



## League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

March 3rd,  
1925

My dear Local Chairman: -

I am writing to ask you to hold a very important meeting of your League but first you will want to hear comment from headquarters on the recent Child Labor Amendment vote in the House.

The House committee recommended ratification and the opposition amended this recommendation to "rejection". The vote was taken on rejection and won without one single vote to spare. If we had had one more vote, the House could not have rejected the ratification resolution. And at least ten men have assured us that they favored ratification but were compelled to vote against it because their constituents were unfavorable. These were men in districts where the League of Women Voters is not well organized. You, as chairman of the League, are sometimes asked "why a League of Women Voters when there are already so many organizations?" I am sure you will be able to use the fact I have just told you in the future as a final and complete answer to this inquiry.

Enemies of the amendment hastened the vote because they realized the rapid growth of favorable sentiment. Even so we did poll a very strong vote in the House. The way the campaign of misrepresentation was overtaken and the strong sentiment that was worked up in favor of ratification, was in great measure due to the understanding and loyalty of League members all over the state, and this I say to you now because it leads back to the subject upon which I am writing you today. League members have been able to uphold the League legislative program staunchly and loyally because they helped to make that program and understood it. The time has come for you to help make a program that is to be considered at the national convention in Richmond in April.

I am sending you the Proposed Program of Work with the request that you hold a meeting of your board and of your membership to consider it, vote upon it, and report to the state office before the next regular state board meeting - the last Friday of this month. The only new items are in red ink and you will notice that recommendations for state legislation are not obligatory upon the state but only suggestive. On the other hand support of federal legislation once adopted is obligatory upon the local Leagues although individuals who in the end find themselves opposed to any part of the program are only obliged in honor not to oppose actively such legislation. The time for individuals or Leagues to make themselves heard against any suggested items is now, before the program is adopted.



You will probably know just how you wish to handle the meeting on this subject. If I were to advise I should suggest your having a small committee of two or three women go over the entire proposed program, old as well as new, in advance, and then to bring before your meeting any debatable items. You might appoint a leader to present all the red ink portions for discussion, and then take a vote upon just as many of these items as is desired and send the results to this office to be recorded at the coming board meeting. You should yourself thoroughly master the procedure by which the Proposed Program of Work is formed as it is given on pages 5 and 6 and explain that to your meeting in advance of all other action or discussion.

I hope that you are holding regular meetings on the study outlines for legislation sent you January 22nd unless you have already covered that ground. The program on Reorganization is especially important now and we may call upon you for work with your legislators in its behalf at any moment. The Voter of March 2nd has taken you the latest development on that subject.

I am including with the Proposed Program a call to the national convention in Richmond. I wish for your sake that you could arrange to go yourself. Notice that the tickets are at reduced rates and will permit you to remain in that beautiful part of the country in the spring several days after the convention.

Who can and will go from your community? She need not be an old member of the League - she may even join in order to go.

Now in conclusion, I would like to remind you of several things that you should do at every League meeting:

- (1) Present all requests for action and all information that you have received from the state League.
- (2) Read list of all new material available.
- (3) Have a report from your membership chairman and make sure that one new member, if not many, is reported at every meeting, and that she or they pay sustaining membership dues.
- (4) Discuss the quota and point out that the best way to raise a part of this, at least, is through sustaining memberships, and try to make a plan for raising the rest of it at as early a date as possible.
- (5) Have a report from the membership chairman or from a special chairman on subscriptions to the Woman Voter and secure as many new subscriptions as possible. Every League member should have it, and everybody who reads the Voter in your community is a help to you in the work you are trying to do.

With best wishes for a lively and informing meeting on the Proposed Program of Work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

MMW ckc

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
February 27th,  
1 9 2 5

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Organization

Report of Organization Conference of District Chairmen (Jan. 17)

Field report on 7th and 9th Districts

Reports by District Chairmen

Public Welfare Legislation

Report of Legislative Council meeting (Feb. 14th)  
Recommendation on One Day Rest in Seven Bill

Report on Bills in Legislature

Marriage Bill	Mrs. Gaus
Mothers' Pension	Mrs. Noyes
Educational Bills	Miss Lawrence
Minimum Wage Hearings	
Adultery Bill	Miss Monahan
Child Labor Amendment	Mrs. Ueland

Efficiency in Government Legislation                      Mrs. Wittich

Reorganization bill

Election bills

International Cooperation to Prevent War                      Mrs. Hargreaves

Communication from Miss Morgan concerning World Court

Cooperation with other organizations - Minneapolis  
" " " " St. Paul

Plans for March Board Meeting

M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
February 27th, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Miss Marguerite M Wells, Friday, February 27th, 1925. The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m., Miss Wells presiding.

The following members of the Board were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Hargreaves, Miss Lawrence, Miss Monahan, Mrs. Gaus, Mrs. Tull, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Colton, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Dietrichson, Miss Byrne. The following were also present: Miss Florence Harrison, Miss Child, Miss Roth, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Spencer, Miss Beggin, Mrs. Walker, Miss Jennings, and Mrs. Griswold for a short time in the afternoon.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant read the treasurer's report as of the first of February, showing a balance January 1st of \$443.16, receipts during the month of January of \$1 017.96, disbursements totalling \$947.07, leaving a balance the 1st of Feb. of \$514.05. Unpaid bills the first of February amounted to \$1 195.03. Unpaid bills as of February 27th amount to \$597.99, and the lowest estimate for bills due the first of March is \$695.10, or a total due March first of \$1 293.09. The bank balance February 27th is \$368.80, leaving a difference to be raised of approximately \$924.29.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second by Mrs. Cobb, that the treasurer's report be accepted and that payment of bills as rapidly as possible be authorized.

Miss Wells mentioned the payment due to the National League for printed material. Mrs. Cant reported that a payment of approximately \$60.00 was made during the month of January.

Mrs. Cant asked what the prospects were of some of the League's paying their quotas. Miss Wells stated that a group of young women who have formed a Study League in Rochester will try to get enough sustaining members to pay at least part of the regular Rochester quota.

Mrs. Colton reported that the Duluth League is succeeding in paying off the tea room debt and that they may be able to contribute something more toward their quota before long.

Mrs. Tull reported that Fairmont is not able to pay just at present but she hopes that the League will have a reorganization meeting soon so that it will be able to meet its responsibilities.

Mrs. Cobb reported that Brainerd could send in \$25.00 she thought.

Miss Lawrence reported that St. Cloud could be depended upon to pay its full quota during the year.

Report of Organization Conference of District Chairmen

Miss Child reported the recommendations of the conference of district chairmen held January 17th.

(1) When a study League is formed in a community in which there is no League that the approval of the state board must first be secured. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling, second by Mrs. Wittich, that no Study League be formed without authority of the State Board.

(2) That the March meeting of the Board be held either in Mankato, Winona or Little Falls. Both Winona and Mankato have reported that they could not invite the March board to meet in their city, but would be glad to have some



future board meeting held there. Mrs. Ueland suggested that the March meeting take place in St. Paul since the Legislature will still be in session there. Mrs. McGuire extended an invitation to the Board to meet in St. Paul in March. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second by Miss Monahan, that the invitation to hold the March board meeting in St. Paul be accepted.

#### Field Report on the 3rd, 7th and 9th Districts

Miss Beggin gave a general summary of the results of her field work since the November board meeting as follows: -

(1) New Leagues formed or temporary Leagues organized permanently - Norwood and Young America in the Third District; Marshall in Seventh District; Hawley, Lake Park and Frazee in Ninth District.

(2) Revived Leagues: Moorhead, Graceville and Stillwater.

(3) Disbanded Leagues recommended to be dropped: Pequot, Hubert, Fergus Falls, Crookston, Staples. Thief River Falls, International Falls and Litchfield were added by Miss Child. Temporary organization in South St. Paul and Cambridge has been given up.

(4) Old Leagues visited: Jordan, Appleton, Watson, Granite Falls, Stephen, Wadena.

(5) Possibility for a League: Warren

In the discussion following Mrs. Cobb stated that women from Brainerd have visited Crosby and reported that the League there is apparently inactive at the present time.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Wittich, that disbanded Leagues be dropped as recommended.

Miss Beggin made several recommendations regarding contact with local Leagues. There was discussion on the point of service of headquarters to local Leagues, particularly the literature service which is not used widely enough. Miss Monahan suggested that a sample agenda, naming as one item the discussion of new League literature, be sent to local League chairmen. Mrs. McKnight thought that this would be a practical aid to new chairmen in the planning of meetings. Miss Harrison suggested sending a return post card to Leagues asking them to report on various details of organization and activity during a certain period. Miss Byrne suggested that effort be centered upon one district at a time and that letters and literature be sent to six or eight representative women in a community for a certain period as a special attempt to increase interest in the work of the League. Miss Wells stated that we must make the task of League work so small and so possible that every chairman will be able to handle it. She further stated that she would be satisfied to have six conscientious, loyal workers in every League. There was discussion of the advisability of sending letters to both chairman and secretary in a local League. It was the opinion that if the chairman knew that the secretary was also receiving communications from headquarters she would be more apt than before to be a "non-conducting" chairman.

Miss Beggin recommended that copies of all field reports be sent to the district chairman for that district. It was agreed that this should be done.

There was discussion of the League situation in Stillwater. There are two groups in Stillwater - the North Hill and the South Hill. The North Hill has organized as one half of the League, assuming one half the quota. The South Hill will not assume League responsibilities and will likely, according to last report, wish to form a study league made up of individual members. It was decided that it would be inadvisable to have an independent study group directly affiliated with state headquarters in a town where another group accepts responsibility and organizes as a League. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Mrs. Cobb, that the North Hill group be recognized as the League in Stillwater with the understanding that it assume responsibility for half the quota due from Stillwater and increase this quota to the full amount in the future if membership becomes city-wide.



IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second by Mrs. Gaus, that the South Hill group be allowed a study league affiliated with the North Hill group, now the Stillwater League, and pay the required sustaining memberships to the North Hill group.

There was discussion of the League situation in Staples. Because of the removal of the railroad shops, many families are moving from Staples. Since the town is in this turmoil, Miss Beggin recommended that Staples be allowed to form a study league. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cobb, second by Mrs. McKnight, that Staples be granted a Study League.

#### Reports by District Chairmen

Mrs. Dowling stated that Miss Beggin had covered the seventh district very thoroughly.

Mrs. Tull reported that her great hope was to reorganize Fairmont but she has not been able to accomplish this as yet.

Mrs. Colton went to Hibbing and met with ten young married women and thinks that she will hear from them soon regarding forming a local League.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m. for luncheon, and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

#### Report of Education Committee

Miss Lawrence reported that she has received word from Mrs. Brookings of the National League Education Committee in reply to her suggestion on the proposed program that aid to schools should be on the basis of "need and endeavor" rather than "ability and endeavor". Mrs. Brookings wrote that need rather than ability was meant and that the phrase "need and effort" has been used in the printed program.

#### Public Welfare Legislation

Mrs. Gaus reported on the status of the Marriage Bill, which has now passed the House with certain amendments. She commented upon the excellent work of Mr. McKnight as sponsor of the bill and said that we owe to him the fact that it was not further amended to weaken it.

Mrs. Ueland reported regarding the mother's pension bills.

Mrs. Griswold reported on the amendments proposed to the minimum wage law. She is watching the progress of these amendments with a view to preventing their passage.

Mrs. Dietrichson and Mrs. Griswold spoke on the bill introduced providing for the appointment of a woman on the Industrial Commission.

Miss Lawrence reported that the County Board of Education is dead for this term of the legislature, and that there would be no use forcing it out of committee because of opposition.

Miss Lawrence reported that a bill has been introduced in the Senate (S F 195) to appropriate money to make up the deficiencies in ~~pro~~ pro-rating supplemental aid. A study of supplemental aid as distributed in 1923 and 1924 shows that 66.4% of the total amount distributed went to 18 counties in the northern part of the state. The aid is thus distributed according to need and does reach the poorer school districts. Miss Lawrence said that there are possible provisions under which more money might be obtained for the fund from which state aid is paid. These are (1) that the state should pay to itself taxes on state lands, and (2) that certain corporations, such as the Northern States Power, should pay taxes not to the city but to the county. Miss Lawrence commented on the fact that Mr. Hitchcock, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in the House, is particularly interested in supplemental aid and she hopes that it will therefore be protected this year from being pro-rated after other aid is paid.

Mrs. Wittich reported on the Teachers Retirement Fund bill. Mr. Lord has said that he would do everything possible to bring this out of committee onto the floor of the House.

Miss Monahan reported that the amendment to the adultery law has been introduced in the Senate and is on the calendar.

Mrs. Ueland reported on the child labor amendment, which was rejected by the House Thursday, February 26th, by a vote of 68 against to 56 for. About ten men said they were personally for the amendment but were obliged to vote against it because of sentiment in their districts. Mrs. Ueland suggested that a resolution be adopted to be read at the annual meeting of the Minneapolis League on the subject of our future policy in regard to the amendment. Mrs. Ueland was asked to frame such a resolution to be acted upon by the Board.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Mrs. Cobb, that the State Board of the Minnesota League adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment has been rejected by the Minnesota House of Representatives, and

WHEREAS, we believe that the opposition to the amendment is based chiefly upon misinformation and misunderstanding, and

WHEREAS, the situation in regard to child labor is so serious, and is of such a nature as to constitute a national disgrace,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the League of Women Voters reaffirms its belief that the evils of child labor can be adequately met only by federal action, and dedicates itself anew to saving young children from unsuitable labor and older children from long hours, and night work, and from dangerous occupations, by continuing its work for the Child Labor Amendment.

Miss Wells reported her attendance at a meeting of the Organizations Associated for Ratification while in Washington. A nominating committee of three has been appointed who are to nominate a committee of seven to make future plans. This committee will interview prominent people and use their opinions in forming the plan. Their suggestions will be voted on by the O A R. They all felt that the thing to do is to go ahead with the amendment as it is worded as the public has now been half convinced that it is the correct form.

Miss Wells also commented on the Wadsworth Garrett bill, introduced in Congress, which in effect would make it impossible ever to amend the constitution again.

#### Bills Added to Legislative Program for 1925

Miss Child reported on the recent meeting of the Legislative Council. It was voted by the Council to add to its bills the Woman on the Industrial Commission and the Indeterminate Sentence, inasmuch as these were included on the legislative program two years ago. The Council decided that it would be unwise to pledge League support for the Part Time School bill. The Council voted to ask for a decision from the State Board regarding support of the One Day Rest in Seven bill which has been introduced. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dietrichson, second by Mrs. Wittich, that the Board go on record as adding the "One Day Rest in Seven" bill to its legislative program for support in this session. This was decided with the understanding that Mrs. Dietrichson would attend two hearings on this bill. There was discussion at this point regarding the League's endorsing bills to which they could not give active support. In this case the Federation of Labor would like our endorsement and support but they will carry the burden of lobbying for the bill.

#### Efficiency in Government Legislation

Mrs. Wittich commented upon the election bills and then discussed at length the bill providing for a Reorganization of State Administrative Departments. She said that the bill is in the Civil Administration Committee in both houses and that the Senate Committee has been working in executive session on specific amendments to the bill. The House Committee of 33 members is too large to work effectively and seems to be making little progress. There is a good deal of antagonism and suspicion evidenced toward the bill.

There was discussion as to what should be done by local Leagues throughout the state in support of the bill. Miss Wells said that she will call attention



to the bill in letters to local League chairmen and suggest study of the bill. Mrs. Wittich thinks it unnecessary to ask local chairmen to take any action on it as yet. She would like to know more about what amendments are to be made before asking for local League action in writing their legislators. Miss Monahan told how it affects the Board of Control. She says institutions of Minnesota have been kept out of politics, but under this plan she thinks they will come back into politics.

#### International Cooperation to Prevent War

Mrs. Hargreaves read a letter from Miss Morgan urging that letters or telegrams be sent to President Coolidge recommending the adherence of the United States to the Permanent Court of International Justice, according to the reservations endorsed by Mr. Harding and Mr. Coolidge, and urging that he recommend this action to the new Senate, convened after March 4th in special session.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Hargreaves, second by Mrs. McGuire, that the following resolution be adopted and sent to President Coolidge:

WHEREAS, we believe that a large majority of both parties in the Senate are ready and desire to vote for the adherence of the United States to the Permanent Court of International Justice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the state board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters, respectfully request the president of the United States to send a special message to the Senate, convened in extra session immediately after March 4th, 1925, urging that the United States become a member of the World Court as recommended by Ex-President Harding and yourself.

Mrs. McGuire brought up the question of the affiliation of the Ramsey County League with a group of organizations that have formed a central council for "peace" work. The question of endorsement of the bill to make military training at the University optional rather than mandatory has come up, and Mrs. McGuire has explained to the central council that the League could not support this bill as it is not on our legislative program, either nationally or in the state. Mrs. McGuire was advised to handle the situation herself as tactfully as possible. If the board of the council does not understand the impossibility of the League working for this bill, then the League will have to withdraw from membership in the Council.

Mrs. McGuire also reported that the Ramsey County League is making an especial effort to see that delegates to the national convention are instructed by an informed membership on the proposed Program of Work.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Electa Byrne, Recording Secretary

## MINUTES

Citizens' Committee on State Reorganization  
Hotel Radisson  
March 2nd, 1925

Present: Miss Wells, presiding, Mrs. Wittich, Mr. Hall, Mr. Lambie, Mr. Fuller, Mr. McGuire, Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Goodrich, Mr. Frank Olson, Dr. Bell, Mrs. Marcley, Miss Crandall and Miss Child.

Miss Wells said that, with the consent of the committee, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting would be dispensed with, and the standards for legislation as adopted at that meeting and recommended for action at the state convention of the League would be read instead as summarizing the results of the discussion. Miss Child then read the statement of standards for a general consolidation bill, an executive budget bill, a bill for salary standardization and a bill for administration of public personnel as formulated by this committee and adopted at the state League of Women Voters convention last October.

Mrs. Wittich commented upon the fact that, instead of a series of bills covering these subjects, an administrative code in the form of one bill is proposed by the Interim Committee.

Miss Wells asked Mr. Lambie to introduce the discussion of the bill in the form in which it has been introduced into the House and Senate. Mr. Lambie said that he would call attention to controversial points in the bill rather than discuss it section by section.

Commission of Administration and Finance Mr. Lambie commented upon the comparative status of the three members of the commission as fixed by the bill. He said that since the comptroller is the highest salaried and most independent member of the commission, it is reasonable to expect that he would be made chairman. If any man is to be glorified, it should be the budget officer rather than the comptroller, Mr. Lambie thought, but he did not like the idea of making such a differentiation in salaries. Mr. Olson said that he agreed with Mr. Lambie that the budget officer is the one who should be made chairman and that there is no reason for establishing a higher salary for the comptroller because of his office. The Massachusetts provision is that whoever acts as chairman shall receive \$500 more than the other commission members.

Miss Wells asked if it is too late to introduce amendments on such points. Mr. Lambie replied that it is more than just a question of salary; it is a question of emphasis of position. He thought the question might be raised at the public hearing on the bill to be held tomorrow evening.

Personnel Administration Mr. Lambie said that it is interesting that this bill provides for the first time in the history of the country, for uniting civil service regulation and the budget power. There followed discussion of the inadequacy of the provisions of the bill in regard to civil service. Mrs. Wittich reported an interview with the Governor in which he told her that the bill adequately covered this point. He was unable to convince her that it does. Mr. Olson said that the bill certainly does not legally provide for civil service regulation of personnel. Miss Wells mentioned the importance of having someone at the hearing on the bill who is equipped to discuss this point. Mr. Lambie spoke of the fact that only one member of the commission would be equipped to act as director of personnel, that is the budget commissioner, and for this reason it is desirable that it be mandatory for him to be appointed as director of personnel.

Purchasing Power Mr. Lambie was of the opinion that the qualifying phrase "subject to the approval of the governor" in connection with the power of the commission to make rules and regulations governing the manner and method of purchasing, involves the governor in too much responsibility for detail. It was the SENSE OF THE COMMITTEE that this phrase should be eliminated in the bill.

Preparation of the Budget Mr. Olson suggested that the budget plan in the bill should include the provision that the submission of the budget to the legislature by the governor should be within so many days or weeks of the opening of the session.



A second provision that is not feasible at this time but that is ideally desirable would be that both houses must act on the budget by a certain time so that appropriation bills may be held over until the decision on the budget. As the bill is now drawn the committees considering the budget in the legislature have the power to delay action and so hinder the success of the budget plan. Another extremely important point that Mr. Olson mentioned as worth considering is the desirability of including in the budget an emergency fund subject to use on authorization of the commission with the approval of the governor. This might arouse antagonism because of going over the heads of the legislature but would provide a fund for emergencies in the interim when the legislature is not in session.

Mr. Lambie raised the question as to whether there is anything in the bill that requires the governor to submit the budget. Can he avoid the responsibility? It was agreed that failure by the governor to submit a budget would not be possible.

Mr. Olson said on the question of the organization of the Welfare Department, that he was sorry that the provision was not made that each member of the Board of Control should have charge of a division of the work including certain types of institutions. The Board would then make policy decisions with the advice of specific information from the member devoting time primarily to the problems under discussion. There should be one member in charge of general administration. There is now some informal division of responsibility in effect in the Board but this would give the plan definiteness and make it effective.

Miss Wells asked ~~xxx~~ whether there was danger of restrictive civil service regulations under the indefinite provision in the bill, that would arouse the antagonism of heads of institutions whose employees would be governed by them. Mr. Lambie called attention to the fact that such provisions as that occurring in Article V, Section 2, (that the commissioner of agriculture, "With the advice and consent of the department of administration and finance, may appoint and fix the compensation of such inspectors and agents as may be required") invalidates the plan of placing personnel administration in the department of administration and finance. He added that the whole plan of reorganization is limited considerably without a proper method of selecting employees.

There followed discussion of whether the lack of definite civil service provisions in the bill was due to fear of arousing antagonism or because of hurried work and lack of knowledge as to how to guard this section of the bill. Miss Wells said that she was disturbed over this section in the bill, especially as it is suggested that it may be due to oversight. She asked what the committee thought as to the wisdom of the League's going to the Interim Committee with a request for the inclusion of more definite civil service provisions in the bill. Mr. Lambie thought this a good idea. Said if this problem is passed over now, he is of the opinion that the governor would make an issue of it in two years if the bill passes. This would be because of the unsatisfactory working of the plan without such definite provisions. He said that there are two aspects of civil service regulation:

1. The impersonal problems connected with the definition of standards and positions
  2. The personal problems involved in recruitment by merit.
- The first aspect is covered in the bill, the second is not.

Mrs. Wittich read extracts from the Interim Committee report to show that it was evidently the intent of that Committee to recommend definite civil service provisions as part of the plan.

Miss Wells asked again whether the Committee thought it better for the League to let this matter rest or to make our support contingent upon satisfactory civil service provisions. Mr. Lambie said that he would suggest that someone should call the Interim Committee to task for the omission and see what may be done to repair it. Miss Wells asked whether the League of Minnesota Municipalities would take action in this connection. Mr. Lambie replied that they are so organized that they only make suggestions for action following decision at the annual convention. Mr. Goodrich suggested that it seemed to him best to leave the proposal of amendments to as few people as possible.

Miss Wells suggested that a delegation might be secured from members of this committee to see the governor and learn definitely whether the Interim Committee intended to leave out civil service provisions or only to postpone the question. It was finally agreed that the following delegation should go to the Capitol the following morning at 11 o'clock and put the question before the governor:

Mr. Lambie, Mrs. Marcley, Dr. Bell, Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Goodrich.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary

NOTE

in committee

The bill as amended/is now before the Senate. It is interesting to note that Section VIII has been rewritten to read as follows: -

"The commission shall designate one of its members to serve as director of personnel, but the member so designated shall serve without additional compensation. The director of personnel, under the supervision and control of the Commission, shall exercise its powers in all matters relating to employees of the state, administer rules and regulations providing for examination for admission to state employment.

"For this purpose the Commission shall divide all employments into

1. The unclassified service.
2. The classified service.

"The unclassified service shall include employments requiring professional training and those excepted from the operation of the act in section 4, of article 3, and such other employments of a confidential or technical nature as the commission shall determine.

"The classified service shall include all employments to which appointments shall be made by the heads of departments from eligibles certified by the commission, and the heads of such departments shall have the right to discharge employees unless otherwise provided by law.

"The Commission may establish a competitive and non-competitive service for admission to the eligible list.

"All examinations shall be free, and open to all persons who may be lawfully appointed, with such limitations as may be specified in the rules of the commission as to age, sex, health, habits, character, and other qualifications requisite to the performance of the duties of the respective positions; provided that vacancies in the higher classes of positions shall be filled, as far as is consistent with the best interest of the classified service, by promotion, based, if practicable, upon limited competition. The commission may authorize departments to employ necessary temporary employees when the activities of the department require it or when there is an emergency. Temporary employees for a period of not to exceed four months shall not be required to take examination."



My dear Local Chairman: -

The enclosed ten charts showing the organization of Minnesota's Administrative Departments as provided in the Reorganization Bill are sent you with the suggestion that you use them in connection with the study outline sent you some time ago.

Your League could do a splendid piece of work by writing your senator and representatives in the Legislature showing your interest in the passage of this bill.

If any questions come up concerning the plan for reorganization, we shall be glad to answer them.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

March 11th, 1925

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

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Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
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Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

March 11th,  
1925

My dear Child Welfare Chairman: -

I have not yet congratulated you upon the very favorable vote in the House on the Child Labor Amendment. The fact that the Public Welfare Committee reported a resolution for ratification with the recommendation that it pass, as well as the large vote in its favor in the House, makes us realize how worth while your work has been. The resolution for rejection of the amendment won with only two votes to spare, 66 votes being necessary to pass it.

We hope that you have already written to your representative, if he voted for ratification, to express appreciation of his vote. If not, please write him immediately so that he may have this recognition from his district.

We now expect that action on the amendment will be forced in the Senate within the next few days. We therefore urge you to redouble your efforts to convince your Senator of favorable sentiment in his district, so that he may be strengthened in his attitude if he is for ratification and may be rendered less aggressive if he is opposed. Send telegrams or special delivery letters at once. Action might come any day now.

Sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

Your representative, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ voted <sup>for</sup> against ratification.

Your senator, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ is said to be <sup>for</sup> against ratification.



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Mrs. Barry N. Collins

March 12th,  
1925

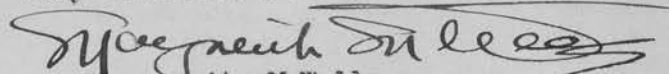
I am writing in behalf of the state League of Women Voters to express to you our appreciation of your vote against rejection of ratification of the Child Labor Amendment.

We realize that the unfavorable vote in the House was due to an unusually violent campaign of misrepresentation instigated in the beginning by exploiters of child labor, which thoroughly confused the minds of the public for a time. These misrepresentations have been to a great extent overtaken and we have reason to believe that if opponents of the amendment had not forced action, public opinion would have completely recovered and a favorable vote been obtained.

The League of Women Voters recognizes its responsibility to continue the campaign of education so that representatives shall be sent to the next legislature with a clear mandate for ratification.

Assuring you once more of our appreciation for your support of ratification, I am

Very sincerely yours,

  
Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc

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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
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Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

March 18th,  
1925

My dear Local League Chairman: -

The Ramsey County League extended an invitation to the state board at its last meeting, to hold the March meeting in St. Paul. Mrs. Edward Schons has asked the board to meet at her home, 756 Goodrich Avenue, St. Paul. The board of directors of the Ramsey County League will entertain the members at luncheon.

The meeting will be held on Friday, March 27th, at 10:30 a.m. Special invitation is extended to local League chairmen to attend the meeting as guests. We hope that it may be possible for local chairmen to combine a visit to the Legislature on Thursday with attendance at the Friday board meeting.

It may help in planning to reach Mrs. Schons' home to know that it is three blocks from the corner of Grotto and Summit Avenue. Transportation will be arranged for those from out of town who prefer to come to League headquarters before 10:00 a.m. on Friday and start from here.

Please let us know whether or not you will attend the meeting. Let us know also whether we may expect you to join us at the office before 10 o'clock or whether you will go direct to Mrs. Schons' home in St. Paul.

Sincerely yours,



Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC ckc

A G E N D A

STATE BOARD MEETING

March 27th,  
1 9 2 5

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Report of Finance Committee

Organization

Field Secretary's Report  
Reports by District Chairmen  
Drive for Woman Voter subscriptions

National Convention

Delegates  
Proposed Program of Work - Action by local Leagues

Report from Dept. of International Cooperation to Prevent War

Findings of Conference on Cause and Cure of War

Report of Department of Efficiency in Government

Reports of Standing Committees

Legislative Report

New Business



M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
March 27, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Mrs. Edward Schons, St. Paul, Friday, March 27th, 1925. The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m., Miss Wells presiding.

The following members of the board were present: - Miss Wells, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Marble, Mrs. Tull, Mrs. Glasoe, Mrs. Friedrich, Mrs. Colton, Miss Warren, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Gaus, Mrs. Dietrichson, Miss Kercher. The following were also present: Mrs. Day of Farmington, Mrs. Leland of Kenyon, Miss Harrison, Miss Beggin, Miss Child, and the following members of the St. Paul Board; Mrs. Schwarz, Mrs. Benepe, Mrs. Burt, Mrs. White, Mrs. Schons, Mrs. Thian, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Scott and Miss Jennings.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Finance Committee Report

Miss Wells stated that it was understood at the time the year's budget was made out last fall that the income from quotas would not meet the total budget planned. It has now become necessary to plan for some means of supplying the extra money needed. Various possibilities were discussed at a recent meeting of the finance committee, which Mrs. Cant reported as follows:

Two plans were suggested: (1) Enlarging the Voter to include advertising, and (2) Planning for some kind of a travelling circus or play which could be put on as a money-raising enterprise by local Leagues in the larger cities. Mrs. Cant commented upon the first plan that it involved changes in the size and printing arrangements of the Voter and that there is as yet no reason to believe that we could make money in this way after the increased printing costs were deducted. She reported writing Gladys Harrison at National headquarters to learn of the experience of other leagues. Miss Harrison replied that only two leagues claim that they make a profit on advertising and that there is some doubt as to whether this is true for at least one of them. She expects to make a study of state bulletins after conventions with a special view to discovering the facts.

Miss Wells reported a possible plan for a play which Mrs. McKnight and Mrs. Hargreaves are working on now. There followed discussion as to whether a travelling company should be organized to go to various parts of the state or whether the play should be put on entirely by local people, perhaps with the help of Miss Beggin. It was agreed that this was the better plan. Mrs. Friedrich suggested that local moving picture men are often glad to have such a play to combine with the evening program and to give fifty per cent of the total receipts to the group sponsoring it. The question was also discussed of what arrangements should be suggested to local leagues as to sharing the profits. Miss Wells said that it was her idea that the play should be put on by leagues that would not otherwise be able to pay their quota as a means of bringing part or all of such quotas into the state treasury. Mrs. Marble and Mrs. Colton thought it would be difficult to make money by a play in Duluth since the Woman's Club there offers a play a week to the public without charge, as one of their activities. It was suggested that some of the smaller leagues might like to use the play, especially if it could be informational as well as entertaining, and in the event of their being able to meet their quotas, the proceeds might be divided fifty-fifty with the state league.

Mrs. McGuire suggested that we might do something with the Peace Pageant which has been suggested as an activity in connection with the program of the Dept. of International Cooperation to Prevent War. Miss Wells thought it would be a mistake to depend upon anything that is clearly propaganda for the purpose of raising money - that it must be something amusing with any other appeal very secondary.

Report of Field Secretary

Miss Beggin reported visiting the following old leagues: Chaska, Pine Island, Hinckley, and Robbinsdale; she reported a new league organized in Watertown, and that she visited Cannon Falls and Pine City where there is a possibility of Leagues being formed. She also reported on the situation in Stillwater and Staples.

Miss Beggin recommended that sustaining members at large in the state should have some concrete recognition of their memberships, perhaps a card. Mrs. Leland suggested that the privilege of attending all board meetings might be extended



to them. Miss Child called attention to the fact that this would mean a considerable extra burden in sending out notices with very little possibility of attendance, but that all members at large might be invited to one or more special board meetings in the course of the year and asked to let us know whenever they visited the Twin Cities in order that we might inform them of any meetings falling within the time of their visits. Mrs. Ueland thought that members at large should be invited to attend at least quarterly board meetings. Mrs. Friedrich suggested that perhaps district chairmen might do something in the way of keeping members at large in touch with league activities if they had the list of members at large in their districts. This suggestion met with general approval and it was agreed that the office shall furnish district chairmen with such lists. Miss Child suggested that a special letter with selected leaflets giving the purpose and policy of League organization might be sent in every instance upon receiving a membership.

#### Reports of District Chairmen

Mrs. Tull, Mrs. Glasoe, Mrs. Friedrich and Mrs. Colton reported briefly upon their districts. Mrs. Colton is still hopeful of organization in Hibbing and Mrs. Tull is arranging for a reorganization meeting in Fairmont at which Miss Beggin will be present and an attempt will be made to secure a new and active chairman.

#### County Chairmen

Miss Child reported that we are carrying upon our mailing list the names of seven county chairmen most of whom remain over from the time when league organization was on a county basis. We have no report as to whether some of these chairmen are still active or not, although in most instances it seems probable that they are not. Miss Child asked for some action by the board on this list and suggested that county chairmen appointments should be renewed by district chairmen each year following the state convention, in order that inactive chairmen might be dropped from our mailing list.

Mrs. Leland reported upon her activities as county chairman in Goodhue county, speaking particularly of her effort to organize leagues in Zumbrota and Red Wing. Quite a few Voter subscriptions were obtained in Zumbrota at the time of the county fair last fall, due to Mrs. Leland's efforts, but she reported Red Wing as hopeless for organization due to the many women's clubs already existing there. Mrs. Leland said that she was in favor of doing away with county chairmen altogether and that she would offer her resignation realizing that she had been able to accomplish very little in the county. Several members of the board commented upon her report as showing the value of a county chairman and it was agreed that no action should be taken to accept her resignation.

In connection with Mrs. Leland's suggestion that county chairmen be done away with, Miss Wells called attention to the fact that the decision was made, at the time the town rather than the county became the unit of organization, that district chairmen should appoint county chairmen as their lieutenants, and that such appointments should be left entirely to the district chairmen. This results in there being county chairmen only in counties where the district chairmen find women who will cooperate with them in extending league activities and organization. For this reason it is unnecessary for the board to take further action. Several members of the board suggested that the title "vice-chairman" should be used in place of county chairman. Mrs. Colton said that she thought this change of title had been agreed upon at some previous board meeting. Inquiry into this point will be made and reported at the next board meetings.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Miss Monahan, that appointments of county chairmen shall be renewed by the district chairmen at the time of the annual convention.

Action was taken upon the list of county chairmen as follows: -

Mrs. Hartwick Mathison, Alden, Freeborn county  
Assisted with arrangements for county fair exhibits last fall. In the absence of a district chairman in this district, Miss Child was asked to write her in regard to her continuing to act as chairman for Freeborn county.

Mrs. C V Everett, Redwood Falls, Redwood county  
The conflict between Mrs. Everett, as county chairman, and some of the officers of the local league in Redwood Falls was mentioned as an instance of a county chairman making a mistaken use of her position. It was decided that Mrs. Everett should be written from the office and that the district chairman should write her emphasizing the importance of county chairmen working in the county outside of the territory of organized leagues.

Mrs. George Ericson, Spooner, Beltrami county

It was agreed that Mrs. Ericson should be dropped from the list, since no one knows of any connection with league activities on her part in the last year.

Mrs. N O Stadum, Warren, Marshall county

It was agreed that since we are carrying Mrs. Stadum on our mailing lists as temporary chairman of a possible league in Warren she shall be dropped from the county chairmen list.

Mrs. C H Hubbell, Robbinsdale, Rural Hennepin county

It was agreed that inasmuch as Mrs. Hubbell is secretary of the Robbinsdale League and involved in so many other activities that the possibility of her doing active county work is slight, her name be dropped from the list.

Mrs. R Leland, Kenyon, Goodhue county

To be continued as county chairman

Mrs. Lowell Pierce, West St. Paul, Dakota county

To be continued as county chairman in Dakota county and a letter written her informing her of this decision.

#### Woman Voter Subscription Contest

Miss Child reported that about 300 Voter subscriptions expire with the April issue, and that the total list is so reduced by exirations that an active campaign must be undertaken to build up the list. It was suggested that the contest of last year be held again covering a two months period beginning April 6th. Miss Child suggested that the prize be offered to the local league having the largest subscription list on June 6th in proportion to the 1920 population rather than to the district sec uring the largest number of subscriptions at last year. The question as to the amount to be offered as discussed and it was agreed that it should be \$25.00. Mrs. Ueland agreed to secure the money for the prize.

#### Report of Dept. of Efficiency in Government

Mrs. Wittich reported the defeat of the bill to restore the party designation in connection with the election of members of the state legislature. The primary-convention bill is still in committee. The reorganization bill is a special order in the House for 11 o'clock on Tuesday.

The fate of the reorganization bill in the Senate was discussed by Mrs. Wittich. She mentioned the inclusion of a definite civil service provision in the bill as reported by the Civil Administration Committee and said that the ~~xxxxxx~~ delegation from the Citizen's Committee advisory to her department, which visited the governor undoubtedly had something to do with the inclusion of the amended section eight in the bill. She said that there are three amendments proposed which, if adopted, would make the sponsors of the bill feel that it had become worthless. These are:

- (1) Removing the Board of Control from the regulations of the bill in respect to purchasing and the erection of buildings.
- (2) Exempting the departments whose heads are elected officials from the operation of the provisions of the bill.
- (3) Substituting an Executive Council made up of elected officials for the Commission of Administration and Finance.

Miss Wells asked whether we can continue to support the reorganization bill as long as it has the backing of the Civil Administration Committee. Mrs. Wittich was of the opinion that we can do so since the committee will not agree to amendments that nullify the most important ends sought by the bill.

#### Action on Proposed National Program by Local Leagues

Miss Child read messages from local Leagues that have taken official action in support of the proposed program as follows: Brainerd, Redwood Falls, Robbinsdale, West St. Paul, Stillwater, Frazee. Minneapolis is to have a meeting to act upon the program on April 3d. Mrs. McGuire reported affirmative action taken on all sections of the program by the Ramsey County League, except that an amendment was agreed upon to section 5 in the program for the Committee on Legal Status of Women. to read, "the abandonment by the husband of a wife alone, where there are no children, who is physically and mentally fit to support herself, is not an extraditable offense." Mrs. McGuire also reported the action of the Ramsey County League in recommending the inclusion in the program of the Dept. of Inter-



national Cooperation to Prevent War of the only one of the findings of the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War not already part of our program - support of the appointment of an undersecretary in the department of state who would be a Peace Secretary.

No action was taken by the Board on these proposals but it was agreed that they be reported to the proper committees by the Minnesota delegates at convention.

#### Report of Dept. of International Cooperation to Prevent War

Miss Wells asked the opinion of the board as to whether it favors changing the name of this department to cover efforts for peace that are domestic and not international in character. The question follows the suggestions that are being made that the League program include such subjects as reduction of armaments in this country, making military training in public universities optional instead of compulsory, etc. There was brief discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of such a change in name and policy for the department. It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the present plan should not be changed.

Mrs. Hargreaves reported that the World Court was made a special order for December 17th in the U S Senate by a vote of approximately 70 to 2, and that it is probable that we shall get favorable action upon it in the next session of Congress. Mrs. Hargreaves emphasized her conviction that the League of Nations should not be moved from the program for study to the program for legislation until we have had favorable action on the entry of this country into the World Court.

#### Report of Standing Committee Chairmen

Mrs. Gaus reported that the marriage bill in the Senate will probably be rewritten to use the sections of the existing marriage law wherever possible. Since the sections resulting in the abolishment of common law marriage are stricken out, it seems to the lawyers in the Senate Committee best to retain wherever possible the wording of the present statute which has stood the test of court action. Mrs. Gaus asked whether we should continue to work for the bill in the Senate. Miss Monahan said that the bill represents a great step forward even in its revised form and it was agreed that we should continue to do what we can to see that it is passed in the Senate.

Miss Monahan reported that the adultery bill is on the calendar in the Senate. She said that Senator Lee had requested information as to provisions in the laws of adjoining states involving the seduction of an unmarried woman by a married man. Our law gives no right of action under the adultery law against the man in such an instance while other state laws all place particularly emphasis upon the penalty for the man in such cases, instead of exempting him as our law does.

Miss Monahan stated that the subject of child marriages which has been studied by the Russell Sage Foundation reveals astonishing facts. The program for her committee may therefore include some action on a minimum age for marriage for girls even without the consent of the parents. Mrs. Ueland suggested that the age as named in the proposed marriage bill for this state, namely 16 yrs, seems right.

The subject of community property will again be attacked, Miss Monahan thought, in the legislative program of her committee. Various arguments were suggested by Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Ueland and others why it might not be desirable to enact such a law. Miss Monahan said that no satisfactory law on the subject has as yet been adopted in any state. It was agreed that it would be difficult to frame a law to give justified protection without in some instances having it work an apparent injustice. No action taken by the board on this subject.

Mrs. Dietrichson reported that the best we can hope for in this legislature is to hold our own with the bills already enacted. There is little chance of getting the One Day Rest in Seven in the Senate, she thought, but she is hopeful of the defeat of the various bills directed against the 54 hour law for women and the minimum wage law.

Mrs. Ueland reported on the status of all other bills in the legislature, and discussed particularly the Senate and House action on the Child Labor Amendment.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Emily Child,  
Secretary pro tem



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Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

April 6th,  
1925

My dear Local Chairman: -

There are two subjects about which I am writing you at this time. We have received in our office accounts from several local chairmen of candidates' meetings for the purpose of educating and getting out the vote in local elections, also samples of dodgers. If you are not too busy, we should be very grateful at this office if you would write us what you are doing in this way. If your local elections have not occurred, we hope that you are planning to do what you can to get out the vote. You know this is always thought to be an especial responsibility of the League of Women Voters, and certainly until as many women vote as men, it is a responsibility that we should be keenly awake to.

The second subject of my letter concerns the subscriptions to the "Woman Voter". As you have probably already read in your last Voter, a prize of \$25.00 is offered to the local League which shall have the largest percentage of Voter subscriptions in proportion to population upon June 6th next.

I am hoping that you will set up a committee and organize a drive for this purpose at once. With this \$25.00 prize, if you are fortunate enough to win it, you may pay all or part of your state quota, and in any case every subscriber to the Voter is a better local League member. The remainder, if there is any, you should use for the most important League work. Getting out the vote in the local elections will be the most important for some time to come. You will be very wise if you use this same opportunity to increase your membership. If you ask for one dollar or a dollar and a quarter, this will cover a Voter subscription and give you a sustaining membership.

You will notice that the terms of the prize make it equally advantageous to get renewals or new subscriptions. A League member in renewing her subscription lately wrote as follows: - "I couldn't think of letting my subscription expire. It is the best and smallest paper I take. Best for its size. I get lots of information from it." We think many other subscribers feel the same way. Upon request, we will send you subscription blanks and a list of the subscriptions in your town that have expired within the last two or three months.

Wishing you every success in this work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

MMW ckc

Marguerite M Wells, President

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Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
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Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 4th,  
1925

My dear Local League Chairman: -

As you know, the League of Women Voters has for several years past been interested in securing the appointment of a woman member on the state Industrial Commission. A bill requiring such an appointment passed the House in 1923 but was not brought to a vote in the Senate. Our Legislative Council last fall recommended the effort to obtain the appointment of a qualified woman by the governor, in place of support of legislative action on the subject. However when a bill was introduced in the House by Mrs. Paige, requiring the appointment of a woman upon the commission, the council voted in favor of supporting it. The bill was never reported out of committee and we must therefore proceed according to the earlier decision.

The term of one of the three members of the Industrial Commission expires July 1st. The time for us to reach the governor with the request that he appoint a woman to the vacant place has now come. The facts that make us feel justified in bringing this request to his attention are:

Approximately one-fifth of the total group of workers in the state are women.

Approximately one-third of the total group of workers are women and children.

Since the Industrial Commission is charged with the administration of all laws affecting women and children in industry, we believe that the representation of this group by a well qualified woman as a member of the commission is very much to be desired.

Will you call together your officers immediately and take official action in addressing a request to the governor that he appoint a well qualified woman to the approaching vacancy. You understand, I am sure, that it is contrary to league policy to name a certain candidate in making this request.

There is no time to be lost in sending off your letter. Do it now.

Sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M Wells,  
President



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
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Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 5th,  
1925

My dear

It has been suggested that I call a meeting of the Citizens' Committee on Reorganization of State Departments to consider the effect of bills passed by the Legislature on that subject, and to consider further and at once whether some public expression of interest in non-political appointments would be helpful to the governor at this time.

It is thought that this may prove to be an unusually useful and important meeting. Will you let me know whether or not we shall reserve a plate for you, for six o'clock at the Radisson Monday evening, May 11th?

Very sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells, Chairman  
Citizens' Committee on  
Reorganization of State Departments

MMW ckc

*Sent to 80 papers picked from  
list favorable to C. C. Amendment  
and from those answering questionnaire*

Minnesota League of Women Voters  
1639 Hennepin Avenue  
Minneapolis Minnesota  
May 12, 1925

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Undaunted by failure of three-fourths of the states to ratify the child labor amendment this year, the League of Women Voters will carry on its program of education for the need for a federal amendment, and will include in its program of work a study of certain questionable proposals which would make amending the constitution of the United States more difficult if not impossible.

This was decided by action of the convention of the National League of Women Voters in Richmond, Virginia, Miss Marguerite M Wells, president of the Minnesota League of Women Voters and member of the national board, said upon returning to Minneapolis from the convention. Miss Wells stated that the league did not for a moment consider giving up its campaign to protect the youth of the country from exploitation by factory, mill or mine owners.

"Opponents of the child labor amendment in the recklessness and arrogance of their selfish purpose have invoked prejudice and misconception that they themselves, when they have grown wiser, may come to regret," Miss Wells said. "To remove such prejudices and misconceptions, it was recognized at Richmond, must be the part of any program of education carried forward in behalf of the amendment."

"Contrary to general opinion, the convention brought out, all farmers in the country have not been duped by the misleading propaganda circulated by manufacturers regarding the amendment," Miss Wells said, and quoted the following two examples:

The Johnson County (Iowa) farmers voted unanimously to send a resolution to the Iowa legislature asking for Iowa's ratification of the amendment.

A statement by Carl Vrooman, prominent Illinois farmer and formerly assistant U S Secretary of Agriculture, declares:

"I cannot refrain from protesting against the assumption by the opponents of this amendment that all of us farmers have been taken in by their propaganda of misinformation, unfair innuendos, spurious arguments and baseless inferences.

"The so-called child labor amendment in reality, is an anti-child slavery amendment.

"Until the farmers.....have fought their way to victory on such issues as lower taxes, lower freight rates, better credit facilities - clearly they would do well to waste no further time fighting the battles of the eastern and southern manufacturers against the reasonable regulation of admitted child labor abuses....."



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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 18th,  
1925

My dear

The next meeting of the State Board will be called in Duluth, Wednesday, May 27th, at 10:00 a.m., and adjourn at about the same hour Wednesday evening, thus permitting those who go by train to travel by night both ways from St. Paul and Minneapolis. A local hospitality committee will arrange to entertain overnight board members who will send in their names at once. Travelling expenses of district chairmen will be met as usual from the state treasury.

Further information about place and program will be sent as soon as plans are completed. Please let us know if you will be present and wish to be entertained over night.

Very sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc

My dear local League chairman: -

It has been suggested that we extend the time of the Woman Voter contest to include the summer months up to September 1st. The Executive Committee has decided to submit the question for a vote by local Leagues, in order that we may have your advice and cooperation in connection with any change in the plan.

We are very anxious that the subscription list on which the contest is judged shall represent a thorough canvass of the local community and of the surrounding county. We realize that the time originally named was short to accomplish this. Please let us have your opinion.

May 15, 1925

Marguerite M Wells, President  
Minnesota League of Women Voters



The Minnesota League of Women Voters  
1639 Hennepin Avenue  
MINNEAPOLIS, :: MINNESOTA



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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 25th,  
1925

My dear Local Chairman: -

Whatever the plans are for your summer League program, there is one meeting I hope you will hold early in June.

We are sending you a copy of Miss Sherwin's stimulating address to the Richmond convention, a copy of Miss Harrison's report on Washington headquarters with its vivid description of how the wheels go 'round at our Washington office, and the Plan of Work adopted by the convention. To meet and read and discuss these will give you something of the same realization of last year's achievements and next year's prospects that we got who went to Richmond. Don't try to read the entire new Plan of Work. Detail some one to point out the changes in it and the new matter. The Woman Citizen of May 2nd and the Woman Voter for May will help you to appreciate these changes. Miss Child wants me to say that page 5 of that Plan of Work will be of especial interest.

With best wishes and congratulations on your part in the League's success last year, I am

Very cordially yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
May 1925

Note: This address was delivered at the opening session of the National League of Women Voters' convention in Richmond, Va., on April 17th. It is mimeographed from the copy released to the press and has not been edited. Copies of the printed address as edited and published in the convention proceedings will be available in quantity later.

#### REWARDS OF A YEAR'S WORK

by

Miss Belle Sherwin, president  
National League of Women Voters

I wish to speak of the rewards of work which the National League of Women Voters has won in the past year. I think they are substantial though they are less apparent than the fact that the League has not reached certain goals set. They seem to me full of promise though events have discovered barriers fixed in the path the League has chosen. They seem to me charged with energy supplying both motive and motor-power for the future. I think that with confidence we may say "in today already walks tomorrow".

A year ago we turned homeward from our fifth annual convention with an unusual attitude toward the work of the coming year. A keen sense of temporary loss of our first leader, proved and loved, suggested work as a solace in itself. It prompted us to seek in work the likeliest source of the increased capacity we needed under new conditions. We had adopted a program which recommended definite tasks to be more universally carried out than in any year hitherto.

A general anticipation of welcome work prevailed; of work to meet the challenge implied in Getting-Out-the-Vote; of work to help regain through the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment Federal standards of human well being which the country had previously recognized as necessary, of work with men and women at home toward both those ends, and toward the orderly development of responsibility and serviceable local government.

The summer and autumn showed our anticipation well realized. With zest and determination and truly infinite variety of resourcefulness, the League organized to Get-Out-the-Vote from coast to coast, north and south. The never-to-be-forgotten leadership of our Second Vice President cheered each worker on to further practical achievement at the primaries, on registration day, and at the general election. Then with one accord on the morning of November 5th we knew that Getting-Out-the-Vote had only just begun. We know now that the increase in the total vote cast that day over the vote of 1920 did little more than raise that total from just under half to just over half of the number of eligible voters in the country; from 49 percent to 50.92 to be exact. The increase just about kept pace with the increase in the population eligible to vote. The result opens up long vistas of exploration in the causes of non-voting. It presses for reaplication of organized effort in campaigns to come.

In the second half of the past year the League joined in a campaign to ratify the Child Labor Amendment, armed with an array of facts to fend off attacks on the form, phrasing, and theory of the Amendment. Our First Vice President so fortunately elected to office last spring won all the distinguished service orders the League can confer; leading us in fighting the good fight all winter and in keeping the faith today. Yet once again it has become electrically evident that what the League set out to do will exact continued work over a long period of time, and that it will be uphill all the way.

Therefore those who run may read only cause for discouragement and source of weakness to the League in the figures of the 1924 vote, and in the tale of the states which have ratified, and rejected, and not taken final action on the Amendment. I think that would be superficial reading and mistaken. The question why men and women do not vote appears to me to be more piquing and personal to more members of the League than it ever was; the desire to recreate the voting habit in the country more compelling. The purpose of the Child Labor Amendment is certainly more thoroughly understood, its fulfillment more ardently desired, and its ratification more stoutly supported by the League in at least twenty-six states than at any time since it was proposed. This is true in spite



of the number of honest unbelievers the Amendment has discovered and in some degree true because of the far larger number of those who have opposed the Amendment on hearsay evidence of its menacing character.

Let us look a little more closely at the effect of the year's events upon the League. What has the world seemed to think of us? What have we ourselves rediscovered in the League as a result of what we have been doing?

The volume of press and editorial comment which followed our own convention a year ago interpreted the League widely, crediting it with sincerity, intelligence, and a sound education of the voter in practical terms. The delegations from the League to the national political conventions were a conspicuous demonstration of the affiliation of League members with all political groups, while the presentation of the same planks to the Resolutions Committees of all the conventions established with equal conspicuousness the unpartisan character of the League as an organization. \* \* \* \* \*

The original contribution of the League as first comer in the wide-spread movement to Get-Out-the-Vote was recognized repeatedly and gratuitously. The actual day by day work of the state and local Leagues was appraised by experienced campaigners as shrewdly practical, ingenious, and above all persistent to the finish. The now familiar forms of educational activity which went hand in hand with ward and precinct campaigning were almost embarrassingly praised as "aids to sound thinking and sound patriotism such as have never been developed in America before". It is, on the whole, conservative to say that the League gained in reputation in 1924; that it grew in the general esteem as a factor in responsible citizenship in the country.

Before the old year was out, and more frequently after the new year came in, comment on the League became a part of the general current criticism of women's organizations which are concerned in supporting social legislation and promoting cooperation for peace. \* \* \* \* \*

The League can quote with comfort to itself and to the confusion of honest but uninformed critics the method of forming the program which has been in practice three years. Under test step by step it seems criticism proof, if used. You know it well. In the initial stages of making the program each year there is provision for securing the proposals of the state Leagues and those of the specialists who advise each national chairman of a department or a committee. The period during which the program so proposed is before the state and local Leagues for discussion is as long as the working calendar will permit. The discussions by the state and local leagues are the bases of the recommendations of the representatives of local and state organizations in the pre-convention conferences and Council. Upon those recommendations the vote of the convention is finally taken.

If the Leagues in the past have not availed themselves of the full possibilities of our procedure the last few weeks have brought abundant evidence of new and original ways of doing so on the part of local as well as of state Leagues. Like democracy and the Direct Primary the making of the League program must be proved by using its large opportunity.

Ready reference to the actual number of federal and state measures which the League has actively supported furnishes the answer to the charge that women's legislative interests have traveled at a dangerous pace toward paternalism. Evidently the fact that the League in four years worked for thirteen federal measures (including appropriation bills) which were enacted, and in the same time for 420 laws enacted in 45 states has not yet become the matter of common knowledge it deserves to be. \* \* \* \* \*

The identification of the League with the Child Labor Amendment has been most apparently the occasion for the strictures on our program and program procedure. Therefore the effect of criticism upon the League may be most fairly measured by observing typical results of the vigorous support of the Amendment in various parts of the country. Men and women who for one reason or another did not take time nor find opportunity to test the charges referred to have shown doubt of the League and reluctance to share its fortunes. This attitude tends to limit membership, but the means of changing it are ready to hand.

Other men and women who opposed to the Amendment have weighed the League in the balance and renewed their support of it because they have found its whole purpose greater than any single measure with which it is identified. These men and women believe that the times clamor for citizens to perform their plain duties with responsibility and with understanding. They believe the League is a unique organization disinterestedly and practically equipping citizens in growing numbers so to perform these necessary duties. They also believe that the League is basing the equipment of citizens upon a respect for facts and upon the honest use of facts in a world whirling with propaganda. This attitude has proved like "the shadow of a great rock" in a land truly wearied.

Through the unanticipated stress of work which the year has brought, active workers have taken refuge in the same quickened comprehension of what the League offers to those who are "prisoners of hope" in their concern for the success of democratic government. From the vantage point of fresh realization it has seemed to me that the future of the League, - wholly uncharted five years ago - was becoming clearer to many; in respect to its length of life; in respect to the essential relation between training for citizenship and legislative work; and in respect to the demand for the League in an age generally condemned as over organized.

Perhaps we shall not all agree that these are the rewards of the stern experiences of the year. I am sure, however, that many of us in the light of the year's work find incredibly naive the idea we entertained in 1920 that the League would be a sort of preparatory school teaching for a short term the rudiments of knowledge needed by new voters to cast an intelligent ballot. Putting aside for discussion by others whatever in the long arts of law making and administration has proved in five years to be of peculiar interest to women collectively, we see the primer class in the rudiments revealed as unbelievably large and perennially in demand. Even the first lesson, Marking the Ballot, has only just begun to reach the many who tried to vote, to say nothing of the 49 percent who apparently did not try in the last election.

The year has also emphasized that the education of the voter in the rudiments of government like all education is only real when it brings the rudiments into practice. Manuals of citizenship and class room discussions of constitutions and the powers of government, and how laws are made have never yet given new voters the understanding which many women now possess as the result of the strain of actual work for the Child Labor Amendment. Voters back home this year have profited by the laboratory work of their leaders because the tension of the struggle drew them into a continuous partnership of interpretation and understanding which continued through each stage of legislative endeavor. Though far from the scene of activity, voters in their homes this past year have in spirit and in truth shared the legislative obstacles encountered and the legislative lessons learned as well as the supporting argument and action. That is a training for citizenship which outlives legislative defeat - or victory. In its vitalizing day already walks a morrow rich in the interest and energy of citizens.

The gains in ability to do which grow with doing have been marked, but not more so than the growth of interdependence between units of the League and between those units and national headquarters. By exchange of the plans and methods which have proved serviceable or mistaken; by readiness in making the requests field experience prompted, and by equal readiness in supplying answers, a fabric of mutual reliance has been woven. The various forms of initiative developed in state Leagues have quickly been made helpful to all the Leagues. The stream of "fact sheets" on the Amendment sent from headquarters, for instance, originated in response to a call for help from one of the first Leagues engaged in the ratification campaign.

The solidarity of organization thus developed by carrying out our program is of stout texture capable of standing strain. It has been accompanied by a development of internal strength in the units of the League of which you will hear more in the report on organization. I cannot, however, speak ever so briefly about the rewards of work of the year as a whole without saying that there is not one of the seven regions in which the working capacity of the League is not stronger than it was a year ago. In each region the League renders more service than it did. We have come to count these gains as more to be prized than enviable extension of the League by new units or new membership drives, though we always look for extension and it has not been lacking this year. In



addition there is the bright promise of invigorating addition to the League through groups of young women about to become voters. The beginning which has been made in that direction is a happy chapter in another story but it must be mentioned in any attempt to catch a glimpse of the future through the present.

Has the year made the objectives of the League clearer, either for the immediate future as a part of the program, or as seen at longer range? An answer in the affirmative is apparently made to both halves of that forked question in the case of the Get-Out-the-Vote campaign. State Leagues through the Chairman of their departments of Efficiency in Government are on record as foreseeing in various modifications of their election laws, the not too distant means of improving the voting habit in the districts they have had under close observation. Changes in registration laws and in absent voting laws, and the more radical change from a long to a short ballot are all recommended as aids in bringing the "vanishing voter" back to the polls. The frequency with which the recommendations fall upon changes in the registration laws points the way to a more scientific and uniform recommendation not far distant, - to a uniform registration law for the states which while safeguarding the purity of elections will not by restrictions and repetitions discourage the less hardy voters. The formulation of a law as a result of study in the coming year, and a campaign in all the states for the enactment of a law later may well be the immediate outcome of the first stage of the League's campaign for efficient, that is, responsible citizenship.

Leaders in the campaign do not look to merely mechanical and immediate improvements to bring the number of sovereign voters in every state to the 80 per cent of the population which we begin to regard as a reasonable if not high level of effective citizenship. The replies to the questionnaire referred to penetrate even in brief form to more fundamental necessities for change - if voting which is the evidence of interest in government is to compete successfully with the host of compelling private interests in life today. From California to Virginia campaign leaders urge as essential the creation of positive issues between political parties in terms which men and women understand readily and about which they care vitally. If the questionnaires reflect truly the opinions and desires of the Leagues throughout the country, unquestionably the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ year's work has bequeathed to us a distant goal and length of days to reach it.

It is the function of conventions to decide whether such long roads shall be taken and when. This year the convention will choose whether it will continue to pave the way, though long, toward the ratification of the Child Labor Amendment. Whatever your decision may be, no result of the past year's work is now more convincingly clear than that a pavement of solid facts is that without which the Amendment cannot be won. To have really learned this is a precious reward of work undertaken. Quite as importantly it is borne in upon us that each of us individually is responsible toward such facts and their use. We have suffered from "an aggressive publicity of partial facts" as from an epidemic. To overcome it we know as a matter of deep experience that we must "take" and use facts as an antitoxin. To know this well enough to enter upon a campaign of inoculation is worth having suffered from the disease.

But we need the facts and we have just been reminded by a distinguished speaker that "facts are our scarcest raw material". The League cannot, at least for a long time to come, be a scientific fact finding body. I question whether it should ever become such. It must, however, in each department and committee be associated with a trust worthy fact finding agency, and throughout its membership become the means of distributing facts "in widest commonality spread".

League members - each of us - wherever and however we work and move through society are taught by this year's schooling that we must acquire a habit of looking for the hall-mark of the fact. We have been put on our guard to do so. The habit of searching for the hall-mark of certification will help toward increasing the supply of facts. It will do more. It will tend to create a natural desire to share facts not to keep them on a desk which effectually destroys their life.

If public opinion is ever to be leavened by facts it must be accomplished by the active working of the desire of many men and women. Citizenship like religion is an individual personal experience and one of its first fruits is a

sense of active responsibility toward its own kingdom whatever that may be. Just so far as the realization of citizenship in this personal sense has been deepened and widened among us by this year's work in such degree has the year enriched us. If the purposes of the League of Women Voters as they have been formed previously or as they are to be formed by you, here are to prevail in the future - far or near - they must be carried forward by the desire of a multitude of individuals finding expression in simple ways in the course of countless daily relationships, and I would add in the atmosphere of good temper which the whole fact carries with it.

The almost exclusive discussion of one aspect of public welfare this year has introduced to our most thoughtful consideration now the larger question of the objective of a government which truly serves the people. We shall get only a glimpse of the significance of that question and the answers in this convention. The lessons of the year counsel us to look at it in the light of ascertainable facts, forgetting preconceptions and throwing over-board prejudices, if the League of Women Voters ever harbors such.

One other objective of our program is in the foreground of our thoughts, the promotion of peace. We are not able to report one item of that particular part of the program enacted this year, but I know you are to recount together here real gains made in the definition of terms essential to the promotion of the program and real gains made in the degree of support given to measures which must depend upon the expression of the will of many for their enactment ultimately.

Intangible returns, it may be said, in almost every case. It is for you to demonstrate whether they are as real as steam in the engine and the vigor of health in a body which has been exercised. What do we need today to meet the indifference and the alliance of money and "partial facts" which we have encountered? The citizen poet who best understood the forces and problems of democracy in this country once said to a pupil - "If reform is needed through you begin to inure yourself today to pluck, reality, definiteness". Exactly these qualities seem to me to be the rewards of work won by the League of Women Voters in the past year. If pluck, reality and definiteness are ours, the morrow is assured. The convention will prove us.



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
May 27, 1925

MORNING SESSION

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Report of Executive Secretary

The Woman Voter Contest

ORGANIZATION

Contact with College Seniors

The New Voters

Schools and Study Programs

Memberships at Large

Membership in Local Leagues

Reports by District Chairmen

Ramsey County

Minneapolis

Duluth

Other Districts

Report of Field Secretary

FINANCE

Budget

Yard of Dimes

Bonds

The Woman Citizen

Suggested new plan for national memberships

State Convention

Institute of Government

Report on Social Legislation

Suggestion on Legislative Council and Law Enforcement  
(Miss Kercher)

EVENING SESSION

Report of Department of Efficiency in Government

Report of Department of International Cooperation to Prevent/  
War

Unfinished Business

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
May 1 9 2 5

OBJECTIVES FOR 1 9 2 5 - 1 9 2 6

From May 1925 to December 1925 (Before State Convention)

Work for World Court

Opposition to Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment

1 9 2 5 - 1 9 2 6 (After State Convention)

Get-Out-the-Vote Campaign for 1926 Election

Ratification of Child Labor Amendment

Preparation of Legislative Program for 1927 Legislature

NECESSARY TO THESE OBJECTIVES

Extension of Organization

Balanced Budget

Schools and Outlines of Study

SPECIAL EMPHASIS UPON

Women in Parties

Women in Public Office

Consideration of Causes of Non-Voting



# MINUTES

Citizens' Committee on State Reorganization  
Hotel Radisson  
May 11, 1925

Present: Miss Wells, presiding, Mrs. Wittich, Mr. F L Olson, Mrs. Marcley, Mr. and Mrs. Gaus, Prof. Lambie, Mr. Herbert and Miss Child.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with by consent.

Letters from J S Pardee, Hugh J Hughes, and C P Hall, expressing interest in the work of the Committee, were read.

Miss Wells asked Mr. Lambie to open the discussion by reviewing the outstanding points of the reorganization bill as it passed the legislature. Mr. Lambie commented on the executive budget plan, saying that we have in the law passed substantially the federal budget plan but without the very important clause providing for consideration by the legislative body within a certain period after it is presented. He said that we have a very good method of concentrating estimates of department expenditures as prepared by the Executive branch and nothing more, and emphasized the desirability of bringing this fact to public attention now. The important next step, as suggested by Mr. Olson at the last meeting of the committee, is to provide some means of enforcing action on the executive budget by the legislature within a certain time limit.

Mr. Olson said that there should be a separation of items in the budget so that it would not be necessary for the governor to wipe out a total appropriation in order to get rid of certain objectionable items. He supplemented Mr. Lambie's statement by emphasizing again the need of procedure that will force orderly consideration of the budget by the finance and appropriations committees of the two houses and make it impossible to clear other appropriation bills before acting upon the executive budget. He thought that as far as the present budget procedure, as provided in the reorganization bill, is concerned it would be possible to have a repetition of the last night session of the 1925 legislature.

Mr. Gaus asked if this problem is not a question of legislative rules of procedure rather than one requiring legislative action and added that it is handled in Massachusetts through establishing proper rules.

Mr. Herbert said that it will depend entirely on the appointments made to the Commission of Administration and Finance since the committees and the legislature will look to the budget officer for advice and guidance if he is an able man. Mr. Lambie called attention to the possibility of the chairman of the finance committee putting in a different budget from the governor's and thus introducing conflicting leadership so that there would be two leaders supporting different budgets.

Mr. Gaus suggested that we have all we can get in the initiation of action on the budget by the governor under the present system. Mr. Lambie said that he would like to have in addition, some means of making certain that the legislature accepts or rejects the governor's recommendations. Under the provisions of the bill, the Minnesota legislature could refuse to consider his recommendations, causing a clash between the executive and the legislative branch. The Massachusetts plan which was the model for our plan requires that the legislature shall give consideration to the budget recommendations by item as numbered after the budget is submitted. Mr. Lambie summed up the situation by saying that as far as legislative procedure is concerned, we have nothing but a blank which must be filled in somehow in the future.

Mr. Gaus asked in what respect Massachusetts gives the governor more responsibility than he has under the Minnesota law. Mr. Olson replied that it at least made it necessary to defeat the executive budget before proceeding with consideration of other proposals, thus giving him a strategic advantage. In Minnesota the budget might be buried in committee and never reach the floor of the House or Senate. Mr. Gaus again asked how important the Massachusetts provision really is since in either case the issue is perfectly clear.

Miss Wells asked at this point whether it is the consensus of opinion that the next step for the present committee is the consideration of some way of solving the question under discussion. Mr. Herbert said that in his opinion the next step is the question of appointments by the governor to the three posts created by the law. He said that this is all important since if political appointments are made, the budget brought in will be governed by political motives and will be attacked as such in the legislature. The salaries established will attract three types of men: retired business men who can afford to take such a position since their active days are over, older men who have not succeeded and who would be attracted by a salary larger than they have ever earned, and untried young men ambitious to establish a reputation.

Mr. Gaus asked how much leadership the law will give the governor in bargaining with the legislature. Mr. Herbert thought that there is nothing to prevent the head of a department going to the legislature and lobbying for an increased appropriation over that provided in the executive budget. The power of discharge is the only hold the governor would have over such a department head. Mr. Lambie said that it would be possible for the governor to issue an executive order forbidding the appearance of all department heads before the legislature to argue the cause of their departments, as was done by the president of the United States after the budget was initiated.

Mr. Gaus said that the law does clear the air by providing that the first move must now come from the governor. Where conflicting legislative leadership emerges it does so in bold relief.

There followed a discussion as to whether the governor has the power to force a reduction of expenditures by a certain department from the appropriation granted it by the legislature, even involving a change in the personnel provided for in the appropriation. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the governor, in consultation with the members of the commission of administration and finance, has the power to force the greatest economy in the use of funds provided the intent of the legislative grant is met in the carrying out of the work. Mr. Olson thought that freedom in the exercise of this power might occur in connection with expenditures for material, supplies and equipment but that the governor would be very slow to force a reduction in number of workers employed by the department on a certain piece of work.

Miss Wells asked the advice of the committee as to what it might do in connection with the appointments to be made by the governor to the commission of administration and finance. Mr. Lambie felt very doubtful whether a group such as this committee could or should take any action at all in connection with the personnel of the commission. It was agreed that the governor's attention ought to be called to the resources available to him in the staff members, the experience and research material available in such organizations as the Civic and Commerce Association in Minneapolis, the St. Paul Association, and the Political Science Department of the University. Mr. Herbert suggested that it would be worth while for a group like the League of Women Voters to call the governor's attention to the fact that it hoped to see non-political appointments made to the newly created offices. Miss Wells asked if some outstanding business men could be found in St. Paul and Minneapolis who would go to the governor with the same message. Mr. Herbert undertook this for St. Paul and Miss Wells for Minneapolis.

Informal discussion of the nature of the Citizens' Committee followed.

The question of subjects to be considered by the committee again coming under discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mr. Gaus, second of Mr. Lambie that the committee concentrate for the present upon the study of the reorganization law in operation.

The following names were suggested for membership upon the committee:

Mr. Carl Shuster	Biwabik	(Mr. Lambie)	Dr. Locken, Crookston
Mr. Fred Winston,	Minneapolis	(Mrs. Wittich)	
Mr. Henry Bruchholz,	"	(Mr. Olson)	
Mr. A C Godward,	"		

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary



MARK DECEMBER 17th ON YOUR CALENDAR! This is the day on which the United States Senate will consider the World Court proposal. At the Richmond convention, the World Court was placed first on the league's program as the subject which called for the most prompt and intensive work. Every league member should make every effort during the summer months to arouse public opinion in favor of the entrance of the United States into the Permanent Court of International Justice. It has been said that public opinion wants the World Court but that public opinion is inarticulate. It is up to the league, through round tables, summer porch study groups and conversation to crystallize that opinion.

#### SUMMER READING

So many subjects of league work this year gain interest from an understanding of American history, let us give ourselves a treat this summer and read some history. For instance non-voting and suffrage, ratification of the child labor amendment, opposition to the amendment to end amendments, international relations--all make us want to know more about American policy and history. For background reading, a good short general history like Bassett published by MacMillan, Bryce's "American Commonwealth" (especially the first few chapters), and some short book of selections from the Federalist--Bassett's published by Scribner in the Modern Students' Library is cheap. There are Little School Editions of the Constitution worth their weight in gold for about a quarter. Then for a thrill why not read Senator Beveridge's recent "Life of John Marshall?"--there you have it all--and a story too!

#### NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota league has set the date for its annual convention June 8 and 9 in Grand Forks. Miss Wells, as principal speaker at the convention banquet, will talk on "Two Richmond Conventions," and addresses will be given by the two women members of the state legislature. At the "Cures of War" luncheon, speakers will include President Kane of the University of North Dakota, Mr. Davies, editor of the Grand Forks Herald and Congressman Burtness. Mrs. Parkes will, of course, be there from "Start to finish."

The league in Jamestown has a perfect record for the past year--it has not missed a single regular meeting--thanks to the leadership of the president, Mrs. R P Rasmussen. The Jamestown league had a series of meetings based on Kent's "Great Game of Politics" which was cut up into sections and distributed to various members for study.

The North Dakota league plans to have a float at the State Fair this year carrying the call to "Vote as you please, but vote."

Senior girls at Jamestown college recently were guests at a New Voters tea given by the league.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

Pierre league gave a luncheon meeting attended by 24 members. The new auto registration and title law was discussed and the Mayor of Pierre addressed the group on civic problems. The meeting was so successful that another may be planned soon.

#### IOWA

New officers elected for the Iowa league at the recent state convention are: Mrs. Max Mayer, Des Moines, president; Mrs. Clarence Knutson, Clear Lake, first vicepresident; Mrs. Oscar Ruff, Sioux City, second vicepresident; Mrs. Sam Wolf, third vicepresident; (Charles City; Mrs. P S Irvine, Davenport, fourth vicepresident; Mrs. Gordon Elliott, Des Moines, recording secretary; Miss Bonnie Marshall, Des Moines, treasurer.

#### MONTANA

Leagues in Helena and Great Falls feel they have had real educational treats in the lectures on social hygiene and heredity given recently by Dr John X Newman, head of the Hygienic Laboratory of the state health department. The lectures were arranged by Mrs. C B L Williams, chairman of social hygiene for the state league.

Mrs. E G Clinch is the new president of the Butte league.

The state league is making plans for a board meeting August 15th in Helena. The delegates to the Richmond convention from Montana--Mrs. Hutchins of Missoula and Mrs. Barnum of Great Falls--will give reports of the convention.

This is a personal plea to every league member who receives the Round Robin!

Please send in more items of news for our little sheet. We are always hearing of members who look forward so eagerly to reading about what other leagues in the region are doing, and our mailing list is growing every issue. We should have news about the 20th of the month. Be sure and let us know all your plans for summer league work. Every single, little item counts.

M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
May 27th, 1925

The regular monthly state board meeting of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the Spalding Hotel, Duluth, Wednesday, May 27th, 1925. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m., Miss Wells presiding. The following members of the state board were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Marble, Mrs. Glasce, Mrs. McGuire and Miss Byrne. Miss Child, Miss Harrison and Miss Beggin were also present. The following Duluth women were present at the morning session: Msdms. Williams, Pary, Morris, Hanft, Davis, Selseth, Atwood, Roberts, Spear and Grannis. Mrs. Roulo and Mrs. Colton attended the evening session.

The treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Cant. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, and seconded, that the treasurer's report be accepted. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, and seconded, that the bills payable be allowed.

In making her report, Mrs. Cant called attention to the fact that in making up the budget last fall, expense of a paid organizer to work out over the state was included. It was known that we would exceed our known sources of income, but the need of such a worker was imperative. At the present time, we are running about \$150.00 a month short. This resulted this spring in a total of over \$700.00 in unpaid bills of several months standing, increasing each month. The emergency was met by a donation of \$700.00 from Miss Wells, who had already given as much as she should. The problem of the deficit each month has still to be met by discovering some new means of revenue.

Mrs. Cant reported that the cost of running the office is about \$650.00 per month, not including the field secretary. This covers rent, \$40.00, telephone, telegrams, which sometimes run as high as \$25.00 a month, the salaries of two secretaries, and one part-time worker, the clipping service, and incidental expenses such as stationery, stamps, mimeograph material, etc.

Miss Wells explained Miss Ludington's plan of national memberships. In Minnesota we have about 40 people who pledge \$100.00 per year. Mrs. Ueland spoke of the work of Minneapolis women in soliciting these \$100.00 pledges. She suggested that Duluth women try to secure national one hundred dollar members. Personal visits to possible donors mean much in the opportunity to explain League policies and work.

Report of Executive Secretary

Miss Child reported activities in the office since the last board meeting. In accordance with the decision of the executive committee, a letter was sent out on May 24th asking local Leagues to write the governor urging the appointment of a qualified woman to the approaching vacancy in the Industrial Commission. Two meetings of the executive committee were held in May to consider plans for future work and a committee was appointed, with Mrs. Silas Bryan of Minneapolis as chairman, to plan for talks to college seniors on the work of the League. Meetings were arranged at the University of Minnesota, St. Olaf's College, Northfield, and the Mankato Teachers College. St. Cloud Teachers College will have a speaker during the summer session.

On the question asked at the March board meeting as to previous action by the board to have the county appointees of the district chairmen known as "vice-chairmen", Miss Child reported that no such decision is reported in the minutes.

Report of Department of Efficiency in Government

Mrs. Wittich reported on the State Reorganization bill as it finally passed, and upon the delegation appointed by the Executive Committee, upon the advice of the Citizens' Committee on State Reorganization, to visit the Governor and call his attention to the League's interest in the appointment of qualified men to the Commission on Administration and Finance created by the reorganization law. He received the delegation in a friendly way and discussed very frankly the possibility of various appointments.

The question was asked by Mrs. Marble as to whether the law will result in a saving of state money. Mrs. Wittich said there is an opportunity for economy, which may be realized if efficient appointments are made.



Mrs. Wittich commented upon the new pamphlet issued by the National League on "Federal and State Law Making Bodies" prepared by Helen Rocca.

Mrs. Wittich told of the conference of the Efficiency in Government Department at the National convention. This conference centered around voting, non-voting, and the direct primary. The discussion of voting went back to registration laws, which in some states are very poor. Minnesota has a permanent registration law which has now been extended to second class cities. The Leagues in these cities should do work similar to that of Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth in interesting women in registering.

Mrs. Wittich discussed the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment as one of the principal new items on the program of study in her department. She said that amendment of the constitution had always been difficult, only 20 out of 3800 amendments proposed since the constitution went into effect having been adopted. The proposed amendment makes all further amendment of the constitution practically impossible.

She also reported the adoption of taxation as a new subject for study, Minnesota having been the one state to suggest it in advance of the convention. Miss Wells asked Mrs. Wittich what parts of the program of this department we should be especially concerned with. She replied - this matter of amendment, also the administration of the reorganization law, causes of non-voting, and state taxation.

#### Report of International Cooperation to Prevent War

Mrs. Hargreaves reported upon the program of work as outlined at the Richmond convention, speaking briefly on the various divisions. She spoke of the Protocol of Geneva, saying that it was not a dead issue, as the papers have said it was, but that a solution will probably be found to meet England's objections.

Mrs. Hargreaves brought up the question of Defense Day, which President Coolidge has finally appointed as July 4th. She thought this an acceptable plan as a substitute for the earlier suggestion of naming Armistice Day as Defense Day. She recommended no action by the League though commenting that the psychology of a defense day is all wrong. How can foreign countries believe that we want peace when we make gestures like this? Mrs. Hargreaves thought that the plan for a defense day may kill itself, as people are absorbed in other plans on July 4th.

She reported a recent letter from Miss Morgan telling of new material on the World Court, and other topics. The major thing the League has to do from now until December 17th is to disseminate information regarding the World Court. She made various suggestions, among them that in every district in the state official delegation of from five to six members should go and call on their congressmen and tell them of the sentiment in regard to the World Court. This would be good publicity and they would feel that their constituents were back of them. It would also be fine if delegations could call on the senators.

The second suggestion is to get newspapers to publish information furnished by the League regarding the World Court. The cooperation of the churches should be secured, and resolutions and letters sent to our own senators. They are both opposed. Each League ought to have a chairman to take care of the matter of the World Court and get all societies, clubs, etc., to pass resolutions. Study groups for discussion and study of the World Court and other subjects in this department are fine. Mrs. McGuire told of the exhibit of dolls portraying the World Court as prepared and used in St. Paul with great success.

Miss Wells, in speaking of the World Court work, said she thinks we must map out the six months from now until December and ascertain what work is to be assigned to different months. We must also have a clear idea of what the citadel is that we are attacking - what the opposition to it is. Borah is a powerful opponent. There is a group in the Republican party that is opposed. We want the Republicans in Washington to know that the Republicans in Minnesota are for it. Then we'll have to work out the same problem for the third party. We must be willing to give publicity to this by doing something so good that the papers that are favorable to it can use it for propaganda.

A Duluth member said the Century Club asked Congressman Larson to talk to them. He urged women to let their will be known to congressmen and representatives. Mrs. Pary said they wrote to Senators Johnson and Shipstead.

Miss Wells said that our chief enemy to the World Court is inertia. Most people think we have it.

Mrs. Ueland said we have a powerful friend in Minnesota for the World Court - Mr. Kellogg. We should let Mr. Kellogg know how absolutely Minnesota is a unit for it.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Mrs. McGuire, that this board inform Mr. Kellogg of work that is being done in the state for the World Court and what the sentiment is in the state in regard to it.

#### Report on Social Legislation

Mrs. Ueland called attention to the fact that the May Woman Voter contains a very complete report on the fate of our legislative measures. We are pleased that the reorganization bill passed - but have little else. It is a reactionary period. The attitude of the Legislature was "don't spend one cent - even if it means a saving of one hundred dollars in ten years." The defeat of the child labor amendment in Minnesota was not half as easy as opponents thought it would be. The sentiment against it greatly decreased as time went on. Duluth had a splendid record in the vote of its members in the legislature. The St. Paul delegation had only three votes against it, and Minneapolis had an equally good record, even though the leading paper opposed it.

Mrs. Ueland spoke briefly on other bills on the League's program, and said that one bright spot in the session was that the League helped prevent the passage of a great many bad bills.

A problem we now have to consider, Mrs. Ueland said, is following the enforcement of laws that are passed. Miss Kercher was appointed as chairman of a law enforcement committee. She feels that it is too big a job for one person. She suggests that the Legislative Council of the League follow up this work during the year when the Legislature is not in session. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Mrs. Glasoe, that the question be put to the Council that it hold meetings the off-year to discuss enforcement of those laws we have been instrumental in passing.

The meeting adjourned for luncheon at 1:10 and reconvened for the evening session at 8:00 p.m.

#### "New Voters"

Miss Child reported that Mrs. Silas Bryan is now serving as temporary chairman to arrange speakers for senior girls in colleges, and presented the recommendation of the Executive Committee that she be appointed as the permanent chairman in Minnesota to communicate with the National League regarding young voters. Miss Harrison spoke about some of the plans for interesting girls in the work of the League, and Miss Wells again called attention to the fact that it is the policy of the League nationally to have these girls become members of the League rather than to form separate groups, except in colleges. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Colton, second of Mrs. Glasoe, to ratify Mrs. Bryan's appointment as state representative in correspondence with National League regarding Young Voters.

#### Membership in Local Leagues

There was discussion of the question of interesting women in becoming members of local Leagues. Mrs. McGuire told of the plan in St. Paul of interesting other groups, each of which have a sustaining membership in the Ramsey County League. Miss Wells thought this plan should be more fully tried out in St. Paul before it is suggested to other local Leagues. Miss Harrison told of the effort the Minneapolis League is making to increase its sustaining membership list. The Duluth women felt that their membership could be increased, particularly if they had more interesting programs.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second by Mrs. Cant, that Mrs. Hargreaves together with her committee plan a program of work for the World Court, to be sent to all Leagues for their guidance during the next six months. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Colton, second by Mrs. Wittich, that there be appointed in each local League a World Court chairman for six or seven months, appointed by the State President with the advice and consent of the local League chairman.



### The Woman Voter

Miss Child brought up the question of extending the time for the Woman Voter contest, which was planned to terminate June 6th. The Executive Committee decided to have a questionnaire sent to local Leagues, asking them if they wished to have the time extended to September 1st. All the replies to the questionnaire received to date have been in the affirmative. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Glasoe, second by Mrs. Hargreaves, that the time for the Woman Voter contest be extended to September 1st, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

### Money-Raising Possibilities

Miss Wells reminded the Board that some way of supplementing our present income must be found unless our work in the state is to suffer. To make the rest of our work worth while, it is necessary to constantly expand our organization and this cannot be done on our present income. Therefore we are seeking ways of raising additional funds. Miss Wells then requested Mrs. Wittich and Miss Harrison to report on certain money-raising possibilities to be called to the attention of local Leagues.

Mrs. Wittich presented the National League's plan to encourage local Leagues to make "every member a money-raiser". Miss Ludington is working constantly toward the goal of financing the League without depending upon large contributions from individual donors. A series of prizes will be offered to Leagues classified in groups according to the size of the community. The prizes will be awarded ~~xxxxxxx~~ for the greatest proportion of members who have contributed something to the League in addition to the payment of dues. Miss Wells suggested that Duluth might compete successfully for the prize.

Miss Harrison explained the Indiana League plan of using printed bonds to be sold for not less than \$10.00 in group meetings for the purpose of stimulating contributions. She also described the cardboard containers made in the form of a ruler, which are being used by the Illinois League with the caption "Yard of Dimes". Each ruler contains ten dimes and may be used to encourage League members in becoming "money-raisers".

Miss Wells suggested that the offer of the Woman Citizen to pay \$100.00 for 100 subscriptions to the magazine secured in any thirty day period is an excellent way for local Leagues to make money. Renewals are credited at 50 cents each at all times, and two renewals count as one new subscription in the thirty day effort for 100 subscriptions.

Mrs. Hargreaves reported that she, with Mrs. Allison and Mrs. McKnight, have been at work upon the play as suggested at the last board meeting to be given through the state to raise money. She outlined the three acts planned and said that an effort will be made to finish the play before Mrs. McKnight leaves for Europe.

### State Convention and Institute of Government

There was brief discussion as to whether or not the state convention should be held in conjunction with an Institute of Government as in Minneapolis in 1923. Miss Wells said that if so the Institute might be held in St. Paul. Otherwise it would be well to hold the convention outside the Twin Cities, perhaps in Duluth. The final decision was postponed to another meeting.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Glasoe, second by Mrs. McGuire that a vote of thanks be given the Duluth League for its hospitality.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Electa Byrne, Secretary

I have talked with M \_\_\_\_\_ and find that she will accept appointment as World Court chairman.

I suggest M \_\_\_\_\_ as World Court chairman but prefer that you write her direct in regard to the appointment.

Remarks:

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

6-16-25

## WOMEN VOTERS

1000 Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Phone: Atlantic 1171

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Ed. Dietrichson,  
Section of Women in Industry  
E. Diendonne, Child Welfare  
Lawrence, Education  
A. Dahl, Laws, Living Costs  
Alice Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Kercher, Law Enforcement  
E. Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

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Ed. T. Hargreaves,  
National Co-operation to Prevent War  
Rick W. Wittich,  
Agency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

sent to

District chairmen only

My dear Local Chairman: -

The World Court is the subject of immediate importance in our state and national work for the next six months, so whatever your other plans for the summer we hope to have your help in carrying out a certain definite program as a preparation for action on the World Court by Congress next December.

I have been instructed by the state board to appoint a World Court chairman in each local League, to work in close contact with Mrs. Hargreaves, our state chairman of International Cooperation, during the summer and fall months. I need your help in this. Please fill out the enclosed card and mail it to me within a week if possible in order that I may make the appointment with as little delay as possible. It will help very much if you will talk with the woman you suggest and make sure that she will serve.

We can promise that the summer program for the World Court will not be burdensome and will be interesting. We realize that summer activities must be adjusted to the holiday mood and that we can only prepare the way this summer for our final work in behalf of the World Court during September, October and November. We want the best chairman that you can suggest and feel sure that she will find her work under Mrs. Hargreaves' leadership both stimulating and interesting.

Very sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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June 19th,  
1925

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Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear Board Member: -

Mrs. Jule M Hannaford, Jr., has invited the state board to meet at her home on Manitou Island, White Bear Lake, on Friday, June 26th. The Ramsey County League Board will be hostess for the luncheon and invitation to the meeting is also extended to members of the Minneapolis League Board.

The hours of the meeting are from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 or 5:00 p.m. Buses to White Bear leave 6th and St. Peter Sts., St. Paul, fifteen minutes after the hour and at half hour intervals. The bus leaving St. Paul at 9:45 a.m. will be met in White Bear by automobiles.

Automobile transportation will be provided from League headquarters in Minneapolis and St. Paul for those who notify us by Thursday. Cars will leave the Minneapolis office 9:00 a.m. Friday and the St. Paul office at 9:30 a.m.

Please let us know as early as possible whether we may expect you in order that reservations may be made for luncheon.

Very sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

MMW ckc

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

Ramsey County and Minneapolis League Board members are asked to notify their own offices if they will attend.

200 copies  
Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
June 19 25

400 copies  
8/25

175 copies  
10/25

Note: This series of three brief articles prepared by Mrs. Richard T Hargreaves, chairman of the department of International Cooperation to Prevent War, is offered as a digest of published material in books, magazines and pamphlets. It is intended for the use of informal discussion groups where time or facilities are lacking for more extended study. A list of references will be supplied, upon request, to those who wish to do further reading on the subject.

## AMERICA AND THE WORLD COURT

### I

#### AMERICA'S CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE

The effort of the United States to rid the world of war began with the founders of this Republic and has been persistently carried on by her greatest statesmen in spite of enormous difficulties. America has a noble inheritance and a glorious tradition to maintain. We Americans may point with enduring pride to the courageous struggle by which peace has been advanced step by step under the leadership of the great men of this nation.

As long ago as 1693, William Penn in the midst of a half century of war that Louis XVI had forced upon Europe, proposed that the future peace of America should be preserved by means of an international court. Penn set up what he called a holy experiment in the wilds of Pennsylvania where he resorted not to the military method but to the pacific and judicial method of settling disputes between the colonists and the Indians; an experiment which for seventy years, until his policy was reversed, met with very great success.

Even before the adoption of the Constitution, Samuel Adams drew up for the General Court of Massachusetts the following letter of instructions for the Massachusetts delegates in Congress:

"You are hereby instructed and urged to move the United States in Congress assembled to take their deep and most serious consideration whether any measures can by them be used, through their influence with such of the nations in Europe with whom they are united by treaties of amity or commerce, that national differences may be settled and determined without the necessity of war, in which the world has too long been deluged, to the destruction of human happiness and the disgrace of human reason and government."

The racial instinct for legality was strongly developed in the American colonist and before the adoption of our present Constitution, several controversies had been decided by commissions appointed to arbitrate disputes between states. But the results were not satisfactory and so with great hesitation the step was finally taken which transferred the transitory commissions of arbitration into a permanent judicial court for the determination of controversies between the states of the union and thus came into being the Supreme Court of the United States. In its early years it was flouted, abused and ignored and during the first three years of its existence, it had no cases of any importance to decide. But its authority was finally established and it is now known as the greatest of national tribunals.

That the necessity of finding some method of settling disputes other than war was a conviction of Washington's is evidenced by his utterances of many occasions. In 1785 he wrote to David Humphreys, the secretary of the first United States commission sent abroad to negotiate treaties of commerce:

"My first wish is to see this plague to mankind banished from the earth". And again to Lafayette in 1788 he wrote: "Would to God the harmony of nations were an object that lay nearest to the hearts of sovereigns."

In 1794 Washington's Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Jay, negotiated a treaty with Great Britain which ushered in the modern history of arbitration.



Jay was burned in effigy by his political opponents, yet in the century and a half which has followed, more than 240 international disputes have been settled in accordance with the principles which he laid down.

John Adams followed the policy of peace even against the advice of the men in his own party. The people, who under Washington had cried for war with England, now cried for war with France, but Adams on his own responsibility sent commissioners to France and brought about a peaceful settlement. Twenty years later he said that he would rather have inscribed on his tombstone "Here lies John Adams, who took upon himself the responsibility of the peace with France in 1800" than to have recorded there any other event in his public career.

Benjamin Franklin preached peace not alone to his own countrymen but to every nation with which he came in touch. It was his belief that the most practical way to approach world peace was for a group of nations to arrange an alliance against all aggressors and agree to refer all disputes to some third party. He said "the manifest advantage of arbitration would lead to its universal adoption."

When Thomas Jefferson became President he continued the peace policies of Washington and Adams in spite of the fury of the Napoleonic Wars into which we might so easily have been drawn. Even in such dangers he believed that "Americans might safely set an example which the world should be led by interest to respect and at length to imitate". When the first peace society was organized in Massachusetts in 1815 Jefferson became an honorary member.

President Madison stood as firmly as his predecessors on the principles of peace but under his administration that group in the nation known as "War Hawks" gained the ascendancy and in 1812 persuaded the government to declare war on England. In the Treaty of Ghent which ended that war, Madison promoted the use of arbitration as a method of settling disputes.

When the war of 1812 ended, the United States and Canada had each some 46 forts on the shores of the Great Lakes and many gunboats were being built. It seemed inevitable that the expense of competition in this naval and military preparedness would be enormous and would certainly bring about war between the two nations. But instead the governments of Canada and the United States resorted to arbitration and the Rush Bagot agreement was decided upon.

As a result, for over 100 years peace has been maintained along this 3000 mile border without a single fort or battleship to guard the boundary. The fact that this unarmed boundary between the United States and Canada is now accepted entirely as a matter of course has unfortunately decreased the force of the example.

In 1823 President Monroe, supported by England whose merchants desired to continue their relations with South American republics, issued his famous doctrine which declared that the American continents were closed to future colonization and that the democratic governments established on this side of the world should be unmolested. Except in our relations with Mexico, the United States has lived up to the principle and policy of peace in this hemisphere.

Numerous conferences as between the countries of North and South America have been held in the hundred years since 1823. The results of these American conferences have been notable. The Pan-American Union resulted from the first. At later ones, treaties of compulsory arbitration were agreed upon and Latin America was brought into the world movement for peace by association with the nations of Europe at the second Hague Conference.

At the Central American Peace Conference in 1907, the five Central American nations bound themselves to submit all controversies which might arise among them in which their departments of foreign affairs failed to reach an understanding, to an International Court, a concrete fore-runner of the present World Court. This was the first permanent judicial body to sit in judgment of nations. The convention under which it was established expired in 1917 and it has not been renewed, but it did successfully settle a number of international differences and established an important precedent.

During the Civil War, the tradition of peace did not die out. The attitude of Lincoln throughout the war and of our great generals such as Grant who stated "There never was a time nor a day when it was not my desire that some just and fair way should be established for settling difficulties instead of bringing innocent persons into conflict and withdrawing from productive labor able bodied men", strengthened the will of the people of this country for peace. Abraham Lincoln's policy of magnanimity at the close of the war prevented the development of a spirit of militarism which might easily have resulted from the conflict.

In spite of the war with Spain the administrations of McKinley and Roosevelt were marked by definite efforts for the promotion of arbitration and peace.

The first Hague Conference was called in 1899 by the Czar of Russia. McKinley was president and John Hay secretary of state. The American delegates to that conference were instructed to make the proposal for a permanent international court. But Europe had not been educated sufficiently and was not ready to accept the American suggestion. The proposal was modified into a Court of Arbitration, The Hague Tribunal. Each state was permitted to nominate not more than four persons for the tribunal, thus supplying a panel of about 130 names from which a special court may be selected for each case. The so-called Court of Arbitration is not really a court at all but merely a list of names from which men may be selected to arbitrate a dispute between two nations.

The second Hague Conference was called in 1907 by President Roosevelt and Elihu Root was secretary of state. The delegates of the United States were again instructed to urge the establishment of a permanent court of international justice and a plan for such a court was drawn. Just at this point the nations of the world came to a deadlock for they would not agree on a method for selecting the judges of the court. Obviously, each nation could not have a judge but the smaller nations insisting on their sovereign rights refused to allow the great nations to control the election of judges and the great nations would not allow the small nations to outvote them. So the Conference ended with no action on a world court.

Between 1907 and 1914, the statesmen of the world were laboring at a solution of the problem of finding a way to elect judges for a World Court which would be satisfactory to both the great and small nations.

And then the great catastrophe came and all men were plunged into the most devastating war of history, five years of bloodshed and horror. And out of that welter of grief and despair and ruin came the determination of both the great and small nations to find a way to settle differences between nations by a saner method than the utterly stupid one of killing each other.

We in America do well to remember the words of wisdom and vision spoken by the foremost of our public men, generation by generation, urging the methods of arbitration and peace - words spoken by such men as William Penn, Benjamin Franklin, William Ellery Channing, Horace Mann, William Lloyd Garrison, Whittier, Emerson, Longfellow, Lowell, Holmes, Phillips Brooks, Joseph Choate, Justice Brewer, John Hay, Philander C. Knox, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.

The gifts of Edwin Ginn and Andrew Carnegie, establishing permanent foundations for peace work, are unparalleled in any other nation. The founders of this great Republic conceived the task of establishing world peace as a great mission of the new nation which they had created. The question for the individual American citizen is whether he will help or hinder in this effort of his country to free the world from the tyranny of war.



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## AMERICA AND THE WORLD COURT

### II

#### THE PERMANENT COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

On February 24, 1923, the late President Harding sent a message to the Senate asking its consent to the adhesion of our government to the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice. The message was accompanied by a letter from Secretary of State Hughes, stating the terms and conditions upon which the United States may fully adhere and remain wholly free from any legal relations to the League of Nations or obligations under the covenant of the League.

President Harding's last message to the American people, sent from his death bed, urged their support of his recommendation, and President Coolidge in his message to Congress in December 1923 approved the recommendation of his predecessor. Again in December 1924 in his message to Congress, President Coolidge urged our entry into the World Court.

Endorsement of the World Court has been incorporated in the platforms of the two major political parties. Practically all the great national organizations of the country are on record as endorsing our speedy adherence to the World Court Protocol. The proposal has been before the United States Senate for more than two years with no action taken. It is now on special orders for consideration of the Senate on December 17, 1925.

Let us see how this Court came into existence, what it really is and what the United States is asked to do.

On February 13, 1920, the Council of the League of Nations appointed an Advisory Committee on Jurists to draft a plan for a world court. The committee had eleven members, one of whom was Elihu Root, former Secretary of State under President Roosevelt. It was due to the genius of Root that a plan of electing the judges was found which was acceptable to the great and small nations.

On December 13, 1920, the statute of the World Court was adopted by the Assembly and the first regular session of the Court was held June 15, 1922.

The Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice is an entirely distinct and separate treaty from the Covenant of the League of Nations, and it is necessary that it be signed and ratified by those governments adhering to the Court. Forty-eight nations have signed the Protocol.

The Court consists of fifteen members - eleven judges and four deputy judges. Members of the Court are elected for nine years and may be re-elected. They receive a salary of about \$6,000. John Bassett Moore, an American and the foremost United States' authority on international law and arbitration, has been elected as one of the judges, although the United States pays no part of his salary.

The Court holds its sessions at the Hague in a building donated by an American, Andrew Carnegie. It makes its own rules, elects its president and appoints its clerk. It is required to hold a session every year which shall begin on June 15th and continue until the calendar of cases is cleared. Only nations may be parties to cases before the Court.

The jurisdiction of the Court comprises all cases which contending nations refer to it and all matters especially provided for in treaties and conventions in force. It is this jurisdiction only to which the United States would subject itself in the event of adherence to the Court. It is purely voluntary and can in no way be made compulsory without the consent of the nations affected.

As a number of nations wished to give the World Court a wider jurisdiction, a compulsory clause - article 36 in the Statute - provides that a nation joining the Court may, if it chooses, declare that it recognizes as compulsory the jurisdiction of the Court in all or any of the classes of legal disputes concerning: -

- (a) The interpretation of a treaty.
- (b) Any question of international law.
- (c) The existence of any fact which if established would constitute a breach of an international relation.
- (d) The nature or extent of the reparation to be made for the breach of an international obligation.

It is not proposed that the United States sign this compulsory clause of the Statute. However, on December 1, 1924, twenty-three nations had signed this clause of the Protocol and fifteen of the signatures had been fully ratified.

The conditions of adhesion of the United States to the Protocol recommended by ex-Secretary of State Hughes are as follows:

1. That such adhesion shall not be taken to involve any legal relation on the part of the United States to the League of Nations or the assumption of any obligation by the United States under the covenant of the League of Nations constituting Part I of the Treaty of Versailles.
2. That the United States shall be permitted to participate through representatives designated for the purpose and upon an equality with other states, members respectively of the Council and Assembly of the League of Nations in any and all proceedings of either the Council or the Assembly for the election of judges or deputy judges of the Permanent Court of International Justice or for the filling of vacancies.
3. That the United States will pay a fair share of the expense of the Court as determined and appropriated from time to time by the Congress of the United States.
4. That the Statute for the Permanent Court of International Justice shall not be amended without the consent of the United States.

The fifth condition has been added by President Coolidge:

5. That the United States shall not be bound by advisory opinions which may be rendered by the Court upon questions which the United States has not voluntarily submitted for judgment.

In Senator Swanson's resolution which is to be considered by the Senate on December 17, it is stipulated that the signature of the United States to the Protocol of the Court shall not be affixed until the powers signatory to such protocol shall have indicated, through an exchange of notes, their acceptance of the foregoing reservations and understandings as a part and a condition of adhesion by the United States to the said protocol.

The United States believes in the judicial settlement of international disputes and has long urged the creation of an international court. The present World Court is now established and functioning with the support of nearly all the civilized world. In the three years of its existence, it has given ten advisory opinions and five judgments. Contrast this record with the first three year's history of our Supreme Court of the United States which had no cases of any importance submitted to it during that period.

Elihu Root's solution of the problem of a successful method of electing the judges of the Court which would be satisfactory alike to the great and small nations was a stroke of genius. The League of Nations is composed of two bodies, the Council and the Assembly. The Council includes representatives of the great powers: Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan; and of six of the smaller powers elected each year by the Assembly. The Assembly includes representatives of all the nations who are members of the League, fifty-five in all. The judges of the Court must be elected by a majority vote in both bodies and no nation may have more than one judge in the Court.

Nominations are taken from the panel of names of the Court of Arbitration made up by nominations from every nation which is a member of the Arbitration Court, the United States included. For this election of the World Court judges, the Council and Assembly do not sit as constituent bodies of the League of Nations but simply as an electoral college. It is this electoral college that we



join, not the League. The United States would send representatives to sit with this group for this one act, the election of judges, and would undoubtedly have a seat in the Council as one of the great powers.

The method of selecting judges provides that the great powers and the smaller powers have a check upon each other and it is as certain as anything human can be that their concurrent action will result in the election of impartial judges.

There is confusion in the minds of many as to the difference in function of the League of Nations and the Permanent Court of International Justice. They differ radically in their nature and in their effects. The League of Nations is a political body dealing with questions of national policy. The honorable obligation of each individual taking part in the proceedings of the Council and Assembly is the obligation of a diplomatic agent towards his own country. All diplomatic procedure has the purpose of avoiding or preventing conflict. The meetings of the Assembly and Council of the League of Nations are diplomatic conferences held at stated times and places. The members are speaking and voting for their respective countries.

The Permanent Court of International Justice, on the other hand, is a judicial body, a court of law. No diplomatic agreement is sought or attained. No member of the Court represents or is at liberty to represent any nation whatsoever. There is an American among the judges of the World Court but he does not represent the United States. The duty of the judges is not to deal with policies or agreements but to decide questions of fact and law in cases brought before them. The obligation of each judge is not to represent his country or any country. He does not take orders from his own foreign office or any other foreign office. He does not reflect the policy of any government but he hears the case and according to his own conscience, he decides upon the evidence and the law.

The Court is absolutely independent and is subject to no control by the League of Nations or any other political body. Its impartiality has never been questioned. In fact, judges of the Court have repeatedly demonstrated their impartiality by concurring in decisions contrary to the position supported by their own countries.

As we have rules of conduct to regulate the behavior of one individual toward another, and courts of law to enforce these rules, so we must have rules of conduct to govern the behavior of one nation toward another and institutions to interpret and enforce such law. One of the necessary institutions is a World Court. Disputes will constantly arise so long as human nature remains the same. The only intelligent recourse is to provide some adequate means of peaceful settlement. Human experience has devised no means so effectual as the opportunity to secure the judgment of a competent and upright court of justice.

The American people have always wanted that kind of tribunal. It is an American tradition. We have told the world over and over again that we want a world court of justice. The question now presented is whether the United States shall take part with the other civilized nations in supporting the Permanent Court of International Justice, which the United States has so long urged these nations to join her in creating. Both self respect and self interest require that the United States should stand by its own policy. We cannot decently urge the creation of such a court as this upon the rest of the world through a long series of years and then repudiate the court when they consent to it. A world court is no longer a dream, it is a dream come true. The United States is not asked to assist in establishing a court. It is merely asked to join in maintaining an established court which is functioning at the Hague today.

Our present opportunity is to become a member of the World Court, to give our moral support, our financial support, our official support, not to an untried institution but to one that is already established, already functioning and one that gives splendid promise of serving the world as an agency for the promotion of peace.

A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
June 26, 1925

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Suggestion for holding board meeting earlier in month

ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE

Miss Beggin's work in the field - arrangement for next six months  
National plan - "every member a money-raiser" - Mrs. Wittich  
Woman Citizen subscription drive - a money-raising possibility  
Voter Contest (Index for Woman Voter)  
Report on play for presentation by local Leagues - Mrs. Hargreaves

DEPT. OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO PREVENT WAR - WORLD COURT PLANS

Appointment of World Court chairmen in local Leagues - Mrs. Hargreaves  
Schedule of activities and report on study material " "  
Plan for Delegation to Secretary of State Kellogg  
Proposed dramatization of information on World Court - Mrs. McGuire

STATE CONVENTION AND INSTITUTE

PROPOSAL FOR STATE CONFERENCE ON CAUSE AND CURE OF WAR

STATE AND COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITS

Plans for State Fair Booth - Mrs. McGuire  
Dramatic spectacle for program in Woman's Building - Mrs. McGuire  
County Fair plans

YOUNG VOTERS

Report on talks before college seniors - Mrs. Silas Bryan  
Suggestions for follow-up of young voter group by local leagues

DEPARTMENT OF EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT REPORT - Mrs. Wittich

NEW BUSINESS



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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1925

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My dear "New Voter": -

We have received your name as one of the senior college girls who signed a card as an indication of interest in the work of the League of Women Voters in this state.

It is our wish to enlist your further interest and help in our work. We are sending you complimentary copies of our monthly bulletin, the Woman Voter, for the next three months in order to put you in touch with the subjects that seem to us of special interest and importance at this time. We also enclose with this letter a leaflet on the purpose, program and organization of the League which we hope you will read carefully with the thought in mind that this represents the entire extent of the field covered by League work. Our program of state and local League activity is necessarily much simpler and is chosen with reference to the outstanding problems that exist in Minnesota.

Our hope for the success of what we are trying to accomplish in extending the political education of women lies with the young women who are now taking their places in the community. We need your help. In return we can offer you wider interests and developing contacts.

Sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*  
Marguerite M Wells,  
President

Mrs. Silas M Bryan, Chairman,  
"New Voters" Committee

P S We are referring your name to the chairman of our local League in order that she may know of your interest. We shall hope to hear that you are having the opportunity to know League work from direct contact with it.

## NORTH DAKOTA

Although heavy rains kept delegates from attending the North Dakota state convention, held at Grand Forks, June 8th and 9th, they did not dampen the spirits of the small but very enthusiastic group that attended every convention session. Miss Wells was the principal convention speaker. Decision on a state budget - the first the North Dakota league has had - was an important bit of convention business. Mrs. J A Poppler was appointed chairman of finance and organization. Plans for an educational campaign on the World Court included a 'month by month' program. During June World Court chairmen are to be elected in each league or possible city where a group can be gotten together. In July and August porch groups for discussing the Court are to be formed, and question boxes are to be run in newspapers, etc. During September and October the League will consider petitions and will make plans for dramatizing the World Court. In November Armistice Day will be appropriately observed.

New officers elected at the convention are: Dr. F Margaret Peake, Grand Forks, president; Mrs. J A Poppler, Grand Forks, first vice president; Dr. Fannie Dunn Quain, Bismarck, second vice president; Miss Margaret Van Dusen, Grand Forks, secretary; and Miss Mary McCumber, Grand Forks, treasurer.

In her president's address, Dr. Peake said: "North Dakota has been divided rather bitterly at times on state issues and we find that many who were active in political affairs in the state are inclined to be suspicious of the League of Women Voters. An acquaintance with the league will allay this suspicion. We want people with different view points among our members. Women affiliated with all political parties are welcome and desired in the North Dakota League of Women Voters."

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Huron - Over 100 new members have recently been added to the Huron League, 43 of which were secured by a devoted member, Dr. Frieda Van Dolsem, who is 81 years old.

In order to interest and inform voters for the municipal election, the Huron League sent questionnaires to the five candidates for mayor and municipal judge, and later held a dinner meeting at which all the candidates spoke.

Miller - The Miller League, Mrs. Laura Atkinson, president, meets the fourth Wednesday of every month. At a special meeting on Tuesday, June 23rd, twenty-five women heard the regional secretary, Mrs. JR Parkes, tell about the Richmond convention and plans for the year.

Pierre - The League gave a luncheon Thursday, June 25th, in honor of Mrs. Parkes.

Mitchell - The Mitchell League had an interesting meeting a short time ago when Mrs. Ed Pierce of Letcher discussed "The Effect of Tariff on the Cost of Living", and Mrs. P H Kelley, state representative from Davison county, explained the new hail law passed at the last session of the legislature.

## IOWA

Mrs. Max Mayer, newly elected president of the Iowa League, has reported the following committee and department appointments: Mrs. Ella McKim, Marshalltown; Efficiency in Government; Miss Ruth E Haefner, Iowa City, Public Welfare in Government; Mrs. Fred H Hunter, Des Moines, International Cooperation; Mrs. S E Lincoln, Des Moines, Child Welfare; Mrs. Helen Lovell Million, Des Moines, Education; Miss Lillian Leffert, Des Moines, Legal Status of Women; Dean Anna Richardson, Ames, Living Costs; Dr. Mae Habenicht, Des Moines, Social Hygiene; Mrs. Ellen M Rourke, Des Moines, Women in Industry; and Mrs. Clark E Daniels, Des Moines, Finance.

## MONTANA

The Silver Bow League of Women Voters, in Butte, is putting on a week's campaign to get all persons eligible registered for a city-county consolidation election coming up August 5th. This will be followed with a "get-out-the-vote" campaign at election time. The Butte "Miner", in an editorial on June 17th commending the League on its effort to increase registration, says "The league merits praise for thus endeavoring to direct attention to a very important duty of citizenship."

Requests and inquiries regarding the Peace Primer, written by Mrs. E K Bowman, chairman of international cooperation for the Montana League, are being received from all parts of the country and even from England. The Helena League is taking 250 copies to be placed in the high schools throughout the state.

## MINNESOTA

At the State Board meeting held Friday, June 26th, at the house of Mrs. J M Hannaford, Jr., at White Bear Lake, guests from other states of the region were Mrs. Helen Lovell Million, Des Moines, Iowa, state chairman of the Committee on Education, and Miss Elsie Burr of Bottineau, North Dakota.

The Minnesota League is making plans for featuring the World Court at state and county fair exhibits this summer and fall.



COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO PREVENT WAR

The Minnesota League of Women Voters

1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

MRS. R. T. HARGREAVES

~~MRS. BOYD NIXON~~  
Chairman

Sent to

July 8, 1925

Board Members - with one set of material.

Local League chairmen where there is no World Court chairmen - with two sets

Local League chairmen where there is World Court chairman - no sets

World Court Chairmen - two sets of material

My dear

We are now ready to send you the material on the World Court which we hope you will use in informal study groups during July and August. It is designed to be used to equal advantage either by League meetings in town or by groups of people on vacations. The reading and discussing of these articles during the summer will serve as a preparation for the serious World Court drive to be begun in September.

I suggest that you begin by calling together one such group and that the members of that group be asked to form similar groups in their own neighborhood. I believe two meetings of each porch group may be enough to read the digest which I have made as brief as possible. We hope that the groups will not disband without trying on each other the questions I have prepared as a test of what has been learned, as well as a means of bringing out certain points more clearly.

Perhaps you may be able to get someone in the group to send a letter to the local paper, following your study, on "Why I believe in the World Court". That reminds me that the suggestion has been made that local editors might be glad to print all or parts of the three short articles if they can choose their own time to do it. I suggest that you have an interview with the editor of your county newspaper to make this request.

In conclusion I want to say that we must all bear constantly in mind that the goal of all our work on the World Court is influencing the Senate to take favorable action on it next December. We must first inform as many people as we can and then when the time comes urge them to communicate with our Minnesota senators. And favorable resolutions from every group that considers the subject must be secured wherever it is possible, to be reported as evidence of sentiment in Minnesota.

Two sets of mimeographed material are being forwarded to you. Let us know if you wish additional sets. And do not forget to let me hear from you. I shall be eagerly awaiting news as to what you are able to accomplish.

Sincerely yours,

*Edna M. Hargreaves*

Mrs. Richard T Hargreaves, Chairman,  
Department of International Cooperation  
to Prevent War

ckc

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## A M E R I C A A N D T H E W O R L D C O U R T

### III

#### OBJECTIONS TO THE WORLD COURT ANSWERED

There is no field in which it is more imperative that justice be administered according to law than the field of international relations. The world has remained too long without adequate judicial machinery for administering justice between nations. It is a great opportunity which is offered the United States to throw the full weight of its great influence behind the effort to substitute law for force in the world of modern states.

The objections to America's adherence to the Permanent Court of International Justice seem to revolve entirely around the following considerations: -

1. That the Court originated in the League of Nations and is a creature of the League.

The Court did not originate in the League of Nations. It originated in the proposal of the United States to the first Hague Conference in 1899. Upon the urgency of the United States in the second Hague Conference in 1907, the project was developed and agreed upon, except the method of electing the judges. The Court is in no sense a creature of the League. The Statute of the Court was not drawn by the League of Nations and does not draw its force from any act of the League. It rests upon an independent, distinct and separate treaty called the protocol of the Signature of the Permanent Court of International Justice. This protocol or treaty constituting the Court makes it a separate World Court, not a League Court and not a part of the League. Furthermore it is well to recall that former Secretary of State Hughes proposed that in adhering to the Court it shall be understood that "such adherence shall not be taken to involve any legal relation on the part of the United States to the League of Nations or the assumption of any obligations by the United States under the covenant of the League of Nations.

2. That the judges are chosen by the League.

All nations which are members of the old Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague, including the United States, are entitled to make nominations of the judges for that court. The judges for the World Court are selected from this list of names, comprising the Court of Arbitration. There is no provision in the covenant of the League of Nations providing for the election of judges of the World Court. That power is vested in the separate treaty of the Court which authorizes the members of the Assembly and Council of the League of Nations to act as special electoral bodies for this one purpose - the election of judges of the Court. When the members of the League of Nations act in separate groups to elect judges, they are not acting under the Covenant but are following a course of procedure defined by a special international agreement, the World Court Protocol, in order to secure the independent and impartial judicial body for which the world has been waiting.

3. That the expenses of the Court are paid by the League.

The budget of the Court forms a separate part of the budget of the League. American contributions to the expenses of the Court could be sent directly to the Registrar of the World Court. This connection between the Court and the League does not in any way subordinate the judges to the influence of the League. One might as well argue that the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States are not independent of Congress because the funds for their salaries must be voted by Congress. Ex-Secretary of State Hughes' condition would seem to have safeguarded adequately America's position in this respect. His third condition was that the United States would bear "a fair share of the expenses of the Court as determined and appropriated from time to time by Congress".



4. That the Court serves as a private attorney of the League, because in the discretion of the Court, it may give advisory opinions.

The Court may give advisory opinions to the League of Nations. But this jurisdiction is not new, for similar provisions have obtained in the New England states since Colonial days and are now found in the constitutions of about ten states. The Massachusetts Supreme Court has had such jurisdiction since 1780 and has given about 140 opinions to the governor and Legislature of that commonwealth. The World Court has shown by its refusal to render an advisory opinion in the case of Finland against Russia that this function will be exercised in an independent, judicial way and that wherever an advisory opinion cannot be given according to the limitations of judicial action it will refuse to act altogether. In the fifth condition of our adherence to the Court, President Coolidge has stipulated that the United States should not be bound by any advisory opinions of the Court upon questions which the United States has not voluntarily submitted for its judgment.

5. That our adherence would draw us into political entanglements.

This objection fails to distinguish between judicial action and the field of political action. The decrees of the World Court are based not upon political consideration but upon processes of law. The United States would not under the Statute of the Court be compelled to submit any case to the Court at any time. The United States without its consent could not be summoned into the Court by the Court itself, by any nation or any group of nations. The Court is independent of political influence.

The establishment of a Permanent Court of International Justice has been an American policy for years. Political platforms have treated the advocacy of such a court as an American policy and not as a political entanglement. If we treat participation in the World Court as an entanglement foreign to our institutions, we must rewrite American history.

6. That there is no complete code of international law.

Historically courts precede enacted law and by their decisions crystallize custom and principles into formal law. This is the way the English common law came into being which is the basis of the law administered by courts in America today. The decisions of the World Court will in time result in building a structure of international law based upon the need expressed in the controversies referred to it. In the meantime effort to codify international law is stimulated rather than hindered by the existence of a functioning court.

Since the establishment of the World Court, two promising attempts to formulate a code of international law may be noted. Last December, a commission of fifteen eminent lawyers was appointed by the Council of the League of Nations for the revision and extension of international law. Former Attorney-General Wickersham is a member of this group. A draft of a code of international law has been prepared by the Pan-American Institute of International Law, including the United States and all Central and South American countries, and is now in the hands of the U S Secretary of State as chairman of the Governing Board of the Pan-American Union.

It is through the growth of law that replacement of might must be established. The Court's greatest function lies in the gradual building up of a body of law and precedent in international relations, the very existence of which tends to the exclusion of conflict.

7. That by reason of the fact that not only the British Empire but the dominions of that empire have votes in the Assembly of the League of Nations, Great Britain would have six votes to our one upon the election of judges.

By the express terms of the Protocol of the World Court no power can have more than one of its nationals a judge of the Court. The self governing dominions of the British Empire, such as Canada, cannot gain a member of the Court by their votes because their citizens are all nationals of the British Empire and there can be but one national of that Empire in the Court.

8. That the jurisdiction of the Court ought to be compulsory.

The commission which formulated the plan for the Court recommended that jurisdiction should be compulsory, but many nations were unwilling to agree to such jurisdiction. The compulsory clause was then added to the Statute, and 23 nations have signed it. It is entirely optional for a nation to sign or not as it pleases. It is not proposed that the United States sign this clause. Historically, the attitude of the United States has always been that it would not give to any tribunal compulsory jurisdiction affecting its interests. It is true that no method for enforcing the decisions of the Court has been provided other than the power of public opinion. The same is true of our own Supreme Court. The force of judicial decrees must depend upon their inherent justice.

9. That the Court issues not only legal opinions but opinions of every nature.

A study of the ten advisory opinions and five judgments given by the Court in its three years of existence will convince any one that opinions and decisions are given only on questions of law.

10. That the League is to supply the law for the Court.

This objection is absurd for the League of Nations has no law to give and there is no power vested in the Covenant of the League to supply law for the World Court.

11. That adherence of the United States to the Court is not sufficient advancement of world organization for the elimination of war.

The most ardent advocates of the World Court are not claiming that it will put an end to war or that it is a perfect institution. But the Permanent Court of International Justice does introduce into international affairs an organization which gives to the world the opportunity of settling disputes through judicial decisions which would otherwise lead to war. The importance of this idea as the focus for a united world opinion opposed to war and in favor of the peaceful settlement of disagreements cannot be overestimated. War can be ended only by arraying the moral force of the world in support of definite, wisely formulated rules of conduct which exclude war, and by giving to that moral force institutions through which that force may be applied. One of the necessary institutions is a World Court by whose establishment we take one more step toward the goal which we so earnestly seek - universal world peace.



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
July 1925

Note: For a full account of the decisions and advisory opinions rendered by the World Court prior to May 1, 1925 as outlined here, the reader is referred to "The Work of the Permanent Court of International Justice During Its First Three Years" by Manley O. Hudson, published by the World Peace Foundation (Price 5 cents)

#### JUDGMENTS BY THE WORLD COURT DURING ITS FIRST THREE YEARS

1. Case of the Steamship Wimbledon, involving Freedom of the Kiel Canal.  
Judgment rendered August 17, 1923.
2. The Mavrommatis Palestine Concessions. A proceeding instituted by the Greek Government against Great Britain as holding the mandate for Palestine.  
Judgment rendered August 30, 1924.
3. Interpretation of Reparation Clause in the Peace Treaty of Neuilly.  
Judgment rendered September 12, 1924.
4. Interpretation of a Previous Judgment in Reparation Clause in the Peace Treaty of Neuilly.  
Judgment rendered March 26, 1925.
5. The Mavrommatis Jerusalem Concessions.  
Judgment rendered March 26, 1925

#### ADVISORY OPINIONS BY THE WORLD COURT

1. July 31, 1922 Opinion on the nomination of the Workers' Delegate of the Netherlands to the International Labor Conference.
2. August 12, 1922 Opinion on whether the competence of the International Labor Organization extends to conditions of labor of persons employed in agriculture.
3. August 12, 1922 Opinion on whether examination of proposals for the organization and development of methods of agricultural production falls within the competence of the International Labor Organization.
4. February 7, 1923 Opinion on the Nationality Decrees issued in Tunisia and Morocco (French Zone), issued November 8, 1921.
5. July 23, 1923. Opinion on the status of Eastern Carelia.
6. September 10, 1923 Opinion on certain questions relating to settlers of German origin in the territory ceded by Germany to Poland.
7. September 15, 1923 Opinion on certain questions arising out of the application of Article 4 of the Polish Minorities Treaty.
8. December 6, 1923 Opinion on the delimitation of the Polish-Czechoslovak frontiers - commonly called the Jaworzine Boundary Question.
9. September 4, 1924 Opinion on the Monastery of Saint-Naoum and the Albanian frontier.
10. February 21, 1925. Opinion on the meaning and scope which should be attributed to the word "established" in Article 2 of the Convention of Lausanne of January 30, 1923, relating to the exchange of Greek and Turkish populations.

### EXAMINATION QUESTIONS ON THE WORLD COURT

1. What is the difference between the Court of Arbitration and the Permanent Court of International Justice?
2. Where did the Permanent Court of International Justice originate?
3. What was the difficulty to be overcome in regard to the election of judges of the World Court?
4. By whom was the Statute of the Court drawn?
5. Is the Protocol of the Court a part of the covenant of the League?
6. How many nations are members of the World Court?
7. How are the judges of the Court nominated? How elected?
8. How many judges are there? For how long are they elected and what is their salary?
9. What is the difference in function between the League of Nations and the Permanent Court of International Justice?
10. Name the five conditions under which the United States may become a member of the Court.
11. Is the jurisdiction of the Court compulsory?
12. What is the compulsory clause in the Statute of the Court?
13. How many nations have signed this compulsory clause?
14. Is it probable that the United States will sign it?
15. How long has the Court been in existence?
16. How many advisory opinions and judgments have been given by the Court?
17. Will the United States be compelled to submit cases to the Court by the Court itself or by any nation or group of nations?
18. How are the decrees of the Court enforced?
19. Is there a complete code of international law?
20. How has our common law been developed?
21. What is being done in the world for the development of international law?
22. What is the World Court doing for the development of international law?
23. Why should the United States more than any other nation logically be a member of the World Court?
24. What Americans have aided and promoted the establishment of a World Court?
25. How did John Bassett Moore, an American, become a judge of the Court, in view of the fact that the United States is not a member?
26. Is the giving of advisory opinions by a court of justice a new procedure in the world?
27. How does the Permanent Court of International Justice promote the cause of universal world peace?



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

July 14th,  
1925

My dear Local Chairman: -

Are you planning to have a League exhibit at your county fair this year? We surely hope that you will for there is no better opportunity to reach the wider public which we wish to interest in our work.

The World Court is to be the feature of our state and county fair exhibits this year, and we have some very interesting and unusual suggestions, which you will find explained on the enclosed sheet.

Please let us hear from you in regard to your county fair plans. We shall wish to know what you are doing.

Very sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

ckc

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

The fair in your county will be held \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis  
July 1925

#### PLANS FOR WORLDCOURT EXHIBITS AT COUNTY FAIRS

##### PLAN NUMBER ONE - Exhibit to be made by local League

1. Drape the back wall of the booth with dark blue outing flannel or other soft material and arrange flags of as many nations as possible against this background.
2. Pose a figure of justice in the booth, using a wax figure loaned by a store. The figure should be clothed in Grecian draperies (white cheesecloth may be used) and scales (such as are used in drug stores) suspended from one hand. Place beside the figure a globe of the world (which can be secured from a school) encircled with a band with the words "Law-Not War".
3. Prepare a miniature model of the World Court with dolls representing the eleven judges of the Court. Dolls dressed in national costumes should be grouped on one side of a long table at which the judges in wig and gown are seated, and Uncle Sam with the nations not members of the Court are seen on the other side.

We have a photograph of this exhibit (price 60 cents) that we can send you upon request, for your assistance in preparing the model. We also can supply free of charge definite instructions to follow in making the costumes for the dolls. Can't you plan an afternoon sewing party and interest young women in each taking a doll to dress?

##### PLAN NUMBER TWO - Exhibit furnished

A very clever and interesting cardboard and paper doll model of the Court has been prepared for local Leagues who cannot prepare the doll model explained above. This exhibit would be very effective in a small booth, and will be sent for a charge to cover the cost of mailing. The same dark blue background and flags of different nations should be used with this exhibit.

##### SIGNS

Have a "League of Women Voters" sign made to place over your booth. You will probably be able to get volunteer assistance with this. The lettering can be done in blue on compot board and will be very effective.

Prepare other signs calling attention to facts about the World Court you wish to emphasize, such as "Keep your eye on Congress December 17th", "Which way are we going - toward peace or war?", "Write your Senator to vote 'Yes' December 17th."

##### FLIERS

Fliers on the World Court like the enclosed sample will be sent you at the price of 25 cents per hundred. These should be distributed free from your booth. It might also be well to order a supply of five cent pamphlets on the World Court to be sold at the booth. (See list of World Court pamphlets in the July Voter.)

##### BOOTH SPACE AND COUNTY FAIR EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

Appoint your committee to take charge of arrangements at once. Your request for exhibit space should be made IMMEDIATELY. If you announce a plan for an interesting and attractive exhibit, you will find that county fair officials will be glad to give you space. The suggestion has come to us that it is possible for a local League to combine with other groups such as the Boy and Girl Agricultural Clubs, sharing the use of the booth and in this way securing better space. An attractively decorated booth is considered an asset by fair officials.

##### BOOTH WORKERS

The booth must be in charge of volunteer booth workers who are informed on the League and on the World Court, if it is to be a success. We have in the past heard unfavorable comment from individuals who have visited county fairs and found League exhibit material "just lying around with no one to give information."

##### WOMAN VOTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

This is a good time to get new subscriptions to the Woman Voter and new members for your local League. Upon request we will send you a supply of sample Voters and subscription blanks free of charge.



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Office Secretary  
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Dear Friend: -

You are one of the women in the state that we would like to have informed of our work and in touch with it through reading our monthly publication, the Woman Voter. I therefore enclose a former issue as a sample of the form and content, together with a subscription blank which I hope you will fill out and return.

You may be interested to know that the subscription price of twenty-five cents a year does not cover the actual cost of printing and distributing the Voter. We consider it worth while to assume the additional expense in order that we may convey to women in the state brief and authentic information on important subjects.

May I call your attention to the fact that a series of very readable articles by Miss Wells on the theory and growth of our American government will be published following the first article in the July issue, entitled "The Great American Invention". These will be of particular interest and value.

We shall hope to have you as one of our subscribers.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

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M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
June 26, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held Friday, June 26th, 1925, at the home of Mrs. J M Hannaford, Jr., at White Bear Lake. The members of the Ramsey County and the Minneapolis League Boards were invited to attend the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m., Miss Wells presiding.

The following members of the state board were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Wittich, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. C R Noyes, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. Glasoe, Mrs. McGuire. The following members of the Minneapolis League were present: Mrs. Jerome, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Chalmers, Mrs. Child, Miss Merrill, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Quint, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Wallis. The following members of the Ramsey County League were present: Mrs. Guise, Mrs. Colby, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Greve, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Lott, Mrs. Hannaford, Mrs. Schwartz, Mrs. Benepe, Mrs. Fredine, Mrs. Irwin, Mrs. Beaver Wade Day, Mrs. Troy, Mrs. Johnson, Miss King, Mrs. McAndrews, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Whitehead and Miss Jennings. The following were also present: Mrs. H S Hill and Mrs. O F Newman of Stillwater, Mrs. G R Day of Farmington, Mrs. Helen Lovell Million of Des Moines, Iowa, Miss Elsie D Burr, Bottineau, N Dakota, Miss Child, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Collins and Miss Jeffrey.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Miss Child in the absence of Miss Byrne and were accepted with corrections of certain words suggested by Mrs. Wittich and Miss Wells.

Mrs. Cant not being present, Miss Child reported for her that all current bills have been paid. This was made possible by the prompt payment of the full monthly quota by the Ramsey County and the Minneapolis Leagues. Other quota payments received during the month were payments of \$15.00 by the Stillwater League and of \$8.00 by the Wells League.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, seconded by Mrs. Glasoe, that the bills for the month of June be allowed.

Miss Child reported the recommendation that a day other than the fourth Friday be agreed upon as the regular board meeting day for the future, to enable the treasurer to make her report to the board immediately following the closing of the books for the previous month. The question of changing back to Thursday as the board meeting day was briefly discussed. Mrs. McGuire was of the opinion that this was not so convenient a day as Friday. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Glasoe, and seconded, that the second Friday of the month be the regular day for the state board meeting in the future.

Organization and Finance

Miss Wells reported that with the authorization of the Executive Committee she has arranged with Miss Beggin that she is to remain on the staff until next Christmas, instead of going back to teaching in the fall as she intended to do. Miss Wells expressed great appreciation of Miss Beggin's work in the field and said that she hoped it might be possible to keep her even longer than the time agreed upon.

Mrs. Wittich presented the plan for the award of prizes by the National League to stimulate the effort in local Leagues to make "every member a money-raiser". No League is eligible to enter the contest from a state that does not pay its national quota. The prizes offered are as follows: -

A first prize of \$100.00, second prize of \$50.00, for which county or district leagues having a minimum of 100 sustaining members may compete. Two or more local leagues in a rural county may compete in this class even though there is no county-wide organization.

A first prize of \$100.00, second prize of \$50.00, for which cities of more than 25,000 may compete providing they have at least 250 sustaining members.

A first prize of \$75.00, second prize of \$30.00, for Leagues in towns under 25,000 having at least 50 sustaining members.



The time limit for the campaign to make every member a money-raiser is one month and the report must be submitted a month in advance of the national convention where the prizes will be awarded. A certain amount agreed upon by the League in entering the contest must be raised by individual members, the amount being the same for each individual. Individuals may combine in groups for the purpose of cooperating in raising their money. Membership dues are not counted as meeting the terms of the contest. There was discussion on the points whether money contributions other than dues may be counted or whether the money must be earned in some way, and whether the proceeds of a joint enterprise of League members such as a rummage sale might be divided among those working in it. Mrs. Wittich volunteered to write Miss Ludington for definite statements on these points.

Miss Wells asked whether the board thought it a possibility to increase the state income by a drive in the near future for 100 subscriptions to the Woman Citizen within the required thirty day period, for which a bonus of \$100 is offered. There was discussion of the month when this should be undertaken and of whether Ramsey County and Minneapolis Leagues would give their help. It was agreed that the attempt which may be made now should not be considered as a great undertaking to be made only once, but that it should be merely the first of several campaigns to be scattered through the year. Mrs. Schwartz suggested that equally important with the money secured is the education resulting from extending the group of readers of the Woman Citizen. Mrs. Glasoe asked whether local leagues sending in subscriptions would be allowed the bonus on their subscriptions. Mrs. Wittich suggested that this would mean complicated bookkeeping and that local Leagues be asked to give this cooperation to the state in meeting the deficit in its budget. Miss Wells asked how many subscriptions Minneapolis and St. Paul would be responsible for. Mrs. McGuire thought 31 subscriptions could be secured through her board of directors, and Mrs. Bissell accepted responsibility for 30 to be asked from the Minneapolis Board. It was suggested that Duluth might be able to furnish ten subscriptions. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second by Miss Lawrence, that August be named as the month for the Woman Citizen drive.

Miss Child reported upon the extension of time for the Woman Voter contest to include the months up to September 1st and said she hoped it would be possible to stimulate from the office the effort of local Leagues in connection with this contest. The Stephen League has sent in over 100 subscriptions and the new Leagues in Murray county are particularly interested in competing for the prize.

Miss Wells said that an index for the Woman Voter has been prepared and will be kept up to date, thus making a file of past issues of the Voter particularly valuable. This may be mimeographed at any time when there is a demand for it.

Mrs. Hargreaves stated that the play that has been partly written by Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Allison and herself, cannot be gotten into shape for use before early fall, in spite of the work on the third act done by Mrs. McKnight during her trip across the ocean. Miss Wells said that she hoped a substitute for this play might be found for use by leagues in small towns for which this may not be suitable.

#### World Court Plans

Mrs. Hargreaves reported that World Court chairmen are now ready to act in ten leagues and that others will be appointed as soon as responses are received from local chairmen. The mimeographed material for the use of porch study groups will soon be ready to send out.

Mrs. McGuire reported that plans for porch parties are already well started in St. Paul, two homes having been offered. She said that they have considered asking those who come to these porch parties to bring a list of questions on the Court that they would like to have answered and thus bring out the information. Mrs. McGuire also reported a plan for a series of six weekly luncheon meetings on different phases of our international relations to ~~begin~~ begin in September. Some of the speakers have been secured.

Miss Merrill spoke in favor of making the delegations to Congressmen and Senators as impressive as possible and taking care that there are outstanding members of the party to which the legislator belongs included in the delegation.

Mrs. Hargreaves said that she is more and more convinced that an overwhelming number of messages and resolutions in favor of the Court should reach President Coolidge. The cause is not yet won. The question was asked as to how our Minnesota members in the House voted on this question this spring. Mrs. Hargreaves

said that we must get the record and have this information. Mrs. Ueland spoke of the necessity of going over the heads of our two Senators who are opposed to the Court and seeing that Secretary of State Kellogg and the President are assured of favorable sentiment in Minnesota. Mrs. Hargreaves reported that it was impossible to send a delegation to Secretary Kellogg because of his short stay at the time of the Norse Centennial but that this should be done. Mrs. McGuire offered to notify Mrs. Hargreaves when Secretary Kellogg may be expected in St. Paul.

Miss Harrison said that the slogan suggested by Mrs. McGuire for use in county fair booths - "Keep your eye on Congress December 17th" - seemed to her a very good one for use on League stationery and envelopes to arouse interest in that date. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Hargreaves, second by Mrs. Wittich, that Miss Harrison's suggestion should be incorporated in the plans for World Court publicity as suggested in the report submitted by Mrs. Hargreaves.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. Glasoe, that Mrs. Hargreaves report and recommendations on proposed work for the World Court be accepted.

Mrs. Glasoe reported her plan in Northfield for forming study groups on the Court. She plans to have a porch party for ten women to discuss the use of the study group material. She will at that time ask each of the ten to have a porch party for ten other women, and a large mass meeting with President Cowling as speaker will conclude the series of porch parties.

Mrs. McGuire gave the outline she has in mind for the dramatization of information on the World Court which she will prepare for use by school classes and other groups. She will choose a committee to work with her and will try to have the material ready before September. Miss Harrison suggested that churches and Sunday schools would probably be glad to use the sketch. Miss Lawrence said that she thought it might be possible to have it published in the M E A magazine.

Mrs. McGuire also outlined the spectacle that may be planned as part of the program offered on two evenings at the state fair.

#### State and County Fair Exhibits

Mrs. McGuire as chairman of the exhibit committee reported briefly upon plans as outlined. The question as to the possibility of getting local Leagues to prepare their own model of the World Court was discussed. Miss Lawrence said that there will be more interest in the exhibit if it is prepared locally. Mrs. Wittich suggested that for those leagues that will not accept the responsibility for preparing the model of the World Court with dolls, a pattern for a pasteboard model might be supplied. Mrs. Bryan said that it would not be difficult to prepare the models in such shape that they could be sent out to Leagues. Mrs. Bryan was asked to take charge of the preparation of such models for use in county fair booths. Miss Lawrence suggested that in Stearns County for League had combined with the Boys and Girls Agricultural Clubs in using booth space and that this had worked well as the other organization was glad to have the use of the booth attractively decorated by the League and that by alternating in using the booth each group was able to have a better booth than would have been possible if each had asked for separate space. Mrs. Morse of St. Paul thought this a good suggestion from her acquaintance with county fairs all over the state.

#### State Convention and Institute

Miss Wells called attention to the fact that this would be a very good year for holding an Institute of Government in connection with the state convention, because it is not a legislative year, and the material this year is so appropriate for an Institute. She called attention to the fact that it would be advisable to decide whether or not to hold such an Institute, and to make arrangements as to time, place and the chairman, although it is of course necessary to get the consent of the University of Minnesota before we have an Institute.

Mrs. McGuire reported the decision of the Ramsey County League Board to accept this opportunity to hold the convention and institute in St. Paul this fall. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second by Mrs. Bissell, that the invitation be accepted.

It was decided that the president of the Ramsey County League, Miss Wells, Mrs. Wittich and Miss Child should make an engagement with the President of the University or the head of the Extension Department of the University, to ask them if they invite the Minnesota League of Women Voters to cooperate with them in planning such an Institute.



IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second by Mrs. McGuire, that the chair should appoint an Institute Committee, at some later date.

There was some discussion as to the best time to hold the Institute, and it was decided that the Executive Committee in consultation with the Ramsey County League and the Institute Committee should set the date. The place will have to be decided by St. Paul.

#### "Young Voters"

Mrs. Silas Bryan, chairman of this committee, reported on the work of the temporary committee to reach senior college girls throughout the state, to tell them of the work of the League and to secure their interest. Contacts were made at the University of Minnesota, Mankato Teachers College and St. Olaf's College at Northfield. The girls who signed cards at these colleges have each been sent a letter of welcome, enclosing a small pamphlet on the League, and will be sent the Woman Voter for three months. The temporary committee has now been turned into a permanent committee and will hold meeting preceding the state convention in the fall to plan and consider college leagues.

There was discussion of how to interest young people in League work during the coming summer months. Local Leagues are to be asked to get young people to start porch parties on the World Court and to head committees for the county fairs. A "new voters" evening with all institutions of the state represented was thought a good idea for the state convention.

Mrs. Bryan explained the tentative idea for forming college leagues throughout the state. The plan is to make a college group distinct from the local League, affiliated directly with the State League, with a sponsor from the local League, to be on the board so that she can keep the local League in touch. Dues of 25 cents were tentatively decided, entitling them to material from the state office. In college leagues girls under voting age are eligible to membership, although they may be restricted to juniors and seniors.

#### Department of Efficiency in Government

Mrs. Wittich told about the appointments recently made by the Governor to the new departments created under the reorganization plan, telling something of the personality and capabilities of the various appointees.

#### Chairmen of Education

Miss Lawrence brought up the question of the need of increasing information and understanding throughout the state on educational needs. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second by Mrs. Wittich, that we ask the chairmen of local Leagues to be sure to appoint a local chairman of education. It was agreed that the chairmen should not be asked to make this appointment until sometime later, possibly in September.

Miss Child read a letter from Miss Beggin from Janesville, telling of her work in the first district.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, and seconded, that Pine City, be dropped from the list of local Leagues.

Miss Child reported two new leagues in Wright county, at Buffalo and Monticello.

There was some discussion regarding the arrangements between St. Paul and Minneapolis for having a breakfast and a luncheon for Mrs. Pinchot.

Miss Wells announced the following appointments to the Committee on the Institute of Government: Mrs. Wittich, chairman, Mrs. Walker, Miss Lusk, Mrs. Hargreaves, and a fifth appointment left open. Miss Wells and Mrs. McGuire will be ex-officio members of this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, secretary pro tem

## NORTH DAKOTA

When the State Finance chairman, Mrs. JA Poppler, went on her summer vacation she carried a typewriter and engaged in a lively correspondence with potential donors to the League. Thanks to her, to the treasurer, Miss McCumber and Mrs. Laura Wickard, who is developing into a wizard of finance, \$460 of the budget is now in hand, six weeks after convention. North Dakota pays its national quota monthly.

Leading the work of the North Dakota League during the coming year will be the following department and committee chairmen appointed following the state convention in June: Mrs. R P Rasmussen, Jamestown, Efficiency in Government; Mrs. L R Putnam, Carrington, Child Welfare; Miss Beatrice Johnstone, Grand Forks, Education; Miss Medora Knox, Grand Forks, Living Costs; Dr. Fannie Dunn Quain, Bismarck, Legal Status of Women; Miss Helen Davies, Grand Forks, International Cooperation to Prevent War.

## MONTANA

The State Board will meet at Helena on August 15th with Mrs. Parkes as guest.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

The Blues and Greens of the Codington County League entered into a contest last winter both for increasing general membership and getting out big attendance at a series of six o'clock suppers. The Blues won and at a final banquet the Greens gave a stunt performance as a penance. Results of the contest were a membership of 126 and attendance at the suppers ranging from 75 to 200. Legislative and other political subjects were discussed at the suppers.

Mrs. Harmon of Watertown and Miss Rehfeld of Aberdeen have written their appreciation of the Round Robin.

From the Huron League: "We paid our \$100 into the State before Mrs. Pyle left for the (national) convention. I am real proud of that and now we have about \$100 in our treasury to work with. It takes money to put over the things we want to do and we would like to send a delegate to the national (convention) next year from our local league."

Mrs. E H Bryan, who was first president of the Huron League, was elected to the school board in June - "the only woman candidate and three men in the race."

The state board meeting was held at Huron July 14th with Mrs. Parkes present. It was then voted to hold the annual convention at Mitchell, October 27 - 28.

## MINNESOTA

A miniature cardboard model of the World Court, designed and made by Mrs. Silas Bryan, is so clever and artistic that its fame has spread abroad and Mrs. Bryan has already received orders from several states. The "Court" was originally planned as an exhibit for county fairs. A small boy present at a private view, after a long look, asked: "Why isn't the United States in the Court? If the United States isn't in, why do they have an American judge?" These are the questions the exhibit is meant to provoke.

The Ramsey County League (St. Paul) held a World Court porch party in July and is planning another in August. Similar parties at which there are informal discussions on the World Court are being held by other leagues throughout Minnesota.

## IOWA

The June business meeting of the Scott County League (Davenport) was preceded by a picnic upon the spacious grounds of Mrs. O B Schmidt. The League is cooperating in a joint campaign for better general law enforcement in Davenport.

Has every Fifth Region member seen the new national letterhead? Mrs. Maud Wood Park and Miss Julia Lathrop appear upon it as counselor on public welfare in government and counselor on legislation and law enforcement, respectively. What a galaxy of names! - Mrs. Catt, Miss Sherwin, Miss Lathrop, Mrs. Park. Can any organization fail to press forward to great achievements under such leadership?

1926 NATIONAL CONVENTION - ST. LOUIS, MO., APRIL 14th to 21st  
LET'S SEND A BIG DELEGATION!



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

August 6th,  
1925

My dear Board Member: -

May I have the pleasure of your company at luncheon at my house Friday, August 14th, to meet Gladys Harrison? I have thought that we might hold a business board meeting in the forenoon and after luncheon give ourselves up to visiting with Miss Harrison.

I am asking only members of the Board and I very much hope that you will be able to arrange to attend for I know how eager Miss Harrison is to see you all again. Lunch will be at half past one and the business meeting will begin at ten o'clock.

Cordially yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc

A G E N D A

STATE BOARD MEETING  
August 14, 1925

Reading of the Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Finance

Mrs. Wittich

National memberships - decision of Minneapolis League

"Every Member a Money-Raiser" Contest

Woman Citizen subscription drive for August

Advertising as a source of income in League bulletins  
The play as a source of income

Report of Executive Secretary

Woman Voter Contest - \$25.00 prize to be awarded Sept. 1st  
World Court Study groups  
County Fair plans

Report of the State Fair Exhibit Committee - Mrs. McGuire

Institute of Government and Politics and State Convention - Mrs. Wittich

Program  
Young Voter's Section  
Convention luncheon

Citizenship Schools

Mrs. Wittich

Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment

Minimum Wage Law - Action of State Industrial Commission - Miss Kercher

Anniversary of Woman Suffrage August 26th

Plans for celebration in honor of suffrage leaders  
Radio talk

New Business



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Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

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Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

400

*Minn. Legislators  
Mpls. & St. Paul suffragists  
League Board  
Local Chairmen*

August 20, 1925.

August 26th will be celebrated the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of women suffrage at a luncheon in the Hotel Radisson Assembly Room at 12:30 o'clock.

Guests of honor will be women holding public office in Minnesota, appointive or elective, prominent state officials and distinguished suffragists. We hope that you will be one of these guests of honor. Each will be asked to reply to the question, "What have women contributed to the political life of America?" In addition there will be speeches by Hon. Ole O. Sageng, Director of the Rural Credit Bureau, Mrs. Andreas Ueland and Mrs. Hannah J. Kempfer, representative in the legislature from Ottertail County.

We very much hope that you will plan to be present on this eventful occasion. Please reply to 1639 Hennepin Avenue. Luncheon 75 cents per plate.

Sincerely yours,

Marguerite M. Wells, president,  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

For the Committee on the  
Suffrage 5th Anniversary Luncheon

Mrs. Jane Burr, St. Paul  
Mrs. H. J. Grannis, Duluth  
Mrs. H. G. Harrison, Minneapolis  
Mrs. J. C. Holman, St. Paul  
Dr. Ethel Hurd, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. Geo. H. Partridge, Minneapolis  
Mrs. David F. Simpson, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. M. Stockton, Faribault  
Mrs. S. A. Stockwell, Minneapolis  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Minneapolis

September  
1925

My dear Senator: -

I feel that the most important question before the United States Senate in the coming session is that of the entry of the United States into the Permanent Court of International Justice.

After considerable thought, I am convinced that this is the first practical step that our country can take toward the establishment of international law and order. I, therefore, respectfully urge that you support affirmative action in the Senate on the World Court Resolution with the Harding-Hughes reservations.

Very sincerely yours,

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## SOUTH DAKOTA

Miss Gladys Pyle of Huron, member of the last state legislature and a member of the league, has announced her candidacy for state secretary.

Volume 1, Number 1 of the South Dakota bulletin, entitled South Dakota League of Women Voters, made its appearance August 1st under the editorship of Mrs. Ethelyn Miller Hartwich. This makes the second state bulletin in the fifth region and the 26th in the National. This first number is full of news of interest. Congratulations South Dakota!

Codington County League writes: "We continue to find the Round Robin very helpful and full of interest."

## MONTANA

Mrs. Lucinda B. Scott, state chairman of education for the Montana league, has issued a mimeographed educational program to be worked on this year. Points covered in her program are: Suggested topics for study; financing the public schools of the nation; how Montana finances her schools; the nation's responsibility in education; the teacher situation in Montana and other states; administration, and new ideals in teaching. Mrs. Scott has material and information available to supplement the outline.

A new league was organized this month at Belt, Montana. Mrs. J.M. Hedrick was made chairman. There are 13 charter members. A big massmeeting the second week in September will start off the local league activities.

Kalispell league has been reorganized with Mrs. C.M. Short as chairman.

The State Convention will be held in Great Falls in January. Plans for an interesting program are now under way.

At a recent board meeting the list of Montana newspaper receiving the mimeographed press service from the National League, was gone over and revised. The other states in the region may well follow Montana's example. If any member knows a newspaper editor really interested in league work, see that his name is on your state press list. Miss Anne Williams at the National League headquarters is press secretary.

## NORTH DAKOTA

Already--less than three months after their convention--the North Dakota league has raised about three-fifths of their year's budget. The treasurer writes that they mean to complete it early and then use the money to push their program.

## IOWA

World Court porch parties or teas with not more than 12 friends or neighbors as guests, are suggested to Iowa leagues as fall activities by Mrs. Fred H. Hunter, chairman of international cooperation to prevent war. Mrs. Hunter writes: "We are asking the friends of the World Court to consider now what can be done to create public sentiment based upon authentic information, so that later we may rally to the support of the measure in a sufficiently impressive manner to secure a record vote in the United States Senate on December 17th."

## MINNESOTA

An Institute of Government and Politics will be held by the Minnesota league in cooperation with the University of Minnesota in connection with the annual State Convention at the St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, November 16 to 21. This is the second Institute that the Minnesota league has supported.

Members of the boards of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth and state leagues have run a Woman Citizen campaign during the month of August. The board members have secured 100 subscriptions. Later a campaign will be carried on by other leagues in the state. The present campaign has a twofold purpose--to raise money for the league and to stimulate board members to read the Citizen which contains information of inestimable value.

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Miss Julia Lathrop's name appears on the new letterhead of the National League as counselor on public welfare in government, and Mrs. Maud Wood Park's name as counselor on legislation and law enforcement. Their positions were mistated in the August issue of the Round Robin.

## ANOTHER REMINDER

The vote on the World Court is to be taken in the United States Senate on DECEMBER SEVENTEENTH. Watch newspaper and magazine comment and keep up with public opinion, remembering that YOU CAN DO MUCH TO SHAPE THAT OPINION.

M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
August 14, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the state board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Miss Marguerite Wells, Friday, August 14, 1925. Those present were: Miss Wells, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Dieudonne, Mrs. Tull, Mrs. Cobb, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Meighen, Mrs. Bennet, Miss Monahan and Miss Kercher. There were also present Mrs. H W Rutins, Miss Gladys Harrison, Miss Florence Harrison and Miss Child.

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m., Miss Wells presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Miss Child in the absence of Miss Byrne and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant gave a detailed report of bills payable amounting to \$368.09 and stated that the present bank balance amounted to \$75.00. Mrs. Ueland reported that she has telephoned to several possible donors asking for contributions to meet this emergency and that she has received promise of two fifty dollar donations. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Dieudonne, to accept the treasurer's Report. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. McGuire, that the bills be allowed and paid as fast as possible.

Mrs. Cant reminded the board that the monthly deficit amounts to approximately \$150 a month and said that the total deficit at present is some \$500.00. She reported that \$605 of the national quota has been paid and that we are now \$205 behind in our monthly payments which amount to \$162 a month. Miss Wells said that she regretted this as Minnesota was, last year, one of two Leagues in the country to pay its national quota in regular monthly installments.

Finance

Miss Wells stated that various plans for raising money to meet the deficit in the monthly budget have been under discussion and asked Mrs. Wittich to report the action of the Minneapolis League. Mrs. Wittich explained that the Minneapolis League was anxious to do what it could to help the state league to reduce its deficit and therefore decided that it would relinquish its fifty percent share of national memberships secured in Minneapolis and allow the whole membership to be credited to the state. This will eventually mean a gift of \$600 to the state treasury though the money will not be forthcoming immediately as not all the national memberships secured in Minneapolis will fall due or be paid at this time. Mrs. Wittich remarked that an ideal way to relieve the situation would be to secure \$100 national memberships from various points in the state outside the Twin Cities but that this has not yet proved possible.

Mrs. Wittich reported on the "Every Member a Money-Raiser" contest and said that she had received a reply from Miss Ludington in regard to the question as to cooperation by League members in a joint financial enterprise being possible under the terms of the contest. The reply would indicate that it is the spirit of the contest that each member assume definite responsibility for raising a certain sum and that if there is cooperation it must be aside from general organization activities. The question as to securing contributions from individuals was not answered except as indicated above. Mrs. Wittich said that few Leagues in Minnesota will be eligible to enter the contest and that she will communicate individually with certain leagues in regard to the contest.

The drive for 100 Woman Citizen subscriptions in August has so far resulted in a total of 23 subscriptions reported by Mrs. Wittich as follows: from state board members 9, from Minneapolis League board members 12, and from Miss Child 2. Miss Gladys Harrison suggested that there might be places where the magazine could be displayed and subscriptions taken as in Dr. Ulrich's bookshop, the Business Women's Club and the City Club in St. Paul.

Miss Wells reported that the play written by Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Allison and Mrs. Hargreaves to be used as a source of income in the state is now ready. The question as to whether local leagues using it shall share in the profit was briefly discussed. Miss Wells emphasized the fact that the purpose of the play has been to provide an additional income for the state league rather than to assist local leagues in paying their quotas.



Miss Gladys Harrison was asked to discuss the question of using the Woman Voter as a source of income through including advertisements. She said that the questionnaire sent out from national headquarters this spring brought replies from 16 leagues that publish bulletins and resulted in a wealth of material that is on file for future reference. Miss Harrison commented upon the fact that of the Leagues that are enthusiasts for selling advertising space in their bulletins, none have had a long sustained experience with this type of bulletin. Rhode Island and Wisconsin are probably the only League bulletins showing an actual profit and in each case there is an individual of unusual ability and experience in charge of the bulletins and giving considerable time to it.

Miss Harrison recommended that if it seems desirable to experiment with a different type of bulletin, the Massachusetts 16 page bulletin be considered as a model. Some ten per cent of space is given over to advertising in this bulletin, bringing in an income of between two and three hundred dollars a year. Miss Harrison said, however, that she has felt more and more approval of the form of the Minnesota Woman Voter since comparing it with the other League bulletins that are received in Washington. She remarked that she believes Minnesota to be the only league in which subscriptions for the bulletin are handled apart from memberships.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second of Mrs. Dieudonne, that the chair appoint a committee to study other League bulletins and report a recommendation on changing the form of the Woman Voter for consideration by the Board. Miss Wells named Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Wittich and Miss Child as the committee.

Mrs. Ueland suggested the possibility of increasing the subscription price of the Woman Voter to \$1.00. Miss Child reported Miss Beggin as having expressed an opinion against such an advance in the subscription price. Miss Wells asked that the committee take this question as to whether local Leagues might be asked to secure ads for individual issues. Mrs. Cobb's feeling was that small town merchants would not feel that the number of local subscribers justified such advertising.

#### Woman Voter Contest

Miss Child reported that a certain few leagues are very active in the contest but that there are not many leagues competing. The question of extending the time once more was discussed and it was agreed that this should not be done. Miss Monahan suggested it is unfortunate not to have the contest continued during the months in which county fairs are held, September and October, and that a second prize might be offered for this period. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second of Mrs. Cobb, that a prize of ten dollars be offered to the League securing most subscriptions in September and October provided the money for the prize shall be donated. Miss Monahan volunteered to be responsible for securing the money by contributions from members of the board.

#### Organization

Miss Child reported the organization of a new League in Caledonia with Mrs. Robert Sprague as chairman, Mrs. Sprague having held this office in the former local league in that town. Her interest has however continued and Miss Beggin recommended her for this office in the newly constituted organization.

Miss Wells reported that Miss Beggin has agreed to continue with her work until Christmas time when she expects to return to teaching. Mrs. Dieudonne and others expressed great appreciation of Miss Beggin's work in the field.

Mrs. Cobb reported that at Miss Wells' request during her recent stay in Detroit she had talked with Mrs. L C Weeks in regard to acting as chairman of the Ninth District and that Mrs. Weeks now feels that it will be possible for her to undertake the work. Great appreciation was expressed by the Board but action on the appointment was deferred to the September board meeting.

#### World Court Study Groups

Miss Child reported that, in response to Mrs. Hargreaves' letter of July 8th, World Court chairmen have been suggested and accepted appointment in fifteen leagues, not including the cities where the International Cooperation chairman acts also as World Court chairman. In Wells, Northfield and West St. Paul (Sibley Unit) no chairman has been reported but World Court study groups have been formed. Great appreciation is expressed for the articles prepared by Mrs. Hargreaves for the use of such groups.

#### County Fair Exhibits

Requests from seven leagues already have been received for the World Court model to be used in fairs during September. Only one League exhibit has been shown up to date. This was in Warren the first week in July and occurred before the World Court model had been prepared.

The question of recommending to local Leagues the use of the World Court cardboard models for window exhibits following the county fairs was discussed. Miss Monahan suggested that the models used at fairs be later sold to local leagues at \$5.00 each. Miss Gladys Harrison suggested that a fee might be charged for loaning the models. By consent, it was decided to stimulate the use of the models in the ways suggested.

#### State Fair Exhibit

Mrs. McGuire reported upon detailed plans for the booth at the state fair, including in addition to the model of the court reproduced from that used in St. Paul two years ago, a large map in color showing the nations in the court to be hung on the side wall. Miss Wells asked Mrs. McGuire for her estimate of necessary expenses for the exhibit. Mrs. McGuire thought that \$20.00 would cover the committee's needs. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Cobb, that a maximum budget of \$25.00 be allowed. Mrs. McGuire reported that no space could be secured on the evening program at the fair for a dramatization of the World Court.

#### Institute of Government and Politics

Mrs. Wittich reported upon the organization of a joint committee for the Institute following a conference with President Coffman, and reviewed the tentative plans that the sub-committee on program is at work upon. Miss Monahan said that she hoped there would be a session devoted to Taxation and Miss Lawrence made a plea for the discussion of the financial condition of the state in connection with education.

#### State Convention

It was agreed that there should be a convention session, probably in the evening, devoted to New Voters. The question of a speaker for the convention luncheon was discussed and Miss Gladys Harrison was asked as to what were the rights of a state in regard to the assignment of national officers for attendance at the convention. She replied that a state might have one national officer and the regional director in attendance, providing engagements could be made for the required dates. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Miss Lawrence that the state board should invite Miss Ruth Morgan to be the speaker at the convention luncheon.

#### Wadsworth Garrett Amendment

Mrs. Wittich stated that she would like to recommend that by action of the state convention the amendment be included in the program for study of the Efficiency in Government Department and that in the program for legislation of the department there be included a permit to work in opposition to new methods of amending the Constitution.

Miss Wells asked Miss Gladys Harrison to discuss the amendment. Miss Harrison said that it is the biggest and "scariest" issue the National League has ever had to meet. Last winter the best legislative observers thought that the amendment might go through Congress. It is possible that the whole proposal may be changed in the next session of Congress due to shifting in the groups aligned in support of the amendment. Concessions that have been made to hold certain groups as the Democratic group in the House, will then be withdrawn. At the public hearing on the amendment, Miss Harrison said, no one appeared against the amendment while the groups appearing in favor of it were the old well-known groups that opposed woman suffrage, social legislation, work for peace and generally progressive measures. The organizations with us in opposition to the amendment are the labor group and the General Federation of Women's Clubs who passed a resolution on the subject at the West Baden meeting in the spring. The only groups with published material on the subject who stand ready to act are the American Federation of Labor and the League. The Anti-Saloon League takes no stand against the amendment. In view of the fact that the League is almost alone in being prepared to conduct an active educational campaign on the amendment, League officers and directors should become thoroughly informed on the politics of the question. Miss Harrison recommended against publicity directed against



the amendment but spoke in favor of study groups that will thoroughly study the whole question of amending the Constitution. She mentioned the need of mimeographed material as well as printed material for distribution to such groups in local Leagues. Miss Wells commented upon a recent editorial in the Minneapolis Tribune showing a lack of information on the subject that is probably general among newspaper editors. The importance of going to influential editors in the state to talk over this amendment before much writing is done by them was emphasized. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Dieudonne, that we begin fall work in September with suggestion that local Leagues follow study of the World Court with study of the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment.

#### Minimum Wage Law

In the absence from the city of Mrs. Dietrichson, chairman of the Women in Industry Committee, Miss Alice Kercher was asked by Miss Wells to report upon the situation with regard to the enforcement of this law in Minnesota. Miss Kercher reminded the board that following the decision of the U S Supreme Court in 1923 declaring a minimum wage law for women in the District of Columbia unconstitutional, Mr. Duxbury, chairman of the Minnesota State Industrial Commission, made a public statement upholding the Minnesota law and explaining that the Supreme Court decision had no application to any state law. Since that time, however, Mr. Duxbury's attitude in defense of our law has changed. On June 5, 1925, he wrote to the Attorney General of the state that the authority of the Commission to enforce the minimum wage law as it applies to adult women had been challenged on the ground of the Supreme Court decision mentioned above, and asking for an opinion from him on the constitutionality of the law. On June 8th, reply was made by the assistant attorney general stating that in his opinion the law is not enforceable in its application to adult women. The Industrial Commission accordingly discontinued enforcement of the provisions of the law dealing with women. Miss Kercher pointed out that under this situation the test of the law will now have to be made by an aggrieved worker instead of by the employer. She also said that our own Supreme Court, in a decision rendered last January, made it clear, by implication, that if the question of the application of the law to adult women came up, it would hold the law unconstitutional in its application to them.

Miss Monahan said that she would suggest a delegation going to Attorney General Hilton to discuss the situation and thought that this should be done quietly and that there should be no publicity on the Industrial Commission's action in regard to the law at present. She suggested that a second delegation might be sent to the governor if Mr. Hilton stood firm on the statement issued from his office. After this a meeting of the Legislative Council might be called to consider the situation. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Miss Monahan, that the chair appoint a committee to interview the Attorney General and, if necessary, the governor. Miss Wells named Mrs. Wittich and Miss Kercher as the committee.

#### Celebration of Fifth Anniversary of Suffrage

A letter from Miss Morgan of the National Department of International Cooperation to Prevent War was read in which she urged emphasis upon the contribution of women to peace in connection with the observance of August 26th as the fifth anniversary of suffrage. Following the suggestion of various ways in which attention might be called to the day in newspaper publicity, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cobb, second of Mrs. McGuire, that a radio program be planned for Tuesday, August 25th, in commemoration.

#### Miscellaneous

The suggestion made at the last board meeting that a slogan be printed on our stationery calling attention to the World Court issue in Congress, was again discussed. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Cobb, that the decision on this question be left to the "office".

Mrs. Dieudonne suggested pushing the sale of Law-Not-War stamps in connection with the December 17th date.

Mrs. McGuire reported that she has had no opportunity to put into form her outline for dramatization of the information on the World Court for use in school or church groups. She can do so, she said, at any time when it is needed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, secretary pro tem



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

September 15th,  
1925

My dear Legislative Council Member: -

A meeting of the Legislative Council will be held at the headquarters of the League of Women Voters on Tuesday, September 22nd, at 2:30 p.m.

The meeting is called for the purpose of conferring with Miss Marguerite Owen, secretary in the department of legislation and law enforcement of the National League of Women Voters and secretary of the national group known as Organizations Associated for the Ratification of the Child Labor Amendment.

Miss Owen is in Minnesota in connection with a trip she is making in the Middle West to confer with state officers of the League of Women Voters, and of other organizations that have taken action in support of legislative measures that are included also in the League program. I feel sure that you will wish to be present at this important meeting. If you are unable to attend, please telephone me as soon as possible and I will try to make some adjustment so that your organization may appoint a representative to confer with Miss Owen during the few days that she is to be in Minneapolis. She leaves on the day following our meeting.

The Council also will be asked to consider at this meeting the program of work for the coming months. It has been suggested that the council this year conduct a study of the administration and enforcement of the laws that it has recommended for the support of its member organizations in the past. Miss Alice Kercher has been asked to formulate a tentative program for presentation at the meeting.

It is important that every member be present on Tuesday. Please telephone Atlantic 1171 to let us know if we may count on your attendance.

Sincerely yours,

*Clara Ueland*

Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Chairman,  
Legislative Council



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
Sept. 18, 1925

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Report of Executive Secretary

Discussion of national legislative program	-	Miss Owen
Report on Convention and Institute	-	Mrs. Wittich
Report on State Fair Exhibit	-	Miss Merrill
Use of Play in the State		
Report of Committee on the Woman Voter	-	Mrs. Cant
Plans for Woman Citizen drive in the state at large		
Report on the Ninth District	-	Miss Beggin
Action on appointment of Ninth District Chairman		
World Court Campaign - October and November	-	Mrs. Hargreaves

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Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

September 22nd,  
1925

My dear Local Chairman: -

Vacations are over, fall work is beginning, League clans are gathering. Last week a state board meeting was held. Members fell into talk about certain of the serious political problems before our country for solution today. You can guess their conclusions. They concluded that no organization is so well prepared to help solve them as the League of Women Voters. I must add that, to fulfill this opportunity, the League must continue to educate its old members and to add to itself new members.

This brings me to the immediate purpose of my letter. Hold an early meeting. Whatever else you do at this meeting, do these things: -

- (1) Have a World Court chairman appointed, if you have not already done so - and her name reported to headquarters - to lead in the coming World Court drive.
- (2) Make sure that your League membership has had study sessions on the World Court, based on Mrs. Hargreaves' now famous material.
- (3) Plan a store window exhibit on the World Court in October or November using the cardboard model of the Court, which we can send you, as its central feature.
- (4) Make sure that your membership is acquainted with the valuable contents of the Voter which may have been lost to some of them during the summer months.
- (5) Most immediate and important - Plan to secure more members and better informed members in connection with the contest for the new prize of ten dollars which will go to the League obtaining the greatest number of Voter subscriptions before November 1st. This prize is offered at this time to give you the opportunity of using the fair and your exhibit there as the occasion for taking subscriptions. You should as often as possible take a membership at the same time. A Voter reader makes a good member. Better have a committee or at least a chairman for this work. If you appoint a young chairman, she will naturally obtain young subscribers and members, and the young women are the League of tomorrow.

Miss Child, Miss Beggin and I are eager to help you start your winter work for the success of which accept our cordial best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M Wells, President

MMW ckc



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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

October 3rd,  
1925

*Sent to 80 girls who signed  
at U. of M. & Mankato  
Teachers College*

My dear "Young Voter": -

We are sending you with this letter the September number of the Woman Voter which has been somewhat delayed. This is the last of the three copies which we promised you. We sincerely hope that you have found it so interesting that you will desire to continue receiving it and will subscribe at the very nominal cost of 25 cents (or 40 cents if you live in Minneapolis). The next two numbers will contain news of the state convention to be held in St. Paul next month in connection with an Institute of Government and Politics arranged in cooperation with the University of Minnesota.

We should be so glad if you could attend the convention. We are going to devote one complete session to young voters with talks by young women pursuing various careers, which I am sure you would enjoy.

We hope that you will become a member of the League of Women Voters. The cost is only a dollar and includes a subscription to the Woman Voter. If you join your local League, the membership fee is set by them but always includes the Voter subscription.

Now that you are out of college and beginning to fit yourself into your community, you will find no more stimulating organization with which to work than the League of Women Voters. As you have undoubtedly discovered by now, its object is to teach women how they can use the vote in doing what they want to do for their town, state or nation. There is nothing like it in the United States. A visiting statesman from a foreign country remarked recently that he thought it the most promising thing he had seen in the country, and Herbert Hoover has said "The League of Women Voters is the most wide-awake body of citizens in America today". Its appeal must be very evident to you and the organization needs the inspiration and leadership of college graduates.

With the hope that we may hear from you or meet you at some one of our convention sessions, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Silas M. Bryan,  
Chairman, "Young Voters" Committee

B-c

# *Amending the Constitution pamphlet*

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
September 18, 1925

*Sent with minutes*

The regular monthly meeting of the state board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at headquarters, Friday, September 18, 1925. The meeting was called to order at 10:40 A. M., Miss Wells, presiding. Those present were Miss Wells, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Wittich, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Glascoe, Mrs. Dowling, Miss Kercher, Miss Monahan, Mrs. Laws, Miss Warren, Miss Byrne. There were also present Miss Child, Mrs. Collins, Miss Owen, and Miss Merrill.

## Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported that receipts during the month of August totaled \$1036.78, disbursements \$679.37, leaving a balance September 1st of \$394.12. Bills payable as of September 1st totaled \$806.11. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling and seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills payable allowed.

## Executive Secretary's Report

Miss Child reported on the Woman Voter contest ending September 1st, that the Stephen League won the prize with 136 subscriptions. Other Leagues fell far behind this record. The second contest to extend through September and October has started off well with 70 subscriptions secured at the county fair by the Slayton League. A statement on the distribution of Voter subscribers in the state has been prepared by Mrs. Collins as a basis for knowing the status of each League to assist us in working to secure a maximum list in every county of the state.

The August drive for Woman Citizen subscriptions resulted in a total of 110 subscriptions as follows: Minneapolis League board 46, Ramsey County League board 35, Duluth League Board 10; and--from members of the state board--Miss Lawrence 8, Mrs. Dowling 2, Mrs. Cant 2, Mrs. Glascoe 1; and 4 from Miss Child.

Exhibit material has been supplied for use at 10 county fairs up to date and 5 more fairs are scheduled. In two instances our material has been shown in counties where there is no League, Yellow Medicine and Rock counties, with special agreement by local people to have someone informed on the World Court in attendance to explain the court model and answer questions. Greater care has been taken this year to make sure that attendance in the booth is provided wherever our loan exhibit is shown.

Two hundred and thirty-nine pamphlets on the World Court were sold in the League booth at the State Fair with a total return of \$14.45. In addition 198 different people signed the form letter urging the support of our Minnesota senators for the World Court. Upon the question being raised by the chair as to how these letters are to be forwarded to Senator Shipstead and Senator Schall, the opinion was expressed by several members of the board that the letters should be sent individually rather than in one package. The suggestion was finally made by the chair and concurred in by the board, that Mrs. Hargreaves select the letters signed by well known men and women and forward these with a covering letter and that she do as she thinks best with the remaining letters.

## Report by Miss Owen, Secretary of the Department of Legislation and Law Enforcement of the National League of Women Voters

Miss Owen reported upon the legislative activities of the National League last year and reviewed the major issues upon our program, some of which will come up in Congress this year. The World Court and the Child Labor Amendment are still pending. Discussion on the World Court resolution will begin in the Senate on December 17th. Miss Morgan and Miss Schain will be in Washington from November 15th on to assist with Mrs. Park in marshalling the forces of the League in its behalf.

Renewal of the appropriation under the Sheppard-Towner Act may come up this year although the former appropriation runs for another year. This would avoid the necessity of having it acted upon in a short session of Congress and of having a hiatus during which state legislatures might fail to make possible appropriations because of uncertainty as to federal action.

The Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment will probably be introduced early in the session since it almost reached a vote at the end of the last session. The League is now empowered by National Convention action to oppose the amendment.



The Sterling-Lehlbach Bill will come up again since, although it passed the House with a good majority last session, it was not acted upon in the Senate. In addition there will be the appropriation bill to which attention must be given.

Miss Owen discussed the campaign for the Child Labor Amendment both from the point of view of the National League and of the Organizations Associated for Ratification of the Child Labor Amendment, which group she served as secretary. She said on the question of changing the form of the amendment that no sound reason has been advanced against the form in its protection of children. The utmost care was taken when the amendment was drafted and we cannot hope to profit by a change in the form since the forces opposing it are, in all probability, against any federal legislation on child labor and possibly even against all state legislation on this subject. The task of every national organization supporting the amendment is now to undertake much more vigorously than ever before the education of its own members and to devise simple plans for peaceful penetration of the general public. They must campaign with men and women rather than with pamphlets and money since they have something the opposition does not have and that is members. There are four groups that must be reached by this campaign of peaceful penetration:

- (1) Farm groups in each county. Some farmers realize that they are in an unnatural alliance with manufacturers. It is important to educate farmers and farmers' wives so that local farm bureaus will not go on record against the amendment during the coming year.
- (2) Editors of county newspapers and small farm papers. The larger papers that have opposed the amendment will probably continue to do so until there is a national change of opinion. The smaller papers will respond to favorable opinion brought to their attention in personal interviews.
- (3) Church groups. A great many women who are not represented in other organizations may be reached in this way.
- (4) Distinguished citizens in every community who are not publicly on record against the amendment should be personally interviewed and the facts brought to their attention. Judge Waite's pamphlet is particularly recommended for use with such individuals.

Miss Owen called attention to the fact that so far no national organization that has worked for the amendment has changed its position, but new friends must still be secured for it.

The meeting adjourned for luncheon at 1:03 P. M. and reconvened at 2:00 P. M.

#### Report on Convention and Institute

Mrs. Wittich reported that the program committee for the Institute has formulated plans for the four courses to be carried by the members of the University of Minnesota faculty. It is also planned to have three evening sessions with outstanding speakers on subjects falling within these courses and one evening convention session devoted to young voters.

The question of the division of responsibility for the convention and Institute was raised by the chair. The board agreed that all matters having to do with the Institute should be referred to Mrs. Wittich as chairman of that committee for the League and that responsibility for the convention should be borne by the president with the executive committee acting in an advisory capacity.

#### Report of State Fair Exhibit Committee

In the absence of the committee chairman, Mrs. McGuire, the chair asked Miss Nellie Merrill to report upon the state fair exhibit. Miss Merrill reported that its success was largely due to Mrs. McGuire and the St. Paul women who assisted her.

An expression of the appreciation of the state board to Mrs. McGuire and to her committee for the excellence of the exhibit, was proposed by Mrs. McKnight.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McKnight, second of Mrs. Laws, that this message be sent to Mrs. McGuire and to the women who worked with her in preparing the exhibit and in attendance upon it.

#### Use of the Play - "The Last Word" - in the State

Discussion of the terms upon which the play should be offered for production by local Leagues was introduced by the chair with the statement that the play was originally written in response to the need for a supplementary source of income in the state budget. Mrs. McKnight suggested that, inasmuch as the production of the play in the larger cities offered somewhat different problems from its use by local Leagues in the smaller cities, any action that was taken might exclude the Twin Cities and Duluth for the present. After considerable discussion, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Monahan, second of Miss Lawrence, that the play shall be offered to local Leagues outside Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth on the basis of a 50-50 division of the profits and that the decision as to these three cities be postponed until the next meeting of the board.

#### Report of Progress by Committee on Advertising in The Voter

Mrs. Cant reported that it is estimated that the Woman Voter is now being published without a deficit owing to a revision of the subscription list for the Minneapolis League and a change in the basis of payment by Minneapolis. The revision of the Minneapolis list has resulted in reducing the total circulation of the Voter and may have some bearing upon the inducement that can be offered to advertisers. The committee recommends that concentration of effort in increasing the list of paid subscribers to The Voter be undertaken to compensate for the decrease in the Minneapolis list as well as to extend the circulation of The Voter in new groups. The committee is not ready to make final recommendations on the questions submitted to it.

#### Woman Citizen Drive

Miss Child suggested that we undertake a new drive for Woman Citizen subscriptions in the state at large and that the dates set be October 25 to November 25, thus carrying through the week of the Institute and Convention. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Monahan, second of Mrs. McKnight, that the Woman Citizen Drive for one hundred subscriptions in the state be set for October 25 to November 25.

#### Appointment of New Ninth District Chairman

Miss Child read an extract from a letter of Miss Beggin following her interview with Mrs. L. C. Weeks of Detroit in regard to her becoming chairman for the league in the ninth district. Since she is now free to accept appointment, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McKnight, second of Miss Monahan, that the board confirm the appointment of Mrs. Weeks as ninth district chairman.

#### Report of Department of International Co-operation to Prevent War

Mrs. Hargreaves reported that she will in the near future send out a letter addressed to World Court Chairmen in the leagues of the state urging that letters, petitions, and delegations be sent to Senator Schall and Senator Shipstead in behalf of the World Court. She emphasized the need of bringing pressure upon our Senators in the next two months on this subject. Slides for use in connection with talks on the World Court will be secured from the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association for use in Minnesota during October and November.

Mrs. Hargreaves asked the advice of the board in connection with the request made by the American Foundation that we assist in arranging general community meetings on the World Court all over the state. The consensus of opinion in the board was that it is more important to concentrate now in Minnesota upon direct messages to our Senators from individuals and small groups. It was suggested that the local League might co-operate with other organizations in arranging a general community meeting whenever it wishes to present a special out-of-town speaker on the Court to arouse local interest.



Minimum Wage Law

Miss Kercher reported that it seemed best to vary the plan agreed upon at the last board meeting for interviewing Attorney General Hilton on the subject of the opinion given the Minnesota Industrial Commission on the constitutionality of the Minimum Wage Law. Mrs. Paige called upon Mr. Hilton in place of Miss Kercher. She took with her a carefully selected body of material calling attention to former favorable decisions on this question and left the material with Mr. Hilton for his consideration. Later a follow-up interview will be held to learn his final attitude. Miss Kercher and Mrs. Wittich will see him if it seems desirable.

Organization of Young Voters

Miss Lawrence asked what plans are under way for the formation of college leagues and said that it is important to proceed immediately with some plan before college students become too involved in other activities. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Hargreaves, second of Miss Monahan, that a meeting of the Young Voter's Committee be held immediately to make the necessary arrangements.

Celebration of Fifth Suffrage Anniversary

Miss Child reported that in addition to the radio talks agreed upon as desirable at the last board meeting in commemoration of August 26th as the fifth anniversary of the granting of woman suffrage, a successful luncheon was held at the Hotel Radisson in Minneapolis. In spite of the date falling in vacation time more than 130 people attended and the resulting publicity both in newspapers in the Twin Cities and elsewhere in the state was noteworthy.

The meeting adjourned on motion at 3:35 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Electa Byrne, Secretary

SOUTH DAKOTA

Mrs. Parkes, regional secretary, and Miss Marguerite Owen, secretary of the Department of Legislation and Law Enforcement of the National League of Women Voters were guests at the state board at its meeting in Huron September 3rd.

It is often said that the best presentation called forth by the recent discussion of the proposed Child Labor Amendment was the pamphlet by Judge E F Waite of Minnesota. A limited supply of these pamphlets has been ordered by Mrs. Pyle who will have them for distribution to the Leagues while they last.

The State Convention is announced for October 27th and 28th at Mitchell. South Dakota is congratulating itself on the prospect of having Miss Julia Lathrop as guest of honor and speaker.

Welcome words from Mitchell: "We certainly have gotten a lot of good out of these Round Robins!"

The annual luncheon of the District League of Women Voters at Mitchell this year was in the nature of a round table discussion at which questions about citizenship were asked and answered.

The Huron World Court exhibit at the State Fair was the recipient of many compliments. A cardboard model of the Court stood before a painted background with a life size figure of justice, the whole flanked by flags of all nations.

IOWA

Sad news has come from Charles City of the recent death of Mrs. Samuel Wolfe, finance chairman of the local League, and third vice president of the state League.

A meeting of the State Board was held in Des Moines September 10th at which Mrs. Parkes and Miss Owen were present.

NORTH DAKOTA

The Grand Forks League held a dinner meeting at the Frederick Hotel September 24th at which the guest of honor was Miss Marguerite Owen, present in Grand Forks for a state board meeting. Miss Owen's speech was followed by two-minute speeches from five men.

MONTANA

Great Falls, Butte, Kalispell and Helena Leagues have received visits from Miss Owen and Mrs. Parkes during September.

Just as Minnesota receives its check for one hundred new subscribers to the Woman Citizen, it is good news to hear that Montana has set October for a similar campaign.

Word comes from Montana that the League which has generally centered its interest on the World Court during July, August and September will return to consideration of the Child Labor Amendment during October, consider methods of amending the Constitution during November, and devote December to consideration of state problems in education.

MINNESOTA

In June the Ramsey County (St. Paul) League board entertained the state board and the Minneapolis board for an all-day meeting at White Bear Lake. In return the Minneapolis board has invited the Ramsey County and the State board to an all-day meeting at Mrs. McKnight's Criss Cross cabin near Lake Minnetonka.

Mrs. Silas M Bryan has been appointed secretary of organization of the Minneapolis League. Mrs. Bryan is state chairman of "Young Voters" and a young voter herself - so Minneapolis is likely soon to have a low age average.

Miss Ruth Morgan, chairman of the Department of International Cooperation to Prevent War for the National League, has accepted an invitation to speak at the state convention luncheon November 20th.

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On September 8th, 9th and 10th, a meeting of the directors of the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Regions together with Miss Sherwin was held at the home of Mrs. W G Hibbard, director of the 4th Region and chairman of the directors conference. Organization was discussed fore and aft.



M I N U T E S  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
September 22, 1925

The regular meeting of the Legislative Council of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at League headquarters, Tuesday, September 22nd, at 2:30 p. m., Mrs. Ueland presiding. The following were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Guise (Ramsey County League), Mrs. Prosser (Woman's Club), Mrs. Alexis Caswell (American Legion Auxiliary), Mrs. Sizer (W. C. T. U.), Mrs. Junkins (Minnesota Public Health Association), Mrs. Halpern (Council of Jewish Women), Miss Kercher, Mrs. Kreiner, Mrs. Denny (Minneapolis League), and Miss Child, secretary. Miss Marguerite Owen was also present at the invitation of the chairman.

Mrs. Ueland introduced Miss Owen as secretary of the Organizations Associated for Ratification of the Child Labor Amendment in Washington and secretary of the Department of Legislation and Law Enforcement of the National League of Women Voters. Miss Owen told the council something of the organization and activities of the Women's Joint Congressional Committee in Washington composed of the representatives of National Women's Organizations. The membership of this group has grown from 10 to 25 organizations in the last three years. Miss Owen told of the plan followed by the Women's Joint Congressional Committee in carrying on its legislative work through special sub-committees. The sub-committee organized for support of the Child Labor Amendment contained the largest representation of organizations that any sub-committee has ever had. The next largest sub-committee was that assigned to the World Court. Another recent issue that has called for co-operative legislative effort is opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. Action has not yet been taken on the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment though the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the National League of Women Voters of the organizations represented in the joint committee have taken national convention action against it. Miss Owen explained that a sub-committee is not assigned to a legislative issue until at least five organizations have taken action for or against a certain measure.

There followed general discussion of the amendment as subversive to the principles upon which the constitution was framed. Supporters of the amendment nationally are, in the main, the same groups that opposed the suffrage amendment, the prohibition amendment, and the child labor amendment.

Miss Owen said that support of action providing for the renewal of the appropriation under the Sheppard-Towner Act would be an important task of the joint committee in the coming session of Congress. Success is not a foregone conclusion. It will be necessary to show wise use of funds in the various states, and this is possible for all but three of the states that have accepted federal aid under the Act. Miss Owen recommended to the attention of the council members Miss Abbott's recent report on the administration of the Sheppard-Towner Act (Report No. 146).

Recommendations of Miss Kercher for Law Enforcement Study

Mrs. Ueland asked Miss Kercher to present a tentative plan for the program to be adopted by the Legislative Council for the coming months. Miss Kercher called attention to the fact that the Council is now three legislative sessions old and that various laws that now appear on the Statute Books are there owing to the Council's efforts. Some of these laws are self-enforcing, such as The Jury Law for Women and The Minimum School Term Law. Others depend for successful enforcement upon the public sentiment that exists to support the efforts of administrative officials. Such laws are the Carnival, Dance Hall, and Street Trades Laws. Miss Kercher said that it seemed to her that the Legislative Council in its membership is particularly suited to giving the assistance that is needed in the enforcement of these laws through:

1. Disseminating information as to the provisions of laws
2. Establishing Co-operative relations with enforcing officials.

Miss Kercher recommended that the Council devote the next few months to consideration of laws that had its support in being passed, and that it invite public officials responsible for their enforcement to speak at

future meetings of the Council. She presented the following as a tentative outline for the next four meetings:

- I. Dance Hall Law      Speakers: Colonel Pratt, assistant atty. general, Chester Wilson, County Atty., and others, such as attendance officers in public dance halls.
- II. Carnival Law      Speakers: Miss Fern Chase of the Women's Co-operative Alliance, which has made a survey on this subject, County Fair Officers, etc.
- III. Street Trades, Compulsory Education, and Physical Education Laws  
Speakers: Attendance Officers in Public Schools and from the State Department of Education, Mr. Evarts, director of Physical Education.
- IV. Employment Laws Administered by the Minnesota Industrial Commission.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Kercher, second of Miss Denny, that the next four meetings be arranged in accordance with this plan.

Miss Kercher suggested that sub-committees might be appointed to work on problems of disseminating information on these subjects. Miss Wells suggested that the procedure might be that the representatives of the various organizations on the Council undertake to carry back the suggestion that each organization make such educational effort a part of its program for the year in whatever way seems best. In this way the idea of enforcement can be sent out over the state through the various organizations.

Following discussion upon whether the council members shall be privileged to invite others to the meetings, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Wells, second of Mrs. Elliott, that council members shall be privileged to extend an invitation to each of the four meetings outlined, to those who would have a special concern in hearing the discussion as members of The Legislative Committees in each organization or chairman of committees assigned to related subjects.

The meeting adjourned on motion at 4:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted

EMILY CHILD, Secretary



Sent to 28 high school debate coaches -  
list of 1924 state debate members

October 7th, 1925

The attached list of references on the Child Labor Amendment available at our office is supplied for your convenience in securing material for use in connection with the state debating contest on this subject.

The reprint of Judge Waite's article is supplied to you as the best single piece of literature that we know. We shall be glad to receive stamps to cover its cost (8 cents) if you find it valuable.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1638 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
October, 1925

#### REFERENCES FOR STUDY OF CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT

Note: The following printed material is published or distributed by the League of Women Voters and may be secured at the above address. Reply by letter will be made to requests for particular information.

1. The Child Labor Amendment - by Edward F. Waite, Judge of the District Court, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Reprinted from the Minnesota Law Review. An unbiased and scholarly inquiry into the facts bearing upon the amendment which should be in the hands of every impartial student of the question. Price - 8¢
2. The Children's Amendment (40pp) A complete presentation of the case for the Amendment. Price - 7¢
3. The Children's Amendment (brief edition) Summary of arguments for the Amendment. Suitable for popular distribution. Price - 1¢
4. The Proposed Child Labor Amendment - by John A. Ryan, D. D. An excellent article by Father Ryan, formerly of St. Paul, now professor of moral theology and industrial ethics in the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Price - 5¢
5. The Struggle for the Child Labor Amendment. An account of the character and personnel of the opposition to the amendment as shown first in the Massachusetts campaign, but applicable to the country as a whole. Price - 3¢
6. An address by Senator Thomas Walsh to the Senate on January 8, 1925. An answer to arguments against the amendment by a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee which reported the Amendment to the Senate.
7. The National Child Labor Amendment - remarks of Senator Herbert C. Jones in the Senate of California, January 8, 1925. (Free)
8. Fact sheets (ten) designed to meet specific objections to the Amendment. Price - 10¢ a set.
9. Brief Statements on the form and legal implications of the Amendment by:  
Dean Roscoe Pound of the Harvard Law School. Price - 5¢  
Manley O. Hudson " " " " " Price - 5¢
10. A Defense of the American System of Government - by Wiley H. Swift. An answer to an examination of the Pending Child Labor Amendment by James A. Emery, General Counsel of the National Association of Manufacturers.
11. Congressional Committee Reports on the Amendment, of great value as showing the grounds upon which the Judiciary Committees of the House and Senate recommended the amendment for passage by Congress. Contain statements by Miss Grace Abbott and other well known men and women.  
House Report No. 395 - of the House Judiciary Committee. Price - 3¢  
Senate Report No. 405 - of the Senate Judiciary Committee
12. Publications of the United States Children's Bureau.  
Child Labor in the United States (No. 114)  
Child Labor - Outlines for Study (Bulletin No. 93)  
Legal Regulations of the Employment of Minors  
A brief summary of the child labor laws in each state  
Chart No. 1 - State Child Labor Standards  
Chart No. 2 - State Compulsory School Attendance Standards Affecting the Employment of Minors.
13. Child Laborers Today. A reprint of articles by Henry M. Pringle, staff correspondent for the New York World, who was assigned in 1924 to obtain the facts with reference to child labor. Price - 5¢
14. Truths and Half-Truths. A leaflet giving statistics on child labor and calling attention to misleading figures quoted by opponents. Price - 3¢
15. "Made in America" - an illustrated folder with biographical sketches of sponsors of the Amendment in and out of Congress. Price - 5¢



WHEREAS the traditional policy of the United States has consistently favored the avoidance of war and the settlement of international controversies by arbitration or judicial processes; and

WHEREAS the Permanent Court of International Justice has been established and is now functioning at the Hague and promises a new order in which controversies between nations will be settled according to the principles of right and justice; therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED that we, \_\_\_\_\_  
urge the Senators from Minnesota to support action by the United States Senate providing for the early adherence of the United States to the Permanent Court of International Justice with the Harding-Hughes-Coolidge reservations.

(Signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
Oct. 9, 1925

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Comparative figures on quota receipts for 1924 and 1925

Comparative figures for Voter subscription list in Oct. of each year

REPORT ON ORGANIZATION - Miss Beggin

Field work in the 6th and 9th Districts during September

New and discontinued Leagues in each district  
Action on inactive Leagues

Recommendations on minimum organization rules for local Leagues

Participation in "Every Member a Money-Raiser" Contest - Mrs. Wittich

Terms for offering the play - "The Last Word" - to local Leagues

INSTITUTE AND CONVENTION

Appointment of committee chairmen  
Nominating Committee  
Budget Committee  
Committee on Revision of By-Laws

Suggestions for members of Honorary Advisory Committee for Institute

Decision on registration fee for Institute

Apportionment of delegates credentials to local Leagues

Suggested Plan of Work for submission to Convention

Report for "Young Voters" Committee - Mrs. Bryan

State Education Committee - suggested work

Report of Law Enforcement Committee -  
Follow-up of Legislative Council program  
Report on Minimum Wage Law situation

Other new business



SUGGESTED PLAN OF WORK FOR 1 9 2 6

For action by State Convention  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
November 20th, 1925

Education in support of:

World Court

Sheppard-Towner

Child Labor Amendment

Opposition to new methods of Amending the Constitution

Getting out the Vote at Elections

Special education on measures included in National League Legislative Program

Method of furthering education on these subjects:

Institutes in cooperation with State Teachers Colleges

Voters' Schools under local League auspices

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

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Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

October 12th,  
1925

My dear Board Member: -

The Executive Committee has appointed Mrs. Glasoe to act as chairman of the Nominating Committee for convention. The Committee consists of the ten district chairmen as provided by our By-Laws, which further provide "Whenever possible names of two candidates shall be presented for each office. Other nominations may be made by a written petition from any group of twenty-five or more members."

I wish to urge that every member of the Board regard it as her personal responsibility to give the Nominating Committee whatever assistance she can in suggesting suitable candidates for the vacancies to be filled. I suggest that you write Mrs. Glasoe, addressing her at Northfield.

The terms of office expiring this year are those of the president, second and third vice-presidents, and the congressional district vice-presidents in the following districts: Mrs. W G Tull, Second; Mrs. G W Friedrich, Sixth; Mrs. C C Colton, Eighth; and Miss Mary Warren, Tenth. We are also without a chairman in the First District and wish to fill this vacancy. The terms of the following directors also expire this year: Mrs. W C Cobb, Mrs. R N Marble and Mrs. J F D Meighen.

The tickets for the Institute will be ready for distribution within the next few days. A little later in the month a letter of invitation to the convention and Institute will be sent out to a selected list of women who might respond to such an individual invitation supplementing general convention publicity. We shall be glad to receive from each board member a list of names to which this letter may be sent.

Please let us have any other suggestions or help that you can give us in securing attendance for the Institute.

Very sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

ckc



M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
October 9, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at Mrs. McKnight's Cabin, Lake Minnetonka, Friday, October 9th, 1925. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M., Miss Wells, presiding. Those present were Miss Wells, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Thorp, Mrs. Glasoe, Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Friedrich, Mrs. Weeks, Miss Warren, Mrs. Laws, Mrs. Hargreaves, and Miss Child together with members of the Ramsey County League boards as follows: Mesdames White, Johnson, Peilen, Herbert, Briggs, Hayward, Walker, Scott, Troy, Colby, Schemann, Lott, Keegan, Gass, Miss Jennings, and from the Minneapolis League Board; Mesdames Cobb, Ladd, Maroley, Quint, Wiesner, LaFontaine, Gullette, Bouman, Bissell, Denny, Bryan, Rubins, Sherman Child, Coffman, Chalmers, McKnight, Thorp, Seham, and Miss Jeffrey.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported that the receipts during the month of September amounted to \$212.87, disbursements, \$568.56, which with the balance the first of September of \$394.12, left a balance October 1st of \$38.43. Bills payable as of October 1st totalled \$1022.13. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Laws, second of Mrs. Ueland, that the treasurer's report be accepted. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Hargreaves, that the bills payable be allowed and paid as soon as possible. Mrs. Cant also reported that a total of \$790.00 has been paid on the quota to the National League to date, leaving us one month in arrears in our monthly payments.

Mrs. Cant presented comparative figures for the total receipts from quotas for eleven months this year as compared with the same period last year. A total of \$6501.25 has been received this year as compared with \$5511.93 last year. The increase in receipts is due to the fact that the Ramsey County League has made regular quota payments this year and to the fact that a special donation of \$450.00 was received from the Minneapolis League for the get-out-the-vote campaign a year ago. Mrs. Cant called attention to the fact that the advantage as far as receipts from other local Leagues are concerned is slightly in favor of last year and that a special effort must be made between now and the date of Convention to bring in remaining quotas.

Mrs. Cant presented comparative figures for the Voter subscription list showing a steady increase from 1921 through 1924 as judged by the figures for the month of October. In October, 1924 there were approximately 1700 subscribers (not including the Minneapolis list) as compared with 1364 in 1921, 1438 in 1922, 1550 in 1923. The figure for October this year is exclusive of Minneapolis.

Institute and Convention

Mrs. Wittich reported upon the program as planned up to date. The board was asked for suggestions of women in the state who might be asked to serve upon the Honorary Advisory Committee for the Institute.

The question of the general registration fee for the Institute was discussed, on the basis of the tentative decision arrived at in a recent conference of those responsible for the Convention and Institute (Miss Wells, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Edwin White, and Mrs. Walter Ramsey) that single course tickets should be eliminated this year and that the general tickets should be reduced in price from \$3.00 to \$2.50. The chair asked the opinion of the board as to whether this reduction in price seemed desirable. The general opinion as expressed by those present seemed to be that it would be as easy to dispose of tickets at \$3.00 as at the lower price. Mrs. White and Miss Jennings did not agree with this opinion and the chair suggested that the final decision be left with Mrs. White, Mrs. Wittich, and Mrs. Noyes in conference.

Miss Child reported that the apportionment of Convention credentials and of a Special Credential carrying the privilege of attendance at all sessions of the Institute (awarded to leagues with quotas paid in full) was made in 1923 in accordance with the information about local Leagues known in the office. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Glasoe, second of Mrs. Dowling, that it be left to the president to allocate Convention credentials this year in the same way.

Action on Plan of Work for submission to Convention

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Laws, second of Mrs. Glasoe, that the board recommend as part of the Plan of Work for 1926, education in support of the following measures upon our program: The World Court, renewal of federal appropriation under Sheppard-Towner Act, the Child Labor Amendment, and methods of amending the Constitution.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Glasoe, that the board recommend to the convention that the Plan of Work include also other necessary education for federal measures on the national League program that may need support from time to time.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling, second of Mrs. Laws, that the board recommend as part of our permanent program of work sustained work throughout the year directed to getting out the vote at each election.

Mrs. Wittich emphasized this as one of the outstanding pieces of work for the coming year and called attention to the fact that we now have practically statewide permanent registration for voting and that this gives us an unusual opportunity to do consistent, unremitting work for a maximum vote. This is popular work for local Leagues.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Laws, that the board recommend to the convention that Institutes be planned in cooperation with the State Teachers' Colleges during the coming year to supply a background of information on the structure and theory of our government necessary for an understanding of the questions at issue in current politics.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second of Mrs. Dowling that the board recommend to the convention that a series of One Day Voters' Schools be held in the state under the auspices of local Leagues as a follow-up of the St. Paul Institute. Mrs. Wittich and Miss Lawrence reported that the five Institutes held in the spring of 1924 were very successful and that it should therefore be easy to enlist the cooperation of the State Colleges again. Mrs. Wittich mentioned the interest aroused by the later series of 34 Voters' Schools and characterized them as extraordinarily successful. Mrs. Laws said that the school held in Appleton had been a distinct source of strength to the local League. The desirability of having a larger faculty to conduct such schools was emphasized by Miss Wells who hoped that there might be from six to twelve speakers to divide the burden of speaking in the schools.

Meeting adjourned for luncheon at 1:00 P. M. and reconvened at 2:30 P. M.

Report on Organization

Miss Beggin reported upon the organization of a Study Group in Staples as authorized by the board. She reported also upon her visits during September to Leagues in Hawley, Lake Park, Frazee, and Wadena. The reorganization of the inactive League in Little Falls was accomplished at a recent meeting addressed by Mrs. McKnight. Miss Beggin has also recently visited the Sibley Unit League in West St. Paul where an evening meeting of the members was called at her request.

A report on local Leagues by districts to bring out changes occurring in the past year showed that six inactive Leagues have been recognized by board action as out of existence, while fourteen new Leagues have been added to the list. Three Leagues have been reorganized. These figures do not include the temporary Leagues that were formed in connection with the Get-Out-The-Vote campaign. One of these (Young America) is counted among the new Leagues.

Miss Beggin reported upon Hinckley and Crosby as inactive Leagues where there is no immediate possibility of securing the leadership necessary to effect reorganization. Upon the recommendation of Miss Beggin, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Glasoe, that Hinckley be dropped from our active League list. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McKnight, second of Mrs. Dowling, that the Crosby League be removed from the list.



Miss Beggin read at the request of the chair her suggested statement of minimum standards of organization in local Leagues to be recommended to the convention for adoption. Action was taken upon each as follows:

1. An Annual election of officers, the date of which is reported to headquarters.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling, second of Miss Lawrence, that the board recommend to the convention the adoption of this standard to be observed by local Leagues.

2. A minimum of seven members in a local League.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Laws, second of Mrs. Glasoe, that the board recommend to the convention the adoption of this standard to be observed by local Leagues.

3. Assumption of quota by each League.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Miss Lawrence, that the board recommend to the convention the adoption of this standard to be observed by local Leagues.

4. A minimum of three officers: chairman, vice-chairman, secretary-treasurer.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McKnight, second of Mrs. Dowling, that the board recommend to the convention the adoption of this standard to be observed by local Leagues.

5. A minimum of four meetings, each one to advance League program as broadly and effectively as possible.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling, second of Mrs. Friedrich, that the board recommend to the convention the adoption of this standard to be observed by local Leagues.

6. Each member a Voter subscriber, the effectiveness of this condition to be tested out until January, and then, if workable, to be adopted as a requisite.

The discussion on this suggestion brought out various objections such as that advanced by Mrs. Laws that several members of one family often have one subscription although all are League members. No action was taken to recommend this standard for adoption.

Miss Beggin read the following statement as a summary of points to be kept in mind in her future organization work:

#### Recommendations to the State Board Concerning Organization:

1. That the field secretary make a second visit to the Leagues visited once during past year in order to check upon essentials--a definite membership, increase in membership, increase in Voter subscriptions, a knowledge of what is League program and how to extend it, etc., a definite record of each detail to be on file at headquarters.
2. That the field secretary attempt to organize a new League only where location is especially convenient, being near a League visited, and where she is assured of good leadership, perhaps upon the recommendation of the district chairman or other member of State Board, the stress for the first half of the coming year to be placed largely upon strengthening old Leagues.
3. In regard to district chairmen; that a copy of field secretary's reports be sent to district chairmen, respectively, as at present, and that district chairmen aim to follow-up field secretary's work by at least one visit to each League during year; that district chairmen aim to visit Leagues with field secretary whenever possible; that district chairmen recommend new fields for Leagues in their districts to field secretary.
4. In regard to County Chairman; that County chairmen be recommended to Board by district chairmen, field secretary, etc. for appointment in order to solidify and stimulate organization and be instructed as to nature of work.
5. That state memberships be secured whenever possible from cities, such as Crookston, Fergus Falls, Albert Lea, etc. where there is no League.

The chair called attention to the fact in connection with Mrs. Beggin's statement on the organization of New Leagues that we must always have in mind the need of having Leagues in parts of the state where there is need for political strength.

report be accepted and placed on file.

Miss Beggin asked discussion on the subject of supplying certain material other than the Voter to members at large of the state League. She recommended sending them in every instance the printed list of material published by the National League, in addition to a convention letter and one big study such as Mrs. Hargreaves' articles. Miss Wells questioned the advisability of such broadcasting of our information service where there is no League organization and to individuals who would merely divert the material to the use of other organizations. Mrs. Wittich said that she is opposed to the idea that we must give something approaching equivalent money value for the sustaining membership fee. She thought that this membership should be recognized as an opportunity given individuals to ally themselves with the work of the state League and to contribute a small sum toward its support. The list of sustaining members is a good list to use if we wish to ask for assistance in some cause. We may wish at such times to send out special information material.

Tentative plans for conferences on organization to be arranged at convention were reviewed by Miss Beggin who has prepared a list of women in local Leagues who might be asked to take part in the discussion.

#### Every-Member-A-Money-Raiser Contest

Miss Beggin reported her suggestions of local Leagues that may be able to qualify in membership for entry in the contest as follows:

- County League (100 Members required) - Faribault and Northfield in Rice Co.
- City League (250 Members required) - cities over 25,000-St. Paul & Mpls.
- Town League (50 Members required) - towns under 25,000 -Winona, Brainerd, St. Cloud, and possibly Mankato and Redwood Falls

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Ueland, that we communicate directly with the chairmen of the Leagues suggested as possibly eligible and suggest participation in the contest.

#### Young Voters' Committee

Mrs. Bryan reported that follow-up letters have been sent to the girls who signed cards at Mankato State Teachers' College and at the University last spring, asking them to become members of the League, either local or state. The next task of the committee is the formation of college Leagues wherever it is possible. Mrs. Bryan spoke briefly of the plan for a Young Voters section at the convention and said that she hoped it would be possible to have delegations from newly formed college Leagues attend.

Miss Lawrence reported that Mrs. Friedrich is in touch with a Women's Form group in the St. Cloud Teachers' College that she thinks can be easily interested in becoming a League as the subject discussed in the forum are political.

#### Terms for Offering the Play to local Leagues

Mrs. McKnight presented the suggestion that the action taken at the last board meeting on the fifty-fifty division of the profits of the play with the state League, when produced by a local League, be reconsidered and an adjustment of the terms be made to give the advantage to those Leagues that have paid their quotas in full previous to the state convention.

IT WAS VOTED upon motion of Mrs. McKnight, and seconded, that during the coming year the play be offered to local Leagues that have paid their quotas previous to the dates of the state convention on the basis of 25 per cent of the profits for the state League and 75 per cent for the local producing League.

#### State Education Committee

To meet the need of consistent study covering the subject of financial support for the public schools of the state, IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Lawrence, second of Mrs. Wittich, that the chairman of the state League Committee on Education appoint members upon her committee from Leagues in various parts of the state to study this and other subjects and to make recommendations to the state board in the future.

#### Law Enforcement Study for 1926

A statement was made by the chair of the decision arrived at by the Legislative Council to hold a series of meetings for the discussion of the enforcement of laws supported in the past. The Council has planned this program for the purpose of interesting member organizations in a similar study. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Dowling, that one of the activities for the coming year to be recommended for the action of the convention be the follow-up of measures for which the League has been partly responsible.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P. M. on motion.

Respectfully submitted,  
EMILY CHILD,  
Acting Secretary



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

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Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
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Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

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Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
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Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

October 20th,  
1925

My dear Local League Chairman: -

PLANS FOR OUR STATE CONVENTION AND FOR THE SECOND INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS to be held at the same time in cooperation with the University of Minnesota are now well under way. I hope that you and as many officers and members from your League as possible will plan to attend the sessions of the Convention and Institute in the St. Paul Hotel in St. Paul, November 16th to 20th. This is the outstanding event of the year for which we need your support and from which you may gain information and stimulus that can be gotten in no other way. A special conference on methods of advancing organization and program in local Leagues is a feature of the convention planned especially for your assistance.

We expect to have flyers and posters announcing the program for the Institute ready to send you very soon and shall also send a publicity release on the subject of the Institute to your local paper. Will you assist us by speaking to your local newspaper editor about the Institute and asking that he give space to the release when it reaches him?

DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS - Enclosed herewith are \_\_\_\_\_ credential blanks for delegates you are empowered to appoint for the Convention. We hope that you will use them all and shall be glad to send you more if you should need them.

The registration fee for the Institute is \$2.50. A Special Credential carrying not only all the privileges of the Convention but free registration in the Institute as well is provided for award to local Leagues in recognition of faithful support given the State League during the year. The number of these credentials awarded to each League is graduated according to quota payments made. On this basis we are sending you \_\_\_\_\_ Special Credentials which should be awarded to women who have been markedly devoted to League interests and who will attend all sessions faithfully and take back a report of the lectures to the local League.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS - We need the help of our local Leagues in the state in suggesting suitable officers for the vacancies in the list of district chairmen which must be filled by vote of the delegates from their respective districts at Convention. Mrs. P. M. Glasoe of Northfield is chairman of the

general Nominating Committee. Please communicate to her any suggestions or recommendations you have concerning candidates. The district chairmen whose terms expire at the convention are Mrs. W. G. Tull, Second District; Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, Sixth District; Mrs. C. C. Colton, Eighth District; Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District. We are also without a chairman in the First District. The terms of the following officers also expire with this convention: that of the president, of the second and third vice-presidents and of three directors. The choosing of all these officers is the greatest responsibility of the delegates to the convention. Plan to come and represent your League in this important convention action.

QUOTA PAYMENTS WILL BE RECEIVED UP TO NOVEMBER 15TH - Our fiscal year ends November 1st--over two weeks before the convention. To accommodate Leagues that cannot complete their quota by that time, we are arranging to credit all quota payments received by November 15th on this year's quota and to place Leagues that take advantage of this offer on the honor roll to be announced at the convention. If you cannot send in all of your quota, send whatever you can and thus obtain the Special Credentials to which your payment may entitle you.

WOMAN CITIZEN DRIVE - The State Board at its last meeting decided to try to reduce the deficit of the State League by taking advantage of the offer of the Woman Citizen magazine to allow one hundred dollars for every one hundred subscriptions secured during a thirty day period. During August we had the assistance of the directors of our Leagues in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth in securing 113 subscriptions which brought \$113.00 to our treasury. The Board hopes to have the assistance of officers and directors of our Leagues outside these cities in our second drive, especially since we know of no better way for a League officer or member to keep informed on the issues that are of particular interest to women and to the membership of the League.

The Woman Citizen contains in every issue, as you may know, the official bulletin of the National League of Women Voters. We urge that one copy be kept on file in your local library and that as many of your officers and members as can will subscribe. We have selected October 25th to November 25th as the period for our drive in the state. Will you let us know on the enclosed postal how many subscriptions we may count on from your League. Sample copies of the magazine and additional blanks will be sent if you request them.

May I hope that you will call together your most active League members and read this letter over with them, in order that they may be informed of its contents and may help in extending information about the Institute.

Cordially yours,

Marguerite M. Wells, president

Quota \_\_\_\_\_

Payments to date \_\_\_\_\_



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

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Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

October 27th,  
1925

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Dear Legislative Council Member:

At the last meeting of the Legislative Council it was decided to devote the next four meetings to discussion of the enforcement of laws supported by the Council in past legislative sessions.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, is the date set for the next meeting of the Council. The subject under discussion will be the PUBLIC DANCE HALL LAW. Mr. Albert F. Pratt, Assistant Attorney General and Mr. Chester Wilson, county attorney in Washington County, Stillwater, who has been especially interested in problems of enforcement, will be the chief speakers. Attendance officers and others who can tell of their experiences in connection with the administration of the law will be asked to be present and take part in the discussion. In accordance with action taken at the last Council meeting, each organization representative upon the Council is privileged to invite to this meeting individuals who would be particularly interested in hearing or taking part in the discussion.

May we ask you to let us know whether you will attend the meeting yourself and whom you will bring with you. We shall appreciate having your assistance in bringing together those who will be glad to have an opportunity to hear a thorough discussion of the operation of the dance hall law, and problems connected with its enforcement.

Sincerely yours,

*Andreas Ueland*

Mrs. Andreas Ueland, chairman  
Legislative Council

U/s

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO PREVENT WAR

The Minnesota League of Women Voters

1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

MRS. R. T. HARGREAVES

~~MRS. BOYD NIXON~~  
Chairman

ARMISTICE DAY LETTER

October 29, 1925

Sent to  
World Ct. Chairmen 16  
Local League Ch.  
Dist Chairmen 44

My dear World Court Chairman:

With the approach of ARMISTICE DAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, we have a particularly opportune time to concentrate attention upon the World Court. Let me remind you once again that the United States Senate is to take up the consideration of our entry into the Permanent Court of International Justice on December 17th, and that our two Minnesota Senators, Mr. Shipstead and Mr. Schall, are still on record against such action.

May I suggest that you consult with ministers of all denominations in regard to preaching a sermon on the World Court on Sunday, November 8th. I would also like to ask that you call upon the editor of your local paper asking him to write an editorial on the World Court during the week of Armistice Day.

Our immediate task is twofold: first, to continue the education of the public regarding the Court, and second, to bring so much influence and pressure to bear upon our two senators that they will be convinced that the people of this state want the Court. I hope that you will find some means of impressing upon individuals the importance of sending personal letters and telegrams to Senator Schall (2228 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis) and to Senator Shipstead (Senate Building, Washington, D. C.) urging their support of the World Court.

Try to have every organization in your community pass a resolution favoring the Court and see that it is sent to these two senators. It has been suggested that the League might offer to supply a World Court program in other club groups. This would make it possible to speak of the work of the League in general as well as to present facts about the World Court and secure a resolution for use as I suggest.

I enclose a sample resolution to be used in group meetings and also a copy of the form letter that was used in our League booth at the state fair to obtain individual signatures. Additional copies of both may be obtained upon request to our state headquarters.

I shall appreciate very much having you write me what the attitude toward the World Court is in your community and what you can do to get action by individuals and groups in the form of letters and resolutions addressed to our senators.

Sincerely yours,

H/s  
Encs. 2

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves



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Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

October 31st,  
1925

My dear local League Chairman:

By this time you have received a letter telling of our State Convention and Institute of Government, which will be held at the St. Paul Hotel, in St. Paul, November 16th to 20th. We hope, of course, that you are planning to come. But the purpose of this letter is not to describe the Convention as a whole, but to draw your attention to a special session.

You have been told that a "special conference on methods of advancing organization and program in local Leagues is a feature of the Convention planned especially for your assistance". Now this conference has been arranged for Wednesday, November 18th, 1:30 P. M. in the New University Room of the St. Paul Hotel. Problems of organization, as they apply to local Leagues outside of the three major cities, will be discussed, and it is our hope that you will be present and contribute your suggestions in informal discussion.

You will note that an outline of the subjects to be taken up is enclosed for your information previous to the Conference. As you read it through, questions, answers, suggestions will occur to you, and these, together with the experiences of your League on these matters, is what we want you to bring as a contribution to the conference. Come prepared to give ideas, to judge, and to take away.

Please let us know whether we may count on your attendance and whether we can help you in arranging for a place to stay while you are in St. Paul.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret G. Beggin,  
Field Secretary

B:S

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
November 1925

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION  
at the  
CONVENTION CONFERENCE ON ORGANIZATION PROBLEMS IN LOCAL LEAGUES

New University Room - St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul

Wednesday, November 18  
1:30 - 2:45 P. M.

Mrs. G. R. Day, Presiding  
Chairman Farmington League

Miss Margaret G. Beggin, Discussion leader  
Field Secretary  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

PROGRAM OF WORK IN LOCAL LEAGUES:

1. How should a local League inform its membership on the program?  
How many and what type of meetings?  
What assistance needed from the office?
2. What is the local League's responsibility toward the State and National program?
3. To what extent may local activities be a part of a local League program?
4. How should a local League inform and educate the general public to gain support for certain measures current on its program?  
Through study groups?  
Through Voter schools?  
Through speakers to other organizations?  
Through newspaper publicity?  
Through personal interviews?

PROBLEMS IN ORGANIZATION:

1. Should there be a membership fee, and, if so, how much?
2. What are effective methods of securing members?
3. What are effective methods of raising quota?
4. What should be the number of officers and their respective duties?
5. What are methods of extending circulation of the Woman Voter?
6. How can a local League best assimilate "Young Voters" into its organization?
7. What assistance can a local League expect from its District Chairman?



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Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

November 7th,

1925

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
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## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

*Honorary Advisory Committee (45)*

The Minnesota League of Women Voters is honored by your interest in the Institute of Government and Politics it is planning for November 16th to 20th in cooperation with the University of Minnesota.

We sincerely hope your plans are being made so that you may attend both the Institute and the Seventh Annual Convention of the Minnesota League which will be held during the same week. We shall also appreciate it very much if you will try to interest others in this educational undertaking.

Under separate cover you will receive one of the souvenir programs. The faculty is made up of men of distinction in public life and from the staffs of three universities and the subjects to be discussed are timely and selected with a view to helping us acquire background for the political issues our votes may help decide in coming elections.

Thanking you for whatever support you may feel able to grant,  
I am

Cordially yours,

Mrs. F. W. Wittich  
Chairman, Institute Committee

FW/ms

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Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

November 7th,  
1925

*Special List of Interested Women (150)*

My dear

The annual convention of the Minnesota League of Women Voters will be held this year in conjunction with an Institute of Government and Politics, in which the University of Minnesota is cooperating, at the St. Paul Hotel, in St. Paul, during the week of November 16 to 20th.

We wish to extend to you a special invitation to attend the sessions of the Convention and Institute. I enclose a delegate's credential which will entitle you to full participation in the convention sessions. The outstanding features of the convention program are shown in the enclosed flier. We would like very much to have you attend these sessions on Wednesday and Friday.

A souvenir program of the Institute and Convention will be mailed to you within a few days. The faculty is made up of men of distinction in public life and from the staffs of three universities. The subjects to be discussed are timely and selected with a view to helping us acquire background for the political issues our votes may help decide in the coming elections. The Institute is open to the public upon payment of a nominal registration fee of two dollars and a half.

We shall appreciate your help in interesting others in the Institute which we feel offers an unusual opportunity to those wishing to become well informed on the issues that will be constantly discussed during the coming months.

Please let us know whether you expect to attend the Convention sessions in St. Paul. We shall wish to see that you meet other delegates who are present.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Marguerite M. Wells,  
President

MW:MS  
Encs. 2



5007 101  
Weekly  
Newspapers

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis  
Nov. 8, 1925

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The annual convention of the Minnesota League of Women Voters will be held this year in conjunction with an Institute of Government and Politics in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, at the St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, from Monday through Friday, November 16 - 20.

The faculty for the Institute is made up of men of distinction in public life and from the staffs of three universities. Mrs. F W Wittich, chairman of the Institute Committee for the Minnesota League, calls attention to the fact that the subjects to be discussed are timely and selected with a view to giving to voters a background of information on present day public issues. President L D Coffman says of the Institute; "Many of the evils of our political system may be ascribed to lethargy or indifference on the part of our citizens. It is therefore a very encouraging sign of the times to have an Institute organized for the purpose of giving people an insight into governmental machinery and that knowledge of principles and policies involved in pending problems which makes possible intelligent participation in public affairs".

The main subjects under discussion in the morning lectures on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be featured in evening addresses. Prof. R Justin Miller will speak on "Amending the Constitution" Monday evening, Tuesday evening "The United States and the World Court" will be the subject, discussed by Prof. Carl Russell Fish of the University of Wisconsin. "Federal Aid: Its Nature, Extent and Significance" is the title of the address to be given by Dean Isidor Loeb of Washington University, St. Louis, Thursday evening.

Afternoon sessions are scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday with Governor Theodore Christianson speaking on the administration of Minnesota's Government and other speakers discussing the relation of Taxation to Public Welfare. Congressman Martin B. Madden, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, has prepared especially for the Institute, a statement on national finances which will be presented and commented upon by Mr. C F Keyes, president of the Minnesota Tax Conference.

Convention sessions are limited to two days, Wednesday and Friday, so as not to interfere with the attendance of delegates at the Institute. The highlights of the Convention program are: The President's Address by Miss Marguerite M Wells on Wednesday afternoon, the session for Young Voters on Wednesday evening, a Symposium on Women in Public Office on Friday morning, and the convention luncheon Friday noon with Miss Ruth Morgan of New York, vice-president of the National League of Women Voters speaking on "Does the World Court Indicate a Significant Change in International Public Opinion?"

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P R E C O N V E N T I O N B O A R D M E E T I N G !

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Windsor Room, St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul

Monday, November 16th, 2:30 P. M.

Dear Board Member:

The customary pre-convention board meeting will be held in the Windsor Room at the St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul, on Monday, November 16, at 2:30 P. M. This is the afternoon of registration for the Convention and Institute. The meeting will precede the reception to delegates at 4 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Benjamin Sommers, which we hope you will plan to attend.

It is important to have a full attendance of board members at this meeting of the board. One of the items of business will be consideration of suggested changes in the By-Laws to be recommended to the Convention. Mrs. C. S. Roulo has been asked to act as chairman of the Committee on Revision of By-Laws in place of Miss Florence Monahan who is to be absent from the state at the time of the opening convention session.

It has already been suggested that the article on Elections be amended to read, "The chairman of the nominating committee shall be appointed by the executive committee". The existing provision is that "One of the members of the nominating committee shall be designated as chairman by the executive committee".

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary



*9mm*

TREASURER'S REPORT

November 1st, 1924 to October 31st, 1925

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>
Balance November 1st, 1924	\$500.93	
Receipts from Quotas	6 257.50	
Donations	1 583.80	
Miscellaneous	41.00	
Woman Citizen	116.50	
National Quota	1 727.50	\$1 732.00
Extension of Organization in State		
Travelling expenses		436.64
Salary of Organizer		1 187.51
Educational Material	312.54	554.91
Woman Voter	735.74	763.08
Convention		107.80
Office Expense		1 378.24
General Expense		191.69
Office Salaries		4 445.12
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$11 275.51	\$10 796.99
Bank Balance October 31st, 1925		478.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$11 275.51	\$11 275.51

AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION  
Prof. R Justin Miller  
Monday evening, November 16th, 1925

I. PRESENT METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

- A. Proposal
  - 1. By Congress - 2/3 of both houses, or
  - 2. By a convention
    - a. Called by Congress
    - b. Upon application of legislatures of 2/3 of the states
- B. Ratification
  - 1. By legislatures of 3/4 of the states
  - 2. By conventions in 3/4 of the states
  - 3. As either mode shall be proposed by Congress
- C. Limitations
  - 1. Limitations expiring in 1808
  - 2. No state without its consent to be deprived of equal suffrage in the Senate

II. PROPOSED METHODS OF AMENDMENT - Garrett Resolution

- A. Proposal - same as at present
- B. Ratification
  - 1. By the legislatures of 3/4 of the states
  - 2. By conventions in 3/4 of the states
  - 3. As either mode of ratification shall be proposed by
    - a. Congress, or
    - b. The Convention
- C. Limitations
  - 1. Members of at least one house in each legislature which ratifies must be elected after amendment proposed
  - 2. Any state may require that ratification by its legislature shall be subject to a referendum
  - 3. Any state may change its vote, until
    - a. 3/4 of the states have ratified, or
    - b. More than 1/4 of the states have rejected
  - 4. No state, without its consent, to be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

III. PROPOSED METHODS OF AMENDMENT - Wadsworth Resolution

- A. Proposal - same as at present
- B. Ratification by 3/4 of the states
  - 1. Through conventions elected by the people for that purpose, or
  - 2. Through the direct vote of the people at elections to be held under state authority
- C. Limitations
  - 1. Power is reserved to the states to select either mode of ratification
  - 2. Power is reserved to the states to determine the method of authentication of the action taken
  - 3. Any state may change its vote, until
    - a. 3/4 of the states have ratified, or
    - b. More than 1/4 of the states have rejected
  - 4. Rejection by more than 1/4 of states shall make rejection final and "further consideration by the states shall cease".
  - 5. Ratification must be completed within 8 years from date of submission
  - 6. No state, without its consent, to be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.



NORTH DAKOTA

"Three cheers for Grand Forks! We're very happy tonight for we've seen the beginning of a College League of Women Voters." This is from a young voter. Congratulations to the new and promising young League!

Miss Katherine Whiteley has been elected to the vice presidency of the Grand Forks League.

Mrs. J A Poppler, North Dakota chairman of organization: "I was thrilled about Fargo (Agricultural College)... Such fine types of girls they are...they want a mass meeting arranged." Miss Leora Sands will be ex-officio head of the Voters League there and Miss Sarah Moon will be secretary.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Glowing reports of the recent State Convention held at Mitchell are coming in to headquarters. Convention program conceded by all to be the best ever, good attendance with 32 registered delegates, 119 present at a banquet to hear Miss Julia Lathrop. Mrs. John L Pyle of Huron was re-elected president.

MINNESOTA

From a Minnesota local League: "As for the quota business, we have no trouble about that as each member pays a dollar for dues and we have a very efficient secretary who also is our treasurer, so you see we haven't a scheme. Our quota for this next year is ready and will be sent in shortly."

From a former League officer who has moved to a new community where there is no League of Women Voters: "My experience....has made me such an enthusiastic champion of the organization that I feel there is something essentially lacking in a community where the League work is not being carried on."

A representation of women from all the Region is expected at the state convention and Institute of Government and Politics to be held in St. Paul next week. Mrs. Poppler of Grand Forks is hoping to attend, and also Mrs. Hartwick, editor of the new South Dakota bulletin, Mrs. C H Dillon of Pierre, and Mrs. Fred Hoffman of Sioux Falls.

MONTANA

The League was the hostess at a tea in the Governor's Mansion, November 13th, in honor of Mrs. Caspar Whitney, first vice-president of the National League, on her way to the Seventh Region.

WYOMING

An encouraging message to the League comes through Miss Owen from a state where there is as yet no League. Governor Ross sends word that - It should be an encouragement to everyone who is interested in women in public office to know how cordially men have received her and how generously they have cooperated with her. She has never had the consciousness in her own state or in the National Governor's Conference that men resented the fact that women might enjoy the fruits of their citizenship.

Quoted from an article in the November Harper's, "These American Women", by Miss Rebecca West, an English writer: - "My suspicion that women have more aptitude for the (political) work based on observation of the way the emancipated English-woman takes to politics, at the first opportunity, as a duck takes to water.... was..enormously increased when I saw how an otherwise politically barren land blossoms forth from coast to coast in Leagues of Women Voters. Indeed, it is almost beside the point to discuss whether the women of the United States have a special aptitude for the work, since they are the only people who seem to be ready to do it."

Since the last Round Robin, Miss Wells attended a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Smith College, and from November 2nd to 7th, a meeting of the National Board of the League of Women Voters at Washington

In a certain state the Young Voters organization is getting so popular that former Leagues are spoken of as "adult Leagues."

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, November 4th, 1925

2:30 P. M.

Present: Mrs. Ueland, presiding, Mrs. Robbins Gilman, Miss Harriet Vance (Minneapolis Y. W. C. A.), Mrs. Griswold, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Guise, and Miss Child. There were also present as guests: Miss Oswald of the Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. A. M. Burt, and Mrs. Charles M. Irwin of the Ramsey County League; Miss Chase and Miss Pratt of the Women's Cooperative Alliance; Mr. Hegel and Miss Julia Drew of the Department of Attendance and Guidance of the Minneapolis Public Schools; and Mr. Pratt, assistant attorney-general.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Discussion of the Dance Hall Law

Mr. Pratt, who was invited to speak on the Dance Hall Law and its enforcement, first reviewed the legislation regulating public dances in the period before the passage of the Public Dance Hall Law of 1923. He said that the first mention in the statutes occurred in 1885 when a law was passed providing that no minor under sixteen should be permitted in public dance houses unless accompanied by parent or guardian. In 1897 the age was raised to 21 years. In 1913 the legislature first took a definite stand in defining "public dance halls" and passed a law applicable throughout the state prohibiting immodest dancing and the sale of liquor in public dance halls. This law also provided for the granting of a permit to public dance halls by the governing bodies in cities of the first, second, and third class. In 1915 and in 1921, the power to license public dance halls was extended to villages of any size and to town boards. However, no penalty was provided for a violation of the provisions of the township law as amended, so that enforcement was handicapped as to towns, unless the town meeting adopted a by-law covering the penalty.

It was not until 1923 that an attempt was made to regulate public dances on a complete state-wide basis. The law passed at that time provides a substantial code for licensing and regulating public dances, and definitions of public dances and of public dance halls were provided, so carefully drawn and so comprehensive that they may hardly be bettered. A great deal of credit is due to those responsible for the form of the law and for its passage.

Attempts to evade the provisions of the law are made. For instance, the doing away with an admission fee and substituting checking charges and fees for an alleged club membership are such instances. The definition in the law providing that a public dancing place is one in which "dancing, wherein the public may participate, is carried on and to which admission may be had by the public by payment either directly or indirectly of an admission fee or price for the dancing" is a very valuable part of the law and makes it possible to enforce it even where such attempts at evasion are made; so also the reference to a "fee for membership in a club" in the definition of a public dance.

Section 5, providing for the form in which applications for permits shall be made, is not always observed, and in small places where the applicant is personally known, the formalities are often dispensed with. However, it is a very good provision and may be invoked if needed. The provision for revoking a license upon petition of the citizens is applicable only in villages of one thousand or under and in townships. The danger of action under this provision for "spite" and the resulting nuisance explains its being applicable only outside the cities. It is, however, a good provision and is an instance of "home rule" and placing responsibility upon local groups.

Mr. Pratt concluded his talk with the statement that there is little doubt that this law was better enforced in 1925 than in 1924. The public is better informed, and there is more sentiment in favor of it than at first. In certain communities it took some time to learn that such a law existed. Printed copies of the law were sent out by the attorney-general all over the state and in some places local newspapers published it. Some county attorneys sent copies to all township and municipal officers in their counties. The whole secret of successful enforcement is gaining the support of public sentiment. In counties where this exists there is little trouble with enforcement.

Mr. Pratt said that in too many instances citizens are willing to write letters complaining of conditions but are not willing to sign the complaint. They wish



in witness and as prosecutor in cases of violation of the law on the part of to him and does not represent a proper attitude of responsibility on the part of the individuals who claim to have the facts. There is rarely any difficulty in getting an effective prosecution for violations of this law if a complaint is made. By the statute the responsibility for prosecution is clearly placed upon the county attorney and any county attorney who wilfully fails to perform his official duties can be removed by the governor under a statute that has existed for the last sixty years. Sheriffs and other peace officers are charged with the enforcement of this act, the same as other criminal laws. The trouble is that citizens are not willing to do their share of the work of securing law enforcement by appearing as complaining witnesses, or even testifying when called as witnesses. In certain instances, reports that reach the county attorney are "spite work" and if he unknowingly assumes responsibility for the complaints in such cases, he places himself in an embarrassing and difficult position. For this reason, Mr. Pratt urged that the necessity of having the complaint made by a citizen, instead of asking the county attorney to sign the complaint, be brought to the attention of people wherever this law is discussed. Attention should also be invited to the possibility of injunction proceedings for "padlocking" some of these places as nuisances.

Mrs. Robbins Gilman was asked to speak to the question of administration and enforcement of the law in Minneapolis. Mrs. Gilman said that her organization had met the difficulty of becoming involved in intricate technicalities and had found itself unsuccessful in getting the law enforced. She reported that a check-up by the Women's Cooperative Alliance some months ago had shown that practically every public dance hall in the city was violating from one to four provisions of the law. Mrs. Gilman announced that her organization has now arrived at the point of view that the licensing and attempted regulation of such places is so subject to abuse that the only way out is for the city to take care of the recreation of its young people itself. She said that the Women's Cooperative Alliance has therefore been attempting to prevent the increase of public dance halls in the city and that it believes that an educational program by which public opinion would support the elimination of public dance halls is the ideal toward which we should work. It does not believe that it will ever be possible to have the provisions of the law observed by commercial dance halls, and that the principle of legalizing them by license is wrong. The substitution of other non-commercial dancing places where the pressure to violate the law does not exist is the solution suggested.

Mr. Hegel, director of the department of attendance and vocational guidance in the Minneapolis public schools, spoke of the fact that properly supervised dances for school children are held in school buildings and that in the future the public schools might take over some part of a public recreational program for young people outside the schools as well. He called attention to the fact, however, that the public schools could never undertake such a program unless under pressure from public opinion favorable to it.

Miss Chase, of the Women's Cooperative Alliance, reported upon the efforts of that organization to prevent the increase in public dance halls by preventing the licensing of undesirable places. She said that the license committee of the City Council had been unwilling to revoke licenses of dance halls except following a prosecution, in spite of the provision in the law that "it shall be the duty of the governing body to revoke a permit for a public dance hall whenever it shall appear that - - - intoxicating liquor is sold or that persons in attendance - - - drink intoxicating liquor within one thousand feet of the entrance - - - or that the holding of such public dance - - - contributes or is detrimental to public morals". The license committee as constituted since the last city election is much more ready to listen to facts than the previous committee and has refused licenses to several dance halls in the last few months, in instances where a group of citizens in the community have definitely requested this action.

Miss Kercher asked whether application blanks for permits with the items required by the law are available to small places in the state. Mr. Pratt said that the attorney-general had such a blank prepared in 1921 and sent it out wherever a request was made. The publishing houses have the blanks and constantly push their sale. He thought this was all that could be done in this connection. Miss Kercher also spoke of the fact that the presence of interested citizens at a public dance hall is the best guarantee for enforcement of the law.

After further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary

# MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Proposed Budget for year November 1 9 2 5 to November 1 9 2 6

## ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

Convention Expenses		\$200.00
Extension of Organization in State		
Salary of Organizer	\$1 800.00	
Travelling expenses of organizer	800.00	
Travelling expenses of District Chairmen	400.00	
	<u>3 000.00</u>	3 000.00
Educational Material		500.00
Woman Voter		1100.00
Office Expenses		
Office Maintenance (Rent, Telephone, Telegraph, etc.)	\$800.00	
Office Supplies (Stationery, stamps, etc.)	600.00	
General Expense (Clipping service, subscriptions, etc.)	150.00	
	<u>1 550.00</u>	1 550.00
Office Salaries		4 500.00
Quota to National League of Women Voters		1 944.00
	T O T A L	<u>\$12 794.00</u>

## ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

1. Quotas from Local Leagues	3 7 000.00
2. Subscriptions to The Woman Voter	850.00
3. Sale of Printed Material	200.00
4. One half of Joint Finance Memberships and National Convention pledges to apply on National Quota	1 944.00
5. One half of Joint Finance Memberships secured in Minneapolis	600.00
6. Receipts from play "The Last Word"	500.00
7. Woman Citizen Drive	100.00
8. To be raised by Finance Committee	1 600.00
	<u>\$12 794.00</u>



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

FIRST DISTRICT BALLOT

Mrs. Herley Treloar, Leroy

---

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

SECOND DISTRICT BALLOT

---

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

SIXTH DISTRICT BALLOT

Mrs. G W Friedrich, St. Cloud

---

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

EIGHTH DISTRICT BALLOT

Mrs. George Spear, Duluth

---

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

TENTH DISTRICT BALLOT

---

Minnesota League of Women Voters  
Seventh Annual Convention

GENERAL BALLOT

President	Miss Marguerite M Wells	_____
Second Vice-President	Mrs. A J McGuire	_____
Third Vice-President	Mrs. S T McKnight	_____
Secretary	Mrs. Woodward Colby	_____
Director	Mrs. Walter R Ramsey, St. Paul	_____
Director	Mrs. W C Cobb Brainerd	_____
Director	Mrs. R N Marble Duluth	_____

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
Seventh Annual Convention

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# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

November 28th,  
1925

*Sent to special list of 28*

My dear

You have probably been awaiting - and we hope you have - further news on "The Last Word", the play written for the League by Mrs. S T McKnight and Mrs. R T Hargreaves of the State Board, and Mrs. R G Allison of Minneapolis. You may recall that this play was described for you in the October issue of "The Woman Voter". We can now add the news that it will be presented at the Metropolitan Opera House in Minneapolis on Saturday evening, December 5th, at 8:30 p.m.

We are writing you because we hope that you may plan to be present to enjoy the play with the thought in mind that your League may wish to stage it later. You remember that the State Board offers "The Last Word" to a local League on the following financial basis: fifty per cent of the net proceeds to each the State office and the local League, if the latter has not paid its quota; seventy-five per cent to the local League and twenty-five to the State, if the quota for 1924-25 was paid.

The mimeographed sheet and the clipping from the Minneapolis Journal, which you will find enclosed, will give you facts about the play. Tickets will be placed on sale Thursday, December 3rd, at the Metropolitan Opera House, and I suggest that you write us to make reservations for you.

I must add that "The Declaration of Independence", a moving picture from the very fine Yale Historical Series, will form part of the program on Saturday evening. You will find it especially interesting in the light of our present program of work.

We do hope that you will find a way to come.

Very sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

B c

We wish to call your attention to the Woman Citizen magazine, published monthly (\$2.00 per year) It carries excellent news on current issues and is especially suited for the use of women in connection with club work or for high school civics or debating classes.

We are attempting to secure the bonus offered for subscriptions forwarded during December. We shall be glad to send you a sample copy at your request. Should you subscribe, we shall appreciate your cooperation in sending us your subscription. We feel no hesitation in recommending the magazine as a worth while investment for you personally and for schools and libraries.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

12-1-25



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne

Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

December 29th,  
1925

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear Board Member: -

The first state board meeting of the new year will be held on Friday, January 8th. Mrs. Walter Thorp has invited the board to meet at her home, 4428 Fremont Avenue South, Minneapolis.

The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m., and last until about 4:30 p.m. Mrs. Thorp will entertain members of the board at luncheon. I hope you will plan to attend the meeting and to remain for the entire time, so that we may make necessary plans for work during the coming months.

Transportation from the state office to Mrs. Thorp's home will be provided for out of town members who will let us know that they will be here by 10 o'clock.

Please let us know as early as possible whether to count on your attendance. We must let Mrs. Thorp know how many to expect for luncheon.

Sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M. Wells,  
President

MW:MS

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Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

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Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

January 4th,  
1926

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear Local League Chairmen: -

Happy New Year to yourself and to the League! Although the League New Year began with the state Convention November 16th, 1925, I have waited until the holiday season should be over and the children back in school, to write giving you an account of the action of that convention. In addition to the plan of work for the year there adopted, you will find enclosed various sheets offering you advice and suggestions which we hope will be helpful to you in carrying out the program and in organizing the League and its work.

These enclosures are as follows:

1. Year's program as adopted at the convention and already published in the Voter.
2. Program Sheet giving suggested study in support of the plan of work.
3. Organization Sheet giving minimum standards and suggestions for local Leagues.
4. Policy Sheet giving certain accepted policies followed by the League of Women Voters.
5. Sample agenda or memorandum of order of business for regular meetings - a mere suggestion.
6. Questionnaire to be answered at your earliest convenience and returned to this office. This will give us information that will enable us to be more helpful to you.

There are certain subjects, not included in the Plan of Work, to which I hope every local League will give serious attention during the coming year, as follows: -



Women in Public Office. Will you not find ways to encourage qualified women to run for office, without, however, committing the League to their support? This can be done in various ways, for instance by holding meetings at which women office holders speak.

Young Voters. The future of the League of Women Voters lies with young women. Invent ways to interest them in your League. Give them responsible positions. Hold meetings at which you invite them to speak. Remember the young woman in industry as well as in college. Help organize College Leagues. Write headquarters for help.

National Convention at St. Louis. It has been three years since there has been a national convention convenient to Minnesota. It may be several years before there is another. Begin to plan now to have your League worthily represented at St. Louis.

Wishing you every success in your year's work in which we are always eager to help you, I am

Cordially yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M. Wells,  
President

MMW cko  
Six enclosures

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

# PROGRAM SHEET

## PROGRAM RECOMMENDED FOR SHORT STUDY COURSE OF FOUR MEETINGS IN SUPPORT OF THE LEAGUE PROGRAM

1. Amending the Constitution - with special reference to the Wadsworth-Garrett proposals.
2. States' Rights - with special reference to the Child Labor Amendment.
3. Federal Aid - with special reference to the Sheppard-Towner Act.
4. Taxation - with special reference to state taxes in Minnesota.

### Reference Material

VERY SPECIAL - JUST OFF THE PRESS! A series of "Current Questions in Government", numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, as follows: Amending the Constitution, States' Rights, Federal Aid and Taxation.

These are pamphlets of about ten pages each presenting the subject in readable and popular form. Sample copies free to chairmen of local Leagues. Additional copies 5¢ each or 3¢ if ordered in lots of ten or more.

### ALSO

"Amending the Constitution of the United States" - a study of the Wadsworth-Garrett Resolution (8 pages) - Price 3¢

"Why Renew the Sheppard-Towner Act" -(8 pages) - Price 3¢

"The Children's Amendment" (40 pages) - Price 7¢

"Financing State Government in Minnesota" - a series of articles beginning in the January number of the Woman Voter.

### IN PREPARATION

Up-to-date Account of Sheppard-Towner Work in Minnesota - mimeographed - free to chairmen of local Leagues.

### PROGRAM RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER STUDY

Six meetings on the Child Labor Amendment for which fascinating new material is now available

Four meetings on Amending the Constitution for which equally fascinating material is in course of preparation

Two meetings on International Cooperation - material forthcoming



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

## ORGANIZATION SHEET

### MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR LOCAL LEAGUES

As adopted by the State Board of the  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
October 9th, 1925

- I. An annual election of officers, the date of which is to be reported to state headquarters.
- II. A minimum of seven members.
- III. Assumption of quota to the state League.
- IV. A minimum of three officers; chairman, vice-chairman, secretary-treasurer.
- V. A minimum of four meetings a year, each planned to advance the League program as broadly and effectively as possible.

NOTE: These standards are suggested merely as "minimum" requirements for a local League, adapted to the smallest possible community.

### SUPPLEMENTARY SUGGESTIONS FOR LOCAL LEAGUE CHAIRMEN

1. Discuss with other local League officers letters received from state headquarters calling for action.
2. Report action taken to the state office by letter or postal as promptly as possible.
3. Establish a sustaining membership fee, however small, and see that a few new members are secured each month. It may help to plan an informal tea for new members when ten new members have been added.
4. Make sure that everyone of your League members is a subscriber to "The Woman Voter". In this way your members will be kept in touch with League activities and policies.
5. Arrange to present from time to time outside speakers at public meetings on current issues in the League program. The state League will arrange, whenever possible, for such speakers on the basis of payment of actual expenses by the local League. This service is offered only for meetings definitely under League auspices.
6. Visit the state office if possible to learn at first hand the help available there for your work.
7. Write headquarters whenever you are in doubt as to League policy in connection with a local problem.
8. Write us also for suggestions of ways to extend your membership and raise your quota.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

## POLICY SHEET

- I. Conditions of Organization - In general it is advised that a League shall not be organized except under these conditions:  
Acceptance of the quota, annual election of officers, acceptance of the League aims and policies, a minimum membership of seven.
- II. Budget - It is recommended that a local League adopt a budget which permits of expansion of their work although the amount should not be too far beyond their capacity to raise; that in this budget they shall include as much of their state quota as they can pay without crippling local work.
- III. Organization - In organizing a new League it is sometimes advisable to begin with the minimum number of officers as it is not necessary immediately to appoint a complete list of chairmen of departments and committees; in general, chairmen should be added as the program expands. (Adopted by the National Board, November, 1925.)
- IV. Program - The program of a local League should be based upon the program of work for the year as recommended by the state League with additions to meet local conditions. For this reason a program is not recommended. It is often well to appoint temporary chairmen for definite pieces of work with the hope of developing in this way permanent chairmen. The program of a local League should consist of a series of jobs (study and work) rather than a mere series of meetings. (Adopted by the National Board, November, 1925.)
- V. Responsibility for Program - "The consensus of opinion seemed to be that when a measure is adopted by the state and national League, a local League is not free to take contrary action, although it may refrain from active support of the measure." (Adopted by the State Board, June 7th, 1923.)
- VI. Adoption of local Program of Work - When proposals for local activity are made either by members of the local League or others, it is recommended that the chairman of the committee under which the proposed piece of work falls (or if there is no such chairman, the president) should consult the National Plan of Work for the year to see whether such proposed activity is or is not recommended, and that she also consult the state president who will confer with the state and, in certain instances, the national chairman of the committee or department involved. If no advice against such activity is found, it is then recommended that the proposal be made the subject of prolonged investigation and study by the appropriate committee or the board and their recommendation be taken to the local League membership. If it is objected that such a procedure means a loss of time and that the opportunity may pass, it may be said that there will always be opportunity for useful political

*Chairman*



work on the part of the League of Women Voters, and that it is better to lose one such opportunity than to make a blunder. The League's reputation has been built upon its carefulness in adopting any proposal for active work and this reputation is seriously jeopardized by every mistake that it makes.

- VII. Consultation with officers or members - Chairmen of local Leagues should be urged to consult with other members of their boards and the membership upon receipt of letters from headquarters outlining or suggesting plans of work. (Adopted by the National Board, November, 1925.)
- VIII. Endorsing Candidates - "We recommend that the present policy of the League not to endorse or propose candidates be adhered to strictly." (Adopted by the State Board, November 5th, 1923.)
- IX. Cooperation - "That cooperation which means the actual placing of League program in another organization should be discouraged; that cooperation between the League or one of its departments and other organizations to survey the field to see what is being done (i.e., a clearance committee) and which is a temporary arrangement to promote a special piece of work already in the League program, is permissible." (Adopted by the National Board, November, 1925.)
- X. Questionnaires to Candidates - Local Leagues should not send questionnaires to state or national candidates. These are an obligation of state and national Leagues respectively.

July 1929-80 copies

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

#### SUGGESTED AGENDA FOR LOCAL LEAGUE MEETINGS

Minutes of previous meeting

Report of the treasurer

Report on new members and Woman Voter subscriptions

Reading of communications from State League headquarters

Action taken if called for in letter

Items of local business

Further business

(This is to give an opportunity for bringing up  
business "from the floor")

PROGRAM OF THE DAY



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

QUESTIONNAIRE ON ORGANIZATION  
(To be filled out by the local League chairman)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ League of Women Voters  
City or village \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Officers of League:

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary-Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate date for regular annual election of officers \_\_\_\_\_

Present officers were elected (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of sustaining membership fee \_\_\_\_\_

Do your dues include 25¢ for subscription to Woman Voter? \_\_\_\_\_

Number paying members \_\_\_\_\_ Number non-paying members \_\_\_\_\_

Regular meeting day (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Note: - Please list below names and offices of women holding public office (appointive or elective) in your town or county, if there are any.

MONTANA

The Fifth Annual State convention is called for January 14, 15 and 16 at Great Falls. There will be a public banquet on the evening of the 14th at which Miss Wells will speak on Public Opinion. At the League meeting on the 15th Miss Wells will speak on The League Way, and at a luncheon on the 15th Mrs. John R. Parkes, regional secretary, will be the speaker of the occasion.

From a new chairman of a local League - "First I went to the very bottom of the carpet bag - No, it wasn't really a carpet bag, but it was one of those imitation rubber bags, the kind used for shopping, and it was stretched out full length, and had been passed over to me when I became president. It required two whole days to go through it, and after purchasing a file and making good use of it, and also making use of a nice bonfire, I had more knowledge concerning our League in this section. Next I borrowed the Secretary's book and studied that from the beginning - and then I went through the Treasurer's book. Then I was ready for work." A model chairman!

Silver Bow League had a meeting on December 17th which was the last meeting of the year and the closing meeting of its third quarter. Under the leadership of Mrs. E G Clinch, the Silver Bow League reports the most successful term in its history.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Huron The Beadle County League recently sponsored an "All Nations" banquet as part of a Peace Week Program. The menu consisted of Roast Beef of Old England, Italian Spaghetti, Irish Potatoes, German Whole Wheat Bread, Swiss Jam, Parisian Salad, Washington Pie, and Brazilian Coffee. Songs of other lands were sung and an appropriate address was given.

IOWA

Officers of the newly organized League at Estherville are:

Acting president	Mrs. C. Swale
Vice-president	Mrs. R E Dake
Secretary	Mrs. O J Spande
Treasurer	Mrs. R S Clark

Mrs. Clarence Knutson, state vice-president and local president, entertained the Clear Lake Board at tea for Mrs. J R Parkes, December 3rd. At the end of a series of World Court teas, the Clear Lake League had a mass meeting on the Court. Dr. Jane Wright, chairman of the local Department on International Cooperation to Prevent War, presided. Attorney J. E. E. Markley of Mason City and Mrs. J R Parkes, spoke.

On her recent trip to Iowa, Mrs. Parkes visited also Mason City and Des Moines.

MINNESOTA

The January League of Women Voters' radio program over W C C O is as follows:

Tuesday Jan. 5th	2 p.m.	How does my vote affect state government?
Tuesday Jan. 12th	2 p.m.	How does my vote affect national government?
Tuesday Jan. 19th	2 p.m.	As a farmer's wife, how can my vote be effective?
Tuesday Jan. 26th	2 p.m.	As a woman in a small town, how can my vote be effective?
Tuesday Feb. 2nd	2 p.m.	How does my vote affect women in industry?

Stand by, please!      Don't you get it?      Haven't you any questions?

The Minnesota League has just published a series of four articles called "Current Questions in Government." These articles, on Amending the Constitution, States' Rights, Federal Aid and Taxation, are in readable, popular style and designed to make study easy, and study groups are being formed for four consecutive meetings. As one member said, "They will help us to go home to ask our husbands things they won't know." One question was "How many constitutions has the United States had?" Do you know?

The Minnesota League is now the proud parent of a Young Voters League at the St. Cloud Teachers' College. Miss Elizabeth Barr is the chairman of the League, and they have their entire program of study for the coming year outlined to end with a "Birthday Party" for the girls coming of age during the year.



*Correction*  
Local League chairman letter dated January 4th, 1926

See POLICY SHEET, paragraph IV, on Program. Second sentence in this paragraph should read:

"For this reason a program chairman is not recommended."

Please make this correction on your copy.

Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 6th, 1926

A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
January 8th, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Report of Executive Secretary

Woman Citizen Drive

Report on present plan for publishing Woman Voter

Organization

Report on field trips - Miss Beggin

Reports by district chairmen

Organization of Young Voters

St. Cloud College League

Progress of plans for organization in other colleges

Suggestion of special Young Voters' issue of the Voter

Schedule for Miss Ely in Minnesota

Schools and Study Groups

Pamphlet series (Current Questions in Government) - Mrs. Wittich

Report on Institute

Initiation of plans for holding Institutes and  
Voter Schools in the State

Present status of World Court - Mrs. Hargreaves

Present status of Wadsworth-Garrett proposals - Mrs. Wittich

Appointments

Delegate to Women's Industrial Conference in Washington  
(January 18-21)

Someone to prepare list of women holding public office  
in Minnesota

Names for Immigration Study Course

Young Voter Chairman

Acting chairman Third District



COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO PREVENT WAR

The Minnesota League of Women Voters

1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

MRS. R. T. HARGREAVES

~~MRS. BOYD NIXON~~

Chairman

To  
World Court Chairmen  
Local League Chairmen  
Board members

January 11th,  
1926

Dear Chairman: -

Yesterday morning I received the long-expected telegram. Miss Morgan in Washington wires us that the time has come to urge upon Senator Schall prompt passage of the World Court measure. If we are successful in persuading Senator Schall to change his mind and to vote for the World Court, it may be the successful culmination of Minnesota's three years distinguished work in behalf of this measure.

Will you not telegraph Senator Schall? If you feel you cannot do this, will you not write him? Then will you ask other men and women to telegraph or write. Make up your own mind to secure at least five people who will write or telegraph - men or women, preferably Republicans, still more preferably supporters of Senator Schall, but not necessarily either one or the other. Make it prompt and make it urgent. Say whatever you wish to say in letter or telegram. Certainly it is a fact that majority sentiment in Minnesota is in favor of the United States' adherence to the World Court.

With this letter I am leaving this important matter with you; immediate action, urgent action from as many people as possible to persuade Senator Schall to vote for prompt passage of the World Court measure.

Very sincerely yours,

*Edua M. Hargreaves*  
Mrs. R. T. Hargreaves, Chairman,  
Department of International Cooperation  
to Prevent War

ckc

Address Senator Thomas D. Schall,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Harley Treloar, Leroy, First District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. George H. Spear, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

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Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

January 14th,  
1926

*Sent to 37 January expirations*

Dear Woman Voter Subscriber:

Your subscription to the Woman Voter has now expired.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading the Voter and that you will wish to send us your renewal by return mail. I enclose a container for your convenience in forwarding a quarter for another year's subscription.

Miss Wells' series of articles on American Government is to be continued for several months and a series by Mrs. Wittich on the finances of our state government is just starting. In addition we shall have articles from time to time on current issues in international affairs such as the World Court and the Locarno treaties and on other important subjects.

The mailing list for the February issue is now being revised and we cannot include your name unless we receive your renewal before the 25th of the month. If you think the Voter a help in keeping informed on subjects of concern to us today, please send us your quarter by return mail. If you have a friend who would be interested in the Voter, we hope you will include her subscription with yours.

Very sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC/ms  
Enc.



CORRECTIONS - denoting changes in the election laws by the 1923 and 1925 Legislatures.

PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT (Chap. 4, S L 1925) Correcting frontispiece. Surname of the vice-presidential candidate to be printed on the ballot under that of presidential candidate.

DATE OF ANNUAL ELECTIONS IN CERTAIN VILLAGES CHANGED to first Tuesday after first Monday in December. (Chap. 4, S L 1925) Correcting last paragraph, page 5.

DATE OF MOST SCHOOL ELECTIONS CHANGED to third Tuesday in July. (Chap. 147, S L 1925) Correcting last paragraph, page 5.

ABSENT VOTING extended to primary elections. (Chap. 108, S L 1923) Correcting Page 29.

ABSENT VOTING extended to special primary elections and special elections. (Chap. 289, S L 1925) Addition to last paragraph, page 29.

SPECIAL APPLICATION FORMS for ABSENT VOTING in first-class cities must be obtained from city clerks. (Chap. 388, S L 1925) Correcting last paragraph, Page 29.

PERMANENT REGISTRATION in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth. (Chap. 305, S L 1923) Correcting pages 4 and 10. Under this law voters may register at any time except during the fifteen days immediately preceding elections. Once registered no further registration is necessary unless the voter fails to vote at least once in two successive years. In that case, he must register again.

PERMANENT REGISTRATION extended to cities of the second class (10,000 to 50,000 population) (Chap. 375, S L 1925) Correcting pages 4 and 10.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL provided for voters in first-class cities. (Chap. 278, S L 1925) Voters must apply to commissioner of registration for proper form or blanks to be filled out and mailed.

PRE-PRIMARY CONVENTION LAW REPEALED (Chap. 125, S L 1923) Eliminating pages 13, 14 and 15 altogether except for the first two paragraphs, also correcting introduction.

Political party committees The nominees for state offices, senators and representatives in Congress of each political party meet on the second Thursday after the primary election to elect a state central committee and a committee for each congressional district. The law makes no provision for naming county, ward or precinct chairmen.

COUNTY SURVEYOR NOMINATED AT PRIMARY ELECTION in same manner as other county candidates. (Chap. 127, S L 1923) Correcting footnote, Page 16.

JUDGES OF ELECTIONS shall make out TWO SUMMARY STATEMENTS of total votes for each candidate, one to be filed with the auditor with returns, the other with city, village or town clerk. (Chap. 126, S L 1925) Addition to last paragraph, page 32.

VACANCY IN OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR (Chap. 59, S L 1925) Correcting page 34, the governor shall make appointment to fill such vacancy until next general election.

INDEPENDENT CITIZENSHIP OF MARRIED WOMEN - provided for by Act of Congress, 1922.

NCTE - The 1925 Legislature passed a number of laws dealing with school districts and their elections. It passed one (Chap. 390) making a number of improvements in the technical parts of the permanent registration law. It also passed one (Chap. 420) amending a number of the election laws in the Minnesota Statutes, to clear up misunderstandings and to define methods relative to technicalities about election districts, special elections, ballots, tally sheets, registration of voters, etc.

Minnesota League of Women Voters  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

QUESTIONS AND REFERENCES  
For Use with Study Pamphlet Number 1  
on  
"AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION"

Note: It sometimes adds to the interest of a study group to have a quiz at the end of the course. The following questions may be used in this way. Answers to most of the questions will be found in the pamphlets published by the Minnesota League of Women Voters in the series entitled, "Current Questions in Government" (price 5¢ each or 3¢ each in quantities of ten or over). A few of the questions presuppose further study. References for supplementary reading therefore are suggested.

Examination Questions

1. How many constitutions has the United States had during its existence?
2. What was one conspicuous defect in the Articles of Confederation that made government of the United States under them impossible?
3. Why was this defect not remedied by amendment? What was <sup>the</sup> process of amendment provided in the Articles?
4. What was the final outcome of the difficulty of amending the Articles?
5. What was the opinion of the framers of the Constitution about its future amendment?
6. Did they desire to make any part of it unamendable?
7. Did the process adopted by them prove more or less difficult than they intended?
8. Have all or most of the changes in the fundamental law of our land come about through amendments to the Constitution or by other processes?
9. How many amendments have there been? Give their nature and history.
10. Does the Constitution consist of fundamental principles having no relation to the conditions of life?
11. Mention parts of our Constitution that, in your opinion, express general fundamental principles.
12. Should a constitution be rigid or flexible? Was ours intended to be rigid or flexible? Do you wish ours to be rigid or flexible?

References for Supplementary Reading

Charles A Beard . . . American Government and Politics (The first six chapters)  
James Bryce . . . . . American Commonwealth  
John Fiske . . . . . Critical Period of American History  
Max Farrand . . . . . The Framing of the Constitution of the United States  
Schuyler C Wallace. . . Our Governmental Machine  
Selections from the Federalist - John Spencer Bassett (Modern Student Library)  
(There are also other good editions of selections from the Federalist)

Consult a reliable short history of the United States such as:

Bassett's - A Short History of the United States  
West's - American History and Government  
Muzzey's - An American History

Read the Constitution together with its amendments. A good school edition of the Constitution with a synopsis and questions is published by D.C. Heath & Co.  
(price 35¢)



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

QUESTIONS AND REFERENCES  
For Use with Study Pamphlet Number 2  
on  
"STATES' RIGHTS"

Note: It sometimes adds to the interest of a study group to have a quiz at the end of the course. The following questions may be used in this way. Answers to most of the questions will be found in the pamphlets published by the Minnesota League of Women Voters in the series entitled, "Current Questions in Government" (price 5¢ each or 3¢ each in quantities of ten or over). A few of the questions presuppose further study. References for supplementary reading therefore are suggested.

Examination Questions

1. What was the first great act of centralization of government in the United States?
2. What is the most conspicuous peculiarity in the nature of our government?
3. What is the reason for our dual form of government?
4. What were the causes of the opposition to the adoption of the Constitution and its new plan of government?
5. What was the opinion on this subject of Washington, Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Hamilton, George Mason, Madison?
6. When and under what conditions and for what reasons did the second great movement in favor of states' rights occur?
7. Was the principle of the indissolubility of the Union expressed in the Constitution? Was it added by amendment after the Civil War? Does anyone question it today?
8. What are the causes of the present revival of states' rights sentiment? Which do you think is the chief cause?
9. What conditions existing today tend to necessitate greater centralization of government than was at first provided for?
10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of centralized government?
11. Should conditions of life be made to conform to existing structure of government or should government be adapted to conditions of life as they change?
12. What are some devices of government by which the advantages of both local and central government may be secured?

References for Supplementary Reading

Same as for pamphlet number 1

Speeches of Daniel Webster (Especially in answer to Calhoun, his "Reply to Hayne", and "The Constitution not a Compact between Sovereign States")

Read a Life of Webster, a Life of Calhoun, a Life of Lincoln.

Pamphlet number 3, "Federal Aid" in "Current Questions in Government"

January 1926

QUESTIONS AND REFERENCES  
For Use with Study Pamphlet Number 3  
on  
"FEDERAL AID"

Note: It sometimes adds to the interest of a study group to have a quiz at the end of the course. The following questions may be used in this way. Answers to most of the questions will be found in the pamphlets published by the Minnesota League of Women Voters in the series entitled, "Current Questions in Government" (price 5¢ each or 3¢ each in quantities of ten or over). A few of the questions presuppose further study. References for supplementary reading therefore are suggested.

Examination Questions

1. What is the system of federal-grants-in-aid in the United States?
2. What was the first such grant and what was the latest?
3. Which of the grants-in-aid have been in their general nature economic and which "social"? Compare the cost of each as far as possible.
4. What three chief arguments are used against grants-in-aid?
5. What is the answer to each of these three objections?
6. What present day problem in government do grants-in-aid help solve?
7. Give examples of state aid in Minnesota similar in nature to federal grants-in-aid.
8. Distinguish between federal-grants-in-aid and federal aid in the wider sense. What has been the United States' history in regard to a policy of paternalism in general?
9. Give several examples of early paternalistic practices of our government.
10. What does the Department of Agriculture spend annually and whom does it chiefly benefit?
11. What does the Department of Commerce spend annually and whom does it chiefly benefit?
12. What does the Children's Bureau spend annually and whom does it chiefly benefit? (Note: The approximate figure for the Children's Bureau given in the text of the pamphlet on Federal Aid includes the appropriation for the Sheppard-Towner Act as that for the Department of Agriculture includes the appropriation for the Good Roads Act.)

References for Supplementary Reading

Austin F. MacDonald-Federal Aid to the States

Articles in periodicals:

The American Subsidy System by Austin F. MacDonald  
The National Municipal Review for November 1925

Federal Grants-In-Aid by Paul Howard Douglas  
The Political Science Quarterly for December 1920

In Behalf of Mothers and Babies by Eleanor Taylor Douglas  
The Woman Citizen for November 1925

Dorothy Kirchwey Brown - The Case for the Acceptance of the Sheppard-Towner Act  
Pamphlet published by the National League of Women Voters (price 50¢)  
(A new pamphlet by Mrs. Brown on the subject of federal aid is now ready for publication by the National League and will be available in the near future.)



Minnesota League of Women Voters  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis  
January 1926

QUESTIONS AND REFERENCES  
For Use with Study Pamphlet Number 4  
on  
"TAXATION"

Note: It sometimes adds to the interest of a study group to have a quiz at the end of the course. The following questions may be used in this way. Answers to most of the questions will be found in the pamphlets published by the Minnesota League of Women Voters in the series entitled, "Current Questions in Government" (price 5¢ each or 3¢ each in quantities of ten or over). A few of the questions presuppose further study. References for supplementary reading therefore are suggested.

Examination Questions

1. What has been the attitude of the American public toward taxation during the last six or seven years?
2. Try to give at least four possible reasons for this attitude.
3. What makes a system of taxation unavoidable?
4. Is the present tendency toward or away from community enterprise and spending?
5. What three reasons are sometimes urged against taxation in general?
6. What are the answers to these objections?
7. Which are in the long run more wisely expended, private or public funds? Give six reasons for your answer.
8. Is money spent in taxes unproductive?
9. What is the true test of the wisdom of expenditure?
10. Give examples of foolish and wasteful private expenditure.
11. What effect may local, state or federal administration have upon taxes?

References for Supplementary Reading

Harvey W. Peek . . . . . Taxation and Welfare

Hartley Withers . . . . . Our Money and the State

Tax Burdens and Public Expenditures

Published by the National Industrial Conference Board,  
247 Park Avenue, New York

Articles on "Financing State Government in Minnesota" by Mrs. F. W. Wittich  
Published in the Woman Voter, starting with the issue for January 1926

Note: If these books listed are not available in your library, consult articles on "Taxation", "Public Finance", etc. in some up to date encyclopedia.

Dear Local League Chairman:

I am sending you some sheets of questions and references for the use of study groups on "Current Questions in Government". I hope that you have at least one study group now formed and that the members will find that the questions add to the interest of their study.

If it is wished in any case to add to the interest by giving an examination on these questions, I should be very glad to correct and grade the papers and return them to you.

Marguerite M Wells, President,  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

January 25th, 1926

Dear Local League Chairman:

I am sending you some sheets of questions and references for the use of study groups on "Current Questions in Government". I hope that you have at least one study group now formed and that the members will find that the questions add to the interest of their study.

If it is wished in any case to add to the interest by giving an examination on these questions, I should be very glad to correct and grade the papers and return them to you.

Marguerite M Wells, President,  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

January 25th, 1926



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. J. F. D. Meighen, Albert Lea  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. W. G. Tull, Fairmont, Second District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. C. C. Colton, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. C. Reinold Noyes  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Miss Electa Byrne  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

January 27th,  
1926

Dear Legislative Council Member:

The Legislative Council will meet at League headquarters on Wednesday, February 3rd, at 2:30 P. M. This will be the ~~third~~ <sup>second</sup> of the series of four meetings dealing with Law Enforcement.

The laws that will be discussed next Wednesday are the Street Trades, Compulsory Education, and Physical Education Laws. Invitations to be present and lead the discussion have been extended to:

Mr. E. W. <sup>Everts</sup> ~~Everts~~, director of Physical Education,  
State Department of Education  
Mr. N. H. Hegel, director of Attendance and Vocational  
Guidance, Minneapolis Public Schools  
Mr. W. H. Orme, director of the Attendance Department,  
St. Paul Public Schools  
Miss Elizabeth Fish, principal of the Vocational High School,  
Minneapolis  
Miss Louise Schutz (or a representative),  
Minnesota Industrial Commission

Council members are reminded of the decision that members are privileged to extend an invitation to the meetings on Law Enforcement to those who would be especially interested in hearing the discussion.

We shall appreciate hearing by telephone whether you expect to attend on Wednesday and whether you would like to suggest others to be invited directly from this office.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child, Secretary  
Legislative Council

EC/ms

Miss Wells asked what Board members would be willing to prepare themselves on some subject and volunteer as speakers for the schools. Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Weeks both responded, to prepare on the subject, "Amending the Constitution."

#### Present Status of the World Court

Mrs. Hargreaves reported on the present situation in the Senate, and also told of the injunction directed against work for the World Court in Minneapolis.

#### Present Status of Wadsworth-Garrett Proposals

Mrs. Wittich gave a brief history of the proposals, calling attention to the fact that in the present Congress the form of the Garrett resolution has been introduced in both Houses.

Mrs. Wittich recommended a course of action by the state League, to include interviewing representative people, discussing the proposals with them, and keeping a record of their opinions.

#### Appointments

The question of a delegate from the Minnesota League to the Women's Industrial Conference called by the U. S. Department of Labor was discussed. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Kercher, second of Mrs. Dieudonne, that Mrs. Paige be appointed delegate to that conference.

In considering someone to prepare a list of women holding public office in Minnesota, Miss Child submitted the name of Mrs. Charles Shafer. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Dowling, second of Mrs. Treloar, that Mrs. Schafer be appointed to compile such a list.

In considering names for an Immigration Study Course, conducted by the National League, under Miss Frances Perkins, Miss Child read a list of names submitted from the Ramsey County and Minneapolis Leagues. The following additional names were suggested outside the Twin Cities: Mrs. J. M. Freeman of Olivia, Miss Isabel Lawrence and Mrs. Kurt Stai of St. Cloud, Mrs. James A. Starkweather and Mrs. John S. Pardee of Duluth, Mrs. O. J. Hagen of Moorhead, and Mrs. O. M. Botsford of Winona. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, seconded by Mrs. Wittich, that the names as read by Miss Child, in addition to the ones named here, be accepted to receive material on the Immigration Study Course.

There was discussion regarding a Young Voters' chairman to succeed Mrs. Bryan, whose duties in connection with the Minneapolis League necessitate her resignation. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. Hargreaves, that Miss Josephine Benz be asked by the president to accept the Young Voter chairmanship. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Spear, that if Miss Benz does not accept the appointment, Miss Roberta Hostetler and Miss Annette Bardwell be considered as possibilities for this office. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Thorp, second of Mrs. Spear, that the Executive Committee form a Young Voters' committee of representative young women, to work with the chairman secured to head the committee.

Mrs. Ueland urged the importance of appointing a finance committee to raise the \$1500 difference between the estimated expenses for the year and the estimated receipts. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Thorp, second of Mrs. Wittich, that Mrs. Ueland be appointed chairman of a permanent Finance Committee with power to appoint her own committee members.

Miss Emily Kneubuhl reported on the new city manager charters of Cincinnati and Rochester.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Gage Colby, Secretary



Plan of work sent Board members  
2/3/26

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
January 8th, 1926

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Mrs. Thorp, 4428 Fremont Avenue South, Minneapolis, on Friday, January 8th, 1926. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m., Miss Wells presiding.

The following members of the State Board were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Thorp, Mrs. Cant, Miss Kercher, Mrs. Ueland, Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Dieudonne, Mrs. Ramsey, Mrs. Treloar, Mrs. Spear, Mrs. Dowling, Mrs. Weeks and Mrs. Colby. There were also present: Miss Child, Miss Beggin, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Collins, Miss Merrill, Mrs. Quint, Mrs. Lynam, Mrs. Barkuloo, and after lunch Mrs. Marcle and Miss Kneubuhl.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Miss Child and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported a balance the first of December of \$219.14, receipts during the month of December of \$1,594.49, of which \$871.72 was received in quotas from the districts and \$166.74 from "The Last Word." Disbursements during the month amounted to \$1,327.38, leaving a bank balance January 1st of \$486.25. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. Dowling, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and the bills allowed. Mrs. Cant also reported on the status of the quota to the National League of Women Voters, which showed a balance of \$888.50 to be paid by March 25th.

Executive Secretary's Report

Miss Child reported on the results of the Woman Citizen drive in the state at large during November and December. Some 76 subscriptions were secured with the possibility of others coming in too late to be included in the drive. This entitles us to a bonus of 70¢ for each subscription. It was suggested that drives be scheduled in corresponding months next year to take advantage of the opportunity to secure renewals.

The plan of publishing the Woman Voter under an agreement with a St. Paul printer, who will attempt to cover the cost by securing ads, went into operation January 1st. The cooperation of board members was asked in suggestions of possible advertisers. The arrangement is an experiment. It is to our interest to help make it a success, thus assuring us the return from Voter subscriptions as a source of income.

Organization

Miss Beggin reported on the Leagues she had visited since October 9th. She reported forty-nine functioning Leagues with good boards and definite membership fees. In the First District she visited Wabasha, Winona and Rochester. In the Second District, Mankato was visited. Mrs. Carrington, chairman, is leaving for a trip abroad. She and Miss Larson wish the Mankato League to be considered "sleeping" for the present, but not "dead". Leagues visited in the Third District were Norwood, Young America, Chaska, Pine Island, Kenyon, Northfield and Stillwater. She reported that Oak Park and Bayport may both form Political Science Study Groups to be affiliated with the League in Stillwater. In the Sixth District, Staples was reported as having a flourishing Study League, which may in time become a reorganized League. In the Ninth District, Moorhead, Hawley, Frazee, Lake Park and Detroit were visited. A new League has just been organized in Detroit. Monticello and Columbia Heights were visited in the Tenth District and were reported as progressing well.

There was discussion regarding the Watertown League which has not properly functioned since its organization. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Dowling, that Watertown be dropped from the list of local Leagues.

Mrs. Treloar, First District chairman, reported on the League in LeRoy, and the prospects of a League in Austin, where she said there is money available from the old League.

Mrs. Dowling reported that she has been unable to do any active work in the Seventh District, but hoped to get around to visit the Leagues very shortly.

Mrs. Weeks, the new Ninth District chairman, reported briefly on the Leagues in her district.

Mrs. McGuire made a report of the activities of the Ramsey County League, and Mrs. Bryan reported on the Minneapolis League.

Miss Wells urged that expressions of appreciation of the weekly radio talks, broadcast under the auspices of the Ramsey County and Minneapolis Leagues, be sent to the radio station, to insure their continuance.

Miss Wells commented, at this point, on the number and type of letters sent out from headquarters to local League chairmen during the past year. She said that nineteen 'form' letters had been sent to each chairman, dealing chiefly with two topics, International Cooperation to Prevent War, and the Child Labor Amendment. During the coming year, one or two general 'program' letters will be sent out to be supplemented by letters, not oftener than once a month, pertaining to new issues that arise in our state or national legislative program. She commented on the fact that the League now has a "past", having been in existence five years.

#### Organization of Young Voters

Mrs. Bryan reported that the St. Cloud State Teachers College has the first and only College League in Minnesota, with officers elected and a program arranged for the coming year. The organization of this group is due to Mrs. Friedrich, who is now liaison officer between the St. Cloud League and the college League. Dean Garvey has been most helpful.

The obstacle most frequently met in attempting to organize in other colleges is the plea of "too much outside activity". The Deans of Carleton and St. Olaf's will do what they can to help organize, and Dean Blitz of Minnesota and Dean Fogg of the Moorhead State Teachers College are interested.

There was then discussion of the suggestion that a Young Voters' issue of the Woman Voter be arranged for and edited by a committee of young voters.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Hargreaves, that there be during the present year an issue of the Woman Voter called the Young Voters' Issue, and that a chairman to arrange for the issue be appointed by the president. Later in the meeting Miss Wells announced the appointment of Mrs. Walter Ramsey as chairman in charge of the Young Voters' issue of the Woman Voter.

Tentative plans for Miss Ely's proposed trip in Minnesota the last week in February were discussed.

#### Institutes, Schools and Study Groups

Mrs. Wittich called attention to the new series of four pamphlets on "Current Questions in Government", which are now available for study groups. Three of these, on Amending the Constitution, States' Rights, and Federal Aid were prepared by Miss Wells; and the fourth, on Taxation, by Professor William Anderson.

Mrs. Wittich reported on the Second Institute of Government and Politics held in cooperation with the University of Minnesota in November. The total attendance at the Institute was estimated at 1,000, and the total income at \$420.00. The largest meetings were the Carl Fish lecture and the annual convention luncheon with Miss Ruth Morgan as speaker on the World Court. Approximately 300 attended each of these sessions.

An interesting comparison was drawn between the First and Second Institutes, with the larger attendance and income of the First Institute being attributed partly to the presence of nationally-known speakers.

Plans for holding Institutes and Voter Schools in the state were discussed. It was the consensus of opinion that we should not try for Institutes in all of the Teachers Colleges this spring, but should attempt only two at first. Miss Lawrence stated that the situation in St. Cloud for an Institute is very promising. She suggested that she should communicate with the heads of all the state Teachers Colleges at this time, rather than singling out certain ones. Immediate follow-up can, however, be limited to St. Cloud and Moorhead.



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
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Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

*Sent only to Child  
Welfare Chairmen  
(Minder, Byrne, Baylis  
Knights & Wells  
excepted by title)*

February 1st,  
1926

My dear Child Welfare Chairman: -

It has been a long time since I have had occasion to write you. Now, however, I have something of interest to tell you.

We have just received from our national headquarters some fascinating material for six meetings of a study group on Child Labor and the Child Labor Amendment. The material for each meeting includes a clear summary of outstanding facts which will be of interest to you, together with references to pamphlets you already have in your possession or which you can secure from our office.

Will you as soon as possible get together a small group to undertake the study outlined? I count on your interest in reviewing, now that the heat of the ratification campaign is over, the facts about child labor in this country and the need for the continued interest of women in this subject. I am therefore sending you, without charge, the outline prepared for the use of study groups.

Please be good enough to let me know, on the enclosed postal, whether you will call together a few friends, or those whom you know to be interested to discuss with you the topics outlined in the study course. In case - and only in case - this is out of the question, will you read the material carefully yourself and then pass it on to others whom you know to be friendly to the amendment and who will therefore read it with interest and understanding.

I shall hope to hear that I am right in thinking that you will give us your aid in getting the very dramatic facts on this subject to the attention of members of a study group. Please return the card so that we may know that the material has reached you safely.

Very sincerely yours,

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MMW ckc

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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

February 3rd,  
1926

My dear Board Member: -

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters will be held on Friday, February 12th. Mrs. Wittich has invited the board to meet at her home, 625 Fulton St. S E. The meeting will be called to order promptly at 10:30 a.m., and will last until about 4:30 p.m.

The proposed program of work of the National League, to be considered at the national convention in April, has been mailed to you under separate cover. Department and committee chairmen will discuss the new items in the proposed program. Please bring your program with you as an aid in following the discussion.

Mrs. Wittich will be hostess to board members at luncheon. Please let us know whether we may make a reservation for you.

Very sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

To reach Mrs. Wittich's house, take the Oak and Harriet car to Fulton Street S E, and walk one block west.



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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Sent to 96

February expiration

February 6th,  
1926

Dear Woman Voter Subscriber:

Your subscription to the Woman Voter has now expired.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading the Voter and that you will wish to send us your renewal by return mail. I enclose a container for your convenience in forwarding a quarter for another year's subscription.

Miss Wells' series of articles on American Government is to be continued for several months and a series by Mrs. Wittich on the finances of our state government is just starting. In addition we shall have articles from time to time on current issues in international affairs such as the Locarno treaties and on other important subjects.

The mailing list for the March issue is now being revised and we cannot include your name unless we receive your renewal before the 25th of the month. If you think the Voter a help in keeping informed on subjects of concern to you as a Minnesota voter, please send us your quarter by return mail. If you have a friend who would be interested in the Voter, we hope you will include her subscription with yours.

Very sincerely yours,

*Emily Child*

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC:ms  
Enc.

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, February 3rd, 1926

2:30 P. M.

Present: Mrs. Ueland, presiding, Miss Wells, Mrs. Griswold, Miss Lawrence, Miss Kercher, Miss Joanna Colcord, Mrs. Junkins, Mrs. Prosser, and Miss Child, secretary. There were also present Mrs. Dragoo of St. Cloud, Mrs. Bissell, Miss Pratt of the Woman's Cooperative Alliance, Miss Merrill, Mrs. Bessessen, Mrs. Michaud of St. Paul, and Miss Louise Schutz of the Minnesota Industrial Commission.

Mrs. Ueland made an introductory statement referring to the work of the Advisory Legislative Council in recommending the laws under discussion for support in past legislative programs of the Minnesota League of Women Voters.

STREET TRADES LAW

Statement by Mr. W. H. Orme, Department of Attendance, St. Paul Public Schools

Mr. Orme said that progress has been made in securing the cooperation of those involved in the enforcement of this law making it now easier to enforce it than when it first was put into operation.

The situation in St. Paul affecting newsboys is different from the situation in Minneapolis in that there are few news-stands and the distribution of newspapers depends almost entirely on carriers. The maximum number of violations of the law observed is five for any one day with fewest violations in winter when there is less inducement for unbadged boys to sell on the streets. A recent check made of boys selling on the streets showed only twenty-five boys listed. Probably fifty or sixty newboys is the greatest number in St. Paul even during the summer months.

Enforcement of the law has been accomplished without taking boys into Court for violations of the law. This is handled rather by personal interviews in the homes or asking the parents to come to the office for an interview. The selling of papers by unbadged small brothers of boys with badges is one element of difficulty in the enforcement of the law. It has been impossible to get the boys to wear the badges in plain view. This adds to the difficulty of identifying unbadged boys. It has been observed that the same boys do not remain in the field for a very long time. The boys are constantly changing and older men are coming in gradually.

The plea of necessity to earn money when given as a reason for street work by under age boys is handled by securing aid for the family. In most cases necessity is not a reason for such boys' working.

Mr. Orme reported that fifteen hundred visits to the Hygiene Department of the Public Schools for the correction of physical defects of boys applying for badges have been made during the past year. A physical examination precedes the granting of badges.

The sale of Christmas greetings, often merely a form of begging by the boys, has been discouraged somewhat and this year there was less sale of greetings than in previous years.

The cooperation of interested citizens is needed in letting the circulation managers of newspapers know that they are behind the enforcement of this law. Every time a circulation manager is changed, it is necessary that his cooperation in the enforcement of the law be gained all over again.

Miss Wells asked Mr. Orme whether defects in the law or hardships in its enforcement have been noted pointing to the need of amendment. None were cited by Mr. Orme.

Statement by Mr. N. H. Hegel, Director of Attendance and Vocational Guidance, Minneapolis Public Schools

Several studies of the situation in regard to boys engaged in Street Trades have been made by various groups in Minneapolis, one by the Children's Protective Society, one by Miss Lane of the Attendance Department on after-school employment, one by the Attendance Department on success in school of newsboys as



compared with other boys, and one by the students in Mr. Elmer's class at the University cooperating with the Attendance Department of the Public Schools. The following generalizations can be made as a result of these studies:

1. The age-grade relation among newsboys in school is lower than in the normal group.
2. Little evidence was found of special trade diseases such as enlarged heart, throat-trouble etc. as reported in studies in larger cities.
3. Economic necessity does not appear as a chief reason for the work of newsboys.

Attention was called to the fact that the purpose of the law is to remove children under 12 years from the loop district of the city and from its contaminating influences. This purpose has been pretty well achieved in Minneapolis. The newspapers have been won over to give their cooperation in enforcing the letter of the law since their realization that the elimination of the younger children has resulted in a better situation for them.

The fact that there are many news-stands where stand-owners employ the boys that they can get to work most cheaply, complicates the situation in Minneapolis. They find unbadged boys cheaper and can replace them whenever they are discovered by the attendance officer so that there is a constant stream of unbadged boys resulting.

One feature of newsboy life that it has been impossible to touch, is the bad influence of older men in the trade. The stand-owners are often the worst type of men, in touch with the under-world, and a class apart as far as decent standards are concerned. The law is a step, but a short step, in improving the conditions in the street trades unless some way can be found to supplement it by activities of the right kind. The work of the Boy Scout organization and the Y.M.C.A. does not reach this group. We have a distinctly criminal element coming up in the population through this street life. Newsboys clubs are bad rather than good since they segregate the group instead of keeping it linked up with neighborhood and normal group activities.

Mr. Hegel suggested the following needs in connection with the law:

1. An amendment to the law making it an offense for stand-owners to hire unbadged boys.

This amendment was introduced by the Attendance Department of the Minneapolis Public Schools in the 1925 legislative session. The newspapers were opposed to it. It passed the House but not the Senate.

2. A city ordinance providing for the licensing of news-stand owners.

This would make it possible to eliminate the worst individuals from the group of stand-owners, thus protecting the boys hired by them.

3. The naming of the police in the law as jointly responsible with the Attendance Department of the Public Schools for the enforcement of the law.

Under present conditions the police take no responsibility for its enforcement and do not give the assistance that they could and should.

Both Mr. Orme and Mr. Hegel thought that the type of man at the newspaper offices that distribute papers to the boys, is one of the worst elements in the situation. If the newspaper managers could be persuaded to put a different sort of man in charge of street circulation, it would make a great difference. This is difficult for enforcement officials to accomplish without the backing of an articulate public sentiment.

#### COMPULSORY EDUCATION LAW

##### Statement on Cooperative Part-Time Vocational Education by

Miss Elizabeth Fish, Principal, The Vocational High School, Minneapolis

In vocational school work it is important that the learning process shall include work with concrete material. This may be provided in one of two ways:

1. By a unit trade shop in the school  
Providing pseudo-shops within the school presents various difficulties. The equipment is expensive, - it is difficult to dispose of the product, and actual shop conditions cannot be reproduced.
2. By cooperative arrangements for part-time work in the actual industry  
Under this plan the school sends a teacher into the shop with the child. Ohio, New York and New Jersey are experimenting with this type of cooperative part-time work.

The Vocational High School in Minneapolis has been sending boys, largely over 16 years of age, in pairs into shops supervised by a "co-ordinator". Girls also have been sent out for practical work in serving and into the stores for several days sales experience. The question now is whether it would be well to extend this part-time work to the group of 15 year old children. No change in the law would be needed as the permit machinery applying to the group between 14 and 16 years would take care of the situation.

The reasons in favor of entering into similar cooperative arrangements with employers for 15 year old children are as follows. The Vocational High School children feed the skilled and semi-skilled trades. A large percent of them leave school at the age of 16 and cannot be kept beyond that age because of economic pressure in the homes. They need practical trade training, supplementing school work, earlier than at 16 years of age if they are to have this before leaving school.

In reply to questions, Miss Fish explained that a "coordinator" employed by the public schools visits the various shops where children are placed, rather than remaining in one shop all the time. The children are paid while at work at the insistence of employers who otherwise have no control over them. The employers that have had children so far have been pleased with the arrangement. It is necessary to select carefully such employers as will be willing to assign work of educational value to the pupils placed with them.

Miss Wells asked how the part-time school bill related to this plan. Miss Fish explained that it would give the school control over children longer than at present - up to 18 years or whatever age is specified. Mr. Hegel cited the opinion expressed at the last National Conference of Social Work against the part-time continuation school plan and upon the fact that teaching technique in such part-time schools is not up to standard.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION LAW

Statement by Mr. E. W. Everts, Director of Physical Education,  
State Department of Education

This law passed in the 1923 legislature carried an appropriation of \$15,000 for the biennium. As a result of the law it has been possible to reach the rural field with intensive teacher-training in the two fields of

1. Health education directed to the forming of health habits among children and
2. Physical education involving organization and leadership in a program of physical activities

Before the passage of the law, very few rural schools had any regular hygiene instruction. A standard has now been set of a minimum of 30 minutes a week for hygiene instruction and of 180 minutes a week, in elementary and high schools, *for physical training work.* A program has been planned for the teachers at county institutes held during the last two years. Twenty-two country field days have been held, with 25,000 rural school children participating.

Normal school courses preparatory to such work in the schools have improved as a result of the demand for such training both implied and provided for in the law. Within the year a conference of all normal school physical training instructors has been held. No such coordination occurred before the law went into effect.

It has been necessary to go slow because of the economy wave but local communi-



ties and school superintendents are more and more concerning themselves in making the program of activities contemplated by the law a success. There has been, in the last year, an increase of 22 part-time physical training instructors in Minnesota schools outside cities of the first class where the number has remained the same. If the law accomplished nothing else, it has been justified in having focused the attention of school superintendents and groups in the communities upon this aspect of school responsibility for the physical well-being of school children. If it is desirable to spend state money for the elimination of diseases among animals, how much more it is worth while to spend it for physical betterment of children.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary

A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
February 12th, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

ORGANIZATION

Report on field work - Miss Beggin

Reports by District Chairmen

Report of Executive Secretary

INSTITUTES AND VOTERS' SCHOOLS

YOUNG VOTERS

State chairman and committee

Final plans for Miss Ely's tour

Progress of plans for organization in colleges

Proposed National Plan of Work

Presentation of new items by department and committee chairmen

National Convention in St. Louis (April 14-21)

Proposal for biennial sessions

Nominations for national offices

Plans for special visitors

Minnesota delegation

Status of Federal Measures on League Legislative Program

The World Court

Request for state action in support of Sheppard-Towner Act  
Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment and other federal measures

Report on Women's Industrial Conference in Washington - Mrs. Paige

Immigration Problems - Mrs. W. J. Marcley

NEW BUSINESS

Invitation for March Board Meeting



IOWA

The Marshalltown Board will meet February 23rd, and Mrs. J R Parkes, Regional Secretary, will be present.

"Things are going very well in the League here in Sioux City".

NORTH DAKOTA

Miss Gertrude Ely, director of the Second Region and National Adviser on New Voters, will speak March 1st to the University of North Dakota League of Women Voters at Grand Forks, and on March 2nd to the Fargo Agricultural College League of Women Voters.

Mrs. J A Poppler, extension chairman of the North Dakota League of Women Voters:-  
 "Good seeds bear fruit after all! Two splendid college groups of the League of Women Voters were organized this fall at the University of North Dakota and the Agricultural College at Fargo. Their sincerity, their clear-headed planning and working and their determination to grasp the things of life that count, are an inspiration to the League. We older members should stand by these young women and see to it that there are college leagues in every college and normal school in the state of North Dakota, that it may not be said of us in the future that we neglected the vineyard and looked only unto the ends of the earth for our life's work. Until we can toss our torch to these younger hands, we MUST CARRY ON, therefore, please answer this letter and send us a check, either personal or for your league, and get busy on a constructive program for yourselves."

Clipped from a North Dakota newspaper: "The study topics of the University of North Dakota League of Women Voters just announced merit mention. That a group of University women plan on studying, on their own volition, such subjects as: Methods of Voting, the Party Machine, World Court, Child Welfare, and Principles of Government, bodes well for the future of women in politics in the State of North Dakota and the nation as a whole...While commending the women for their political interest, it is all the more noticeable that little of this nature is heard from men students of the campus. Why?...The women are going strong. Let the men catch up".

Mrs. J R Parkes, attended the January Board meeting of the State League at Grand Forks.

Upon her return from the Montana convention, she spent the day of January 18th at Minot in conference with friends of the League.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The good news from the Mitchell League recently is: "One meeting on the World Court, one on Legal Status of Women, and \$100 paid the state towards the Mitchell League quota."

The Pierre League of Women Voters held a tea the last part of January at which Mr. Engstrom, head of the School and Public Land Commission, was the speaker.

MONTANA

The Fifth Annual Convention, held January 14, 15 and 16 at Great Falls inaugurated what promises to be a year of great progress in the State. Mrs. J E Patton, of Great Falls, was re-elected president; a budget was adopted and a finance committee, Mrs. A H Abbott, chairman, appointed to raise it; a plan of work for the year was adopted. Mrs. Belle Fligelman Winestine was appointed chairman of New Voters. Mrs. Winestine was also made chairman of a committee on legislation "whose duties it will be to confer with and receive suggestions on proposed legislative acts from the different heads of departments and present such suggestions to the State Board who will in turn recommend the same to the next General convention."

MINNESOTA

The Minneapolis League of Women Voters on the air over W C C O: -  
 Tuesday, February 16th - 2 p.m. "How does my vote affect the Child at Play?"  
 Tuesday, February 23rd - 2 p.m. "How does my vote affect the Child at School?"  
 Tuesday, March 2nd - 2 p.m. "How does my vote affect the Child at Work?"

Received at W C C O about these League talks: "May we not have longer talks from these splendid women who are such a help to those of us who have not time or opportunity for the study of these questions?"

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Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

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Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

February 20th,  
1926

My dear Local League Chairman:

The four subjects to which I wish to invite your attention in this letter are of so nearly equal importance and each so important that I hesitate to give them numbers, though, for the sake of clearness, I shall do so.

### Minnesota Delegates to National Convention

1. Will you send us names of women in your League who might be able to plan to attend the St. Louis National League Convention, April 14 to 21, who would profit by the experience and in return give additional help to your League upon their return. We shall be glad to name as delegates or alternates any such women that you may suggest.

### Proposed Plan of Work of National League

2. I am sending under separate cover the Proposed Plan of Work to be voted upon at the convention. The proposals on each subject are made by the respective committees and departments upon each of which, as you know, Minnesota has one member. These committees and departments will meet before the convention and vote whether or not to recommend all or part of the program items to the convention, after which the convention will cast the final vote, adopting or rejecting each item. The Minnesota delegates who attend the convention and the Minnesota chairmen who attend the conferences of committees and departments, will wish to know what the local Leagues think about the new items proposed this year, indicated by red ink. Will you hold a League meeting and have each subject presented by some one who is well informed? Your League's opinions should be forwarded to this office in time to be presented at the next meeting of the State Board, March 12th.

### Study Groups

3. We are very much gratified to hear of the number of study groups that have been formed, using the four pamphlets "Current Questions in Government". I want to urge you to present at each one of the four meetings held for the discussion of these subjects, the League measure most closely related to it. In the case of Amending the Constitution, this would be the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment "to end amendments" now before Congress; in the case of States'



Rights, the subject of ratification of the Child Labor Amendment should be presented; and in the case of Federal Aid, the Renewal of the Federal appropriation for the Sheppard-Towner Act, a bill for which has now been introduced in both houses of the Congress. These League measures should in each case be presented by a second woman, thus dividing responsibility for the program. She may use, for her presentation of the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment, a new leaflet prepared by the National League (price 3 cents) a sample copy of which goes to you today under separate cover; for the Child Labor Amendment, a League pamphlet "The Children's Amendment" (price 7 cents); and for the Sheppard-Towner Act, the mimeographed material just prepared by this office, a sample of which goes to you under separate cover, and the National League leaflet, "Why Renew the Sheppard-Towner Act?" (price 3 cents) a sample copy of which has already been sent you.

Support of Local Leagues Asked for Renewal of Sheppard-Towner Act

4. The bill for the renewal of the federal appropriation for Sheppard-Towner work is now under consideration by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. The legislative department of the League, of which Mrs. Maud Wood Park is chairman, is anxiously watching the progress of this important measure in Congress, and writes to ask us in Minnesota to send letters to our representatives and senators at once, urging their support of this measure. These letters should be sent in numbers by individuals and by groups. They should explain the value of the work as carried on in Minnesota under the Department of Child Hygiene of which Dr. Ruth Boynton is chief. Write to your representative in Congress (House of Representatives, Washington D. C.) and to Minnesota's two senators, Senator Henrik Shipstead and Senator Thomas D. Schall, (United States Senate, Washington, D. C.). We shall appreciate it if you will send us word what you have done on this subject.

If you have not already filled out and returned your Questionnaire on Organization, will you do so now that we may add yours to those we have already received, for our records.

You will be interested to know that our honorary national president, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, has been for a week at my house. She came to fill speaking engagements, as you undoubtedly know, and then was taken ill. She has not been too ill to be a delightful and inspiring house guest. She has said kind and complimentary things about the Minnesota League which I wish to pass on to you, who are the Minnesota League. She thinks you have done excellent and real work, since enfranchisement. I do, too, to tell the truth.

With congratulations and best wishes for the continued success of your League, I am

Cordially yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

MW/ms

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Harley Treloar, Leroy, First District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. George H. Spear, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

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Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby

Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

March 3rd,  
1926

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Dear Board Member:

The regular monthly meeting of the state board will be held on Friday, March 12th, in St. Paul, at the invitation of the Board of Directors of the Ramsey County League.

The meeting is called for 10:30 A. M. in the Teachers Federation Room (328 Cedar St.) which has been offered to the Ramsey County League for this meeting. Board members will recognize the address as being the same as that of the St. Paul League headquarters and of the Women's City Club.

One of the chief subjects for consideration will be the make-up of the Minnesota delegation to the National League Convention. Each board member is therefore asked to talk with as many women as possible before the meeting and to be prepared to report the names of those who should be included in the list to receive delegates' or alternates' credentials. If you cannot be present on Friday, Miss Wells will appreciate your writing us this information for presentation at the board meeting.

The Ramsey County League will be hostess for the luncheon. Please let us know whether we may make a reservation for you.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC/MS

P. S. Your name is included in our list of those who have signified their intention of attending the St. Louis Convention. Please let us know if this is not correct as we shall reserve a delegate's credential for you unless you let us know that you cannot make use of it.



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March 3rd,  
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The Ramsey County League will be hostess for the luncheon. Please let us know whether we may make a reservation for you.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC/MS

P. S. Please send us your name for a delegate's credential just as soon as you know whether or not you can go to St. Louis. And let us know whether you are considering the possibility of going.

M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
February 12th, 1926

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held on Friday, February 12th, at the home of Mrs. Wittich, 625 Fulton Street S. E. Minneapolis.

Board members present were Miss Wells, Mrs. Wittich, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Colby, Mrs. Thorp, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Ramsey, Mrs. Friedrich, Mrs. Weeks, Mrs. Dietrichson, Miss Lawrence, Miss Monahan, Mrs. Gaus, Miss Kercher, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Hargreaves, and Mrs. Spear. Others present were Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Collins, Miss Jeffrey, Miss Beggin, Mrs. Marcle, Miss Akre, and Miss Child.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A. M., Miss Wells presiding.

The minutes of the last Board meeting were read by the secretary and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported a balance January 1st of \$486.25. She read the amounts paid by the several districts, totalling \$652.32, with receipts from other sources bringing the total to \$1586.85. Disbursements were \$1014.43, leaving a balance February 1st of \$572.43.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Spear, that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read.

Mrs. Cant reported bills for January amounting to \$882.75 of which \$229.09 are unpaid. She stated that \$386.00 of the National quota is still owing and payable not later than March 25th.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Cobb, that these bills be allowed and paid as early as possible.

Report on Field Work

Miss Beggin reported upon work in the field since January 8th. Stillwater, Northfield, Faribault, St. Elmo, and Bayport were visited in the THIRD DISTRICT. Faribault has its League work particularly well in hand. Good work was done there on the World Court; three study groups are working using the Current Questions pamphlets. "The Last Word" is to be presented. Bayport and St. Elmo are both potential Leagues, though the present plan is to try for groups there affiliated with the Stillwater League. Wayzata and Robbinsdale were visited in the TENTH DISTRICT. Miss Beggin stated that Mrs. Spencer has promised assistance in organizing a League in Wayzata. Mrs. Ware has resigned as chairman of the Robbinsdale League, to be succeeded by Mrs. H. H. Livingston. Winona in the FIRST DISTRICT reported to Miss Beggin six Study Groups which were formed after Mrs. Wittich's visit.

Reports by District Chairmen

Mrs. Ramsey reported the continuance in St. Paul of the Monday luncheons sponsored by the Efficiency in Government Department, at which, with a local election near at hand, it has seemed timely to present the functions of city and county offices in detail. She spoke of the tentative plans for candidate meetings in the twelve wards of the city. There will probably be three meetings before and three after the primaries.

Mrs. Friedrich (Sixth District Chairman) reported less finances but an increased interest throughout the district. Mrs. Cobb reported that the response to the "Last Word" as presented in Brainerd was very satisfactory.

Mrs. Spear (Eighth District Chairman) reported increase in both interest and membership in Duluth. She stated that the Duluth note has been paid and finances generally are on an excellent footing. Many new persons have become interested at the regular paid luncheons where the League is "talked up", she said. She reported the organization of a Study Group at Riverside, and the plans for organization of similar groups at Carleton and Cloquet this month, the former to be a part of the Duluth League, with a fair promise of becoming a full League later.

Mrs. Weeks (Ninth District Chairman) reported that monthly meetings are planned for Detroit from now on instead of quarterly meetings formerly held. Four of these meetings will be luncheons with outside speakers, to which members may bring a guest, she said.



### The Woman Voter

Miss Child reported that the Voter in its new form has been very favorably received. The first few numbers will probably be published at a loss, but that loss will be made up later, it is hoped, through advertising. One half-page ad for the entire year has now been secured together with a few additional ads for the March and April issues.

### Institutes and Voter Schools

Miss Lawrence stated that only the State Teachers Colleges in Moorhead and St. Cloud have been asked to consider Institutes in the near future. The question arose as to whether an Institute could be conducted without a local League in Moorhead. Miss Beggin recommended that Moorhead maintain a Study Group rather than attempt to reorganize the League under present circumstances. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Cobb, that Moorhead be given a special dispensation to have a Study Group in the absence of a League. Miss Lawrence urged that a special committee be formed in Moorhead to sponsor an Institute.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Miss Monahan, that such a committee be formed by Miss Beggin. Miss Wells suggested that Mrs. Weeks as district chairman be asked to serve on that committee.

Mrs. Wittich suggested that Miss Beggin be delegated to discuss Institute plans with President McLean when she goes to Moorhead March 2nd.

### Young Voters

Miss Child reported that Miss Josephine Benz has accepted the state chairmanship of the Young Voters and that Mrs. Paul Shlick has been named local chairman in St. Paul. Miss Child suggested that chairmen of St. Paul and Minneapolis Young Voters automatically become vice-chairmen of the state committee. Miss Ely's schedule of engagements in the state was read by Miss Child and her program for Minneapolis was reported by Mrs. Bryan.

## PROPOSED NATIONAL PLAN OF WORK

### Efficiency in Government

Mrs. Wittich reported Federal Aid as a new item under recommendations for study and, under recommendations for legislative support: first, the office type of ballot (which lists candidates according to office - not party - and which has been used in this state for years); second, the executive type of budget (which provides that state and federal departments recommend to the legislatures instead of visa versa).

### Public Welfare in Government

Child Welfare - Mrs. Thorp reported in recommendations for study the new item, a preventive program in schools and juvenile courts and, in recommendations for legislation, the extension of the period of operation of the Maternity and Infancy Act.

Education - Miss Lawrence reported that, although no new recommendations for study are made for this committee, there is an entirely new bill on Education known as the Curtis-Reed Bill, from which Federal Aid to the states has been dropped. This merits our attention and study.

Living Costs - Miss Kercher reported two new recommendations for study: first, study of the most effective utilization of the hydro-electric resources of the country from the standpoint of public welfare; second, study of the production and distribution of the necessities of life.

Social Hygiene - Mrs. Gaus called attention to the recommendation for study of criminal court procedure, now amended to read, "especially as it relates to women". Three new recommendations are: provision for open clinics for treating social disease rather than closed quarantine for women; further study of anti-prostitution measures; and study of the relation of the work of police women and probation officers to the prevention of delinquency.

Women in Industry - Mrs. Dietrichson reported the transfer of two items from the legislative recommendations to a place under recommendations for study. Study of effects of minimum wage legislation upon women's wages and of the operation of the maternity benefit laws are recommended. Mrs. Dietrichson recommended against the omission of minimum wage under items for legislation, since it cannot be considered that Supreme Court decisions have changed the attitude of the League in support of such legislation. It was the consensus of opinion among the Board members that this item be included again under recommendations for legislation.

Legal Status of Women - Miss Monahan reported no new recommendations for her committee but called attention to the wilful exclusion of women from jury service in many places where County Commissioners purposely omit women from lists for jury panels.

International Cooperation to Prevent War

Mrs. Hargreaves reported three new recommendations for study: 1) Causes of War, 2) Problems of the Pacific, and 3) Duties and Powers of the President (under Conduct of Foreign Policy in the United States).

NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. LOUIS

Proposal for Biennial Sessions

Miss Wells said the advantages of the present annual conventions are the opportunity for publicity, the stimulating contacts made and the growth of the local League where the Convention is held. These advantages are offset by the disadvantage of the great expenditure of time and energy on the part of the National officers and staff. No final action was taken on the question.

Nominations for National Officers

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Thorp, second of Mrs. Wittich, that Miss Belle Sherwin be nominated as president.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. Hargreaves, that Miss Morgan be nominated as third vice-president.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Kercher, second of Mrs. Ueland, that Miss Hauser be nominated as secretary.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Wittich, second of Mrs. McKnight, that Miss Wells be nominated as Fifth Regional Director.

Special Visitors Plan

Mrs. Wittich submitted the plan for "special visitors" to the Convention whose only requisite shall be a more than ordinary interest in some special phase of the program. Miss Ludington will send a special invitation to attend the Convention to such visitors and they will have all privileges except a vote. "It is a means of making warm friends for the League", said Mrs. Wittich.

Status of Federal Measures on League Program

Mrs. Hargreaves presented the facts as to the final action by the Senate on the World Court. She called attention to the fact that the first four reservations adopted were substantially the Harding-Hughes reservations. The fifth reservation embodying two resolutions represents the old struggle for supremacy between the Senate and the Executive. Other federal measures that are major legislative activities now are opposition to the Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment and support of an extension of time for the Sheppard-Towner Act.

Miss Wells asks that members of the Board immediately write to their representatives and senators in the Congress urging their support of a renewed appropriation for Infancy and Maternity work. The time has now come for state activity in behalf of this measure similar to the support given in connection with the World Court.

A report on the Women's Industrial Conference in Washington by Mrs. James Paige was read, in her absence, by Mrs. Dietrichson. This was followed by a brief talk on the present status of our immigration policy by Mrs. W. J. Maroley. We may lose the good will of the world and arouse a dangerous hostility by continuing too long in the restrictive policy established by the Johnson Immigration Bill of July 1, 1924. Mrs. Maroley said, however, she would like to see immigration restricted in some way, for a generation at least, until we have assimilated foreign groups already admitted. The question of national quotas was only temporarily settled in 1924. The League should help to build up an enlightened public opinion on this subject.

Miss Wells reported the resignation of Mrs. Gaus as Social Hygiene Committee chairman. Since there is no active work for her committee at present, her resignation was placed on file for future action.

Miss Child reported the invitation of the Ramsey County League to the State Board to hold its March meeting in St. Paul. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Thorp, second of Mrs. Spear, that the invitation of the Ramsey County League be accepted.

Mrs. Weeks invited the Board to hold a midsummer meeting, preferably in July, at her summer cottage near Detroit. The Board acted favorably upon this invitation.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Gage Colby, Secretary



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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March 8th,  
1926

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Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
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Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Dear Legislative Council Member:

The Legislative Council will meet at League headquarters on  
Wednesday, March 17th, at 2:30 P. M.

Discussion of the enforcement of laws recommended for support by  
the Council in the past will be continued. The program for  
Wednesday will cover the operation of employment laws affecting  
women and children, as administered by the Minnesota Industrial  
Commission.

Miss Louise Schutz, superintendent of the Division of Women and  
Children of the Minnesota Industrial Commission, will present  
the facts. Members of the staff working with Miss Schutz as in-  
vestigators will also be present to contribute to the discussion.  
The question of the present status of the Minimum Wage Law in  
Minnesota will be of particular interest to Council members as  
part of the program for this meeting.

Please let us know whether you will attend the meeting on Wednes-  
day and whether you will avail yourself of the privilege of  
inviting other interested members of your organization to attend  
this particular meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child, Secretary  
Legislative Council

EC ms

ROUND ROBIN

No. 15

Fifth Region, National League of Women Voters Mar. 11, 1926

IOWA

The Sixth annual convention of the Iowa League of Women Voters is called for March 18th and 19th in the Chamber of Commerce Library at the Hotel Savery, Des Moines. The convention will be addressed by Mrs. Harris Baldwin, chairman of the Living Costs Committee of the National League of Women Voters, and Dr. Lauer, director of the Extension Division of the State University of Iowa and Executive secretary of the Division of Maternity and Infancy Hygiene. Mrs. John R Parkes, secretary of the Fifth Region, will be present at the convention.

Des Moines University has a new College League of Women Voters - 15 charter members.

MINNESOTA

Study groups!! Everybody is doing it - studying, studying the burning questions of the day. States' rights, Amending the constitution, Child Labor Amendment and the like. There are 25 study groups already reported as studying the four pamphlets "Current Questions in Government". Twenty more are reported as making a more extended study of the Child Labor Amendment.

W C C O broadcasts to the Region:

Tuesday, March 16th, 2 p m "Story of the Constitution - The Convention"  
Tuesday, March 23rd, 2 p m "Story of the Constitution - States' Rights"  
Tuesday, March 30th, 2 p m "Story of the Constitution - What the 'fathers' thought about amending"

MONTANA

Mrs. Clark Baumgerner, of Fife, has accepted appointment as state chairman of the committee on education.

Great Falls has two study groups and Belt one on "Current Questions in Government", meeting once a week. Before beginning the topic of the day, questions are asked in review of the topic of the week before.

ST. LOUIS AND CONVENTION

The seventh birthday of the League is to be celebrated at its birthplace, St. Louis, for the accomodation of the Middle West! We have not been so near recently and may not be soon again. Minnesota delegates have figured that they can attend the convention at an outlay of \$85.00. Railroad fare is, as you know, one fare and a half from wherever you live. St. Louis and the St. Louis and Missouri Leagues are ideal hostesses. For your own sake, for the sake of the League in your community, for the sake of the success of the convention, do plan to go!

Mrs. J A Poppler, 2 Dinnie Apts., Grand Forks, North Dakota, is the member of the nominating committee for the Fifth Region. Please send her your choice for officers.

YOUNG VOTERS

Gertrude Ely has come to the Fifth Region! She has talked democracy to the young voters of Minnesota and North Dakota as only Gertrude Ely can talk the obligations of citizenship. And it is going to make a difference. The young voters say so.

She addressed college chapels at Hamline and Moorhead, Minn., and Fargo, N Dak. She spoke to smaller college groups at St. Cloud, Minneapolis, Moorhead, Minn., and Grand Forks, N Dak. She spoke to groups of industrial, business, professional and Junior League girls at Minneapolis, Duluth and St. Cloud. She was guest of honor at one local League comprised entirely of young people. She conferred with boards on subject of young voters and Duluth and Grand Forks. She addressed two large "Old Voter-Young Voter" luncheons at Winona and St. Paul.

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

Marguerite M Wells, Regional Director



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
March 12, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Balance due on national quota

Report of Executive Secretary

The Woman Voter

Legislative Council membership

Action on rural advisory committee

Study groups

Current Questions in Government

Child Labor Amendment

Report on local Leagues

Action on subjects in "local chairman" letters

Reports by District Chairmen on Organization Activities and Accomplishments

Department of Efficiency in Government

Hearing on Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment

Reports of interviews on Amendment

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Nominations to fill two possible new vice-presidencies

Action on biennial conventions

Action on appointment of substitutes for Department and Committee  
Chairmen to attend closed convention conferences

Follow-up of discussion on Proposed Plan of Work  
Communication from National Women in Industry Chairman

Reports from local Leagues of action on Proposed Plan of Work

Plans for Minnesota Delegation

Appointment of chairman of arrangements for delegation

Roll call of board members on attendance at convention

YOUNG VOTERS

Report of Miss Ely's tour in Minnesota

Status of organization in colleges

Report on Women in Public Office List - Mrs. C. E. Shafer

Request for action in support of renewal of Sheppard-Towner Act

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of representative upon advisory committee for Women's  
Department of the Minnesota State Fair

Plan for promoting inclusion of women in local jury panels in the state

copies  
30 copies  
All,  
Minnesota League of Women Voters  
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis  
March 1926

Sent Board members +  
local League chairman

3/13/26

with letter on next page

## THE SHEPPARD-TOWNER ACT

### FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE AND HYGIENE OF MATERNITY AND INFANCY

Note: The purpose of this statement is to bring together in one place facts and figures that are of interest in connection with efforts to assure a continuance of the benefits of the Sheppard-Towner Act, through a renewal of the federal appropriation by the present Congress. It is suggested that the pamphlet on Federal Aid (Number 3 in the series "Current Questions in Government") be studied in connection with this material.

#### Passage of the Sheppard-Towner Act

The Sheppard-Towner Act became a law in November, 1921. "The act is one of a long series of statutes granting aid from the federal treasury for agriculture, education, transportation, and the promotion of health. Its form is based primarily on that of the Smith-Lever Act for agricultural extension and of the Smith-Hughes Act for vocational training. All of these, like many of the activities of the national government, including practically the entire organization of the Department of Agriculture, depend primarily upon the authority given to Congress, in the Constitution, to promote the general welfare. The protection of maternity and infancy promoted by the statute is vital to the general welfare."

The act "was passed by the Congress in answer to a widespread demand on the part of the women of the nation that steps be taken to lessen the dangers of bearing and rearing children, attendant upon ignorance and isolation". \*

It provided for federal aid to the states for maternal and infant hygiene and authorized an appropriation for the five-year period from June 30, 1922 to June 30, 1927 of \$1,240,000. An outright grant of \$5000 was provided to each state accepting the act, \$50,000 was named as a reserve fund for federal administration, and the remaining \$710,000 was made available for apportionment to the states according to population, provided that the federal grant was matched by an equal amount appropriated by the state.

#### Administration of the Act

The administration of the act was to be by the states themselves, through the child hygiene divisions of the state boards of health. A board composed of the Chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, and the Commissioner of Education was named as a Federal Board of Maternity and Infant Hygiene to approve plans submitted for carrying on the work in the states. No money granted a state may be spent for buildings or rental, nor for subsidies to private organizations. The purpose of the act was to stimulate the states to provide for better infant and maternal care largely through educational activities such as those reported for Minnesota.

Funds under the act became available in March, 1922. A total of 43 states have accepted the terms of the act, most of them accepting in the legislative sessions of 1923. In 1924 the act was extended to Hawaii. The only states not carrying on work under the act now are Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Kansas.

Federal administration costs have been kept to a minimum. There are only 3 doctors, 3 nurses, 1 auditor and 3 clerks on the staff of the United States Children's Bureau, in the maternity and infancy division administering the act. Miss Grace Abbott, chief of the Children's Bureau, says: "We have conceived that our function was to be a clearing house of information for the States, in the first place getting from one state to another the experiences of each and trying to give information as to new discoveries in this field".

\*From "The Case for the Acceptance of the Sheppard-Towner Act", by Dorothy Kirchwey Brown, published by the National League of Women Voters (1922). Price 50¢



Infant and Maternal Mortality in the United States and Other Countries

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE means the number of deaths of babies under one year of age, per thousand born alive in a given year. Statistics compiled this January, covering 1924 or the last year for which official reports were available, show that the United States ranks eighth among the nations in infant mortality. Only 32 of our states are included in the birth registration area (dating from 1915) for which accurate figures are available. It seems certain, however, that there would be no improvement in this rate if figures for the whole country were known. The comparative figures are as follows:

New Zealand	40	Sweden	63
Norway	55	Irish Free State	69
The Netherlands	57	Switzerland	70
Australia	61	U. S. birth-registration area	71

The MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE means the number of deaths from causes connected with child-birth per thousand living births. The United States ranks seventeenth among the nations, according to the compilation of figures mentioned above. "It is only Chile that saves us from being at the bottom of the list." Norway leads with its rate of 2.2, while the United States at the other end of the list has a death rate among mothers of 6.6 per thousand.

Dr. William Travis Howard, Jr., of Johns Hopkins University, after studying the 1918 figures for the birth-registration area in the United States, said, "It is almost inconceivable that a community, large or small, inhabited by people of average intelligence and of relatively great wealth, would fail to apply remedies for such glaring and wholesale woman murder, as the data for the United States birth-registration area, properly studied, disclose".

Minnesota Accomplishments under the Sheppard-Towner Act

Minnesota had no organized child hygiene work before the passage of the Sheppard-Towner Act. The state program of work under the act dates from July 1, 1922. The legislature of 1923 appropriated \$15,000 a year for the biennium period between legislatures. This was not sufficient to match the maximum amount of federal aid available to Minnesota. The 1925 legislature, however, raised the appropriation to \$21,000 a year, thus securing the maximum federal allotment. Minnesota has also had the federal gift of \$5000 each year provided to states accepting the act.

The funds available from federal and state treasuries for maternity and infancy work in Minnesota for the two years from June 30, 1925 to June 30, 1927 are:

Federal aid	(\$21,000 a year)	\$42,000
State appropriation,	" " "	42,000
Federal grant	(5,000 a year)	10,000

It is interesting to compare the amount granted Minnesota in federal aid for maternity and infancy work with amounts granted for other purposes. The following percentages for 1925 show that the expenditure under the Sheppard-Towner Act is the smallest item in the total budget of more than 4½ million dollars received by Minnesota in federal aid during the past year.

Highways	67.5%
National Guard	22.0
Education	9.2
Forests and fire prevention	.7
Infancy and maternity	.6

The work financed by the combined funds shown above is carried on by the Division of Child Hygiene of our State Board of Health. There is, in addition to the director, Dr. Ruth E. Boynton, a staff made up of 1 supervising nurse, 3 field nurses, 1 pre-natal nurse, and 2 special Indian nurses to do work among the Indians, with 5 other nurses employed on a part-time basis.

The types of activities carried on in Minnesota are all educational in character, as was the intention of the framers of the Sheppard-Towner Act. The chief activities are listed on the next page.

### Minnesota Accomplishments (continued)

#### Correspondence Course in the Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy

A course of 15 weekly lessons on the hygiene of maternity and infancy was prepared as a means of reaching the mothers in rural districts. Questions to be answered in writing and sent in for correction accompany each lesson. During the two and a half years that this course has been offered, over 7000 women in Minnesota have registered for it. Of these women 80% are mothers of children under six years of age and 85% of them are themselves under 40 years of age. 78% of them live in 570 towns under 5000 in population. They are the rural women who have little opportunity for such instruction otherwise.

#### Pre-Natal Letters

Letters of advice and instruction are sent at monthly intervals to expectant mothers. In the two years from October 1923 to September 1925, a total of 2529 women have had these letters at the request of physicians, public health nurses or at their own request or that of friends.

The following letter indicates what this help means to the isolated mother:

My dear Friends: -

The nurse took my name at the county fair and asked if I would like to take the fifteen lessons. I agreed and she took my name and address. I got 4 lessons so far and thank you very much. But now my question must I or am I urged to answer these questions? I have not done so thus far but please don't stop any of your corresponding to me. I have two children 2 & 3 of age and expect another in two months from now. So you can imagine the reading matter helps me much. - - - - -

I have much work as we live on a 160 acre farm and rent 120 besides. My husband and I are trying to work this together. We milk eight cows together besides. I cut a lot of our grain this year. But now I feel I must rest.

I received your last two books (Prenatal Care and Infant Care). Many thanks for same. May I always ask questions if I feel I need them? I remain your (silent) pupil.

#### Pre-Natal Clinics or Conferences

Ten counties in which the maternal mortality was particularly high were chosen in the northern and in the southern parts of the state and clinics have been held at monthly intervals in various parts of these counties conducted by two well-known obstetricians. A nurse visits in the county in advance of the clinic and remains afterwards to see the individual women and make sure that they understand the necessity of keeping in touch with a local physician. A lecture by the physicians conducting the clinic to which all the women of the community are invited is part of the educational program of the clinic in the local community.

#### Demonstrations of Maternal and Infant Care

Demonstrations at clinics, at county fairs, at meetings of Farm Bureau women are given by the field nurses. These include a demonstration of proper bathing, dressing and feeding of infants and emphasis upon the importance to the mothers of medical supervision during the pre-natal period. Many mothers do not realize that physicians are prepared to give this supervision without prohibitive cost. 170 such demonstrations were given in 1925 besides 36 demonstrations at county fairs.

#### Little Mothers' Classes

A textbook for use in the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grades of the schools has been prepared by the Division of Child Hygiene. These classes are conducted by the local county or school nurse. It is estimated that some 6000 girls attended such classes in 1925.

#### Educational Material Distributed

In 1925, a total of 148,652 pieces of printed material were distributed not including the correspondence course and pre-natal letters. This educational material included diet cards for children of various ages, and pamphlets on habit-training for children and various other specialized forms of child care.



Present Legislative Status of the Sheppard-Towner Act

The Sheppard-Towner Act itself is a permanent statute but the appropriation authorized under one section of the act was for a five-year period ending June 30, 1927. During January bills were introduced into the Congress which are now under consideration by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

The Secretary of Labor, Honorable James J. Davis, wrote to the House committee on December 21, 1925:

"For the purpose of budget estimates next autumn and in order that the state legislatures meeting in January, 1927, may know what funds will be available, action with reference to this appropriation should be taken by the present Congress. I therefore submit for your consideration a proposal that would authorize continuing this appropriation for the fiscal years 1928 and 1929."

"As the work is just getting under way in the states, it would be very wasteful of the expenditures already made if the appropriations were not extended at this time. There is no more serious waste than the unnecessary deaths of infants and mothers in child-birth. The cooperation of all agencies, both public and private, in reducing this unnecessary loss is therefore justified."

On January 14 a hearing was held before the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Mrs. Maud Wood Park, legislative counsellor of the National League of Women Voters, arranged for the presentation of the facts by the proponents of the bill to extend the appropriation. The record of the hearing has now been published in pamphlet form and may be obtained by applying to your representative in Washington. It includes signed statements in support of the renewed appropriation, submitted by the officers of all the large national organizations of women.

On the question as to whether the two-year appropriation will end the need for federal cooperation in financing this work in the states, Miss Grace Abbott said:

"Of course that is for the committee to decide. I have no hesitation in saying that I am perfectly willing to come in at the end of two years and make a showing of work accomplished and of needs still existing. I do not believe that the two-year period will end the necessity for federal aid."

When questioned as to the specific length of time desirable for a continuance of federal aid, Miss Abbott tentatively named five years as the time that the government would without question need to continue the work. She added:

"I think there is no crop that the United States has which is so important as its children, and that we can afford to stay in it in order to reduce the infant and maternal mortality in the United States until we have placed United States where it ought to be in comparison with other countries."

Miss Abbott also said in the hearing:

"We think the act has been a success, in that the States have been responsible for their own plans, have originated and carried them out, so that the result of the act has been increased state responsibility for the health and hygiene of the mothers and children, and the strengthening of the State machinery for doing that, instead of weakening the machinery. The States, too, have encouraged and developed in their local communities responsibility for local work."

"A maternal and infant program is not like a sanitary program where you simply employ an expert to do the work. It has to be done by reaching every mother and the general public with a campaign of education as to what is scientific care. The response throughout the States has been very general, and there has been increased cooperation on the part of the women's organizations especially."

A. J. CHESLEY, M. D.  
Secretary and Executive Officer

MINNESOTA  
**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

DIVISION OF CHILD HYGIENE

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

RUTH E. BOYNTON, M. D.  
Director

RUTH HOULTON, R. N.  
Superintendent  
Public Health Nursing

COOPERATING WITH THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IN THE PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE AND HYGIENE OF MATERNITY AND INFANCY

SAMPLE COPY

No. 1

MY DEAR MRS.:

You have entered upon a very important period of your life, one that means a great deal, not only to you but to the little one who will come to live in your home. We want to help you in every way possible so that your baby may be strong and well and so you will be able to keep your health and go through labor in a natural, easy manner.

Upon the care that you give yourself now depends in a great measure your future health, as well as the health and happiness of your baby. We have registered you as one of the expectant mothers and shall send you monthly letters that we hope will be of help to you. Your County Health Officer or County Nurse will tell you about the course in the Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy which is open to you; or you may write directly to this office for information. It will tell you in more detail of how to take care of yourself and your baby when it comes.

**ENGAGE YOUR PHYSICIAN NOW:** It would be well for you to engage your physician now, so that you may have some one near to advise you whenever any question comes up as to your health. This is much better than asking advice of your friends and neighbors, who, though well meaning, may have entirely wrong ideas and give you the wrong advice. Just because a woman has had several children does not make her competent to advise others for she may have given her own children such improper care that several of them died or were sickly. Very many deaths among babies are due to improper care.

At any time that you notice any unusual occurrence or symptoms you should consult your physician at once. There are many disturbances of the general health which may be corrected by a little care, perhaps only a regulation of the diet, yet if this care is not given the condition may become serious.

**NAUSEA AND VOMITING,** generally called "morning sickness" because occurring upon rising, is common during pregnancy. It usually commences two or three weeks after the beginning of pregnancy, although some women are not troubled with this symptom at all. In any case, it usually disappears after the first three months.

Sometimes a few simple things will relieve this disorder. Every day take some exercise in the open air. Sleep with the windows open at night. Eat only light, easily digested food. A light breakfast in bed half an hour before rising has been found to be beneficial in many cases. Even a glass of hot milk or hot water taken at this time may be sufficient. An old-fashioned remedy for this condition is pop-corn. This may be taken at various times of the day (without butter) and usually can be retained when other foods cannot. If the vomiting should be very severe do not fail to consult your physician.

**DATE OF CONFINEMENT:** Unfortunately, we have no reliable means of estimating the exact date you may expect your little one. However, if you add seven days to the date of the beginning of your last menstrual period and count back three months you will come within a day or two of the time for confinement.

Very sincerely yours,

Director.



March 13th, 1926

Dear Local League Chairman:

The attached statement on the Sheppard-Towner Act is sent you, as promised, for use in Study Groups conducted by your League on the "Current Questions in Government" series, and for the information of your officers and directors.

Do you know how your representative in the Congress stands on the question of renewal of the Sheppard-Towner Act? Have you followed out the request in my letter of February 20th that letters in support of the renewed appropriation be sent to your congressman? If not, I hope that you will take the necessary action now to see that such letters are sent from officers and members of your League. May I suggest that you try to secure letters from those persons, especially physicians, who have had direct knowledge of the work done under the act in this state.

Additional copies of this statement may be ordered from our headquarters at a cost of five cents each.

Sincerely yours,

Marguerite M. Wells, President  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

*sent to list of 72*  
*15 Bould*  
*5 - St. Louis*  
*10 - Belford*

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*  
1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

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Miss Emily Child

March 19th,  
1926

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Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
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Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Dear Friend:

I am writing to ask you to consider the possibility of joining the Minnesota delegation to the National League of Women Voters Convention in St. Louis, April 14-21. I believe that you are one of the women in Minnesota who would be most interested in the opportunity offered at St. Louis for meeting with women from other parts of the country and for seeing and hearing the great women leaders who will be there.

The testimony of everyone that has attended a League convention in the past is that it is a unique educational experience. There is a proposed plan for holding conventions in future only once in two years, which makes it particularly desirable that we interest Minnesota women this year in this notable gathering of women not far from our own state.

In addition to delegates and alternates, there are to be "special visitors" from each state for whom seats on the convention floor will be provided and who will have a special committee, with Mrs. Caspar Whitney of New York as chairman, to look after their comfort. The program includes mass meetings on "The Progress of International Cooperation Toward Peace" and on "How Democracy Functions Through the Parties." In addition there are authoritative and interesting speakers on all the important subjects covered in the department and committee programs as well as some delightful social events planned for delegates. If you can consider attending, I will send you immediately the tentative convention program by days. Please let me know if you would like to have it.

A rate of a fare and a half is available for those attending the convention. It is possible to go by way of Chicago with no increase in the price of the ticket (\$20.74 one way, not including Pullman). Tickets may be purchased as early as April 7 and validated in St. Louis on April 28, thus allowing ample time for stopovers along the way. The Statler Hotel is to be the convention headquarters. We can supply you with a card listing the hotel rates and containing a blank form for you to fill out and forward in making your reservation.

I shall be glad to send you a credential entitling you to all the privileges of the convention if you will let me know immediately that there is a possibility of your going.

Sincerely yours,

MW:ms

President



Sent to 31 local League chairmen

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

March 24th,  
1926

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Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear

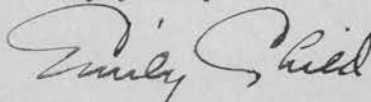
Some time ago - early in January - we sent you a questionnaire enclosed in Miss Wells' letter to League chairmen. I wonder if you have mislaid the questionnaire since it has not yet been returned to us.

I enclose a duplicate questionnaire with the very urgent request that you send it back by return mail, if possible. It helps so much to have this simple information on file in the office that I know you will wish to cooperate by supplying it. Even if all of the questions cannot be answered, I should be glad to know how much information is available on your membership, etc.

When you write, let me know please whether there is any advice or help that we can give your League. We are always interested in knowing your problems and hearing of your activities.

One other question - can you go to the National Convention in St. Louis April 14th to 21st? Or can you interest someone else in going? The trip can be made by way of Chicago for the same fare as direct, with a special rate of a fare and a half for convention delegates. Miss Wells would appreciate so much having someone in the Minnesota delegation from your community. It would, I feel sure, be a thrilling experience for any woman. Please write us about possibilities.

Very sincerely yours,



Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC okc  
Enc.

MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, March 17th, 1926

2:30 P. M.

Present: Mrs. Ueland, presiding; Miss Wells; Mrs. Caswell, representing the American Legion Auxiliary and the Council of Americanization Agencies; Mrs. Denny of the Minneapolis League; Miss Kercher, chairman of the Law Enforcement Committee of the Minnesota League; Mrs. Griswold of the W.C.T.U.; Mrs. Halpern of the Council of Jewish Women; Miss Pratt of the Women's Cooperative Alliance; Mrs. Spafford of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs; and Miss Child, secretary. In addition there were present Mrs. Quint; Mrs. Kreiner, Mrs. Bessessen, Miss Watkins, Miss Beggin, Miss Schutz, Miss Essee, and Miss Burton.

Mrs. Ueland announced the subject for discussion as the enforcement of Employment Laws administered by the Minnesota Industrial Commission. She introduced Miss Louise Schutz, superintendent of the Division of Women and Children in the Commission, as the first speaker.

Minimum Wage Law

Miss Schutz said that for more than a year past, the effort has been made to go into small towns in the state to check up on the enforcement of labor laws affecting women and children. The earlier work was confined to the larger cities. It is part of the routine business of the division to send for and inspect payrolls and to send out investigators in instances where the law is not complied with. Some 25 hundred payrolls were examined before Christmas of last year. It has been possible to succeed in getting such reports from every employer to whom the request is made.

The most difficult law enforcement problems arise in the small towns rather than in the cities. There is a feeling on the part of some that the laws are all right for city workers but that they should not apply in the smaller communities. The county attorney is the one whom the commission must consult in regard to swearing out a complaint against persistent violators. Representatives of the commission sometimes have good cooperation from the county attorney and sometimes not.

They usually call at local newspaper offices in every town visited and leave with the editor a printed resume of the law. The editor often asks the investigator as to conditions found in the town and publishes a brief interview. Adverse publicity has appeared in state papers, notably in two instances. An article in criticism of the law appeared in a Thief River Falls paper some time ago and left its imprint upon public opinion in that part of the state. An article in the St. James Plain-Dealer, in September 1924, was also directed against enforcement of the law in small communities.

Compulsory Attendance Law

Miss Schutz explained that, as its staff is so limited, the commission does not feel that it should be called upon in cases of violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law, until after the County Superintendent of Schools has tried and failed to get cooperation from the parents and from the county attorney. They are then often able to accomplish something when local officers have failed. Not many requests are cleared to them, however, since county superintendents are so swamped with work that they cannot follow up individual attendance cases as closely as they would like.

Representatives of the commission get in touch with members of the local county Child Welfare Board, with leading club women, with workers employed by the Red Cross in the county etc. when they visit a community. They stand ready to give talks, whenever this can be arranged, in the various towns of the state, to explain the laws which the commission enforces.

Miss Schutz explained that although the Minimum Wage Law as it applies to adult women is no longer enforced, it is still necessary to inspect payrolls for data applying to minors and the time involved is no less than before.

Miss Schutz introduced Miss Florence Burton, one of the investigators in the field, who continued the discussion. Miss Burton said that investigators are expected to oversee working conditions, wages, hours, and sanitation in the places



that they visit. A very fine spirit is shown by most employers. Large concerns are often not affected by the provisions of the Minimum Wage Law since they find it good business to pay wages that are equal to or in advance of the minimum wage. There have been a few instances of difficulty in gaining the cooperation of employers in keeping required records, necessitating court cases. This is, however, the exception rather than the rule.

When it is found that violations of the law in payment of the minimum wage have occurred, the wage order is sent out by registered mail to the employer. There have been but two cases since the law became effective July 1, 1921 where the commission has failed to secure wage adjustment although it has been necessary to bring pressure to bear in some instances. The feature of the law holding the employer responsible if the registered letter was receipted is very effective. In 1923 an amendment to the law provided that newspaper publication of wage orders should have the same effect as an individual notice to employers. No wage rulings have been made, however, since the passage of the amendment.

It is noteworthy that in towns where wage adjustments have been made, there has been no unfriendly feeling on the part of the employer. On the contrary, there often seems to be a feeling of pride in responding to the commission's notice. Many employers have declared their belief in the Minimum Wage Law as it has operated.

#### Fifty-Four Hour Law

Miss Burton said that the most difficulty has been met in getting employers to understand the hour law. In towns under 25,000 a twelve-hour day in stores on Saturday was the rule before the passage of the law. Midnight was often the closing hour on Saturday, whereas now the same towns have a closing hour of 9:30 P.M. Many employers are glad to close their stores and get away themselves at this hour with no competition from other stores that remain open longer.

This law involves the education of public opinion almost more than any other. Miss Burton stated that it would seem to her inadvisable to try for any more drastic hour legislation until there has been great advance in the favorable attitude of employers toward the present  $9\frac{1}{2}$  hour law.

In the last two years towns of a thousand and more have been visited in the state. The success in prosecuting violations of the law in each community depends largely on the county attorney. In general county attorneys have not been very willing to take charge of cases involving the enforcement of these laws.

Miss Wells asked whether it would seem desirable to make the law more flexible so that a working day of longer than  $9\frac{1}{2}$  hours would be permitted if the total weekly hours did not exceed fifty-four. Miss Schutz thought such a change not advisable since the days when the longer hours would be required are the days on which the employees are busiest. Miss Wells then reminded the Council that there had been a long conference on this point before the law was drawn up and that a group of rural women consulted, who at first thought the  $9\frac{1}{2}$  hour limit too drastic for small towns, had finally decided that it was a desirable provision in the law.

Mrs. Dietrichson asked whether the apprenticeship period of nine months specified in the law was too long. Miss Schutz said that it is sometimes too long and sometimes too short. Many employers do not observe it in their wage payments but pay the full wage before it is due. Mrs. Dietrichson asked if different apprenticeship periods could not be established for different industries. Miss Schutz thought this might be done for large groups of workers and, in answer to a further question from Mrs. Dietrichson, thought that a request covering this point might be brought to the attention of the commission.

Miss Schutz then introduced Miss Esse who said that laundries particularly object that before holidays it is necessary to work more than  $9\frac{1}{2}$  hours in one day. She thought there would be an attempt by the association of laundry men to amend the law at the next session of the legislature to allow longer hours of work in one day.

Child Labor Laws

Miss Esce then spoke of Child Labor Laws saying that there is little difficulty in the enforcement of these laws since the school boards are very cooperative. There have, however, been several prosecutions for violation of the provision prohibiting children under 16 from working after 7:00 P.M.

The insurance companies have assisted in giving publicity to the provisions of the laws by sending out pamphlets to employers.

Section 10 of the Child Labor Law, governing the participation of children in theatrical performances, is not as clear as it might be. The Women's Cooperative Alliance is planning to make a study of theatrical children to learn what may be the results of their occupation. The mayor in Minneapolis has refused to give permits to children to appear in theatrical entertainments upon school nights.

Miss Esce said, in reply to questions, that most of the children employed in beet sugar fields in Minnesota are Mexicans. The children of German-American farmers in certain sections of the state work in the beet fields. Living conditions for the beet workers are sometimes very good but more often they are bad.

There followed general discussion of the present situation in regard to the Minimum Wage Law. Miss Wells called attention to the fact that such laws are partly for the benefit of the enlightened employer who is thus protected from competition with less progressive employers. Miss Schutz referred to the opinion secured by the commission from the attorney-general's office of the state in June 1925-following questioning on this point by certain employers as a result of certain Supreme Court decisions-that the sections of the Minimum Wage Law applying to adult women were unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable. She said that this fact has only recently been called to the attention of employers by the employers' organization in the state. They have continued, and in a majority of cases will probably continue, to live up to the provisions of the law and have even made wage adjustments in the last few months. Mrs. Spafford asked if it is not, after all, largely a question of educating the public to the benefits of such laws.

Mrs. Dietrichson quoted Mrs. Gordon of the Woman's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor as recommending keeping the law as it is for minors and revising the sections applying to adult women to follow the non-mandatory provisions of the Massachusetts law, since this is probably the only form of Minimum Wage legislation that is now possible.

Miss Schutz suggested that the law might be changed to provide that women become of age at 21 instead of 18, as at present.

Miss Kercher suggested that a request be addressed to the various officials that have spoken to the Council members in the program of meetings on law enforcement, asking them to inform us from time to time of their itineraries in the state in order that group meetings might be arranged outside the Twin Cities in case plans for meetings could be made to coincide with their visits. Mrs. Ueland suggested that the follow-up of this plan be left with Miss Kercher who will write the necessary letters.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary



M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
March 12th, 1926

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the headquarters of the Ramsey County League of Women Voters, 328 Cedar Street, St. Paul, on Friday, March 12th, 1926. The meeting was called to order at 10:38 A. M., Miss Wells presiding.

The following members of the State Board were present: Miss Wells, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Marble, Mrs. Spear, Mrs. Dowling, Miss Monahan, Miss Kercher, and Mrs. Colby. Other Minneapolis guests present were Mrs. Schafer, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Collins, and Miss Child. Members of the Ramsey County Board attending were Mrs. Noyes, Mrs. White, Mrs. Guise, Mrs. Schwartz, Mrs. Schons, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Day, Mrs. Herbert, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Hannaford, Mrs. Burt, Mrs. Holman, Miss Williams, and Miss Lusk. Ward chairmen present were Mrs. Lott, Mrs. Keegan, Mrs. Fredine, Mrs. Henry Smith, Mrs. Michaud, Mrs. William Smith; there were also present Mrs. Schlick, Miss Benz, and Miss Jennings.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported a balance February 1st, of \$572.45. Total receipts during the month amounted to \$835.01 of which \$517.09 was received in quotas from the several districts and \$102.75 from the "Woman Voter"; disbursements for the month totaled \$817.83 which effected a balance of \$589.61 March 1st. Mrs. Cant also read the amount in bills payable March 1st as \$892.26. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Spear, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and the bills allowed.

Mrs. Cant reported to the Board that there was a balance of \$351.00 payable on the National quota, due March 31st. Mrs. White reported that the Ramsey County League could be counted on for two \$100 national memberships, which would cut the amount to be raised to \$251.00.

Mrs. Ueland said that since only half of what is collected can be used for National quota payments, the sum actually needed is \$500.00 rather than \$250.00. She made personal responsibility in such a crisis the basis of a plea for funds large or small. Minnesota has never failed to meet its National pledge and must not fail this year!

The Woman Voter

Miss Child reported a page and three-eighths of advertising secured for the March issue. The question of soliciting ads from candidates was brought up late in February by the printer and referred by the state League to the Executive Committee of the Ramsey County League since the primary election in St. Paul was then approaching. It decided against authorizing such solicitation and the state League Executive Committee agreed in the decision.

Miss Child made two suggestions for securing advertising in compensation to Mr. Keller: 1) Through individual effort of Board members to secure ads; 2) Through special local League issues of the Voter - particularly adaptable to larger towns like Duluth and Winona - which would (1) feature the local League with a page similar to "Minneapolis Milestones"; (2) give the picture of the local president on the cover; (3) make it possible to approach local merchants for advertising in that special issue.

Both plans were well received by the Board. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Monahan, second of Mrs. Cant, that each Board member attempt to secure one advertisement for the Woman Voter.

Legislative Council Membership

Miss Child reported the new representatives appointed by various state organizations to the Legislative Council, as a result of effort to bring the membership list up to date. They are: Miss Elizabeth Fish of the Minnesota Education Association; Mrs. James Paige of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs; Professor R. Justin Miller of the Minnesota Committee on Social Legislation; Miss Harriet Vancie of the Y.W.C.A.; Mrs. F. B. Spafford of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Samuel Halpern of the Council of Jewish Women; and Mrs. K. E. Moe of the Council of

Americanization Agencies. Appointments are still pending from the Minnesota Parent-Teacher Association, The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, and the Minnesota American Legion Auxiliary.

A few words of explanation about the Council were added by the Chairman. It is merely an advisory body, she said, organized by the League. Actually the League of Women Voters has accepted all its recommendations. Other organizations are free to accept or not and are never quoted as responsible for Council recommendations unless they have definitely adopted the recommendation in question. The Council does not function just as the Joint Congressional Committee does at Washington.

Miss Child recommended that the Rural Advisory Committee of the Council be checked over and that those not actively interested be replaced by new members. Mrs. Ueland suggested that a letter be sent to members of the committee and the list revised on the basis of replies received.

Mrs. Ueland reported upon the series of meetings being held by the Council to discuss the enforcement of all laws supported by the League in past legislative sessions. Three meetings have already been held and a fourth will end the series.

#### Study Groups

Miss Child stated that there are 21 study groups in the state using the "Current Questions in Government" pamphlets. She also reported that a study outline for six meetings on the Child Labor Amendment, prepared by the National League, has been sent to all our County Child Welfare Chairmen asking them to form study groups. Excellent response has been received and 15 study groups are already under way. The outline was also sent to members of the Rural Advisory Committee of the Council with the same request.

Miss Wells asked for information from Board members as to comments or discussion they may have heard recently representing sentiment on the Child Labor Amendment. Objections were quoted to the wording such as "age limit being too high", etc. One woman reported an awakened recognition of the fact that much of the adverse propaganda came from prejudiced sources. Another reported her father as having definitely changed from an unfavorable to a favorable position. Otherwise the consensus of opinion was that men in general are absolutely opposed to the amendment, with no change for the better in their attitude.

#### Wadsworth-Garrett Amendment

In the absence of Mrs. Wittich, Miss Wells reported on the Committee Hearing recently held in Washington, which Mr. Wells attended. It seems to have been considered with a good deal of favor by the committee. Miss Wells commented on the oddity of a situation where, in the face of the most profound governmental change ever proposed, the bulk of the interest lies with women.

Miss Wells urged an interview with at least one opinion-making person by every Board member each month. The National League leaflet on the amendment may be given to those interviewed. Reports will be called for at future board meetings. There has so far been only one Associated Press release on the amendment in Minnesota. People are in general wholly uninformed.

#### National Convention

Nominations to fill two possible new national vice-presidencies were left without any action by the Board owing to lack of information concerning qualified persons available for these offices.

In connection with discussion of the question of biennial instead of annual conventions of the National League, a letter from Miss Gladys Harrison was read reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of each plan. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Marble, second of Miss Monahan, that the State of Minnesota recommend to the Convention the adoption of the biennial Convention. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Monahan, second of Mrs. Marble, that Minnesota recommend to the Convention that the Council be enlarged and that its meetings be held annually.

Miss Wells urged the importance of attendance at the Convention Committee Conferences by state chairmen, and of choosing highly capable substitutes in the event of their not being able to attend. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Cant, second of Mrs. Spear, that the Executive Committee, in consultation with the state chairmen, select delegates to represent absent chairmen at the National Convention.



Miss Wells referred to the discussion at the last board meeting on retaining the Minimum Wage in the legislative program of the Committee on Women in Industry. Miss Kercher was asked to review the court decisions that effect this law. A letter from Miss Carroll, national League committee chairman, to Mrs. Dietrichson was read saying, "I don't know what I think about the idea of legislative support of the principle of the Minimum Wage until the personnel of the Supreme Court changes."

Mrs. Bryan reported the Minneapolis League's recommendation to have the Minimum Wage again included under items for legislation in the National Plan of Work. The State Board again went on record as favoring the placing of the Minimum Wage under legislative recommendations on the National Program.

Plans for the National Convention Delegation included Miss Child's statement of rates and estimates of total expenses and Miss Wells' roll call of board members on attendance which resulted in Mrs. Marble, Mrs. White, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Dowling, and Miss Jennings' being placed on the list of delegates.

#### Report of Miss Ely's Tour

Miss Child reported on Miss Ely's trip to Minnesota, which included visits to Winona, Rochester, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Cloud, Duluth and Moorhead. College Leagues were organized at Winona and Moorhead.

Mrs. Schlick reported on Miss Ely's visit in St. Paul where three important meetings were held: luncheon at the St. Paul for Old and New Voters, the Hamline Chapel Meeting for college students, the meeting at the Agricultural College for University girls in the Home Economics Department.

Mrs. Bryan reported Miss Ely's Minneapolis visit during which there took place a dinner for 100 Y.W.C.A. and other working girls, a luncheon for 20 Junior League girls at the home of Mrs. McKnight, and a tea at Mrs. Wittich's home for a group of 40 University girls.

Mrs. Spear reported Miss Ely's visit to Duluth where the Board members gave a luncheon for her and where a dinner was planned for 150 college and business girls.

#### List of Women in Public Office

Mrs. C. E. Schafer read an interesting report of Women in Public Office in Minnesota based on inquiries sent out to 87 counties, 65 of which have replied. The report is not yet completed.

#### Renewal of Sheppard-Towner Act

Before requesting action in support of the renewal of the Sheppard-Towner Act, Miss Wells read entertaining extracts from the printed record of the Hearing of the House Committee on the Act. She urged the members of the Board to write their Senators and have others write regarding the support of the renewal of this Act.

Miss Child stated that a mimeographed statement on the Sheppard-Towner Act is now ready to be sent out to all local Leagues for their information and use in stimulating group action, letters, etc.

#### New Business

The resignation of Mrs. Harley Treloar was read by the secretary. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Monahan, second of Mrs. Dowling, that Mrs. Treloar's resignation as First District Vice-President be accepted with regret.

A letter from Mrs. Cavanor regarding appointment of a representative to the Advisory Committee for the Women's Department of the Minnesota State Fair was read by the secretary. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Ueland, second of Mrs. Marble, that the Executive Committee make the appointment.

A plan for promoting the naming of women in local jury panels was proposed by Miss Monahan who recommended a systematic inquiry at county seats by local Leagues to determine whether women's names are really handed in or simply not used when drawn. Mrs. Dowling reported for Renville County that women are on jury panels in every term of Court.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Gage Colby, Secretary

Letter 173

ROUND ROBIN

No. 16 Fifth Region, National League of Women Voters April 2, 1926

IOWA

Iowa reports a very successful annual convention. Mrs. Clarence Knutson, of Clear Lake, was elected president, and Mrs. F A Stromsten, Iowa City, Mrs. P S Irvine, Davenport, Mrs. Oscar Ruff, Sioux City, and Miss Ruth Rosenfield, Des Moines were elected vice presidents. Mrs. Stromsten is to be in charge of Get-Out-the-Vote activities, Mrs. Irvine of Organization, Mrs. Ruff of Finance, and Miss Rosenfield of New Voters activities.

MONTANA

At a recent Great Falls meeting to study taxation and school finance, six cars of women attended from Cascade and Belt. It is only in Montana that winter weather permits of so much travel by automobile.

A revised issue of Mrs. E K Bowman's Peace Primer has just been published. Anna Steese Richardson says of it, "Your World Peace Primer is such a worth-while little book that I am giving it two notices in the Woman's Home Companion. We also want to send it out in our package libraries."

NORTH DAKOTA

A group of women in Minot are holding a series of three meetings to study the program and methods of the League of Women Voters in order to determine whether or not they wish to organize a League. Women who are so thorough will be a great addition if they decide to organize.

SOUTH DAKOTA

At a recent silver tea under the auspices of the Pierre League, Mr. J J Murphy of the Railroad Commission gave an address on the function of that department. The League is studying State departments and at different meetings heads of the various departments address them.

ST. LOUIS CONVENTION

It is expected that every organized state in the Region will be represented by its president at the convention - unless Dr. Peake of North Dakota fails us.

Mrs. Juhl L Pyle, the South Dakota veteran, will head her delegation in which Mrs. E W Feige will represent Huron and Mrs. G B Tuttle, Mitchell. Others who are expected from South Dakota are: Mrs. W J McClarrinan, and Mrs. H R Dennis, Sioux Falls, Miss Dorothy Rehfeld, Aberdeen, and Mrs. C H Dillon, Pierre.

Mrs. J A Poppler, a member of the National Committee on Nominations, will head North Dakota's delegation, in case Dr. Peake is unable to attend.

Mrs. Clarence Knutson, newly elected president of the Iowa League, will head what promises to be a large delegation from Iowa.

Miss Marguerite Wells will head a delegation of about 25 members from Minnesota in which will be presidents of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth and Winona Leagues.

Mrs. J E Patton will represent Montana.

The Department and Committee Conferences this year have been more than usually fortunate in the speakers they have secured to present the various League measures. Dean Isador Loeb, for instance, on Federal Aid, Prof. Raymond Moley on Citizen Education, Prof. Joseph P Harris, of the University of Wisconsin, on Methods of Facilitating Voting, Prof. Paul Douglas, States' Rights and National Responsibility.

The most practical session of every League convention is the inevitable "Women in Public Office" program. Everybody is keen to hear the recently elected New York alderman about whom there has been so much newspaper publicity - Mrs. John T Pratt. She and Miss Marie Wing, member of the Cleveland Council, will speak, and also Mrs. J Paul Goode, as witty as she is wise, member of the Illinois Legislature.

Then there is the Peace mass meeting, the Political mass meeting, the League's own meeting with its presidents - Miss Sherwin, Mrs. Park, Mrs. Catt!

And St. Louis is preparing to entertain us as we have scarcely ever been entertained before - And the Young Voter's great event - And the Finance stunt - Wait Will you see!!!



75 copies

ROUND TABLE ON LOCAL LEAGUES IN COMMUNITIES UNDER 10,000

National League of Women Voters Convention April 19, 1926

How to Bring the Program Home to the Member

In preparation for meetings to bring the program home to the member:

1. How much local organization is needed? Department chairmen?
2. What assistance is needed from State headquarters? Outlines?  
Form of material? Conferences? Monthly bulletin?

Meetings to bring the program home to the member:

1. What type of meetings best?  
General monthly meeting of membership, each member sharing  
in year's program?  
Several small study groups?  
One-day School? (follow-up of above?)  
Institute of Government in cooperation with a college?  
Large general meeting with outside speaker?
2. How many meetings?

Special methods and helps:

1. Survey of study in advance by department chairmen.
2. Agenda for meetings, including reading of all letters from  
headquarters.
3. Informal discussion.
4. Reviews and tests; questions prepared and papers corrected  
by headquarters.
5. Adequate publicity on program before and after.
6. Individual projects requiring interview, observation, study.
7. Members speaking on program before other organizations.
8. Contests - clippings, completing sentences, etc.
9. Jobs to be done by individuals:  
Carrying petitions  
Taking charge of county fair exhibits  
Writing letters, calling for action, etc.

ST. LOUIS CONVENTION

The Fifth Region was proud to be represented at the St. Louis convention by the presidents of four of the states and the vice-president of one: Mrs. John L. Pyle, president of South Dakota, Mrs. Clarence Knutson of Iowa, Mrs. J. E. Patton of Montana, Miss Marguerite Wells of Minnesota, and Mrs. J. A. Poppler, vice president of North Dakota. Other members of the South Dakota delegation were Mrs. G. B. Tuttle, Mrs. E. W. Feige, Mrs. E. H. Bryan, Mrs. R. H. Dennis. In addition to Mrs. Knutson, Iowa was represented by Mrs. Fred Hunter, Mrs. Max Mayer, Miss Ruth Rosenfield, Dr. Zella White Stewart, Mrs. C. E. Seashore, Mrs. R. H. Volland, Mrs. A. R. Sale, and Mrs. H. S. VanAlstyne. There were 27 delegates and alternates from Minnesota.

Prominent on the program from the Fifth Region were: Mrs. J. A. Poppler, North Dakota, who served on the Nominating Committee; Miss Ruth Rosenfield, Iowa, who acted as chairman of the committee on resolutions of courtesy; Mrs. Geo. B. Tuttle, South Dakota, who gave an address on A Woman's View of the Farm Problem at the open conference of the Living Costs Committee; Miss Emily Child, Minnesota, who spoke at the open conference on Citizenship Schools; Miss Marguerite Wells, who spoke at the session of the convention devoted to Efficiency in Government; Mrs. J. E. Patton, Montana, who spoke on Developing a New State Organization at a round table on organization; Mrs. J. A. Poppler, again at a round table on organization; Mrs. C. S. Roulo, Minnesota, on Extending Organization; Mrs. T. A. Pederson and Miss Margaret Beggin, of Minnesota, who spoke at the round table on local leagues; Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minnesota, under whose auspices the \$90,000 was raised at the famous Good Citizenship bond sale, feature of the Gala Finance Banquet.

"I enjoyed the convention immensely and feel that the Regional meeting was quite the outstanding occasion." This comment from an Iowa delegate is typical of the pleasure many have expressed in our own Regional luncheon. We discussed everything there and learned from each other. Mrs. James McCluney, St. Louis hostess to the Region, added to our enjoyment of that occasion by her presence.

The name of North Dakota was read at the head of the honor list of state Leagues paying last year's quota in full and at regular intervals.

MONTANA

A new League has been organized at Neihart with Mrs. Florence McLaughlin as president.

Mrs. Robert Pauline is the newly elected president of the Kalispell League. Mrs. C. W. Short, retiring president, has lost none of her interest in the League, but has had to resign from all active offices in order to take a year's rest.

The following is the kind of enthusiastic paragraph into which routine League letters are likely to burst: "I think our women are wonderful women, and no matter what our problems are will forge ahead through all sorts of discouragements." It comes from a local League in Montana.

MINNESOTA

To the St. Cloud League belongs the honor of holding the first of the contemplated Institutes of Government and Politics to be held this year by local Leagues in cooperation with State Teachers Colleges. The general theme is to be the expansion of government, presented by Miss Marguerite Wells, followed by sessions on Taxation and Financing, to be given by Prof. R. G. Blekey of the University of Minnesota, and Mr. Harvey Walker of the Municipal Research Bureau of the University Extension Service. There will also be a round/ on Federal Aid.

It will be bad news to Mrs. Parkes' many friends in the region that she is at St. Mary's Hospital at Rochester. However, Mr. Parkes reports her condition, after an operation, as "very encouraging".

The Minneapolis League will hold a post-convention luncheon May 8th and the St. Paul League May 13th, at which delegates to St. Louis will report their impressions. These luncheons held after National conventions have become the most popular of all the year bringing to stay-at-home members, as they do, a vivid picture of the growing and developing National League.



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Harley Treloar, Leroy, First District  
Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. George H. Spear, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight  
Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant  
Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Diendonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 5th,  
1926

Dear Staff Worker:

At the staff conference held in connection with the St. Louis convention on April 14, it was proposed to suggest to the National League Board a plan for League training for staff workers. A committee was appointed to draft a plan which was reported at a second meeting of staff workers on April 19.

It was decided at that time to postpone submission of the plan to the National League Board pending its careful consideration by individual members of the group of staff workers in national, state, and local League headquarters.

I enclose the plan as suggested by the sub-committee of the staff conference. Will you send me as promptly as possible your statement as to whether you approve of this plan -

- 1) From your viewpoint as a staff worker
- 2) From the viewpoint of its practicability as applied to your League?

Your comments and suggestions, somewhat in detail, are invited as a basis for further work upon the plan.

You may be in touch with staff workers whose names have not been given me and who will, therefore, fail to receive this letter. I shall be glad to have you send me word of them in order that I may make sure that the letter and suggested plan reaches everyone who would be interested in discussing it.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Minnesota League of Women Voters

EC-ms  
Enc.

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Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

May 11th,  
1926

My dear Board Member: -

The May meeting of the state board will be held in Winona on Friday, May 21st. Mrs. O M Botsford, chairman of the Winona League, will open her house for the meeting and members of the local League board are invited to attend.

The program for the day will include a public luncheon at the Hotel Winona, with Miss Wells presiding and with talks on the St. Louis convention.

The board meeting is called for 10:00 a.m., and will be adjourned in time to allow members to return to the Twin Cities on the train leaving Winona at 6:10 p. m. (arriving in Minneapolis at 9:45 p.m.) It will be necessary for board members to go to Winona Thursday evening in order to attend the morning session of the board. There are trains from Minneapolis at 6:15 p.m. and 8:50 p.m. arriving in Winona three and a half hours later. We shall be glad to make a reservation for you at the Hotel Winona for Thursday night if you request us to do so.

Miss Wells wishes to remind you that the reason for carrying this board meeting to other cities than Minneapolis has often been discussed by members who agree in feeling that it is a most effective way of giving aid and inspiration to local Leagues, and that it is only on the understanding that each member will feel a responsibility for making the necessary sacrifice to be present, that such a meeting has been arranged.

May I also remind you of her request, made at the last board meeting, that you seek to learn the sentiment of people in your community on the subject of the Child Labor Amendment and be prepared to report it at the board meeting.

Mrs. Botsford would like to hear as early as possible how many board members will come to Winona. It will help us very much in making our plans if you will let us know immediately whether we can count on your presence for the entire board meeting. Those who will drive to Winona and who have places for others are asked to notify us as soon as possible since this may make it possible for some to go to Winona who would otherwise find it difficult to go.

Very sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC ckc



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Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby

Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

May 13th,  
1926

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
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Mrs. Barry N. Collins

Dear Local League Chairman: -

The direct primary for the nomination of county, state and congressional candidates occurs, as you know, on Monday, June 21st. This is the day upon which the voter names the men and women for whom he may vote at the general election on November 2nd. All students of government agree that the primary election is the most significant event in the voting year and the time when our best efforts should be put forth to urge the voters' use of the ballot.

What has your League planned to do to Get-Out-the-Vote on June 21st? These are the steps I suggest being taken if plans are not already underway:

1. Call an immediate meeting of your board of directors to discuss plans for stimulating an interest in the Primary Election.
2. Arrange for candidates' meetings at which all candidates for given offices have an opportunity to address the voters. The League of Women Voters has been a pioneer in presenting candidates of all parties to the voters in this way, and it is one of the chief services a local League can offer in the community.
3. Hold a meeting of your League membership at which especially appointed leaders present the general facts on the Direct Primary contained in the enclosed articles.
4. Suggest the use of the enclosed and other reference material on the Direct Primary to study groups that have used the "Current Questions in Government" pamphlets and to especially formed round-table groups that will meet between now and June 21st.
5. Have letters written for your local newspapers calling attention to the importance of voting on June 21st and incorporating some of the facts about the Direct Primary given in the study material suggested.
6. Have voters reminded of their duty to vote by announcements in the churches on the day before, by newspaper publicity, by telephone squads and by other methods that you may have found successful locally.

I prophesy that you will find the information about the history of the Direct Primary and its substitution for the convention system of nomination one of the most interesting and dramatic subjects you have ever considered. I shall hope that at least every League board member will become familiar with the material suggested for study and that it may be used in study groups in addition, at this time when consideration of the subject is so opportune.

Study Material Enclosed

The Question of the Primary, by Dorothy Canfield Fisher  
(Additional copies 3¢ each)

Primary or Convention - (Additional copies free of charge as long  
as limited supply lasts)

Printed leaflets on the Direct Primary  
(Additional copies 1¢ for the two leaflets)

Additional material which may be ordered from us

The Convention and the Primary - Their Strength and Weakness  
By Charles E Merriam of the University of Chicago

Printed pamphlet - 21 pages - Price 5 cents

Minnesota Election Laws

Printed pamphlet - 46 pages - Price 10 cents  
(See pp. 17 and 18 on the "Primary Election")

I shall very much appreciate hearing from you what action you take to carry out the suggestions in this letter.

Very sincerely yours,

*Marguerite M. Wells*

Marguerite M Wells,  
President

EC ckc  
4 encls.



Minnesota League of Women Voters,  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis,  
May 1926

# THE QUESTION OF THE PRIMARY

By  
Dorothy Canfield Fisher

I have made no special study of the primary. Like the vast majority of voters both men and women, I give as much time as possible to my personal affairs and grudge a few hours a year to what concerns us all. But some public questions refuse to be ignored and lately some of the persistent attempts to repeal the direct primary law have failed by such narrow margins that even I (faint-hearted politician as I am) have felt myself forced to consider the question and try to form an opinion.

The question seems to me one of expedience rather than of moral principle; a choice between devices for getting nominated candidates for whom the people want to vote, rather than a question of right or wrong. \* \* We may as well admit that the primary has not come anywhere near accomplishing all its sponsors claimed for it. Naturally in their enthusiasm they claimed too much. It has not purified and ennobled political life. Political life has a way of staying at about the moral level of the people who are habitually concerned with it. But of course machinery can help or hinder. So far as it has had an influence, has the primary been helpful or the reverse?

Well, I suppose the burden of proof is on the defense. Let us consider the main reasons put forth why we should give up the primary and return to the party caucus-convention system. Some extremists claim that under the primary the ability of office-holders has declined. To this there is nothing to say except that I do not think it is true. I have heard no evidence to support it except the naive device of naming a few of the remarkably gifted men who from time to time at rather long intervals have sometimes graced our public life and asking, "Have we any men of such calibre today?" The inference being that if we have not, the fault is with the primary. As to the fact, I am not sure. We have had some pretty strong men in politics during the past ten years. But even supposing there are now no first rate statesmen, does that prove that the primary is in any way to blame? Look over the record of the office-holders in the past. What a low percentage of lions, what long stretches of mediocrities, all selected by the caucus and convention! Under any political system great men in office are scarce. The best we can hope for is a fair average not below the mediocre general human level.

Perhaps we ought also to note the complaint of the farmers and farmers' wives that nowadays they have to waste their time going twice to the polls. Yes, it's a bother. Self government is a bother, like all forms of responsibility, and cannot be achieved without giving time and thought to it. It is a bother to vote at all. But of what use is your vote unless you have a voice in choosing the candidate you are to vote for? You can't have any influence in choosing the candidate unless you vote either at a caucus or a primary, and surely the primary is less bother than the caucus. Surely it takes less time than to attend a party caucus, let alone being a delegate at a state or county convention. The real point here is that most ordinary people never did bother to go to the caucus, and this left the nomination of the candidates in the hands of the few whose self-interest overcame their inertia.

But there are other more reasonable complaints and chief of them is the contention that the primary is a rich man's game. Campaign costs have to be reported under the primary. In the old days there was no publicity. I imagine it may be true that even perfectly legitimate publicity may cost so much that some worthy men are kept out of the campaign. But the advantage of the rich man over the poor man is no new creation of the primary law. Back in the good old days when United States senators were nominated by party conventions and chosen by the state legislatures there were plenty of campaigns when money was used, and not used merely in securing publicity. Certainly under the primary, while large amounts of money are sometimes spent, it is encouraging to note that men with little money but plenty of character have gone up from one position to another, gaining prestige and popularity at every stage, and have at last reached the highest offices. Since these are the sort of men we want, and since no system has ever been successful in eliminating the rich man's trying to buy his way into office, nobody can make me believe that the primary favors the rich man any more than the caucus did. \* \* \* \*

Another objection often brought up is that the average voter is not well enough informed to choose between candidates. The average voter goes to the voting booth at the primary election, he sees a long list of names of which he knows only one or two "How", asks the lover of the caucus system, "can he vote intelligently?" To be sure the average voter is in exactly the same dilemma on election day, but then if he is a good party man, he does not need to bother his head about the worth of the various candidates. Can he not make his mark under the party emblem and go home with a quiet conscience? Whereas at the primary election he is overwhelmed with the responsibility, apparently too much to ask of a free-born citizen, of making up his own mind. \* \* \*

A few leaders - a flock of the led! That seems the story of popular government. And the cure, if there is a cure to be found, is not in accepting the lack of information of the average voter, but in concentrating, never abandoning, the effort to increase the average voter's information and interest. This is a hard job, a thankless battle against human inertia, but it is not a hopeless job. Progress has been made, can be made, must be made if popular government is to function.

But there are those who maintain that direct nomination by the people is contrary to the spirit of our representative government; that public business can be carried on only by selecting delegates who can give special study. I grant that there is much of this principle in our constitution. But as I see it, this device is merely a compromise to be limited to cases where direct popular expression of opinion is impossible. Our forefathers, hampered by bad roads and poor communications, wrote many such devices into our scheme of government. Nowadays we travel faster in an hour than our forefathers could travel in a day and far though our boundaries have been extended, news from the Capitol reaches them instantaneously. Some of their framework of indirect government we still find it wise to keep; we still elect representatives and senators to do our public business....We have done away with the indirect choice of United States senators by state legislatures. There is no doubt whatever that the tendency of our political system is moving and has moved away from indirect towards direct popular vote. To reinstitute the nominating caucus on the ground of political theory would be as absurd as to give back to the electoral college the full power our forefathers endowed it with.

And lastly the opponents of the primary claim that it is breaking up our party solidarity. I recognize the use of parties, the need of getting some sort of a compromise program that can be put through, rather than a number of panaceas each backed by a little group impotent of accomplishment. But there are possible evils in too strong party discipline. For a party ought to be a device for getting public business done, not an end in itself. A party ought to be a group of voters so united on some one policy that they can stick together, compromising on lesser questions. If party alignment is weakening in America today, I believe it is not in the least on account of the primary but because our two major parties do not today take opposite sides on questions which vitally concern the electorate. As soon as parties divide on vital issues, they will find plenty of loyal supporters. As long as they dodge main issues, party discipline will be weak and shifting and an attempt to strengthen it by artificial means would be disastrous. By all means let us work to have party programs express real points of issue. How can we do that better than by encouraging candidates to meet the people directly, to find out for themselves what issues the people care about?

Do I seem to be putting aside too lightly these arguments against the primary? I admit that I do not take them very seriously. \* \* \* The point is this: when I say I am in favor of the primary, I really mean that I believe in popular government, and think the primary is the best tool so far devised for increasing popular participation in self-government. It is my conviction that people who are opposed to it also believe this about the primary, and that is the real reason of their opposition to it. In other words, in their hearts they do not believe in government by the people. And here we have an issue vastly more important than the question of which tool to use in voting, or than the tariff, or the World Court, or anything that gets into party platforms.

Do you doubt that this is an issue? Did you think the question of self-government by the people was settled once for all in every American's mind, when the Constitution was framed? Well, if you thought that, you are mistaken. There are plenty of Americans who are temperamentally unable to believe whole-heartedly in government by the people, and who continually hang back and insist on putting as many difficulties as possible in the way of letting the people really govern themselves. \* \* \* \*



And they are the only enemies of the primary who count. It is they who in all ages have combatted extension of the suffrage, who have insisted on indirect nominations and elections. It is they who are solidly lined up in favor of the convention system. Many of them are well meaning and public spirited to the extent that they wish the people well; but to them a well-ordered government is impossible except through the efforts of a small, enlightened, governing class with such power to guide public affairs that popular elections can only ratify what they have proposed - or at the most choose between the programs of two groups of leaders. This is the oligarchic theory of government at its highest terms. \* \* \* History universally teaches that such an oligarchy never continues to work for the people - history and common sense unite in teaching that it is not good for men and women to have things done for them; their only chance to learn, to improve, to grow, is to stumble ahead, however clumsily, settling their own problems for themselves. And in fairness we have to admit that they are not altogether so clumsy in settling these problems. Popular government is somewhat like the jury system. Twelve average citizens often enough make mistakes, but who will deny that they reach substantial justice on the whole more often than a committee of legal experts? Therefore I support the open primary - not that I think it ideal, but because it is on the right track. It is one step forward in getting the responsibility for government nearer to the people governed. \* \* \* \*

If I understand women - conscientious public-spirited women - you too think of the vote less as a privilege than as a responsibility - a part of life that no one ought to be allowed to shirk. And I think you will agree that the primary brings home that responsibility to the rank and file of voters with a clearness that the party caucus (with its emphasis on the sporting problem of how to best the opposition) could not equal. I take it for granted that you too have long ago reached the conclusion that the primary must not be given up. Your main interest now is on the practical question of how attacks on the primary can be beaten. You realize that we cannot afford to rest on our oars, trusting that each generation of voters will increase the majority for the primary.

How can we prevent the repeal of the primary? By proving it is a success, by using it and persuading other women to use it. I have ignored until now the one dangerous argument against the open primary; that the people clearly cannot want it because they do not use it. This is the most difficult objection to meet because there is some truth in it. In almost every state the primary vote is disgracefully light. To be sure, more people vote at primary elections in proportion to the total number of qualified voters than ever went to the party caucus, but not enough - not nearly enough to show a genuine popular interest. Change that and the fight is won. A functioning organ does not atrophy and die. If every one of you women here ~~will~~ take it on herself to get out the vote at the next primary election; if you will work at the problem of seeing that other women really cast their ballots, work at it with the energy and determination you would put into a church fair or a better schools campaign, the anti-primary will be dead in a couple of years. Don't worry about getting the men out. Concentrate on the women's vote.\* \* Under self-government, votes are the only valid evidence of what the people really care for, really believe in.

Get out a big vote at the primaries! The better class of politicians won't wish to abolish them if you do.

Note: This article by the author of "The Montessori Mother", "The Bent Twig" and other well-known novels was prepared for presentation at one of the sessions of the National League of Women Voters convention in Richmond in 1925.

See the Woman Citizen for January, 1926 for an interesting article on Dorothy Canfield.



old stencil  
sent out to local League members

5/13/26

The Minnesota League of Women Voters  
321 Meyers Arcade,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Bulletin of the Committee on Election Laws and Methods  
May 28, 1921

PRIMARY OR CONVENTION?

"The National Committee on Election Laws and Methods urges that the utmost influence of the League of Women Voters be exerted in opposition to any attempted repeal of state primary laws and that support be given to amendments to existing laws tending to make nominations more representative of the masses of voters." Recommendation adopted at the national convention, Cleveland, April 15, 1921.

"All that is worst in our public life finds  
its readiest access to power through control  
of the nominating machinery of parties."  
Charles Evans Hughes

EARLY NOMINATING METHODS

In the early days candidates for local office were selected at meetings of the interested citizens, or "freeholders", of the community. The difficulties of travel and communication made it impossible to select candidates for state and national office by any such simple method, and there developed the legislative caucus, composed of members of the various parties in the State Legislature for the nomination of candidates for state offices, and the congressional caucus for the nomination of candidates for President.

In the caucus great power was concentrated in the hands of a few men, and in time the abuse of this power became so flagrant that an agitation began for a more democratic method of nomination which resulted in the establishment, about 1840, of the convention system. Under this system candidates were selected by an assembly of delegates elected by the party membership. Although this system was a great improvement over the caucus, it was found that only a small percentage of the voters participated in the election of the delegates, that the convention when assembled was frequently manipulated by party bosses, and that there was no remedy for unsatisfactory nominations and no one to hold responsible for them.

THE DIRECT PRIMARY

The last years of the 19th century and the first years of the 20th were characterized in this country by a great movement for political reform, which brought with it the extension of the civil service, the Australian ballot system, and the legal regulation of political parties. With this movement came also the direct primary, by which the voters on a primary election day decide directly on the candidates for nomination instead of electing delegates to a party convention to decide for them.

The fight for the direct primary was led by men of such different political views as Governor Charles Evans Hughes of New York and Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey, and the rapidity with which the movement spread was the best evidence of the discredit into which the convention system had fallen. At the present time all states except New Mexico have some form of direct primary law.

Undoubtedly experience has brought out many defects in the operation of direct primary laws. The direct primary depends for its success upon the interest of the voters, and it is difficult to maintain this interest and focus it intelligently on the many offices, important and unimportant, which we fill by popular vote. "The long ballot is the politician's ballot; the Short Ballot is the people's ballot." That is why such men as William H. Taft, Charles W. Eliot, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Hiram Johnson and Charles Evans Hughes are in favor of the Short Ballot and why the direct primary may be expected to bring better and better results as the number of elective offices is reduced. Even with the present long ballot the number of voters who participate in the direct primaries is very much greater than the number who participated in the election of delegates to the nominating conventions, and this means that a much greater proportion of party members now take an active part in the affairs of their party.



## MINNESOTA

MAY 28, 1921

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION TO THE LEGISLATURE

-2-

At the present time there is some demand for pre-primary conventions, which means the calling of delegate conventions in advance of the direct primary to select candidates to bear the official endorsement of the party and be so designated on the primary election ballot. Such a law was passed at the last session of the Minnesota Legislature. It is a move in exactly the opposite direction from what advocates of the Short Ballot believe in, for it increases the number of elections and therefore the burden upon the voter. Of interest in this connection is the recent suggestion of Mr. Hughes. In the old-style convention he sees little opportunity for real consultation as to candidates or the careful formulation of principles, but he suggests in its stead a small group of party representatives, more or less in the nature of a nominating committee, to seek out desirable candidates, outline the issues of the election, and make public recommendations concerning both to be submitted to the voters for adoption or rejection on primary election day. This would not increase the number of elections, would place more responsibility on the party organization, and would leave in the hands of the voters all their present safeguards under the primary law.

Aside from these proposed modifications of the law, there are many people who would go back entirely to the old convention system. Bills to repeal the primary were introduced in a number of states this winter, and in New York State partial repeal was actually secured.

How may these proposed changes be studied and tested? The whole course of political development in this country has been in the direction of making the machinery of government more democratic and more responsive to the will of the whole people. Any change which does not accord with this general tendency is not likely to endure.

### DIRECT PRIMARY IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota was a pioneer in direct primary legislation. The first application of the direct primary in a large city was in Minneapolis in 1899. The experiment met with such popular success, that in 1901 it was extended to all city, county and congressional offices in the state, and later to state offices. The size of the vote at these primaries, running sometimes over 90% of the vote at the final election, was widely commented upon in other parts of the country where the number voting to elect delegates to the nominating convention was rarely estimated to be as high as 20% of the number voting at the final election.

The citizens of Minnesota still show their interest in having a direct voice in the selection of candidates by turning out in large numbers at primary elections. In the recent primary in Minneapolis 99,536 votes were cast, more than 80% of the number of votes cast in that city for governor at the presidential election last fall. In this connection it is interesting to study the convention recently held by a political party organization which evidently did not regard the direct primary as adequate machinery for securing satisfactory nominations. The vote for delegates to this convention, according to the estimate of the party headquarters, was 10,000, whereas the number of votes cast at the legal primary for candidates belonging to the same party was over 50,000.

### CHANGES MADE BY 1921 LEGISLATURE

One serious defect in the Minnesota law which made it possible for candidates, defeated in the primary for a party nomination, to have their names placed on the final election ballot by petition, as was done by Mr. Shipstead in 1920 after he had failed to secure the Republican nomination for governor, was corrected by the 1921 legislature.

The other important change was the passage of a law providing for party conventions to be held before the primary elections. These conventions will be made up of delegates, elected at a special primary carefully regulated by law, who shall be empowered to draw up party platforms and endorse party candidates for congressional and state offices (except candidates for the Legislature). These candidates shall then be designated on the regular primary election ballot as having been endorsed by such party convention. Except for these provisions the existing law

is practically unchanged. Members of the legislature, county and city officers, are still to be nominated and elected without designation of party, and no convention is authorized to endorse candidates for such offices.

Whatever the effects of this pre-primary convention - and similar conventions have already been held without legal authority - it should be remembered that a pre-primary convention which merely endorses candidates who must run their chances with other candidates at the primary is very different from a convention which is followed by no primary at all. In the first case the members of the party have a chance at the primary to ratify the action of the convention or to nominate other candidates as they will. In the second they have no choice but to vote for the convention candidates if they want to vote for candidates of their own party at all.

#### STUDY MATERIAL

The Convention and the Primary - Prof. Charles E. Merriam  
Pamphlet available from headquarters 15¢

The Short Ballot  
Pamphlet available from headquarters 5¢

The Fate of the Direct Primary - Charles Evans Hughes  
Proceedings of the National Municipal League, 1920.

Debaters' Handbook: The Direct Primary  
Published by H. W. Wilson Co., 958 University Ave., New York City

The Forum - Articles in numbers for January, February, 1921.

Review of Reviews. - January, 1921

The Woman Citizen - May 7, 1921

Elections in Minnesota  
Pamphlet prepared by Minnesota League of Women Voters will be revised and reprinted by August 1.



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
May 21, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Monthly payment of National League quota

Report on The Minnesota Woman Voter

Report of the Field Secretary

Report by District Chairmen

Suggestions for filling vacancies in First and Second Districts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE IN GOVERNMENT

Status of Sheppard-Towner appropriation in U. S. Senate

Other federal measures active in National League program

Sentiment in state on Child Labor Amendment

Action on vacancies - Committees on Child Welfare and Living Costs

Legislative Council

DEPARTMENT OF EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

National Program of Work

Citizenship Schools

Recommendation on review of important periodicals

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO PREVENT WAR

National Program of Work

YOUNG VOTERS

College Leagues

Talks to college seniors

GETTING-OUT-THE-VOTE

Candidates' Questionnaires

Report on Women in Public Office in Minnesota

State and County Fair Exhibits

Appointment of committee chairmen

League representative on advisory committee for State Fair Woman's Building

Place and Date of Annual State Convention

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mrs. P. M. Glasoe, Northfield, Third District  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire, St. Paul, Fourth District  
Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
Mrs. G. W. Friedrich, St. Cloud, Sixth District  
Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. George H. Spear, Duluth, Eighth District  
Mrs. L. C. Weeks, Detroit, Ninth District  
Miss Mary Warren, Tenth District

## OFFICERS

President  
Miss Marguerite M. Wells  
First Vice-President  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich  
Second Vice-President  
Mrs. A. J. McGuire  
Third Vice-President  
Mrs. Sumner T. McKnight

Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

Office Secretary  
Mrs. Barry N. Collins

June 2nd,  
1926

My dear Board Member:

The regular June meeting of the state League board will be held on Friday, June 11, at 10:30 A.M. This meeting will include only board members and it is hoped that you will make a special effort to be present.

Mrs. McKnight has invited the board to meet in her cabin at Criss Cross Farm, twelve miles from Minneapolis. Transportation will be arranged for those who notify us that they will attend the meeting and who will be at the state office at 8:45 A.M. on Friday.

We shall appreciate hearing from you promptly in order that we may let Mrs. McKnight know how many to count on for luncheon.

Very sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC ms



# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

June 3rd,  
1926

Dear Legislative Council Member:

A meeting of the Legislative Council which you are particularly urged to attend will be held at state League headquarters on Wednesday, June 9, at 2:30 P.M.

The first part of the meeting will be devoted to a discussion of facts on the enforcement of the Street Carnival Law. Miss Fern Chase of the Women's Cooperative Alliance will review the findings of the study made by that organization, following the passage of the law in the 1923 legislature.

Then work will begin upon the legislative program to be recommended for support in the 1927 legislature. There are only three more months before the Council should have its recommended program ready for consideration by cooperating organizations, many of which, including the League of Women Voters, hold their annual state conventions early in the fall.

Council members are reminded, therefore, that it is now time to bring to the Council such measures as they would like to present to it for consideration. After discussion by the Council as a whole, special sub-committees will be appointed to work upon specific measures and to report them back for final action by the Council.

Measures concerned with EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS will be presented for discussion at the meeting on Wednesday. Miss Isabel Lawrence, of St. Cloud, chairman of the Committee on Education, will review the educational measures in the program recommended by the Council in 1924. She will then introduce the discussion of measures recommended for consideration by the Council this year.

Mr. M. L. Jacobson, Inspector of Rural Schools in the State Department of Education, and Mr. C. G. Schulz of the Minnesota Education Association have been asked to be present to contribute to the discussion.

We shall appreciate hearing from you whether you can attend the meeting on Wednesday.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child, Secretary

EC ms

M I N U T E S  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
May 21, 1926

The regular meeting of the State Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters was held at the home of Mrs. O. M. Botsford in Winona on Friday, May 21. There were present Miss Wells, Mrs. McKnight, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Hargreaves, Mrs. Ueland, Mrs. Cant, Mrs. Spear, Miss Beggin and Miss Child. Members of the Winona League Board and other invited guests present were Mrs. O. M. Botsford, Mrs. O. F. Burlingame, Mrs. Mary K. Swain, Mrs. E. S. Selle, Mrs. E. G. Ward, Mrs. G. E. Maxwell, Mrs. John Shannon, Mrs. D. E. Tawney, Mrs. R. E. Seaton, Mrs. J. D. Morrison, Mrs. L. L. Brown, Mrs. George Winters, Mrs. W. D. Abbott, and Mrs. John W. Murdock (Wabasha). Others attending the afternoon session were Dean Florence Richards and Mrs. Simmers of the State Teachers College, Mrs. Milton Spencer, state chairman of the American Legion Auxiliary, and Mrs. O. A. Bierce.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M., Miss Wells presiding.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Cant reported that the quota to the National League of Women Voters for 1925-26 was paid in full, and that \$180.00 has been paid on the current national League quota, which amounts to \$162.00 per month.

The bank balance April 1 was \$548.92 and receipts during April were \$1228.98, of which \$669.59 represents quotas from local Leagues. Disbursements for April were \$1119.75, leaving a bank balance May 1 of \$658.15. Bills payable May 1 amounted to \$613.88, this including only current bills. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. McKnight, that the treasurer's report be accepted and the bills payable allowed.

As May 1 marked the end of the first half of the state League fiscal year, Mrs. Cant made a brief statement on the total receipts and expenditures for that period. It has been possible to keep within the budget figures for expenditures, and it has also been possible to raise, to a very considerable extent, the funds counted upon to meet the budget. The amount received from quotas is within \$300 of the estimated figure. She called attention to the fact that only 27 percent of the total budget is expected to be raised by quotas from local Leagues, the balance of the budget being supplied by receipts from Woman Voter subscriptions, sale of printed material, special money-raising activities (such as Woman Citizen drives and the state share of income from productions of "The Last Word") together with donations and national League memberships from individual contributors. Mrs. Cant spoke of the fact that the Minneapolis League has waived its right to credit for one-half the national memberships customarily applied upon the local League quota. She also reminded the board of its action in voting that national memberships may be solicited by the state League in any community in the state, with the knowledge and cooperation of the local League.

Mrs. Ueland, chairman of the Finance Committee responsible for raising \$1600 in the current budget, made a plea for constantly increasing the number of small contributors to the League, those who pay memberships of three to five dollars. This is the democratic way to support the League and assure its continuance.

The necessity of planning definitely to pay the state quota to the national League in monthly installments during the coming year was urged by the chair. This has always been a goal in the payment of the national quota, but it has not always been possible to live up to it, the result being that a desperate effort has been necessary just before the national League convention in the spring. The necessity of urging similar monthly payments to the state by local Leagues was mentioned as a necessary part of the plan. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McKnight, second of Mrs. Cant, that the state League make a special effort this year to keep up monthly quota payments to the national League. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Spear, second of Mrs. McGuire, that the president be authorized to send a letter to local Leagues in the state urging their cooperation in the plan of monthly quota payments. Mrs. McGuire suggested that the letter be sent to the finance chairman in Leagues where they exist.

The Minnesota Woman Voter

Miss Child reviewed the facts as to the present arrangement for publishing the Woman Voter and urged the help of board members just at this time in securing ads. The agreement with the printer calls for no such assistance but it is important that the plan be saved from failure since, under the present plan, the budget is



relieved of an expense amounting to approximately eleven hundred dollars a year. Mrs. Woodward Colby has secured two ads for the June issue of the Voter, and similar help from other board members may make the difference between success and failure.

Mention was again made of the suggestion that local advertising be secured for a special issue of the Voter devoted to a certain local League. Miss Child suggested that, if the State Board goes to Detroit for the July board meeting, it might be possible to make the July issue a Duluth League number and try to secure ads from Duluth and other vacation places in the northern part of the state.

#### Reports by District Chairmen

Mrs. McGuire reported for the Fourth District. She told of very successful candidates' meetings and the publication of a civic handbook for St. Paul before the May city election. She also explained the plan of supplying each ward chairman with a "kit" containing special printed material on the program, together with the names of the representatives of the ward in Congress and in the state legislature, showing their votes upon measures in which the League was interested.

Mrs. McKnight reported for the Fifth District, explaining the plan of doing intensive Get-Out-the-Vote work in the two weakest voting precincts in every ward in the city before the June 21 primary. She reported that the Minneapolis League has made arrangements with the W.C.C.O. radio station to broadcast talks by all candidates for governor the evening of June 14 and suggested that local Leagues in the state and neighborhood groups in the cities form radio parties to hear the talks. Finkelstein & Ruben have consented to donate movie trailers with voting slogans supplied by the Minneapolis League for use in connection with all moving pictures ten days before the primary. A luncheon for candidates for Congress is planned on June 12.

Mrs. Spear reported for the Eighth District that a League Study Group affiliated with the Duluth League is functioning in Carleton and that there seems to be every indication that this group will later develop into a local League. She will follow up plans for the organization of a similar Study Group in Cloquet. Mrs. Spear also reported the ceremonious burning of the note that has long been an obligation of the Duluth League and the existence of a surplus of some two hundred dollars at present in the Duluth League treasury.

Winona League - Mrs. Botsford reported the cooperation of the Winona League in plans for the first registration day in Winona under the Permanent Registration Law and explained that League women aided registration clerks in every ward in the city but one.

First and Second Districts - The chair called attention to the fact that there are vacancies in the chairmanships of the First and Second Districts which it is the duty of the board to fill.

#### Report of Field Secretary

Miss Beggin reported the organization of new Leagues in Wayzata and Atwater since the last board meeting and the reorganization of the Northfield League and of a Study League in Moorhead. Inactive Leagues which it is hoped may be reorganized in the near future are Stillwater, Robbinsdale, and Buffalo. Miss Beggin has talked upon the St. Louis convention at special League meetings in West St. Paul, Columbia Heights, and Jordan.

Miss Beggin recommended that the Norwood League be dropped from the local League list. She explained that the woman who gave the best leadership in the local group has moved out of the state, and there is no one to take her place. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. Hargreaves that the NORWOOD LEAGUE BE DROPPED as recommended.

#### Young Voters

Miss Beggin reported that talks to college seniors have been made as follows:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| St. Olaf's College              | - Miss Beggin talked to a special meeting of senior girls on May 14.                                |
| Winona State Teachers College   | - Mrs. Hargreaves addressed the college assembly on May 21.   |
| Carleton College                | - Mrs. Hargreaves is to address the students on May 23.   |
| Moorhead State Teachers College | - Arrangements will be made by the college League for a speaker (if one can be supplied) May 24-27. |

Miss Beggin also reported the organization of a college League of Women Voters at Hamline University following her talk at a tea arranged by Dean More in the Manor House on April 9. This makes the fourth college in which definite organization has been effected. Others where it is expected that college Leagues will be organized before the close of the present term are the Mankato State Teachers College and Macalester College in St. Paul.

Mrs. McKnight suggested the use, in Young Voter groups, of a plan reported by Miss Wright, formerly executive secretary in Wisconsin. This in the form of a breakfast menu with information supplied by the Living Costs Committee under the general caption "Uncle Sam Serves Breakfast". Mrs. McKnight has the material to use in presenting this material to Young Voter groups and thinks it would interest them greatly.

#### Department of Public Welfare in Government

Mrs. Ueland reported upon the status of the Sheppard-Towner Act in the Senate and upon other federal measures that are active issues in the national League program of this department - government operation of Muscle Shoals; the federal Department of Education and opposition to the so-called Equal Rights amendment.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 P.M. and was re-convened at the Hotel Winona at 3:30 P.M. following a post-convention luncheon there under the auspices of the Winona League.

The chair called attention to ratification of the Child Labor Amendment as a federal issue that is now the concern of the states. Those present were requested to report upon sentiment on the amendment in local communities as indicated in discussions heard in the last months. The statements made brought out the following facts: that there is still much misunderstanding of the facts; that there is some - but not much - discussion of the amendment; that League members need to be supplied with specific information to use in meeting objections.

It was stated by the chair that plans for the introduction of the amendment into the next Minnesota legislature are not yet definitely made, but that in the continuous educational work of the League for the amendment we should have in mind two aims: first, that every League member should be able to answer all false objections to the amendment; second, that conscientious and intelligent people shall at least be given the opportunity of knowing the correct facts on this subject. She said that in her experience a considerable body of opinion opposed to the amendment was based on ignorance of the facts and that we should somehow change this situation so that only those opposed to the amendment after knowing the facts are in the opposition. A plan for a sketch in dialogue to be placed in the hands of League members for use during the summer at porch parties and afternoon gatherings was outlined. Miss Wells has already prepared the first draft of such a sketch involving four characters: the farmer father, the League mother, a lawyer son from the city, and a daughter running for the legislature. Great interest in the proposed material and conviction of its value and usefulness was expressed by board members.

#### Review of Current Periodicals

Mrs. Cant reported the suggestion made by Mrs. Wittich that members of the board each assume responsibility for reading certain periodicals in order to call attention to anything of particular significance bearing upon the League program. The periodicals suggested with the names of those volunteering to review them each month are:

U. S. Daily . . . . .	Mrs. Wittich
Manchester Guardian . . . . .	Mrs. Bierce of Winona
Yale Review . . . . .	Miss Wells
Springfield Republican . . . . .	Mrs. Simmers of Winona
New York World . . . . .	Mrs. Hargreaves
The Nation . . . . .	Miss Beggin
The New Republic . . . . .	Mrs. McKnight
The National Municipal Review . . . . .	Mrs. McGuire
Minnesota Municipalities . . . . .	Miss Child
Annals of the Academy of Political Science . . . . .	Mrs. Hargreaves
Nation's Business . . . . .	Miss Wells
American Mercury . . . . .	Mrs. Wittich
Minnesota Law Review . . . . .	Mrs. Spear
Current History . . . . .	No one volunteered



Mrs. McKnight suggested adding Harpers magazine to the list and volunteered to review it.

#### State Convention

Mrs. Spear reported the invitation of the Duluth League to hold the annual state convention of the League in Duluth. She reported that Mrs. Pary, vice-chairman of the Duluth League, has inquired as to dates and that the week of October 4 is a possible week so far as other meetings in Duluth are concerned. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Hargreaves, second of Mrs. Cant, that the invitation of the Duluth League for the state convention be accepted and that the convention be held during the week beginning October 4.

#### State and County Fair Exhibits

Miss Child reported that the first county fairs are held the end of June and suggested that it is not too early to begin work upon plans for League exhibits at the state fair as well as at county fairs. Mrs. McGuire suggested Mrs. Woodward Colby as an excellent chairman for the state fair exhibit committee. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. McGuire, second of Mrs. Ueland, that Mrs. Colby be asked to accept appointment as chairman of the State Fair Exhibit Committee.

Miss Child reported that Mrs. Shafer has now finished her very complete report on Women in Public Office in Minnesota and that she has expressed her willingness to undertake a new piece of work for the state League. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Mrs. Hargreaves, second of Mrs. Spear, that Mrs. Shafer be asked to accept appointment as chairman of the County Fair Exhibit Committee.

#### Report of Women in Public Office

Miss Child reported the forwarding of Mrs. Shafer's report to Washington and the receipt of a letter from Miss Gladys Harrison acknowledging the report and commenting upon its excellence with the statement that such reports have been received from only three states, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, and that Minnesota's report is quite the best of the three.

#### Candidates' Questionnaires

The Executive Committee met recently and decided against sending out the usual questionnaire to candidates for Congress before the primary election on June 21. Questionnaires addressed to candidates for both state and congressional office will therefore be sent out following the date of the primary and will be used in connection with the Get-Out-the-Vote campaign for the November 2 General Election.

#### Department of International Cooperation to Prevent War

Mrs. Hargreaves called attention to the abandonment of the National Defense Day by the U. S. War Department as the result of the opposition to the effort to celebrate such a day. She reviewed the facts as to the preliminary Conference on Disarmament among the nations and emphasized the responsibility of America as a member of this conference. Mrs. Hargreaves also called attention to the plan for a conference of jurists arranged by the League of Nations to consider reservations in connection with American entry into the World Court.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary Pro Tem

172 copies

ROUND ROBIN

No. 18

Fifth Region, National League of Women Voters

June 8, 1926

IOWA

From Iowa City comes news of candidates' meetings, questionnaires and luncheon programs, all designed to stimulate interest in and add to information about the primary election.

A Board meeting is tentatively set for Iowa City at the time of the Fourth Commonwealth Conference of the University of Iowa.

MONTANA

The State Board met in Helena on June 7th.

A delegate to the National convention in St. Louis writes: "It was a wonderful convention and I am certainly sold to the League by being able to attend and feel the spirit and earnestness of the work that was brought out there."

The new Neihart League is reported as studying like a real school with two lessons per week on the program. If democracy is ever a success, it will be such because of such efforts.

NORTH DAKOTA

In reporting the impression business sessions of the St. Louis convention made upon her, Mrs. J A Poppler said, "For accuracy and exactness it might well have been a body of lawyers in assembly." "The outstanding impression that the convention left with me", continued Mrs. Poppler in her report to the State Board, "was the vast pride in women who can work so surely in a dispassionate and intelligent manner for the reforms they wish to accomplish."

SOUTH DAKOTA

Mrs. H W Foght of Aberdeen has accepted the chairmanship of the State Efficiency in Government Department. The League is to be congratulated upon this acquisition, and Mrs. Foght no less upon the opportunity the position offers for effective work for good government.

MINNESOTA

Several local Leagues have announced the intention of continuing meetings during the summer in the guise (or disguise) of "porch parties". A sketch in dialogue form about the Child Labor Amendment will form the piece de resistance of some of these summer tea parties. Four characters, Farmer Father, League Mother, Legislator Daughter, Lawyer Son, will carry the parts which will be read by four women of the group. The dialogue is in preparation and will be ready soon. It will be furnished to Leagues in the Fifth Region at cost - and should be ordered if at all in sets of four to facilitate reading by the four dramatic personae.

In one town where it was difficult to organize a League because of lack of interest in politics, a candidates' meeting under League auspices has called forth many declarations of gratitude "that there is an organization interested enough to arrange meetings for them and the public". Moral - the less political interest, the more need of a League.

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Conventions in the Region will be held approximately as follows: -

North Dakota	-	Last half of September
Minnesota	-	First half of October
South Dakota	-	Last half of October
Montana	-	January
Iowa	-	March

A letter from Mrs. Parkes dated May 28th reads, "I am making progress slowly but I think surely. . . I am going out for a short drive for the first time." As eager as we are for a sight of Mrs. Parkes again, we all join in begging her not to overdo.

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

Marguerite M Wells, Regional Director



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
June 11th, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

FINANCE

National Quota  
Duluth issue of Woman Voter

ORGANIZATION

Report by district chairmen - Tenth District resignation  
Field report  
Radio parties - June 14

STATE CONVENTION

Definite dates  
Program Committee (Executive Committee recommendation)  
Speaker from National League  
Special work in Eighth District

YOUNG VOTERS

Recommendation on follow-up of talks to College Seniors

Reports by department and committee chairmen

Legislative Council  
Action on resignations

Summer and Early Fall Activities

County Fair Exhibits  
Candidates' Questionnaires  
Education on Child Labor Amendment  
Miss Owen's visit  
New material in dialogue form

Special Reports

Committee of U. S. Women's Bureau

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

# MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, June 9, 1926

2:30 P.M.

Present. Mrs. Ueland, presiding, Miss Wells, Mrs. Griswold, Mrs. Guise, Mrs. Gaus, Mrs. Kreiner, Miss Lawrence, Miss Halpern, Mrs. Tellier, Miss Fish, Mrs. Wittich, and Miss Child. There were also present Mrs. Scoville, vice-president of the WCTU, and Miss Beggin of the League of Women Voters.

A suggestion was made that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with. IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Wells, second of Mrs. Gaus, that the minutes of the previous meeting devoted to discussion of measures affecting women in industry be postponed until a future meeting of the Council at which such measures may be considered in connection with the legislative program.

## Enforcement of Street Carnival Law

The chair introduced Miss Fern Chase of the Women's Cooperative Alliance who presented the facts assembled by the Women's Cooperative Alliance in a study of the enforcement of the Street Carnival Law passed by the 1923 legislature. Miss Chase reported as follows.

The law of 1923 defined, for the first time, an itinerant carnival and prohibited it as a public nuisance. Following the passage of the law, the Women's Cooperative Alliance circularized one thousand individuals in the state, including local editors, county attorneys, officers of county medical societies, club women, state legislators, chairmen of county Child Welfare boards, and secretaries of local commercial organizations. The questionnaire sent out asked information as to whether local carnivals featuring gambling devices and indecent shows were known to have been held in the community since the law passed or whether such features were a part of local county fairs. A 33% return of the questionnaire was secured and every county in the state was represented.

Analysis of the replies showed that in 67 counties in the state there had been objectionable features in connection with local or county fairs. In 28 counties carnivals of the prohibited type had been held independent of county fairs. In one instance, a request reached the Women's Cooperative Alliance for the services of an investigator of a local carnival, licensed over the active protest of a group of local women. An investigator assigned to the carnival discovered bad sanitary conditions, penny slot machines and other games in violation of the law, bad moral conditions surrounding the carnival and she further reported that the local policewoman felt sure that drugs were being distributed though no proof of this could be secured.

Comments accompanying the questionnaires proved very enlightening. Several county attorneys stated that regulation of objectionable shows attached to county fairs was difficult because the local county fair board was made up of citizens of standing in the community against whom other citizens were reluctant to make complaint. Attention was also called to the fact that it is difficult to secure enforcement of the law after licenses have been granted by local authorities.

In the fall of 1924 the Women's Cooperative Alliance again circularized the list mentioned above with a copy of a proposed amendment to the law governing the allowances of state money to county fairs or district agricultural societies for premiums and making the granting of the allowance contingent upon enforcement of the provisions of the carnival law prohibiting improper shows. This amendment was formulated in accordance with a similar provision in the New York state law where carnival regulation is enforced in this way. The amendment was introduced into the 1925 legislative session and referred to the House committee on state and county fairs which never reported it out.

A county attorney, after reading this amendment, wrote suggesting that a better provision would be that money granted by state or municipal authorities to county or local fairs should be paid only after the fair had been held and the payment then should be contingent upon the submission of affidavits by fair officials that none of the prohibited features mentioned in the Carnival Law had been present. This would eliminate the necessity of citizens bringing complaint against fair officials to force the closing of shows already licensed and place the burden of proof upon officials responsible for fair arrangements. He also suggested that the submission of false affidavits should make the officials liable to prosecution for perjury and the fair association should be ineligible for all future time to receive similar grants.

Miss Chase concluded her report with the statement that facts as to the enforcement of the law during the past year are not definitely known but that judging by isolated instances that have come to the attention of her organization, it seems certain that many "shows" have been licensed in the state in violation of the law. Applications



for licenses are now made in the name of a "circus" or a "small show" to avoid the term used in the law.

In the discussion that followed, Miss Wells asked whether a provision that licenses should be issued by the county instead of by municipal bodies would improve the situation. Mrs. Ueland commented that at the time the law was under consideration by the legislature, those supporting it recognized that there was no such thing as a good carnival. Miss Chase said that the difficulty is that there is no possibility of controlling the kind of individuals who travel with and who frequent carnivals, this being one of their worst features.

Miss Lawrence stated that in Stearns County last year gambling devices were eliminated from the county fair for the first time, owing to the interest and concern of women in the matter. A Rodeo was later brought to St. Cloud which had all the bad features that had been eliminated from the county fair.

Miss Chase mentioned the fact that county fair officials often point out that fraternal organizations and churches have fish ponds, grab bags and lotteries in violation of the law in fairs held under their auspices. The state fair is now free from prohibited games and shows but nearby county fairs that were visited by representatives of the Women's Cooperative Alliance last year had features in violation of the law. Miss Chase called attention to the fact that carnivals usually come in to the poorest sections of a city and exploit the interest of children in such entertainments. Citizens in such neighborhoods are usually anxious to cooperate in any effort to prevent their coming.

We have gone as far as we can, Miss Chase suggested, in legislating directly on carnivals and effort should now be directed to enforcement of the existing law and related laws. She recommended consideration by the Council of the proposed amendment to the law governing state allowances for the payment of premiums at county and agricultural fairs.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Wells, second of Mrs. Kreiner, that the proposed amendment be referred to a sub-committee consisting of Mrs. Gaus, Mrs. Gilman and a third member to be named by the chairman.

#### Discussion of Educational Measures

Miss Wells asked permission to review the past history connected with this section of the program. She reminded Council members of the fact that the legislature of 1921 made provision for a study of state school aid by the State Department of Education. The published report on that subject is available, printed in connection with the annual report of the department. The legislature of 1923 appointed an Interim Commission on Education including members of the House and Senate. No similar commission was appointed in the 1925 session. Mr. Schulz supplied the information that a commission appointed as far back as the legislature of 1913 made recommendations on desirable legislation including the county board of education.

Miss Lawrence reviewed the history of supplemental aid legislation and said that the best statement on this subject is a reprint of a talk by Mr. Phillips in February 1925 that may be obtained from the State Department of Education. Miss Lawrence mentioned the fact that newspaper discussion of supplemental aid has conveyed the impression that no rural schools have profited by it. The following figures indicate how incorrect such a statement is:

#### Increase Affecting Rural School Budgets

Graded Districts, 391 Districts	Increase 226 per cent.
Ungraded Districts, 112 Districts	Increase 2 per cent.
High Schools, 120 Districts	Increase 17 per cent.

Miss Lawrence referred also to the incorrect impression that school taxes are higher in cities than in country districts. She urged the desirability of getting people in the state interested in study of the figures of local and state school finance. In every community supplemental aid is one subject that no one understands and it should be understood, she said, since this is the one school aid that brings aid to schools that need it most. The suggestion was made by Miss Lawrence that an effort might be made in the next legislature to increase the \$40 per pupil named in the supplemental aid law to \$50 per pupil, since this would still be a very modest standard for the giving of aid.

Miss Wells, at this point, asked permission to have inserted in the minutes the following list of measures that have been supported by the Council in the past and suggested that representatives of organizations present be asked to add other measures to the list for consideration this year. The educational measures supported in the past are:

- Teachers' Retirement Fund
- County Board of Education
- Eight months' school term
- Supplemental aid
- Part-time schools

Miss Fish of the Minnesota Education Association suggested that Teachers' Tenure be added to the list and Mrs. Scoville of the WCTU suggested a measure for the reinstatement of the penalty qualifying the law for scientific teaching of temperance in the schools. The chair asked that the proposed amendment be formulated and brought to the Council at a later meeting.

Mr. Schulz supplemented Miss Fish's statement by explaining that the M.E.A. is committed to four measures in its legislative program this year: Teachers' Retirement Fund, Teachers' Tenure, State Aid in full, and the County Unit Plan for a County Board of Education. He said that while his organization has only fifty per cent faith in the possibility of obtaining relief from the present unsatisfactory Teachers' Retirement Law, it will nevertheless support a new bill.

Mr. Jacobson, in response to a request for his statement on the foregoing measures, said that in general great progress has been made in the development of rural school standards through supplemental aid. He thought the figure might well be increased to \$50 as suggested by Miss Lawrence since even with this increase, we would still be a long way from equalizing the tax burden. The results of the increase of the school term from six to seven months, he said, have been marked. At present 76 per cent of the schools of the state have a nine months' school term; 3.6 per cent have a seven months' school term and the remainder have an eight months' term. Schools to qualify as graded schools must have a nine months' term.

The raising of qualifications for teachers is no longer a legislative problem, he said, since there has been such increase in the supply of trained teachers in the last years. The securing of a qualified county superintendent of schools under the county unit plan would improve the situation as to quality of teachers, since it is observed that a good superintendent inevitably secures a good teaching force in the county.

#### Discussion of Teachers' Retirement Fund

Mrs. Wittich suggested that if it should seem impossible to secure action on a new bill, an effort might be made to amend the present law to provide for the return of all the money paid into the fund by a teacher withdrawing from the profession or leaving the state, instead of the present provision for the return of half the money. This would remove one of the chief bases of antagonism of teachers to the present law. It is her understanding, she said, that there is sufficient money in the fund to allow this.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Wells, second of Miss Lawrence, that the following measures be referred to a sub-committee on education appointed by the chair:

Supplemental aid	Teachers' Retirement Fund
County Unit Plan	Change in state aid looking to
Teachers' Tenure	a longer school term

#### Discussion of Teachers' Tenure

Mr. Schulz explained the provisions of the bill supported by the M. E. A. as follows: It applies only to the three first-class cities; it provides for a three-year probationary period during which teachers may be dismissed without coming under the provisions of the standards set by the bill. At the end of the three-year period teachers are still subject to dismissal but only for cause and with special procedure as to a hearing by the board and representation by counsel. Mr. Schulz explained that the limitation of the bill to first-class cities is because it is recognized that it would be impossible to secure a state-wide tenure law.

Miss Fish stated that teachers feel that such a law would give permanency and stability to their situation in a way to protect the morale of the teaching group. A hearing conducted under the law would make unnecessary an appeal to public sentiment through newspaper publicity.

Statements by Mrs. Wittich and Mr. Jacobson emphasized the infringement of local autonomy involved in a teachers' tenure law. The danger of interfering with the authority of a good superintendent of schools by throwing the decision as to the professional staff into a board where politics may operate was also suggested.

Miss Lawrence reported repeated appeals to her by kindergarten association officers for support of a law which would provide for the establishment of kindergartens by petition of 25 or more citizens. Miss Wells reported the fact that the national League considers this question each year in its Committee on Education and has always decided against its inclusion in the program. Mr. Schulz said that in his opinion there would be great danger in making the establishment of kindergartens compulsory upon petition.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, secretary



Sent "for your info" to Mrs. Bissell, Lake Superior,  
Mrs. Straightoff, c/o Chapin

## THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

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Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

June 29th,  
1926

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Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

### DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

### Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear Board Member: -

The regular monthly meeting of the state board will be held at the summer cottage of Mrs. L C Weeks, near Detroit, on Friday, July 9th.

This is in accordance with the vote of board members in the March meeting to accept the invitation extended by Mrs. Weeks for July. The purpose of meeting in various parts of the state is to further organization, and the attendance of all board members is needed to contribute to the success of the plan.

It will be necessary for those going to Detroit from the Twin Cities to make the trip on Thursday. Mrs. Weeks invites those arriving in the course of the afternoon or early in the evening to spend the night as guests in her cottage about three miles from Detroit. Train schedules are as follows:

Leave Mpls. 10:30 a.m. Arrive Detroit 3:37 p.m. (N P train)

" " 5:45 p.m. " " 11:50 p.m. (Soo Line)

These trains are through trains, equipped with chair car and diner. Hotel reservation will be made for those arriving in Detroit by the late train Thursday. Mrs. Weeks will plan for transportation to her cottage for earlier arrivals.

The board meeting is called for 9:30 a.m., so that the meeting may be adjourned at 3:30 p.m. to enable those wishing to return on the train leaving Detroit at 4:06 p.m. to do so. This will bring them to Minneapolis at 9:30 p.m. There is also a midnight train from Detroit arriving at 7:05 a.m. on Saturday.

It will help very much if board members will let us know as early as possible whether we may count on their attendance and by what route they will go to Detroit. The distance by automobile is 212 miles - by way of St. Cloud, Little Falls, Staples and Wadena - with good roads all the way.

Very sincerely yours,

*Emily Child*

Emily Child,  
Executive Secretary

EC okc

sent "for your information" to Mr. Lawson + Senator Child

# THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MRS. ANDREAS UELAND, *Honorary President*

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Telephone: Atlantic 1171

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. R. M. Bennett, Minneapolis  
Mrs. C. P. Noyes, St. Paul  
Mrs. W. H. Thorp, Minneapolis  
Mrs. W. C. Cobb, Brainerd  
Mrs. R. N. Marble, Duluth  
Mrs. Walter R. Ramsey, St. Paul

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT VICE-PRESIDENTS

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Mrs. S. T. McKnight, Minneapolis, Fifth District  
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Mrs. M. J. Dowling, Olivia, Seventh District  
Mrs. George H. Spear, Duluth, Eighth District  
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Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
Public Health and Social Hygiene  
Miss Alice Kercher, Law Enforcement  
Mrs. Andreas Ueland, Advisory Legislative Council

## DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

## Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

June 29th,  
1926

My dear Legislative Council Member:

The next meeting of the Legislative Council will be held at League headquarters at 2:30 P.M. on Wednesday, July 7.

Laws and proposed measures affecting WOMEN IN INDUSTRY will be discussed in order that the Council may decide upon specific measures to be referred to a sub-committee for further consideration.

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson, chairman of the Committee on Women in Industry for the League of Women Voters, will review the history of existing state legislation in this field. Mr. George W. Lawson, secretary of the Minnesota Federation of Labor, and Senator Sherman Child have been invited to attend and to contribute to the discussion.

This meeting is the second in the series of four meetings to be devoted to general discussion of measures in connection with the legislative program now under preparation by the Council. Please let us know whether we may count on your attendance.

Sincerely yours,

Emily Child,  
Secretary

EC mjs



# MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 7, 1926

2:30 P.M.

Present: Mrs. Ueland, Miss Wells, Miss Kercher, Miss Joanna Colcord, Miss Marie Watkins (representing Miss Vance), Mrs. Dietrichson, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. K. E. Mo, Mrs. Caswell, and Miss Child. There were also present Mrs. Silas Bryan of the Minneapolis League of Women Voters and Mr. George W. Lawson of the Minnesota Federation of Labor.

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 P.M., Mrs. Ueland presiding.

The minutes of the May meeting of the Council were read in accordance with the vote of the Council at its June 9 meeting to postpone the reading of these minutes until the laws affecting women in industry should be discussed again in the Council. Mrs. Dietrichson, chairman of the committee on Women in Industry of the Minnesota League of Women Voters, reviewed the history of the support of protective legislation for women by the League since its organization in 1919. Activities have centered about the following subjects.

1. Legislation to improve the administration of the Minimum Wage Law
2. Measures to secure a shorter working day for women
3. Measures to strengthen the enforcement of legislation in this field, such as the measure providing for the appointment of a woman member of the Industrial Commission

Mrs. Dietrichson reminded the Council of the passage of the Minimum Wage Law in 1913 and of the fact that the bringing of a suit to test its constitutionality held up the operation of the law until 1918 when it was sustained by court decision in Minnesota. The law was administered first by a Minimum Wage Commission. In the fall of 1920 this commission held public hearings to secure information upon which to establish a higher minimum wage than that originally set, the need for change growing out of war conditions. At this time the League of Women Voters collected statistics, attended hearings, and aided in other ways in this effort. The functions of the Minimum Wage Commission were taken over in March 1921 by the Minnesota Industrial Commission, established by legislative enactment.

The history of state and federal supreme court decisions resulting in the Minnesota Minimum Wage Law becoming inoperative in June 1925, was reviewed by Mrs. Dietrichson who emphasized the fact that the law is still operative as far as minors are concerned, this aspect of the law never having been called into question.

The effort to secure a law governing hours of work for women was then reviewed by Mrs. Dietrichson who summarized the provisions of the law existing in 1919, the outstanding weakness of which was that it did not apply to large industrial groups which should have been included. The Legislative Council recommended and the League supported in the 1921 legislature a law providing for an eight-hour day and a forty-eight hour week, applying to all industrial groups except domestics and nurses, although exceptions were defined in cases of emergency and in the case of night workers where a four-hour period of rest was provided. This bill passed both the House and the Senate at the end of the session but too late to enable the House to pass the Senate bill or the Senate to pass the House bill. It therefore did not become a law.

In 1923 a law providing for a nine and a half hour day and a fifty-four hour week was passed by the legislature. This law contained the exemption named above for the 1921 bill and in addition excluded telephone operators in towns of less than 1500.

The law passed by the 1923 legislature and enforced since then by the Industrial Commission was adjudged unconstitutional in a recent decision in the Minneapolis Municipal Court, during May, 1926, the suit being brought by Kronicks Laundry. The law was set aside upon a technicality because, through a clerical mistake, the bill as engrossed did not correspond with the printed bill as amended in the House. Mrs. Dietrichson reported that the Industrial Commission sought the advice of the attorney-general following this decision and was informed that the 1923 law is no longer enforceable and that the law governing hours of work for women which preceded the 1923 law, having never been repealed, is now in force.

Mrs. Dietrichson reminded the Council of its recommendation in the legislative program for the 1923 legislature of a law providing for the appointment of a woman upon the Industrial Commission. This law was supported by the League of Women Voters and



passed the House but was killed in Senate Committee. In 1925 the Council decided against recommending support of a similar law on the ground that the governor has power to appoint a woman member of the Commission and that effort should be made to secure the appointment through an appeal to the governor. Mrs. James Paige, nevertheless, introduced such a bill but later withdrew it. Mr. Lawson quoted the opinion of legislators as expressed to him that this was unnecessary legislation. A new appointment to the commission is possible in July 1927, upon the expiration of the term of office of Mr. Williams.

In the general discussion, the following points were brought out. Mrs. Ueland spoke of the facts as given by Miss Schutz and her assistants that many employers in the state having become accustomed to observing the requirements of the Minimum Wage and Hours Law, will continue to do so. It is true that many of them are in sympathy with the legislation and have found it beneficial rather than otherwise in protecting them from the competition of less progressive firms.

Mr. Lawson said that it is apparent we must now start all over from where we were in 1923 and the question is as to whether we shall try for the same law passed at that session or for a different law. In reply to questions he said that the attempt to secure a 44 hour week for men in large industrial centers all over the country has met with great success. Mrs. Dietrichson explained that it has been adjudged unconstitutional to enact legislation on hours of work for men but that such legislation for women is justified as affecting public health and welfare. The point was brought out that employers have found that the shorter working day results in equal or increased product where hand labor is involved but that where attendance upon machines is required there is a reduction of output attendant upon shortening the working day.

Mrs. Dietrichson suggested the possibility of introducing an amendment to raise the age of majority for women from 18 to 21 thus making it correspond with that for men. Miss Kercher cited Wisconsin as a state that has such a law. There was general feeling that it would be impossible to gain support for a similar measure in Minnesota. Miss Kercher called attention to the fact that the definition of a minor included in the Minimum Wage Law would prevent this raising the age of majority from affecting the application of the Minimum Wage Law. There followed general discussion as to whether an amendment to the Minimum Wage Law should be introduced to change the definition of a minor in that particular statute.

IT WAS VOTED on motion of Miss Wells, second of Mrs. Denny, that a sub-committee should be named to give more intensive consideration to laws relating to women for inclusion in the legislative program to be recommended by the Council for support of the member organizations. The following sub-committee was named by the chair: Miss Kercher, Mrs. Dietrichson, Miss Colcord.

In the course of the discussion at this meeting, Miss Wells called attention to the fact that the phrase "supported by the Council" sometimes used in referring to past work upon legislation cannot properly be used since the function of the Council is to recommend a legislative program for possible adoption by member organizations rather than to act as a unit in the support of measures during the legislative session. She suggested that this point be kept clearly in mind since it would work an injustice upon member organizations to represent them as necessarily supporting the entire program as recommended. Since its organization in October 1920, the Council has acted as a clearing house for legislative measures of concern to member organizations and has served as an advisory body in connection with the legislative program presented to the state League of Women Voters for adoption in its annual convention.

Membership upon the Council is by representatives officially appointed by state-wide organizations of women and a few outstanding city organizations concerned with legislation and not by individuals selected by the League of Women Voters. It is expected that these representatives will suggest for consideration by the Council such measures as are of particular interest to the organizations they represent and that they will report back to their respective organizations matters of interest to them that may be discussed in the Council as well as the final legislative program recommended for support in the legislature. There is, however, no commitment on the part of member organizations to any legislative measure discussed or recommended by the Council except upon official action by that organization in connection with its own legislative program.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Child, Secretary



A G E N D A  
STATE BOARD MEETING  
July 9, 1926

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Report on Woman Voter advertising

ORGANIZATION

Reports by field secretary and executive secretary

Reports by district chairmen

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

International Cooperation to Prevent War

Efficiency in Government

Public Welfare in Government - Committee resignations

LEGISLATIVE PREPARATION

Legislative Council work

Questionnaires to candidates

LEAGUE EXHIBIT AT STATE AND COUNTY FAIRS

GET-OUT-THE-VOTE CAMPAIGN

STATE CONVENTION

Program

Attendance

OTHER BUSINESS

Child Labor Amendment dialogue

Distribution of Farnam pamphlet

To list of 100

Wauwata Teachers College  
St. Olaf  
U. S. M. (Senior Tea)

## WOMEN VOTERS

7th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Telephone: Atlantic 1171

July 10, 1926

Shall we add your name to our subscription list for the  
Minnesota Woman Voter? \_\_\_\_\_ (price 25¢)

Are you willing to assist in plans for a League exhibit at  
the county or state fair? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to have us send you a copy of the printed list  
of League publications available upon subjects of interest to  
women voters? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
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### DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Richard T. Hargreaves,  
International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

### Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear Young Voter: -

Your name has been given me as one of the college seniors who signed  
a card expressing an interest in the work of the League of Women  
Voters.

We are sending you, with this letter, a copy of the July issue of  
our monthly publication, the Minnesota Woman Voter. It will put you  
in touch with the state League and will give you an idea of the  
activities of local Leagues. Later numbers will contain information  
of particular value in connection with the coming general election  
in November. We hope that you will wish to send us twenty-five  
cents for a year's subscription, thus keeping in touch with the  
subjects which you have already heard discussed by a speaker from  
the League of Women Voters in your college.

During the summer we plan to carry on our work of stressing the  
individual voter's responsibility at election time, through League  
exhibits at the state and county fairs. The loan exhibit supplied  
by the state League to local groups upon request forms the nucleus  
for an attractive and worth while exhibit. Can you help us in your  
local county to place this exhibit and explain it to those who  
visit the fair?

We appreciate knowing of your interest and shall want to keep in  
touch with you in whatever community you may be after your summer  
vacation is ended. Let us know how we can help you with information.  
And let us know when we may call upon you for special assistance in  
connection with our summer and early fall program of work.

Sincerely yours,

Josephine Benz,  
Chairman, Young Voters Committee

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*Representatives  
Senators  
Gov. & Lieut. Gov.*

July 1926

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
1639 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis

QUESTIONNAIRE

(To Candidates for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and State Legislature)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Elective and Appointive offices held \_\_\_\_\_

Biographical notes (not more than 150 words) \_\_\_\_\_

1. ORGANIZATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS: (a) Do you favor the existing plan of organization of state administrative departments with centralized financial control? \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) Would you support an effort toward adjustments in the present plan that would make for (1) increased efficiency in the administrative departments? \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) further consolidation of state departments? \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) improved methods of personnel administration in state departments? \_\_\_\_\_
2. DIRECT PRIMARY: (a) Do you favor this system of nomination as opposed to the convention system? \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) Do you think that an attempt based upon the experience of other states should be made to improve Minnesota's present primary law? \_\_\_\_\_
3. CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT: (a) Recognizing that the evil of child labor in the United States has persisted in spite of more than sixty years of effort to end it through state legislation and that in the nature of things it can never be eliminated through state action only, do you favor ratification of the proposed amendment giving Congress power to legislate concerning child labor? \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) In case the amendment becomes a part of the Constitution, what sort of federal legislation concerning child labor would you favor? \_\_\_\_\_
4. REFUND FOR MOTHERS' PENSION: Do you favor an appropriation by the state, as provided by law, to refund to the counties one-third of the amount expended by them for mothers' pensions? \_\_\_\_\_
5. INFANCY AND MATERNITY: Do you favor the renewal of an appropriation by the legislature to entitle the state to federal aid for the protection of maternity and infancy? \_\_\_\_\_
6. PUBLIC SCHOOLS: (a) Do you favor the continued use of state aid for the purpose of raising the quality of schools in the poorer districts? \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) Do you favor the establishment of county boards of education with power to appoint county superintendents, thus placing the office on a non-political basis? \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) Do you favor measures to place the state Teachers' Retirement Fund on a sounder financial basis? \_\_\_\_\_
7. PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION FOR WOMEN: Will you oppose any attempt to weaken the state laws for the protection of women in industry? \_\_\_\_\_
8. ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION: Do you favor all measures necessary to the strict enforcement of the 18th amendment? \_\_\_\_\_



The League Internationally

The League of Women Voters is the United States representative to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, whose convention was held this year in Paris in June. Miss Sherwin was head of the delegation this year. Fifth Region members of the delegation were Mrs. James Paige and Mrs. W J Marcle of Minnesota. Miss Sherwin arrived in New York June 22nd and Mrs. Paige is expected in Minneapolis July 16th.

Miss Ruth Morgan, national chairman of the Department of International Cooperation to Prevent War of the League of Women Voters, was elected to membership on the international board and then appointed chairman of the new international committee on peace. This is an honor to the women of the United States and to Miss Morgan. It is of course also a responsibility.

The League Nationally

At a state-wide contest conducted by newspapers in Connecticut, Miss Katharine Ludington, of Lyme, national treasurer of the League of Women Voters, was named as the state's outstanding woman in the field of civics.

The Congress has adjourned for the summer. Its important achievement from the point of view of the League's program was the vote of adherence by the United States to the Permanent Court of International Justice. On the whole its outstanding failure from our point of view was failure to pass the renewal of the appropriation for the Maternity and Infancy Act. The House has taken favorable action, and it is hoped that the Senate will act so early in the next session that state legislatures may be assured of federal funds to match. League members will want to see their Senators during the recess to assure them of the deep concern women feel about this measure.

Orders for the Child Labor Amendment dialogue should be sent to the National headquarters. It takes four women just thirty minutes to read this dialogue with fine dramatic effect. It makes a good program for summer porch parties.

The League Regionally

It will be good news to the Region that Mrs. Parkes is recovered and is back in the field. She looks better, says she feels better, and has lost no enthusiasm!

When at the St. Louis convention, the names of North Dakota and Minnesota were read out as having paid their annual quota in regular monthly installments, others of the Region vowed to do likewise. It is to be hoped that they have been able to keep their vow. Both North Dakota and Minnesota are reported to be paid up to date.

IOWA

There will be a board meeting at the summer home of Mrs. C A Knutson at Clear Lake, July 23rd. Miss Wells, director, and Mrs. Parkes, secretary, will be present. Miss Wells has been invited to attend a meeting of the Mason City League the following day.

The Fourth Commonwealth Conference at the University of Iowa was a distinct success. Many League women attended both public meetings and small conferences. The State Board met constantly during the week.

NORTH DAKOTA

Convention dates have been definitely set as September 27th and 28th.

MONTANA

From a letter to Mrs. Parkes: "We hope that Miss Wells puts a note or so in the news letter about your progress." See above!

It is a great pleasure for the director to meet League women from her Region in Minneapolis. Mrs. C W Short of Kalispell is a welcome visitor this summer.

SOUTH DAKOTA

A state board meeting was held at Huron June 11th, and dates for the convention decided. It will be held October 26th, 27th and 28th.

1639 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

Marguerite M Wells, Regional Director

Women holding <sup>elective</sup> office in Fillmore County

Name

Office

None

Estimated number of women on local school boards 33

Information supplied by F. J. Bach

County Auditor

Date:

1927



*Sent to Co. Auditors with postcard on preceding page.*

## THE MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Secretary  
Mrs. Woodward Colby  
Treasurer  
Mrs. Harold G. Cant

Executive Secretary  
Miss Emily Child  
March 5th,  
1926

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Gerhard Dietrichson,  
Protection of Women in Industry  
Mrs. Eugene Dieudonne, Child Welfare  
Miss Isabel Lawrence, Education  
Mrs. Bertha Dahl Laws, Living Costs  
Miss Florence Monahan, Legal Status of Women  
Mrs. John M. Gaus,  
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International Co-operation to Prevent War  
Mrs. Frederick W. Wittich,  
Efficiency in Government

### Office Secretary

Mrs. Barry N. Collins

My dear County Auditor: -

The Minnesota League of Women Voters is compiling a list of women in public life in Minnesota. We are particularly interested in knowing what elective and appointive positions are now held by women in the state.

We already have a list of all county school superintendents and members of County Child Welfare boards in the state. We should appreciate very much your assistance in giving us the names of other women office holders in your county as they are known to you. We have learned in certain counties of women who are deputy sheriffs, game wardens, clerks of court, etc. It is such appointments as these that we would appreciate knowing about from you.

We are not listing the names of women members of school boards except for cities of the first class. Will you be good enough, however, to estimate the number of women serving on local school boards in the county. We would also be glad to have you let us know of any woman who holds a city office in your county, if you can do so easily.

I enclose an addressed postal for your convenience in replying and shall be very grateful for any information that you can send. May I ask the favor of a prompt reply so that the information covering your county may be included in any publicity given to the final report?

Sincerely yours,

*Ruth R. Shafer*

Mrs. Charles E. Shafer, Chairman,  
Committee on Compiling List of Women  
in Public Office in Minnesota

S  
Enc.

