maybe we didn't look thoroughly enough. It seems like she should have a privilege of the floor. But sometimes the local League doesn't think of appointing her their delegate, probably they think she is being taken care of another way, and the State Board doesn't know exactly what to call her. What we did was to give her a delegates badge, labeled national board, and I presume she had a vote, or should have had.

What is the polite and proper thing to do, so we will be prepared better next convention?

Another policy matter we miss in the revised state Handbook is some advice <sup>as</sup> to the treatment of a state Board member by her local League. There used to be a paragraph suggesting she be always invited to local Board meetings, and sent mailings etc. But that is not in the revised issue, and there is no word in the LL Handbook along this line, either, so the local President perhaps doesn't know she should be inviting her, and keeping her informed. What advice have you?

MEMO

Date:

June 10, 1959

To: GRACE WILSON, ORGANIZATION SECRETARY, MINNESOTA

JUN 12 1959

From: MABELLE LONG

It is really easier to answer your second question first, so why don't I?

The relationship between a state Board member and her local Board is most valuable if the state Board member fulfills her function as a representative of all the state rather than the representative of her local League, and if the local Board thinks of the state Board member as a source of help but not as a monitor keeping an eye on the progress of her local League. The state Board member's function is not that of a "go-between" (in either direction) between the local League and the state Board. With this in mind it is certainly not advisable for the local League to feel they must invite the state Board member and it is equally inadvisable for the state Board member to always attend local Board meetings no matter how genuinely welcome she may be. I could say it another way, the local League should receive help from the state Board through the channels open to all local Leagues and should communicate to the state Board by means used by all local Leagues (whether or not their local League is represented on the state Board). The state Board member can do a lot to help her local League by making certain that the local Board understands her willingness to be of assistance. The League will develop maturity by learning how to make use of her in this permissive sense rather than on a regular formal basis which, on occasion, has been known to strain state-local relations. Leagues (like people) like to be free to make their own mistakes.

Now to return to question number one, the philosophy governing state-local relations applies as well to national-state. It seems to me that a national Board visitor to a state convention should have a badge designating her as a Special Guest much as is done at national Council and Convention. For example, Special Guest badges are given to non-Board members of the Nominating Committee on those occasions. The badge could designate that she was a member of the national Board. It would seem to me that she would definitely not have a vote. The delegates could vote to give her the privilege of the floor just as they may make any convention rule. If the state Board knew in advance that the national Board member was prepared to give answers not otherwise available to questions which would be under discussion, they might alert someone to make such a motion. In general since, of course, the state Board is making every effort to make the delegates the masters of the Convention, it does not seem to me much leeway should be given to others no matter how distinguished their qualifications and that the national Board members would be the first to recognize this and not feel any exclusion from vote or discussion an impoliteness.

Miss Drake is on vacation. I will bring your note and my answer to her attention on her return. Should she see the need of corrections or additions you will hear from her.

M  
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TO: Whiting, Welch & Janski

FROM: Roberta Williams

SUBJECT Board Expenses

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE 8/26/59

I have not heard from several board members, but hopefully they have written directly to one of you. This is what I have — either from memos sent recently or previous bills:

	<u>Gas &amp; Parking (or 5¢ a mile)</u>	<u>Hotel</u>
Barbara Carlson	\$ 7.00 - gas	\$ 8.00
Jean Ode	2.85 - gas & Parking	
Ann Duff	1.50 - " "	
Sue Seymour	1.35 - " "	
Louise Kuderling	1.25 - " "	
Donna Hipps	1.25 - " "	
Dorothy Anderson	2.50 - 5¢ a mile (no parking)	
Virginia Neumaier	12.60 - gas from Moorhead	
Bette Miller	9.00 - limousine	
Jan Sigford	1.25 - (my guess - parking & gas)	
Owstonna	6.00	
Duluth	17.00 - 5¢ a mile	19.40 -
Grand total	\$71.95	

In addition there are always bills for stamps, etc. as well as other trips to the office. I'm sending the memos to Annette for her to interpret.



M  
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M  
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TO: Irene Janski, Kay Welch,  
D. Anderson, R. Williams

FROM: A. Whiting

SUBJECT Travel expenses

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE 8-7-59

Irene and I talked on the way home from Board meeting and it looked as if it would be practically impossible for Janski, Welch and Whiting to meet Friday the 14th because of other commitments that were not definite enough to allow us to plan ahead so I have prepared the enclosed Memo and am sending it to each Board member. When the information requested is received, Roberta, would you compile it and give it some interpretation and as a committee we can work from there. We have more time than usual but the sooner we have the information, the more time we will have to study it and make a satisfactory recommendation. Hope this is satisfactory with the other members of the committee!

AUG 10 1959

M  
E  
M  
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TO: All State Board Members

FROM: Janski, Welch, Whiting

SUBJECT Traveling expenses

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

DATE 8-7-59

In order to assist your committee in studying and recommending a new policy for payment of travel expenses incurred in League work, will you please send immediately to the state office a report of your actual expenses in traveling to and from the state office for a Board meeting. This should include gas, parking feese, (bus or train fare if used), hotel expense and meals. We are interested in your expenses per meeting but if you anticipate <sup>that these</sup> may vary from meeting to meeting, we would appreciate that additional information. We also would welcome your suggestions on this subject.

AUG 10 1959

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U. S. 1026 17th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

MEMO

State Bd. member  
+ local Bd. relationship

Date:

June 10, 1959

To:

GRACE WILSON, ORGANIZATION SECRETARY, MINNESOTA

JUN 12 1959

From:

MABELLE LONG

It is really easier to answer your second question first, so why don't I?

The relationship between a state Board member and her local Board is most valuable if the state Board member fulfills her function as a representative of all the state rather than the representative of her local League, and if the local Board thinks of the state Board member as a source of help but not as a monitor keeping an eye on the progress of her local League. The state Board member's function is not that of a "go-between" (in either direction) between the local League and the state Board. With this in mind it is certainly not advisable for the local League to feel they must invite the state Board member and it is equally inadvisable for the state Board member to always attend local Board meetings no matter how genuinely welcome she may be. I could say it another way, the local League should receive help from the state Board through the channels open to all local Leagues and should communicate to the state Board by means used by all local Leagues (whether or not their local League is represented on the state Board). The state Board member can do a lot to help her local League by making certain that the local Board understands her willingness to be of assistance. The League will develop maturity by learning how to make use of her in this permissive sense rather than on a regular formal basis which, on occasion, has been known to strain state-local relations. Leagues (like people) like to be free to make their own mistakes.

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JUN 27 1960

State

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

1026 17TH STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

Consensus - shall we order?  
9w - Did

June 22, 1960

Mrs. Morris Rothnem  
Organization Chairman  
League of Women Voters of Minneapolis  
84 South Sixth Street, Room 414  
Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Rothnem:

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P  
Y

We are in the process of mimeographing "Excerpts from the Consensus-Action Panel" which discussed consensus from the point of view of national program at the national Convention in April. The excerpts are quite full and it seems to me would provide an excellent summary of national Board thinking though of course it is not an "official" definition if this is what you had in mind. Leagues will be notified that these are available upon request to the national office so this makes it possible for your League to order as many copies as they wish. I will put your name in to receive a copy as soon as they are ready.

You might be interested in the material on consensus in the State Board Handbook. Ordinarily, of course, a local League does not see this Handbook but you might like to borrow a copy from your state office.

The national Board has never published a pamphlet specifically on consensus. Some state Leagues have done so and the one which has had the widest circulation was prepared by the League of Women Voters of Virginia. If you have not already seen this you might like to order one from Virginia through their publications chairman: Mrs. George Yerby, 406 Highland Place, Alexandria, Virginia. This sheet may not be a perfect explanation of the subject but it has been useful to many Leagues in explaining the essentials.

We hope these suggestions will serve the purpose of the Minneapolis League.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Mabelle M. Long  
Organization Secretary

MML:etw  
CC: Minnesota State LWV

M TO: Mrs. George Yerby  
E 406 Highland Place  
M Alexandria, Virginia  
O FROM: Mrs. E. C. Williams  
SUBJECT Publications

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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

DATE 7/1/60

In a recent communication from Mrs. Long to our Minneapolis Organization  
there  
Chairman ~~this~~ is a reference to a publication on consensus published by the LWV  
of Virginia. Would it be possible for you to send us a copy? We'd most  
appreciative and glad to pay for any charges.

File

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA  
DECISIONS OF POLICY June 15, 1961 -- March 14, 1963

8/3/61 Answering criticism

The League does not become involved in a "running battle." Misquotations are answered directly. The official answer is given in big problems only, although the individual may answer an attack if she wishes. It was felt that this policy is wise and by presenting a good performance in all that we do, we are actually giving our best answer to criticism.

9/7/61 Publication of history of LWV of Minnesota

MOTION: Formulate a fact-finding committee on the idea of writing a history of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota and report conclusions to the Board.

1/18/62 Duties of Legislative Chairman

"Mrs. Anderson reviewed the duties of the Legislative Chairman as out-lined in the minutes of the state Board meeting of August 6, 1959, page 2, pointing out it would be a position of administration and organization. It was agreed by the present Board that this should remain as recommended in 1959. Each resource chairman would keep the legislative chairman informed at all times and clear plans with her.

2/8/62 Political meeting attendance

"Attendance at political meetings by local or state Board personnel was discussed at length. Mrs. Anderson pointed out that League discourages a written code concerning this problem. Each local League is to make its own decision in the light of local conditions. Caution is urged in not accepting political work which will bring public notice to Board members of the League. State Board members were again urged to write a memo any time advice is given to local Leagues, sending copies to the state office."

3/15/62 Separate account for state meetings

"It was pointed out that a separate account for state meetings would greatly simplify accounting procedures for the state League.

MOTION: Set up a separate account for state meetings. Carried.

3/15/62 Staff time off

"MOTION: Staff time off for personal emergencies to be at the discretion of the Board. Carried"

3/15/62 Finance contributions from Unions ~~officials~~ and Corporations

"Mrs. Thompson received a question from the St. Paul League concerning contributions received from union officials. The League approached them as individuals, but the union officials contributed from the union membership as a whole. Mrs. Thompson was advised that contributions from unions are accepted in other states and that national has advised this is compatible with League policy of accepting contributions from corporations as well.

4/19/62 Pricing Publications

"Mmes. Isaksen, Thompson and Williams made a survey of costs of specific publications and reported on findings. They asked the feeling of the Board as to whether postage should be included in pricing publications.

MOTION: Include postage in the pricing of publications and set a price of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for each sheet mimeographed on one side of paper and 2¢ for each sheet mimeographed on both sides of paper. Carried"



Local league stand contrary to state Board stand on 3 amendments.

5/10/62

"Mrs. Richter asked the advice of the Board in advising local Leagues who have taken a stand contrary to the state Board stand on the three amendments. She was advised that local Leagues should be reminded that they cannot officially oppose the state Leaguestand, but they may oppose it as individuals. If a local League wishes to change their consensus, they may do so by member participation in such a change of decision."

5/10/62 Assisting other organizations in another area set up candidates meetings.

"Mrs. Whiting reported that the New Ulm League, at the request of the county extension department, has asked permission to help other small towns around them set up voter's candidates meetings. The Board advised they may offer a training course, but not to use League personnel or the League name in the actual meeting."

5/10/62 Special Committee

"MOTION: Approve the project of the Special Committee to plan a school for citizens under the auspices of the League Overseas Education Fund." Carried

6/21/62 Staff policy: League meetings

"The staff requested that a policy be established regarding their attendance at League meetings. -The-

MOTION: Staff members shall attend state workshops and other state meetings, including committee meetings, at the request of the Board or a Board member. Carried

MOTION: Staff members may attend their own League meetings during office hours when their work permits. Carried

MOTION: Staff members stagger their noon hour making the office staffed during this time. Defeated

9/20/62 League lobbyists

"The Board agreed that lobbyists for the League are to be more "legislative watchers" than actual lobbyists. Statements made by the resource person under Mrs. Duff's direction as legislative chairman must be cleared through the executive committee."

12/6/62 League lobbyists

"It will not be necessary for those non-Board members working at the legislature to attend Board meetings."

"The state office will act as a clearing house for the Legislative Committee but neither secretary will be specifically assigned to this responsibility."

1/17/62 Discussion on state C. R.'s

"In comparing state program and national program, it was agreed that national has made a practice of naming our CR positions within the wording of the CA, when a new CA includes past CR positions. In other words, on the state level, when a CR goes back to CA status, it takes with it the CR positions reached previously. Our mistake is in not making this clear either in the wording of the item, or the explanation."

3/14/63 Bookkeeping for CAPITOL LETTER

MOTION: Handle the bookkeeping for CAPITOL LETTER through a special account outside of the budget. Carried"

3/14/63 League status in tax deductibility

"National Council will devote time to the problem of League status in tax deductibility for contributions. Mrs. Thompson recommended that since this is planned, that Minnesota wait until after Council to pursue this problem further."

3/14/63 Contributions from businesses where there is no local League

Mrs. Thompson suggested that we might proceed in the field of obtaining contributions from businesses where there is no local League by mailing publications first. The Board agreed, and this plan will be implemented."

Annette: I hope this is what you wanted. I included some items which you may want to omit, but thought it easier to cross them out than to find them in the minutes again. I did not include stands on consensus, or recognition of local Leagues, since these would be included in other reports.

Bobbie

NOV 13 1962

November 11, 1962

To: Dorothy Anderson

From: Patty Nash

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

September 1, 1962 Mrs. Anderson received a telephone call from Rue 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 LNV; and that he did in fact feel that the LNV 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 LNV.

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 LNV members in both Golden Valley and Crystal. He also requested whatever LNV 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. Madady's letter in the Suburban Press saying that I felt that there still must exist in Mr. Madady's mind some misunderstanding about the nonpartisan policy of the LNV 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 LNV president.

~~XX~~

I received 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 LNV.

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.

~~1/10/62~~  
~~1/10/62~~

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.

2/16/62

File

For my own satisfaction, and for your information, I looked up the matter of

DEEPHAVEN LEAGUES NONPARTISAN CODE ACTIVITY,  
and my connection with it.

- 9/59 Minutes: Voted that finance contribution to political parties be not prohibited by the nonpartisan policy.  
(Obviously they had a policy, which they were amending.)
- 9/28/59 Minutes: Voted that fin. support to party be stricken fr. nonpartisan policy.
- 3/29/60 Minutes: M. Hofmeister moved that the nonpartisan policy be rewritten so that LWV members may do some work in government. At present no one may do any work at all. J. Haverstock seconded. Barbara Jacoby was to appoint a person or committee to review this nonpartisan policy and look into other Leagues and bring back recommendations to next board meeting. Joyce Timmons, chairman, with Jean Haverstock and A. Duff or Jane Angrist.
- 5/3/60 Minutes: N. Winchester reported that she, Joyce Timmons and J. Haverstock had met, with the aid of Grace Wilson of State Office, to amend our nonpartisan policy. J. Timmons stated that the committee had endeavored to write a policy which would serve its purpose, yet one in which we would all abide. The amended policy was passed. Board suggested it be printed in the next bulletin further suggested that the nominating committee each year point t this out to nominees when asking them to accept positions on Board. (Presumably this policy was printed in Local Bulletin of June, 1960. It is not in our files. GSW)
- 6/61 Winter, '62 President called attention to nonpartisan policy. Discussion in LWV re attendance at party caucuses by Board members. To complicate the situation, one Board member's husband was a candidate for office. Asked advice of IJ and DA without giving full details to both. Therefore they got advice from IJ, "yes, free to attend, it is usually decided, but of course should be a local decision" (but Irene did not know of complication of member with candidate husband), and advice from DA, "in this case, probably should not" tho it is a local decision, of course.
- 2/5/62 Minutes: ~~(Meeting called by five Board members to again discuss the advisability of Board members attending party caucuses. After the meeting held on Jan. 22, 1962, some Board members looked further into the wording of the local and state policy, talked to State Board members and felt a meeting should be called. 13 Board members present, 1 absent. President discussed the situation with Mrs. Anderson, State Pres. Mrs. Anderson indicated that the decision should be made by our local Board. She also indicated that the League is liberalizing on attending caucuses. The following points were brought up by Board members in favor of our being allowed to attend party caucuses:~~
1. Upon reading our local and state policy, it was interpreted that neither said we couldn't attend caucuses.
  2. It was felt that we have the right to attend as U.S. citizens and that this right should not be taken from us because we are Board members.
  3. It was felt that the "right to vote" at a caucus or "grass roots" level was being jeopardized if we decide we should not attend.

4) It was felt that family interests might make it difficult for some Board members not to attend.

The advisability of attending caucuses was questioned by the following points:

1) It was felt that our first concern should be the League and protecting its members. Also, if some Board members attend, we should all be allowed to attend.

2) Because a Board member's husband is running for public office and two other members' husbands are helping him plus the ~~xxxxxx~~ trouble we had in the fall concerning the local elections it was felt that we might be criticized by the public for attending a caucus. (The above mentioned member has since resigned from the Board.)

3) It was felt that you don't lose your rights as an individual by not attending a caucus, and a League ceases to function as a nonpolitical organization if we become involved in party affairs.

It was felt by one that it would be permissible for members to attend if they did not declare their ideas or vote publicly and Barbara Jacoby made the following motion:

MOTION: All members of the Desphaven League of Women Voters may go to the caucus of their choice. Board members may participate only by secret ballot in the selection of candidates or delegates in the year of 1962. Passed, 11 in favor, 1 opposed. Pres. did not vote.

Sallie Soiberg requested that the nominating committee be reminded to clearly inform people asked to serve on the Board that the Board is to be "totally nonpartisan."

It was also suggested that the Board revise our policy before the Annual Meeting regarding Board members attending party caucuses after the caucuses are over so that we might then appraise the situation better. Meeting adjourned.



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TO: Wilma, Patty, Dorothy

FROM: Grace

SUBJECT: Our legislative files

DATE 10/31/62

*My File - non Partisan Po*  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

15th and WASHINGTON AVES. S.E.

MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

Three times this year we have been asked, and we have given permission, to persons who wanted to look over our legislative newsletters and reports, to gather information to use in a candidate's campaign.

Mr. Ashbech (spelling? Arden Hills candidate), Mr. Bangs, and Mr. Ross Jordan.

# THE MINNESOTA VOTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

VOL. 42

November-December, 1963

NO. 3

## ADOPT-A-LEAGUE: New Leagues for Minnesota

"I'm so excited I can't stand it—about prospects in International Falls, that is. This was the first time I've gotten my feet wet on starting a new League and let me tell you, the water's fine." This note sent from Mrs. Morris Rothnem, State Organization Chairman, to the state Board last summer, mirrored the spirit and interest in forming a new League shown by a group of lively and energetic International Falls women. Since August International Falls has really become League-minded, boasting a brand new Provisional League with 49 paid members!

A part of the Adopt-a-League program which resulted in new Leagues in Mankato, St. Peter and a Cloquet unit of the Duluth League last year, International Falls is only one of five towns where we hope to form Leagues this year. The others are Montevideo, Crookston, Grand Rapids and Winona.

How does Adopt-a-League work? The program makes use of talents and enthusiasm of League members in communities near towns where new Leagues are to be started. Miss Hazel Shimmin and Mrs. Romaine Powell of the Bemidji League have done an outstanding job in International Falls and will be advisors during the coming provisional year. Acting as foster parents to the other potential Leagues are: Rochester for Winona, Moorhead for Crookston, Granite Falls for Montevideo and Duluth for Grand Rapids.

At an Adopt-a-League Workshop in September, representatives of parent Leagues were introduced to the job they would undertake in starting new Leagues. Organizers were reminded that they were assisting the State Organization Committee and

would be making contacts which will benefit the entire LWV of Minnesota. Minnesota standards for new Leagues include these goals: forty paid members before provisional status, minimum of \$5 dues and a pledge of \$125 to state and national.

Since that workshop letters and phone calls have been flying across the state. International Falls, which had a head-start on the other four, had its pre-organizational meeting in October. At its organizational meeting in early November, it reported 49 paid members with more prospects, elected officers and adopted bylaws as well as approving a budget of \$800. New local Board members headed by President Mrs. Thomas Riley, received Board training from Mrs. Rothnem and Mrs. O. J. Janski of the state Board. How are the other prospective

Leagues faring? Mrs. John Adams of Rochester has made the first contacts in Winona, and a team of Moorhead organizers have made their initial visit to Crookston. Several Granite Falls women have made two trips to Montevideo and are planning coffee parties to interest prospective members. Duluth is organizing its campaign in Grand Rapids.

By participating in Adopt-a-League local Leagues give invaluable aid to the State Organization Committee by laying the groundwork in new League communities. This gives the state Board members more time to work with existing Leagues. The program also forms a bond between the local League and the new community. It is satisfying, too, for the local Leagues to see the results of their efforts.

## Statewide Foreign Aid Conference Scheduled for December 9

Is foreign aid obsolete? This question and many others dealing with United States foreign aid policies will be under discussion at a statewide conference on foreign aid to be held Dec. 9. The purpose of the day-long meeting will be to put into proper perspective the current Congressional foreign aid debates and to provide a solid background for future League action on foreign aid.

This first meeting of a two part series titled, "Is Foreign Aid Obsolete?" will be followed by a second to be held in the spring which will feature members of the Minnesota Republican Congressional delegation.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with speeches by Lloyd W. Woodruff, formerly with the Vietnam ad-

visory group in Saigon 1957-61, and Norman Craig, formerly with the regional office for the Americas, World Health Organization 1959-63.

At the 12:15 luncheon Representative Donald Fraser and Miss Barbara Stuhler, League National Foreign Policy Chairman, will be queried by a panel of League members on questions concerning foreign aid.

The conference will be held at the Thunderbird Motel, Interstate Highway 494 at 24th Avenue exit in Bloomington. Cost of the luncheon is \$2 per person and reservations must be received by the State Office no later than noon Dec. 5.

All League members who are interested in enlarging their understanding of the foreign aid question are urged to attend this meeting.





## Breaking the Party Barrier

By Mrs. Stanley Kane,  
DFL State Chair-  
woman and past re-  
cipient of the League's  
Hope Washburn  
Award.

Except for those in Board positions, League members should participate in party politics. At least, the handbooks say so; state and national Boards periodically urge the duty on the membership; the very purpose of the League implies such activity. Yet, during my fifteen years of League membership, response to this challenge has remained imperceptible.

I have a theory, which might lead also to a solution. League members are expert at reaching consensus on the most difficult *program items* by questions and discussion *within their own units*. Why not also submit some *policy questions* to unit brainstorming? I wager we'd come up with (1) some revealing answers and (2) some new membership attitudes.

Let's start with the parties. Do you agree or disagree with the almost unanimous opinion of national observers that Minnesota's two political parties are unexcelled for honesty, talent, broad participation?

Is it intra-party controversy or factionalism that bothers you? Since we want our parties to have a wide array of talent for the jobs to be filled and room for a wide diversity of opinion, aren't there only two ways of reaching agreement on candidates and issues—controversy or the unilateral decisions of a smoke-filled room?

Do you dislike campaign techniques? Are you more likely to improve them as an outsider or as a participant?

Now let's look at the League. Is there, as many contend, a "League type"—an intelligent, conscientious female dedicated to good citizenship who insists on playing out that citizen role in safe and familiar surroundings? Is the warm comfort of the League cocoon too protective?

Is the League policy of nonpartisanship for policy-making members too strictly interpreted by local Boards? Could state and national Boards be more helpful in applying their standards to your specific situations?

Should there be a limit on Board activity? Shouldn't Boards *actively try* to release top leaders into political life with still unused energies and unfulfilled goals?

Is our Voters Service program geared to the times? Could it be transformed into a Citizen Service program—training our own members and others how to

enter party work, how to formulate platforms, how to keep parties issue-oriented?

Would we get farther on League program by sending out of every possible precinct caucus and county convention strong resolutions on party designation, lobby regulation, etc., than even by good lobbying?

Do you detect an occasional flavor of left-overs in League program? Would you find new zest in a party-oriented discussion group?

Is the League too elite, too little a cross-section to be your only citizen activity? Has this quote any merit? "People who want to understand a democracy should spend less time in the library and more time in the subway?"

## NONPARTISANSHIP POLICY

Both Mrs. Kane and Mrs. Guthrie have pointed out to us—as members of the League of Women Voters—that it is not impossible to engage in both nonpartisan and partisan activity. In fact partisan activity should be part of our informed and active participation in government.

Our national bylaws (Article II, Section 2) state: "The League may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. It shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate." In order to insure this nonpartisanship policy, members of League Boards do not engage in partisan political activity during their term of League leadership.

What about a Board member? We don't ask that she give up her rights and responsibilities as a voter. We assume that she has a party affiliation and that she exercises her franchise including the obligation to become informed about candidates. We also assume, under our nonpartisanship policy, that she does not participate in obvious partisan activities.

There may be local situations requiring further interpretation of this League policy. For example, the relative anonymity in metropolitan areas might serve to guard the League from what would appear to be obvious partisanship in smaller communities. On the other hand we have Leagues in "one party" communities where partisanship is shown only through issues.

We try to maintain flexibility in the interpretation of our policy, always, however, favoring the protection of the policy. At the same time we try not to be so pure that we expect our leaders to remove themselves from reality in the solution of practical problems. Our leaders are in the direct line of fire and are in a position to appreciate the importance of keeping the League free to work in the public interest with women of all opinions working together.

Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting  
State President

## Lively Issues Need Lively Political Parties

by Mrs. Donald Guthrie, President of the Republican workshop of Minnesota and former League State Board member.

Lively issues need lively candidates to bring them to life. Lively issues need lively political parties to elect lively candidates and to promote lively issues. Lively Leaguers need to work in their political parties to elect these lively candidates to promote their lively issues. Lively political parties *need* lively Leaguers.

This is a direct appeal to League members to work actively in their political parties to promote League objectives. Political parties are the most important and obvious areas for League influence, yet they are the most neglected as far as League participation. Why this is true, I don't know. Certainly there is no conflict between the objectives of the party and the League.

The League is organized to help the individual citizen to be politically effective and to increase citizen participation in political processes in the interest of responsible and responsive government. The political parties are organized to select and elect the candidates who will carry out their party's principles and philosophy of responsible and responsive government. To insure political effectiveness, the logical sequence of participation is from League to party.

Last January's *National Voter* carried an article, "How to be Politically Effective by Really Trying," which points out that public opinion is a "welter of diversified opinions of groups representing organized individual opinions." According to this thesis, it is groups—special interests, political parties, voluntary associations—that have power to mobilize to attain specific goals, legislative or otherwise. These groups work through leaders, and the chain reaction of these groups and their leaders eventually forms public opinion.

To obtain League objectives, Dr. Herbert McCloskey of the University of California suggests that League pay particular attention to parties because they are a "more significant force for political opinion" than many of the pressure groups that are supposed to lie behind them. Also, League members are naturals for party leadership because they have knowledge of political processes and interest in political matters. Party work brings them into direct contact with those who make and enforce the laws. Dr. McCloskey suggests that to know her Congressman is the most important thing the League member can do to increase her political effectiveness. I would like to add that to help select and elect this Congressman adds to the political effectiveness many times over.

How can we bring life to an issue from inside the party? Let's use our old friend party designation as an example. Every non-Board League member who wants to see a party designation bill passed in the 1965 legis-

lature, should attend her precinct caucus next February or March. There she may begin to exert her influence directly on the forces that will make a PD bill a reality. She may help select the candidates who will support PD and may work to elect them. She may be elected as a delegate to county, district and state conventions. She may make her voice heard in these bodies whose job it is to form party policies on issues and candidates. She may speak on platform committees. She may work directly on the party committees whose job it is to carry out party policies on issues and candidates. There she is in the center of politics, and inside the party she will have a chance to strengthen the party organization.



St. Paul Pioneer Press Staff Photo  
Mrs. Donald Guthrie, left, is pictured with Mrs. John Livingood, Chairman of the National Council of Republican Workshops, and Mrs. Robert Hoffman.

## New Faces on State Board

There have been some changes made—on your state Board, that is. Since Convention three new members have joined the Board and two resignations have been accepted with regret. Mrs. Arthur McWatt resigned her post as Local Agenda chairman because of increased responsibilities of her duties on the Committee for Minority Housing Problems in St. Paul, of which she is chairman. During the summer Mrs. Roy Nordling, Voters Service chairman, also found it necessary to resign her position.

In June, Mrs. Elton Johnson, former president of the Roseville League was appointed chairman of that lively batch of five state CRs and is currently preparing our new state CR publication. A member for 10 years, Marge enjoys being involved in League, learning about government and finding out why things happen.

Taking over as Local Agenda chairman is Mrs. John Hutchens of the Bloomington League. Because of her deep interest in local agenda, Mrs. Hutchens was quite  
(Continued on page 4)



## Three State Publications Just Off the Press

New publications are just popping at the state level! One of these, intended to supplement the special problem chapters in *Indians in Minnesota*, is devoted to the legislation affecting Indians which either was proposed or passed during the last legislative session. *Capitol Letter on Indian Affairs* will help in our study of specific areas where legislation would be effective in improving Indian conditions.

Our second publication will implement our Current Agenda item on amendments to improve our state constitution. We, of course, will be voting next fall on two ballot amendments—deletion of eight obsolete provisions from the constitution, and the taconite amendment. This taconite amendment has been the center of violent controversy for over twenty years, and you will

find the study of it fascinating! *Proposed Amendments to the Minnesota Constitution—1964* contains fine background reading on both amendments and should be in the hands of every member.

Along with this popularly priced ballot amendment publication is a resource paper on state taxes established by special constitutional provisions. A study of these taxes is necessary to understand and evaluate the taconite amendment. It is titled *Minnesota Taxes: Established by Special Constitutional Provisions*.

These three excellent publications form a firm basis on which to begin study of our timely state issues.

*Mrs. E. J. Diefenbach*

State Publications Chairman

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

1. Date of filing: Sept. 27, 1963
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Editor: Mrs. John F. Henriksson, 79 Neptune St., Mahtomedi, Minn. 55115  
Managing Editor: None
7. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership of other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.) Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting, Pres., 622 E. School, Owatonna, Minn.; Mrs. O. J. Janski, 1st V.P., 6500 Second Ave. So., Minneapolis 23, Minn.; Mrs. N. E. Duff, 2nd V.P.; Route 3, Box 120, Wayzata, Minn.; Mrs. John Lundquist, Sec., 875 Prentice St., Granite Falls, Minn.; Mrs. Robert Faucett, Treas., 1600 5th S.W., Rochester, Minn.
8. Known bondholders, mortgager, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None
9. Paragraph 7 and 8 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner. Names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders of a corporation which itself is a stockholder or holder of bonds, mortgages or other securities of the publishing corporation have been included in paragraphs 7 and 8 when the interests of such individuals are equivalent to 1 percent or more of the total amount of the stock or securities of the publishing corporation.

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

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Minneapolis, Minn. 55455

MRS. W. W. WHITING ..... *President*  
MRS. J. F. HENRIKSSON ..... *Editor*

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner)  
Mrs. John F. Henriksson.

### NEW FACES—Continued

thrilled with her appointment and enjoys the challenge of continuing work in this area. During her five years as a League member Bonnie has served her local Board as State Item chairman, secretary and Local CR chairman in addition to an unofficial position as "gadfly."

A newcomer to Minnesota, but certainly not to League is our State Public Relations chairman, Mrs. Harold Nash. Mary resigned as president of the Indianapolis League to move to Excelsior when her husband joined the North Star Research and Development Institute. The Nashes have two teen age daughters.

## THE LEAGUE'S POLICY ON NONPARTISANSHIP

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS "shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate." This nonpartisan policy has always been a source of strength to the League, and should be zealously guarded. At the same time, the League believes that the party system is an integral part of our form of government and urges its members (other than its leaders during their term of office) to work, *as individuals*, in the party of their choice. In encouraging party activity, the League excludes the Communist Party because the Communist doctrine is in direct conflict with the principles of the United States Government and therefore, with the purpose and policy of the League of Women Voters. Partisanship is not limited to political party activity, since *any* candidate becomes the focal point for some type of partisan activity. It also covers:

1. leadership in any group supporting candidates (such as State Constitutional Commissions and County Charter Commissions) or

2. support of any candidate for public office who is running without party designation (i.e., school boards).

In one party states, Leagues should make every effort to publicize all available information about the candidates and activities of the minority party, as well as the majority party.

Practical experience over a long period of time has shown that Leagues which are guided by the following standards have been generally successful in establishing and maintaining a position in the community as a truly nonpartisan organization.

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### *Electing and Appointing the Board*

Nonpartisanship in the League begins with the Nominating Committee. Both this committee and the elected members of the Board who appoint additional Board members should consider these questions:

1. What are the political attitudes and habits of the community? i.e., does one party predominate or is party affiliation fairly evenly divided?

2. Does it seem that the nominee or appointee, in carrying out the program of the League, will be able to maintain the League's nonpartisanship in the eyes of the community?

3. Has her individual responsibility for nonpartisanship been made clear to each nominee or appointee?

#### *Family Political Affiliations*

A difficult situation arises when a present or prospective Board member is in the immediate family of the holder of a partisan position in government. The Board should consider the following points before a final decision on appointment or resignation is agreed upon:

1. Would such a Board member be a cause of embarrassment to the League if the members should want to study or take action on matters with which the office holder is directly concerned?

2. Would there be a possibility of embarrassment to the office holder arising from an inference that he might try to influence the League?

#### *Active Party Work by Board Members*

Certain Board members should publicly resign and their places should be filled by other League members if they run for office or undertake active work in a party as Committee member, speaker or in any other position of leadership. They are:

1. The President.

2. Any other Board member who is identified with the League in the public mind. Any case which might raise question as to the League's nonpartisan policy should be carefully reviewed by the Board. The Board decision, based on League principles and standards, is final.

Such resignations should be complete and not merely a "leave of absence". The Board member would, of course, retain membership in the League and again be eligible for office after the active work is completed and there is no danger of misunderstanding on the part of the public.

The public resignation of a Board member to do active party work gives the League a good opportunity to reaffirm its nonpartisanship. It also emphasizes to the community that League training develops a useful and lasting interest in government and in our political parties. Board portfolios are for a limited period of time. The qualities Board membership has recognized and developed should be a continuing source of service to the community. One such service is activity and leadership in the political parties. The League should continually plan for the training of new leadership for Board replacements.

#### *Commissions—Partisan and Nonpartisan*

On many occasions a member of the Board is asked to accept appointment to an official board or

commission or to serve on a nonpartisan committee. The Board should carefully consider the following before a decision is made:

1. Does this board, commission or committee carry with it, either by law or by general understanding, identification with a political party?

2. Are the aims closely aligned to League activity so that membership on such a Commission would help in promoting the League program?

3. Would a Board member who accepts such an appointment seemingly be bound by League decisions on policies with which she would be officially concerned? Might it appear that her Board decisions were being influenced by her official position?

#### *General Questions for the Board*

The application of the nonpartisan policy is a matter of decision for each local League Board, since the general attitude of the community and the League's position in it will affect the decision. The greatest care, however, must be exercised so that the complete nonpartisanship of the League of Women Voters of the U. S. can never be questioned because of the conduct of a single League.

Consideration of the following general questions may be helpful in making such Board decisions:

1. How long has the local League been organized? How well-established is it in the community?

2. Do the townspeople have a real understanding of the League's nonpartisanship?

3. Would the task which the Board member wishes to undertake in the political party be publicly identified *with the party*?

4. Is this Board member identified with the League in the public mind? To what extent do her League activities bring her before the community? Does her name appear prominently in public announcements, such as the League Bulletin?

The Board member should also evaluate her own efforts by determining whether the task which she wishes to take on in the party or her League work is a better use of her time. She should also consider whether a division of her time and effort would produce an effective job for both the League and the party.

#### THE LEAGUE AND THE PARTIES

Even if we observe all these standards very carefully, there is still a place in the League where active party people can do valuable and interesting work. There are many non-Board positions that do not involve association of the member's name with the League in the public mind. The great majority of League members will always be available for party activity. A special effort to secure and maintain two party membership representation in each local League is a practical safeguard against community misunderstanding. The League's nonpartisanship will be safe as long as the leaders who represent the organization before the public satisfy that public that they are carrying on the League work in a truly nonpartisan way.



1  
for  
Bar Stukler  
& for file

JUN 19 1962

161 Juniper  
Mahtomedi 15, Minnesota

June 17, 1962

Dear Dora-

I have received several calls about your handling of the McGregor meeting at the home of Mary Letourneau which have caused me great concern. The League members who have called were all present at the meeting and were dismayed at what appeared to all of them to be discourteous and antagonistic treatment of a member of Congress. It was embarrassing to them as League members and they feel that not only was it a poor example of League leadership, but perhaps, even a dis-service to our organization.

Membership upon the State Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota-while a great honor to deserving individuals- always imposes a strict discipline upon us all; even in informal situations, we are considered as representative of- and as speaking for- the organization. I have followed Representative McGregor's brief career in Congress with much interest and believe that he is honestly trying to make the right decisions as he sees them. Even if he does not agree with the League position, he is entitled to both his opinion, and to courteous and friendly treatment.

I am sure that your actions in this instance must have sprung from your enthusiasm and zeal for our League program. I am hopeful that you will accept this letter, as it is written, in the friendliest possible spirit, and only from a concern for the future of the organization we both serve.

Sincerely,

Mrs. O. H. Anderson State President

TO: Dorothy Anderson - Annette & Irene too  
FROM: Ann Duff  
SUBJECT: National Council

APR 22 1963

4/19/63

office

May I respectfully urge you to support the proposed change in the program-making process of the LWV. Combining the Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities under one category called Program is I feel necessary and long over-due. It will broaden and deepen League participation and effectiveness. It molds together the best of the early League days (depth as achieved through departmentalization) and the present (breadth as achieved through the unit discussion process). To my way of thinking, this is a necessary step to closing this gap I'm forever talking about between our excellent resource and better government through legislation. To do this, we must broaden and deepen LWV participation in program - we need more and better specialists and program decisions more soundly arrived at. Channeling the thinking of League Convention delegates on the entire program at once will further our effectiveness inside and outside the League. The change from the old departmentalization days to the channeling of League activity on only a few items which the CA - CR set-up accomplished, was necessary and wise. This trend should be carried on further (fewer program items getting broader and deeper League attention). The way to accomplish this I feel at this stage of League history is to combine the CAs and CRs as this proposal does.

Now let's look at it from the state level. If CAs and CRs were combined, the local Leagues would be fully aware that the fields of election laws, ethics etc. need the same kind of local League attention and know-how as do the Constitution and Human Rights fields. We would stick with fewer program items over a longer period. Local Leagues and state Board would tend to develop specialists in these areas. This plus a simultaneous upgrading in our consensus process and a more realistic pattern of organization (which we hopefully have now) will greatly help us to accomplish more for good government at local, state and national levels. This explains my interest in and determination to some day be able to talk some Board into the necessity for Congressional Action Committees. This also is why I am such a bear (or owl-y) about consensus - we haven't the ghost of a chance of passing a bill, or defeating an amendment, unless there is a very broad area of agreement ~~among~~ among our members and a depth of knowledge about the subject through our good, but could be much better, unit discussion set-up. I would much prefer that we pass up a shaky consensus (such as the Age thing yesterday) or not enter a new and extremely complex area (such as taxes) unless there is a real "call" from the membership. This is not just a numbers game - it's the feel you get as you see the distinct change between the 1st and 2nd program rounds from the local Leagues. Leadership we need - and of course the main problem in Minnesota today is taxes and that's one subject area where we can communicate with more people - but it doesn't work in ~~making~~ making program decisions without a broad and deep agreement among the membership behind you. Maybe this will come forth at the Convention next month. I hope so.

I feel we are ready to sail forth into a new plateau in the League today. To do this we need to change our program-making process along the lines of this proposal to combine CAs and CRs being extremely careful at the same time to strengthen our unit discussion system. We also need to revise the application of our non-partisanship policy (not the policy itself but how we apply it) - here again taking the best of the past and the present and molding into the future. We also need a break-through in the Publications-Public Relations area.

Now, to my notes from the 1962 National Convention. I was interested in this By-law proposal to combine the CAs and CRs. The yellow flyer of the San Diego group, I felt, was entirely too superficial but it had the kernels of some most interesting and perhaps productive thought and that group contacted me the second



day of Convention when they heard I was working on a way to combine the 2 proposed CAs. I kept in touch and was very interested. Then much to my horror the next to last day when their leaders presented this By-law (or was it Wednesday) and explained its purpose they used all the wrong reasons. That group has 2 distinct trains of thought; one along my line and the other the exact opposite. The "Opposites" had the floor and showed that their intent was to turn the clock way back to the days of departmentalization when the average member had no part in the decision making. Then I was interested to see that the National Board set up the machinery for a committee to go into this program-making process and (as my notes at the time said) I shall be watching this with great interest but I must confess to a bit of disillusionment. I am still trying to find out what a committee appointed by the 1956 (I think it was) Convention came up with on policies and procedures. They stayed alive ~~from~~ for some time because there was casual mention in reports about its existence, the last being about the summer of 1961 which said, I think, that they were reporting to the 1962 Convention, but as you know, they didn't.

My thoughts along the line of changing the program-making process started way back as a local League President when I felt the elaborateness of our set-up merely confused our members and defeated our purpose to increase citizen participation and effectiveness. Mrs. Lee's talk at National Convention in 1958 (I wasn't there but word sifted back to me eventually) hit a most responsive chord with me, and still does. I'm going to quote parts of it so you won't have to dig into your files to find it:

... "The League may come to care less about cross section and numbers than it will care about performance. We will accept again the inescapable fact that in order to maintain its high standards the League must develop more members who become experts - real honest-to-goodness experts - in various fields of government. We will no longer shy away from this necessity, but will find ways to achieve a workable balance between the experts and the average citizen-member. We will accept the inevitable that some want to know a little about a lot and must be served by those who know a lot about a little. We will cease hiding the expert under the bed; we will take infinite pride in her. However, while keeping the expert on tap we will maintain the authority of the member at the top...

"A little while ago I ran across ~~a newspaper~~ in a newspaper an item which caught my fancy. It seems that a woman in Memphis bought 9 TV sets and tuned in one on each different channel to insure instant and perfect reception from all 9 TV stations. Imagine the cacophony. But it did cross my mind that maybe she was an overly conscientious member of a League unit and felt an unrestrained urge to keep up-to-date on all the Current Agendas and Continuing Responsibilities for which she had assumed, theoretically, personal responsibility.

"However that may be, my point/ is, the more/ unwieldy our League program, the more distracted and less attracted members become. Viewing the League as a tool we use to shape responsible citizenship and not as an end in itself, I have become increasingly concerned that the tool itself is taking on more importance than its function; the tool is absorbing more of our time and attention than the service it is designed to perform. This is not to say we can afford to refrain from examining the quality of the tool year after year to assure its excellence; it is to say we must not allow it to become so encumbered with attachments that it constitutes a barrier to our purpose.

"I think I have seen signs of this latter condition. Specifically, our language and procedures do erect a rather formidable barrier for a new member to overcome. We make it hard to understand the League and it takes too much time to achieve a working knowledge. The average member derives less satisfaction from her League experience than does the Board member, which indicates that she, the member, is



inadequately involved and has less sense of authority. The scope of the program - local, state and national - ranges over as many as 40 major areas of government. Small wonder that we tend to become muscle-bound. We have heard about the member becoming confused at a higher level. I am eager to see her reach the heights with less confusion and therefore I would like to suggest a few ways to make her League life more satisfying and the organization more responsive to her considered will.

"First, simplification wherever possible in language, procedures and coverage is essential; for example the terms Current Agendas and Continuing Responsibilities are less easy to understand than Program; these divisions in our program require separate and different controls, involve us in endless debates on the question of our authority to act and tend to build up a larger reservoir of subjects than we can successfully manage.

"Second, the representative system through which we govern the League is creaking a bit, the wheels need greasing; for example, too often the member does not avail herself of the opportunities provided to participate in the selection of her representatives - those who decide upon state and national Boards and programs; in times of stress the member becomes confused between direct and indirect democracy and there is a tendency to resort to polling; we argue ~~and~~ endlessly about consensus, what it is, how we arrive at it, which indicates a weakness in our understanding and use of the representative and deliberative system. (Boy, I'd sure like to talk to her about this paragraph. I'm not sure I understand what she's driving at and I'm not so sure I'd agree - ASDuff)

"Third, flexibility, initiative and involvement must all be stimulated; for example, progress has been made in the new interpretation of the community basis of organization in the sense that the League may now organize to carry out its purpose rather than pattern itself on a form of government rapidly becoming obsolete. Initiative and creativity provide the spark that gives vitality and and we must not so fence ourselves in with rules and regulations that such flames are smothered; for example, let us not put everything into the By-laws and write everything down in a Handbook.

"The more cumbersome the apparatus and the more indirect the participation, the wider the gulf between the member and the organization; for example, in my opinion the category of Continuing Responsibilities has resulted in a situation in which the member feels less and less a personal involvement and identification with the program, it becomes a case of 'let the League take care of it and I won't have to bother.' None of these things, you may say, is of world shaking importance. I say; so much the better! However, their ultimate effect may be harmful since they are cumulative. I would prefer to see small adjustments made as we progress rather than large overhauls made imperative as the result of a crisis.

"This approach does not apply to By-laws. I do not mean that I want to see the national Convention do over the By-laws in bits and pieces every two years, as has been our habit. Quite the contrary. While I am eager to see some changes made, I am delighted that the national Board refrained from recommending any at this time since this is an area in which small adjustments can be dangerous.

"It seems to me it would be advisable to consider By-law changes only at regular stipulated intervals, perhaps every four or even six years, and at no other times. This would free some Conventions from these tedious and time consuming considerations, a joy we have never experienced; it would provide an opportunity for systematic review of the By-laws as an integrated whole and would minimize the risks inherent in the piecemeal approach. We must realize, for example, that a change in the dates of the program-making process affects the dates of Board meetings as well as the deadline for By-law amendments.

"In fact, the larger the League grows, the more imperative it becomes to establish a systematic reviewing procedure which prevents spotty action without regard for the whole. Like nations, the provisions of the By-laws are interdependent.

"A word now about the personal implications to which I referred and which some of you may share. I have done a lot of talking during these past two years about some of the reforms I have just noted and especially about the desirability of doing away with the Continuing Responsibility terminology and incorporating into one program those subjects from the Continuing Responsibilities list which you wish to salvage. Any alteration of this nature requires a By-law change. It is interesting to note that not one was proposed for this Convention to consider, although I do perceive some progress in this direction. And being a confirmed optimist, I believe you will come to it some day. I trust the valiant members of the former Policies and Procedures Committee are equally hopeful; that they see the evidence of acceptance of some of their recommendations and thus will feel increasing gratification for the long-range service they so gallantly rendered...."

Love and kisses and I'm sorry you had to wade through so many words, but strengthening the LWV is very important to me. Maybe I feel so motherly towards the LWV because of course I've been in it longer than any of the 5 of you. Where else do you find knowledge combined with the desire and ability to do something about it? If in your hearts and minds, you feel this proposal would not strengthen the League, when you speak for Minnesota, could you possibly whisper out one corner of your mouth, that there's one character way out there who holds to a different view? Thank you, my dears, and have fun, and enjoy the outside too. April in Paris is drab next to May in Washington. And pick me a magnolia blossom!

*Ann*



EVALUATION 101 delegates attended from 43 local Leagues. In 1961, 59 delegates  
OF WORKSHOPS from 36 Leagues attended a similar workshop. Jeanne Diefenbach gave  
the report for Lorrie Rothnem. The following Leagues did not attend  
either the President's or local agenda workshops:

Alexandria, Austin, Battle Lake, Bloomington, Buffalo, Cass Lake, Chisholm,  
Hibbing, Hutchinson, Jackson, New Ulm, North St. Paul, Red Wing, Silver Bay,  
South St. Paul, Worthington and St. Peter.

\*Mimeographed material on workshops will be sent by Consultants to their Leagues.

The delegates were generally pleased with the workshops and wrote some excellent  
evaluations of them. Katie McWatt reported that the Local Agenda Workshop listed  
10 steps to successful current agenda and by example showed how to solve problems.  
Delegates especially liked the section on bibliography and who to ask for help.

MILEAGE Board members and non-Board committee members must submit expense  
vouchers for mileage, necessary telephone calls, and postage to the  
state office. If a LWV Board member attends a dinner meeting as an official delegate  
of the League, the cost of the meal is covered by the state budget.

Committee meetings may be held in the state office. Let the office know the date  
and time of meeting and how many will attend so a room can be reserved. If you  
want one of the staff to assist with minutes, please ask them ahead of time.  
Committees should appoint a secretary in addition to help from the staff.

OFFICE Irene Janski reported that Wilma Davidson will be an official  
MANAGEMENT recorder in the metropolitan area for workshops.

Summer office hours: Peggy Thompson 9:30 - 4:00  
Roberta Williams 8:30 - 3:30

A new adding machine has been purchased for the office.

\*FIELD SERVICE Irene Janski stressed that the job of Field Service is truly a job  
ORIENTATION of service and public relations in contacts with local Leagues. She  
read a letter from Maybelle Long on HOW and HOW NOT to act as state  
Board members. As liaison, members look at local surveys, minutes, and other infor-  
mation on file so that you know their good points before you visit them. Write a  
note to your Leagues telling them you are available and give them alternate dates  
to choose from. Don't try visiting immediately in the fall unless you are invited.  
MEMORIZE NAMES! Plan to visit Board, committee or general membership meetings--ask  
for specific time on the agenda and area of discussion. If you go to help them with  
committees or Board planning, Field Service pays cost. If they ask you to speak at  
a public or general membership meeting, they should pay the travel cost. If a League  
wishes to pay for your meal, let them, otherwise Field Service pays. When you set  
up plans let office and Field Service Chairman know! Send in report of visit, 5  
copies. Make it factual and informative. Also list your impressions on the report  
form and follow up visit with a letter to local League to review what was said to  
clear up any misunderstanding. First thank them, compliment them on things well  
done, and then make suggestions for improvement.

Marge Johnson suggested that local Leagues have committees to proof read and correct  
their material before publication.

The Minneapolis League, under Mrs. Franz Gayl, has taken over the Indian booth at  
the Aquatennial.



May 19, 1964

To: Annette Whiting

From: Peggy Thompson

CENSURE

Wording of motion to censure -

This is a main motion and requires a second. There is no specific wording. Could be just 'I move the state Board be censured for - - -'  
It is debatable and requires a majority vote.

How to stop -

Motion can be made and seconded 'I object to consideration of the motion to censure.' This is not debatable and requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion can be made and seconded 'I move we postpone indefinitely, or until the next meeting, or lay motion on table.' (Not all three in one motion - just one of them) It is debatable and a majority vote is required.

Original motion can only include censure. It cannot include any requests for rescinding action or changing action taken by the Board.

Censure does not appear in Roberts Rules as such. I presume she (Mrs. Rhein) meant it had to be gleaned from various other sections.