



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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League of Women Voters of Minnesota

PROGRAM MAKING - 1959

THE MINNESOTA VOTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

VOL. 37

May-June, 1959

NO. 6

A GIFT FOR OUR VOLUNTEER BABY SITTERS

Thank you, Stay-At-Home Leaguers, for sitting our babies so that we could go to the 37th Biennial Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The least we can do is to tell you what you missed. You want to know who was there, what they said, what they did.

The whole Convention moved smoothly as silk drawn from a spool. The Program items were proposed, considered, debated, and our new Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities adopted with dispatch. The budget was presented and adopted without dispute, the by-laws were streamlined, new officers elected, and there was still time to meet and mingle.

All this was accomplished in two days' time by 362 women truly representing a cross-section of the League. Forty-eight local Leagues were represented, with 267 delegates, 79 convention workers and observers, 15 state Board members, and one national Board member. The latter was Barbara Stuhler of Minneapolis, of course, introduced as "the rankiest one of us all." We all hoped some of her perceptive League know-how would rub off on us. A show of hands gave a picture of two-thirds of the delegates attending their first Convention, but they all showed good membership understanding and the business of the Convention moved efficiently.

Even the dull parts were exciting, if that is possible. The By-laws were polished up, in some cases just by elimination of unnecessary verbiage, and elsewhere we were given a jolt right in the Constitution! The presentation of the budget was painless, as Mrs. Wallace Bloom of Alexandria, chairman of the Budget Committee, had softened the financial blows with a chart of caricatures which were very funny. Do we really look like Helen Hokinson-y ladies? At any rate, she made her point and well, for the money was authorized through League pledges with speed and cooperation breaking all previous Convention records.

Some of the Convention news will be reaching the Leagues later, such as the report of the President, Mrs. O. H. Anderson of Mahtomedi. One of the best things she said at the Convention came in her National Council report, when she concluded,

"I came home with the sincere conviction that . . . what we in the League are doing is necessary and right."

Mrs. Homer Mantis, St. Paul, had preserved her delicious sense of humor despite her discouraging job as state Legislative Chairman. She reported on stalemates the *Capitol Letter* has kept us informed about, but she was delighted at the success of the Legislative Observers' course, recommending that it be continued and developed. (Wish we could have attended that course—Mary Mantis presented each Legislative Observer present with a clever certificate of attendance with a lassoed legislator's picture inside.) The legislative report itself will reach you in the final issue of the *Capitol Letter*. The mailing list of that useful sheet has been expanded for its last issue to include the entire membership.

There were kind words from the hostess Leagues, St. Paul and Arden Hills, lively talks at the banquet, a stimulating report from the National Council meeting by Mrs. John Neumaier, Moorhead. The new Board members were introduced, too, and you'll hear more about them in the next *Voter*. But the most exciting and important part of the whole Convention was choosing the Program.

Our Two-Year Plan

You remember that the first round recommendation was election laws. By Convention time it was still election laws, but with some important plus values. Ethics in government, a natural development of the yet-untouched area of the corrupt practices section, was added, plus party designation as a Current Agenda item instead of as a Continuing Responsibility. (For exact wording of the state Program, see p. 2). Sounds like a lot of work? It will be, Mrs. Edgar Kuderling, Minneapolis, the state Board chairman for this resource item, calmly told us, but she thinks we can do it. So did the delegates, because by voice vote they unanimously adopted this Program, but not before giving careful consideration to two other items of merit. One was water, the other, taxation. Both items were well presented and caucuses were held on Wednesday evening to discuss them further. Really, the Program items all sounded so good that it was as hard as choosing from a tray of French pastries—each enticing, but you couldn't handle all of them! Graciously accepting the choice of the Convention, the proponents of

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

F3D2
State Program

THE STATE PROGRAM-1959-1961

CURRENT AGENDA

Issues of state government on which the League will take concerted action:

- I. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in Minnesota election laws and in the related area of ethics in government, and will promote party designation.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

Positions on state issues to which the League has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act:

- I. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a convention, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of legislative session, post auditor.
- II. Reapportionment by statute or amendment.
- III. Home Rule.
- IV. Fair Employment Practices Commission.

Q & A About C. A.

The delegates asked Mrs. Kuderling:

- Q. What will we be studying in the election laws field?
A. Legislation in the fields of absentee voting, voting machines, election contests, corrupt practices. All of these will be proposed by the new interim committee on election laws.
- Q. Where do the fields of ethics and corrupt practices meet?
A. Actually, they overlap. We will be working on study and possible action concerning campaign methods and financing, conflict of interest legislation, lobbyist registration. A code for fair campaign practices might fall into either category.
- Q. How will we approach party designation this time?
A. We contemplate a shift of emphasis, exploring the compromising positions of party designation for county officials and a plan allowing independents a place on the ballot. Also, we will examine the political parties and their primary elections to understand the effects of party designation. (Back to election laws again!)
- Q. What can we do?
A. Concentrate on constructive lobbying at home and create an understanding of community problems.

Comment from Mrs. Kuderling: Our program is peculiarly suited to our talents and we have discovered through the last two years that in the field of election laws, we can be effective.

GIFT FOR BABY SITTERS

(Continued from page 1)

the non-recommended items put away their ammunition for another Convention. They'll be back, we hope!

There was unanimity about the CR's, the only change from the recommendations being that FEPC was kept on despite state Board suggestion that it wasn't really necessary—another proof that the Convention makes its own decisions.

If only you might have seen the clever posters and displays which added color and passed on good ideas. One favorite was a collage of newsprinted words, put together to spell out "Headlines You'll Never See." Write some of your own, just for fun!

The best part of the Convention? Meeting new people who suddenly became new friends. It must be mental propinquity, if you can define that special League magic.

As you see, every minute was too full to go out to buy a souvenir of St. Paul, for you, dear sitter. As for that present we promised you, well—it will be a great sacrifice for us to stay home, but

NEXT CONVENTION YOU CAN GO AND WE'LL SIT YOUR BABY!

Published Bimonthly by

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
15TH AND WASHINGTON AVES. S.E., MINNEAPOLIS 14, MINNESOTA

MRS. O. H. ANDERSONPresident

MRS. LOUIS ODEEditor

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THIRST FOR FUNDS QUICKLY QUENCHED

"We recognize our responsibilities to our state and national Leagues and we wish to fulfill them" must have been the thoughts of the 57 local Leagues which pledged support for the state budget for 1959-1960. With \$375 anticipated from new Leagues and the pledges from local Leagues the requested \$22,660 for the budget was met.

One of the most thrilling moments of the 37th Biennial Convention was the immediate adoption of the budget as proposed.

Most of our local Leagues, as always, readily accepted their pledges as recommended by the state Budget Committee. We could not maintain a forward-looking program in the face of rising costs if we did not have this large number of local Leagues which willingly accept the increase in their annual pledges to help meet additional expenses.

Each year there are a few Leagues which cannot meet the suggested amount. In spite of this, cutbacks in service were not necessary since eight local Leagues were able to put additional funds to work on the state and national levels.

Anoka League led the way by raising its pledge \$25.00 over the suggested amount. Then the gifts came rolling in with Afton-Lakeland, Brooklyn Center (theirs floated in attached to a balloon), and Falcon Heights giving \$25 each and Alexandria, Owatonna, and Robbinsdale each presenting checks for \$50.00. The Rochester League, with a membership of 182, had already pledged \$1,100 and then came forth with a \$100 check in a glass "to help quench our thirst for funds"!

The state budget for 1959-60 as proposed and accepted represents the plans of the state League for promoting our state Program, for supporting national League, and for providing service for the local Leagues. The Budget Committee had made every effort to keep expenses to a minimum while planning for a stronger League. By providing the needed funds, you have given your state Board the "green light" to develop these plans more fully than ever before possible.

Mrs. William Whiting

Good new publication from the national catalog:

"We're the League of Women Voters," 1959 Folder intended for use in finance campaigns, giving 'quotes' about LWV; a contributor receipt with each folder—

100 for \$3.00

50 for \$1.75

Contributor receipts, 100 for 50c

LUTHER and FJELSTAD;

Banquet Dessert

Looking and sounding as though she had just risen leisurely from a long and refreshing nap, Sally Luther came to speak to the convention banquet Wednesday evening. Actually, the Representative from the 30th District, Minneapolis, had had quite a day. After spending much of the day at the Legislature, where she is the lone lady in a masculine stronghold, Mrs. Luther found time to look in at our Convention for awhile and then turn up at dinnertime to give us a hard-hitting speech. She spoke about what the Legislature has done, pointing out some good measures that were passed, almost unnoticed in the controversy over other measures. She was critical of the overall results of the session, however, and constructive in her criticisms of it.

Sally Luther urged more women to run for political office, pointing out the benefits of a feminine approach to law-making. A League member herself, she was pleased with our interest in ethics in government, an area of deep concern to her as well.

Except for the Press, Dr. Ralph Fjelstad, Congdon Professor of Government at Carleton College, was the only man to hear Mrs. Luther's views at the banquet, and he was in agreement with her. He spoke to an enthusiastic audience about what the Legislature *could* be doing. Dr. Fjelstad made it clear that with our increasing desires for more services from the state, we must expect to have increased taxes, and we must expect to be the ones to pay them.

Spotlight on Local Leagues

Still wrapped in cellophane, our newest provisional Leagues were recognized in time for the Convention and their presidents were proudly introduced. *Silver Bay*, Lake County, with 45 members, was recognized May 14. *Maplewood*, in Ramsey County, was recognized April 30. They have 40 members and hope to grow to 200! On June fourth the state Board recognized *Shorewood* League, Ramsey County, as a provisional.

Additional Leagues which have reported meeting or beating their financial quota for 1958-59 are Fergus Falls, Granite Falls, Hibbing, St. Cloud, St. Louis Park, Waseca, Wayzata, White Bear Lake.

JUNE NEWS: A HAPPY BLENDING

With satisfaction from both sides of the families, Birchwood and Mahtomedi Leagues announce that they have become one, after appropriate action by each at its annual meeting and approval by the state Board.

Several Birchwood members will serve on the Board of the Mahtomedi League. It is expected that greater service can be given under the new arrangements.

Congratulations to the happy pair!

Matron of Honor

An embarrassment of riches was presented to the Nominating Committee, faced with the pleasant task of choosing the 1959 recipient of the Hope Washburn Award for outstanding service to the League of Women Voters.

Twenty-one Leagues sent in names, which, with individual suggestions, brought a total of 68 nominations. These Leaguers were recommended: Mrs. Gordon Grunditz, Richfield; Mrs. Stanley Kane, Golden Valley; Mrs. Lloyd Loucks, White Bear Lake; Mrs. K. K. McMillan and Mrs. Thomas Purcell, Austin; Barbara Stuhler, Minneapolis; and Mrs. Gertrude Wallinder and Mrs. George Zeller, Duluth.

At the banquet, Mrs. Reynold Jensen, Hopkins, the 1958 winner, had the fun of announcing the Nominating Committee's choice—Mrs. Stanley Kane!

Even non-Leaguers know about Betty Kane's accomplishments for us. She is "Mrs. Reapportionment" to many, because of the interest she has in this subject. Her lobbying, her speeches, her writings (*Democracy Denied*, for one!) have been recognized and she served as co-chairman of the Governor's Committee on Reapportionment and as a member of the Committee on Ethics in Government.

Her point of view is best expressed, however, in the obviously extemporaneous and heartfelt statement she made when she received her award:

"The greatest reward in doing League work comes from getting to know the wonderful people who are working in it."

Mrs. Kane, we concur!

Miracle in Minnesota

After a painless half hour of discussion, without acrimony, the Convention of the Minnesota League of Women Voters accomplished what has been said to be impossible—it reapportioned itself, and almost completely on a population basis. A modified By-law was passed, which, in brief, changes the apportioning so that Leagues will have two delegates to Convention for the first 25 members, or fraction thereof, rather than for the first 15, and will have an additional delegate for the next 25, or fraction thereof, rather than the next 30. Small, out-state Leagues lost representation and the larger, urban Leagues gained. Yet at lunch afterward, rural and city gals sat side by side in amity!

It was pointed out that even should the large Leagues combine all their votes they still would not have a sufficient number to control a Convention. As one member said, earnestly, if not grammatically, "We can't *not* reapportion—what would the legislature think!" Said an-

other, "The big Leagues carry much of the financial load—they should have more to say."

The delegates voted for a principle, by conclusive majority, with confidence that it will make for a stronger League. Legislators, take notice!

The President Has the Last Word

The 37th Biennial Convention of the League of Women Voters has come and gone, but the rosy memories linger on: memories of the enthusiasm of the delegates and observers; the excitement of program-making; the good humor and parliamentary know-how of the Convention; the great thrill of fully meeting the proposed budget; our pride in the manner in which Program items were debated, fully and fairly; and the decisiveness with which final choices were made.

I am proud of the hundreds of stay-at-home Leaguers who so wisely selected the delegates who represented them so well. I pay a special tribute to the unsung heroines, those local Leagues, which year after year, without fanfare, quietly accept their share of the financial support of the League.

A Trust and a Challenge

You have placed a great responsibility upon us, your elected leaders. You have chosen an exciting Program involving a continuing study of election laws, a study and possible re-evaluation of an old League position on an old League position on party designation and a completely new item, that of ethics in government. Here is appeal for all—a chance for further legislative successes and a tremendous opportunity actively to involve the Minnesota citizen in his government. You have also given us the means to carry out this Program. You have indicated a trust in our judgment.

We accept this trust and this challenge. We hope to strengthen local Leagues in serving their members, to assist in better Program presentation and to solidify further the finance picture. We want not only to sell our publications, but to help get them *read*. We expect to grow in numbers and total effectiveness.

It shall be our purpose to keep the name of the League of Women Voters bright and shining and meaningful. With your support, this we shall do.

Mrs. O. H. Anderson

Copy

Memorandum

506 Illinois Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana

January 14, 1959

THIS IS GOING OUT ON STANDING ORDER

FIRST ROUND OF STATE PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS
1959 - 1961

Attached are the forms for recommending State Current Agenda and any changes in the State Continuing Responsibilities. Remember that State Current Agenda must be adopted anew at each State Convention; State Continuing Responsibilities remain the same unless action is taken to change them. According to the State By-Laws recommendations for Current Agenda and changes in Continuing Responsibilities must be sent to the State Board no later than three months prior to the Convention (Article XIII, Section 3A, Section 4B). Your deadline date for recommendations this year is February 20.

It is always difficult to make program suggestions before we know what action the Indiana General Assembly is going to take on measures of interest to the League, but perhaps this year will not be as difficult as others. Our major consideration will, perhaps, need to be whether to continue the present current agenda item on Schools and Taxes in the same form or some other form, or whether to move to Continuing Responsibilities the areas on which we have consensus * (to date, school district reorganization) and to drop the rest of the item.

From what we know at the present time it does not look as though we shall have consensus on school financing by State Convention. Many Leagues are just beginning the study of Kit IV. Even if the Legislature adopts a new distribution formula, or other new financing measures, you may want to continue our study so that we may arrive at a position for action in the future in the same areas or in related areas.

Kit V on Taxes is not yet ready. As far as we know, no Leagues have scheduled study on it this spring. From all the evidence at hand it does not look as though there are going to be any major tax changes this session. Shall we continue this phase of our study?

Would you like to continue the item as it now is for the next two years? Would you like to divide it into two items, one on taxes, one on schools? Would you like to continue only one facet of our study: schools or taxes? Would you like to discontinue the study and challenge a new field?

If you are interested in a new field, study the Legislative Letter carefully. From it you can learn what legislators consider to be state problems. You may get ideas for continuing study and action in fields with which we are familiar or in new and untried areas. A word of warning: keep your perspective. There may be other government measures on which the League should concentrate that are not matters of legislative concern this session.

In your consideration of program, remember that constitutional amendments may be introduced next session. Can the League take all the action we want to take under

* No item may be moved to Continuing Responsibilities unless a position has been taken on the basis of League consensus.

our present CR 1, or do we need a Current Agenda item in this field? If you want to reassess or reevaluate or change League position, the item should be on the Current Agenda. It would then have top priority: new material would be issued and Leagues would be expected to give more consideration and more League time to the study than they would to up-dating a Continuing Responsibility.

We realize that some of you may want to make certain recommendations contingent on legislative action. For example, you may want an item on school financing only if the legislature does not act in this field. Otherwise, you may want to drop the study. If you will indicate where this is the situation, and what item you prefer if legislative action does dispose of your first preference, your wishes can be considered by the State Board. Please also indicate, in the event legislative action does not dispose of your first preference, if you want consideration given to additional items listed. The State Board will try to be as flexible as possible to help you select the kind of state program you really want.

In looking at Continuing Responsibilities the State Board hopes you will examine them carefully, further reduce their number. If we had fewer we might be able to give more attention and prepare more material on those we have. In considering those CR's that you wish to keep, please indicate the ones of most importance to you, the ones to which you wish to give the most emphasis.

Finally, will you look at the program as a whole. The Current Agenda and the CR's alike represent a program of work for which all members are responsible. In making your suggestions for program please weigh carefully the time you have for state program, local program and national program. If your League needs to give concentrated attention in the next few years to national and/or local program, it would be wise to restrain yourself on state program suggestions; on the other hand, if you can give ample time to state program, you may want a larger state program. In any event, in making state program suggestions, only suggest the number of items to which you believe your League can give sustained and comprehensive study and action.

League of Women Voters of Indiana
506 Illinois Building
Indianapolis, Indiana

January 14, 1959

FIRST ROUND OF PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS
1959-1961

THIS RECOMMENDATION MUST BE IN THE STATE
OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 20, 1959

Following is the official recommendation for the 1959-1961 State Program, submitted by the League of Women Voters of _____

Proposed Current Agenda: (Please include only those items which your League would like to see as the total state Current Agenda - i.e., don't list 5 or 50 items unless you want a 5 or 10 item agenda. Be sure to indicate which, if any, items are contingent upon legislative action. Each proposed item should be written as nearly as possible in the form in which you would like to see it appear.)

Proposed changes in the Continuing Responsibilities: (Please list any changes your League desires in the CR's. This includes making a present CA item a CR; deleting a present CR or part of one; and/or combining sections of present CR's into a new group.)

(UNDERLINE ONE)

These reflect the views of membership, Board, committee, or other.

Name of local League _____

These are our reasons for choosing our recommended Current Agenda item or items:

We foresee the following emphasis, scope and type of action for our recommended item or items:

These are our reasons for our proposed changes in the CR's:

Reported by: _____
(Title)

FIRST ROUND

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

FIRST ROUND

JAN 19 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Keep one copy for President's File

Cut up one copy and give each section to the appropriate person on the Board

From Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President

January 20, 1959

011959 CC

I have heard people speak of the 'mid-winter lull' and the drab winter months -- obviously, they were not members of the League -- for as we survey the next four months we observe that some rather tight scheduling will be necessary if we are to come to our State Convention in May ready for the exciting business of choosing new state program, adopting an adequate budget, electing new officers and directors and possibly, revising our state By-Laws. Suggestions for all of these matters of business are due in the State Office by February 20th.

Are you guiding your members to a good choice of state program? Are you exploring new fields in state government, if some of our current program is accomplished? Is there any possibility of state programs arising from our national items? Are you critically reading our State By-Laws to see if some revisions might make us function more democratically? Can you suggest names for the officers and directors of the League of Women Voters for next year of people you observed to be of high caliber?

(See enclosure from Nominating Committee)

If the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is to continue to reflect the character and desires of its members, we need to hear from you all.

The new local League President in St. Anthony is Mrs. Harold Froehlich, 3016 Armour Terrace, Minneapolis 18.

World Tour, anyone? Mr. William C. Rogers, Director of the World Affairs Center, writes us about a European Study Tour that he thinks members of the League of Women Voters would enjoy. The UN and World Affairs is the subject -- July 3 to August 1 are the dates -- Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, France and England are the countries visited -- \$696 to \$1,288 is the price range mentioned. For more information write World Affairs Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14, Minnesota, or call the Center at FE 8-8791.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR
HOPE WASHBURN AWARD

The fourth Hope Washburn Award for outstanding service to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will be given at the Convention on May 20-21, 1959. Will

your League and your members please send their nominations to The Hope Washburn Award Committee, in care of the State Office, by April 1? They may be made by an individual or by a local League for a member in any League on any level in the state, and should be accompanied by a statement of the service given to the League by the nominee. There will be an article in the January-February Minnesota Voter giving full details.

Please give to the Water Conservation Chairman on your board for her notebook. 1/19/59

WATER CONSERVATION

Enclosed is a sheet addressed to your Water Chairman re areas of agreement developing, transcript of the Minnesota Watershed Congress, news on state legislation in conservation field, and the metropolitan area water study.
(Enclosure)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

B E M I D J I - M I N N E S O T A

February 15, 1959

I- BEMIDJI

FEB 17 1959

(BOARD)

To: League of Women Voters of Minnesota

From: League of Women Voters of Bemidji

Subject: Suggestions for 1959-61 State Program

The Bemidji LWV proposes the following: Indian Problems in Minnesota

Before someone says that's a problem only in northern Minnesota, where State Council is given greetings in the Chippewa language, let me give our reason for proposing it as a State item. With the movement of Indians to the Twin Cities area, we believe it has created a problem in that area, too, in housing, employment, and welfare.

It could begin as a study item, but as areas of consensus appear on measures which would help bring the Indian population to a better position economically, socially, etc., it would advance to the action phase.

We don't know what would develop for legislative action, but the fact that there has been a legislative interim committee on Indian affairs indicates that it is a problem of state government. We believe further that this topic meets the criteria in these ways:

- b. Yes; principles 1,2,3,5,9,13, and 16.
- e. Yes; the League is the ideal organization to take this problem to communities. The LWV will approach it realistically and factually, not emotionally as other groups do.
- g. Other groups do work on it, but we don't believe a League study would need to duplicate their work; rather, we could cooperate with others.
- j. It would interest a wide cross-section; some people would be in opposition, but the League is used to that. An educational program regarding Indians would help the state even if we did not arrive at legislative action.

Our League also has shown an interest in School Election Laws and Procedures; could the present current agenda topic of Election Laws be expanded to include School Elections?

Hazel Shimmick

I - BLOOMINGTON (BOARD)
(2 SHEETS)

FEB 3 1959

Bloomington League

State Recommendations

- I. Continued support, work, & action on
Constitution Review
- II " " on Minn. Election laws
& procedures
- III. Study of state tax structure
- IV. State aid to schools
- V. Open occupancy legislation

FEB 16 1959

I - BLOOMINGTON
(2 SHEETS) (BOARD)



League of Women Voters of Bloomington

BLOOMINGTON 20, MINNESOTA

The following items are recommended by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Bloomington to be included in the State Program for next year:

1. A continued study of Minnesota Election Laws and the need for changes.
2. A study of State aids to Education.

It is also recommended that Constitutional Revision be placed as a Continuing Responsibility for next year.

I - EDINA
(BOARD)

FEB 11 1959

Feb. 10, 1959

To: League of Women Voters of Minn.

From: League of Women Voters of Edina

Subject: Suggestions for State program
10 out of 16 units reporting

1. Taxes--sales, withholding, occupation
2. Education--junior colleges, university land
3. Water & conservation
4. Election laws

Virginia W. Hawkinson
5945 Fairfax Ave.
Edina, 24 Minn.

I - MINNETONKA VILLAGE
(UNITS V + VI)

FEB 20 1959

Unit V & VI of Minnetonka Village
suggests the following subjects for
study on the State Level:

1. Taxation - general
2. Reorganization of State govt.
3. Conservation
4. Water
5. Iron Ore - tax problems.
6. Election Laws

Mrs. Darwin A. Larson
Ch. - Unit V & VI
Minnetonka Village

3749 Elm Rd.
Hopkins, Minn.

FEB 11 1959

MINNEAPOLIS (broad)
Feb. 9, 1959 (2 SHEETS)

PROPOSED ITEMS FOR STATE PROGRAM

I. Support of measures to improve Minnesota election laws.

The Minneapolis Board suggests as areas of further study in this field:

1) Party Designation, 2) Primaries, 3) School Election Laws.

II. Promote better understanding of conservation practices in relation to water resources and support such measures and research that conserve, protect and develop our natural resources.

1. We have now studied this item for three years and feel that the time has come for us to put into action on the state level those practices and policies which are essential to a coordinated and effective water resource program.

2. Three reports have been published, (Jan. 1959)-all of which contain valuable suggested changes and proposals in our state water management:

Commissioner Selke of Department of Conservation: ... "Consolidation of the many uncoordinated water agencies today may prove advisable for an improved water conservation program tomorrow." "We recognize that public understanding and support is a necessity to any program of conservation.."

Water Resources Board: ... "As our population increases and the demand for water becomes more competitive, it is essential that we have a central agency of state government that will impartially consider all interests of the state." The WRB also recommends specific legislation needed, such as amendments to the Watershed District Act; establishment of sanitary districts within the watersheds; clarification of the Statute providing for recommendations in respect to state water policy; a legislative committee to investigate water problems needing legislative action.

Water Pollution Study Commission: ... "the Commission... believes that the State's water pollution control program should be strengthened by the establishment of an orderly long-range program for the abatement of pollution." Other suggestions: That Sanitary Regions be established to coincide with the several major drainage basins of the state; pollution laws be extended to cover sub-surface waters; and other changes implementing pollution laws.

3. All these suggestions contained in the above reports will need legislative action. A Water item on the State agenda would enable us to support or oppose proposed legislation.

4. This being a conservation item it is only practical that we extend that principle to conservation of woman-power. The river basin survey being made now is almost entirely on a state level. The membership will be well informed as to existing conditions, needed legislation in the field of conservation, local-state-national relationships. When legislation is proposed, the committee will need only inform the membership on a particular bill since the background information will already be prepared and disseminated. We do not anticipate any increase in work load.

5. As population increases, especially in the Twin City area, the problem of land use becomes critical. Land and water are inextricably bound up. Precipitation falls on the land, and the kind of land it falls on decides its further usefulness, or its potential danger, or its irretrievable loss. One aspect of land use with which we may be confronted in Minnesota is flood plain

zoning. The first report of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (Dec. 1958) lists a number of "Growth Problems". Water is directly concerned with most of them, such as sewage disposal, water supply, recreation, transport, storm drainage, flood control, public health; and indirectly concerned in other problems insofar as it is related to land use.

6. The citizens of the Metropolitan Area are going to be called on for a \$50,000,000 addition to the present sewage disposal plant. The present plant now serves 17 communities outside the Minneapolis-St. Paul city limits. As the suburbs grow, treatment facilities become ineffective. This is mentioned as one example of a problem that cannot be handled on a local level since it includes three counties and may be extended to include other counties.

The Minneapolis Board suggests that our continuing responsibilities be:

1. Constitutional Revision

We recommend that the separate listed items, amending process, fixed executive responsibilities, length of session & post auditor, be given as explanations of the item, rather than listed within the CR.

We suggest that present Current Agenda items, constitutional convention and periodic submission, be included under this CR.

2. Reapportionment

We recommend that this CR cover both the statutory and the amendment approach.

3. Party Designation

4. FEPC

5. Home Rule

We felt that the League needed to keep this item as a CR to be sure our aims are met in this field.

Jan. 31, 1959

FEB 3 1959

League of Women Voters of Moorhead
Recommendations for State Item

I - Constitutional Revision

II - A Study of Higher Education - How
Can Minnesota's needs in this area be met?

III - A Study of the Tax Structure of the
State of Minnesota.

These recommendations were those that
were most suggested in our units - Constitutional
Revision was unanimous as the first subject and
the other two topics were suggested as new topics.
Our board had no time to consider these suggestions
so they were prepared by the State Item Chairman
& the President.

Thos. Donald Lutz, Pres.

League of Women Voters

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

FEB 27 1959

Feb 25, 1959

League of Women Voters of Minn -

This is a recommendation from
the board of directors of the Owatonna L.W.V.
for a state program for 1959-60:

" The Study of the Tax
Structure of Minnesota with the purpose
of procuring additional means of revenue.

Sincerely,

Mrs Arthur Wagon, pres.
Owatonna, L.W.V.

FEB 24 1959

Red Wing's suggestions for a new state item

1. Ethics in government
2. Some phase of the education problem
3. Taxes
4. Civil Service--veterans' preference
5. Water

Sorry I am late with this--it just slipped
my mind.

Selma Brinkman

FEB 9 1959

Richfield League of Women Voters suggests the following
for consideration of State Current Agenda:

Reorganization of state government

Reapportionment

Water

Iron Ore Taxes

Laws Governing and Methods of Handling Juveniles

Submitted by

Norothy Schneider

I - ROBBINSDALE (BOARD)

For a State Item for the coming year, the Robbinsdale League of Women Voters would like to make a "A Comprehensive Study of the Tax Structure."

FEB 10 1950

I- ROSEVILLE

February 18, 1959

(BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minn.

The Roseville League of Women Voters would like to recommend that the State Agenda for 1959-60 include the following items:

1. Further study of election laws with perhaps emphasis on corrupt practices, school board elections, and the presidential primary law.
2. A study of ethics in government.
3. We would not like to have a Conservation item on the State level.
4. We would like to see all measures concerning Constitutional Revision placed on the Continuing Responsibilities.

Mrs. Elton Johnson

Roseville State Item Chairman

I - ST. CLOUD
(BOARD)

St. Prog. Making

League of Women Voters
St. Cloud, Minnesota

FEB 23 1959

Dear State League Office, for Minneapolis - St. Cloud
Feb. 19, 1959

Here are a few State program suggestions
submitted by the St. Cloud League. I have waited
until the last minute to see if there might be more.

1. The financing and organization of
the Tax-supported system of education in Minnesota.
2. A study of the VCC, probation and parole
procedures and the conditions in Minnesota
County jails.
3. A study of the Tax structure of Minnesota.

I- ST LOUIS PARK
(BOARD)

FEB 23 1959

ST. Program
Making

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of St. Louis Park

St. Louis Park, Minnesota



Affiliated with the
League of Women Voters of the U. S.

February 19, 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington Avenues S.E.
Minneapolis, 14, Minnesota

To whom it may concern:

The following items are suggestions for State Agenda:

1. State Tax System
(State Tax versus Withholding,
Dedicated Funds, Personal Property)
2. Financing Public Education
(Jr. & Teachers College System)
3. Conservation

The St. Louis Park Board is not suggesting a three item agenda. The Units suggestions were evaluated, and it was felt that it was necessary to submit three in order to express the Leagues desires. A total one item agenda is suggested.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Kenneth Schlenker,
President

By Mrs. Glenn Wilson
Mrs. Glenn Wilson,
secretary

KS:w

I- ST. PAUL
(BOARD)

League of Women Voters of St. Paul

123 W. Fifth Street

Saint Paul 2, Minnesota

FEB 25 1959

CA. 2-3178



Suggestions for State Program:

Item I -

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will continue the evaluation of Minnesota election laws and procedures including an analysis of those pertaining to school elections.

Item II -

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support and promote policies and practices which soundly develop and manage water resources

No need for study

The St. Paul League suggests that the present Item I be placed on the continuing responsibilities, so we could again take any action necessary during the Legislative session of 1961. This would allow the Leagues to devote more time to the study of Election Laws and we could possibly be ready to take action on this item at the session in 1961. Item II will not need any new study as we understand from our Chairman on this National Item that all of the Leagues in the Metropolitan area are going to suggest this to make it easier for them to act statewide if they think it necessary.

I - WHITE BEAR LAKE

(BOARD)

FEB 16 1959

~~Please reserve two places at Legislative~~
~~Day - Feb. 18th - for the White Bear Lake L.W.V.~~

Suggestions for State Agenda

1. A study of the state tax structure
2. Move the election laws item to Continuing Responsibilities.

Suggestions for State Board -

Elaine Loucks, Alice Behrenbeck and
Marge Frost.

Mary Ops - W.B.L. L.W.V.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
March 1959 031059D

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM -- 1959-61

The first round of program making brought forth suggestions from only 14 of 56 local Leagues. As a result of this small participation, the following proposed program is offered you in full realization that you may wish to revise it during the second round. You will find that the program suggestions are written up in more detail than has been customary because the state Board must have greater response and more specific direction in the second round. Remember we are committing ourselves to a program for two years. Let's choose it with care.

PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws.

PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of session, post auditor.
2. Reapportionment by statute or amendment
3. Party Designation
4. F. E. P. C.
5. Home Rule

Explanation of Proposed Current Agenda

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws."

We've made some decisions in the League about some of the changes we want made in our election laws. We have reached consensus on general principles of administration, on residence and age requirements, on voter registration, on qualifications and numbers of election judges, and on the open primary.

We have edged up to -- but not yet decided what we think about -- some even more exciting aspects of an elections laws item: absentee voting; voting machines; corrupt practices; and the primary as it affects the structure and operation of political parties, with implications for our old friend party designation. A few Leagues suggested that school election laws could stand examination, since no registration is required, and polling places, judges and hours may be other than those for regular elections.

This is one field in which we may have some legislative success in this 1959 session; in any case, another Legislative Interim Commission is expected to be appointed, and the League should be in a position to follow the work of the commission and make its opinions known. Also, since this item is one which was proposed from the floor at the 1957 Convention, showing widespread League interest, and since the job started is one half done, the state Board thinks this item should be continued.

Explanation of Non Recommended Items

Eleven additional areas were suggested in the first round and are not recommended by the state Board at this time. These three broad areas were suggested in some form by a number of Leagues: taxes, water and education.

Taxes - A study of the tax structure of Minnesota was suggested by several Leagues. So that those of us who are new in the LWV may know what has been the experience of the League in the tax field, we offer the following brief history.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has had a tax item on its Current Agenda every year since 1949 except the last two years. 1949-50 "The League will make an analysis of state revenues and expenditures in order to understand and support fiscal policies which provide for future needs of the state and promote a sound and expanding economy." 1950-51 "The League will study the tax structure and its effect on Minnesota's economy with a view to support a revision of dedicated funds." 1951-52 "The League will study the relationship of revenue requirements and revenue sources in Minnesota." 1953-54 "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will work for the calling of a constitutional convention and will make recommendations as to what a new constitution should contain." (An Introduction to State Finance in Minnesota.) 1955-57 "Study for the purpose of supporting, revision of constitutional provisions for an integrated and flexible tax article." (Part of Current Agenda statement.) The end result of these years of concentrated study has been no consensus and, therefore, no action in support of or opposition to specific legislative proposals.

Water - A water item, which was suggested by several Leagues, might be worded as follows: "The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support and promote policies and practices which soundly develop and manage water resources."

With the intensive research and study that has been devoted to the KNOW YOUR RIVER BASIN surveys throughout the state, League members are discovering that many water problems can be solved only on a local or state level. The national conservation item does not provide authority for action in connection with a problem or a basin that is totally within the state.

The national watershed movement, a form of river basin development which offers a coordinated plan of developing and conserving water resources within the state, requires enabling state legislation for organization and supervision of watershed districts. The possibility of combining the watershed district with the sanitary (pollution) district makes this legislation even more important.

Action which might be considered under a state water item could include amendments and expansion of the Watershed District Act, strengthening the powers of the Water Resources Board, support of an overall state policy or criteria now lacking by which to judge water programs (viz., drainage versus wetlands), revision of outdated water laws, support of expanded research program and promotion of better understanding of conservation practices.

Education - The several suggestions for an education item for the 1959-61 State Program were directed mainly at (a) state aids; (b) higher education (including expansion of junior colleges); and (c) financing of public education in the state. Throughout its forty years of experience, the LWV has been aware of the importance of vigilant efforts on behalf of education. Actually time and again study and action have taken place in the League on all three levels of program. The Minnesota League's long record of work on education extends from 1922 to 1955. The last year that education was a Current Agenda item was in 1947-48. In 1957 an education item was recommended to the state convention assembly, but was not accepted.

The following areas were suggested by a few Leagues:

1. Ethics in Government -- There has been a good deal of interest among League members in the report of the Ethics in Government Committee -- even some question as to whether or not the League was going to support it during this legislative session. However, as with anything else, if you wish to act on it, it must go on the program for study.
2. Reorganization of State Government
3. Constitutional Revision
4. Reapportionment
5. Indian Problems
6. Open Occupancy
7. Civil Service - Veterans Preference
8. Juvenile Delinquency and Y.C.C.

When you are formulating your second round of program suggestions, please do these two things:

1. Use the checklist for choosing a Proper Program - attached.
2. Be as specific as you can in wording the item. Try to describe for the state Board what you want it to cover and how it would be carried out in the next two years. Every effort should be made to eliminate vagueness, which is not synonymous with broadness.

Be sure to let us know if you are satisfied with this one item proposed agenda or if you wish to modify it by adding or substituting from the eleven areas listed above. On the basis of your recommendations the state Board will formulate the final Proposed Program.

Send your answers to your local Board by their April Board meeting - if possible. Your Board will forward your ideas to the state Board by the April 29 deadline. Or, if you cannot achieve this deadline, send your answers directly to the state office (address on first page) by the April 29 deadline.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF _____

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes___ No___

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

CHECKLIST FOR A PROPER PROGRAM

There are two measures of the suitability of proposed Program items. They are the list of criteria found in the state leader's handbook and the principles enumerated in the National Program. Every proposed item should be thoughtfully checked against these two measures.

The criteria are:

1. Is it an issue of state government?
2. Is it authorized by principles of the National League Program?
3. Is it a good tool to develop citizen responsibility for government?
4. Will it give members good experience in participation in government?
5. Will it be a good issue to take to communities?
6. Is it a significant issue which warrants League time and energy?
7. Does it duplicate the work of other organizations?
8. Is the work load, when added to national and local programs, feasible for the local Leagues?
9. Are there the experience, aptitude, sufficient personnel, and funds to carry it out?
10. Is it a balanced program with enough variety to interest a wide cross-section of membership and community?
11. Is there a good combination of exploratory work and legislative action?
12. Is there likelihood of some tangible League success?

The principles are:

1. The principles of representative government and individual liberty established in the Constitution of the United States.
2. A system of government which is responsible to the will of the people and which enables the voter to carry out his obligations as a citizen.
3. A system of government in which responsibility is clearly fixed.
4. A system of government which promotes coordination of the operations of federal, state, and local governments.
5. Governmental organization and administration which contribute to economy and efficiency.
6. A merit system for the selection, retention, and promotion of government personnel.
7. Legal protection of citizens in their right to vote.
8. A system of free public education which provides equal opportunity for all.
9. Protection of minority groups against discrimination.
10. Removal of legal and administrative discriminations against women.
11. A system of federal, state, and local taxation which is flexible and equitable.
12. Fiscal and monetary policies that promote a stable and expanding economy.
13. Responsibility of government to share in the solution of social and economic problems which affect the general welfare.
14. Adequate financing of government functions and services.
15. Conservation and development of natural resources, in the public interest.
16. Domestic policies which facilitate the solution of international problems and promoting world peace.
17. Cooperation with other nations in solving international problems and promoting world peace.
18. Development of international organizations and international law to achieve permanent means of cooperation.

SECOND ROUND

Second Round Program Suggestions (total 36)

Current Agenda items in the areas listed were suggested in the second round by boards, units, or individuals from the Leagues indicated.

Suggestions are arranged in this folder alphabetically by name of local League.

Election Laws - Afton-Lakeland, Alexandria, Anoka, Arden Hills, Austin, Bemidji, Bloomington, Duluth, Brooklyn Center, Edina, Fergus Falls, Granite Falls, Hibbing, Hopkins, Mahtomedi, Minneapolis, New Richland, Minnetonka Village, Moorhead, Red Wing, Richfield, Rochester, Roseville, St. Louis Park, St. Paul. 26

Ethics in Government - Anoka, Birchwood, Excelsior, Hopkins, Minneapolis, Minnetonka Village, Red Wing, Richfield, Roseville, St. Cloud. 10

Education - Anoka, Austin, Bloomington, Edina, Falcon Heights, Hopkins, Minnetonka Village, Moorhead, Richfield, St. Louis Park, North St. Paul. 11

Water - Arden Hills, Austin, Birchwood, Granite Falls, Hopkins, Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, St. Paul, South St. Paul, North St. Paul. 10

Taxes - Brooklyn Center, Edina, Hibbing, Jackson, Owatonna, Red Wing, Roseville, St. Anthony Village, White Bear Lake. 9

Indian Problems - Austin, Bemidji, Edina, Park Rapids, Roseville, St. Cloud.

Constitutional Revision - Austin, Bloomington, Minnetonka Village.

State Government Reorganization - Edina, St. Cloud.

Open Occupancy - Park Rapids, St. Cloud.

Atomic Energy - Anoka.

State Budget - Mahtomedi.

Civil Service - Park Rapids.

Home Rule - Minnetonka Village.

Juvenile Delinquency - Austin.

Party Designation - Hopkins.

II - AFTON-LAKELAND (3 UNITS)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

morning

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Afton-Lakeland

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

(Evening and Afternoon Units are mailing direct to State, since we do not have a
Board meeting until the evening of the 28th.)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # EVENING of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AFTON LAKELAND

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Mrs. Ann J. Berg - Eve. Unit Chairman

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Stillwater

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Afton Lakeland

MAY 1 1959

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Late

APR 23 1959

APR 24 1959

II - ALEXANDRIA

(² UNITS)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 & 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Alexandria, Minnesota

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 23 1959

II - ANOKA

(UNITS)

from Queen
4-13-59

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # afternoon of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Anoka

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

For "Current Agenda" - Study of state financing of public education - i.e.
sources of revenue and how money is spent, with emphasis on
provisions for 1) special aid to handicapped &
gifted children 2) expansion of higher education facilities
(i.e. enlargement of U. vs. expansion of Jr. Colleges.)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # Evening of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Anoka

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

I Election Laws as stated on page 1,
II The League of Women Voters of Minnesota
will support and promote a code of ethical
practices in government.

Continuing Responsibilities as stated on page 1.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # Coon Rapids of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Anoka

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We also approve for a Current Agenda
item the following: (see attached sheet)

The League of Women Voters will study the need for the establishment of a State Atomic Energy Board to act as a central clearing house for the study of nuclear problems including: 1. radioactive contamination of soil, water, and food, 2. the genetic effect of radioactive fallout, and 3. industrial and medical radiation. Every effort should be made to avoid duplication of efforts by coordination of study with other state and federal atomic energy boards.

APR 24 1959

APR 20 1959

late

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1-2-3-4 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Arden Hills APR 30 1959

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities

We wish a unit on Water would be added.
All kinds of work has been done on water on
the national level— now let's use it and go
on to study the problem on the state level.
Seems ridiculous to lose all the work that
has been done.

(over)

Late

Education is being studied by other groups
better qualified — Let's just forget that one.
Secondly — education begins in each league's
home district — Try your own PTA — let the
LWV work in other fields.

Election laws can stand more work —
let's do our studies on Election Laws
and Water.

Betty Ryan
Arden Hills LWV
State Studies Ch.

Late

APR 2 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
 Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1. of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minnesota

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
 Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minnesota

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We think we should also study
No 3 - Constitutional Revision and this at some length.
No 5 - Indian Problems as we feel this is a
definite need in our state.

APR 13 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # III of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Quinton APR 6 1959

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # IV of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minnesota

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ✓ No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 3 1959

Mrs J Lund, Chin

~~APR 3 1959~~

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 7 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

~~If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.~~

But show great interest in the study of "State Taxes" and "Water Conservation".

APR 6 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 8 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We would like added to the agenda
one more item - one of the following
water; education; or Juvenile Delinquency
and Y.C.C.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 10 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 3 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 11 ^(Adams) of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 13 1959

APR 6 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 9 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Austin,
approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Late

MAY 7 1959

APR 14 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
 Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

THE BOARD

Unit #

of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF

BemidjiMinnesota

WITH Below addition

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

①

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA WILL SUPPORT MEASURES
TO IMPROVE MINNESOTA ELECTION LAWS INCLUDING SCHOOL ELECTION LAWS.

- ② THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Bemidji, Minnesota recommends
a study of THE MINNESOTA INDIAN AND WITH SPECIAL
emphasis on the following. The Role of the BUREAU OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS, PROS AND CONS OF TERMINATION OF FEDERAL
Supervision, THE economic STATUS OF THE PRESENT DAY INDIAN, THE
PATTERN OF HEALTH AND educational Advantages, AND
RELOCATION AND INTRAGRATATION OF THE RACE in our modern
Society. AFTER detailed study of these questions (two years at least)

OVER

LEAST) AND AFTER AN AREA OF CONSENSUS HAS BEEN ARRIVED AT
 THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WILL DETERMINE POSSIBLE
 ACTION NECESSARY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THESE CONDITIONS.

OVER

APR 17 1959

II - BIRCHWOOD (BOARD)

To the State Board:

The Executive Board of the Birchwood League proposes the enclosed program suggestions with the following points brought out in our discussion:

The Election Laws item was rejected because it was felt with the Interim Commission hard at work the League was not truly needed to assure legislative success. I think the general opinion was that the item was not challenging enough for a two year program in view of our previous study and work of the Interim Commission.

The board was unanimous in its approval of the Ethics in Government item. Many felt it basic to our lack of success on Party Designation, Reapportionment, and Constitutional Convention. There has been a good deal of Member interest in the Committee report; it would be a "popular" study item.

Although there has been less member interest throughout the year in the water resources item, we have had a "revival" through the efforts of our water resource chairman. It was pretty generally agreed it would be a shame to dump the item now when we are best prepared to follow through with action at the state level. We appreciate the intensive study and research that has gone into the surveys throughout the state, and feel this work naturally leads to a state water item.

Other suggestions which came from the membership but not recommended by the board were: 1) real estate tax study 2) a study of governmental problems which would arise with the coming of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Respectfully,

Birchwood League

APR 17 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 & 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Birchwood

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes No X

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study the field of ethics
in government.
2. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support and promote
policies and practices which soundly develop and manage water
resources.

(Continuing Responsibilities as Proposed.)



League of Women Voters of Bloomington

APR 8 1959

BLOOMINGTON 20, MINNESOTA

April 6, 1959

The League of Women Voters of Bloomington recommends the following proposed State Current Agenda:

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws.
2. A study of State Aids to Education.

The League of Women Voters of Bloomington recommends the following proposed State Continuing Responsibilities

1. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of session, post auditor.
2. Reapportionment by statute or amendment
3. Party Designation
4. F.E.P.C.
5. Home Rule

II - BLOOMINGTON (INDIV)

APR 27 1959

April 26, 1959

To: State Board
From: Luella Newstrom
Re: Current Agenda 1959-61

I believe strongly that the LWV of Minnesota should adopt a Current Agenda worded something like this

THE LWV OF MINN WILL WORK FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION THROUGH AMENDMENTS.

Such an Agenda item would be good for these reasons:

1. The League must face the practical fact that revision by convention will come only after another 12 years of our hardest efforts, if then.
2. Meanwhile the state continues to suffer from the inadequacies of our present constitution. Must we be such idealists that we continue to stand for the convention method while tolerating for 12 years the problems we have pointed to time and again.
3. Such a program would have a chance of legislative success. That this is true is obvious from the ease with which the LWV succeeded in getting an election amendment. Legislators would undoubtedly be glad to have League direction on proposed amendments. Certainly the present pattern of amendment has no direction and for the League to let it continue on this track is to neglect some basic principles.
4. Such a program would add new zest to our constitutional revision work. League members with a definite goal of achieving first legislative then voter approval of specific revisions would find the issue more meaningful. Certainly a constructive approach, rather than the negative one of pointing to the present constitution's faults, would bring new life to this item.
5. Such a program could have widespread appeal to citizens and organizations and would awaken Minnesota voters to a new understanding of state government.

The actual amendments for which the League might work in the next two years could be those now included in our present Program. Others might seem more important after closer study. Since we have some time before another regular session of the legislature, this might be decided in that interim.

I believe that one amendment the LWV should work for first is a revision in the amending process. It is not so important, perhaps, to change the majority vote required for amendment adoption though certainly this would be desirable. But it is important to make certain of the legality of amending whole articles - the fact that the home rule amendment did this is not proof that it was constitutional in my mind.

I hope that you will seriously consider this item. Somehow it seems to me we would be retreating if we were to put the ^{constitution} ~~constitution~~ item on the Continuing Responsibility list. And I am unwilling to give the legislature that satisfaction.

APR 20 1959

II. DULUTH (BOARD)
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DULUTH

514 LYCEUM BUILDING
DULUTH 2, MINNESOTA

April 17, 1959

Mrs. O. H. Anderson, President,
League of Women Voters of Minnesota,
15th & Washington Avenue, Southeast,
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota.

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

We wish to report the results of our second round of state program discussion in the Duluth League units and by the Board.

Although there was evidence of some interest in a number of other subjects by a few of our units, the only single subject to receive clear-cut support by the majority of members was Election Laws. After thorough discussion, therefore, the Duluth Board authorized me to report that our suggestion for state Current Agenda remains the same. We concur with the proposed Current Agenda: The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws.

In our unit discussions, interest seemed to center on corrupt practices, change of residence requirements and party designation. By Convention time, and after the close of this legislative session, we will be in a better position to know which areas of this study should receive our attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Homney Kanter

Mrs. Robert M. Kanter,
President.

Enclosure



Affiliated with the
League of Women Voters of the U. S.

II - BROOKLYN CENTER (BOARD and 1 UNIT)

APR 29 1959

April 28, 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota:

Units one, two and four of the League of Women Voters of Brooklyn Center approved the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities as recommended by the State Board.

Unit three, however, proposed instead as the Current Agenda - - Study and Re-evaluation of our Tax Structure - - and recommended dropping FEPC from our Continuing Responsibilities.

Cordially,

Di

Mrs. David N. Kanatz, President
League of Women Voters of Brooklyn Center

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # III of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Brooklyn Center

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

(Current
agenda)

Study & Re-evaluation of our Tax Structure

Drop F.E.P.C. from C.R. list

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We would like very much to add to the Current Agenda:

"The Study of the Tax Structure in the State of Minnesota and a Study of proposed changes!"

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 6 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 9 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We feel "Reapportionment by statute or amendment"
should be number one item under continuing responsibilities

APR 22 1959

APR 15 1959

APR 8 1959

APR 28 1959(3)

The following areas were suggested by a few Leagues:

1. Ethics in Government -- There has been a good deal of interest among League members in the report of the Ethics in Government Committee -- even some question as to whether or not the League was going to support it during this legislative session. However, as with anything else, if you wish to act on it, it must go on the program for study.
2. Reorganization of State Government
3. Constitutional Revision
4. Reapportionment
5. Indian Problems
6. Open Occupancy
7. Civil Service - Veterans Preference
8. Juvenile Delinquency and Y.C.C.

When you are formulating your second round of program suggestions, please do these two things:

1. Use the checklist for choosing a Proper Program - attached.
2. Be as specific as you can in wording the item. Try to describe for the state Board what you want it to cover and how it would be carried out in the next two years. Every effort should be made to eliminate vagueness, which is not synonymous with broadness.

Be sure to let us know if you are satisfied with this one item proposed agenda or if you wish to modify it by adding or substituting from the eleven areas listed above. On the basis of your recommendations the state Board will formulate the final Proposed Program.

Send your answers to your local Board by their April Board meeting - if possible. Your Board will forward your ideas to the state Board by the April 29 deadline. Or, if you cannot achieve this deadline, send your answers directly to the state office (address on first page) by the April 29 deadline.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 11 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

It would be impossible for me to propose an agenda from the time we had to devote to this problem. I can only say that my unit was enthusiastic and unanimous in offering many other alternatives. They

OVER

believe in party designation, reapportionment
and constitutional revision as items
that should be updated from time
to time. It is my belief that they
do not know enough about Election
laws to decide whether it is a
worthy item of study.

In the following order, they
would like some other items, as
they would represent "new blood,"
so to speak.

Efficiency of state government (grew
out of the study of Hooper)

Indian Affairs (news items have
prompted much extemporaneous
and varied comment this
past year.)

Education (Why are state requirements
relatively unknown; why so many
bad ones have failed; is
our state program realistic.)

I have debated a long time as how
to answer this questionnaire. Am
sorry it is so late.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jean Clark

APR 29 1959

League of Women Voters
Mpls., Minn.

Unit 12 of the Edina
League of Women Voters
suggests as their choice
of topic for the State
agenda for the coming
year: "Further Study on
Election Laws"

Sincerely
Mrs. P. Stromberg
Unit Chairman

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 15 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina APR 29 1959

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 16 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Edina APR 30 1959

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Late

II. EXCELSIOR (BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # THE of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EXCELSIOR

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes___ No ✓

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

WE SUGGEST A TWO ITEM CURRENT AGENDA, THE
2ND ITEM TO READ: THE LWV OF MINN. WILL
STUDY ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT. THE EXCELSIOR
LWV OTHERWISE APPROVES OF THE PROPOSED C.R. &
C.A.

APR 14 1959

II - FALCON HEIGHTS
(UNITS 1, 2, 3)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1, 2, & 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Falcon Heights . APR 29 1958

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

The L.W.V. of Minnesota will study public education in
the state, with emphasis on educational standards
and financing. (Explanation: we are interested in
seeing more uniform standards among schools and
more equitable financing)

(over)

II - FALCON HEIGHTS
(UNITS 1, 2, 3)

The CRs you suggest are satisfactory. We would
like to see Election Laws become a CR.

F. Berdie

II - FERGUS FALLS (BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Fergus Falls

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No _____

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 28 1959

II - GRANITE FALLS (BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Granite Falls

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ___ No ___

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Our league would like both water and election
laws on the current agenda, but if one item
is chosen, we prefer water with election
laws as a cr.

II. HIBBING (BOARD + UNIT)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Hibbing
Unit # of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Hibbing

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

~~If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.~~

There is extremely strong feeling in the Hibbing League against a one item agenda. The Hibbing League willingly accepts "Election Laws" as the first item. However, we wish to propose that "Taxes--analysis of state revenues and expenditures in order to understand and support fiscal policies which provide for future needs of the state and promote the establishment of an expanding economy" (or some such wording closely aligned with the 1949-50 item) be adopted as a second agenda item.

(over)

Late

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Hibbing, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes No X

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Tap structure study - Current Agenda

Election Laws - C.R.

all other C.R.'s remaining the same

APR 8

1950

There was minor interest shown in the study of state programs of mental health, YCC, indian affairs and education, in that order.

Mrs. Lionel Birkeland pres.

II - HIBBING (BOARD + UNIT)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Hibbing, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Tap structure study - Current agenda
Electron Laws - 1. C.R.
all other C.R.'s remaining the same

APR 8

1953

APR 24 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Hopkins

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Also interested in water + education items

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Hopkins

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Fellows, ethics in government and party
designation are very closely allied and
something could be done with them.

APR 24 1959

II - JACKSON (BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Jackson

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes _____ No ✓

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

The League of Women Voters of Minn.
will conduct a study of taxation, particularly
new sources of revenue.

APR 23 1961

malikowski hoogen

II - MAHTOMEDI (BOARD-?)

The aft. unit went on record in the second round of suggestions for State Agenda to

1. Vote for the State Board's Recommended Agenda & ERS plus
2. The Study of state expenditures with a view to determining what expenditures are essential to the welfare and general good

The feeling among those present was

1. We didn't want to drop election laws before more concise consensus has been reached followed by action
2. The financial situation of the state is of both immediate importance and longrange importance, and that it is more basically important to evaluate for what we are spending our state money than how to raise the taxes necessary to pay for state expenditures. Are we spending state money unwisely?

The evening meeting was attended by 16 members who came from all 3 units. There was unanimous approval of the afternoon report, and a suggestion that their views be forwarded to the State - There was no intervening Board meeting so I am mailing this in

Helga W. Baer (Mrs. Edwin)
Unit Leader of Wednesday evening group

II-MAHTOMEDI (UNIT)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29, 1959

Unit # Afternoon of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Mahtomedi 15 - Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

Plus
If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

The study of State Expenditures with a view to
determining what expenditures are essential to the
welfare and the general good.

(Do not list as "taxes" - Salishum)

PROPOSED ITEMS FOR STATE PROGRAM

(2 SHEETS)

I. Support of measures to improve Minnesota election laws.

The Minneapolis Board suggests as areas of further study in this field:

1) Party Designation, 2) Primaries, 3) School Election Laws.

II. Promote better understanding of conservation practices in relation to water resources and support such measures and research that conserve, protect and develop our natural resources.

1. We have now studied this item for three years and feel that the time has come for us to put into action on the state level those practices and policies which are essential to a coordinated and effective water resource program.

2. Three reports have been published, (Jan. 1959) all of which contain valuable suggested changes and proposals in our state water management:

Commissioner Selke of Department of Conservation: ... "Consolidation of the many uncoordinated water agencies today may prove advisable for an improved water conservation program tomorrow." "We recognize that public understanding and support is a necessity to any program of conservation.."

Water Resources Board: ... "As our population increases and the demand for water becomes more competitive, it is essential that we have a central agency of state government that will impartially consider all interests of the state." The WRB also recommends specific legislation needed, such as amendments to the Watershed District Act; establishment of sanitary districts within the watersheds; clarification of the Statute providing for recommendations in respect to state water policy; a legislative committee to investigate water problems needing legislative action.

Water Pollution Study Commission: ... "the Commission... believes that the State's water pollution control program should be strengthened by the establishment of an orderly long-range program for the abatement of pollution." Other suggestions: That Sanitary Regions be established to coincide with the several major drainage basins of the state; pollution laws be extended to cover sub-surface waters; and other changes implementing pollution laws.

3. All these suggestions contained in the above reports will need legislative action. A Water item on the State agenda would enable us to support or oppose proposed legislation.

4. This being a conservation item it is only practical that we extend that principle to conservation of woman-power. The river basin survey being made now is almost entirely on a state level. The membership will be well informed as to existing conditions, needed legislation in the field of conservation, local-state-national relationships. When legislation is proposed, the committee will need only inform the membership on a particular bill since the background information will already be prepared and disseminated. We do not anticipate any increase in work load.

5. As population increases, especially in the Twin City area, the problem of land use becomes critical. Land and water are inextricably bound up. Precipitation falls on the land, and the kind of land it falls on decides its further usefulness, or its potential danger, or its irretrievable loss. One aspect of land use with which we may be confronted in Minnesota is flood plain

zoning. The first report of the Metropolitan Planning Commission (Dec. 1958) lists a number of "Growth Problems". Water is directly concerned with most of them, such as sewage disposal, water supply, recreation, transport, storm drainage, flood control, public health; and indirectly concerned in other problems insofar as it is related to land use.

6. The citizens of the Metropolitan Area are going to be called on for a \$50,000,000 addition to the present sewage disposal plant. The present plant now serves 17 communities outside the Minneapolis-St. Paul city limits. As the suburbs grow, treatment facilities become ineffective. This is mentioned as one example of a problem that cannot be handled on a local level since it includes three counties and may be extended to include other counties.

The Minneapolis Board suggests that our continuing responsibilities be:

1. Constitutional Revision

We recommend that the separate listed items, amending process, fixed executive responsibilities, length of session & post auditor, be given as explanations of the item, rather than listed within the CR.

We suggest that present Current Agenda items, constitutional convention and periodic submission, be included under this CR.

2. Reapportionment

We recommend that this CR cover both the statutory and the amendment approach.

3. Party Designation

4. FEPC

5. Home Rule

We felt that the League needed to keep this item as a CR to be sure our aims are met in this field.

II - MINNEAPOLIS (UNITS 10+15)

for the next two years as drawn up by the
men voters. Please indicate below the
and mail to the Minneapolis office before

Unit # 10
No. present 18

4/8/59

We were disappointed in not seeing an item
on Water Resources (conservation, management etc) for the
next two years. The idea is that having made such a
thorough and broad beginning, we should continue
the study with an eye to making it an action item,
sooner or later.

One member suggested that we put Election Laws
into the C. R. Column and make Water Resources the
main subject.

J. S. Cream

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 15 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minneapolis

4/15/59

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We would like to repeat our wish to have
Water Resources on the State Program
as we stated in the earlier questionnaire.

APR 6 1959

II - MINNEAPOLIS (UNITS 28+39)

Unit # 28 APR 6 1960

No. present 9

STATE PROGRAM

You have the proposed State Program for the next two years as drawn up by the Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters. Please indicate below the reaction of your unit to this program and mail to the Minneapolis office before March 29th.

We approve of the program as presented by the State League

Yes _____ No ✓

We feel that the following change should be made in the Agenda. (Use back of sheet if necessary, and give number desiring the change.)

*Please add water to the agenda
- unanimous*

We feel that the following change should be made in Continuing Responsibilities. (Use back of sheet if necessary and give the number desiring this change.)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 39 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minneapolis
approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ✓ No _____

APR 28 1960

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

II - MINNEAPOLIS - (INDIV)
(2 pp)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNEAPOLIS

84 South Tenth Street, Room 407, Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

Telephone: Atlantic 6319

March 30, 1959

Mrs. O.H. Anderson, State President, LWV,
161 Juniper, Mahomet, Minn.

*copies made - cred. to St
Bd 4/13*

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

I am addressing my views on proposed current agenda to you and the state board as an individual. However, I feel that because of my work in this area (Water Resources) for three years, and because of my work in directing the Mississippi River Survey, I am probably more familiar with the work being done than anyone else.

I am not opposed to election laws as a state agenda item. I think we should go ahead with this subject, not leave it unfinished. However, may I point out that the Minneapolis League in three years of study of water resources has studied some phase of water resources 4 times (one extra period in 1958). We have had 5 Workshops of League Days of our own on this topic, plus participating widely in 2 others, (State LWV Febr. 1958 and Watershed Congress Sept. 1958). In addition, we have prepared four ½ hour TV shows, one Public Service Feature on KUOM, (Mr. Hoff, Brandywine Story, 35 min. in length) and together with St. Paul have had 13 radio scripts on KUOM.

Contrast this amount of work with 2 presentations on Election Laws in two years, one Speaker at Annual Meeting on this topic, and 4 radio programs. I would like to point out that most of the Mpls. delegates to the 1957 State League Convention favored a Water Resources item, were very opposed to a State Education Item (we have one continuously as part of our Local Continuing Responsibilities or Current Agenda) and accepted the Election Laws item after the Water Resources item was defeated. (By a convention that simply didn't know enough about it yet.)

"Another" (quoted from State Explanation of Election Laws) interim committee is expected to be appointed; there were at least 3 interim committees of the state legislature this past biennium on water resources, and there will certainly be more this coming biennium. They were: Game and Fish, Water Pollution Study Commission, Lake Levels of Headwaters Reservoirs Interim Committees. Additionally, there was the First and Second Governor's Conferences on State Resources, and several state agencies wanting corrective legislation in their reports to this legislature. (1959) Also, the Twin Cities Metropolitan Planning Commission is working and expects to continue working in the water Resource field; they have indicated that a major share of their work this coming biennium will be in this field.

What an opportunity to take a subject to the public! Where is there the most opportunity for League people to start in public service? On planning commissions, as evidenced by the Minn. Voter, Sept-October, 1958. What better preparation for that work than a knowledge of problems involved in water resources?

It is certainly important for us to be able to express ourselves in this field, particularly after the widespread work that League members themselves are doing in the state area at the direction of the national league. Nowhere among state agencies is there a greater need for reorganization of agencies and a corresponding recodification of laws than there is in this field. We

are very welcome in this field; there is so little known by the general public and legislators regarding the difficulties and blocks that are in the way of these state agencies discharging their proper functions. The nature of the problems in this field in this state are such that most require state legislative action, not federal. Our geographical position, and terrain make our problems almost wholly solvable within the state area; this in contrast to almost every other section of the country. Of course, if the subject is not on the state agenda, regardless of how much we know about state problems, we are not able to support or oppose legislation.

The interest in this field is latent, particularly as material for study had to be gathered this year, and Leagues, with a few exceptions, are not having it on their calendars until (March, a few) April and May. Consequently support for this item will be less, probably, as fewer Leagues will be familiar with the amount of work already done, and the amount of legislation needed. Next year's work is already being prepared; ~~it-is-inconceivable-~~ (we have to work in this area anyhow because of the National item) and it is inconceivable that we not be able to support or oppose legislation in the 1961 State Legislature. Remember, the next chance to adopt this item would be in May 1961, after the Legislature has already met.

As regards League, if this is not now adopted, the result would be that Leagues who have done the best work would be penalized, and those who have done nothing in this field would continue to do nothing. The quality of League performance and how Leagues handle their responsibilities is very much a factor here. A Board needs to lead as well as listen.

An urgent need of the TWIN City area is an enlarged facility for sewage disposal; a plan will be presented to the 1961 Legislature; that will be a subject that will have to be taken to the public - there are many others almost as urgent.

I strongly recommend that you reconsider and add the water resource item to the proposed state agenda; I think that each State Board member should have read the League study "Know Your River Basin Survey of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area before they vote on the second round of the proposed state agenda program, 1959-61. The Minneapolis statement, Febr. 9, on proposed items, is a good statement and merits re-reading, also.

Thank you for hearing me out ... this is long, but this is important.

Sincerely,

Winona Balcom

Mrs. W.E. Balcom, Chairman,
Upper Mississippi River Basin Survey

copies to:

Mrs. Marotta, Mrs. Kuderling,
Mrs. Widseth, Mrs. Porcher

Memorandum

To: Board of Directors.
LWV of Minnesota

From: Mrs. George Seltzer
Mrs. R. A. Jensen

Apr. 29, 1959

In view of the increased interest in legislation concerning ethics in government and because of its relation to the general area of election laws (see report of Governor's Commission on Ethics in Government) we would like to urge the State Board to recommend to the Convention an enlargement of the current agenda items as follows:

"The LWV of Minnesota will support improvements in Minnesota's election laws and in the related area of ethics in government."

For example, under this enlarged item the LWV might be able to reach consensus and be effective on lobbyist registration and conflict of interest legislation.

II - MINNETONKA VILLAGE (UNITS 1+2)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka Village

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

1. Home Rule
2. Const. Revision & Education - tied for 2nd. choice

NOTE: We would much prefer not having to discuss
Election laws again. Feel we could spend time to much
little advantage. Late

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # Two of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Village of Minnetonka

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT - Proposed Current Agenda

Approve all the suggested Continuing Responsibilities

Theo Telke, Chairman

12913 Pioneer Road - Hopkins, Minn.

We 8-9332

MAY 4 1959

APR 27 1959

I - MINNETONKA VILLAGE (UNITS 3,4,5)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 4 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka Village

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # V of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka Village

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 24 1959

APR 27 1959

APR 24 1959

II - MINNETONKA VILLAGE (UNITS 7, 8, 9)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 7 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka Village APR 29 1959
approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes 2 No 6

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Of the other 6 mbrs. 3 wish to place items 1+2 of Proposed Cont.
Resp. as Current Agenda; 2 mbrs. suggest "the League will study the relationship of
revenue requirements and rev. sources in Minn." as Proposed Current Agenda
and leave CR's as proposed and 1 mbr. sugg. a water item as Current
Agenda.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 8 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka
approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We would like to recommend addition of
"Lobbyist registration" and "Ethics in Govt" to
the current agenda item.
We rated CR's in the following preference
3, 2, 1, 4, 5.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 9 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Minnetonka
approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 27 1959

II - MOORHEAD

(UNITS)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Moorehead

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Moorehead

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes No ✓

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

a study of higher education in Minnesota
emphasizing administration

APR 21 1959

APR 21 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF New Richland

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Late

MAY 8 1959

II - NORTH ST. PAUL (BD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF No. St. Paul

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes___ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

1. The L W V of Minn. will support and promote
policies & practices which soundly develop
& manage water resources.
2. The L W V of Minn. will study the financing
& public education in the state of Minn.
to determine the future needs of a sound
educational system.

(over)

(over)

Late

MAY 6 1959

II - NORTH ST. PAUL (BD)

C. R.'s.

1. Election Laws
2. Constitutional Revision
3. Reapportionment
4. Party Designation
5. FEPC.

(over)

~~Late~~

APR 27 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
University of Minnesota
15th & Washington Ave. S. E.
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
April 22, 1959

SECOND ROUND OF SUGGESTIONS FOR STATE AGENDA

The Owatonna League of Women Voters proposed at their annual meeting on April 14, 1959 the following agenda item:

"The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will study state expenditures and revenue with the purpose of understanding and supporting fiscal policies which provide for the future needs of the state and promote a sound and expanding economy."

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Durand
(Mrs. Rene' Durand)
Secretary

MAY 4 1959

II - OWATONNA. (BOARD)

This letter was sent on April 1, 1959 to
the following Leagues:

Mrs. Frances Weidner, President
Route #1
Alexandria, Minn. cc - Mrs. Wallace
Bloom, 1207 Irving

Mrs. Arthur Welch, President
221 Arrowhead Rd.
Duluth 3, Minn.

Mrs. Howard Mayne (Voters Service - the
1479 Hythe St. person who was inter-
St. Paul 8, Minn. ested last year)

Dear _____

The Owatonna League of Women Voters proposed at the 1957-
58 Convention the following agenda item:

"The study of the tax structure of Minnesota
with the purpose of procuring additional means
of revenue."

We have again recommended this item for state current
agenda on the first round of suggestions.

Our League recognizes that the study of Election Laws has
barely begun, and that this item, as recommended by the state
board, should remain on the agenda. We feel, however, that a
program of taxation is particularly vital to the well being of
our state at this time, and we would like to see it adopted as
a second item on the agenda.

Our purpose in writing to you and several other Leagues
in the state is because we feel you might be interested in this
tax item. Do you have any plans for promoting taxation on the
current agenda? Are you interested in our recommendation, and
do you have any suggestions as to its wording? We would appre-
ciate hearing from you before April 14th. On that date our
League will decide what action to take on second round proposals.

Sincerely,

OWATONNA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Mrs. Arthur Wangen, President

Late

II - PARK RAPIDS - (BOARD)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Park Rapids, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ? No ?

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

#5 above - Indian Problems with the inclusion of all
minority groups.

Also question of Veterans' preference in Civil Service
Open occupancy.

Continuing FEPC

MAR 31 1959

MAR 31 1959

MAY 4 1959

Red Wing, Minn.
April 30, 1959State Program Suggestions

1. The League of Women Voters of Minn. will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws with emphasis on the necessity of improving ethical standards in government.
2. The study of taxes as they relate to Constitutional revision and dedicated funds.

I'm sorry this is late, but I forgot about it until to-day. We were busy working on a public meeting on planning.

Selma Brinkman

Late

II - RICHFIELD

(UNITS 2,3,4,5)

APR 28 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield, Minn

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

The League of Women Voters of Minn will
study the advisability of additional
higher educational facilities on the
Junior College level with attention
to financing & geographical location.
Same C.R.s as recommended.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 344 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 29 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 5 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We are also interested in studying "Ethics in Government"

APR 30 1959

Late

II - RICHFIELD

(UNITS 6, 7, 10)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 6 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 29 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 7 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 27 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 10 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Richfield

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

APR 29 1959

APR 24 1959



ROCHESTER LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

League of Women Voters of Minn.
15 + Washington Ave. S. E.
Minneapolis 14, Minn.

April 23, 1959

Rochester League of Women Voters in
the second round of State Program suggestions
has voted for the item as proposed by the
State Board. - "The League of Women Voters of
Minnesota will support measures to improve
Minnesota's election laws."

APR 29 1959

April 28, 1959

The Roseville League of Women Voters approves the State Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities as submitted by the State Board. However, we would like to add a recommendation for a second Current Agenda Item. We propose that this would be- Ethics in Government with special emphasis on the report of the Ethics in Government Committee. We would like to again state our opposition to any Water item on the State Agenda.

On the second round suggestions sent to us by our units, two of the units proposed a study of the tax structure; five of the units approved the Proposed Current Agenda, three of these would add Ethics in Government as a second item; the remainder of the units did not respond.

Mrs. Elton L. Johnson

Mrs. Elton L. Johnson
State Item Chairman, Roseville

II - ROSEVILLE

(UNITS 1, 8)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Roseville

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Would like to add Ethics in Govt.
or Indian Problems

APR 30 1959

late

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 8 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF Roseville

approves the ~~Proposed Current Agenda~~ and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Current Agenda Study various methods of broadening tax base in
Minnesota — sales tax, withholding tax etc.

APR 24 1959

II- ST. ANTHONY VILLAGE (UNITS 2,3)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 2 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF St Anthony Village

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

other suggestions
If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Eliminating old laws is harmful to capital

Power of Initiative by citizens to force desired popular
legislation

APR 21 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF St. Anthony Village

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

In addition the study of Tax Structure

APR 21 1959

II - ST. CLOUD

(UNITS 1, 3, 4, 5)

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 1 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF St. Cloud, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ✓ No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Our unit feels that the Current Agenda is not enough for
2 years + also feel that Indian Problems + Open Occupancy
are problems worthy of consideration

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 3+4 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF St. Cloud, Minn.

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes No

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Ethics in Government - Reasonably for such legislation + its effect on legislation
Reorganization of State Gov't - Study of State Gov't - proposed reorganization of -
Reasons for reorganization and opposition to

Add - Minnesota Election laws

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 5 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF St. Cloud

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes No ✓

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

Our unit unanimously feels that a one agenda item is
not sufficient to challenge old members + encourage new. We
would favor Election Laws as an action (study) item, and
either "Ethics in Government" or "Reorganization of
State Government" as a study item.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of St. Louis Park (SEE UNITS AT END)



Affiliated with the
League of Women Voters of the U. S.

St. Louis Park, Minnesota

April 16, 1959

APR 20 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington Avenues S.E.
Minneapolis, 14, Minnesota

Re: Second Round Suggestions - State Program

The St. Louis Park League approves of the Continuing Responsibilities as proposed on first round, but not the Current Agenda.

The St. Louis Park League suggests a two item Current Agenda:

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws.
2. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support and promote policies and practices which soundly develop and manage water resources.

Explanation:

The Board's second round discussion was heated, and not easily reported. There were sixteen attending the meeting, and a majority approved of a two item current agenda. Five members did not want a two item agenda. (including Election Laws - 2 no votes - and State Water conservation.) Two members voted for a Water and Tax item.

Unit Chairmen discussed second round suggestions. They favored an Education item. Higher Education - availability for future generations.

Units first round votes were as follows:

- 9 Units - Taxes (systems, sales, withholding, personal property, dedicated funds, industrial)
- 6 Units - Water or Conservation
- 4 Units - Education (financing, Jr. Colleges, teacher training)
- 2 Units - Health, Food, Drug
- 2 Units - Mental Health
- 2 Units - Highways, Freeways, Traffic
- 1 Unit - Election Laws
- 1 Unit - Indian Affairs
- 1 Unit - Civil Defense
- 1 Unit - Open Occupancy Housing

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Kenneth Schlenker,
President

By Mrs. Glenn Wilson
Mrs. Glenn Wilson,
secretary

II - ST. PAUL (BOARD and UNIT)

League of Women Voters of St. Paul

123 W. Fifth Street—Room 205

Saint Paul 2, Minnesota

CA. 2-3178

APR 29 1959

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support measures to improve Minnesota's election laws.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support and promote policies and practices which soundly develop and manage water resources.

The St. Paul Board approved the proposed State program but the present wording of the item does not suggest any specific field we may be working in during the next two years. We feel that the examination of the school election laws is not only needed but would be very interesting and we would like to be sure that if this field is not actually implied in the wording of the item that it be pointed up in the scope.

We are, at the suggestion of our National Item II chairman, recommending that a water item such as we proposed in the first round be put on the agenda as a non-study item in order that action could be taken at the state level.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # 20 of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, we propose instead the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

We would like to add the water item as it is
worded under "Explanation of Non-Study Items"
for a non-study item.

APR 24 1959

APR 23 1959

II- SOUTH ST. PAUL - (INDIV)

River Heights, Route 1
South St. Paul, Minnesota
April 21, 1959

Mrs. H. O. Anderson, President
League of Women Voters
15th & Washington Southeast
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

Dear Mrs. Anderson:

I propose that "Water Resources" be given very serious consideration for the number one position on the Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

With the League's three years water resources study; the outstanding extensive study of the entire Upper Mississippi River basin by the League members-- it seems criminal to discount this work and that we will not be able to support or oppose legislation in the 1961 State Legislature unless this item is adopted on the 1959 State Agenda.

As secretary for another organization who participated actively in the current legislative session on water pollution bills, the apathy of the legislators, the public's dis-interest and the organized talents of the opponents appalled me. What better public service can we, as League members, perform to our state and to our nation, than taking an active part in a field that needs more attention and better legislation. Water is our most precious and vital resource, and we, as citizens, cannot afford to have Minnesota find itself in the same predicament as the majority of the other states are in--water shortage and water pollution problems.

Please give this item your most careful attention. I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Vera B. Pierson

(Mrs. J. Homer Pierson)
Water Resources Chairman
South St. Paul League of Women Voters

II - WHITE BEAR LAKE (BOARD)

Send your answers to your local Board by their April Board meeting - if possible. Your Board will forward your ideas to the state Board by the April 29 deadline. - Or, if you cannot achieve this deadline, send your answers directly to the state office (address on first page) by the April 29 deadline.

This was the consensus of the reports from 6 of our units. one unit did not report. Two other items were mentioned: The Study of Atomic Fallout and The Indian Problems

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E., Minneapolis 14, Minn.
Send to your Local Board by April Board Meeting or to state office by April 29.

Unit # _____ of LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF White Bear Lake

approves the Proposed Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. Yes X No _____

^{to Add}
If ~~no~~, we propose ~~instead~~ the following Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will
evaluate the sales tax as a source of revenue

Mrs. Helma Mac Knight president

APR 27 1959

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM - 1959-1961

CURRENT AGENDA

Issues of state government on which the League will take concerted action:

- I. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in Minnesota election laws and in the related area of ethics in government, and will promote party designation.

CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

Positions on state issues to which the League has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act:

- I. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of session, post auditor.
- II. Reapportionment by statute or amendment.
- III. Home Rule.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CURRENT AGENDA

- I. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in Minnesota election laws and in the related area of ethics in government, and will promote party designation.

While the program is proposed as one item, it actually encompasses three major interrelated areas.

The first major area is the unfinished business of the Election Laws item from the 1957-59 biennium. The largest field untouched by the LWV is that of corrupt practices, where Minnesota's laws are greatly in need of revision. The complexity of the subject and the variety of ways to solve the problems tend to make this a controversial area. Our study of corrupt practices will overlap the field of ethics in government when we consider laws governing campaign methods and financing and conflicts of interest. Sources of material will include the Ethics in Government Committee Report, the Interim Commission on Election Laws which will be working on corrupt practices, discussion in the 1959 legislature and a new publication by the National Municipal League.

The first proposed program was enlarged upon by the state Board since the second round of program suggestions showed an upturn in interest in ethics in government. As stated above, we can cover some aspects in a study of corrupt practices. By referring specifically to ethics in government in our agenda item, we can investigate the quasi-legislative aspects of the subject such as a code of fair campaign practices and lobbyist registration.

The third major area in our program is party designation. The state Board mentioned it specifically for emphasis and also to be able to act beyond our present position if the need arises. It is contemplated that we will go into a thorough study of several aspects of the subject such as designation for county officials as well as legislators, a plan for candidates to run as independents, and an examination of political parties and their primary elections. This last will enable us to understand the importance of party designation to a healthy two-party system. We hope to take action on this item not only in the legislature but in the community as well.

In addition to the three major areas, we will explore the new one of school election laws. cursory examination of present practices seems to indicate a need for study and possible action in this field.

Since there are likely to be recommendations by the new Interim Commission on absentee voting, voting machines and election contests as well as corrupt practices, we will hope to come to some agreement in order to be effective.

We have had legislative success in the election laws field in the 1959 legislature. Because the subject is peculiarly suited to League program and talents there is every indication that with study and effort we will continue to be effective.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of session, post auditor.
- II. Reapportionment by statute or amendment.

Constitutional revision (including all aspects of constitutional change on which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has a position) and

Reapportionment (both by statute and by amendment) remain as originally proposed.

They should be self-evident as "positions on state governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act."

- III. Home Rule.

Home Rule was listed in 1957-59 under the constitutional revision Continuing Responsibilities. The passage of the Home Rule amendment last fall accomplished the constitutional aspects of home rule. Despite some enabling statutes in the 1959 legislative session, the League may wish for further action in this field. Therefore Home Rule is proposed, as it was in the first round, as a separate Continuing Responsibility.

EXPLANATION OF NON-RECOMMENDED CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. Party Designation for Legislators.

Party Designation, since it is included in the scope of the proposed Current Agenda item on Election Laws, has been omitted from the list of C.R.'s.

- II. Fair Employment Practices Commission.

The state Board recommends that FEPC be dropped as a C.R. for the following reasons:

a. The original League position on the establishment of a Fair Employment Practices Commission has not been threatened in the last two legislative sessions and there appears small likelihood that such a commission will be abolished in the future.

b. Current developments in the equal rights field have linked FEP with age factors and with fair housing, neither of which has been the subject of League study and consensus. The League has been in an anomalous position in not being able to support these new aspects of equal rights which go beyond the League stand. While we know that many members are still vitally concerned with FEP, it is the Board's opinion that for the League to be effective, it must make a fresh start in this field, which it may not do as a C.R.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

NON-RECOMMENDED ITEMS

Current Agenda

Taxes

Tax structure
Sales tax
Broadening of tax base
Analysis of revenues and expenditures
Dedicated funds

Water

Education

Financing public schools
State aids
Higher education
Educational standards

Reorganization of state government

Constitutional revision

Reapportionment

Indian problems

Open occupancy

Civil service

Juvenile delinquency - Youth Conservation Commission

State budget

NON-RECOMMENDED ITEMS

Continuing Responsibilities

Election laws

Party designation

Fair Employment Practices Commission

LOBBY

by

Letter

The State Program -- 1959 - 1961

of the
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of
MINNESOTA

Current Agenda

Issues of state government on which the League will take concerted action.

1. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will support improvements in Minnesota election laws and in the related area of ethics in government, and will promote party designation.

Continuing Responsibilities

Positions on state issues to which the League has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

1. Constitutional Revision: constitutional convention, periodic submission to the people of the question of calling a convention, workable amending process, clearly fixed executive responsibilities, adequate length of legislative session, post auditor.
2. Reapportionment by statute or amendment.
3. Home Rule.
4. Fair Employment Practices Commission.

PARTY DESIGNATION - Current Agenda

What We Studied: Party designation for legislators has been a part of the program of the LWV of Minnesota since 1951. In the last two years, Leagues have also been asked to decide whether or not Party designation should be extended to county officials.

League Position. The League reached early consensus that PD was needed for more accurate identification of the positions of legislators. We came to no consensus on its need for county officials.

Legislative Action: The League has supported party designation bills that have had a mixed history of success and failure in the House, and that have never gotten to the floor of the Senate for a vote.

What Next? We look forward to the 1961 session feeling that party designation would be a tremendous boost to our effectiveness with the rest of our program.

What It's About and the Arguments. The background of legislative action in any lawmaking body is made up of the basic political philosophy and the specific areas of immediate concern of legislators. Voters need knowledge of both in order to express their opinions at the polls. As the LWV worked on individual legislative problems or on general governmental revision, we discovered that the lack of known commitment on the part of legislators was a major stumbling block to adequate consideration of many vital legislative matters.

Minnesota's "nonpartisan" legislature is neither nonpartisan nor a state-oriented legislative body in the real sense of the words.

It is partisan in its organization into two factions. It is partisan in its selection of legislative leaders. It is partisan in its decisions on controversial legislation. It is partisan in set-

ting up House and Senate committees. It simply refrains from using the terms "Democratic-Farmer-Labor" and "Republican." It is nonpartisan only during the campaign, in which the candidate has the "independence" to say different things to different groups, to refuse to commit himself on important issues, to suggest support from groups from which he actually derives little support, to focus attention on purely local matters to the detriment of needed statewide considerations. It is a devil for fooling the public through the elections in November with the realization that most voters won't remember by January which faction the candidate sounded like two months before.

The legislator's accountability leads directly back only to his own constituents. He needs only to represent a small segment of opinion with a strong sectional bias to remain in office and to gain seniority and ultimate control over important statewide committees. In an era when state government must deal with everything from adequate and equitable taxation questions to legislation in the social, labor, and welfare fields, only the governor is elected on a truly statewide program. The candidate for governor campaigns on a political party platform, but his proposals have little chance of enactment unless the governor can count on legislative support. We need executive-legislative teamwork to implement the program the voters approve in electing the chief executive. A legislature uncommitted to a party platform and policy is ill-equipped to resist the special interests and local interests which are now disproportionately and undesirably influential.

Despite the imperfections of the American political party, it is the best vehicle available for insuring responsibility of the lawmaker to the people.

Political party organization would be made more meaningful in Minnesota if we had legislators elected with party labels. More people would take an active part in party work, voicing their opinions and helping to set basic policy. There would be more interest in recruiting able candidates and giving them the necessary support.

The people of Minnesota have a right to know what they are voting for. Candidates for public office have an obligation to commit themselves before - not after - the election process, and a responsibility to fulfill their commitments after elected.

These things can only be done if we put the label on the man

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E.
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
September 1960

091160D-2c

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT - Current Agenda

What We Studied: Ethics in government, and the problems attendant upon certain lacks thereof, dawned on the conscience of the citizenry of Minnesota with publication in December, 1958, of a report by the Governor's Committee on Ethics in Government. There followed in the newspapers, among the people, and in the 1959 legislative session, a discussion of the questions of conflicts of interests (with particular reference to a part-time legislature) and the need for and methods of regulating lobbying. One of the results of this newly awakened interest was that the L.W. placed a study of ethics on its current program for 1959-61.

League Position: Consensus returns in June 1960 showed virtually unanimous League support for legislative action in the fields of conflicts of interest and lobby regulation. League members would look favorably upon a bill which would (1) require public officials to disclose private interests in pending legislation, (2) require public officials to disclose sources and amounts of income connected with official duties, and (3) prohibit legislators from practicing before state agencies. League members would like to see lobby control legislation passed which would require disclosure of who the lobbyist is, who finances him, and the nature of the activities in which he engages.

Legislative Action: The 1959 Legislature did not legislate on ethics, although bills were introduced. A bill reflecting recommendations of the Governor's Committee passed the House but not the Senate. The Senate strengthened its own Rules relative to lobbying.

What Next? Areas for Leaguers to watch in the 1961 session will be most particularly conflicts of interests and regulation of lobbying.

What It's About and the Arguments. Problems of ethics in government arise when private interests interfere with the public good, i.e., when a public official uses his public office for personal aggrandizement. Four general avenues of change have been suggested to improve ethical standards in government:

1. More democratic financing of campaigns;
2. Codes of ethics, voluntary or legislative, for appointive and elective officials;
3. Greater publicity of incomes and finances of public officials;;and
4. Stricter and more frequent audits of accounts.

Too strict methods of regulating officials will only result in driving good people away from public service. On the other hand, we should remember that no one is required to accept public office and if he chooses to do so, he must be willing to accept only the rewards which rightly pertain to that office.

A. Conflicts of Interests.

The problem areas are virtually the same for the policymaker and for other officials. They are these:

1. accepting income other than the established salary for official duties;
2. investments in conflict with official duties;
3. use of official position to secure special privilege;
4. use of influence to secure special privilege;
5. soliciting future employment while carrying out official duties.

One area differs between kinds of officials: employment or professional activity, on part of policymaker, which is incompatible with his public position and which may be concealed from the public; for other officials, it might be outside professional activity for a fee in conflict with official duties.

Possible solutions take two general forms, and differ between kinds of officials.

Disclosure. 1. The policymaker would make blanket annual disclosure on the public record of income related to official duties. Other officials would make complete annual financial disclosure. 2. The policymaker would reveal any personal or private interest in bills being debated in committee or on legislative floor. Other officials would make such disclosure when giving official testimony before committees.

Prohibition. The policymaker would be prohibited from practicing before state agencies for compensation. Prohibition for other officials would be for a period after leaving office and would be against representing private interest versus the state.

B. Regulation of Lobbying Activities.

Lobbying is an exercise of the constitutionally guaranteed right to petition our government for redress of grievances. It is desirable so long as that right is exercised via techniques designed to persuade the legislator with facts and information. In fact, legislators must rely on outsiders for much of the information needed to make decisions since adequate research facilities are not available to them. Lobbyists perform an important fact-finding function.

Lobbying becomes suspect when it aims at action contrary to the public good, and when its appeal is to personal advantage rather than judgment. Unacceptable techniques and the social lobby (gifts, excessive wining and dining, huge campaign contributions, free vacations) lead to demands for regulation of the lobby function.

The national government and over 80% of states have such regulations. Disclosure is the principal means of control. In most laws a lobbyist is required to file these facts in a stated public office.

1. his name and address;
2. his employer;
3. the kinds of legislation he seeks to influence;
4. activities engaged in to promote legislation;

5. amount spent on such activities;
6. who contributes the money; and
7. how he is paid, whether on a contingent fee or not.

Whether regulation of lobbying is achieved by statute, constitutional provision or by legislative rule, it must allow the useful functions of lobbying to continue, and at the same time give a realistic, complete picture of what is being done so that the interests behind the lobbyists will emerge clearly.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E.
 Minneapolis 14, Minnesota
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091060D-24

ELECTION LAWS - Current Agenda

What We Studied: Election laws have been on the LWV Agenda since 1957. Work in the 1957-59 biennium included study of administration of election laws, residence requirements, registration, absentee voting, voting machines, election judges, the direct primary, and the presidential primary.

League Position: Consensus was reached in March, 1959. Based on replies from local Leagues, plus a thorough discussion of the changes proposed by the Interim Commission on Election Laws, the state Board voted to support the report of the Commission. Consensus showed League members favored: centralized responsibility for achieving uniform election procedures; use of registration by more municipalities giving more latitude to local councils in determining qualifications and number of election judges; changing 30-day precinct residence requirement; providing some method to allow an otherwise qualified voter to vote for president and vice president before meeting residence requirement; open primary in Minnesota. They opposed lowering voting age to 18.

Legislative Action: The bill embodying the recommendations of the Interim Commission was signed into law in the last hour of the 1959 regular session. Major changes: all municipalities of 10,000 or more must provide for voter registration, filing fees increased for some candidates; local councils given greater authority over some election procedures; Secretary of State allowed to distribute instructive literature to voters and election officials. A bill to liberalize absentee registration was indefinitely postponed. LWV opposed a bill which would have extended absentee registration to all voters because it would have taken control of absentee registration out of the hands of election officials.

A constitutional amendment (#4) authorized prescribing by law the place where a person may vote who has changed his residence within 30 days preceding an election, and eliminated obsolete voting regulations over Indians. Its passage is not known at this writing. If passed, enabling legislation may follow.

What Next? Unfinished business in the field of election laws carries over into this year's League study and parallels work of present Interim Commission. Such areas as absentee voting, voting machines, and most important (and undoubtedly most controversial) corrupt practices legislation.

What It's About and the Arguments: Corrupt practices legislation has to do with the actions of the candidate himself or those representing him, and not with the conduct of elections. Such laws are commonly called corrupt practices acts, but aside from prohibition of bribery or intimidation of voters, they aim to regulate behavior not usually regarded as corrupt. Thus, only if a contribution exceeds an amount set by law or comes from a prohibited source is it corrupt.

Campaign financing has been called, "the great unsolved problem of democracy." Campaigns give the electorate a chance to learn about issues and to choose between candidates. Money to finance them becomes an important issue in the democratic process. Legislation concerning it has three functions: to reveal where money comes from; to reveal how money is spent; to equalize opportunity among candidates.

Such legislation on national and state levels has taken four basic forms:
To meet the problem of some candidates having more money than others, imposition of spending limits;
To meet the problem of candidates obligating themselves to certain interests, prohibitions against contributions from certain sources;

To provide the public with knowledge of monetary influences upon government officials, disclosure of contributions and expenditures; and

To prevent government power being used to solicit contributions, regulations protecting government employees against political assessment.

The two basic issues, public disclosure and spending limits, are inter-related. Completeness of publicized information depends on: scope of reporting laws, degree of compliance with these laws, and thoroughness with which investigations are conducted. Unrealistic, inflexible spending limits in much present legislation force candidates to go beyond the law.

Those who favor retaining legal limits say: An advantage is gained by wealthy candidates if limits are removed. The poorer candidate must then either suffer the disadvantage or attempt to raise additional funds, solicitation of which tends to involve commitments against the public interest. Limitations encourage less wealthy persons to be candidates. Campaign money exceeding legal limits tends to be spent corruptly.

Those who favor removing legal limits say Unrealistic ceilings circumvented are worse than no limits at all, resulting in disrespect for law and a decentralization of funds which weakens party responsibility and obscures how much a candidate has spent and the source of his support. Limits are unfair to the scrupulous candidate.

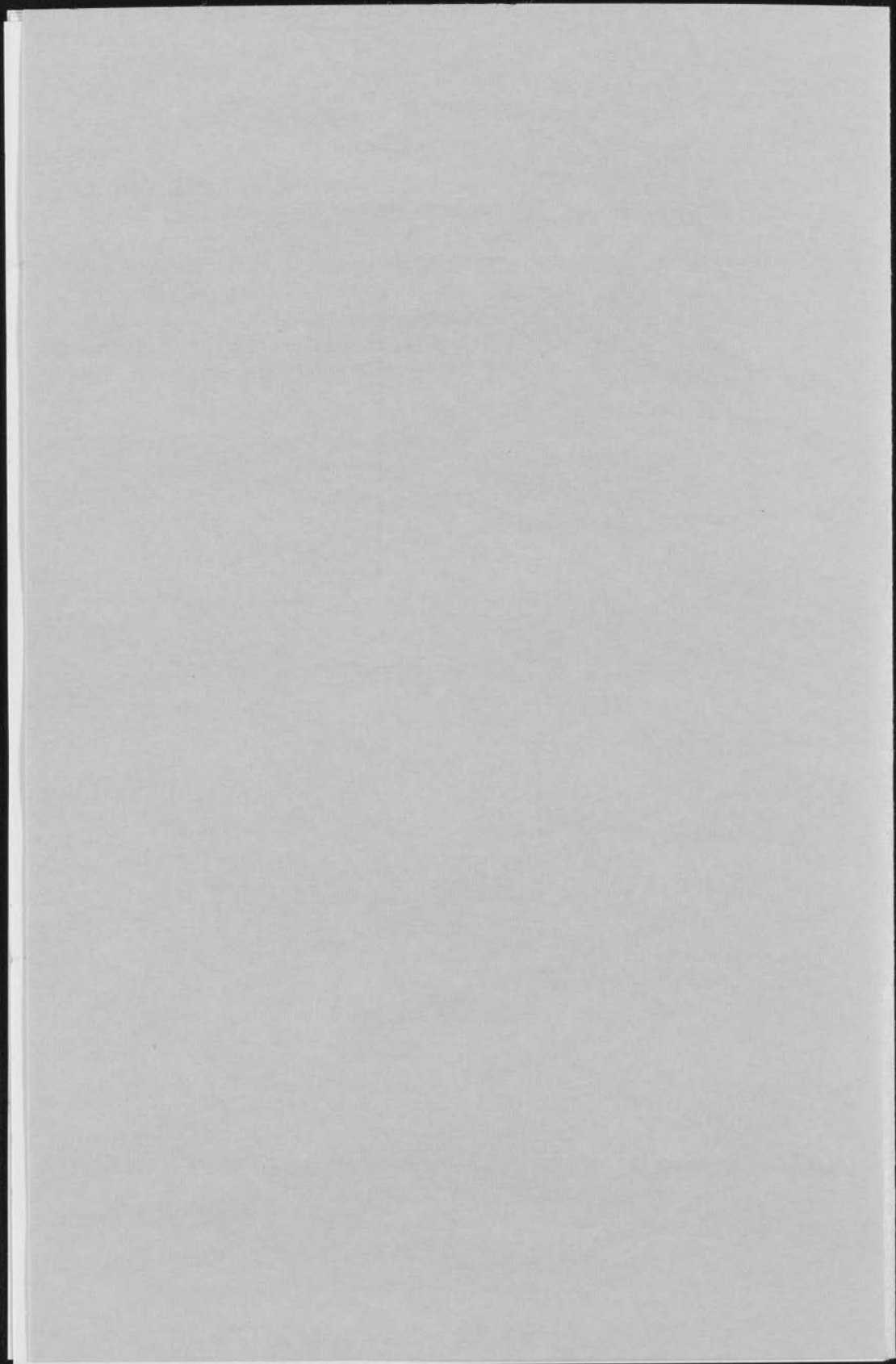
Can realistic limits be set? Can they be made flexible enough to respond to: times of depression? inflation? low interest campaigns? high interest campaigns? Can limits be set that offset such advantages as: incumbency? newspaper support? party organization and endorsement? Limits that are too high serve no purpose - too low and they encourage evasion and may be an invasion of freedom of speech.

The present Minnesota Corrupt Practices Law provides that campaign literature must be identified; candidates may not exert undue influence on voters; no public or private promises may be given in exchange for votes, corporations may not make contributions of money or free services of employees; purposes for which candidates may legally spend money are spelled out; and there are expenditure limits.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 15th & Washington S.E.
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September 1960

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Letter Writing

TO YOUR
ELECTED
OFFICIALS



WHAT IS THE BEST
WAY TO WRITE A LETTER?

HOW DO I EXPRESS
MY CONCERN?

★ WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO WRITE A LETTER?

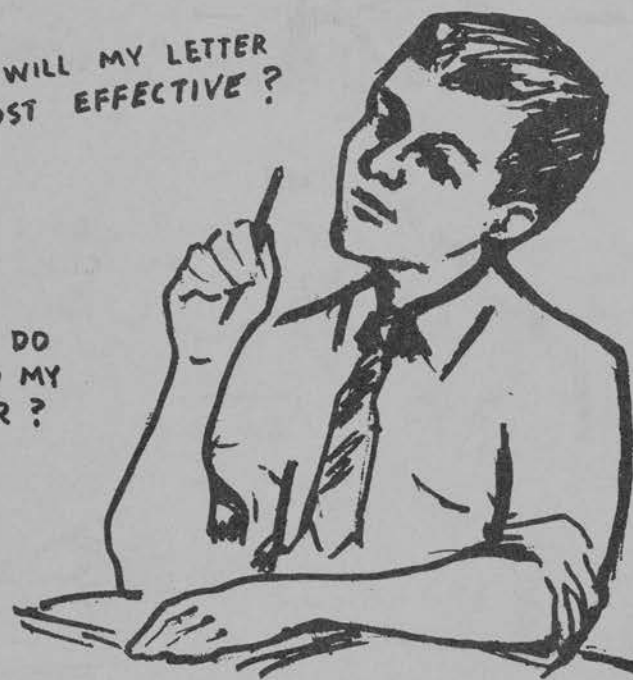
Letters that are one page, legibly handwritten or typed on personal or business stationery are preferred. Be sure to sign your full name and address on letter and envelope. Post cards or form letters are the least effective!

★ HOW DO I EXPRESS MY CONCERN?

Explain your reason for writing clearly, concisely and to the point. If you are writing about a specific bill, identify it by Senate or House number, if possible, or by subject. Make the letter your own, it does not have to be fancy or eloquent. Your sincere concern is what counts. Don't apologize for writing, be courteous and reasonable. Confine each of your letters to one issue only. Feel free to write if you have a question or problem dealing with government procedures. Your representative can help cut red tape or give advice.

WHEN WILL MY LETTER
BE MOST EFFECTIVE?

WHERE DO
I SEND MY
LETTER?



★ WHEN WILL MY LETTER BE MOST EFFECTIVE?

The key time to write is when a bill is being discussed in committee or is ready to come to a vote. Letters to committee members can be effective.

★ WHERE DO I SEND MY LETTER?

LOCAL — Mayor, Councilmen

City Hall and Court House
St. Paul, Minn. 55102

COUNTY OFFICIALS —

City Hall and Court House
St. Paul, Minn. 55102

STATE — Governor

Governor of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Senator — Senate Chambers
St. Paul, Minn. 55101

Representative — House Cham-
bers, St. Paul, Minn. 55101

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL—

550 Cedar St., St. Paul, 55101

NATIONAL —

President of the United States

White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Vice-President

Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20505

Senator —

U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Representative —

U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

REMEMBER...

Your representatives are very sensitive to mail count! It encourages them to introduce or support legislation and to take a more courageous stand for or against an issue or bill.



If you belong to a different political party, don't think your opinions will be ignored. If you belong to the same party, don't think you are "safe" and he will vote as you wish . . . write!



Your governmental representatives are the voice of the people in local, state and national affairs. They can't be that voice unless they know what you are thinking. Let them know by . . .

WRITING A LETTER!

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
15th and Washington Ave. S.E., TSMc, Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

